

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details

Your name	Judith M. Curtain
Project title	Kereita Forest Participatory Forest Management Community Awareness Project
RSG reference	48.05.09
Reporting period	1.11.09 – 1.11.10
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	judycurtain@gmail.com
Date of this report	30.11.10

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
Hold a series of 12 monthly workshops			Yes	
To create awareness among local communities in the five villages surrounding the Kereita Forest of: 1. The relevant sections of the Forest Act 2005 (Kenya) affecting management of resources by the local communities and community involvement in forest management		Yes		This is an ongoing process. The workshops were attended by KFWCA members (of which there are over 300 from the five surrounding villages). After attending the workshops it was up to the members to disseminate the information to their wider communities.
2. The benefits of participatory forest management involving all stakeholders, including forest adjacent communities (FAC)		Yes		See above
3. the proposed Forest management agreement, to be signed between the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and the KFWCA and how it relates to the local community		Yes		See above
To create a set of rules and regulations governing forest management and land use in the five ecological zones surrounding the Kereita Forest		Yes		A framework was established for a proposed set of rules and regulations and is still being debated within the KFWCA and is expected to be adopted at the next AGM.
To create in the local communities a sense of ownership of the forest in a bid to stop the current destruction of the forest being carried out by the FAC.		Yes		Too early to see the effects of the workshops on the wider communities.
Top collaborate with the Government, KFS and other stakeholders in protection and management of Kereita Forest			Yes	All workshops were attended by local government representatives, KFS representatives and representatives of other stakeholders.

To develop community projects adjacent to Kereita Forest			Yes	Funds from the project were used to contribute to a tree planting exercise, the purchase of bee hives and the upkeep of the tree nursery.
To rehabilitate degraded areas				See above.

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

None.

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

- a. The education of hundreds, if not thousands, of community members in the importance of conservation through participatory forest management.
- b. The empowerment of a local community association to determine regulations governing land use in their area.
- c. The bringing together of local communities with government officials, the KFS and other stakeholders to create a partnership with the common goal of conserving Kereita Forest.

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

The local communities were involved in the project every step of the way. They have benefitted from the project through education, empowerment and what is hoped will be the future protection of their greatest asset, the Kereita Forest.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The KFWCA will continue their awareness and information programme through their tireless and selfless efforts, but without further funding it will be on a much smaller scale.

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

To be honest I haven't given this any thought, but it would be well worth writing an article for a wildlife/conservation publication and seeing if this model can be applied to other areas where the forests are in danger from overuse from adjacent communities.

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

12 months, the anticipated period.

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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Workshop x 12 Including: Hall hire, food and beverages, facilitators, writing materials, printing, advertising, transport for members	Per workshop 353.68 Total 4244.16	Per workshop 312.01 Total 3744.16	500	£500 was deducted from workshop budget to buy computer and camera for KFWCA and for purchase of bee hives and seedlings.
Communications Including: phone and internet	Per workshop 41.66 Total 499.92	Same	None	
Transport Delivering budget to community from Nairobi	Per workshop 20.83 Total 249.96	Same	None	
Administration Including: overseeing budget, reports etc.	Per workshop 83.83 Total 1005.96	Same	None	
Purchase of computer and camera for project for KFWCA and purchase of bee hives and seedlings		500		
Total	6000	6000	None	

* Average exchange rate throughout the year was KES120 to £1

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

- a. To secure more funding for further education and other projects in the area.
- b. To educate the youth of the area in the importance of conservation and the protection of their forest.
- c. To monitor the long term effects of the project through the KFWCA.

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?

The RSGF logo was used at all the workshops in the form of a banner and on all printed materials. It is also on the signs at the tree nursery, the tree planting sites and the bee-keeping project site.

11. Any other comments?

I am deeply impressed with the level of commitment from the KFWCA and its members to the conservation of the Kereita Forest and their continuing efforts to promote awareness among the surrounding communities in their attempt to protect the forest and its wildlife.