

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Rachel Ashegbofe Ikemeh
Project Title	Advancing Integrated Participatory Conservation Actions for Chimpanzees in Southwestern Nigeria.
Application Id	25487-D
Grant Amount	£10,000
Email Address	R.Ashegbofe@Gmail.Com
Date of This Report	30 th June 2020

1. 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
Conservation areas established with stakeholders’ collaboration				In March 2020, the Ekiti State Government by executive order approved the creation of a conservation area for chimpanzee and habitat protection in Ise Forest Reserve.
Policy advocacy for outdated wildlife laws to be revised				This is still ongoing but certainly there’s been huge progress in this aspect of our work and more in roads made.
Local Stakeholder engagement and socio-economic surveys				This an ongoing activity as some areas are yet to be covered.
Conservation Outreach and Media Campaigns				An ongoing activity and has become fundamental following the announcement of a new conservation area and protection regime.
Research and Monitoring				We went further to include elephant surveys as part of our efforts to monitor status of other critical wildlife in the chimpanzee range.

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

The Covid-19 Pandemic and the resulting government measures to contain the spread locally and nationally made it difficult from March 2020 to access the forest areas. However, we were already completing activities under this grant and commencing activities in another grant cycle generously provided by other organisations.

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

1. Establishment of one of two conservation areas proposed.
2. Expanded network and influence with policy stakeholders through diverse strategies of engagement.
3. Increased public awareness of conservation at the governmental level, local communities and even amongst average citizens in the area

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

The local communities were involved in the project as they were engaged as key stakeholders providing inputs for cooperation across sectors and resource users and locals also benefitted from employment opportunities available in the project particularly in transport and field activities.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We are already continuing this work, thanks to the support from Whitley Fund for Nature and National Geographic Society. We will both increase our current efforts while also initiating formal and active protection of the conservation area.

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

We have shared some of the results of this work through news articles in Mongabay.com, BBC Environment, African Primate journal and other informal platforms. We still hope to share more widely using available multimedia e.g. radio and television interviews including scientific journals.

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

The grant was used from August 2019 – April 2020 and anticipated period was from August 2019 – May 2020.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Administrative costs: Project team (all-inclusive i.e. Contribution to Salaries + field allowance); Ad hoc and hired employee (Pro rata payments + stipends); Miscellaneous (tips and compensations)	1500	2300	+800	Two persons joined the Project team
Stakeholders' Meetings;	4700	1979	-2721	Some of the scheduled

Training (on data collection); Meetings and Consultations with stakeholders)				meetings did not hold due to misunderstandings amongst stakeholders
Field Supplies: Includes light equipment and Consumables (Batteries, waterproof notepad, field gears etc.); Food; Miscellaneous Supplies	2000	3100	+1100	Feasibility studies and elephant surveys became urgent and expedient during the course of the grant year and had to be carried out as part of efforts to ensure the success of the project
Logistics costs: Includes (Hotel accommodation, Meals and Incidentals; Airfare (Abuja-Akure-Abuja); Other transport costs (Fuel etc), motorcycle and other hiring of automobile	1800	2621	+821	This cost increased as a result of the increase in number of people on the team.
Total	10000	10000		

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

The most important next steps would be to consolidate on the support we are receiving locally, regionally and nationally not to mention also internationally. We plan to initiate active protection of the established conservation area while still pushing for more areas to come under formal protection from over-exploitation and loss. As part of our new and emerging initiatives, we will be implementing social enterprise from well researched and wide consultations carried out with local communities. We will continue with efforts to advocate for revised policies to ensure effective protection not only chimpanzees but other wildlife and their habitat

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

Yes, we did especially in public awareness materials such as flyers, brochures and other media campaigns.

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

TEAM MEMBERS	POSITION/QUALIFICATION	MAIN RESPONSABILITIES
Rachel Ashegbofe Ikemeh	Project Director/ MSc Conservation Management	Overall project coordination and direction
Babatunji Omoleye	Conservation Area Manager/ BSc Environmental Management and	Designing and implementing conservation

	Toxicology/Postgraduate Dip. Database Management Systems	education programmes
Aladenusi Olusola	Policy and Stakeholder Engagement/ MSc Wildlife Management	Stakeholder engagement including identifying stakeholder groups, representatives and actors.
Adeyeri Joe Ipele Oluwagbemiro	Field Officer/Cert. Wildlife Management	Assisting in all field efforts
Sharon Nebolisa Ifenkwe	Operations and Management Support Officer/ BSc Environmental Science and Resource Management/Certification Environment, Health and Safety	Organizing events i.e. workshops, trainings and sourcing and liaising with project partners.
Paul Okerinu	Field Research Intern/ BSc Ecotourism and Wildlife Management	Conducting field studies i.e. feasibility studies, boundary survey and biomonitoring and elephant surveys
Joshua Aribasoye	Field Research Intern/ BSc Animal Production and Health	Conducting field studies i.e. feasibility studies, boundary survey and biomonitoring and elephant surveys

12. Any other comments?

The unflinching support from The Rufford foundation has been key to the success of this project. The seed grant provided, and the continuing support is the very catalyst for the progress and achievements of the project to date.