

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Michael Mills
Project Title	Protecting threatened Afromontane Forest at Mount Moco from fire: professional environmental fire management training for the local community
Application ID	29973-D
Date of this Report	4 July 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
Have a trained and equipped team of 20 fire technicians who can burn management fires to protect forest at Mount Moco.				Fire technicians cannot yet work entirely independently, but we have raised funds for further training, to be spent in 2022.

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

- a). A team of 20 fire managers are trained in prescribed burning techniques and basic firefighting.
- b). A team of 20 fire managers are equipped to install firebreaks.
- c). A fire management plan can be drawn up based on a better understanding of the practical aspects of conducting this work at Mt Moco. The international fire trainer with 20 years of experience and having worked in 10 Africa countries said that the terrain at Mt Moco was the most difficult he had ever worked in. As a result, it took longer to install firebreaks that initially planned. This is important knowledge for future planning of our work.

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

COVID restrictions meant a 2-year delay to the rollout of this work. Time extensions were sought from The Rufford Foundation.

The designated fire trainer from “Working on Fire” was an Angolan-born, Portuguese-speaking expert. Unfortunately, he fell ill and was hospitalised shortly before the work was to be done, so we were forced to change fire trainers to an English-speaking trainer.

Some equipment increased significantly in cost between when the proposal was submitted to when the project was executed. We slightly adjusted the list of equipment and made savings elsewhere to help cover shortfalls.

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

Twenty members of the local community at Kanjonde village received training from an international fire trainer with 20 years of experience, over a 10-day period, building capacity locally and nationally. All 20 members of the fire team received remuneration for their work, and the community fund received a matched amount.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, funding has been obtained from the World Land Trust to carry out further fire training, and to install annually burned firebreaks to protect forest (2023-2026). This is part of a larger project funded by World Land Trust.

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

Through our annual report and on our website (being re-vamped at the moment).

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

A little more training for the fire team, so they can do the work independently. Money has been raised for this.

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?

Not yet, no.

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

Michael Mills – project manager

Kerllen Costa – Angolan manager and national participant receiving fire training

Graça Catuti – national participant receiving fire training

Pedro Kahuli – local fire program leader and trainee

Felix Segunda & Fernando Sésare - local fire team leader and trainee

Costa Valeta, Felipe Camutali, Francisco Chimbumba, Mateus Ekunde, Martinho Segunda, Leão Catombela, João Caterça, Cipriano Ndandula, Henrique Chingando, Pascoal Kanjolelia, Filipe Katyavala, Rodric Sesare, Benjamin Massita, Deniz Chitemo, Isaias Mwetunda, Jose Mariano & Eduardo Constantino – local trainees

10. Any other comments?

Good news is that the World Land Trust is funding the Mount Moco project for the next 4 years, and that we are working with government to establish a formal protected area at Mt Moco. The one area not funded yet is ecotourism development.









