

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Charles Kivasu Maingi
Project Title	Promoting Tana mangabey population recovery and habitat resilience through community outreach and sensitization on sustainable forest resources use, Kenya
Application ID	31719-2
Date of this Report	10/10/2022

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
Objective 1: By the end of December 2020, I will engage the local community and other stakeholders in growing trees in degraded areas and abandoned farm areas in the study area				Successfully engaged the local community members from different groups (Plate 2, 3, 4 & 5) who embraced the project and together planted 12,000 tree seedlings which are important for the Tana River mangabey and the local people.
Objective 2: By the end of May 2021, conduct training of the forest resource users on promoting sustainable forest resource utilization among the community.				During this planting activity in Objective 1, I engaged the local community members who are forest users and live adjacent to forests, where I together with the project team trained them on the importance of sustainable forest utilisation (Plate 1 & 6).
Objective 3: By the end of August 2021, conduct community education within the project area				In conjunction with the local KWS office in the study area, we engaged pupils in neighbouring schools and community members who included farmers and forest users, although it was limited by the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

- a) Raising tree seedlings and continued establishment of a tree nursery in the study area which are run by the community members.
- b) Engaging the local community members in sustainable utilisation and thereafter tree planting of trees shared by the people and the community.
- c) Community outreach activities have enabled us to reach over 200 school-going families, resulting in reaching over 1000 households from where the pupils come plus local community people who participated in the tree planting activities.

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

The unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project were:

1. The Covid-19 pandemic outbreak affected movement in the country as most of the region was under lockdown. This was tackled by applying for a movement permit from the government administration and continuous Covid-19 testing of the individuals involved. Also, the community members participating in the activities were sensitised on ways of preventing the virus by continuous handwashing, frequent hand sanitising, and wearing masks (as shown in the pictures below).
2. School closure and organised meetings ban – reduced the number of students engaged in training and always did it outside where there is minimal contact. For the organised meeting ban we sought permission to engage people from the government authorities.

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

The local community was involved from the start of the project as they were involved in the selection of areas for restoration and planning and meeting activities. They have benefited by knowing the importance of restoring degraded forest areas and the importance of sustainable forest use.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, together with other stakeholders in the study site, we plan to continue tree nurseries and community education programs. This will improve the sustainable utilisation of forest products for the benefit of the Tana River mangabey and other primate species in the area.

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

Currently, I plan to share the results as an article in the Nyani newsletter.

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

The next steps will be to continue community education, organise habitat restoration drives and conduct vegetation surveys in the forest fragments neighbouring the community villages and farms, to understand the interdependence of the local community, forest, and Tana River mangabeys. I plan also to conduct research to understand the physiological stress brought about by habitat changes on the Tana River mangabeys.

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?

During the implementation period, the Rufford Foundation logo was used in the poster and brochure (as shown below in Plate 1) used in sensitisation meetings and talks. Also, in the presentations done for the schools and community groups, the logo was used as part of acknowledging the support we received from the foundation.



Key Primate Conservation Achievements

- ◊ National Survey of Kenya's most endangered primates in lower Tana River in 2021
- ◊ Local capacity building in primate conservation
- ◊ Enhanced awareness on primate conservation
- ◊ Successful relocation and redress of primate conflicts
- ◊ Training and mentorship of young primatologists from Kenyan institutions and abroad
- ◊ Information dissemination on primate issues
- ◊ Laikipia landscape survey of impacts of climate change on land uses changes biodiversity and zoonosis
- ◊ 2020 Primate Conservation education awards from ASP & IPS
- ◊ Coordination of successful 2022 International Primates Day celebrations

Primate Conservation Challenges.

- * Low profile accorded to primates vs. other species
- * Increasing human population & habitat loss
- * Low public awareness on primates conservation
- * Climate change and associated adverse effects
- * Emerging infectious diseases
- * Urbanization and other infrastructural developments
- * Inadequate funding to address primate problems
- * Limited local expertise in primatology

Conservation Partners

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Institute of Primate Research
National Museums of Kenya
P.O. Box 24481 - 00502,
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URL: www.primatresearch.org
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**INSTITUTE OF PRIMATE RESEARCH
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
DEPARTMENT**

*"Committed to Enhancement of
Primate's Welfare, Research
and Conservation"*

Plate 1: A screengrab of the brochure containing the page with the Foundations' logo shown in the bottom left.

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

Charles Kivasu Maingi (Institute of Primate Research –National Museums of Kenya)- Principal investigator. Designing plans for the project, implementation, and report writing.

Dr. Stanislaus M. Kivai – From Conservation Biology Department, Institute of Primate Research of National Museums of Kenya. He was the project technical adviser and helped in the implementation of the project.

June Mutinda - She is a master's Student from Chuka University attached to the Conservation Biology Department –at the Institute of primate Research –National Museums of Kenya. She participated in organizing the community meetings.

Zainab Faisal - She is a master's Student from the University of Nairobi attached to the Conservation Biology Department –at the Institute of primate Research –National Museums of Kenya. She participated as a research assistant in organizing the meetings and training.

Said Rhova - He was a project assistant from Maroni village and participated in the project as a research assistant and local mobilizer.

Komora Said - He was also a project assistant from Baomo village and participated in the project as local guide, and representative of a community-based organization the project and contact person. Played a key role in organizing tree seedling planting.

Jillo Gafo- He was a project assistant during the implementation and planning the meetings as well as participation in planting activities.

10. Any other comments?

On behalf of the project team, I would like to thank The Rufford Foundation for funding the project. The grant has been useful in the accomplishment of the project results, and it has shown that a lot can be achieved even with a relatively small budget. Also, would like to that a foundation in assisting young researchers to develop their conservation careers by facilitating them to be leaders of the projects. Additionally, on behalf of the team is to thank the local community members and the local administration for their support.



Plate 2: Local community members from local community-based organizations holding some of the tree seedlings ready for planting. And on the right, local members after a tree planting exercise.



Plate 3: Left: Some of the local members with Dr. Kivai holding some of the planted tree seedlings, Right: *Mimusops fruticosa* seedling being planted, the tree is one of the top Tana River mangabey food plants.



Plate 4: Left: Some of the tree seedlings ready for planting. Right: One of the tree seedlings planted, *Majidea zanguebaricus*, which is used by community for building poles and twigs 'fito' while the fruits are fed on by Tana River mangabeys.



Plate 5: Left: The PI with some of the community members after a tree planting exercise discussion and playing local folksongs 'kitoko' to celebrate the event. Right: One of the local community members planting *Oncoba spinosa* seedling, which its fruit is fed by Tana mangabey and the poles used by the community in building houses.



Plate 6: The PI conducting conservation education talks in schools neighbouring the project area.