

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	Nzigiyimpa Léonidas
Project title	Project of awareness and integration of communities in the conservation of the natural forest reserve of Bururi
RSG reference	12482-2
Reporting period	October 2012-September 2013
Amount of grant	£5778 + £34 (balance of the first grant)
Your email address	Nzigiyimpal@yahoo.fr
Date of this report	10 th May 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
Imply all stakeholders in the protection and management of the natural forest reserve of Bururi		✓		An important effort has been expanded to sensitise the communities and other stakeholders in the protection of the reserve of Bururi. The communities grouped in the associations bring their contributions henceforth in the protection of the forest. The work of sensitisation and increasing of the awareness on the importance of a protected area in a demographic explosion context needs a long-term process and take a lot of time and means.
Plead for the concession of the lands to the remaining group of Batwa in order to improve their livelihoods		✓		A group of 30 households of Batwa that was on the site of Murago has acquired a property of 20 ha, houses and an adduction of water. We continue to plead for the other group of Batwa being close to the urban centre of Bururi.
To work with local radio to increase awareness			✓	Four local radio stations have been involved and many broadcastings notably on the importance of this forest and the interest for the populations to bring their contribution in its protection
To put in place a committee of the representatives of the communities assigned to work closely with the chief warden of the reserve.			✓	The members of six associations' partners have elected their representatives so that they are their privileged interlocutors
To sign a memorandum of understanding between the communities and the services of the conservation			✓	This a bridge between communities and the staff of the reserve
Elaborate a management plan of the natural forest	✓			This activity has not been executed because the institute in charge of protected areas will do it with the collaboration of the World Bank

Organise an open week in the forest reserve			✓	Many ballads of authorities including the Governor of the province of Bururi, youths, local communities, have been organised inside the forest. The aim was to raise their awareness on the importance of the forest and to invite everybody to bring his contribution in the protection of the forest
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The strong devaluation of the Burundian currency until more of 30% entailed a blaze of the prices in all domains. This situation brought us to review some activities and to establish priorities.

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

1. The communities participate in the activities of surveillance and management. They went as far as stopping the delinquents who destroy the forest. Signature of a Memorandum of understanding with communities.
2. A village of Batwa received a land, freeing the portion of the reserve that these Batwa occupied thus.
3. Great collaboration with authorities such as the mayor of the commune of Bururi, the Governor of the province of Bururi and other authorities in the protection of the forest reserve.

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

Since the activities of sensitisation for the integration of the communities in the protection and the management of the natural forest reserve of Bururi, the communities grouped in the associations lend strong hand to the rangers in the actions of surveillance. They participate in the actions of materialisation of the limit without requiring salary. The communities maintain regularly the parcel of the office of the reserve and the track reaching the office. The communities organise meetings of sensitisation of their neighbors regularly to the respect of this protected area. In the public meetings organised by the local administration, the representatives of the communities often give the messages inviting everybody to imply itself in the protection of the forest of Bururi. A committee composed of five members representing the communities has been elected and work of common agreement with the chief warden of this area. A memorandum of understanding between the direction of this reserve and the communities have been signed.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. The sensitisation is a long-term work. We are going to continue to plead for the group of Batwa (50 households) not having received an earth again so that they also receive a property because they exercise a strong pressure on the forest.

One of the reasons of the destruction of the reserve is poverty. While continuing the sensitisation, it is necessary to undertake the activities that reconcile development and conservation.

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

All along the execution of our project, we worked with four local radio stations that have every time relieved the information in relation with the collaboration with the communities in the protection of the biologic and eco systemic richness of the forest.

A paper that lists our experience of collaboration with the communities has been produced and has been distributed to all chiefs' wardens of the protected areas of Burundi.

On 30th September 2013, on invitation of the Director General of the National Institute for the Environment and the Nature Conservation in Burundi, I received occasion share, at Gitega, before all chief wardens of protected areas of Burundi, my experience of integration of the communities in the protection of the natural forest reserve of Bururi. I'll continue to share this experience through radio, television and workshops and leaflets.

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

October 2012 and September 2013.

This period has been sufficient to implement 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.

* 1 pound = 2100 Fbu.

Item	Budgeted Amount (£ sterling)	Actual Amount (£ sterling)	Difference	Comments
Per diem for trainers and logistic during session of sensitisation	1100	1198	-98	Prices of ticket and hotels have increased
Room rental: 11 days	640	720	-80	The costs of the meeting rooms are expensive
Printing posters and leaflets	428	390	+38	Tools used during the works of sensitisation
Ticket and accommodations/journalists	900	1120	-220	All radios with which we worked are based in the capital Bujumbura. It was necessary to displace the journalists until Bururi where the forest of Bururi for interviews with the communities and the capturing of the pictures is
Transport to identify land for	300	435	-135	Renting of vehicles

Batwa				
Logistic for open week in the forest	630	823	-193	This event implied several personalities of the province and the commune of Bururi
Flipchart	150	90	+60	We bought little flipchart because there was a hang-over of the previous project
Accommodation for staff to elaborate management plan	880	-	880	The work of development of the management plan didn't take place for two reasons: The strong devaluation of the Burundian currency (more than 30%) aggravated by the fire of the market of Bujumbura (lung of the Burundian economy) dragged a blaze of the prices of all products on the market. What drove us to review the activities and to establish the priorities. Second, the institute in charge of protected areas will finance in few months with the collaboration with World Bank the management plan of the forest.
Projector rental	390	400	-10	
Marker & Pen	34	34	0	
Communication	60	144	-84	Contact with all stakeholders
Administrative expenses	300	366	-66	
TOTAL	5812	5720	+92	

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

- Continue to work with community to reinforce the protection of the natural forest reserve of Bururi.
- To help the communities to make some nurseries and to plant the seedlings in their own properties.
- To valorise some natural resources of the forest as water while helping the communities to build sources of drinking water.
- To teach the traditional healers how to make the harvest of some medicinal plants without putting them in danger and to promote the conservation ex situ of the medicinal plants in disappearance.

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, the logo has been used on the banners. The note carrying on the acquisitions of the small grant and the learned lessons has the logo of RSGF.

A regularly update has been made every month. Many photos have been sent to illustrate the activities on the ground.

11. Any other comments?

Once again, I would like to thank RSGF for its financial support that allowed me to initiate an action of integration of the communities in the protection and the management of a protected area in Burundi. This first experience is mentioned actually as an example to duplicate in other protected areas of Burundi. This is a recommendation of the Director General of the National institute for the Environment and the Conservation of the Nature in Burundi.