

## The Rufford Foundation Final Report

---

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**

---

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	ZANVO Stanislas
<b>Project title</b>	Emerging zoonotic diseases and habitat conservation: a psychological model of people's acceptance to conserve forest islands in the Dahomey gap
<b>RSG reference</b>	20979-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	01/2017-12/2017
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5000
<b>Your email address</b>	zanvostanislas@yahoo.fr
<b>Date of this report</b>	15/01/2018

**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
Quantify local communities' acceptance of risk associated with community and reserve forests in the Dahomey-Gap				During the data collection a deadly conflict between farmers and transhumants in the forest island of Ewè-Adakplamè slowed down the survey for two days.
Determine a psychological model of people's acceptance to conserve forest despite the risks				Data analysis has taken more time than what is foreseen. I was surprised that my computer capacity was insufficient to analyse data successfully. So, the Head of my home institution was obliged to buy a computer of 32 GA RAM to allow me to overcome this hurdle.
Conduct a campaign of awareness in the surround of these forests and a advocacy with public health and forest authorities, NGOs and local forest managers				The long time taken by the data analysis is one of reasons of partial achievement of this objective. In addition we have the unavailability of health and forest agents which assisted us for the campaigns of awareness. These campaigns of awareness have just lasted in the field. However, material of advocacy has been designed and printed yet. So, the last activity of my project started last week and is still ongoing.

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

The long time taken by data analysis is the first unforeseen difficulty that arose during the project. But the interest that the Head of my home institution bear to the new concept of psychological acceptance of wildlife and especially to the project has been benefit to overcome that difficulty. He bought a computer (Lenovo, ThinkPad of 32 GA RAM) to allow me to overcome this hurdle. Apart this difficulty, all the performed activities have been done successfully with the participation of local people.

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

- a- Perceptions of risks associated with Ebola outbreaks have the highest impact on the level of acceptance of local people. Local people perceive more risks than benefit related to the vectors/reservoirs of epidemic.
- b- The pessimism of local communities is enhanced by low social trust in forest and health services and limited abilities to protect themselves from Ebola vectors.
- c- The submitted abstract from project outputs has been accepted for a talk presentation at the 18th Student conference on Conservation Science from 25-28 March 2018, University Of Cambridge, UK.

**4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project (if relevant).**

Apart the site of Ewè-Adakplamè where we met an incident, throughout people were interested by our survey topic and expressed their concerns about it. They were curious to know more on the behaviours that have to be adopted to prevent the epidemic of Ebola in Benin. They equally expressed the need to participate in the meeting for awareness. Local people who participated in survey such as local guides earned money through their various participations. Also, through the community education campaigns, local people felt like getting more information about the deadly disease like Ebola. That situation makes the campaign very interactive. They got much knowledge concerning ecosystem services that forest islands and Ebola vectors provide to humans and the need to conserve them.

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

Of course, on basis of gained results, I remark that the difference of management modality between community forests and forest reserves indirectly influences psychological acceptance of local people through social trust. So, I think that a new planned study is necessary in Benin where we have two Biosphere Reserves, one newly established in human dominated landscape and managed by local people and another one established in a rural landscape and managed by the public agents with an important local participation. The study will permit to understand the impact of zoonotic diseases on local people's commitment in two regions (south and north) culturally, sociologically and of uneven development level with conservation experiences opposed in order to adapt management of zoonotic disease epidemics crisis for long term conservation of Biosphere reserves network in Benin that are the sites of demonstration of human-wildlife interaction.

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

I planned to share the results of my work through a publication of outputs in Oryx. The manuscript writing is ongoing and certainly Rufford Foundation will be acknowledged. Moreover, apart the 18<sup>th</sup> Student Conference on Conservation

Science that I will attend to share the results, I will continue to apply for the conferences in the world for the talks and posters.

**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 Rufford Foundation grant was planned to be used on 14 months for which the project will last normally. Now the only one remaining part of grant is the publication fee that will be used to publish a scientific article in Oryx. This will also ensure transferability and sharing of findings with the international community. Advocacy will continue until the 14<sup>th</sup> month.

**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.**

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Printer	300	300	0	A printer Color Laser Jet Pro MFP M177fw has been bought and used for the printing of questionnaire
Ink cartridge	150	150	0	Accessory of the printer for the questionnaire printing
A4 format papers	80	80	0	Accessory of the printer for the questionnaire printing
Scientific literature	200	200	0	The purchased literature is related to psychology of acceptance. It has been used for designing of posters and bookbinding's. It will be more used for manuscript writing.
Communication	100	100	0	
Travel to research sites	1400	1350	+50	The travel cost permitted to move from one site to another. Because the fee of fuel decreases we made an economy of £50.
Per diems for local guides	960	960	0	24 guides have received their per diems for their assistance to the project team in the field.
Accommodation in research sites	400	350	+50	The team had been accommodated in the site of Pobè for four days by forest agents. This allows us to make economy that has been reinvested in the education campaigns to rent more equipment (Chairs). This, because, during the survey in the field many of local people expressed the will to participate in meeting of

				awareness.
Education materials (poster)	240	240	0	Posters have been used to sensitize the stakeholders on the appropriate behaviour to prevent zoonotic diseases and the interest to promote forest islands conservation.
Community education campaigns	850	950	-100	Taking into account the local people's promises to participate in the education campaigns, all the economy. Has been used to enhance the budget of education campaigns in order to make great this activity.
Advocacy materials (bookbinding)	120	120	0	The distribution of bookbinding's is the last activity of project that is still ongoing. All the materials have been designed and printed.
Publication fees	200	0	+200	The manuscript is in preparation for submission to the journal Oryx.
Total	£5000	4800	+200	The community education campaigns fee and the publication fee are the remaining fees.

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

The next important step will be the advocacy for the production of a strategic document for the education campaigns management during and post zoonotic epidemic crisis in the Republic of Benin. This document will clearly define the role of health agents, Forest officer and media in the management of crisis related to the wildlife. Also the participation in national and international conferences to share more the results from our project implementing, especially in the countries in which there are many victims of the epidemic of Ebola.

### 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?

Yes, first of all The Rufford Foundation logo has been used for the first seminar of the Laboratory of Applied Ecology in 2017, for which I have presented the project and the questionnaire for the survey. In addition, the first page of questionnaire bore the logo. Moreover all the designed posters for the education campaigns and bookbinding's for the advocacy bear the logo. Finally The Rufford Foundation logo will be used on March during the 18th Student conference on Conservation Science from 25-28 March 2018, University Of Cambridge, UK for which I have been awarded a bursary for a talk presentation on outputs of the project.

### 11. Any other comments?

I am very grateful to The Rufford Foundation for the grant. A great thank to Jane for her promptitude without forgetting Josh Cole.