

## 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

<b>Your name</b>	DAHOUROU Laïbané Dieudonné
<b>Project title</b>	Leopards and wild dogs' preys' preference and their role in conflicts with local population in Niokolo Koba National Park.
<b>RSG reference</b>	20966-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	June 2017 – August 2018
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5000
<b>Your email address</b>	d_dahourou@yahoo.fr
<b>Date of this report</b>	December 2018

**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
Study of conflicts between human, leopards and African wild dogs around Niokolo Koba National Park				This study was made by a survey based on questionnaires and focus groups discussions. We did 17 focus groups in 26 villages (located around 1 km from the park) and interviews using questionnaire were made in these villages with 305 agro-pastoralists, animal breeders and farmers randomly selected. Village selection was made according to leopard and African wild dog distribution in the park.
Study prey preference of lions, leopards and African wild dogs in Niokolo Koba National Park				We have collected scats from focused carnivores in the park. During the study period, scats from 56 lions, 32 leopards and 14 African wild dogs were collected. After a first screening, only one from African wild dog, 29 from leopards and 35 from lions was used for identification of prey based on their hair. Some scats were rejected because, we were not sure of carnivore identification and for other the hair was very difficult to be identified.

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

During the project implementation, we faced some unforeseen difficulties. For the activity on conflicts, 10 villages were planned to be visited but we found that there were a lot of villages and if we chose only 10, the data may be irrelevant. So we decided to make the study in 26 villages. Also, during the data collection period, some people were in field for farming activities. We joined some in their farm for interviews. For the second activity, the low density of the focused carnivores in the park made the scat collection very difficult.

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

a) Around Niokolo Koba National Park, we trained farmers and animal breeders on carnivore-human conflict techniques to reduce these conflicts using enclosures, fences, deterrents and noise generators.

b) During the project activities, we identified the main carnivores involved in livestock depredation. The main period, season of livestock depredation was also identified in villages. We also identified methods used by people to protect their animals and the role of African wild dogs and leopards was noted.

c) At the end of this project, the diet of lion and leopards was noted in Niokolo Koba National Park. We identified the main species using as prey by this carnivore. Unfortunately, because of the limited scat collected for African wild dogs, we cannot make conclusion on its diet.

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

During this project, local population was very involved during the activities on conflicts. They were involved during focus group and also training on techniques to mitigate conflict. Also, during the second activities, one former hunter were been recruited to help the research team for prey identification based on their hair.

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

Yes, we plan to continue this work. The plan for future is focused on conflicts mitigation using livestock vaccination. During the training on conflict mitigation, population said that they knew some mitigation technique but their implementation is very expensive and we think so. But they noted that they faced some animal diseases (mainly sheep and goats) with high mortality. So they asked to be supported for animal vaccination. So we plan to implement a project on animal vaccination as mitigation technique of conflicts between carnivores and local populations. This vaccination program will be an occasion to share with local population our findings on conflicts between them and carnivores.

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

To share the data of this project, we will:

- a) Make three scientific publications in international journals.
- b) Share with the national wildlife authority a report on our findings.
- c) Participate to international congress.

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

Globally the project did not start as planned because of some administrative issues. The activities on conflict were made from June to September 2017 and carnivore prey preference was studied from January to June 2018. Also for scat collection, we made a collection once a week for 6 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
Motorbike rent and fuel purchase	£170	£65	+ £105	During the project implementation, we did not rent a motorbike. The park authority gave us a motorbike so we only buy fuel.
Print of questionnaires	£52	£52		
communication fees	£52	£52		
Material for scat's collection and analysis	£64	£85	-£21	This was due to under budget estimation. The items were not available in the shop where we planned to buy it. So we used other sellers and his prices were higher.
Local travels costs	£328	£328		
Remuneration of aid (former hunters)	£122	£ 157	-£35	The difference was due to under estimation.
Car rent	£1440	£1440		
Accommodation and subsistence Costs	£2772	£2821	-£49	The difference was linked to the time we spent on the field for the activity on conflicts. Because of the high number of villages, we spent more time in the field.
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5000</b>	<b>£5000</b>		

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

In my opinion, the important next steps are to share our data with park authority in Senegal and also animal breeders for data on conflicts. Then it will be relevant to implement conflict mitigation techniques using animal vaccination.

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

During the whole process of project implementation, all stakeholders and my home institute administrative staff that we meet have been inform that the project in

funded by the Rufford Foundation. Also, the logo of the project was used on each data collection sheet of the project. I used the Rufford Foundation logo on all my institutional presentations about our ongoing project. The Rufford foundation will also be acknowledged in all scientific publication made using this project data.

**11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.**

**L. Dieudonné DAHOUROU:** Principal Investigator

**Basse KABORE:** Veterinary student. He assisted us during the study on conflicts between wild carnivore and human around the park

**Djiby BÂ:** Former hunter used for air identification

**Lieutenant Assane FALL:** Park area manager who help us during field activities about scat collection

**12. Any other comments?**

We are grateful to the Rufford Foundation for its valuable support for this project.