

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. 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. 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	Sama Zefania
Project title	Wetland bird monitoring and conservation training in south-west Madagascar
RSG reference	11.09.08
Reporting period	December 2009
Amount of grant	£4974
Your email address	samazefania@yahoo.fr
Date of this report	December 2009

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
To monitor wetland birds (1 survey and 1 monitoring / month to identify rare and common species, fluctuation of their number, preferred habitat, distribution, relative density over time)				- Survey - Monitoring once per month to identify: * Rare and common species, * Fluctuation of their number, * Preferred habitat, * Distribution, * Relative density over time.
To collect breeding ecology data of wetland birds (captures, ringing of breeding shorebirds and flamingo, nest survival of MP, breeding ecology of nesting wetland bird)				The only way to capture the flamingos is the nest trapping and captures of chicks and juveniles, But the flamingo didn't breed at Tsimanampesotse until now, when we expected them to breed there each year. That is also the reason for lateness of this report. - Captures, ringing of breeding shorebirds, nest. - Survival of Madagascar plover. - Breeding ecology of nesting wetland bird.
To train local ANGAP personnel on wetland bird survey and monitoring				Training the local ANGAP (MNP) personnel on wetland bird survey and monitoring.
To raise public awareness on wetland conservation				Raising public awareness on wetland conservation.

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

- Flamingos didn't breed this year (2009). We could not catch adults from nests, nor chicks and juveniles.
- Cyclone passed around study area and we stopped sometimes.
- Some local assistants deserted during my absence on site and lack of data collection sometimes until I found a new assistant.
- Overlap in programmes between the Madagascar National Parks (MNP or ANGAP before) and our project field timetable; some MNP guides were not available fulltime.
- Accident of fire at house of one of MNP's guides, which burned my telescope and bird guidebook.

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

- Basic data on relative abundance and area of occurrence of target wetland birds of Tsimanampesotse are known from this project. These data will constitute a base for a

monitoring programme for the wetland birds for the manager of site (MNP), using the same monitoring areas and methods and improve basic data concerning their species conservation plan.

- Increased capacity building for the MNP's local guide in terms of wetland bird survey and monitoring which are ones of MNP's policies for their local agents.
- Increased awareness of local people and tourist visitors on biodiversity conservation and wetland birds.

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

- The local guides who participated to do fieldwork with us benefited from training on wetland bird survey, monitoring, and shorebird capturing.
- The local people also benefited from conservation knowledge during public awareness activities.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we propose to continue the following activities:

- Monitoring other biodiversity species listed in the conservation target of the Park Manager (MNP).
- Monitoring and predicting biodiversity change in the park.
- Evaluation of threats to biodiversity (species and habitat).

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

- I will make copies of results (reports) from this project to organisations that work in Tsimanampesotse such as MNP, WWF, and University.

- I continue to put summary copies of results in form of brochures and posters A3 at the basic office of MNP at Tsimanampesotse and Toliara in order to inform tourist visitors of Parks about the data.

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

We used the RSG award over one year (February – December 2009), which exceed the anticipated length of project; this delay is related to the lateness in receiving the grant and the long wait to get data on breeding and capture of flamingos.

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: 1£ = 2638.503 Ariary

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Salary for Supervisor	300	300		
Salary for Applicant	1200	1200		
Salary for Assistants	300	300		

Email	20	20.09	0.09	Difference due to the exchange rate
Postage	20	19.92	0.08	Difference due to the exchange rate
Phone	20	20.05	0.05	Difference due to the exchange rate
Services	20	19.35	0.35	Difference due to the exchange rate
Travel of applicant and student assistant Antananarivo-Toliara	80	80.12	0.12	Ticket was increased sometimes at rainfall or after cyclone
Travel of applicant and student assistant Toliara -Tsimanampesotse	200	200.23	0.23	Ticket was increased sometimes at rainfall or after cyclone
Local travel of applicant and assistant during fieldwork	200	200.25	0.25	Ticket was increased sometimes at rainfall or after cyclone
Travel of supervisor Antananarivo-Tsimanampesotse	200	200.18	0.18	Ticket was increased sometimes at rainfall or after cyclone
Per diem of applicant	1260	1260	0	
Per diem of student assistant	450	450	0	
Per diem of supervisor	100	100	0	
Per diem of local assistants / guides	120	120	0	
Mobile hide	50	50.19	0.19	Difference due to the exchange rate
Metal ring (Safring) for flamingo	50	50	0	
Colour ring (Darvic plastics) for shorebird and flamingo	100	100	0	
Morris and Hawkins 1998. Bird of Madagascar, A photograph guide	60	60.13	0.13	
Research fee in Park for student assistant	6	5.21	0.21	Difference due to the exchange rate
Research fee in Park for supervisor visit	2	1.90	0.10	Difference due to the exchange rate
Research fee in Park for applicant	16	15.16	0.84	Difference due to the exchange rate
Production of poster, brochures, and leaflets	150	151.19	1.19	Difference due to the exchange rate
Printing, photocopying and binding of report	50	50.03	0.03	Difference due to the exchange rate
TOTAL	4,974	4,974	0	

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

The next steps of project will enable us:

- To understand the variation in abundance and local distribution of species in the conservation target of manager of park (MNP).
- To monitor biodiversity in list of conservation target of MNP.
- To monitor biodiversity change in relation to the impact of climate change.

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, I used the RSGF logo in my ox-car, bags, laptops, tents, mobile hide, binoculars, telescope, bird book guide, notebooks, poster, brochures, leaflets and preliminary report.
- No, I didn't send any publicity during the course of my work, I realised only an explanation my project with showing the RSGF logo to the partners and local visitors of park.

11. Any other comments?

I plan to send you photo and full results from this project within two weeks time.