

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	Moses Nyoni
Project title	Species protection and habitat conservation for the benefit of birds and people – Local Avian Tourism and Black-cheeked Lovebird Conservation Project, Zambia
RSG reference	18.01.10
Reporting period	June 2010 – May 2011
Amount of grant	£5,863.
Your email address	Moses_nyoni@yahoo.com
Date of this report	2 nd August 2011

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
To develop a community based species conservation project for the black-cheeked lovebird (<i>Agapornis nigrigenis</i>) and a community based avian tourism venture centred around <i>A. nigrigenis</i>		√		This process is on-going. The first funding cycle was meant to initiate the action which has successfully been accomplished. Initiatives towards conserving the species have been developed. Periodic counts of the species have resulted in rough estimates on the population of the species. Inadequacy in professional capacity after the departure of the then Project Manager has made it difficult for the team to develop a species conservation plan.
To develop and stimulate initial actions for protection of <i>A. nigrigenis</i> , conservation of the surrounding habitat and site and motivating local community members to embrace <i>A. nigrigenis</i> and available natural resources as capital and/or resource pools for livelihood improvement.			√	Best practices for conservation of the species were deliberated and documented. These include community law governing resource use and management. Population monitoring of the species has adopted as a routine activity of the local conservation group At inception, the potential inherent in avian tourism in the area was not fully appreciate but to date this is highly valued with the local group being eager to develop the sector
To sensitize local stakeholders (government, local government, traditional and opinion leaders) inclusive of community members on potentials and opportunities from biodiversity conservation and avian tourism.			√	Various forms of meetings were held with government representatives, the relevant local traditional leadership, and local community members in the project area. The project and its ideas were well received with interest ever increasing.
To develop and enhance local conservation			√	A functional and legally registered Local Conservation

initiatives and programmes through a structured and capacitated local CBO.				Group (LCG) or Site Support Group (SSG) with legal persona was established, strengthened and is now in place at site. The group is registered as "Magumwi-Machile Conservation Group" and holds licence number ORS/102/02/388
To develop a species conservation plan and implement a species conservation strategy and plan for <i>A.nigrigenis</i> .	√			A species conservation plan has not been developed though information for its development has been collected. This short coming was attributed to the relocation from ZOS of the then Project Manager (David Ngwenyama). David's expertise was central in the development of the plan.
To develop environmental conservation clubs in selected schools within the project area. This thrust would focus on environmental awareness and education			√	In addition to a local Conservation Groups (LCG/SSG), two (2) environmental education clubs were established at Magumwi and Adonsi Basic Schools. A total of five environmental talks were given to the club. 1,000 plus posters were published and distributed not only to schools in the pilot project area but also to other schools that ZOS works with.
To institute detailed status monitoring of bird habitats and bird counts with special attention to <i>A. nigrigenis</i> .			√	Monitoring of the status of the target species was conducted and has been sustained. Five permanent transects for bird population monitoring were established with local members of the community collecting data along transects on periodic basis. Monitoring of biodiversity under the Rufford Small Grant Project has fed into the Annual Status and Trends reports for 2009 and 2010)

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

The project and in particular the development of a species conservation plan would have been successfully accomplished with the involvement of the then Project Manager and ecologist, Mr. David Ngwenyama. However, David left ZOS a few months after project inception. Environmental Coordinator (Ms. Nalucha Nganga) also left thus impacting slightly negative on the environmental education component of the project.

The project however continued with the grant recipient assuming the post of Project Manager. Biodiversity Monitoring Coordinator (Kabuku Likando) started working on initial inputs towards the development of a Species Conservation Plan while Logistics Officer (Kelvin Mkandawire) assisted with environmental education matters. Levels of competence and experience have had a negative impact on this output.

Due to instability of the local currency major currencies (GBP and USD) during the implementation period prices fuels, oils and lubricates kept raising especially in rural areas. This negatively affected the project delivery as costs of implementing the project became extremely higher than anticipated. It should be noted that Zambia has the most expensive fuel in the region and at no time has fuel prices been reduced. Zambian Ornithological Society (ZOS) did however play a significant role in supplementing project costs especially on LCG formation, training and certifying of local bird guides in the area, thus providing the project with a positive leverage on the budget.

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

- a. Development of a local partner at community level with a vision to develop and sustain an enterprise around the Black Cheeked Lovebird (BCLB).
- b. Linking up of the bird guides for the area and the avian tourism potential to South West Barotse Tourism Trail, a trail being promoted and marketed by Open Africa Initiative (OAI). Land for the development of a community based avian tourism camp has been found and secured under the traditional system of land tenure.
- c. Though the development of a species conservation plan has not been completed, community based initiatives, efforts and instruments towards conservation of the BCLB habitat have been developed were been implemented.

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

Though the Local Conservation Group has been key in all major aspects of this project, local community members took central stage in discussions pertaining to management of local resources and bird habitats via bye law development. Community awareness on the potential of birds and avian tourism has been raised significantly. The traditional leadership which is very critical in this part of Zambia has fully bought into the project vision and continues to be supportive of the initiative more especially that it has potential to enhance income and conservation in general.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are serious plans to continue with this work. It should be noted that the first phase of this project was preparatory in nature as efforts were being directed towards preparing stakeholders towards the development of avian tourism, an alternative enterprise for poverty alleviation at village level. Preparatory works have been completed, and infrastructure development for the purpose need to commerce. Please refer to project core activities in section 8.3 and Activity 5 and 6 of the Rufford Grant Application earlier submitted.

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

A summary report and fact sheet on the project will be developed and uplifted on ZOS website for publicity. This will also be published on ZOS's newsletter which is distributed widely amongst ZOS members and IBA schools in Zambia. Though not entirely under the control of the grant recipient, an attempt will be made to publish an article in the BirdLife International magazine; the WorldBird Watch.

Monitoring information in particular will be included in the Status and Trends Report for 2010. This report is also shared widely amongst various stakeholders in the country and feeds in to the CDB reporting mechanism at country level.

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 within a period of 14 months. Though slightly later than the anticipated project length as per project design, it is the view of the grant recipient that a project of this nature needed such a longer time frame.

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
Conducting meetings with district authorities, relevant government departments and the traditional leadership (Sensitising and lobbying for protection of <i>A. nigrigenis</i>)		252	-252	One field trip was planned to Palaces for consultation but due to a number of traditional barriers three trips were made. This had cost implications on transport and courtesy gifts to the traditional leadership. Fuel cost and DSA are included
Sensitisation, awareness and lobbying for SSG/LCG formation (Formulation of Site Support)	240	240	0	While documentation was done in Sesheke, registration was done from Lusaka and not the field office. Include cost of registration and logistics

Participatory situation analysis and action planning for conservation	1892	1342	550	Two field workshops were held. Although not budgeted, transects were established and managed under this cost head. Local Birds guides collected and submitted population data and were paid for their input in the exercise. Fuel, DSA, foodstuff were catered for here.
SSG mentoring and training	2451	2045	406	An exposure visit was not undertaken; However resources were spent on linking bird guides to the tourism circuit through workshops and meetings. DSA, Fuel and DSA included.
Establishing and strengthening school conservation clubs	120	650	-530	1000 posters were produced and distributed. To broaden publicity the poster were distributed to over 15 IBA schools. One poster costs about 0.65 cents.
Establishing facilities for avian tourism	1160	940	200	Meeting costs on search and assessment of various pieces of land for a camp were held under this cost head. Fund for funding for camp development have not been utilised. Process is still ongoing.
TOTAL	5,863	5,469	374	The balance is however committed to internet and communication charges.

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

- a. BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat (BLAPS) is developing a programme namely Local Empowerment Programme (LEP). This programme aims at empowering, mobilising and expanding a worldwide constituency of people who care for birds and their natural environment. The programme will also foster linkages between biodiversity conservation and sustaining people's livelihoods. Zambia is a priority country for this programme. Machile Rufford Project Site will therefore be included as one of the priority sites for the Zambian component of the programme. This will enhance sustainability of the action.
- b. The grant recipient will pursue the second funding window under Rufford to support continuity especially for the development of infrastructure for a community avian tourism camp.

- c. ZOS will sustain and further enhance partnership built with the Site Support Group and Open Africa Initiative.

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 Rufford logo was used on posters published and distributed. Support from the RSGF is appreciated. The project has amongst other projects been highlighted on the ZOS website.

11. Any other comments?

I would like to thank the Rufford Small Grants Foundation (RSGF) for sponsoring this project. Without the financial support this project would not have achieved most of the outputs.