

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	Sheila Kiconco
Project title	Sustainable Utilisation and Cultivation of <i>Prunus africana</i> Around Kalinzu-Maramagambo Forest Western Uganda
RSG reference	RGS 55.09.07
Reporting period	One year
Amount of grant	£4778
Your email address	sheilakiconco@yahoo.com
Date of this report	25 th September 2009

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
To contribute to conservation of <i>Prunus africana</i> in Kalinzu-maramagambo forest			✓	Community members surrounding the forest realised the need conservation and even the target number of the community groups tripled from 30 in each community to 150 in Bitereko Sub County and 200 in Katerera Sub County
To sensitise communities on wise use of <i>Prunus africana</i>		✓		Awareness on wise use of <i>Prunus africana</i> was achieved. However, sensitisation should be continuous as there is need for more sensitisation campaigns about conservation of other indigenous tree species in since these communities encroach on the forest to get products of indigenous trees and yet they do not plant such trees on-farm
To cultivate <i>Prunus africana</i> on-farm around Kalinzu-maramagambo forest		✓		<i>Prunus africana</i> was planted on people's farms though more trees need to be planted to ensure sustainability in the long run. However prolonged droughts affected the planting season.

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

The project did not fully achieve smooth implementation of some activities since they were weather dependant activities were delayed and were not implemented in the anticipated time. There was a prolonged drought season which affected planting of passion fruits and *Prunus africana*. The prolonged drought also affected activities like bee keeping due to wildfires.

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

Capacity was built amongst community members through training in passion fruit growing, beekeeping and craft making. Community members were enhanced with knowledge on *Prunus africana* and tree planting in general by giving them skills in outsourcing good planting materials, nursery and tree management. Community groups were also given beehives and planting material of passion fruits to demonstrate where other group members will get the healthy planting materials.

Increased incomes of community members, though the figures are not yet recorded considering the enterprises that have been established group members will be able to improve in terms of welfare and livelihood. For instance, sale of crafts, beekeepers were linked to honey markets and this will lead to reduced dependence on forest products as a source of income.

Sensitization and awareness creation reduced conflicts between National Forestry Authority (NFA) and the local communities due to reduced illegal activities of extraction of *Prunus africana*. Skills on managing forest resources were enhanced to help community members effectively and efficiently conserve and manage the forest sustainably. In addition, there was increased awareness on sustainable utilization and cultivation of *Prunus africana* on farms.

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

The project mobilised two communities to embark on activities that could lead to conservation of *Prunus africana* species by reducing its overexploitation. The two community groups are registered community-based organisations (CBOs); these are Bitereko women group in Bitereko Sub County (with 150 members) and Katanda II in Katerera Sub County (with 200 members). These communities were involved in activities of nursery bed establishment, awareness creation and forest-based enterprises such as beekeeping, passion fruit growing and craft making.

The project addressed used a popular participatory approach where community members were involved at all levels including decision making. The trainings delivered using writings, speech, discussions, presentations, group work and side events of demonstrations and illustrations. The trainings helped the community members to effectively manage the tree species in the wild as well as domesticating it on their farmlands thus conserving the species.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We are proposing the next phase of the project intending to follow up on the *Prunus africana* and conserving other indigenous tree species surrounding Kalinzu-Maramagambo forest because during the interaction it was realised that community members also encroach on the forest for medicine, timber and firewood thus some forest trees are being unsustainably debarked and eventually they dry.

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

Networking with other conservation groups that have activities in the project area and working together with the existing government institutions like the district local government and National Forestry Authority to ensure sustainability of the project.

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

While the anticipated period of the project was one-year RSG was used in two years because the activities highly depended on weather and yet climate was unpredictable.

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	Items of expenditure	Amount in £	Actual Exp.	Difference	Comments
Administration					
Computer rent for 12 months		250	233	17	
Communication and community mobilization		104	122	-18	Rates for radio announcements varied on different radio stations
Stationary (paper, printing, photocopying, secretarial services)		350	368	-18	Prices for printing varied depending on number of pages
Subsistence Project team leader and partner staff allowance		1,200	1200	0	
	Internet	91	85	6	
Training					
Nursery bed establishment					
Trainers		70	70	0	
Training materials (pots for seedlings, Wheelbarrow, Nails, Watering cans)		130	86	44	
Transport hire including fuel		160	160	0	Fuel prices have been on the upward trend
Meals and refreshments		95	83	12	
Bee keeping					
Trainers		80	80	0	
Training materials (full harvesting gear, beehives, smokers)		280	297	-17	
Transport hire including fuel		160	163	-3	Fuel prices have been on the upward trend
Meals and refreshments		95	96	-1	
Passion fruit growing					
Trainers		80	80	0	
Training materials (seedlings, Wires and Nails)		60	60	0	
Meals and refreshments		95	96	-1	
Transport hire including fuel		160	163	-3	Fuel prices have been on the upward trend
Craft Making					
Trainers		80	80	0	

Training materials (dyes, craft materials)	80	81	-1	
Meals and refreshments	98	99	-1	
Transport hire including fuel	160	167	-7	Fuel prices have been on the upward trend
Creating awareness				
Promotional Materials (designing, and laying, printing 'posters & Burners')	358	383	-25	
Meetings (stationary, hiring venue)	50	5	45	
Meals and refreshments	98	96	2	
Transport hire including fuel	160	163	-3	
Monitoring				
Transport hire including fuel	154	184	-30	Fuel prices have been on the upward trend
Meals and refreshments	80	75	5	
Total	4,778	4778	0	

NB: The budget does not indicate community contribution

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

Up-scaling the project in the areas surrounding the forests by planting other indigenous tree species on-farm to reduce on the community encroachment of the forest.

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 in poster publications. A burner with RSGF logo was designed and used during training.

11. Any other comments?

I take this opportunity to thank RSG for the grant and your continued support to conservation of nature.