

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	Ibrahima III Diallo
Project title	The Protection of Threatened Forests in Dalaba
RSG reference	25.10.09
Reporting period	17 th March 2010 to 31 st March 2011
Amount of grant	£5,892
Your email address	EnvironnementAction@yahoo.fr
Date of this report	8 th June 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
Educate students and farmers on the importance of protecting trees and the environment in general			X	We continue to be in contact with farmers who ask for advice. More students and teachers than we estimated participated in community education activities. Some helped to put out one of the fires that broke out on a hillside bordering Dalaba.
Promote alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture		X		The farmers involved are watching now to see whether the plants/trees planted will yield fruit and be cost-effective in the long run.
Reforest two deforested areas with 1,500 fruit and forest trees		X		Out of the three sites reforested, only one escaped burning from bush fires. We're hoping that some of the trees survived in the areas that were burned.
Fight bush fires		X		Although we could not prevent all the fires that we wanted to, EA did fight and contain several bush fires.
Secure the Miriam Makeba Botanical Garden			X	In so doing, we protected 125 sq m of forest and the garden's infrastructure.
Add two gazebos, benches and toilet to Miriam Makeba Botanical Garden			X	The garden is beginning to generate income, as we had hoped, which will help to make further environmental protection activities sustainable.
Add 5,000 plants to the tree/plant nursery at the Miriam Makeba Botanical Garden		X		This work is ongoing, i.e. partially realised but not completed.

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

During the project, we encountered several unforeseen difficulties:

1. Difficulties due to the economic instability of Guinea which caused great fluctuation in the exchange rate and the value of the Guinea Franc (inflation). To compensate, we judged it necessary to eliminate some minor activities not crucial for the success of the project, such as the installation of a town water system tap in the garden.
2. The refusal by the authorities to cede to us the entire rocky hillside bordering Quartier Tangama for protection and reforestation. To compensate, we identified two additional sites of intervention (Dinkandin and Sebhory).

3. The fact that neither I nor the members of Environnement Action were present in Dalaba when the fire that was started by the Department of Water and Forests for preventative reasons was left to burn out of control and burned the entire rocky hillside bordering quartier Tangama which was a target of reforestation and protection for us. In the future, we need to be in constant communication and collaboration with the workers in that department.

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

1. Securing of the Miriam Makeba Garden. This will permit many other environmental protection activities to succeed, to generate revenue, and to continue for the long-term. Certain species of wildlife are now finding refuge there and the garden also advances tourism.
2. Education of students and farmers. We are confident that this will bear fruit in the long run.
3. Fighting bush fires. On four different occasions we fought and contained bush fires and in so doing protected trees and wildlife habitat.

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

Local communities of farmers, horticulturalists, and youth were heavily involved in the project. Horticulturalists benefitted when we purchased plants/trees from them for reforestation, the farmers benefitted from the investment the project made in alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture, and sellers located along the route to the garden as well as those allowed in to sell during events are benefitting financially from the presence of the garden.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, because many of the activities of this project require continuity and follow-up, i.e. they are long-term and we plan to see them through to the end.

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

We plan to keep up and develop the relationships that have been established with farmers, youth and educators, the Dept. of Water and Forests, and the tourism association of Dalaba. The garden will be the “base” of our educational and practical activities.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? March 2010 – April 2011. How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

There isn't much difference between the anticipated/actual length of the project and the period the grant was used. Some of the work of the project was begun before the grant was received because Environment Action already existed and was functioning.

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
Education	1,476	1,254	-222	Used a less costly method (see Nov.'s report).
Botanical Garden	2,398	2,630	+232	Inflation in cost of materials
Fighting Bush Fires	640	794	+154	Inflation in cost of materials
Reforestation	893	729	-164	Didn't secure the area
Slash & Burn Alternatives	485	485	0	
Total	5,892	5,892	0	

We didn't budget for administrative costs involved with opening a bank account, so I spread these out among each category which is why we came out even.

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

To restore animal habitat through the promotion of biodiversity.

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?

Yes, we used it on the flyer distributed in the student education segment of the project – the football tournament reported on earlier. We also used it in the banner which publicised the tournament. RSGF also received verbal publicity in the narration of the football tournament, which was magnified on a loudspeaker. We also publicised RSGF at the inauguration celebration for the Miriam Makeba garden on February 14th 2011.



11. Any other comments?

We are very grateful for the opportunity to carry out environmental protection activities through the resources provided by Rufford Small Grants. We hope to continue our partnership with RSG to work on protecting biodiversity in this area.