

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Gugulethu Tarakini
Project Title	Improving Floral Rewards Through Habitat Diversification for Bees in Zvimba District of Zimbabwe
Application ID	32837-2
Date of this Report	23/05/2022

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
Pollinator conservation awareness program				The project developed fliers and short videos on social media platforms to teach and inspire the public to conserve pollinators.
Planting of indigenous trees to establish pollinator gardens.				An indigenous tree nursery was established with 6000 trees which were distributed to farmers and schools. Six smaller indigenous tree nurseries were established in six schools with the assistance of school children. However, due to time constraints only indigenous trees were planted, we did not manage to plant herbs and shrubs as previously planned.
Installation of beehives.				102 beehives were distributed to farmers in Chivhere, ward 12, Zvimba district of Zimbabwe. Farmers were trained in bee keeping and beehives were later installed in their homes.

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

a). Pollinator awareness programme.

b). Indigenous tree planting (pollinator gardens) which has won the World Economic Forum Uplink Top Innovator Award. <https://uplink.weforum.org/uplink/s/uplink-contribution/a012o00001pTQXyAAO/pollinator-gardens>.

c). Beehive installation.

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

The rainy season delayed tree planting that was supposed to commence during the rainy season. As such, we had to delay the planting and we communicated in advance with interested parties.

Challenge of getting indigenous seed which has been properly treated. We had to purchase indigenous fruits and treat the seed ourselves using knowledge from literature.

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

The communities were involved from the beginning of the project in planning trees to be planted in establishing pollinator gardens or improving food for the bees. The communities benefited from trainings on pollinator conservation. School children were trained on the establishment of indigenous tree nurseries and six nurseries established in their schools. Trees were planted to establish pollinator gardens in eight schools and one university. Local farmers were trained in bee keeping and given 102 beehives.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

N/A

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

We plan to write a scientific paper on the establishment of indigenous tree species in Zimbabwe.

We also plan to do short videos of the work when the beehives have been colonised and the trees have grown. The video will be distributed on social media to inspire the public to conserve pollinators.

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

N/A

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?

The Rufford logo was used in all presentations of the work.

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

Research assistants:

Tawanda Tarakini
Robert Musundire

10. Any other comments?

We would love to thank The Rufford Foundation for the funding that has enabled us to work with the communities to conserve pollinators which are least cared for in agricultural landscapes.



Presenting the Rufford project at a workshop in Sokoine University, Tanzania