

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	Eusa Maria Silva Ribeiro
Project title	Establishing effective conservation in Salina Porto Ingles, Island of Maio
RSG reference	10968-1
Reporting period	1 January 2012 – 31 December 2012
Amount of grant	£5,987
Your email address	e.ribeiro@maioconservation.org
Date of this report	10 February 2013

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. Enlarge the protection area of salina, including key habitats for the species that use them</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>This was a very ambitious objective, and to put this in practice will need more work. A year ago we did not even know that the boundaries of the salina have not been officially ratified.</p> <p>However,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are working now with an independent consultant, Dario Cezarini, who is currently revising all protected sites in Maio for the Ministry of Environment (DGA). FMB is hoping to convince Mr Cezarini (and DGA) to propose the enlargement of the salina. 2. We have numerous meetings with the Camara Municipal in Maio (CMM), whose environmental officer, Carlos Pina, is a founding member of FMB. The Camara has ensured us to support the enlargement of the salina. 3. The President of the island, Mr Manuel Ribeiro, ensured FMB that he will donate a piece of land next to salina to conservation. He also supports FMB's objective to build a Biodiversity Conservation Centre at the salina entrance. 4. FMB had meetings with the largest private landowner around the salina (Mr Bert Lane, Morro – an Americano): he is very sympathetic toward FMB and wants to support conservation. FMB is currently seeking a solution how to protect his land without causing financial loss to the owner. <p>Therefore, although effectively this objective was not achieved, the plan of expansion is on the action plans of both local decision-makers (CMM) and the national agency (DGA). The good working relationship with an independent consultant will pave the way to achieve this objective, perhaps in a follow-up application. Mr Cezarini will</p>

<p>2. Local NGO (Maio Biodiversity Foundation) leads of activities implementation of management plan</p>			<p>X</p>	<p>visit Maio in late February 2013.</p> <p>Maio Biodiversity Foundation (FMB) did effectively manage the site. Although the draft management plan (which was produced in 2011, supplied in part by FMB) has not been officially ratified, FMB members patrolled the site at least weekly, monitored bird and human activities, and carried out actions that vastly improved the conservation status of salina.</p> <p>These actions included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In October 2012 the FMB signed a PROTOCOL of agreement with DGA which effectively delegated the salina management to FMB. This is a landmark document – the first of this kind in Cape Verde. We have drafted a Working Plan for 2013 which effectively follows-up the Rufford-funded activities. 2. As part of the PROTOCOL, FMB has been designated to regulate the access of people and grazing stock (largely, cows) in 2013 and beyond with substantial benefit for nesting birds, and turtles. 3. With the help of CMM, removed several large rubbish heaps from the salina, and had numerous rubbish collection activities that included students and local children. As a result, the salina is definitely a cleaner place now. 4. FMB advised a Canary-island funded project (GESPLAN) to display information materials for the public along the touristic trail. GESPLAN is planning to erect the panels in February 2013. 5. FMB helps GESPLAN to fence off part of the salina in 2013. The fencing can protect the salina from disturbance should the pressure from tourism increase in future.
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3. Support materials elaborated and public dissemination campaign implemented			X	<p>FMB carried out numerous public events for the Rufford project (please see further details at www.maiiconservation.org). Some of the events (and photos) are attached.</p> <p>FMB has also produced a poster that is now displayed at Maio Airport (attached). All of these documents bear the Rufford logo.</p> <p>The Rufford project was several times in the Maio radio: we'd be delighted to provide the MP3 files and the press releases (infopress.cv)</p>
4. Salt production more efficient and of better quality that benefits the salt producing cooperativa		X		<p>FMB had various meetings with the salina cooperative. In 2012 the cooperativa's situation was worse than in 2011: they produced small amount of salt, and their traditional market in Praia has been flooded with products from elsewhere.</p> <p>However, FMB joined ECOSATLANTIS – a project run by University of Aveiro (Portugal) – that connects traditional salt pans in France, Portugal and Spain. To improve salt production, many things have to be changed and conservationists at Aveiro are willing to help us. We are currently scanning for funding opportunities to apply for a seed grant supporting (i) market research what salt is really needed, (ii) inviting Aveiro salt expert to tell us what needs to be done in Maio.</p>

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

See above. The biggest difficulties were the

(i) current boundary of salina which we thought have been officially recognised, but in reality, they were not approved. As we mention above, we are pursuing several lines to overcome this obstacle.

(ii) improving the salina cooperativa's productivity which should involve market research, socio-economics and policy. FMB needs international experts in salt production and management to boost the cooperative. This job is beyond our current capacity but could be dealt with in a follow-up application.

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

The three most important outcomes:

1. The agreement with DGA which lets FMB continue overseeing and managing the salina in 2013 and beyond. The salina agreement made a precedent, and we are currently exploring similar arrangements with DGA for other protected sites in Maio: Terras Salgadas and Punta Preta. This is a major achievement in our opinion that a governmental agency is willing to let a young NGO to effectively run site management.
2. The salina is now looked after much more than in 2011: rubbish removed, information panels are built, and a fence will be erected.
3. Immense support from local people, local authority and national authority. We had various media coverage (probably one press release per month), and the new posters and leaflets (showing the Rufford logo) is now widely circulated in the whole island. We also produced an article in Cape Verdean Magazine that targets foreign visitors to Maio.

We are very proud that Cape Verdeans look at FMB is their organisation: a young NGO that works for them.

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

The Rufford project provided direct benefits to a small number of local people. Indirectly, the impact is lot bigger. From the Rufford support we bought a computer and printer and were able to furnish a small office. This is now a hub for environmental-related activities in the whole island.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we are building upon the Rufford's project in several important ways (see above). Bird monitoring of the salina will be continued, and we are working on the expansion of the salina and on the improvement of working conditions for the salina cooperative women.

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

FMB is effectively coordinating (or impacting upon) all biodiversity conservation actions for Maio. Since the Rufford project was started, we were glad to receive small grants from MAVA, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and most recently, French GEF. In addition, in February 2012 Fauna & Flora International spotted our activities, and offered advice to build up our capacity.

Importantly, we have now 3 new volunteers from Maio, Alcino Araujo, Alex Gonzalez and Ivonilda Araujo.

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

We spread out the use of funds over the full duration of the 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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Salary for Salina Conservation Officer	2520	2512	-8	Salary of Program Officer
Office rental	600	0	-600	The Municipality gave us a free office space
Buying a computer, a printer and scanner	715	1527	812	The Rufford project was the first grant FMB received, and we decided to invest into hardware (a PC, printer, data projector, external hard disk, modem, router, digital camera)
Office materials	520	472	-48	Includes purchase of printer toners, A4 papers, office chairs, table, and a bookcase
Buying essential tools for fieldwork	256	198	-58	Purchase of binoculars, books for FMB and building the canal for water management
Petrol for fieldwork	592	76	-516	We carried out monitoring largely on foot to save money
Flights from Maio to Praia	184	581	397	Includes travel and stay in Praia (food, taxi, ticket pass). This was essential for meetings with DGA

Public dissemination	320	283	-37	Producing T-shirts with FMB and Rufford logo
Printing information materials	240	281	41	Printing Poster and other expenses of transportation and placement at the airport
Publishing a report	40	38	-2	We used this funding for the science week in Maio Lyceum, 5 – 9 November 2012. Included lecture materials for students about the importance of salina and its biodiversity
Bank charges	0	19	-19	Includes receiving the funding from Rufford
Total (£)	5987	5987		

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

Complete actions started during the Rufford project:

1. Expand the protected area;
2. Assist the salina cooperative to produce and market sellable salt.

FMB has no car and none of our local members have a car, so that FMB is losing lot of money by paying car rental fees. In November 2012 an American donor offered 6000 US toward buying a second hand 4 x 4 car. Currently we are fundraising to top up this donation (see FMB website for details).

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, see examples attached.

11. Any other comments?

The Rufford provided FMB with a vital first grant. Since January 2012 our project portfolio has expanded to over 10 projects. This would not been possible without the generosity of Rufford Small Grants Foundation.