

## The Rufford Foundation

### Final Report

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Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in word format and not PDF format or any other format. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to [jane@rufford.org](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

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Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Mbungau Namba Samuel
<b>Project title</b>	Sea turtle monitoring and conservation along the Muanda shoreline, Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>RSG reference</b>	20927-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	This report is from October 2016 to May 2017
<b>Amount of grant</b>	The RSG grant is £5000.
<b>Your email address</b>	sammbungu@gmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	September 30, 2017

**1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.**

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Daily monitoring of sea turtle nesting beaches				Night patrols were organised daily during the nesting season 2016-2017.
Nest translocation and incubation monitoring in hatcheries				In total, 123 nests were transplanted into our hatcheries. This activity allowed the release of 12,469 hatchling turtles to the ocean.
Environmental education and awareness activities				Due to lack of resources and missed appointments, we were able to reach only 10 schools in the 4 large coastal villages targeted by the project.

**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).**

During the beach monitoring, our Eco-guards experienced two major difficulties:

1. Distance between nesting sites and hatcheries.
2. Lack of adequate flashlights to illuminate nests when they were collecting eggs from the natural nest.

With regard to awareness-raising activities, we had planned to spend twice in each targeted waterfront village, but eventually we only went there once.

**3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.**

The most important results obtained during the implementation of this project are:

a) Beach monitoring and nest translocation:

Species	Numbers of translocated nests	Number of eggs	Number of hatchling turtles	Hatchling success
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	118	14360	12235	85,2
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	05	420	234	55,7
	123	14780	12469	84,3

b) Awareness-raising and environmental education

1. Environmental education:

Number of reached schools	Number of schoolchildren	Number of teacher	Number of distributed flyers
10	3371	146	1500

2. Awareness-raising:

Targeted villages	BANANA	MUANDA/Village	NSIAMFUMU	TSHIENDE
Number of expected visits	2	2	2	2
Number of executed visits	1	1	1	1

3. Local media:

Month	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	Janv 2017	Feb 2017	TOTAL
Radio	1	-	1		2
T.V.	-	1		1	2

**4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have**

The involvement of local community members was very important in the implementation of this project:

- All ecoguards were recruited within the coastal villages targeted by the project.
- These écoguards have learned how to translocate sea turtle nests.

During the awareness-raising activities, they expressed their interest and felt concerned by the message conveyed.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

For the next season, we intend to continue this work using 10 additional ecoguards. In this way, we will be able to reinforce night patrols, visit more regularly the targeted coastal villages (more than once during the sea turtle nesting season), and reinforce the monitoring of docking ports for artisanal fishing canoes and market for the sale of fishery products.

We therefore seek further support for the 2017-2018 spawning season in order to consolidate the results already achieved and continue to contribute more effectively to the protection of marine turtles.

## 6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

The regional congress of RASTOMA is scheduled from 27th November to 2nd December 2017. During this congress we will present the results of this project and share this experience with all actors in the protection of marine turtles in Central Africa.

## 7. Timescale: Over what period was The Rufford Foundation grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

The grant requested was obtained on January 4th 2017, and this allowed us to regularise our commitments in accordance with the headings presented during our submission. This support was used to cover all budgeted expenditure.

## 8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

The initial budget submitted during the grant application was correct and this budget for expected activities have been spent as follows:

Item	Total	RUFFORD	ACODES	RASTOMA	ICCN
<b>Activity0</b> : Training and capacity building	1100	0	100	800	200
<b>Activity1</b> : Daily monitoring of sea turtle nesting beaches	8650	3900	4380	370	0
<b>Activity2</b> : Nesting translocation and incubation monitoring in hatcheries	500	200	0	0	300
<b>Activity3</b> : Environmental education and awareness	1280	900	380	0	0
	<b>11530</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>4860</b>	<b>1170</b>	<b>500</b>

In addition to the co-financing provided, RASTOMA provided 1000 metal tags and 10 applicators.

When we received our grant on January 4th 2017:

- £ 5000 was equivalent to US \$ 5800
- US \$ 1,000 equivalent to 910,000 Congolese Francs

By converting with our national currency, the subsidy obtained from RUFFORD FOUNDATION was therefore 5,278,000 Congolese Francs.

## 9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

At the beginning of the next nesting season, we will carry out the mapping of the nesting sites, organize a new training session for the ecoguards and finally train the artisanal fishermen to release the turtles by-caught in the fishing nets.

## 10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

We used the Rufford Foundation logo to design and print the brochure we distributed during the environmental education and awareness sessions.

## 11. Any other comments?

We really want to continue to work in partnership with Rufford Foundation to consolidate the results of this first grant.

