

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	Tajudeen Amusa
Project title	Understanding Movement Patterns and Resource Needs of Kamuku Elephants along Migration Routes in Nigeria
RSG reference	11493-2
Reporting period	2012-2013
Amount of grant	£5635
Your email address	teejayui@yahoo.com ; teejayui@gmail.com ; amusa.to@unilorin.edu.ng
Date of this report	April 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
1. Ascertain the ranges and movement pattern of elephants in and around KNP.			Fully achieved	Elephant movement routes were located and identified based on interviews, village discussions and direct field observations. The direct observation focused on elephant dung piles, feeding signs, footprints impression and GPS tracking of migrating routes in and around the project sites.
2. Identify and estimate abundance of important food resources of elephants along migration routes.			Fully achieved	Observation of elephant feeding signs on food trails were used to determine elephant food resources in different ranges and migration routes. The trails taken by elephants were followed and all the plants showing signs of being fed upon by the animals were recorded. To assess the potential food availability for elephants, survey of a total of 29, 1 km x 5 m transects were carried out in different areas within the project sites. In order to compare the availability of food plants within and outside protected areas, 18 of these transects were conducted in the protected areas while the remaining 11 transects were carried out in habitats outside the protected areas.
3. Strengthen the capacity of locals and park rangers on systematic elephant survey, monitoring and reporting for conservation objectives.			Fully achieved	The project team organised capacity building programme on systematic elephant survey, monitoring and reporting for conservation objectives for recruited survey corps as well as park rangers between July and August, 2012. We used power point presentations and hands-on demonstration to deliver training.
4. Stimulate further conservation awareness for the elephants in selected			Fully achieved	Sensitisation and planning meetings were held with selected communities to enlist their supports and further enlightened

communities.				them on the need for the protection of elephants and other wildlife species in their areas.
5. Prepare recommendations for conservation and management of elephants in and around KNP.				A number of recommendations stemming from the outcome of the work are being made to relevant conservation authorities in the area.

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

Security issues were a daunting challenge in the course of this project. We were very mindful of this and adaptive in the execution of the project. We avoided very hot spots of violence and worked closely with locals in the areas.

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

i) Through this project, we now have a GIS Map of elephant migration routes and patterns of movement within the study area. This will help wildlife managers develop practical and effective management strategies to ensure the viability and continuous survival of elephants in the area.

ii) The project also identified important elephant food resources within the study area. These have been compiled and it is vital for enhanced protection of the natural landscape/habitat of the elephants and other wildlife species.

iii) The project has further revealed that another game reserve, Kogo Game Reserve in Katsina State, forms part of the elephant migratory route in the project area. This is a new information that is important and worth considering in the efforts towards protecting the elephants. In the interim, we are canvassing the need for the Nigeria National Park Service to merge the Kuyambana Game Reserve, Alawa Game Reserve and Mando Forest Reserve with the Kamuku National Park and work out modalities for management of these areas.

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

Local communities played very valuable roles in the execution of the project. Survey corps were recruited from the communities. These corps received simple training and participated actively in the project delivery. Field survey supplies and stipends, including project T-shirt with the Rufford Small Grants Foundation logo were given to the corps as a form of motivating them.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Arising from the findings of the project, the immediate plan is to begin a massive campaign for the integration of Kuyambana Game Reserve, Alawa Game Reserve and Mando Forest Reserve with the Kamuku National Park. It is, however, our sincere hope that the security issues in the project area will be put under total control.

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

The detailed reports of the project are already being prepared for the Nigerian National Park Service, Kuyambana Game Reserve, Alawa Game Reserve and Mando Forest Reserve. Extracts from the work will also be published in reputable journals with full acknowledgement of the Rufford Small Grants Foundation. The results, findings and outcomes of the work will also be handy in both teaching and research.

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

The RSG was used throughout the project period, which is approximately 12 months. The project lagged a lit bit behind schedule due to some logistics.

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
1. Materials/Equipment	£2, 375	£2, 582	+207	There were hikes in prices of materials/equipment than planned.
2. Travel and Accommodation	£900	£810	-90	Travel cost reduced since most of the communities adjoining Kuyambana Game Reserve could not be visited.
3. Subsistence and Refreshment	£1,600	£1,450	-150	The number of communities involved was lower than planned
4. Co-ordination and Reporting	£760	£760	0	
Total	£5,635	£5,602	-37	
Local exchange rate used	£1: ₦255			

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

The most important next step is to create a mechanism for sustaining the gains of the project and implement its recommendations. Meanwhile, we are excited that during the course of the project the Federal Government of Nigeria approved the classification of the National Park Service as a Para-military organisation. This will enable the organisation to cope with the daunting task of park protection and conservation.

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?

The RSGF logo was used in project T-shirts given as incentive to volunteers and as souvenir for publicity of the project.



11. Any other comments?

We truly acknowledge the support from the Rufford Small Grants Foundation, which has enabled the meaningful execution of this project. Experiences from the project have been very rewarding.