

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Wanyingi Jennifer
Project Title	Mitigation Measures for Beekeepers and Honey Badger Conflict in Shimba Hills Ecosystem, Kenya
Application ID	29703-2
Date of this Report	12 th May 2022

1. 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
Identification of conflict hotspot sites				Interviews and focus group discussions to identify the conflict zones were carried out successfully.
Set up of mitigation measures				Setting up of various mitigation measures done on severity of the damage and distance from the house.
Assessment of better mitigation measures				From the sites that mitigation measures were tried on, assessment of better measure was not possible because some community interfered with measures, and other giving inaccurate information

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- a). Community increased awareness of the importance of honey badger in conservation.
- b). Community members own initiative to assist other farmers that had challenges in beekeeping across Shimba hills ecosystem.
- c). There was increased desire by communities adjacent to protected area to learn other alternative livelihood activities like chicken and goat farming, that would reduce their dependence on resources from protected area and rainfed agriculture.

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

After identification of the hotspot areas, and the team was ready to set up delays due to covid-19 saw changes in group leadership and delays in implementing the mitigation measures.

Additionally, one of the areas where the mitigation measure was to be set up had to be changed to different site that was away from the forest boundary, to overcome this challenge, identification of hotspot conflict areas near the forest was done.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.

Chain-referral experience - The local communities were involved starting from the identification of the conflict hotspot areas to the implementation of the mitigation measures. Since the beehives belonged to different groups apart from the known groups that had been for phase 1 of beekeeping project, it helped to link up with other community groups surrounding the forest as well as others that had beehives around their homesteads.

Hands-on experience - The community benefited from the project by engaging in setting up the mitigation measures that protected their beehives from badger attacks as well as learning more on locally available tools that they can use to deter wildlife away from their farms.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we were able to implement possible mitigation measures based on the severity of the damage and nearness to the forest to an extent, with the help of local county governance that has been advocating for sustainable livelihood, many young people will have opportunity to venture into beekeeping. Additionally, with the county government advocating for women empowerment through giving beehives, many locals have taken beekeeping even in the urban areas. This has led to conflicts between humans and bees. Future plans to study stingless bees that can be adaptable for communities that have small parcels of land is possible.

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

The results of this project have been able to analyse and application of the mitigation measures can be applicable anywhere.

We are writing a paper on effectiveness of the mitigation measures for honey badger in forest adjacent communities. This will be disseminated on the social networks and learning institutions.

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

The most important steps are creating awareness to communities adjacent to protected areas on the importance of all wildlife not only the known /endangered ones. Additionally, advocating for mitigation measures that are easily available to community for any conflict attacks is necessary.

The next step is to implement the identified mitigation measures to the entire ecosystem while improving on them.

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

Researchers used the previous t-shirts that had Rufford logo during the field exercise, during the focus group discussions the members were told of the funding source was from Rufford.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Jennifer Wanyingi -She was the team leader and coordinator of the project and responsible of the permit's application and field activities.

Johnstone Kimanzi -He was responsible of the project finance from the university office to the field. He was also the one responsible in making the hotspot maps and identifying location sites for project implementation.

Bwana Mwero -He was secretary of Lukore group, one of the community groups that was responsible of contacting other members and arranging meeting place and time.

James Muthama -He was chairman of local group in one of the study sites in Mazimalume. He was responsible of sourcing the local materials that were used in mitigation measure.

10. Any other comments?

We take this opportunity to thank the local community of Shimba Hills ecosystem and the institutions that supported to the success of the project. We specially thank the Rufford Foundation for the support provided to carry out this project.