

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	Peter G. Mulbah
Project title	The Continuation of the Wonegizi Youth Environmental Rights Awareness and Educational Training Program, Ziama Clan, Lofa County- Liberia
RSG reference	1042-C
Reporting period	January 2013- February 215
Amount of grant	£15,000
Your email address	sads_inc@yahoo.com , pghmulbah.sads04@gmail.com , pmulbah_sads@yahoo.com
Date of this report	April 1, 2015

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
Establishment of Wonegizi Environmental Nature Club			XX	SADS was successful in fully achieving the establishment of seven youth environmental rights and education nature clubs in schools within the proximity of the Wonegizi proposed protected area. This increases the number of clubs established in this forest region to 10. Each club's leadership was put in place and an effective medium of communication established. A platform for the exchanges of ideas, challenges and lesson learnt was also established to encourage and promote networking and collaboration among school clubs and community youths.
Production of environmental education teaching aids materials			XX	This objective was achieved through a consultative and collaborative process. Government partners (Forestry Development Authority and the Environmental Protection Agency) and organisations (Fauna & Flora International and Conservation International) working in Wonegizi region were given the opportunity to make inputs in improving the three environmental picture booklets, early produced. These inputs help the further simplified the booklets, as a good training material for rural students and youth. Several posters were also produced and posted on public building and schools using the information from the three booklets to ensure its messaging consistency
Identify and train environmental education team (EET):			XX	SADS was successful in facilitating capacity building of science teachers in each of the project participating schools on several topics including peer education techniques, leadership skills, group management, financial transparency and accountability, usage of multimedia devices, photographing, public speaking skills and conflict management. These new and additional skills equip and enable the

				<p>teachers to provide technical guidance and professional oversight on the functioning of each school clubs.</p> <p>The trained teachers were successful in facilitating the Identification and training of selected students and youth as member of the Environmental Education Team (EET).</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus was the most unforeseen problems encountered during the implementation of this project. Most of the project communities lies within the border with Guinea and experienced the first cases of this virus infection. As a result, the government impose travel and public gathering ban and or restrictions into these communities and region, as a means of reducing rate of infections by carriers. SADS staffs were unable to carry out active field work in these communities and were compared to follow guidelines and safety protocols provided by the government through the Ministry of Health.

However, SADS was able to solicit hygiene safety kits (buckets, chloride, soaps) with support from Fauna & Flora International, and were distributed in project communities. This support was SADS ways of identifying with communities in time of natural health disasters, while continuing to maintain SADS visibilities and relationship with communities.

Lastly, the linked of bushmeat as direct way a person can contract Ebola virus, reinforces SADS messages in one of its environmental booklets “Living with Wildlife”. This period witnesses a significant decrease in the hunting and consumption of bush animals.

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

The Continuation of the Wonegizi youth environmental rights awareness and educational training Program implemented in ten communities in Ziama Clan achieved several significant outcomes. However, the most three important outcomes are as follows:

Firstly, the project succeeded in increasing the knowledge, understanding, altitude and practices of over 2,000 students, youths and science teachers in 10 communities on the best and sustainable ways to practice forestry and environmental activities. This was clearly demonstrated in the number of students, youths and teachers that participated in each schools’ lecture sessions and community town hall discussions. These sessions and discussions were predominantly facilitated by youth and students that are members of the established Environmental Education Team (EET). In additional, many students and youths were involved in the establishment of environmental school garden and nurseries centers. These center serves as demonstration site for the application of various environmentally friendly agriculture methods learned during lecture sessions and discussions.

Secondly, the project succeeded in increasing environmental and biodiversity conservation awareness and education in public places like markets, churches and recreation centers. SADS staff worked along with the EETs to post environmental messages posters on walls and offices of markets

building, booths and public buildings. These messages were not only read by communities' members, but also visitors and other traders from adjacent communities. In addition to these visual aids produced by the project, SADS and the EETs also used these venues to post other environmental and biodiversity conservation materials produced by Environmental Protection Agency, Forestry Development Authority, and other organisations. For example, a right based approach to community engagement posters produce by Conservation International, and community REDD+ benefit sharing posters produce by Fauna & Flora International.

Thirdly, the development of conservation agriculture training booklets to demonstrate environmentally friendly agriculture activities is regarded as a key outcome of this project. The fact that the ideas to develop this training booklets emulated from project participants make it very important. However, SADS collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture local team, CARE- Liberia and Fauna & Flora International (Liberia team) in the development of this training booklet. Based on the content of this booklet that was designed to give community the practical tool to conservation agriculture, Fauna & Flora International committed funding support for piloting in five communities. Each of the five pilot communities established a conservation agriculture demonstration site, where participants grew hot peppers and eggplants. Prior to July 2014, three of the five demonstration sites had done first harvest and sales of their agriculture and non- timber forest products. However, the demonstration sites were abandoned due to the increase in the Ebola virus, leaving the sites to be overgrown by weeds.

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

Soliciting the involvement and participation of relevant communities' members is a significant aspect of SADS right based approach and framework to good community engagement. SADS believe that when local communities are involved throughout the project lifecycle, they take full responsibilities and ownership of every activity, thus leading to successful implementation of activities.

During this project, SADS ensure that community members and direct project participants were involved from the development of the environmentally friendly booklets, the establishment of EETs and to the piloting of conservation agriculture activities. In every step of the project, participants were given opportunities to suggest changes in improving or adding value to the project. For example, the idea of conservation agriculture practical training originated from local communities as a need. Therefore, they were willing to volunteer and provide local inputs tirelessly in the constructions of the five-demonstration site.

The benefits of this project on the life of local communities are enormous. For instance, at each conservation agriculture demonstration sites, local participants were training in using a no-fertiliser approach to make vegetable and tree crops nurseries and gardens. This was a practical tool and skills that local people, literate and illiterate, learned and are making significant changes on their agriculture production. In fact, some participants have told us that they have had additional saving in income as a result of reduction in use and purchasing of fertilisers.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

After active engagement and work in Ziama Clan on different projects, SADS has identified the lack of central resource point for the storage and exchange of documents on Wonegizi as very key for the sustainability conservation objective. SADS in collaboration with local communities intend to engage in the construction of a multi-purpose environmental resource centre in Ziama Clan. In a recent meeting with community leaders, a parcel of land was identified and set aside to be used for the construction. This centre will serve as place where documents such as research results, environmental and forestry laws, and project report shall be kept for public consumption.

SADS is currently in discussion with partners working in the Wonegizi landscape to ensure that everyone sees this centre as a principle element to supporting Liberia information disclosure act.

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

SADS intend to use its email listing of all stakeholders, its website and other communication medium to share the results of this project with wider audience. SADS strongly believe that the proposed resource center, when constructed, will serve as a reference point for local community, visitor and researchers.

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

Even though the initial grant period was for one year commencing January 2013, the project had to extend to 2015 due to additional request made by local community and subsequent funding provided by Fauna & Flora International; and the seizure of work due to the outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus.

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.

Items	Budgeted Amount (£)	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
1. Logistic/ Stationeries				
Flip Chart Stand	730.80	730.80	0.00	
Flip Chart Pad	71.40	71.40	0.00	
Markers	113.40	113.40	0.00	
file	35.00	35.00	0.00	
folder	420.00	420.00	0.00	
Steno Pad	119.00	119.00	0.00	
Ram of Sheet	105.00	105.00	0.00	
Generator	230.00	230.00	0.00	
2. Transportation				
Vehicle rental	3050.00	2000.00	1050.00	
Fuel (vehicle rental)	500.00	500.00	0.00	

Motorbike helmets	200.00	0.00	200.00	
Fuel for Motorbike	390.00	390.00	0.00	
3. School- based Environmental Education Program				
Cost for training sessions	1500.00	1500.00	0.00	
School Science Teacher allowances	1600.00	1600.00	0.00	
Meeting Refreshments	900.00	900.00	0.00	
Clubs operational supports	1000.00	1000.00	0.00	
4. Production of Environmental Teaching Aids				
Production of teaching posters	262.50	260.40	2.10	
Production of teaching booklets	2800.00	2800.00	0.00	
T- shirt (Purchasing and Printing cost)	1450.00	1425.00	25.00	
Banner	350.00	350.00	0.00	
5. Others				
Sourcing and copying of documents	150.00	150.00	0.00	
Communication	300.00	300.00	0.00	
Grand Total	16277.10	15000.00	1277.10	

*Budget quoted in British Pound

Exchange Rate 1 to 1.599 USD

N/B: other budget line items not included were financial by FFI & UNDP

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

SADS in collaboration with the people of Ziama Clan, wishes to extend gratitude to RSGF for continue financial support in building the minds of student and youth on environment rights issues and activities. This programme has increased the understanding and impacted positively the altitude of youth on the application of sustainable environmental practices. SADS envisage the construction and furnishing of the proposed environmental resource center as the next steps

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, SADS used RSGF logo on the cover pages of the Developed Youth Environmental Conservation Education programme and conservation agriculture booklets. SADS also posted a copy of these materials on its website for public consumption.

11. Any other comments?

Knowledge building and proper information dissemination are the bedrock for long- term partnership and collaboration. In the quest to achieve this, SADS sees local communities' engagement as very cardinal to this establishment. It is against this backdrop that SADS continues to work with local rural communities' dwellers around Ziama Clan to ensure that the integrity of Wonegizi forest region is protected through awareness and education.