

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Simula Peres Maijo
Project Title	Balancing conservation goals and human livelihood needs: beekeeping as an incentive for conservation of chimpanzee habitat in the Masito-Ugalla ecosystem
Application ID	36950-B
Date of this Report	17 th March 2023

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 conduct a field survey in Kusi and Bulamata villages to identify potential beekeepers focusing on people involving in traditional beekeeping in Tongwe Forest Reserves				A survey was conducted, and potential beekeepers identified
To train the identified potential beekeepers on the basics of modern beekeeping and facilitate the formation of two farmer beekeeping groups at Kusi and Bulamata villages				Identified potential beekeepers were trained and two farmer beekeeping groups formed (one at Kusi and another at Bulamata).
To support the farmer beekeeping groups with 100 modern beehives, facilitate the beekeepers with the installation of beehives in the forest and train them on the process				Farmer beekeeping groups fully were supported with beekeeping equipment and trained on how to use the equipment and on various processes
To harvest and extract honey from honeycombs followed by honey packaging and labelling for marketing				Honey was harvested, processed, packed and labelled for marketing.
To perform a market analysis and select areas of selling bee-products				This was only conducted in western Tanzania. It has to be done beyond western Tanzania
To perform monitoring and evaluation of the beekeeping project in Ikusi and Bulamata villages				This has to be conducted beyond the project timeline to really assess the project outcomes in a long-term

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

a) The project has influenced behaviour change, attitudes and perceptions of local communities towards conservation of forest resources and chimpanzees

Through training, the project has raised conservation awareness among the local communities and an understanding of how to sustainably conduct beekeeping activities without causing harm to the forests. It was evident that the local communities are becoming good ambassadors for conserving natural resources by

passing information to other villagers and to people in the nearby villages that have yet to undertake sustainable beekeeping projects. As we were implementing the project in the villages, we received several requests from village leaders, village game scouts (VGS) and forest monitors (FMs) to visit and introduce sustainable beekeeping project in their villages.



Figure 1: Potential beekeepers at Kusi village during a training on sustainable beekeeping and overall conservation matters of forests and chimpanzees.

b) Production of high quality bee products which are packed into quality containers and labelled to attract a wide market

By participating in the sustainable beekeeping project, the participants received training, including how to add value to their beekeeping products and attract a wide market. The beekeepers were trained and facilitated on how to neatly process bee products, pack in quality containers and label their products. As a result, the beekeepers processed their honey in clean environments, packed the honey into quality containers and finally labelled the packed products (see Fig. 3). In so doing, the beekeepers are obtaining decent incomes through selling their bee products at a good price, a situation that has greatly discouraged forest degradation in the areas where beekeeping is being conducted in the respective villages.



Figure 2: One of the labels that is used by the beekeepers that are under the sustainable beekeeping project conducted in the Tongwe Forest Reserves under the sponsorship of the Rufford Foundation.



Figure 3: Samples of the already packed and labelled bottle of honey from the project participants in the Mishamo area around the Tongwe Forest Reserves.

c) Reduced human threats to the forest particularly were the project participants have established apiaries

Human threats have declined significantly in the forests/areas where the project is being conducted (i.e., apiary sites). A decline in human threats is based on the fact that, where the farmer beekeeping groups establish their apiaries, the group members normally conduct monitoring to observe the progress of their beehives including status, bees colonisation rate into hives and also to assess the threats. Thus, project members visit the project area regularly. This discourages illegal human activities. Indeed, whenever someone is caught performing harmful activities in the forests, he/she can be fined or taken to court. As a result, there have been no report of logging, farming, livestock grazing, and the debarking of trees to make local beehives in the areas under the project.

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

This time around, the project team did not face any difficulties/challenges during the implementation of the project activities. Almost everything was conducted as planned.

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

Being the main target and number one stakeholder for the project, local communities were directly involved in the project. The villagers residing in the village of the project particularly those conducting harmful human activities in Tongwe forests were targeted for the project. Thus, the participants included farmers, livestock keepers, and traditional beekeepers. Moreover, the project included the local leaders (village executive officers and village chairmen) in their respective villages to facilitate meetings in the villages and act as custodians for the formed beekeeping groups in their villages. Similarly, village game scouts (VGS) and forest monitors (FMs) were involved.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans to continue this work to ensure all the villages that are directly bordering to Tongwe Forest Reserves in Mishamo area become part of this project. If we manage to include all the villages in the project, conservation of the Tongwe Forest Reserves will be highly enhanced at a large scale. There are supposed to be 10 villages in this project (Fig. 5). However, to date only three villages are implementing the activities. Therefore, to attain positive results at a bigger picture of the ecosystem, we must plan to expand the project to cover all the villages that are directly bordering on Tongwe Forest Reserves.



Figure 4: Local communities being involved directly in the project.

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

The project team has started sharing the results of the project. The team has attended one exhibition to showcase honey which is one of the products from the project. During the exhibition, the team had honey which was well packed into high quality containers and well labelled (Fig. 6). The label for the products was expressing and advertising the product for itself. The label contained basic information of the honey, where the honey is harvested, the idea behind the beekeeping project to be conducted in the Tongwe Forest Reserves, and why the customer should purchase the product.

On the other hand, as a team we are planning to prepare a detailed report on how direct involvement of local communities in conservation and sustainable livelihood options can help to conserve our natural resources if well planned and implemented. We anticipate using our project area as a case study. In addition, we have prepared stickers (Fig. 6) and in future we will prepare posters, brochures and leaflets to spread the results of our work to a wide audience.

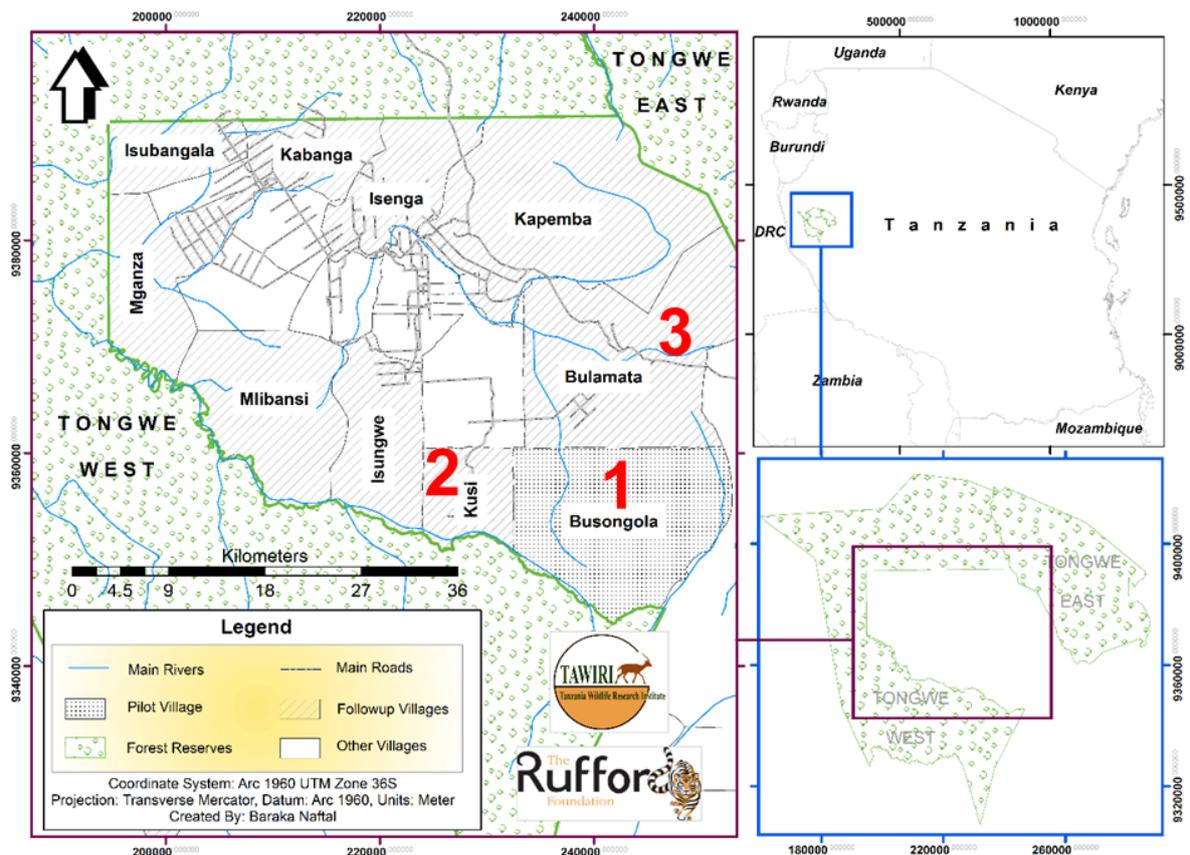


Figure 5: A map showing the villages in which the project is currently being implemented (1. Busongola, 2. Kusi and 3. Bulamata). The rest are the potential villages for scaling up the project.



Figure 6: Some of the product (honey) that was showcased during the exhibition. On the right is a sample of the sticker supplied to customers who visited our booth during the exhibition.

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

As people in all the potential villages for scaling up the project have shown great interest to participate in the project, and that the Tanganyika District Council which is responsible to protect and manage Tongwe forests has also shown great interest, there is a need to expand the project into the remaining villages. Thus, in the next step we wish to expand the coverage of the area under the project. However, this will only be possible if The Rufford Foundation and other funding agencies will continue to support our effort.

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 Foundation was well acknowledged particularly to the national, district, and village authorities responsible to permit the implementation of the project activities. Also, The Rufford Foundation was acknowledged on the supplied 100 beehives to indicate that the support was from The Rufford Foundation (Fig. 7). Furthermore, as we are planning to prepare education materials like posters soon, we will also use the foundation logo on them and on the report that will be produced to stakeholders.



Figure 7: One of the beehives with writings that read “The Rufford Foundation” as an indication that the Foundation supported this work.

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

In total, the project team had five members with different key roles:

Simula P. Maijo: He was the leader for the project. Being a conservationist, ecologist and a researcher, he conceptualized the project idea, coordinated and supervised the implementation of all the project activities and the project logistic arrangements.

Selemani Moshi: As a beekeeping expert with a diploma in beekeeping, he played a key role in all matter relating to beekeeping including training the potential beekeepers, inspecting beehives, harvesting and processing of bee products. Through workshops, he trained the beekeepers on the key/basic aspect of beekeeping. He practically facilitated beekeepers with the installation of beehives in the forests and trained the group members on the installation process. Further, he trained the beekeepers on bee product harvesting, processing, packaging, labelling and storage.

Omary Ally: Having a vast experience in beekeeping and skills to construct beehives, he played a role of constructing 100 beehives which were later supplied to the formed beekeeping groups. On top of that, he trained the beekeepers on the aspects of beehive management.

Cecilia Leweri: She was responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the project activities from the project inception stage to completion stage of the project. Monitoring and evaluation of the project activities was performed to ensure that the project activities are implemented appropriately to attain the ultimate project goals.

Joseph Nkuki: He played the role of a driver. Using a vehicle, he was responsible for moving experts from town to the villages under the project and also to move the project materials from one place to another as deemed necessary.



Figure 8: Selemani Moshi, a beekeeping expert demonstrating something on beehive during the workshop when training potential beekeepers at Kusi village.



Figure 9: A picture of Omary Ally when on duty constructing beehives at Bulamata village.

10. Any other comments?

The project team are thankful to the Rufford Foundation for funding this project. The grants received from The Rufford Foundation enhanced conservation of the Tongwe forest reserves and local communities' livelihoods. The project has contributed positively to the local communities' livelihoods and the conservation of the forests which serves as chimpanzee habitats.



Figure 10: The already packed honey in round bottles, labelled and displayed in shelves to attract customers. The honey was harvested from the beekeeping groups

that are implementing a sustainable beekeeping project in the Tongwe Forest Reserves



Figure 11: The already packed honey in other type of bottles, labelled and displayed in shelves to attract customers. The honey was harvested from the beekeeping groups that are implementing a sustainable beekeeping project in the Tongwe Forest Reserves.