

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Boris Polycarpe Yehouenou Tessi
Project Title	Conservation and enhancement of the biodiversity of the Dogo-ketou region (Benin) and empowerment of local communities through nature-based solutions.
Application ID	38461-2
Date of this Report	November 21, 2023

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
Improvement of the population size and the microhabitat of the threatened forest trees (<i>Azelia Africana</i> , <i>Khaya senegaleensis</i> , <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>) in Dogo-Ketou region				We trained the local communities in the production of these species and set up each of their nurseries to carry out the planting activities, which were carried out during the project phase.
Continuing with tree planting scheme within the project sites				We planted trees of the <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> , <i>Azelia africana</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> and <i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i> species in the village of Dogo-ketou.
Training in beekeeping of local communities and installation of some beehives				We organised a beekeeping training course especially for the women of the "Mandjè kobadjè" group and provided them with equipment. Hive installations are monitored, with bee colonisation observed a few months after installation.
Environmental protection and biodiversity conservation awareness campaigns				A number of awareness-raising sessions were held during various activities involving exchanges with the various groups of people living near the Dogo-KEtou forest.

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- a) Production of endangered species seedlings and planting in riparian habitats of the Dogo-Ketou forest.
- b) Beekeeping training for the local community, provision of equipment and installation of beehives managed by well established groups in the region.
- c) Awareness-raising sessions on the protection of planted trees, the importance of better forest protection and the upkeep of beehives and their habitat.

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

The biggest challenge was to get the local community genuinely involved in setting up the beehives, without creating quarrels and jealousies among the different social strata.

The second difficulty was in acquiring the seeds of certain target species for production, and delays in setting up the nurseries.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

Local communities were consulted and informed when the project was launched. They played an active role in the effective implementation of the various training activities, participating in large numbers. The areas where the beehives will be set up have been designed by the local community for greater interest and success. The awareness-raising sessions were a great success, with different social strata taking part (men, women, young people, local leaders, teachers, pupils, etc.).

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

With the aim of empowering rural communities and ensuring their continued interest in the conservation of biodiversity in this area, we plan to carry out further beekeeping training and planting activities in other villages in the region to cover as many people as possible.

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

All the activities carried out within the framework of this project were published on the various communication channels of the NGO SOS Biodiversity:

<https://sosbiodiversity.org/2023/09/06/conservation-and-enhancement-of-the-biodiversity-of-the-dogo-ketou-region-benin-and-empowerment-of-local-communities-through-nature-based-solutions/>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid02DBN3g9ivCeGyBZPTnq7UHZTRBY2Q8JHZLuvrUHH9BmNJmpmH1aSrLHmXaNHm6Bl>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid0jmbJBv3fvaxPskPD6Sxi6BkiT1cLCvf9BaDc2NyG74FThEcNe4AhFj2pjs7oHaYQl>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid0ApxjTUbfwR57qTWEjEsaVauzYcDGF8rPif6znx9WEe5K6TXs7YiowE2fdCgsp7WXl>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid02f84VPk6q7ph548NMhKnefPwW4N4mXUfVU1exF6QgoVgkdFgr2qc9GCdP2VZdUc52l>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid0Ftr19cx6LmQ3EZkH2xnXgx6bAckquuwaSrHJh9nSqibbEBaVzSrsisMMugbYdwvJl>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid04uH3mgSvMa3Fjbs6pdgReF8WVTfMnTxH6Zaf6kUvv7DNmZzCfYHJRrLWBVAqjriMl>

<https://web.facebook.com/sosbiodiversitybenin/posts/pfbid02ywHewZmoYiHC18yjN8FmE53U5jJB745hZ2Sv21bqEsCcfYqAGX5pcJA98sbXZS1Ql>

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

We'll need to keep track of the activities we carry out, and always be there for the communities involved in our various activities.

8. 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?

In publications relating to the project's activities, mention was made of Rufford's financial support in implementing the project. Rufford's official pages have been featured in our various publications. The logo was used on various posters. T-shirts were printed with the Rufford Foundation logo and shared with participants at various project activities.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Vincent Adjibode, trained local communities in beekeeping and raised their awareness of biodiversity conservation.

Kakpo Sunday, President of the NGO SOS Biodiversité, supervised all the project's activities and was involved in some of them to ensure their successful implementation.

Miriabelle SOSSAH, as a member of the project team, she was involved in raising awareness and training local communities in agroforestry and sustainable natural resource management.

Donatien YESSIHO, Rufin KPATINNON, Marina DOSSOU, members of the SOS Biodiversity NGO, volunteer to carry out project activities.

10. Any other comments?

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the local authorities, the local organisations that are partners in this project and all the people who have enabled us to implement all the planned activities (SOS Biodiversity NGO, Oueme-Plateau National Forest Department, Ecole Circonscription Kétou).

Our deepest gratitude to the Rufford Foundation for the grant awarded to our project. The local community has benefited from training in income-generating activities.