

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	Ernesto Uetimane Junior
Project title	Describing anatomy and tree features of IUCN and CITES timber species growing in Mozambique
RSG reference	9307-1
Reporting period	Final report
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	wetimane@uem.mz
Date of this report	2011

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
Raise awareness of stakeholders on IUCN/CITES protected timber species			X	In Mozambique, before this project started, almost nothing was known about trading internationally protected timbers including the regulatory body of the forest sector. Forest laws were restricted to observe total harvested volumes irrespective of species and minimum cutting diameters. The available growing stock is poorly discriminated per timber species. Therefore, conservation organisations such as IUCN and WWF are left without any tool to limit harvesting quotas of any overexploited species. I arranged meetings with all stakeholders and have successfully brainstormed over heavily exploited timbers. This project represents a milestone over the issue of endangered timbers in Mozambique.
Catalogue peculiar botanical features of IUCN/CITES trees growing in Mozambique			X	Botanical atlas/field guide is on print and ready to be distributed to all relevant stakeholders as identified by the forest authorities. Photos of standing trees in their natural were taken to provide easy to use illustrative guide for on field identification
Collect wood anatomical samples for lab identification			X	The cored samples will be used in the second phase of the project

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

The project has suffered a slight reduction on its budget due to unexpected inflation as the exchange rate at the time of application (October 2010) was 1£ = 57, 00 Mt, but dropped to 52,00 Mt when funds were released in late January 2011. In addition, some planned field expeditions were postponed or delayed due to untypical and extended rainy season observed in 2011 which prolonged until late April.

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

- **Raised awareness on endangered timbers:** the arranged meetings with all stakeholders in the forest sector across the country will undoubtedly launch foundations over endangered timbers. The participants agreed to propose species oriented inventories to assess the

species status/availability, protected or establish optimal harvesting volumes as an effort to halt depletion of some premium species including IUCN/CITES timbers growing in Mozambique.

- **Cataloguing of endangered IUCN/CITES timbers:** an illustrated guide with clear botanical descriptions of the two endangered timbers is being compiled within this project. The guide is expected to provide reliable tool for on field identification of the two endangered tree species.
- **Wood anatomy samples for lab identification:** We cored standing trees of sandalwood and blackwood and extracted samples for wood anatomy descriptions aimed at advanced lab identification of IUCN timbers in the phase 2 of the project.

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

Local communities were actively involved during the project. Discussions about harvesting practices with potential to deplete the studied timbers were carried out throughout our field missions. Unlike charcoal production seen as threat to sandalwood stands, alternatives practices such as wood crafting were examined over the use of this species through using dead trees as raw material.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

As stated in the original application, apart from raising awareness on endangered timbers, the present grant was meant to draft a botanical guide for on field identification of endangered IUCN/CITES timbers growing in Mozambique. The project will apply for another grant in the second stage to compile advanced lab guide for timber identification based on wood anatomical features. The project will strive to lobby forest authorities for a successful control of endangered/threatened timber species in Mozambique.

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

As part of lobbying, the produced botanical atlas/field guide will be distributed to stakeholders in the timber sector as well as libraries for academic purposes.

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

The RSGF was used for 2 months of field work as anticipated, but with delays and breaks due to prolonged rainy season. The compilation of botanical guide lasted 4 months, opposed to until 8 months previously scheduled.

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
Digital camera	£500	£500	0	
Laptop	£500	£600	-100	A slightly better version of laptop was bought instead
Car rental for field work sites	£1000	£1500	-500	Due to price change (increased) and fuel costs. Our institution paid for

				the unbudgeted cost of fuel and price rise of car rental
Airfare	£500	£500	0	
Field expenses	£430	£430	0	
Hiring workshop/meeting venues	£1500	£1500	0	A significant portion of this sum paid for meals and modest pocket money for local staff who helped in logistics to arrange meetings
Printing of botanical guide	£500			
Unforeseen	£70	£70	0	This amount was used for communication such as mobile phone credit, during the project period
Total	£ 6000	£ 6000	£ 600	

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

- Lobbying forest authorities to encourage and support restrictions on timber species reported to be threatened or endangered.
- Produce detailed species oriented inventories to create rational ground for the forest authorities.
- Continue to disseminate and raise awareness campaigns about endangered timber species across the country.

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?

Rufford Small Grants Foundation logo will be displayed in the botanical guide. We have already shown and will continue to use the RSGF logo in all presentations derived from this project.

11. Any other comments?

The RSGF allowed us to carry out a pioneering project on endangered timbers growing in Mozambique. Further steps are needed to ensure sustainable use of our valuable timber resources.