

## The Rufford Foundation Final Report

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Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

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| <b>Grant Recipient Details</b> |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Your name</b>               | Gilbert Njodzeka  |
| <b>Project title</b>           | Conservation of Bui Montane Forest Remnants and Empowering Women through Bee Farming and Mushroom Cultivation |
| <b>RSG reference</b>           | 15721-2   |
| <b>Reporting period</b>        | 2015-2016   |
| <b>Amount of grant</b>         | £5000   |
| <b>Your email address</b>      | greencare@ymail.com   |
| <b>Date of this report</b>     | July 2016   |

**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   |
|--|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| Plant 750 trees of medicinal and/or economic value in each of the four different sites |              |                    |                | Planted in Nseh and Kishoor  |
| Establish a tree nursery at each site  |              |                    |                | Established in three of the communities (Nseh, Kove Ndzeen and Mbokam) except Kovifem  |
| Train at least two community members as tree nursery attendants at each site           |              |                    |                | We met a professional tree nursery attendant in Nseh and improved his capacity to execute his profession. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partially because Kovifem did not attend</li> <li>• Fully achieved in Nseh</li> </ul> |
| Train at least 25 women from each site or adjacent village in bee farming              |              |                    |                | The women who attended the workshops were always late <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partially achieved. The timing each time coincided with conventional farming seasons</li> </ul>   |
| Train at least 25 women from each site or adjacent village in mushroom cultivation     |              |                    |                | We are still experimental alternative of farming mushroom rather than the usual plastic papers because the Government of Cameroon has banned the use of plastic papers.  |

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

Each time we made schedule for training it was always peak farming season. This affected the participation of women during our trainings. We could not achieved planned training in mushroom farming because we lack mushroom planting material particularly the plastics. This was because the project was funded at the time the Cameroon Government banned the use of plastic bags in Cameroon, a product we have been using to plant mushroom.

One of the communities was not cooperating as expected (Kovifem). Even when we tried to change the leader, they were not able to change. As a consequence we decided to change the community with the express permission from Rufford.

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

- Most of the hives we donated to communities are colonised.
- We succeeded to create bee farmers clubs in each of the communities we trained and installed an executive to look after their affairs.
- The farmers in three of the communities are requesting that we should come back and improve them especially in bee farming. These communities are Mbokam, Gwarkang and Kov Ndzeen. A situation that provoked Chiefs to address us and insisted we come again so much that in some of the cases like Nseh we left the community with live chicken after a reception party.

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

The communities have been part of the awareness creation meetings, they participated in tree nursery trainings and tree out planting. In some of the cases like Mbokam and Nseh we were treated to a reception with plenty of food, drinks and dancing to honour us. The hives and honey harvesting equipment we donated thanks to RSGF like gloves, smokers, and Shuts were received with extreme joy so much that the traditional rulers had to offer speeches of appreciation.

We also during tree planting educated the participants on the benefits of each tree planted a situation that gave them the opportunity improve their ways of appreciating trees. In Banten many women attended the bee farming training, surprising enough some were muslims. As a sign of appreciation the Traditional leader, the muslim leader and the municipal councillor attended the training after which they made speeches of appreciation.

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

Yes, we plan to continue provided RSGF continue to sponsor. In which case we would like to narrow the project to tree planting and bee farming.

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

Through our annual reports and wherever possible.

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

18 months.

**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  |
|--|-----------------|---------------|------------|---|
| Radio Advertisement                                      | 8.99            | 8.99          |            |   |
| Hiring of hall for meetings                              | 44.94           | 44.94         |            |   |
| Nursery site   | 44.94           | 44.94         |            |   |
| Nursery Attendants                                       | 539.33          | 539.33        |            |   |
| Nursery Attendants training facilitation                 | 112.36          | 112.36        |            |   |
| Attendants training handouts                             | 2.25            | 2.25          |            |   |
| Equipment (spades, watering can, polythene potting bags) | 359.55          | 359.55        | 50         | We had to buy the polythene bags for potting trees from Bamenda instead of Kumbo as anticipated |
| Manure, sand, black soil                                 | 112.36          | 112.36        |            |   |
| Fencing  | 89.89           | 89.89         |            |   |
| Nursery Shed   | 89.89           | 89.89         |            |   |
| Seeds  | 224.72          | 224.72        |            |   |
| Community out planting                                   | 449.44          |               |            |   |
| 3 day workshop facilitation by 4 trained facilitators    | 674.16          | 674.16        |            |   |
| Hiring of hall   | 22.47           | 22.47         |            |   |
| Transportation to model farms                            | 224.72          | 224.72        |            |   |
| Printing of handouts                                     | 67.42           | 67.42         |            |   |
| Donation of ten hives per community                      | 449.44          | 460           | 30         | Error in constructing tops for the hives by carpenter of Mbokam                                 |
| 2 sets of protective clothing per community              | 134.83          | 134.83        |            |   |
| 2 Smokers per village                                    | 80.90           | 80.90         |            |   |
| 2 Harvesting Containers per village                      | 44.94           | 44.94         |            |   |
| Workshop materials (flipchart paper, markers)            | 44.94           | 44.94         |            |   |
| 2 day workshop facilitation by 4 trained facilitators    | 449.44          | 449.44        |            |   |
| 2 days hiring of hall                                    | 22.47           | 22.47         |            |   |

|   |         |         |            |   |
|---|---------|---------|------------|---|
| Cultivation Practical Materials                                   | 89.89   | 89.89   |            |   |
| Seeds for Practical Demonstration and Donation for Start-up Farms | 269.66  | 269.66  |            |   |
| Workshop materials (flipchart paper, markers)                     | 44.94   | 44.94   |            |   |
| Printing of handouts  | 44.94   | 44.94   |            |   |
| Printing quarterly reports  | 17.98   | 17.98   |            |   |
| Follow-up visits to each community,                               | 53.93   |         |            |   |
| Communication (telephone and email)                               | 26.97   | 50.00   | 50         | One community (Nseh) was difficult to work with and also the road to the community was very bad at the time of our execution due to heavy rains |
| <b>Total</b>  | 4842.70 | 4372.92 | <b>130</b> |   |

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

Would suggest we intensify and offer more training and materials to communities for bee farming. They has been a marked interest in bee farming

**10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

Yes the RSGF was always mention as funder of the project. We also had logo display.

**11. Any other comments?**

Some communities like Nseh decided to instruct how we should function when some elites heard that we have money from RSGF. It took extra efforts to convince them that we are functioning as the project was designed. Many communities would like to apply RSGF but are limited by the difficulty of referees.