

# The Rufford Foundation

## Final Report

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**

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Angelus Runji
Project title	Enhancing Community involvement in six villages adjacent to Mikumi National Park on participatory conservation of African Elephants' habitats – Tanzania
RSG reference	19180-2
Reporting period	Final Report
Amount of grant	£4995
Your email address	<a href="mailto:conasuo@gmail.com">conasuo@gmail.com</a>
Date of this report	09 <sup>th</sup> September, 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
i. Reduced destructive practices in Mikumi National Park along the border from three villages of Kihondo, Parakuyo, Kilangali, Maharaka, Mkata and Doma by year 2016.			V	The objective has been achieved as planned were at moment there fewer reported cases on destruction practices especially the habitat area boarded by the six villages reached by the project. The evaluation undertaken reveals that only six cases on charcoal burning were reported and action taken to the culprits
ii. Protected and managed elephant's habitat in area bordered with three villages of Kihondo, Parakuyo, Kilangali, Maharaka, Mkata and Doma villages by year 2016.			V	Villages are now taking appropriate measures to protect the receive area bordered from their village which is also the elephants' corridor. The measures include undertaking regular patrol through the trained village game scout (VGS) where the interview done during the monitoring and evaluation indicates that the VGS undertake patrol for one to three routines per week, share the conservation information in village meeting undertaken after 3 months, inform the camp warden any related information for further action including joint action between Mikumi Park Authority and villagers to control inversion including poaching. The objective revealed to promote the formation of Wildlife Management Area (WMA) by villages involved in the project. It is in progress where the proposed name of WMA is KIDOMA which means "Kilangali, Doma and Maharaka". The formation of WMA will ensure effective protection of Mikumi national park due to effective commitment that villagers will offer to protect and manage their WMA.

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

**The implementation faced with some unforeseen difficulties as follows below:**

- i. The regular rainfall which limited public sensitisation meeting to be done in open space where at Malangali village, the implementation team decided to organise the meeting at the venue.
- ii. Some time park warden and other officers were very busy to respond emergence activities which limited their participation in some activities conducted. The project team designed a report sharing meetings with park officials for the activities they didn't attend

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

**The following are noted project outcomes:-**

- a. Reduced destructive cases in the elephants' habitats by human being. The evaluation report has noted that from January until end of October 2015 only six cases have been experienced in six villages. There is a great change in practices from year 2015 where in the three villages where we implemented phase 1 project, where currently villagers carry out their livelihoods which doesn't cause harm to habitat.
- b. Increased protection and management commitment by villagers were at moment, villages take effective measures to protect the habitat include patrolling the borders and reporting/sharing information within their villages as well as the village authorities with park authority. And they are currently working on to form WMA in order to ensure effective management and protection of Mikumi National Park. The project has resulted into addressing elephants poaching practices where by Village Game Scout play a critical role to suspect poachers. This was realised in March, 2016 in Mkata village were the VGS succeeded to arrest a poacher. Previous, poachers collaborated by villagers, hence were not disclosed as a result the park experienced silent decrease in population but the initiation of village game scout has been of significant to fight against poachers in Mikumi National Park.
- c. Increased linkage and networking among the stakeholders these include media, NGOs, community, local government and park authority towards

protection and management of Mikumi national park mostly elephants' habitats. Currently other NGOs consult us (CONASU) on various issues about management and protection of African Elephants in Mikumi National Park and the way the approach can be used to protect and manage the same species in other parks/reserved areas.

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

The project directly involved community through the implementation of all activities. These were the key actors to implement the activities through their participation in trainings, sensitisation meetings, field and practical activities which were; carrying beekeeping project and regular communication with park authority and undertaking patrol.

They have benefited through acquiring knowledge and skills on how to protect the elephants' habitats, how to keep beehives for livelihoods improvement and taking patrol. They are now keeping bee projects in groups which are under management of village authority. They use financial literacy to manage their sources of income.

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

YES, there is a plan to continue this work. During the implementation, the project team noted the following:

- Livelihoods which motivate conservation of habitats are highly needed in other villages found adjacent to Mikumi National Park, since there are 24 rounding over villages (11 villages in southern part, seven villages in eastern part and six villages in northern part) to MNP where out of these, the project has reached only six villages. The learning came from the 30 beehives supplied in six villages seemed to motivate village groups who agreed that it is possible to refrain from carrying destructive practises like charcoal making. The beekeeping project seemed as a way to promoting vegetation cover where the beekeepers must ensure availability of green garden containing flowers that would facilitate easier production of honey.
- The training is supposed to integrate entrepreneurship skills (marketing, selling, earning and saving) where if all villages found adjacent to Mikumi National Park would have trained in these skills, it will result into decrease of destructive practices due to effective management of their sources of income. The lesson leant is that the villagers engage into various production but lack of

entrepreneurship skills continue to facilitate destruction of habitats especially extension of farms. To make them meet their economic targets from small plots they possess is very significant so as to reduce pressure to the park reserve.

- The project realised the significance of forming WMA by villages through over the park. This will end human – elephant conflict which continues in other villages for example in Ruhembe ward – Kilosa district. The conflicts have been associated with encroachment and lack of villagers’ commitment in protection and management of elephant’s habitat and contribute silent poaching where poachers use the existing gap between villagers and Mikumi Authority.

Hence, the plan intend to insure that all villages are attuned into participatory wildlife conservation approach especially protection and management of elephants’ habitat.

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

The immediate results especially issues noted during the implementation have already shared to community through local media coverage especially radio, newspapers and local television. The progress reports were shared to various stakeholders including The Rufford Foundation (RSG), project referees and local government authorities.

Hence, the current outcome as noted after the evaluation report will be shared to various stakeholders through internet posting (in website and facebook web), sharing the implementation report with other partners and donors who have supported our organisation or our organisation is members including national networks. Also the project result and post implementation outcomes will be documented Annual Report and shared to stakeholders.

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

The grant has been used for 6 months and 17 days. The variation is 17 days from the plan to implement the project for 6 month.

**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
1. Communication expenses	120	109	11	The communication expenses increased £5, the amount was adjusted from other expenses
2. Stationary (printing, photocopying, buying pens and notebooks)	215	233	(18)	There was an over-expenditure of £1 due to cost variance at market place.
3. Transport for project team and participants during trainings and meeting (Public transport - Bus & hire motorcycles for shuttling during meetings)	760	845	(85)	There was increase of cost in transport which is 11% of budget. The project team covered this amount from item No 4 and 7.
4. Accommodation and diner for trainers and trainees	1100	1038	62	There was under expenditure of £62 which is equal to 6% from the budget. This was due to actual expenditure of cost covered to participants
5. Lunch for trainers and participants	640	672	(32)	The increase of the expenditure was covered from the £32 from item 7 above.
6. Stipends for project team in 6 months	480	480	0	The amount was used as planned.
7. Buying 30 beehives	1680	1620	60	The budget plan was to buy 30 beehives in £54 but there was change in price where each beehive was bought in £50. The £70 was used to print 12 t-shirts and buying £50 used for buying bee hanging wires.
<b>Total</b>	4995	<b>4993</b>	2	The variation between the budget and actual expenditure was 2 is equal to 0.04%.

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

**The below are the important next steps to be carried out which are:-**

- a. Continue making follow up on the project impact especially the replication of the knowledge and skills shared to the participants.
- b. Continue sharing with various stakeholders regarding report results realised during follow up.
- c. Scale up the project for advancing the community involvement in elephants' habitat protection and management in the implementation scope as well as other areas not reached.

**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 logo of The Rufford Foundation was used in the following material

- i. All paper printed materials which where attendance forms, payment vouchers, handouts, banners and brochures.
- ii. Banners and printed T-shirts.

YES, the implementation team shared regular updates regarding the project implementation progress. The progress reports were prepared and sent to Trust Administrator, Madam Jane Raymond. The reports contained cuttings of Newspapers published in Kiswahili and English languages.

**11. Any other comments?**

The implemented project has motivated various stakeholders to play their conservation roles for protecting the Mikumi National Park especially the Park Authority. The implementation team met with new staff who were not much familiar with the community, hence the new regime used that opportunity to familiarize themselves to community and learn from the community.