

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Michael Mills (assisted by Martim Melo and many others)
<b>Project title</b>	Conserving Angola's threatened Afromontane forests: a community-based approach to tackling forest loss at the Mount Moco Important Bird Area.
<b>RSG reference</b>	30.05.09
<b>Reporting period</b>	September 2009 – September 2010
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£6000
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:michael@birdingafrica.com">michael@birdingafrica.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	3rd September 2010

**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
Establish needs of community (in terms of natural resource use)		x		All field data were gathered: a complete survey of Kanjonde village (81 households) was made in 2009, followed by a second survey in 2010 to test for repeatability of answers and to follow up on specific issues. Slow progress is being made by the Angolan student writing the report, so exact resource use requirements are not yet quantified, although main uses are known and being acted upon.
Involve the community in the project			x	Four young men from Kanjonde are employed on a part-time basis to take care of the nursery; direct contact was made with every household in the village to explain the importance of the project; an environmental arts competition was held at the local primary school to improve environmental awareness; fuel efficient stoves were demonstrated to the community and two stoves are currently being used by all members of the community on rotational basis
Establish ways in which reliance on natural resources can be reduced or changed, and implement this		x		Fuel efficient stoves have been identified as a suitable way to reduce reliance on wood as a source of fuel, although no alternative source has yet been found for wood used in construction. Plans are being formulated to supply fuel efficient stoves to every household.
Establish a nursery			x	A shaded nursery facility was established at Kanjonde in July 2010, with approximately 150 seedlings planted and several trays of seeds. Technical expertise and training of local villagers in nursery maintenance were provided by two botanical horticulturalists, Ernst van Jaarsveld and Adam Harrower, from the South African National Biodiversity Institute. A return visit to Kanjonde in August 2010 showed that most plants were surviving well; four young men from the community are being employed to take care of the nursery. A second nursery of indigenous forest trees was started in Luanda (August 2010) with the help of the Luanda International School. Ecovisao has agreed to send Juares Bongo to check on the nursery at Kanjonde on a monthly basis.

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

Communication with villagers was a barrier, as most people did not speak Portuguese. This was tackled by including four Angolan biologists and students on our team (Francisco Maiato, Juares, Bongo, José Dalla and Feliciano Tchalo).

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

Firstly, the community has been fully engaged, and our work is welcomed in the village. This will make it easier to work here in the future.

Secondly, a nursery has been established at Kanjonde in collaboration with the local community. This provides some local income and will also help to in the recovery of the forest, on which the local community depend.

Thirdly, fuel efficient stoves that will reduce fuel wood requirements by the village were successfully demonstrated to the village, with two sample stoves being used at present. Plans are being developed to supply each household in the village with one stove.

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

The community at Kanjonde has been involved by direct contact between our team and each household, so they are aware of what work is being done and its importance, and we are aware of their resource requirements. Currently they benefit from the project through income (to the four nursery guardians), through an improvement in living conditions by having to carry less wood for cooking on (due to fuel efficient stoves), and the school has received materials and some environmental awareness education. Our project, and website in particular, are slowly increasing the awareness of the value of Monte Moco as an eco-tourist destination – both amateurs and professional naturalists have visited the area as a result, making use of local guides in the process and further reinforcing the value of the forests to the villagers.

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

Yes, this work is developing into an ongoing project in collaboration with BirdLife, APLORI and local partners, and is expected to last at least 5 years. At the same time local partnerships are being strengthened to ensure the long-term continuation of this project beyond our involvement. Currently, Juares Bongo from Ecovisão (Huambo) is visiting the village once a month to follow-up on nursery maintenance and to develop environmental awareness activities (his area of expertise). The International School of Luanda will also develop environmental education campaigns at Mount Moco and will use this project as an environmental education tool for its students (including the creation of a second nursery for Afromontane species on the school grounds). Michael Rogerson from Luanda is providing some financial support for the continuation of the project through the company CGG Veritas, and Mr Tasso Leventis of the A. P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute continues to provide basic funding for the project.

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

Via contents on the websites [www.mountmoco.org](http://www.mountmoco.org) and [www.montemoco.org](http://www.montemoco.org), through various popular articles (some to be written by invited journalist Alexandre Vaz), a short documentary (directed by Alexandre Vaz), and by publishing research findings in international journals such as Bird Conservation International and The Bulletin of the African Bird Club. All findings are also shared with Brian Huntley, who is advisor to the Ministry of the Environment of Angola, and makes sure the ministry is aware of the work done. This project has been presented as a seminar by Martim Melo at the Portuguese Birdwatching Fair 2010 and was the object of a radio programme on science in Africa from the Portuguese Public Radio channel dedicated to the continent (RDP-África, 17 July 2010).

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

It was used over the period July 2009 to August 2010. The project ran for 12 months, 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.

Rand amounts given in parentheses; exchange rate used = 12.88. In addition to the £6000 from the RSG Foundation, £6000 was made available from APLORI. Hence £270 remain unused.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Vehicle running costs	5790 (71390)	5790 (71390)	0	As planned
Flights	1200 (14795)	830 (10199)	+370	Flights were obtained slightly more cheaply than anticipated
Visas	580 (7150)	480 (5850)	+100	Fewer visas were required than anticipated
Subsistence	2800 (34520)	2800 (34520)	0	As planned
Equipment & running of nursery	390 (4800)	580 (7165)	-190	This cost more than expected as we needed to employ the assistance of local help
Energy saving technology	390 (4800)	150 (1760)	+240	Less than anticipated was spent because the Kyoto Box, which we had planned to use, is still not available in South Africa
Contingency	1120 (13800)	1120 (13800)	0	This was used towards the purchase of some camping equipment needed to accommodate additional researchers (10 people accommodated)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12270</b>	<b>11750</b>	<b>+520</b>	

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

Continue to involve the community, find alternative sources of wood for construction, and bring in a shipment of energy efficient stoves for the entire community. Having the area recognised as an official conservation area is also a high priority, and this is being worked on at present.

**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, the logo was used on the website [www.mountmoco.org](http://www.mountmoco.org) and Rufford was mentioned in a seminar presented by Martim Melo at the Portuguese Birdwatching Fair 2010.

**11. Any other comments?**

Martim Melo assisted greatly in all aspects of this project. As did Phil Hall from APLORI and Nigel Collar from BirdLife International. I acknowledge all co-workers: a list of at least 20 people, too long to mention here.

A report on additional activities that have taken place through our work at Mount Moco (over and above those mentioned in the project proposal and this report) was emailed to Jane Raymond on 25 August 2010.

We hope that The Rufford Small Grants Foundation will continue to support this important work.