

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Fredrick Ojja
Project Title	Enhancing conservation of <i>Paragalago</i> sp and <i>Rungwecebus kipunji</i> through community empowerment, habitat restoration, and population survey, Tanzania
Application ID	ID 37088-B
Date of this Report	3rd April 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
Restoration of degraded habitats in MRFNR				
Raising <i>Paragalago</i> sp. conservation awareness				
Training and initiating small income generating activities				

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

a). Planted tree seedlings are growing.

b). Local communities have changed their behaviour and are now respecting the reserve and the species.

c). Beekeeping projects are being used, and beekeeping groups have already started harvesting honey.

- About 90% of the tree seedlings planted so far are growing.
- Conservation of the nature reserve and the species increase benefit local people.
- Training local communities to respect the reserve and the species.
- Established beekeeping projects are supporting local communities' livelihoods.
- Population of *R. kipunjii*s increasing compared to last year.

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

A main unforeseen problem was the difficulty in accessing some of the habitats in the reserve due to the impenetrable and mountainous nature of the forest. However, alternative routes were used to observe the areas at a possible distance to assess habitat condition. Rainfall sometimes made it difficult to complete some of the activities on time. However, undone planned activities were rescheduled for the following days. Also, COVID-19 hindered some activities when we began this project last year.

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

Local communities were fully involved in the project's activities. They participated in the conservation education campaign to raise awareness about the conservation of the species and the forest nature reserve. Some local people, for instance, a local guide, participated in the field surveys to assess the population of two species. Local communities were given free beehives and energy-efficient cooking stoves to use to improve their income and other livelihoods. Overall, local communities benefited from training, education, and participation in the project activities, as well as free beehives and cooking stoves. The local guide benefited from an allowance based on their participation in the field work.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I plan to continue with this project to monitor the population of the species, predict the impact of climate change on its population and habitats, establish means to mitigate this impact, and help the species adapt.

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

I plan to publish an article based on this work in peer-reviewed journals. Also, I will share data and information for this project in various social media, e.g., blogs, twitter, LinkedIn. I will also present the findings in December 2023 during the TAWIRI conference as well as during the Mbeya University of Science and Technology Research and Innovation Week in December 2023.

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

The most important step is to continue with the project to make sure that local communities are fully engaged and continue to receive support and education from the project. Also, establish regular field surveys to monitor the populations of the two species and predict the effect of climate on their populations.

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 logo was used during our work and acknowledged in all meetings and communications we made. For publicity, we used t-shirts with the Rufford Foundation logo; even the beehives had the foundation's name (see below).

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

Activities	Team members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of MRNFR on ecosystem services and communities' sustainable 	Mr. Kazumari Mkwavila (TFS) Dr Fredrick Ojija (MUST) Mr. Lusekelo Silabi (MUST)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> livelihoods The importance of protecting <i>Paragalago sp</i> and <i>R. kipunji</i> Contribution of <i>Paragalago sp</i> and <i>R. kipunji</i> towards - sustainable livelihoods of communities Importance of protecting environment Advantages of environmental conservation Field surveys 	<p>Miss Leticia Lutambi (MUST)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meaning of biodiversity and its importance to local communities List of animals found in MRNFR Negative impact of human activities e.g. environmental degradation on <i>Paragalago sp</i>, <i>R. kipunji</i>, ecosystem services, and communities' livelihoods 	<p>Dr Fredrick Ojija (MUST) Miss Fatuma Mwasamboma (MUST) Mr. Lusekelo Silabi (MUST)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on human activities that contributes to the environmental degradation of the reserve. Responsibilities of villagers in conserving MRNFR, <i>Paragalago sp</i>, and <i>R. kipunji</i> Planting of tree seedlings Discussion about the factor threatening survival of <i>Paragalago sp</i>, and <i>R. kipunji</i> population Conservation importance of <i>Paragalago sp</i>, and <i>R. kipunji</i> Challenges facing communities surrounding MRNFR. 	<p>Dr Fredrick Ojija (MUST) Mr. Lusekelo Silabi (MUST) Mr. Kazumari Mkwavila (TFS) Miss Fatuma Mwasamboma (MUST) Mr. Zawadi N. Humbo (local guide) Mr. Mazao A. Fungo (Local guide)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educating, sensitizing, and supporting local people to use energy-efficient stoves Training about beekeeping and its role in environmental management and protecting the forest 	<p>Dr Fredrick Ojija (MUST) Mr. Zawadi N. Humbo (local guide) Mr. Mazao A. Fungo (local guide) Mr. Kazumari Mkwavila (TFS)</p>

10. Any other comments?

We are very thankful to The Rufford Foundation for funding this project. In addition to supporting the conservation of kipunji and its habitats in Rungwe, Tanzania, the foundation has helped us promote the work of biodiversity conservation and management in Tanzania. The data and experience we have obtained are immensely respected and vital for future project activities. This kind of project is very

important, as it helped us identify gaps that need to be addressed in the following project activities.



