

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	Njodzeka Gilbert Njodzeka
Project title	Reforestation and Conservation Of BIKOV Community Forest.
RSG reference	51.12.09
Reporting period	May to December 2010
Amount of grant	£5876
Your email address	gi702000@ymail.com
Date of this report	30 / 12 /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
Introduction and promotion of project			Fully	We had sensitisation meetings with community members Erected signpost promoting the project at main entrance to forest. We made radio announcement in two community radios (Helenkriss and Bui Community radio) to incite awareness and participation.
Setting up Management Team			Fully	Have been working with Forest Management Officer Mr Lukong Majoda alongside 12 others executive members.
Workshop with Management Team			Fully	Held workshops on Tree Nursery management, Non Timber Forest Product (NTFP) and Eco-tourism with Forest Management Team alongside other Community forest Users.
Purchase of Project Needs		Partially		Purchase Spades (4) Purchase cutlasses (4) Planting tools (6 small spades) Fils for cutlasses (2) Two bags of salt for killing eucalyptus 22 bags for carrying seedlings
Eucalyptus Elimination		Partially		Eliminated 244 big eucalyptus trees alongside many small trees and salt was applied on the storms to facilitate killing Only one compartment was handled and five other compartments are left.
Tree Planting			Fully	Planted 5500 Trees by BIKOV community and Green Care staffs. BTCV volunteers did not turn up as programmed
Eco-tourism Development		Partially		We had a workshop in one of the Forest User villages (Kai) facilitated by Mr Evaristus Shinghang of Zwinkels Tours Bamenda – Cameroon.
Tree Species identification		Partially		Not able to cover the whole forest.
Trail Network building		Partially		BTCV did not come to assist as programmed. We made some patrols around the forest to identify areas for trails.
Monitoring and Evaluation				Ongoing - The Divisional Delegate of Environment and Nature Protection for

				Bui Mr Tume Emmanuel in one of the evaluations meetings of 24 th July gave room for a question and answer sessions with forest users alongside Green Care Staffs.
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) did not come as programmed and they did not also contribute for the project financially. Despite these challenges Green Care and BIKOV community forest users and management team succeeded in planting the trees and eliminated the eucalyptus.
- -There is too much eucalyptus to be eliminated than estimated and as such, the project only worked on one compartment out of the five. A total of 244 big eucalyptus trees were felled.
- -Transportation was difficult to planting site, provoked by the fact that it was peak of the wet season and our vehicle was not four wheel drive.

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

- The forest is being regenerated through the planting of 5500 trees by the community members of BIKOV. The project has provoked dying community initiative and voluntary endeavours. Spring sources have been protected through the planting of catchment friendly trees and elimination of Eucalyptus
- Elimination of eucalyptus trees has given the BIKOV forest management committee, the opportunity to process the eucalyptus to plank for eventual construction of modern beehives for income generation.
- The community has gained valuable knowledge through workshops on tree nursery management, non timber forest products (NTFP) and eco-tourism, which will enable the them to have income generating activities.

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

The Mayors for Jakiri sub division, the Divisional Delegate of Environment and Nature Protection Bui, alongside the Forest Management Officer for BIKOV have all issued service notes mobilising community dwellers around BIKOV to participate in tree planting. More to that the project paid for announcements to be broadcasted to that effect over two community radio stations in both English and mother tongue (Lamnso).

Announcements were made in traditional groups (Majongs) and churches about the work and as a consequence Men, women and youths have been coming out twice a week for the planting of the trees. They carry the seedlings in smaller bags to planting site proper, use cutlasses to clear planting sites, dig holes and plant the trees. After each days work the community gathers together in a comfortable spot eat and drink what is available, criticise what went wrong if any, plan next planting date, map out strategies to mobilise greater participation and then depart.

The local community members benefited in the execution of some aspects of the project like, writing and installing of signposts, transportation of seedlings from nurseries to near planting sites, Elimination of eucalyptus and participation workshops that helped orientate their thinking and practices.

The project is helping to mobilise greater concern for forest welfare and more to that the Forest Management Team have process the eucalyptus into plank and it is to be used to construct modern hives (KTB) for income generation.

As a consequence

Hundreds of community members have been planting the trees, learning more about the value of trees planted, their names and uses. A total of 507 community persons have been planting the trees from 8 am to 2 pm. This was done for over 3 months.

Value has been added to BIKOV forest management team especially the good example demonstrated by their leaders like the Forest Delegate Mr Lukong Walters, the Forest Management officer Mr Lukong Majoda, and many other forest guards.

The project has provoked the Delegate of Environment to issue a very serious Service Note warning forest users to desist from farming, grazing, planting of more eucalyptus, destruction of natural forest, and the practice of bush fires around the BIKOV forest. The aspect of discouraging goat grazing in the forest was also addressed.

The eucalyptus eliminated is already being processed to plank and plans are that it will be used to construct modern Kenyan top bar hives for community income generation. Thanks to foresight of management committee.

There are plans to produce flyers to promote eco-tourism within the community forest.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans to continue with fire tracing and patrolling in and around the forest by forest guards, to continue with tree planting and elimination of eucalyptus from the remaining five compartments.

More and more appeals have been extended to Rufford Small Grant Foundation through Green Care for additional trees next year if possible. Especially from the Forest Delegate Mr Lukong Walters and Forest Management officer Mr Lukong Majoda. The traditional rulers and the Divisional delegate of environment and nature protection also join in extending appeals to us to do all possible to continue the good work in the forest.

These plans will be having a very serious handicap of lack of finance. For this reason there is serious need to extend the project to target the aspects of more tree planting, income generation, complete elimination of eucalyptus and monitoring. There also need to intensify awareness against goat grazing in the forest and provision of alternative sustainable grazing and farming techniques.

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

Copies of the report shall be forwarded to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation, the Bui Divisional Delegate of environment and nature protection, the Mayor of Jakiri, His Majesty the Fon (Chief) of Nso Tribe, the BIKOV Forest Management Committee, CENDEP, BTCV and Green Care file and community Library.

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

The timescale was nice. May, June, July, August and September are good seasons to plant trees, and eliminate eucalyptus because of excess rainfall. The months of October, November and December are good for monitoring and evaluation.

This duration has not affected the project but for the fact that transportation was difficult due to heavy rains which again was good season for planted trees to grow.

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
Eucalyptus Eradication	£376.70	£378.40	+£1.70	Budget was not enough because there are so many more eucalyptus than estimated.
Hire of engine saw	£83.70	£83.70		
Machine operator	£83.70	£83.70		
Removal(Plank)	£209.30	£211		
Tree Planting	£5824.21	£5824.21		
Planning meeting	£69.76	£69.76		
Seedling purchase	£3850.00	£3850.00		
Seedling needs in nursery	£825.00	£825.00		
Preparation of plant	£126.00	£126.00		
Nursery Training	£209.30	£209.30		
Transport of seedling to site	£500.00	£500.00		
Transport to work site	£244.15	£244.15		
Trail Network building	£216.25	£149.95	-£66.30	
Aluminium Sheets	£33.48			
Plank	£7.00			
Nails	£8.37			
Paint	£11.16			
Writing brushes	£2.80			
Cutting tools	£3.49			
Spades	£41.85	£41.85		
Cutlasses	£24.40	£24.40		
Transportation to work site	£83.70	£83.70		
Ecotourism Development	£495.27	£296.28	-£198.99	

Planning/Promotion meeting	£34.88	£34.88		
Ecotourism Training	£118.54	£118.54		
Consultant/Trainer	£300	£142.86	£157.14	Used to support Transport
Promotion/Advertising	£41.85			
Personnel Management	£560.43	£560.43	0	Had more than estimated outings to project site.(8)
Feeding (Bread and Honey)	£61	£61		
Transportation (Facilitators)	£66	£66		
Per diem to Delegate	£66	£66		
Telephone contacts	£60	£60		
Green Care Staff (7)	£307.43	£307.43		
Monitoring and Evaluation	£165.38	£35.71	-£129.67	
Monitoring	£69.76			
Evaluation sessions	£83.70			
Transportation		£35.71		
Reporting	£11.92			
Total	£7637.24	£7243.98	-£393.26	The exchange rate is £ 1 = 716. 773

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

Green Care and BIKOV forest management Team are appealing that the project be extended for some more years. This will enable us to eliminate all the eucalyptus, complete the additional planting of forest friendly trees, improving of other income generating activities like bee farming, other non-timber forest products and promotion of eco-tourism within the forest. There is also need to intensify awareness and action against the grazing of Goats in the forest and provision of alternatives sustainable techniques.

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, we used the RSGF logo to prepare attendance lists for the project participants.

RSGF did receive publicity during the project through the sign board we established and Radio announcements

11. Any other comments?

We are very grateful to the RSGF for assisting us help our rural community through the planting of 5500 valuable Trees like *Prunus africana*, *Polysia fulva*, Croton etc in water catchments within BIKOV community forest, the elimination of eucalyptus trees and processing them into plank for the eventual construction of Hives for the community.

It's thanks to the RSGF, that tree planting has provoked more community involvement and more instructions from our Divisional Delegate of Environment and Nature Protection. He even had to do more personal follow up in the forest. Also, traditional authorities concern for the forest have been revitalised for the greater benefit of the community.

More and more people from neighbouring villages are interested to become bee farmers in the forest after planting of more trees.

Tree planting gave us the best opportunity to involve and educate youths about the forest. More *Prunus africana* has been planted in the forest - a serious source of income for the community in the near future.