

# Rufford Conference Report

## RUFFORD SMALL GRANTS CONFERENCE IN ZANZIBAR

*"Connect for Nature Conservation"*



**49 Conservationists from 7 Countries in One Island**

*From 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2020*

*At Double Tree Hotel by Hilton, Stone Town, Zanzibar*

*Organized and Funded by*







*Authoritative Speakers and Great Attendance*



*Creative Methods of Learning and Sharing Experience*





*Great Presentations*



*Interactive Discussions*





*Deeper Learning and Sharing in Small Groups*



*One on One Networking and Experience Sharing*





*Town Tours*



*Field Exploration*





*Recreation and Excursion*



*Team Work and Friendship in Practice*





*Cocktail Party for refreshments, networking and memories*



*Participants Recognition and Certificates Awarding*

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT..... 8

I. BACKGROUND..... 9

II. THE CONFERENCE THEME AND MAIN OBJECTIVES ..... 9

III. THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS..... 9

IV. THE CONFERENCE BRIEF NARRATIVE..... 9

DAY ONE.....9

DAY TWO.....22

V. THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS ..... 24

THE IMPACT OF THE RSGs .....24

CHALLENGES FACED AND ISSUES RAISED .....26

RECOMMENDATIONS .....27

VI. ANNEX..... 29

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS .....29

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE.....32



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My special thanks go to **The Rufford Foundation** for fully funding this conference and more specifically **Mr. Josh Cole, the director of the Rufford Small Grants**, for guiding the organization of this conference and actively participating in the conference sessions.

I want also to thank **the Government of Zanzibar**, especially **the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)** for hosting us and being of great assistance before and during the conference. In a special way I want to thank the below Government representatives and officials who attended the conference;

**Dr. Juma Hasan Reli**, the Permanent Secretary of MTI, who officiated the conference  
**Mr. Ali Khamis Juma**, the Director of Zanzibar City;  
**Mr. Khamis Shauri**, the Director of Trade, Zanzibar Government;  
**Mr. Suud Juma**, the Director of Forest and Non-Renewable Resources, Zanzibar Government;  
**Mrs Nana R. Mwanjis**, the Director of Policy and Planning, MTI;  
**Mr. Haji Abdulhamid**, the Director General of Small and Medium Industries Development Authority;  
**Mr. Al-Haji M. Jecha**, the Business Expert, MTI;  
**Mrs. Winnifred Mariam**, the Economy Officer, MTI.

I want to recognise the unparalleled assistance of **Mr. Khamis Shauri**, the Director of Trade, Zanzibar Government and his assistant **Mr. Al-Haji M. Jecha**. Mr. Khamis was our **contact person** in the Government of Zanzibar and did his best to ensure the success of the Conference. He used not only his office resources, but also his personal time, contacts and resources including the after-office-drives with the conference organizers.

I also want to thank all the participants for their contributions throughout the conference more especially the below individuals who conducted different activities during the conference:

**Mr. Inganji Tony**, the Assistant Conference Coordinator  
**Mrs. Martha Nzisa**, a RSG Recipient who voluntarily took and edited most of the conference photos,

**Prof. Peninah Aloo Obudho**, the Presenter, alumni panel Moderator and Facilitator of other sessions  
**Dr. Hudson Christopher Laizer**, the first round presentations session Facilitator  
**Mr. Patrick Byamukama**, the second round presentations session Facilitator  
**Mrs. Shadia Ibrahim**, the first round presentations session Facilitator  
**Mrs. Vestine Ingabire**, the second round presentations session Facilitator

**Dr. Paul Webale**, the presenter and RSG Alumni Panellist  
**Dr. Evarastus Obura**, the presenter and RSG Alumni Panellist  
**Dr. Tutilo Mudumba**, the presenter  
**Mr. Daniel Niyonsaba**, the presenter  
**Mr. Jonathan Lucas Kwiyege**, the presenter  
**Mr. Joshua Wambugu**, the presenter  
**Mr. Koggani Koggani**, the presenter  
**Mr. Houssein Samwel Kimaro**, the presenter

Thank You All Once Again!

**Alphonse Karenzi**  
The RSG Conference Organizer



## **I. BACKGROUND**

The Rufford Small Grants Zanzibar Conference was a two day east African regional conference organised by the Rufford Foundation. It was held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020, at Double Tree Hotel by Hilton, in Stone Town, the capital city of Zanzibar, and brought together 49 RSG Recipients, Conservationists and Decision Makers from 7 countries around the globe.

The Zanzibar Conference has been one of the conferences that the Rufford Foundation organised in 2020 in order to create direct communication between the Grant Recipients who very often work in isolation and enable them to share knowledge and create partnerships.

## **II. THE CONFERENCE THEME AND MAIN OBJECTIVES**

This conference had a theme of “Connect for Nature Conservation” and three main objectives below:

1. To enhance the direct communication and partnership between the regional RSG recipients by providing a forum for them to know each other, discuss ideas and issues; share the best practices and strengthen the regional RSG network;
2. To create the link between field and decision-makers by inviting and involving the government officials and other policy-makers in the conference discussions.
3. To motivate the RSG Recipients and other participant conservationists for better outcomes by enabling them to appreciate the role of conservation in the economic development of African countries, through touring different conservation and eco-tourism landmarks of Zanzibar Island.

Being organised in a conducive environment of the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel and in a relevant area (Zanzibar Island) full of beautiful Sceneries and tourism attractions, The Zanzibar conference achieved its objectives through creative activities such as; engaging presentations and group discussions, educative games and challenging ice-breakers, one-on-one intentional networking events like; dinners, cocktail, Stone Town city tour and excursion of the southern part of Island.

## **III. THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS**

This conference brought together 49 people from 7 countries namely: Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Nigeria and Belgium. More details of the participants are in the Annex Section of this report.

## **IV. THE CONFERENCE BRIEF NARRATIVE**

### **DAY ONE**

The day one started with the registration of the participants guided by the conference organisers.

### ***Session One: Introduction of Participants and Official Opening, chaired by Inganji Tony***

#### **Introduction**

Tony, as youthful as he is, was very creative and engaging. He had two participants introduce themselves to each other in a pair. And after each participant had to introduce his/her counterpart to the audience and talk about something untold that she/ he learnt from his/ her counterpart.



After the introduction of every participant, Alphonse Karenzi as the organiser, took the stage and welcomed the participants. He recognised the presence of distinguished international and government officials including:

**Mr. Josh Cole** the Director of the Rufford Small Grants;

**Dr. Juma Hasan Reli**, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI);

**Mr. Ali Khamis Juma**, the Director of Zanzibar City;

**Mr. Khamis Shauri**, the Director of Trade, Zanzibar Government;

**Mr. Suud Juma**, the Director of Forest and Non-Renewable Resources, Zanzibar Government;

**Mrs Nana R. Mwanjisi**, the Director of Policy and Planning, MTI;

**Mr. Haji Abdulhamid**, the Director General of Small and Medium Industries Development Authority;

**Mr. Al-Haji M. Jecha**, the Business Expert, MTI;

**Mrs. Winnifred Mariam**, the Economy Officer, MTI.



Alphonse briefly explained the objectives of the conference more especially the creation of the direct communication and partnerships between participants and connecting the field conservationists and the police makers. He also extended his appreciation to the Rufford Foundation for not only having funded more than 5000 individual conservation projects worldwide but also for enabling the conservationists and researchers to share knowledge through the conferences.

Alphonse finally invited the guest of honor Dr. Juma Hasan Reli to give a speech and officially open the conference.



## Officially opening

**Dr. Juma Hasan Reli**, the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Trade and Industry, officially opened the conference.



*Dr. Juma Hasan Reli giving an opening speech*

*“On behalf of the people of Zanzibar and the Government of Zanzibar, I am honoured to warmly welcome you all. In a special way, I would like to welcome the **Rufford Foundation and the Grants Director, Mr. Josh Cole** to Zanzibar, the Tourism Hub of Tanzania”* He said.

*“I want to thank the Rufford Foundation for having been able to fund 5055 projects in 152 developing countries and over 100 projects in Tanzania specifically. Though I still wonder why none of these projects is based in Zanzibar!”* Dr. Juma added.

Before he declared the conference open, Dr. Juma ensured the government support by saying *“on behalf of the people and leadership of Zanzibar, I want to guarantee you, the Rufford Project Implementers, our full support and close cooperation to ensure the success and maximization of the impact of your projects.”*

## **Dr. Paul Webale’s presentation on Kenya RSG Network and East African Bats**

Paul’s presentation on east African bats was intentionally chosen to come first while all the guests of honour and government decision makers are still around. This is mainly because of the relevance of bats conservation and awareness during the outbreak of the corona virus in China where many thought and held the bats accountable for the corona spread.

Paul explained that regardless the great impact of bats on the ecosystem and tourism, the bats are ones of the most hated and mistreated animals due to the misinformation, ignorance and fallacies. He emphasised that the current unwarranted fear and attribution of Corona Virus Spread to Bats is **a wrong blame**.

### ***Coffee Break / Networking***

The participants used the time of coffee breaks for networking, sharing experiences and exchanging contacts.



*Dr. Paul Webale and Bacu Carens networking during the coffee break*

### ***Session Two: Experience Sharing Presentations***

The session involved two rounds of presentations from eight selected RSG grantees (4 for each round). Each of the four presenters was given ten minutes for presentation and five minutes for questions and answers. The key points of their presentations and discussions are briefly recorded in the conference proceedings section of this report.

***First Round Experience Sharing Presentations, a session chaired by Hudson Christopher Laizer, a RSG Recipient from Tanzania & Vestine Ingabire, a RSG Recipient from Rwanda***

Hudson and Vestine made a great team. They efficiently engaged the presenters and audience and allowed a participatory environment for this experience sharing.

*First Round Presenters and Presentations:*

#### **a. Evarastus Obura, a 5<sup>th</sup> RSG Recipient from Kenya**

Evarastus shared his experience on his 5 RSGs journey and how these five grants enabled him to become a National Geographic Explorer.



**b. Jonathan Lucas Kwiyege, a 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG Recipient from Tanzania**

His presentation focused on his second RSG project of implementing innovative measures to prevent illegal Lion Killing in Western Tanzania.

**c. Tutilo Mudumba, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Uganda,**

With a title of “From Snares to Wares Initiative” Tutilo’s presentation talked about how he used the RSG to battle the wire snares that are used to kill animals. He innovatively stated an initiative to collect these wires and use them to fabricate different beautiful wares for income and community livelihood improvement.

**d. Daniel Niyonsaba, a 3<sup>rd</sup> RSG Recipient from Rwanda**

Daniel shared his second RSG research project findings which focused on the perceptions of the local community about the cause of extinction of the elephants in Nyungwe National Park of Rwanda.

***Ice-breaker by Alphonse Karenzi***

Alphonse engaged the participants in a quick but very interesting and very educative ice-breaker game. The participants were split into three teams (Team A, B and C). Each team was given an orange. This orange was to pass through every team member’s hand in as short time as possible.



*Team A devising strategies to get the orange through every members hand in the shortest time possible*

The teams used different funny strategies to perform the task in less time and **the winner was Team C** who strategically had members hold hands together and let the orange instantly rolling itself on their hands and therefore managed to use the shortest time of all (seven seconds).

Finally Alphonse put together the lessons learnt and feedback. The Participants enjoyed the game and drew many lessons from it. For instance; the participants learnt that a conservation project needs more than one player in a value chain manner. So the project success is determined by how those different players are willing and able to communicate and work together to device and implement strategies. Again, the closer they work with each other as partners the easier and faster their work becomes. Evaluation is key in order to improve or determine which strategy works best. Though all the teams tried to do quick movements and throw orange quickly and accurately, the only difference the winning team made, was that its members eventually put their hands together tightly and let the orange easily rolling itself on their hands in less time.

*Second Round Experience Sharing Presentations, a session chaired by Shadia Ibrahim Kilwanila, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Tanzania & Patrick Byamukama, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Uganda*

*Second Round Presenters and Presentations:*

**a. Prof. Peninah Aloo Obudho, a 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG Recipient from Kenya**

Prof. Peninah shared her RSG project experience. Her project focused on the promotional of environmental conservation through school conservation clubs and establishment of botanic gardens in Nyali, Kenya.

**b. HUSSEIN SAMWEL KIMARO, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Tanzania**

Hussein presented on his MSc Research Project and findings on woody encroachment and its associated impact on herbaceous species, land herbivore species occurrence in Maswa Game Reserve, Tanzania.

**c. Joshua Wambugu, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Kenya,**

Joshua shared oh how his RSG project experience engaged the young learners in environmental clubs and provided them with experiential learning of wildlife needs and values.

**d. Koggani Koggani, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Tanzania**

Koggani presented on his project entitled “Understanding the cause of the decline of a near threatened wetland dependant Puku antelope: using DNA metabarcoding to assess the impact of competitive exclusion by livestock at Kilombero Valley Ramsar Site”.

### ***Lunch & Networking***

Lunch and coffee breaks were also important times for participants to share and relax after intensive presentations and discussions. The meals and venues were intentionally organised in a way that leaves great memories about the Rufford foundation and the conference in the minds of the Recipients.





Lunch moments

### ***Session Three: Panel Discussion***

#### ***Proposal Writing, Fundraising and Conservation Success Stories, a Panel Discussion chaired by Prof. Peninah Aloo Obudho***

A panel of two RSG five-time Recipients and two conservation project Experts shared their experiences and gave hints and tips on Dos and DONTs for a first time applicant and one who wishes to continue receiving all the five grants. Prof. Peninah was indeed the best fit for moderating this session. She effectively engaged the panellists and audience, rephrased the questions and answers for a clear meaning as well as made important inputs.



*Prof. Peninah Aloo Obudho setting the stage for the panel discussion*

This was one of the most interesting sessions whereby even the Government officials, who had left, came back. The Panellists received and answered many essential questions from the participants.

#### ***Panellists:***

1. **Alphonse Karenzi**, the 5<sup>th</sup> RSG Recipient from Rwanda as an Alumni
2. **Evarastus Obura**, the 5<sup>th</sup> RSG Recipient from Kenya as an Alumni
3. **Dr. Paul Webale**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> RSG Recipient from Kenya, as an Expert
4. **Patrick Byamukama Byaruhanga**, the 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Uganda, as an Expert

#### ***Panel Discussions Brief:***

The four panellists shared their experience and gave hints and tips on what makes a RSG project proposal successful. Following Alphonse's presentation outline, Panellists efficiently explained the below 5 success factors for any RSG Application or project:

- ✓ **Conservation focus**- one can have a broad focus like habitat and the community or focus on a specific species provided this species is an IUCN Red listed species,
- ✓ **Pragmatic long-lasting outcomes**- innovation and sustainability of what you aim to achieve
- ✓ **Project Leader**- a good project has demonstrate a Career lead and a trend or reputation or growing interest in conservation. The required three references is one of the measurements.
- ✓ **Community Involvement and empowerment**- the RSG understands the truth that you cannot sustainably conserve the nature without the involvement nor influence of community.
- ✓ **Project size and continuity**- one has to provide a clear picture of project ideal co-funding opportunities and next steps.

The much emphasis was given to the RSG three references requirement and how to choose and work with a referee for better references. Dr. Paul, as a university professor, gave some practical advice concerning identifying and maintaining a good relationship with a referee as well as importance of using proper English in all application related writings. He emphasised that you should know well and be known well to someone before you ask him to be your referee. Some of the key points made are incorporated in the proceedings section of this report.

#### ***Tea break and networking***

These coffee breaks were one of the most interactive sessions and the participants seemed to have enjoyed one-on-one discussions and contacts exchange.

#### ***Session Four: Group Discussions***

In three smaller group discussions, every participant was given an opportunity to share and discuss her/his own project experience. Given their experience in organizing and facilitating conferences, Alphonse and Tonny facilitated and enabled the group members to share their experiences, success stories, challenges they face and devised some recommendations. The key outcomes of the group discussions are incorporated in the proceedings section of this report.





*Group 3 working on their discussion report*

#### ***Session Five: Vote of thanks and Closing Remark by Joseph Serugo***

The first day workshop was ended by vote of thanks and closing remarks. The Session Chairman, Joseph Serugo, a 1<sup>st</sup> RSG Recipient from Uganda, gave a recap of what the workshop achieved and what could be a general take-away. He emphasised on some of sticky part of the discussions including the panellists advises on RSG proposal writing. On behalf of the fellow participants, he thanked the Rufford Foundation for the funding the projects and conferences.



*Mr Joseph Serugo giving a closing remarks*

**Mr. Al-Haji M. Jecha**, the Expert from Ministry of Trade and Industry, expressed his appreciation for the conference and invited the participants to enjoy the rest of their time in Zanzibar. He also volunteered to create a facebook page for the participants to be able to stay in touch and keep sharing the experience especially on how to write a successful proposal.

### ***Stone Town Tour***

After a long day of presentations and discussions, the participants were given time to stretch muscles and learn about the hidden treasures of the Zanzibar's historic town Stone Town. So they went on the Stone Town tour. With a professional tour guide, they visited several stone town landmarks including the House Of Wonders, the East African Slave Market Exhibition, the Conserved Old Buildings and other public spaces and monuments.

Below are some of the photos taken during the Stone Town Tour:













### *Cocktail Party at Double Tree Hotel by Hilton Terrace*

The first day ended with a cocktail party where the participants enjoyed different foods and drinks as they do networking and sharing ideas.



*Double Tree Cocktail Canopy for RSG Recipients*

### *Certificates Awarding*

Mr. Josh Cole, the Director of RSGs, recognised the people who attended the conference and awarded to each of them a certificate of attendance. The Participants expressed a great deal of joy as they received their certificates. Photos below can illustrate this:



*Josh Cole on the left handing over a certificate to Harry Skinner, a non-recipient attendee*





## DAY TWO

**The second day**, 21<sup>st</sup> February, was a day of excursion of Kizimkazi, the beautiful southern part of the Zanzibar Island. The participants had to see the Padi Beaches and their Sea Nature and eco-tourism activities, to play farewell Beach Volley, and to excurse the Jozani Forest. Unfortunately, for the sake of fellow participants who had to catch their flights, the participants enjoyed the rest of activities apart from the Jozani Forest.



*a house, near the entrance of Padi Beach, representing some of eco-tourism activities done in Padi*



So, the participants did excursion different beautiful sceneries and on their own learnt from different conservation and eco-tourism activities taking place on the sea shores of Kizimkazi. At the end of their trip, they played a beach volley friendship match. This play made a wonderful farewell with great fun and friendship memories.



*Participant playing the beach volley at Padi Beach*



## V. THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Through presentations, panel and group discussions, the participants expressed the impact the Rufford Small Grants have made on their personal and career development, the education and research, the local and regional nature conservation, and the local community capacity building. They discussed also the challenges they face and made some recommendations to the fellow conservationists and the Rufford Foundation. The majority of the participants appreciated how the conference was organized and requested that more such conferences can be organised in the region and thanked the Rufford Foundation for funding them through the RSGs and for bringing them together through the conferences. Below are some of the key points discussed:

### THE IMPACT OF THE RSGs

#### *1. Rufford Funding has enabled exceptionally large and tangible conservation impacts to be delivered:*

Many of the participants shared how the Rufford funding has enabled them to achieve exceptional results and make large impact. Below are some of the examples recorded throughout the presentations and discussions:

- ✓ **According to Dr. Tutilo Mudumba from Uganda**, his Rufford Funded “Snares to Wares Initiative” has impacted Uganda through the protection of lions, the improved Park-Community Interaction, and the creation of many businesses for local unemployed people.
- ✓ **Prof. Penninah Aloo Obudho from Kenya** shared on how the Rufford Funding enabled her to widely create awareness on environmental conservation among not only young students and communities, but also among the leaders. This created an opportunity for her project to partner with other big organizations including United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) and to deliver tangible conservation impacts.
- ✓ **Dr. Paul Webala from Kenya**, gave a couple of examples of how he, through the RSG funding, has been able to create awareness on bats conservation at not only national but also global level through using different means including the research publications and conference presentations.
- ✓ **Joseph Serugo from Uganda** discussed how the success of his RSG project enabled him to get more funding from other sources and therefore had a greater impact on the biodiversity, community and his organization.
- ✓ **Martha Nzisa from Kenya** witnessed how her RSG project enabled a significant number of community members to start their individual projects and businesses for self-employment.
- ✓ **Joshua Wambugu from Kenya** through his first RSG project has created positive mindset of local community at a large scale. Local community has been able to value nature conservation and continue supporting his conservation project even after the RSG funding.

#### *2. The Rufford support has enabled early career conservationists achieve their goals and expand their projects/ impact:*

- ✓ **Martin Joseph Bayo from Tanzania** shared that the RSG Project experience enabled him to join the IUCN Otters Specialist Group and to become one of the greatest contributors of the knowledge on the distribution of Otters.
- ✓ **Houssein Samwel Kimaro from Tanzania** was enabled by the RSG Project to become the Tanapa (the National Parks Authority)’s Partner.



- ✓ **Joylene Kanyaris from Kenya** got a great job due to the experience and skills gained from managing her RSG project.
- ✓ **Dr. Paul Webala** as a senior RSG Recipient and university professor has mentored a couple of students and helped them to successfully get established in their conservation career and get their projects and causes sponsored.
- ✓ **Dr. Tutilo Mudumba's** PhD research, as one of the most significant milestones in his conservation career, was partly funded by the RSG.
- ✓ **Matana Levi and Maijo Peres both from Tanzania** got the Rufford Funding and enabled them to conduct their conservation research.
- ✓ **Josua Wambugu** admitted that doing the RSG research enabled him and other young conservationists in Kenya to develop good project proposals and get new grants.

**3. *The Rufford funding has helped support work on species and ecosystems that are traditionally difficult to fundraise for:***

- ✓ **Dr. Paul** with the Rufford Funding has been able to do research and create awareness on **the east African Bats**. "Bats the most hated and mistreated animals" He said.
- ✓ **Matana Levi** has been able to conserve Giraffe; the animals that He believes are hard to fundraise for.

**4. *The Rufford grants have provided seed funding to build capacity, identify conservation needs and develop replicable models for future projects***

The majority, of the presented projects, grew bigger than the RSG initial size. This is an evident that the RSG Recipients used the Rufford funding as a seed grant. Indeed the majority of the presented projects were or at least had research and capacity building as one of their components. The research findings were used to develop the replicable models. This can be also proven by the fact that most of the presenters received further grants to expand and replicate the impact of the RSG initial projects. For instance:

- ✓ **Dr. Tutilo** used the RSG as a seed funding and this enabled him to create a useful approach to conservation, known as SMART Conservation. The SMART conservation model is being used by several conservation projects;
- ✓ **Matana Levi** received the RSG as a seed grant and identified the need to study and studied the relationship between the wildlife and investment. His research findings have been useful to many other conservation project planners and managers.

**5. *Rufford funding helped train future conservationists:***

- ✓ **Prof. Penninah from Kenya** shared on how the Rufford Funding enabled her to widely create awareness on environmental conservation among the school students.
- ✓ **Dr. Paul Webala** as a senior RSG Recipient and university professor has mentored a couple of students and helped them to successfully get sponsored and established in their conservation careers.
- ✓ **Alphonse Karenzi** trained thousands of your students and established different environmental clubs in Southern Part of Rwanda.

## **6. *The Rufford grantees have published important biodiversity information***

- ✓ **Houssein Samwel Kimaro from Tanzania** published a paper on vegetation changes in Maswa Game Reserve.
- ✓ **Joylene Kanyaris from Kenya** documented on the Cultural Values Importance for Conservation.
- ✓ **Dr. Paul** published different articles on bats in different journals and has been widely recognised as one of the most authoritative researcher on bats;
- ✓ **Dr. Tutilo** published different papers including Snares to Wares, Human Heritage and Smart Conservation;

## **CHALLENGES FACED AND ISSUES RAISED**

Apart from the impact of the Rufford Funding, the participants discussed also the challenges they face during the course of their projects. Below are some of the common challenges that the RSG Recipients continue facing:

- 1. Unofficial Institutional Overhead Cost and Delay:** this challenge is related to the mechanism that the fund from RSG is released through institution bank accounts. Some of the inconveniences that participants emphasised include:
  - a. Some of the institutions require overhead charges which interfere with project intended objectives.
  - b. The institutional bureaucracy and delay in releasing the fund for the project activities was also the common challenge mentioned by the group members.
  - c. Biasness and corruption by some of the institution leaders which result into spending money on unnecessary incentives and bribery and/ or difficulties in getting the funds
- 2. One referee from abroad as a requirement for application:** this was a challenge declared by one of the groups. The early stage conservationists generally have no contacts outside who can professionally recommend them.
- 3. The insufficient budget and stakeholders' high expectations:** the local community needs high incentive and the conservation projects usually have a wide scope. In addition, the community and other stakeholders have high financial expectations from the conservation projects (Joseph Serugo emphasised).
- 4. The RSG project period of one year is too short**
- 5. Lack of training for the new applicants**
- 6. Lack of awareness about the Rufford Foundation** and other grants among the field conservationists
- 7. Lack of Government support:** this cause project discontinuity. Daniel gave an example: the WCS Program had to abandon the elephant program in 1994 due to Kenyan government lack of support.
- 8. Community-Wildlife Conflict and Conservation Politics:** the government give little attention to the conservation when it comes to community-wildlife conflict issues like land ownerships.



9. **Unpredictability of the weather:** this cause many unplanned changes which affect budget and timing of the field projects.
10. **School term dates colliding with the project activities:** this apply to both the student project team members and to the student beneficiaries.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Permanent Secretary of the ministry of trade and industry, on behalf of the Zanzibar Government recommended the Rufford Foundation to **continue funding** and implementing projects more especially those project that include **deforestation solutions, eco-tourism and sustainable development** and to **give priority to applications from Zanzibar** as the Rufford has funded no project from Zanzibar yet.
2. **The Rufford Foundation to Enhance the Funding Limits (amount of funds and period):** The participants recommended the Rufford Foundation, if possible, to increase the size of the grants and the period of the project as one year is not enough.
3. **The Funding Continuity:** the Rufford should give more priority to the re-applicants who have worked with RSG before and provide more insights on how applicants can improve their chances of receiving grants.
4. **The Rufford Foundation should recognise the good performers** to motivate others. This can be done during the regional conferences.
5. The Rufford Foundation to **reconsider the channelling of the finances to institutions** because most of young people are not attached to any institutions and yet the unofficial institutional Overhead cost and delay has become a common tradition.
6. **Create more awareness about the Rufford Foundation:** the common suggestion was to organise more conferences. The conference should be bigger and include both grantees and non-grantees and the host country should be part of the organizing team.
7. **To fellow RSG Recipients-** the recipients should publish or perish, share knowledge, and use professional and understandable language.
8. The RSG Alumni and Experts panel recommended the new and experienced RSG Applicants to give much attention to the five success factors below, in order to increase their chances of winning a RSG grant:
  - a. **Conservation focus-** one should either have a broad conservation focus like habitat/ community or focus on a specific species provided this species is an IUCN Red listed species,
  - b. **Pragmatic long-lasting outcomes-** one should demonstrate the innovation and sustainability of what he/she aims to achieve.
  - c. **Community Involvement and empowerment-** the RSG understands the truth that you cannot sustainably conserve the nature without the involvement nor influence of community.
  - d. **Project size and continuity-** one has to provide a clear picture of project ideal co-funding opportunities and next steps.
  - e. **Project Leader-** has to demonstrate a Career lead and a trend or reputation or growing interest in conservation. The required three references is one of the measurements. One

should know well and be known well to someone before he/she asks him to be his/her referee. Some of the key points made are incorporated in the proceedings section of this report.

9. Finally the participants thanked the Rufford Foundation for the funding and for organising such a well-organised conference. They promised to accomplish their work effectively and magnify the impact of the RSGs.



## VI. ANNEX

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The table 1, 2 and 3 below give the details of the 49 Participants who attend the conference.

**Table 1: RSG Recipients Participants**

No	Name	Email	country	RSGs
1	Jonathan Lucas Kwiyege	jlkwiyega@ucdavis.edu	Tanzania	2
2	Houssein Samwel Kimaro	kimaroh@nm-aist.ac.tz	Tanzania	1
3	Hudson Christopher Laizer	laizer@nm-aist.ac.tz	Tanzania	2
4	Martin Joseph Bayo	josephmartin592@gmail.com	Tanzania	1
5	Paulo Wilfred	paulo.wilfred@yahoo.co.uk	Tanzania	3
6	Koggani D. Koggani	koggandick@gmail.com	Tanzania	1
7	Shadia Ibrahim Kilwanila	shadiaibrahim42@gmail.com	Tanzania	1
8	Matana Levi	levim@nm-aist.ac.t	Tanzania	1
9	Maijo Peres Simula	maijocmla@yahoo.com	Tanzania	1
10	Evarastus Obura	evarastus@yahoo.com	Kenya	5
11	Joshua Wambugu	kiamawambugu@gmail.com	Kenya	1
12	Joylene Jepkemoi Kanyaris	joyjepkanyaris@yahoo.com	Kenya	2
13	Paul Webala	paul.webala@gmail.com	Kenya	3
14	Peninah Aloo Obudho	obudhoaloo90@gmail.com	Kenya	2
15	Martha Nzisa Mutiso	marthanzisa@gmail.com	Kenya	2
16	Joseph Serugo	josephserugo2@gmail.com	Uganda	1
17	Patrick Byamukama Byaruhanga	bbmpatrick@yahoo.co.uk	Uganda	1
18	Tutilo Mudumba	mudumbat@msu.edu	Uganda	1
19	Alphonse Karenzi	karenzilife@gmail.com	Rwanda	5
20	Daniel Niyonsaba	dannsaba@gmail.com	Rwanda	2
21	Vestine Ingabire	ingabirevestine1@gmail.com	Rwanda	1

**Table 2: Government Officials and Organization Representatives**

No	Name	Position / Organization	country
1	Josh Cole	Director of Rufford Small Grants	U.K.
2	Juma Hasan Reli	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry	Zanzibar
3	Ali Khamis Juma	Director of Zanzibar City	Zanzibar
4	Khamis Shauri	Director of Trade, Zanzibar Government	Zanzibar
5	Suud Juma	Director of Forest and Non-Renewable Resources, Zanzibar Government	Zanzibar
6	Nana R. Mwanjisi	Director of Policy and Planning, Ministry of Trade and Industry	Zanzibar
7	Haji Abdulhamid	Director General of Small and Medium Industries Development Authority	Zanzibar
8	Al-haji M. Jecha	Business Expert, Ministry of Trade and Industry	Zanzibar
9	Winnifred Mariam	Economy Officer, Ministry of Trade and Industry	Zanzibar
10	Chris U. Obilor	Representative of Supply Chain Zamep,	Nigeria
11	Mustafa Imani	Assistant Director, ZANR-UF	Zanzibar
12	Ali K. Juma	CEO, Villicon	Zanzibar
13	Bacu F.M. Carens	Representative of BFMCD	Belgium
14	Awesu S. Ramadhan	Representative of JECA	Zanzibar
15	Mary W. Kinyanjui	General Manager, Spax Trades	Tanzania



**Table 3: Organizing Team and attended Prospective RSG Applicants**

No	Name	Position / Organization	country
1	Joselyne Mbabazi	Organizer, Protocol officer at SAYO	Uganda
2	Tony Inganji	Organizer, CEO of Orators Africa	Rwanda
3	Erick Musuuza	Organiser, Administrator of SAYO	Uganda
4	Zoe Malvin	PhD Student at Bangor University, interested participant	U.K.
5	Harry Skinner	Masters Student at Bangor University, Interested Participant	UK
6	Mwinji Abdalla	Student at Bangor University, Prospective Applicant	Zanzibar
7	Anyeir Abdalla	Prospective Applicant	Zanzibar
8	Baraka Kombo	Prospective Applicant	Zanzibar
9	Aminata Keita	Prospective Applicant from BFMCD	Zanzibar
10	John	Prospective Applicant from NGO Forum	Zanzibar
11	Omar	Prospective Applicant	Zanzibar
12	Mohammed Al	Prospective Applicant, from ST Tour Guiders	Zanzibar
13	Abdullah Said	Prospective Applicant, from ST Tour Guiders	Zanzibar

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

On the page below there is a two day conference schedule.

Day	Time	Activity	Facilitator
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup>	09:00-19:00	Welcoming the participants and hotel check-in	Eric Musuuza and Mbabazi Joselyne
	19:30-21:00	Welcoming Dinner at the Lukmaan Restaurant	
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00	Hotel Break-fast for accommodated participants	Mbabazi Joselyne
	8:20-8:30	Driving from your hotel to Double Tree Hotel	Eric Musuuza
	8:30-9:00	Registration of all participants at the Double Tree	Mbabazi Joselyne
	9:00-9:30	Introduction of every Participant and welcoming the Guest of honour	Tonny Inganji
	9:30-10:00	Official Opening - Introduction by Alphonse Karenzi - Keynote address by The <b>Tanzanian official</b>	
	10:0-10:20	Dr. Paul Webale's presentation on Kenya RSG Network and East African Bats	
	10:20-10:40	<b>Coffee Break / Networking/ group photo</b>	Tonny + Martha Nzisa
	10:40-11:40	Experience Sharing Presentations by 4 selected RSG Recipients (10 min for presentation + 5 min for Q&A each). *list of presenters enclosed	Hudson Christopher Laizer & Vestine Ingabire
	11:40-11:50	<b>Ice-breaker</b>	<b>Alphonse Karenzi</b>
	11:50-12:50	Experience Sharing Presentations by 4 selected RSG Recipients (10 min for presentation + 5 min for Q&A each). *list of presenters enclosed	Shadia Ibrahim & Patrick Byamukama
	12:50-14:00	<b>Lunch Break &amp; Networking</b>	Mbabazi Joselyne
	14:00-15:00	Discussions and experience sharing within three small groups.	Tonny Inganji
	15:00-16:00	Proposal Writing, Fundraising and Conservation Success Stories by RSG Alumni &Expert Panellists	Prof. Peninah Aloo Obudho
	16:00-16:20	<b>Coffee break/ networking</b>	Mbabazi Joselyne
	16:20-17:00	Way Forward, closing remarks and vote of thanks	Joseph Serugo
	17:00-18:30	Stone Town Tour	Eric Musuuza
	18:30-20:00	Cocktail Party at Double Tree Hotel	Tonny Inganji
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:00-7:30	Break-fast	Mbabazi Joselyne
	7:30-8:40	Driving to Kizimkazi ( Pagi Beach in South)	Eric Musuuza
	8:40-9:40	Beach Volley Match (Tanzania Vs East Africa)	Tony Inganji
	9:40-11:20	Jozani Park Excursion	Eric Musuuza
	11:20-12:30	Driving back to Stone Town	Eric Musuuza
	12:30-13:00	Farewell Lunch at CCM Restaurant	Mbabazi Joselyne
	13:00-15:00	Driving the participants to their departures	Eric Musuuza

**N.B:** the financial report is attached separately!

**The End!**