

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	Hoda A. Yacoub
Project title	Agro-pastoralism as Strategy for Sustainable Conservation and Livelihood in Wadi Allaqi Biosphere Reserve, South Eastern Desert, Egypt.
RSG reference	9031-1
Reporting period	Twenty days
Amount of grant	5960
Your email address	hyacoub2001@yahoo.com
Date of this report	15, March/ 2012

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
<p>1. Agropastoralism reduces the load on natural plants to improve the efficiency for the <i>in-situ</i> conservation of semi-arid habitat in Wadi Allaqi</p>				<p>Although that most of Bedouins livestock still grazing at the shores of Lake Nasser, the number of sheep and goats found in the village increased due to present additional fodder resources represented by the farms. The village livestock depends on the sorghum product as feeding sources. Even the families who have no farms we supplied them with seeds to be able to cultivate small areas near their houses.</p>
<p>2. Agropastoralism will insure the effective implementation of management plans for habitat, species action plans and species recovery plans.</p>				<p>These are long-term objectives which will not be achieved by only one crop harvest or by construction nine small farms. The application of the agropastoralism strategy as additional livelihood sources in large scale to involve most of Bedouin tribes living downstream in addition to awareness programmes target the local communities, will be a step toward having these objectives.</p>
<p>3. Agropastoralism gives an opportunity for intensive land management using of the advantages of the biological interaction occurs when there is combined cultivation of trees with crops and/or domestic animals. The mixed crops system emphasises bio-intensive elements and the positive interactions</p>				
<p>4. Agropastoralism mechanisms can achieve one of IUCN aims which related to contribution to solutions that conserve the biodiversity, while at the same time ensuring that people's livelihoods are improved in a sustainable way.</p>				<p>These objectives can be fully achieved with the time, when the project applied in large scale to involve more Bedouin families and when the water supplies are adequate to cover the large scale farming requirement.</p>
<p>5. Agropastoralism mechanisms help to regulate the use of wildlife population and ecosystems by local stakeholders (communities' management) and enhance the resource productivity to</p>				

secure adequate stocks and flows of food and cash to meet basic needs of Bedouin (Livelihood alternatives).			
6. Promote mechanisms which support the Bedouin against struggles in the face of low grazing resources and increase their capacity to adapt with climate stress.			The lack of grazing resources in Allaqi Village is the primary challenge. The present of farms acted as unites for additional resources of fodder was a mechanism against problems created due to low grazing resources. The cultivated trees in agroforestry systems have economic values and can be utilized as food and fodder.
7. Help Bedouin communities to become aware of problems related to their habitat as degradation of natural grasslands due to their traditional nomadic system (loads on grazing resources), assess risks and opportunities.			
8. Improve the productivity of land.			
9. Achieve knowledge and experience on Agroforestry technique in Bedouin communities and the workers in Allaqi Biosphere Reserve.			Consultation of experts in Desert Research Centre in Cairo was so essential to collect more information about the semiarid agriculture, the discussions with researchers in Department of Rural Sociology, Department of the pastures and natural resources in dry areas, Department of Agriculture in arid and sustainable development, were benefit to know how to apply the agriculture in Allaqi, to improve use of the limited resources and managing the natural resources sustainably.
10. Transfer the experience of agropastoralism to other arid areas particularly the protected areas in the country.			Several meetings were held (including presentations) with Bedouin tribes, director of Nature Conservation Sector in Cairo, the director of Wadi Allaqi Biosphere Reserve and the director of Allaqi village, to show our project and related activities, to know there opinions and ideas and to insure their cooperation. The monthly reports were regularly sent to Nature Conservation Sector which helps to transfer the experiment to other protected areas particularly those having the same nature as Allaqi.

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

New practice: Accepting the new practice represented by the agriculture by the Bedouins was one of project constraints. Bedouin economics based mainly on sheep, goats and camels husbandry and the agriculture considered as a new activity for them. The awareness programmes for Bedouin including new topics: 1) as the environmental problems as drought and low resources and the importance to have new activities adapted with the area conditions and the application of agropastoralism technique to deal with such problem, 2) How to implement the agriculture work, 3) where, how and when to make the farms and 4) Decide the types of the crops.

Team: Low knowledge and low experience of the project team and the local communities related to application the agro forestry system in the farms and the work technique was one of the difficulties. Consultation with experts in Desert Research Centre in Cairo was so essential to collect more information about the semiarid agriculture, also, the discussions with researchers in Department of rural Sociology, Department of the pastures and natural resources in dry areas, Department of agriculture in arid and sustainable development was a practical step to overcome this difficulty.

Water supply: Low and irregular supplies of water to Allaqi Village is the main challenge to implement the agriculture. Cultivation of crops and trees tolerant to drought conditions was the most appropriate solution for this problem.

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

1. Agropastoralism reduces the load on natural plants found at the shores of Lake Nasser and supply the Bedouins with additional livelihood resource.
2. Achieve knowledge and experience on Agroforestry technique.
3. Transfer the experience of agropastoralism to other arid areas particularly the protected areas in the country.

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

The project targets to improve the livelihood of Bedouins in Allaqi, by introducing new resources represented by the farms, so it was implemented by and for the Bedouins. They were involved in every step of the project since the project was only an idea; they shared in the determination of the farms locations, trees and crops species, time of cropping, construction of farms, and cultivation of seedlings in the nursery.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we have some plans to continue the work in the project including more farms and implement the project in other areas in Wadi Allaqi.

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

As I mentioned before, that all the procedures and the results of the project was sent to Nature Conservation Sector in Cairo, which will provide opportunity to other arid protected areas to utilise the experiment and share the results of the work.

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

The RSG was used over thirteen months. Some of the objects were achieved but at the same time others were long term objectives, in general, the timescale was adequate to complete all the activities related to project.

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.

The total value of grant equal to £6000, the received amount was equal to £5960 (£40 was cut by the bank as remittance fees).

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Bank remittance fees	0	40	40	
Fences materials	200	370	170	The price of metallic materials used in the fences remarkably increased; also, we decided to increase the size of the farms to have more spaces between the trees.
Cultivation tools	200	200	0	
Nursery construction materials	900	870	-30	
One Water Pump	750	460	-290	Only one water pump was bought instead of two that the director of Allaqi Village provide the project with facilities that make the water supplies enough for farms irrigation, also the budget specified for the second pump was directed to cover the costs of fences materials.
Pots for water storage	100	110	10	
Local travels	300	300	0	
Data show	450	470	20	
Laptop computer	400	400	0	
Digital Camera	400	430	30	
Printer + Cartage + Stationeries	500	510	10	
Seedling plantation materials	400	420	20	
Nursery construction pay	100	100	0	
Costs of preparation farms	500	500	0	
Incentives	500	500	0	
Fuel	300	320	20	
Total	6000	6000	0	

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

Monitor the growth and the development of the cultivated trees to measure the success and to make the necessary modifications (if it was required). We also will make a brochure show the activities and the results of the project, which will help to widespread our experiment in project.

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?

No I didn't but I planned to use it in the brochure which will be published soon, the RSGF already has a publicity on the level of my colleague and the publicity cycle expanded through my project to involve the workers in Nature Conservation Sector, employee in Allaqi Village, staff of Botany Department in South Valley University, researchers in Lake Nasser Development Authority and finally researchers in Desert Research Centre in Cairo.