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Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Godfrey Tumuhairwe
Project Title	Boosting Overlapping Habitats Management in River Katonga Catchment in Uganda
Application ID	32695-2
Grant Amount	£5995
Email Address	g7tumuhairwe@gmail.com
Date of this Report	29/11/2021

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
To raise community awareness on the hotspot in the overlapping habitats		▨		There were challenges on gathering people due to the second wave of COVID 19 that hit our country.
To develop overlapping habitat network of conservation management system			▨	
To train communities in citizen science and develop community environmental monitoring tool for strengthening co-management.			▨	

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

The global COVID 19 pandemic that ravaged our country was one of the most challenging situations ever in Uganda. In addition, the stigma that came with COVIID 19 also characterised some families and individuals both on the implementing and Community Environmental Committee teams. The COVID 19 recovered members found it difficult to participate in the community meetings and training even when standard operating procedures were adequately put in place. Treatment of CCVID 19 was commercialised by private heath care services after all government hospital filled up. The cost of treatment was expensive, and this caused a lot of fear among the poor communities to even associate with a recovered patient of COVID 19 pandemic.

However, through the Ministry, Department and Agencies there was lobbying with the COVID 19 District Task Force to extend the personal protective gear such as nose masks to all families, sanitizer and food relief. More effort was put on sensitisation about Covid 19 vaccination in the area for the communities to take part and build confidence in the fight against the pandemic.

In January 2021, there were less activities done due to the elections from the Presidential to local council III level. The team avoided collision from the political divide at the time which could affect our activities such as formation of the Community Environmental Committee.

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

- Increased community understanding of the species of high conservation in the catchment of River Katonga through citizen science and training.

- Established critical habitat monitoring areas around the overlapping habitats based on the fauna species.

- Established community monitoring tool for the overlapping habitat management.

- Strengthened grievance redress mechanism among the stakeholders within the overlapping habitat.

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

Throughout the project implementation, communities were involved at every stage. The project began with the engagement of the communities that were delineated as part of hotspots to manage species interaction of conservation concern in overlapping areas.

Local communities were trained on the importance of catchment protection and co-management of the Katonga catchment. This was followed by the formation of the community environmental committee in Kitokolo, and Ggolo. The communities were given an opportunity to design the suitable way of electing their committees. The exercise was participatory right from project introduction, engagement, meetings, and election of the committees and formation of the networks.

The training involved women, men and youths who were later nominated on the committees.

The local communities also benefited from training in citizen science where most of the communities have become expert in advising and monitoring the critical. The environmental committees were fully involved in the development of the environmental monitoring tool and at later stage they were trained on how to use the tool in monitoring the overlapping habitat. The communities received knowledge on how the illegal sand mining, wetland clearance, and burning, and rampant burning, forest degradation can be managed and monitored in their areas.

5. **Are there any plans to continue this work?**

There are plans to scale down the benefits into other areas within the Katonga catchment region that was not covered under this funding. In future attention shall be put on how to us the data generated from community monitoring tool in benefiting the district development plans, River Katonga management plan, and improving the community livelihoods. Also, future plans shall focus on strengthening

the values attached on species considered Important in the community culture or clans.

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

The results shall be shared through various fora that will include district planning meetings, stakeholder engagement meetings, through African Union of Conservation website, District Natural Resource offices, Community Environmental Committees and networks, and also through brochures/leaflets at various engagements on natural resource management.

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

The grant was planned for 12 months and the implementation took also 12 months.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Communication	133	180	+47	There was total shutdown of social media during presidential campaigns and up to now some are still closed like Facebook thus making the cheaper communication impossible.
Information collation, stationary, photocopying	362	250	-112	
Stakeholder workshop	200	320	+120	This was because Total lockdown due to the pandemic that some stakeholders had to wait until there lifting of the lockdown for them to participate
Monitoring tool development workshop	840	840		
A co-management MDAs team	600	714	+114	Government agencies phased off workers and

				engagements were difficult because some officials were not easily reachable. Despite an increment, this was not achieved fully.
Establish grievance redress mechanism	504	504		
Establishing overlapping habitat network	375	375		
Assessment and training of citizen scientists	1547	1177	-370	The targeted numbers reduced due to the fear of the pandemic
Field subsistence	957	957		
Car hire	141	282	1+41	The government issued new measures on public and private vehicles to a limit of three people as part of social distancing. This resulted into hiring two vehicles to comply with the standard operating procedures.
Travel & Subsistence	336	336		
Bank Charges		60	+60	There are monthly bank charges/account maintenance of about £5 per month
TOTAL	**5995**	**5995**		

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

Operationalization of the community environmental committees and grievance redress management committees in the area to sustain the project results.

Further engagement with the ministries, departments and agencies in supporting community livelihoods who save part of their land for the species conservation

10. 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?

The logo was used in communication platforms as profile photo on our platforms. It was also used in the progress reports. In addition, the team had caps and t-shirts that had the logo to popularise the funder. The logo is also used on the website for the African Union of Conservationists.

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

Tumuhairwe Godfrey
Administratively he was the Team Leader and head of monitoring the project activities. He was responsible for conducting citizen science training, where various community environmental committees benefited. He was also responsible for developed community Monitoring tool and making community participate into the design. He also provided project leadership and management of the resources. He also trained the management committees on reporting using the tool.

Reuben Katwinomugisha
He was responsible lobbying communities to surrender part of their land for conservation of the riparian species. He was also responsible for managing the engagement of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies in the overlapping habitats and subsequent formation of the networks.

Kasiime Phiona
She was responsible for communication, mobilization, and managing field trips. She was also the focal person in coordinating the Community Environmental Committees as well as community workshops organization. She was also responsible for training communities to think of other livelihoods other than depending on the overlapping habitants.