

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Naftali Mungai
Project title	Building a local community conservation group and establishing ecotourism activities around the Ondiri Swamp, Kenya's only quaking bog
RSG reference	35.6.08
Reporting period	18 months
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	naftalik@yahoo.co.uk
Date of this report	18th January 2010

1. Please 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
1			✓	A comprehensive flora and fauna survey completed.
2		✓		More bamboo seedlings need to be purchased and planted.
3			✓	Planting was done successfully and survival rate of planted seedlings was good.
4		✓		More workshops and training sessions are needed.
5		✓		Radio coverage is needed as this is the most accessible medium of communication.

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

The main difficulty was the prolonged drought that gripped the country through the better part of 2008. There was also a problem of high bamboo prices and the unavailability of adequate number of bamboo seedlings.

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

The most important outcomes are as follows:

- I have managed to increase the tree biodiversity of the wetland by more than 30 species that were hitherto not there.
- I have raised awareness of the community culminating in the formation of a community-based organisation, the Friends of Ondiri Wetland Conservation (FOWCON).
- I have managed to bring together various stakeholders of the wetland and as FOWCON we have managed to put together a comprehensive proposal for funding which we hope to take to various funding organisations.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project (if relevant).

The local communities have benefited immensely from the project. Their knowledge of conservation has been enhanced. Women's groups have benefited by selling tree seedlings to the project while the Kenya Forestry Research Institute has benefited by supplying bamboo. Riparian owners have benefited by planting trees and bamboo in their frontage which will prevent soil erosion in future while school children have also learnt about the benefits of conservation.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. A comprehensive proposal has been written and I am also intending to apply for a second RSG grant to get the project to the next level.

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

I am planning to start publishing a monthly newsletter that will highlight the development of the project and the evolution of Ondiri Swamp into a fully-fledged community ecotourism facility.

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

The RSG was used over a period of 18 months. I feel that this stretched the time and one year was enough to undertake all the planned activities.

8. Budget: Please 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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
1	500	700	200	Baseline survey completed.
2	2500	2800	300	Bamboo seedlings more expensive than envisaged.
3	1000	1000	0	Planting done according to plan.
4	1000	1000	0	Advocacy and training done.
5	1000	1200	200	Posters prepared and one article published
TOTAL	6000	6700	700	700 from FOWCON

The local exchange rate fluctuated but was on average KSH 120 to the £ Sterling

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

The next most important steps are:

- ✓ To set up a community conservation resource centre.
- ✓ To establish a sitatunga sanctuary.
- ✓ Establish sanctuaries for different animal species and plants.
- ✓ Develop a conservation training and reference manual for capacity building for all riparian owners and other stakeholders.
- ✓

10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Yes, I used the RSGF in posters for awareness creation and I also had one article on the project published in the African Science News Service (ASNS) website.

11. Any other comments?

The project has aroused a lot of interest, both locally and in government circles. I feel that with continued funding, the project is headed for success and as the FOWCON proposal shows, it will cost quite a bit of money and I hope RSGF will be a partner in this unique project.