

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Jonathan Lucas Kwiyege
Project title	Illegal lion killing in Western Tanzania
RSG reference	22530-1
Reporting period	December 9, 2018
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	ilkwiyege@ucdavis.edu
Date of this report	October 30, 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
To determine the extent of Sukuma lion killing both inside and outside protected areas, to assess the current attitudes of people to lion killing and lion dancing, and to investigate the willingness of village leaders to participate in the WASIMA campaign				I first conducted pilot surveys and interviewed District Game Officers to determine the presence of human lion conflicts in districts around Ugalla Game Reserve (GR) and Rukwa Luafi GR, Inyonga and Mlele Forest Reserves (FRs) and Kigosi/Moyowosi GRs. Through surveys, interviews and village meetings, I assessed the extent of traditional lion killings around eastern side of Ugalla ecosystem, and those around Mlele/Inyonga FRs, and along the northern side of Katavi National Park (KANAPA) and Rukwa GRs-Katavi ecosystem and within Katavi-Mahale wildlife corridor. I am currently analysing and developing a report of these findings. They will be published in a conservation journal and shared to stakeholders.
To gauge commitment from formal and local stakeholders' cooperation before starting our campaign, thereby identifying key opportunities and challenges at each site.				Around Ugalla we had five village assembly meetings with villagers to gauge their willingness to participate in lion conservation and protection. Around Inyonga-Mlele Forest Reserves (in the Kavavi-Mahale wildlife corridor) we had five village leaders meetings. Around Rukwa-Luafi Game Reserves we met with district directors and wildlife officers. We failed to organise the full suite of stakeholders' workshops planned, due to fund limitations.
To continue to spread awareness among community members, Securing their commitment, implementing village by-laws to ban lion				We conducted four KANAPA trips where 200 local community leaders: former lion killers, community leaders and traditional medicinal practitioners, tree planters and conservationists were invited. More than 200 Sungusungu (traditional

<p>killing/dancing and to promote values of living with lions within Sukuma agro-pastoral communities in Mpimbwe and other potential areas around reserves in western Tanzania</p>		<p>police) leaders from four villages that approved bylaws banning traditional lion hunting/dancing within their village boundaries participated in Sungusungu seminars. As a result, now lion dancing/hunting is illegal in all 18 Mpimbwe villages. We also had conservation film shows, public discussions, and tree planting campaigns (15700 trees planted and over 150 acres of natural forests set aside in 2017). WASIMA ran school environmental clubs as well as supplied 92 pupils with school uniforms and class facilities in Mpimbwe, south of Katavi National Park.</p> <p>We failed to conduct this full suite of activities in the newly-identified communities, but note that the principle goal of the Rufford was to identify suitable areas for expansion – funds were insufficient for implementing WASIMA across the new areas</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

1. Audiences language barrier. Although the project manager (myself) and my assistants all speak ki-Swahili, and many of us ki-Sukuma, the big challenge we face is that the educational materials we use (films, documentaries, brochures, posters and books) are largely in English. This requires a lot of time in translating. We encourage Rufford to consider investing in the production of locally suitable materials.

2. By definition, our sites are in remote areas where lions still roam and cause human-wildlife conflict, and even within “villages” and “sub villages” households are widely scattered. As a consequence poor roads (exacerbated by heavy seasonal rains) impede accessibility, and require we sometimes travel by foot, bicycle or motorcycle. The challenging consequences of this are: lost time and expensive car repairs (our nearest qualified mechanic is over 150 km from the research site). Accordingly some of the Rufford money (and other LCMO grants) were used to cover car upkeep expenses and fuel during the research phase, to allow further expansion stages of the campaign to take place. We encourage Rufford to appreciate that logistics are expensive in terms of both time and money.

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

1. Project Reach: We managed to extend the campaign from 17 villages in year 2017 to 27 villages adjacent KANAPA, including villages in our new expansion areas (Rukwa-Luafi Game Reserves). We also introduced LCMO in five more villages around Ugalla-Inyonga ecosystem identified as areas where human-lion conflicts are prominent. We then made district and village leaders meetings to introduce LCMO and our operations to four more Districts and five more villages around Rukwa-Luafi, Inyonga-Mlele and Msaginya FRs (northern side of KANAPA) and within Katavi-Mahale wildlife corridor, where lions are also at high risk from Sukuma communities increasingly settling within these remote areas.

2. The attitude change: The attitude of the community we work with has changed enormously such that village leaders have invited us to come to their villages and implement our activities. There is high cohesion and closeness between WASIMA and village leaders, the community members and the schools in which we work. Community leaders, women and youth are now aware of the value of living lions, and are passionate to conserving them. Most local community members understand the unlawfulness of supporting lion hunting in any way. The incidences of reserve encroachment by both human and livestock have been reduced and now communities are willing to inform about poaching plans to conservation agencies and the police force in the area. Both Sukuma and village leaders are keen to adopt new village bylaws enforced by Sungusungu (a traditional communal men police system led by local chiefs) in cooperation the Tanzania Police Force. Indeed villagers are requesting fines higher than the limit imposed by District Council, indicating their commitment to punish offending lion killers (who are comparatively rich). Our meetings in new project sites are welcomed.

3. Incidence of lion killing/lion dancing: Our staff and local representatives have recorded no presence of any new lion dancers and lion hunters within villages reached by the campaign. The combination of ongoing incidence-based data collection with that collected from the research phase of this project has shown that lion killing has been reduced by 77% traditional Lion hunting and dancing is illegal in 18 villages out of the current 22 villages we already facilitated to adopt bylaws in the southern side of Katavi National Park and the Rukwa/Luafi Game Reserve (see Borgerhoff Mulder et al (BioScience, under revision). The other four villages have voted against lion dancing and lion killings and are at the early stages of approving bylaws to ban lion dancing and lion hunting within their region. More villages are inviting the campaign to partner in the biodiversity conservation movement. Moreover, WASIMA has joined efforts with a colleague in the local youth project to spread the stop illegal lion killing campaign in both the school and village environments.

4. Publications: while not directly a result of the Rufford Grant we have a paper in revision with BioScience that demonstrates the effectiveness of the WASIMA model co-authored by all of the managers and advisors to WASIMA, past and present (Borgerhoff Mulder, M., Beccaria, Bwasama, Caro, Fitzherbert, Genda and Kwiyege) "Using Community Action to Halt Illegal Lion Killing".

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

This campaign is designed exclusive to engage local communities in the protection of lions through village bylaw establishment and ancillary activities. Accordingly, due to the continuous activity of WASIMA campaign, villagers who used to regard lions as enemies have become wildlife conservationists and protectors. The five villages whose community lands border Katavi have opted into the Mpimbwe Wildlife Management Area, and actively protect themselves through Village Game Scouts. Our work has been to guide the Mpimbwe WMA leadership, sensitise guardian district leaders and provide technical support and a network to ensure active protection on the area. The local community and village government leaders now visit Katavi National Park through "a day in a park" programme. In normal circumstances, not one local community member would enter the park legally as a tourist and most villagers now days are aware of the importance of habitat conservation and no longer support or reward lion. Youth in school and those outside schools have also been reached and are becoming ambitious to excel themselves in the field of nature conservation.

Within just this project phase, WASIMA has taken 150 local government and community leaders into Katavi National Park on park visits; over 200 Sungusungu (traditional policemen) had conservation seminars, 150 local medicine practitioners, and 50 religious leaders from Mpimbwe villages - all have participated in our environmental and conservational seminars for between 8 to 16 hours. Ninety-two pupils from different families bordering the park were supported with school uniforms and exercise books. WASIMA has also increased community willingness to conserve: over 8700 trees were planted in Mpimbwe through our "Greening Mpimbwe" campaign under Landscape and Conservation Mentors Organization (LCMO). Moreover, through collaboration with a local youth environmental education program: Vljana na MAzingira (VIMA) and Mpimbwe District Natural Resource department, WASIMA campaign has encouraged people to adopt nature friendly income generating activities like beekeeping, tree planting, to create private and community forest reserves, and apply integrated land use plans and destocking to avoid overgrazing and reserve encroachment. We have contributed to more than 1000 beehives, 75% of which are modern, to the community and have planted of more than 115,700 trees just in 2017/2018 rain season throughout Mpimbwe.

I have been appointed to the Wildlife Management Area advisory team and as the member of Mpimbwe District disaster management committee. The project also offered opportunity for local leaders to meet park wardens to discuss various conservation and boundaries related issues facing each side, a room for reconciliation, common solution and improving relationships between conservation agencies and the community.

As we get funds and build a strong professional team through various national and international conservation leadership training seminars and workshops, WASIMA operations will continue supporting and facilitating various present and future local

leaders in Tanzania to ensure sustainable conservation and do so across a broad geographic area of western Tanzania.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, my plan is to effectively instil operations of this expanding stop illegal lion killing campaign to identified areas where lions are at high risk. We have received £5800 from Brevard Zoo Conservation Fund to support part of the project educational outreach, park trips and support uniforms to pupils from families of former lion killers and the marginalised families within project villages. The strong commitment of partnership with the local communities, local government, Nomad Tanzania, KANAPA supporting conservation activities in villages around KANAPA offers me with confidence to continue this work.

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

We use our website, Facebook and twitter, our online newsletter, and annual reports. We publish papers, go to meetings, conduct seminars and workshops, and creates video and brochures to reach formal and informal WASIMA stakeholders.

We use our new umbrella organisation website (www.lcmo.or.tz) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/People-Lions-and-the-Environment-Wasima/641654222551843/>) to disseminate our project. We have prepared an evaluation study for publication [Borgerhoff Mulder et al, under revision].

We are also frequently asked to participate in local and regional workshops run by organisations such as IUCN (<https://www.iucn.org/theme/environmental-law/our-work/land-use/integrated-planning-climate-change-and-biodiversity>).

We also share our results with the local community through our public movie shows, local video documentaries, discussion and meetings during our village outreach. We also use pictures published in a calendar, and educational materials such as brochures, t-shirts and booklets.

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

From June 15, 2017 through June 30, 2018, as anticipated

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.

The total project budget required was £16000. We received £5000 from the Rufford Small Grant, and from Sacramento Zoo Conservation fund (£1600), Greenville zoo Conservation Fund (£800) and Crowder Messermith Conservation Fund (£1600) to cover other costs of this project. We lost the Kaplan Graduate award (£12000). (The exchange rate used was 1 British Pound = 2814 TZS).

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Transportation: Vehicle Gas & Maintenance	£0	£1598	£1598	Upkeep and fuel for the car
Stakeholders inception workshop	£1000	£0	£-1000	The money was reallocated to support the survey phase. The reallocation of and use of project money were approved by the LCMO board.
Meetings with local authorities and by-laws approving	£1050	£810	£-240	We managed to conduct meetings in 8 villages which were able to ratify by-laws banning illegal lion hunting and lion dancing practices.
Public awareness	2000	1412	-588	We managed to conduct public conservation awareness outreach campaigns, meetings, seminars and park trips in 27 villages.
WASIMA village representatives: Monthly field assistance allowances for 8 months allowances	£950	£950	£0	The WASIMA village assistants and field assistants' allowances were paid for 8 months as planned.
Total	£5000	£4770	-£230	

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

- a) Continue with data analysis, report writing, reporting to key stakeholders and share my research findings through country and regional workshops using simple brochures, magazine articles, local newsletter, radio and TV presentations.
- b) To write a popular article for a Tanzanian conservation audience to attract more volunteers to the programme, and interest in the WASIMA model.
- c) Write a second RSG extend the awareness campaign.
- d) Continue with the following project implementation steps: organize stakeholders' workshops, village assembly consent meetings, sungusungu seminar training, park trips and public educational film shows, seminars and all other programme operations in both the project villages and new project villages in western Tanzania.

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?

Yes, through,

- a. LCMO Website: <http://www.lcmo.or.tz/our-supporters/>.
- b. Project Facebook page.
- c. Public, local and formal presentations.
- d. Video and film presentation shows made by the organisation and project leaders.
- e. Letters and documents to local and formal stakeholders.
- f. Papers and reports.

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

Professor Monique Borgerhoff Mulder (natural resource anthropologist) and **Professor Tim Caro** (conservation biologist) both with more than 20 years of experience inside and outside Rukwa-Katavi ecosystem. They play roles as mentors and my project and LCMO Technical Advisor.

Harriet Kivuyo: Field Assistant involved with logistics

Martha Swai: Field Officer Volunteers participating in the expansion survey.

Hans Cosmas Ngoteya: the VIMA Project Manager, he worked together with me to manage the greening campaign and facilitate and support Mpimbwe youth environmental education activities.

Others: **Salum Omari Mtimba, John Kwilasa, Bahati Hilary** and **Charles Ndandala** played various fieldwork roles during both assessment surveys and educational campaign outreach activities.

12. Any other comments?

As far as I observed in the field, human-lion conflict within agro-pastoral Sukuma remotely settled villages close to protected areas needs addressing. Interventions may require different approaches to solve present conservation problems in the area.

Research on the human-wildlife dimensions to assess their impact in natural resource management in western Tanzania. Livelihood programmes, improved beekeeping, livestock keeping, family health education (family planning, improved toilets and marginalised group capacity building) are also essential in improving local communities' participation in biodiversity conservation including halting illegal lion killing around reserves.



Left: Jonathan facilitating the Chamalendi village leaders to approve village by-laws banning traditional lion hunting and dancing practices within their village boundaries. ©Martha Swai. Right: OCS Mashauri facilitating the Majimoto sungungu seminar on the implementation of stop illegal lion killing bylaws in the village. ©Jonathan Kwiyega.



Left: Mr Charles Ndandala (WASIMA Assistant Project Manager) briefing students during environmental club session at Mbede secondary school. Right: Jonathan briefing the local medicine practitioners during their park trip to Katavi National Park. ©Bahati Hially.



Left: The Majimoto sungungu seminar training participants with facilitators from Police Force, Katavi National Park, Mpimbwe District Council Office and LCMO afteseminar. Right: The Mwamatiga villagers scrambling to get at single tree seedling around one of our staff when we visited the village and run the public presentation and donated 100 tree seedlings to plant. ©Jonathan Kwiyega. r



Left: Mr. Francis Nkone (Katavi National Park community Conservation Service warden) and Mr. Jonathan (Both holding microphones) leading conversation with private local forest owners from Mpimbwe District during their park trip at Katavi National Park. ©Bahati Hilaly. Right: Ikuba village Sukuma sungusungu chief commander with the WASIMA village Representative (Mr. John Kwilasa) and WASIMA APM during documentary film making to establish the lion dancing history video. ©Jonathan Kwiyegea.



Left: The Research assistant (Charles Ndandala) interviewing a respondent in one of the villages in the northern side of Katavi Park within Katavi-Luafi and Mahale Wildlife corridor, western side of Inyonga and Mlele Forest Reserves. ©Jonathan Kwiyegea. Right: People watching conservation film show at Ikulwe village, a new village currently reached by WASIMA on Mpimbwe. ©Charles Ndandala.



Left: The field assistants (Salum Mtimba and Martha Swai in white t-shirts) leading the pupils and parents to sign the consent form to commit themselves to become conservation ambassadors at Mahimba primary school before receiving the pupils

support of informs from the stop lion killing campaign. ©Jonathan Kwiyega. Right: The WASIMA Local Field Assistant (Mr Salum Mtimba) checking the project car after breakdown on our way to outreach field trip in Mpimbwe. ©Martha Swai.



Left: Mr. Jonathan giving clarifications to former lion dancers at the border between Mpimbwe Wildlife Management Areas and Katavi National Park when they visited Katavi National park for the first time under support of Rufford Small Grant. ©Bahati Hilaly. Right: The Acting Mpimbwe District Wildlife Officer (Miss Twambilile Mwakalasya) facilitating the sungusungu seminar at Mkuyuni. ©Jonathan Kwiyega.



Left: The Wildlife students at Sokoine University with Jonathan in the middle second row, third from left) when he join he was invited to speak about the status of lion conservation in western Tanzania. Right: A village assembly meeting in one of the villages around Ugalla Ecosystem where we have begun expansion of the stop lion killing campaign. ©Charles Ndandala.