

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	Deo Kujirakwinja
Project title	Conservation of large mammals in the Luama Landscape, Democratic Republic of Congo
RSG reference	12999-1
Reporting period	
Amount of grant	£ 6,000
Your email address	deokujirak@gmail.com
Date of this report	30/03/14

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
Support law enforcement in Luama-Kivu Game reserve			XX	There have been xxx patrols conducted in the Luama Kivu game reserve and different wildlife sighted directly (seen) or indirectly (dung or nests for Apes)
Collect baseline data for hippopotamus in the Luama Landscape		XXX		There have been fieldwork conducted by rangers and research team in parts of the Luama River but it has been difficult to cover all the area given the flooding banks of the river and the cactus habitat that prevent or makes difficult the walk through river banks. Funds allocated to part of these activities were used for patrols as these improves conservation of most wildlife
Provide basic field equipments to rangers			XXX	Field equipments were provided to rangers and includes one GPS, one computer and one tent. For data collection, batteries and datasheets were provided to rangers
Enhance support to community awareness activities			XXX	Through the duration of the project there have been regular meetings with communities regarding Luama landscape. A conflict analysis process was undertaken, cultural ceremony to support conservation of the reserve was held with local chiefs Support from RACOD was valuable as they supported the literacy project and microcredit scheme with rangers wives to improve on their livelihood.

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

The major difficulty concerns the mean of transport to count hippos. Given the limited source of funding and the cost of transportation in the area, we had to use boat without engine which has been dangerous to our team. One of our field expeditions was charged and attacked by hippos and the boat was destroyed. Lucky enough there was no casualties.

Another issue is about the socioeconomic vulnerability of the area where communities and park staff have more expectations than what project could deliver. While our project was mainly focused to conservation and education, there are requests from communities to support small scale micro-project to improve their livelihoods.

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

- Support to law enforcement has improved on the conservation status of the reserve and build trust with communities
- This research has allowed getting distribution of wildlife in sectors covered by patrols and illegal activities deterred.
- Support to community being the key of success to conservation in developing countries, this project improves on relationships between park staff, local chiefs and the army deployed in the area

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

This project aimed at improving knowledge for communities regarding protection of resources of Luama landscape. This was done through meetings in different villages with different stakeholders on conservation of Luama Game reserve.

Support from our partner RACOD, there is a literacy project that has been started and has 13 women from 17 to 39 years for writing and reading skills.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We are motivated with progress made from this project and would like to pursue. We submitted an application to Whitley and didn't get funding but we are aiming at applying again to Rufford to support ranger patrols and community work focussing on improving the literacy centre and livelihood project in the area.

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

We'll be organizing conference at local universities regarding conservation of biodiversity of Luama region and hippos particularly as they becoming rare compared to the past.

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

N/A

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
Ranger rations	1,800	1,800	0	
Field equipment	650	650	0	
Transport to the field	250	250	0	
Community meetings	400	400	0	
Accommodation and food for staff	0	0	0	
TOTAL	6,000	6,000	0	

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

In order to sustain achieved results there is need of continuous support to law enforcement activities so that gained terrain does not get lost due to lack of support. Another step is about building local community's constituency though improvement of livelihoods through alternative sources of income.

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?

We produced T-Shirts for field staff and stickers to use when we were travelling to the field using RACOD vehicle.

