

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Nkemnyi Standly Nkengbeza
Project Title	Filling-in knowledge gaps of the Endangered Preuss's Guenon, <i>Allochrocebus preussi</i> , in Cameroon proposed Ebo National Park in a bid to enhance its conservation.
Application ID	34451-1
Grant Amount	£5,999
Email Address	nkemnyis@gmail.com
Date of this Report	9 th March 2022

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
To elucidate the distribution and status of Preuss's Guenon and other diurnal primate species in the Ebo forest, majority of which are listed as Threatened by the IUCN Red List, including gorillas, chimpanzees, Preuss's red colobus monkeys and drills.				We covered the western part of the Ebo forest as intended for the survey. This was conducted in the dry season. Our survey reviewed important findings on diurnal primate diversity and on the distribution and status of Preuss's guenon and other diurnal primate species in that part of the Ebo forest. Anthropogenic signs such as hunting, logging and harvesting of NTFPs were documented. GPS coordinates of the signs and presence of Preuss's guenon and other diurnal primates as well as hunting and logging signs were documented.
Provide baseline data on the population size of Preuss's Guenon in Ebo forest.				These objectives are considered partially attained because we still need to survey this part of the forest during wet season before providing our conclusions.
Determine the relative frequency of hunting and logging signs in the area.				We recorded very few encounters of Preuss's guenon during the survey. Therefore, baseline data on the population size of Preuss's guenon in Ebo forest will only be obtained at the end of the study. This is also the case of determining the relative frequency of hunting and logging signs in the area.
Determine local perceptions to changes in prey (especially primates) distribution and abundance over time and the prospect of implementing conservation activities in the area.				We conducted face-to-face interviews with households guided by a semi-structured questionnaire comprised of both open- and closed-ended questions (Newing, 2011). Over 200 households were surveyed in 10 village communities of the western part of the Ebo forest.
Raise awareness for a change in the perception of local				We conducted awareness campaigns on Preuss's guenon conservation and other primates with village communities

<p>community towards the conservation of Preuss's Guenon and other species.</p>			<p>and schools of the Western part of the Ebo forest. Overall, 10 campaigns were successfully organised with key village communities and four schools (two primary and two secondary) were visited for conservation talk. The Ebo Forest Research Project has set up community-based conservation groups including Clubs des Amis des Gorilles (in three villages adjacent to the Ebo gorilla population), Association des Chefs Traditionels Riverains de la Foret d'Ebo. We couldn't collaborate with two of these local conservation groups as planned during awareness program to extend their activities to Preuss's guenon conservation because one (Clubs des Amis des Gorilles) is based in the northern part of the Ebo forest. Despite this, engagement with locals and schools was successfully achieved. T-shirts, posters and flyers with sensitisation messages and bearing the logo of Rufford were produced and used as promotional materials during campaigns (see photos in appendix). Now they are aware about threatened primates in Ebo forest, their conservation and associated habitats. Local community capacity was enhanced on the classification of species (class A, B and C) under the Cameroon Wildlife law.</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

Some villagers were reluctant to be interviewed and to participate in the awareness campaigns thinking we were spies coming to identify local hunters in possession of firearms. Some wanted to be paid before they are interviewed. So, we used trustful local guides who explained our mission to them in their local language. We equally presented the research permit to them.

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

Indices of Preuss's guenon and other diurnal Primates

After a recce walk of 109.7 km, seven primate species were encountered (direct and indirect signs). They belonged to two taxonomic families. The family of Cercopithecidae had six species, Preuss's guenon (*Allochrocebus preussi*), putty-

nosed monkey (*Cercopithecus nictitans*), Cameroon red-eared monkey (*Cercopithecus erythrotis*), golden-bellied crowned monkey (*Cercopithecus p. pogonias*), mainland drill (*Mandrillus l. leucophaeus*) and red-capped mangabey (*Cercocebus torquatus*). The family of Homidae is represented by Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee (*Pan t. ellioti*). We noted Preuss's guenon feeding signs of *Afromumum* sp. We equally noted 89 feeding signs that could not be attributed to any specific primate. We encountered three mixed groups of *C. nictitans*, *C. p. pogonias* and *C. erythrotis* and one mixed group of *C. nictitans* and *C. erythrotis*. The table below summarizes the indices of the seven primates encountered during the survey.

Table 1: Indices of primate species encountered during the survey.

Primate species encounter	Indirect observation				Direct observations	Total encounters
	Feeding signs	Nests	Footprints	Vocalisation		
<i>A. preussi</i>	14			35	3	52
<i>C. erythrotis</i>				3	34	37
<i>C. nictitans</i>				174	47	221
<i>C.p. pogonias</i>				26	49	75
<i>M.l. leucophaeus</i>					21	21
<i>C. torquatus</i>				5		5
<i>Pan. T. ellioti</i>	1	54	3	10		68

Anthropogenic activities

The different anthropogenic signs encountered during the survey included hunter's camps (N=3; 1 active and 2 abandoned), shotgun shells (N=35), hunter's trails and cuts on vegetation for direction (N=7), gunshots heard (N=4), snare traps (N=44; 22 active and 22 abandoned), old logging road (N=1), old cut stumps (N=8) and harvesting of NTFPs (N=5). Thus, 93 hunting signs, nine old logging signs and five signs of harvesting of NTFPs were recorded.

Ethnography survey and awareness campaigns

Over 200 households were sampled in 10 village communities of the western part of the Ebo forest. Preuss's guenon is known to the villagers but not common around the villages, though they reported some human-wildlife conflicts attributed to this species as it destroys crops by raiding cocoa farms and food crops. Majority of these households reported to have consumed bushmeat derived from Preuss's guenon because they lacked alternatives protein source. They also mentioned hunting was meant for generating income and protein intake. The awareness campaigns brought more lights on the national wildlife legislation in the area; locals were able to know the different classifications (class A, B and C) and sanctions that follow illegal hunting of wildlife. This classification is based on the 1994 wildlife law. Species in Class A are completely protected and are forbidden to be killed except in cases where animals constitute danger to persons, property, or as a response for the protection of livestock or crops. Class B species are protected but may be hunted, captured or killed with a specific hunting permit. Class C species are partially protected, and their capture or killing is regulated by the minister in charge of

wildlife. Local village communities committed to support the conservation of Preuss's guenon and to report anyone who kills or hunts this species to local government officials for sanctions.

4. What do you consider to be the most significant achievement of this work?

Local capacity was successfully enhanced on national wildlife legislation and the village communities pledged to work with Cameroon Government (MINFOF) to protect Preuss's guenon that is Endangered on IUCN Redlist and classified as "A" (totally protected) by the Cameroon wildlife law.

5. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

This project was carried out with the collaboration of the local village communities who participated in all stages of the implementation. They took part in awareness campaigns and were informed on the national wildlife legislation and the importance of complying with conservation objectives. They answered all questions and were sensitised on why they should reduce hunting frequency and focus only on Class C species that can tolerate high off-takes such as small forest taxa like rodents and duikers. We encouraged them to form common initiative groups (CIG) to benefit from training and support from the government and other conservation projects in the area. Some youths were recruited as local guides and porters and integrated in the project.

During forest survey, all our local guides were trained on how to use a GPS receiver and a compass and do a forest inventory for primates; thus, igniting community participation in conservation and monitoring by engaging communities in research and especially documenting historical trends of Preuss's Guenon, for informed conservation options.

6. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we have plans to continue this work:

- a) To collect wet season data (June 2022 to October 2022) to complete our data cycle.
- b) To survey the eastern part of the Ebo forest.
- c) To expand awareness campaigns on Preuss's guenon conservation by collaborating with the community-based conservation groups which are Clubs des Amis des Gorilles (in three villages adjacent to the Ebo gorilla population), Association des Chefs Traditionels Riverains de la Foret d'Ebo.
- d) To work with local hunters by grouping them into CIGs and capacity building on livelihood options.

- e) To conduct vegetation/botany survey for habitat suitability of Preuss's guenon in the area
- f) To investigate the use of Preuss's guenon and other primates in local pharmacopeia.
- g) To conduct bushmeat survey to assess the frequency of Preuss's guenon off-takes.

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

The project findings will be spread through the websites of The Rufford Foundation, the University of Buea and peer reviewed journals. Copies of final report will be deposited at the Ministry in charge of Forestry and Wildlife and at the Ebo Forest Research Project. A copy of my PhD thesis after completion of the study will be deposited at the library of University of Buea and at the library of my job site (Institute of Agricultural Research for Development). Oral and posters presentations will also be done both in national and international conferences.

8. 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 March 2021 to February 2022. We planned to commence the work from June 2021 and end in May 2022, but we started earlier because we received the funds in March 2021.

9. 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
Government permits	179	16	-163	We obtained only one research permit from MINRESI because our project area (Ebo forest) is still a proposed National Park.
Local travel	850	880	+30	The local transportation increased due to scarcity of vehicles.
GPS Garmin 64s	500	500		
Digital Camera (Nixon)	250	275	+25	The price was relatively higher than expected because we wanted a

				durable device.
Ethnographic surveys	30	33	+3	We printed more than 200 questionnaires
Community awareness programs	810	835	+25	We printed more sensitization materials (T-shirts, flyers and posters) because the number initially budgeted could not cover schools and village communities.
Subsistence (food for forest and out of forest)	1200	1230	+30	Price increase at the level of the food market
Costs (Field assistant + porters + 01 guide)	2080	2044	-36	We recruited less porters than planned because our local guides assisted in carrying some food items into the forest
Rain boots for the project team	30	30		We bought "Rite in the Rain" notebooks that were relatively expensive.
Stationary	20	25	+5	Few cases of illnesses and other health-related issues occurred
First aid supplies	50	40	-10	
Sub-Total	5999	5908	-91	
Supplies: (Torch light, solar lamps, batteries, maps, etc.)		45	+45	This was not budgeted.
Libation		40	+40	This was not budgeted.
TOTAL	5999	5993	-6	

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

We plan to conduct dry season data survey and further research on Preuss's guenon and other primates in the eastern part of Ebo forest. Work with the local communities and the government (MINFOF) to protect the species that is Endangered and classified as "A" (totally protected by the Cameroon wildlife law). Engage local village communities in research and especially documenting historical trends of Preuss's guenon. Expand community awareness campaigns to get the communities more involved in the conservation of primates. It will also be important do a market survey of the alternatives suggested by the local communities to determine the market appeal and value chains of these alternatives, determine the capacity of these communities to carry out these activities, and monitor and assess activities carried out during this first phase of our project to determine project impact in the short and mid-term.

11. 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, the Rufford Foundation logo was used in all sensitisation materials (t-shirts, flyers and posters). The Rufford Foundation will also be acknowledged in all our communications (talks, posters and research papers) during conferences and seminars which are planned for the near future. All our reports as far as this work is concerned will carry the logo of The Rufford Foundation. The Rufford Foundation logo will be used during my PhD defence's presentation and will also acknowledge The Rufford Foundation in my thesis. The foundation received high publicity during the course of our work.

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

Nkemnyi Standly Nkengbeza: Applicant and principal investigator

Pr Eric B. Fokam: PhD Advisor, provided assistance in the technical design during data collection.

Dr Ekwoke Enang Abwe: Provided technical assistance for field work

Dr Nana D. Eric: PhD co-advisor, contributed to the design and planning of the study

Ngansop Eric: Field Assistant

Epanda Germain: Field Assistant

Tchopwe Emmanuel: Cartographer

Alemngu Prudencia Fortabong: Participated in the design and printing of sensitization materials and could not take part during field work because of ill-health.

Sam: Driver, he drove the team throughout the awareness campaigns in village communities and to schools. He also acted as a facilitator because he masters the project area.

Angap Junior and Koma Jean-Luck: Local guides

Mamigui Robert, Nhomba Mathurin, Tolen Dieudonne and Nyemo Joseph: Porters

13. Any other comments?

Our sincere thanks to The Rufford Foundation for providing support to this project in the Ebo forest. We wish for more cooperation with Rufford Foundation as we continue to source for means to conserve Preuss' guenon and other wildlife species in the Ebo landscape. Thanks very much and I hope to continue working with you.









