

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

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

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details

Your name	Onoja, Joseph Daniel
Project title	Road construction in protected areas - good for ecotourism but bad for biodiversity conservation. A case study of Yankari Game Reserve, Nigeria
RSG reference	21.12.09
Reporting period	12 Months (May 2010 – April 2011)
Amount of grant	£5894
Your email address	oj_daniels@yahoo.com
Date of this report	1 st June 2011

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
The number of animals killed on the paved Ahmadu Bello way and the unpaved tracks in the reserve.			√	
Number of animals killed weekly and monthly			√	
Section of road on Ahmadu Bello way with Highest mortality of animals			√	
Number of cars entering the reserve on a weekly, monthly basis			√	This objective had to be included as the project progressed. This was done to correlate the number of kills with the number of vehicles entering the reserve.

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

The first challenge was the fall of Pounds Sterling (GBP) as compared with the Naira (NGN) – NGN215 to GBP1 as against NGN240 to GBP1. I knew I had to complete the project but with the realisation that the budget will be tight. First, I bought a camera with a rechargeable battery and made do without the gloves. Secondly, I used the opportunity of the vehicle going out of the reserve, which is not part of my budget to conduct surveys. This aspect also tackled the sudden rise in the price of diesel.

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

- a. A total of 162 animals were killed in the duration of the survey; 125 of these were birds representing 77.2%, nine (5.5%) were mammals including species like waterbuck *Kobus defassa* and Grimm's duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia*, six (3.7%) were frogs and 22 (13.6%) were reptiles including lizards and snakes of different species.
- b. Most of these animals were killed during weekends (Friday – Sunday), which coincides with the period with higher vehicular traffic as compared to weekdays (Monday – Thursday).
- c. The survey also showed that all sections of the road have the same risk of mortality to animals.

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

The project involved a driver and a field assistant from the community and these were given stipend during the project.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The work will move to the next stage, which is to inform the management of the reserve of the findings and to encourage them to implement some suggestions we have offered to mitigate the rate of animal mortality on the road. These suggestions include, but not limited to, construction of speed bumps (to compliment the animal crossings), more sign posts and enlightenment campaign for tourists.

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

I hope to present my findings to the management of the reserve. I also hope to share the results of my findings with a colleague I met during the SCCS conference in Cambridge who works with a National Park in Cameroon. He told me they are having similar problems and my findings will be of tremendous help to them.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

The project was planned for 12 months and it was completed on time as anticipated

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
Fuel	2870.4	3010.5	140.1	The rise of the Naira against the Pound Sterling led to this difference. The budget was made base on NGN240=GBP1, but it ended up being NGN215=GBP1
Hp Laptop	500	558	58	
GPS	300	316.3	16.3	
Camera	100	111.6	11.6	
Hand gloves	10.7	-	-	This item was not bought.
“AA Batteries for Camera and GPS unit	112.5	50.5	-	Batteries were bought only for GPS unit
Vehicle maintenance	400	400	-	
Subsistence for 4	1200	1200	-	We made do with what was available
Accommodation	400.2	446.7	46.5	
Total	5893.8	6093.6	199.8	

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

The implementation of my recommendations (refer to 5. above) to the management of the reserve. These will be achieved to a greater extent with collaboration between the managers of the reserve and other organisations.

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

Yes I used the logo for my poster presentation during the 2011 SSCS in the University of Cambridge, UK. The RSGF logo was boldly and proudly displayed signifying the sponsors of the project.

11. Any other comments?

I want to use to medium to express my gratitude to the RSGF for giving me the opportunity and privilege to contribute my quota in the overall aim of the conservation of global biodiversity.