

## Final Project Evaluation

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Your Details	
<b>Full Name</b>	Abebayehu Aticho Mentsiro
<b>Project Title</b>	Building community capacity for wetland and river buffer zone management to ensure sustainable wattled crane survival and socio-ecological benefits, Jimma Zone
<b>Application ID</b>	27980-D
<b>Grant Amount</b>	£10,000
<b>Email Address</b>	abebayehu.aticho@ju.edu.et OR j.aticho@yahoo.com
<b>Date of this Report</b>	19 May 2021

**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
Analysis of wetland and river (wattled crane habitat) buffer zones:				GIS & RS based analysis coupled with discussions with local community were done. From this analysis, a scientific manuscript was produced and submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for publication. The findings may guide stakeholders for conservation decisions.
Evaluation of farmers' preference in buffer zones uses				
Developing a community wetland management action plan				A community wetland management action plan was prepared for Boye wetland for future conservation action.
Training and awareness on rehabilitation of degraded buffer zones				Due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions it was very difficult to bring people together. Hence, the project used an alternative; it raised over 15,000 indigenous tree and shrub seedlings in collaboration with Jimma Botanic Garden and freely distributed them to the local community to restore degraded land particularly riverbanks.
Nature club capacity building: sustainability conservation activity is based on local people understanding and commitment				Though there is Covid-19 restriction, this activity was done by students and school supervisors without face-to-face contact with project team members.
Enhancing WC breeding				Artificial nests were prepared at two locations for wattled crane and additional breeding pairs were discovered.

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

Covid-19 pandemic has affected the implantation school and some of the project activities like training and group discussions. The challenges were overcome through

extending the project implementation duration and keeping group sizes smaller for Covid-19 protocols.

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

- More than 15,000 indigenous tree and shrub seedlings composed of eight species were distributed freely to the community for restoring degraded lands in the wetland catchment and river buffer areas.
- A manuscript on urbanisation and nature conservation submitted to peer-reviewed journal. Upon publication a copy will be shared with RF.
- To take more responsibility on nature conservation, together with other RS grant recipient, we have established NGO to work on threatened species conservation.
- An action plan for Boye wetland management was prepared.

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

The local community members were actively involved in the project implementation such as through a school nature club, action plan preparation, seedling production and management.

The project has benefitted the local community through freely distributing more than 15,000 seedlings, knowledge and experience gain from training and workshop and, DSA payments during workshops.

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

Yes, there is a plan to implement Boye wetland conservation action plan.

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

Various methods are used to share the project result to others:

- Project outcomes are shared with other organisations working on conservation (such as International Crane Foundation and Endangered Wildlife Trust), and Jimma University community.
- A manuscript submitted to peer-reviewed journal will be published and available for international community.
- All of the progress reports were uploaded on RSG website.

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

The project was planned to complete in 12 months. However, due to Covid-19 pandemics it has taken 10 more months.

**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
Wattled crane breeding activities		4409	+4409	
Management action plan workshop	500	500		
Incentive for nature club	400	400		
Nature club's activity	1000	1000		
Questionnaire related cost	1075	1075		
Supplies for rehabilitation and RS data collection	105	105		
DSA for training participant	1600	1600		
Stationary for training	300	300		
Mobile airtime	300	400	+100	
Local transportation cost	720	720		
DSA for expert during field and desktop work	3000	3000		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10000</b>	<b>14509</b>	<b>+4509</b>	

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

During the project implementation period we have conducted training, conferences and consultation with the local community and conducted research and field observations. From these efforts we have learned lessons and identified activities for the next steps. The activities suggested for next steps are:

- Implementing conservation action plan.
- Training on ingenious tree seed collection, handling, and nursery management.
- Scaling-up the experience to another wetland.

**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, Rufford Foundation logo was used in awareness creation material and PowerPoint presentations. In addition, the foundation is duly acknowledged and publicised in published scientific articles, and public meetings.

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

**A. A. Mentsiro** has involved in every activity of the project and led the team.

**T. M. Gutema** has involved in field work and community-based action planning.

**F. Mesele** has involved in most field activities and facilitation.

**Li M. Bezabih** has participate in analysis of nature and urban expansion

In addition, the project involved experts from Jimma University, Oslo University and Jimma Botanic Garden among others.

**12. Any other comments?**

RSG financial support has played critical role for achievement of our project objectives hence, I am very grateful for this support. Finally, we would like to thank in advance for the foundation's future support.