

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	Maxwell Kwame Boakye
Project title	Quantifying and Mapping of Cultural Values of Pangolins amongst Major Ethnic Groups in Ghana for Informed Conservation Decision-Making
RSG reference	21976-2
Reporting period	23 May 2017 – 23 May 2018
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	maxwell_boakye@yahoo.com
Date of this report	6 June 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
Determine the cultural importance of pangolins to the various ethnic groups in Ghana				
Determine the level of consensus on use of pangolins to the various ethnic groups in Ghana				
Determine the level of assimilation and blending of pangolin cultural values by the various ethnic groups				
Determine if ethnicity has influence on the consumption of pangolin bushmeat				

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

A press conference held by the Chief Executive (Wildlife Division) of the Forestry Commission about possible prosecution for the hunting of pangolins for any purposes made it difficult for participants to admit to using pangolins. Some of the participants were of the view that the researcher was an informant of the Forestry Commission. This challenge was resolved by making reference to researcher's previous data collection that did not result in the prosecution of any of the participants in that study.

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

- The study managed to determine the ethnic groups that pangolin is culturally important to their traditional medicinal practices.
- The study was able to determine the level of agreement in the selection of pangolin body parts amongst the various ethnic groups that use pangolin for traditional medicinal purposes.
- The study managed to determine factors that influence the transfer of pangolin traditional medicinal knowledge amongst the various ethnic groups in Ghana.

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

The project provided an opportunity for a discussion and public education on pangolin conservation to the general public and opinion leaders. Traditional authorities who serve as alternative local government and transport union members who transport bushmeat to major markets were targeted for the conservation message. The project also hired assistants from the local communities.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Research on cultural values will not be carried out by the researcher in Ghana again in the near future. This study and a previous study have provided enough data on pangolin use for conservation decision-making. Studies on pangolin will now focus on their ecology and biology. Currently, data collection on pangolin haematology and ectoparasite is on-going by the researcher.

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

A manuscript has already been prepared that will be submitted to Oryx Journal for publication.

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 money was used as anticipated in terms of time scale.

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
Accommodation	1000	1000		
Transportation	1000	1000		
Community meetings	1000	1000		
Printing services	400	400		
Postage & delivery	100	100		
Data/Voice communication	500	500		
Per diem for local field assistants	1000	1000		
Total	5000	5000		

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

The study has revealed ethnic groups whose cultural values threatens pangolin conservation. The study, therefore, has provided the information necessary for targeted pangolin conservation education. Based on this study management can target pangolin public awareness campaigns based on cultural use.

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

The Rufford Foundation logo received publicity in all presentations and public engagements. The Rufford Foundation has been acknowledged in manuscripts.

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

Maxwell Kwame Boakye (Principal investigator) Maxwell was responsible for day-to-day management of the project in Ghana. Maxwell identified the stakeholders and agencies relevant to this project and did the data collection and analysis. Maxwell has initiated conservation education programme with local NGOs, local traditional councils and relevant government agencies for the conservation of pangolins and other species in Ghana.

Raymond Jansen (Team member) Raymond's role was advisory and edited the manuscript for publication.

Antoinette Kotze (Team member) Antoinette's role was advisory.



Sale of pangolin along a major road



Pangolin scale on display in Kumasi Central Market