

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Joylene Jepkemoi Kanyaris
Project title	Harnessing indigenous knowledge for biodiversity conservation and management of Lake Bogoria National Reserve, Kenya
RSG reference	21649-1
Reporting period	From February, 2017 to January, 2018
Amount of grant	£ 5000
Your email address	joyjepkanyaris@yahoo.com
Date of this report	

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
<p>1. To identify, document and promote the traditional knowledge useful for biodiversity conservation and management of the reserve. (We consider this objective partially achieved because we only identified and documented the traditional knowledge. We didn't promote the use of this knowledge because the resources were not enough).</p>				<p>The methodologies used included semi structured-questionnaires, key informants interviews, focus group discussions and film production. We documented traditional knowledge useful for conservation of the native plants. This included knowledge on sacred sites, sacred plants, medicinal plants and taboos that protected plants. We also documented traditional knowledge useful for conservation of wild animals. This included taboos that protect wild animals, totemic importance of animals, traditional uses of wild animal parts and traditional ways of handling human-wildlife conflicts. Last but not least We documented traditional knowledge useful for conservation of natural ecosystems such as range lands, wetlands and forests. This included the indigenous ecosystem management system, resource use system and the traditional methods of paying for ecosystem goods and services.</p>
<p>2. To empower the Endorois community through education on how they can harness their indigenous knowledge to act as sources of livelihood and a remedy to biodiversity</p>				<p>The methodology used was participatory learning appraisal. Key informant interviews and stakeholders forums and film production were used. We engaged mostly with the local authorities and the community</p>

<p>conservation and sustainable ecotourism. (We also consider this objective as partially fulfilled because these activities are yet to be promoted & supported).</p>			<p>based organisations (CBOs) involved in environmental and cultural conservation activities. According to these forums, the activities that could conserve biodiversity and at the same time support local economies and livelihoods included: (1) the designation of wildlife corridors, feeding and breeding zones as community protected areas; (2) revival of sacred sites in those protected areas and promotion of the respective customs and rituals; and (3) promotion of ecotourism, avi-tourism, cultural tourism, and sustainable agriculture (agroforestry, improve livestock breeds).</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The main difficulties we encountered while running this project were mainly related to the socio-political situation in Kenya. This had consequences on the overall project plan; we had to adjust our activities due to ethnic violence of cattle rustling that affected most parts of Baringo County including our study area. Given that 2017 was an election year, the general political turmoil also led to readjustment of our fieldwork activities.

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

1. Film production: the community members together with the conservationists were able to voice their concerns, needs and ideas on biodiversity and cultural conservation. The film was submitted to Lake Bogoria National reserve, local schools, county government of Baringo and the National Museums of Kenya. We believe the video will create awareness and influence decision making in one way or another especially at the county level. The video is also available at YouTube for general public viewing.
2. The project stimulated the discussion on ideas for biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement: The community is well positioned to capitalise on the increasing number of local and international visitors to the reserve. The Endorois community members and local authorities suggested community conservation initiatives such as establishment of community conservancies, revival of sacred sites and promotion of the respective customs and rituals. They also proposed ecotourism, avi-tourism, cultural tourism, and sustainable

agriculture (which include improved livestock and agroforestry) as the best activities to venture in to promote the local livelihoods and economy.

3. Capacity building: through stakeholders' forums, the conservation authorities, administrative authorities and the local community based organisations including the primary school's wildlife clubs were able to learn new information about the reserve. They learned about fragile habitats, species of conservation concern found in Lake Bogoria region and the scientific model of biodiversity conservation. They also gain knowledge on how traditional knowledge could be integrated with scientific knowledge and used to conserve and manage biodiversity. At the end of the project both the local people and the conservation authorities had changed their attitude and values towards each other and toward the wildlife. They are currently thinking of working on an integrated management plan.

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

The project kept in focus inclusive participation, both the team members and the stakeholders contributed to the project design. The local administration participated in the reconnaissance meeting which led to two stakeholder's forums with a total of 20 Endorois members. With the help of eight Endorois youth (four leavers and undergraduate students) we conducted interviews, administer questionnaires and carry out focus group discussions. Two hundred members of the community filled the questionnaires, 10 were interviewed while 40 elderly members of Endorois community participated in the focus group discussions. Three community based organisations (CBOs) and two primary school's wildlife clubs participated in the film production. The community has therefore benefited from this project by having their traditional knowledge useful for wildlife conservation documented. Through stakeholders' forums and film production, they also got a chance to voice their concerns, needs and ideas on biodiversity management and livelihood improvements.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. From this project, we have realised that the Endorois community have a lot of knowledge useful for biodiversity conservation and management. However, with our timescale and resources we only manage to document a snapshot. In the near future we aim at going deeper into these interesting traditions of wildlife conservation and management. Together with the community, we recognised that the protected landscapes of Lake Bogoria National Reserve are limited in capacity to conserve biodiversity; we therefore suggested mobilisation of more support for community conservation initiatives that aims at conserving complimentary habitats. The stakeholders' forums also informed us that the community is ready to undertake initiatives that will restore and conserve biodiversity. They suggested some important complimentary habitats (such as swamps and wild animal feeding and breeding grounds) to be designated as community conservancies and owned by the local community. We also learned that there are existing community structures tasked

with conservation activities. These structures should therefore be reinforced to continue the management action into the future.

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

1. Copies of the final report will be shared with Lake Bogoria National Reserve, Baringo county government, local primary schools, community based organisations and National Museums of Kenya.
2. The film was screened to the members of Endorois community and other stakeholders of Lake Bogoria National reserve. It is also available on YouTube for public viewing.
3. Being the project coordinator of Chelaba Women Group (one of the CBOs); I often post information useful for biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement on Chelaba women Facebook page.
4. Findings from the project will be published in a peer review journal for wider circulation of information.

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 RSG grant was used during the entire period of the project time just as anticipated i.e. February 2017 to January, 2018.

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
Refresher team training	135	84	51	We decided to cut on costs so as to be able to cater for other unforeseen expenses from other activities
Team members Transport (from Nairobi to the field) & subsistence allowances	1270	1000	270	The transport charges were reduced because we travelled as a group
Local transport from one location to another	0	125	-125	We had not budgeted for it
Allowance for the field assistants	667	667	0	
Equipment (Laptop and camera)	476	476	0	
Education/Training materials and allowances	1479	150	1329	We decided to use education materials different from the one

				we had anticipated.
Audio visual machines for film production	873	667	206	We got a media group with cheaper prices
Consumables	100	150	-50	The cost went higher because of Internet charges
Facilitation of stakeholders meetings	0	417	-417	We had not budgeted for it.
Facilitation of focus group discussions	0	430	-430	We had not budgeted for it.
Time compensation taken for community members who participated in the film production & presents for school pupils	0	834	-834	Costumes budget was allocated as time compensation taken for the community groups and presents for the primary school wildlife club members because the community groups and the school wildlife clubs had their own costumes
Total		5000		Exchange rate at the day of the bank transaction: Kshs.119.85 Kenyan shillings = 1.00 £ sterling pound

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

Most of the indigenous knowledge documented during this project was on wild animals of conservation concern in Bogoria region, in our 2nd Rufford project therefore, we aim at focusing on plants of conservation concern in this region.

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 we did. We used the logo in all our correspondence letterheads and official communication documents to stakeholders, we printed the logo on the t-shirts, questionnaires, the banner and on the final report and we also acknowledge Rufford for funding support in our film. Rufford Foundation will also be acknowledged in the scientific publication of our findings, this will increase its recognition as a feasible system for conservation in other parts of the world.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Prisca Seurei: She was coordinating interviews and questionnaire administration.

Kimuigei Barturo: A staff member of Lake Bogoria National Reserve. He helped in planning the logistics of the project and also served as a guide around the reserve

Peter Gitau: He was responsible for the multimedia activities of the project including photography, videos editing and film production.

John Musina: He assisted in preparation of technical and financial reports of the project including an inventory of progress of the project activities

12. Any other comments?

I am extremely thankful to RF for funding this project and I look forward to furthering this work so as to achieve sustainable biodiversity conservation and local livelihoods improvements.



