

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole  
Grants Director

#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Julius Nziza
<b>Project title</b>	The conservation of bat species and their roosting habitat in the volcanic caves at Musanze District, Northern Rwanda
<b>RSG reference</b>	14676-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	12 months
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5985
<b>Your email address</b>	nzizavet@gmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	12/04/2015

**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
Local survey about the perceptions and opinions about bats and their protection. This will provide the basis on which to begin the local community sensitisation program for bat conservation.			Fully Achieved	A survey on 100 individuals was done on the familiarity of the caves and bats, knowledge about importance of the bats, attitudes and beliefs about bats, threats faced by bats and ideas on how to conserve the bats with different response that became the basis on how to conduct the project and where to put much emphasis.
Local community sensitisation about bat conservation and their ecological significance		Partially Achieved		Much achievement was in radio talk shows where people asked important questions and were answered (no pictures were allowed to be taken in studio), support and sensitising local community conservation associations. Whereby in all their conservation meeting with local communities, they were given financial support to bring more people and bat conservation was the major talk. Students were mobilised by talks and giving Rufford t- shirts to the leaders, brochures, leaflets and pictures to schools but there was no organisation of school tournaments since it would conflict with studies. School leaders didn't oblige to that.
GPS mapping of the critical ecological cave habitats for the bats at Musanze district.			Fully Achieved	This was done to show case to local stakeholders during meeting about the land-use changes affecting the environment and bat ecological residing sites.
Education of the relevant stakeholders in government and private sector			Fully Achieved	This was done to training Volcanoes Park personnel, community environmental leaders, community conservation association about the need for bats conservation and maintaining the ecological roosting areas.

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

The school academic calendars don't allow much extracurricular activities that would take much time for tournaments etc., so talks were much supported by school leaders.

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

- Since this project was the first of its kind in Rwanda a survey that showed the perception of the local communities to bats in general was a big achievement to begin with.
- Community sensitisation about bats to the students, community conservation association, general audience through radios and local conservation leaders especially Volcanoes National Park staff guides.
- GPS mapping of all the caves and noting the adjacent land-use changes to show any threats to bats ecological habitats

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

Since the project was the first of its kind local communities had never understood the ecological and economic importance of bats but with sensitisation, they understood and the biggest community sensitisation group called PROCAT/IKAZE has now identified bats as a species to focus on during sensitisation among others activities.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes through the supporting the local community conservation organisation involved with sensitising the local communities about environmental protection and conservation if I get any more donor funds. The organisation has very little financial support and needs support to do the activities.

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

Am thinking of writing a paper with my project assistant but this will take time to give the paper to local leaders and academia.

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

13 months when it was to be for 12 months due to school calendar schedules that required much lobbying to sensitize the students.

**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 UK Pound Sterling = 1000 Rwanda Francs

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Local bat conservation survey in the local community and district leadership /Daily Travel allowance for the surveyors/ 2 persons working for 10 days	500	500	500	
Venue for hiring for tourism staff training	30	280	250	The venue was expensive to cater for food and drinks and so the staff were not given allowances. It was converted to drinks and food at training
Daily allowance for the participants (20 persons *2 workshops)	1000	500	500	
Transportation for participants (20 persons *2 workshops)	400	400	400	
Venue hiring for 2 workshops (20 persons *2 workshops)	100	600	600	Venue was expensive so reduction was done on allowances
Workshop teaching supplies	50	50	50	
Day allowance for the tourism staff training-10	250	0	0	
GPS Unit (Garmin) 1	195	195	195	
Head lamps(3)	255	255	255	
Digital Camera Nikon	215	215	215	
Daily allowance for personnel during mapping (2 persons working for 4 days)	200	200	200	
Training materials/supplies for tourism staff	30	30	30	
Bats t- shirts/ for soccer teams/Local Community Sensitisation Members	600	600	600	T- Shirts were given to student leaders and local community conservation organisation members.
Refreshments for local participants in games in 5 matches	150	0	00	Taken to support radio talks
Public Address System hire- 2 times	100	0	00	Taken to support radio talks
Radio talk shows about bats- 3 talks	300	910	610	Radio talks were expensive and being essential, there was cut on other items to fund the program
Competition for local songs about bats conservation	200	0	00	Taken to support radio talks
Fuel to follow up project activities-12 round trips	660	500	150	Taken to support radio talks
Daily allowance for the Project Coordinator to follow up the activities	300	300	300	Yes done

Daily allowance for the assistant project coordinator (1 persons) who sensitize the local communities	450	450	450	Yes done
<b>TOTAL</b>	5985			

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

Further systematic local community and leadership sensitisation about importance of bats and involving academia to do research on bats

**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 on t- shirts, brochures and leaflets.

**11. Any other comments?**

I want to thank Rufford for this great support to this project. Since it was the first of its kind, further support is needed to maintain the momentum of bats conservation in Rwanda and the region.