

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Jonathan Lucas Kwiyege
Project Title	Human-Lion Co-existence in Western Tanzania
Application ID	41377-D
Date of this Report	20/11/2024

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
1. 25 Village government seminar meetings to improve village Natural resource management and governance (NRMG).		√		We have managed to conduct 10 village government seminar meetings and engaged 520 community leaders. This activity is ongoing.
2. Conservation education approach to create and promote conservation awareness in 25 communities to reduce HLCs and promote Human-Lion coexistence.		√		Over 10,000 locals were reached through conservation education outreaches and over 23, 450 through our 6 HLCs Loudspeaker Early Warning Systems (LEWS) in four villages. About 398 local communities were reached through educational park trips to Katavi National Park. Ongoing activity.
3. Installation of lion-proof bomas (LPBs) to 20 households in four villages- victims of livestock depredation by lions around Ugalla River National Park.			√	We have managed to install 30 lion-proof bomas. Over 918 cattle and 386 shoats were secured (approximately Tsh. 769,600,000/= ≈USD\$ 290,415.09 were secured). This activity is ongoing activity.
4. Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCA) approach: We have 25LCAs representing our project in 25 focal villages.				We will continue to deploy LCAs in each village as representatives of our program team and supporting villages to address human-lion conflicts and lion and human-wildlife conflict monitoring.

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

- a) The four Rufford Grants have led and improved the human-lion coexistence program leading into rebranding of LCMO into a re-registration of a new Organization name as WATU, SIMBA NA MAZINGIRA; *People, Lions and Environment*, (WASIMA) which is also accompanied with our first and new [WASIMA strategic plan](#) and new [WASIMA website](#).
- b) We engaged 520 community leaders (village council, land, and natural resource committee members) through 10 villages' Natural resource Management and government seminar meetings. These leaders were educated on the status of local natural resources, the stakeholders involved, and their roles in resource management. As a result, they developed plans to improve the governance and sustainable management of natural resources within their villages, fostering a more organized and informed approach to conservation at the community level.
- c) Our outreach efforts have significantly raised awareness of lion and habitat conservation issues in 25 villages. We reached over 10,000 community members through educational campaigns, including public presentations, film screenings on lion behavior and ecosystem roles, and the distribution of 15,000 informational materials (12,000 brochures (of wildlife trophies, lion-proof bomas, and lion behavior) and 200 calendars). Additionally, we involved 3,306 pupils from 25 school wildlife clubs in conservation activities, and have 10 educational park trips and 2 ecological studies, engaging 398 community leaders and members, and 42 pupils. By using the Loudspeaker Early Warning System (LEWS) and holding community discussions, we effectively spread messages against habitat destruction, poaching, and illegal trophy use.
- d) Our outreach activities led to the installation of 30 lion-proof bomas (LPBs) across households in the Mpimbwe, Nsimbo, and Sikonge Districts, protecting 918 cattle and 386 goats and sheep. This initiative safeguarded livestock valued at approximately TZS769,600,000 (GBP231,667.67). Importantly, the project fostered a sense of shared responsibility within the community, with residents contributing approximately GBP 632 to the cost of the installations, indicating strong community buy-in for this solution.

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

- 1) Transport limitations and vehicle breakdowns have continued to be a key challenge limiting our activity's timely execution. Both of our vehicles' engines failed and were under maintenance, only one vehicle was recovered after about 60 days of fixing efforts by different vehicle mechanics. We switched to public transport to progress our fieldwork.
- 2) On the other hand, WASIMA still needs more field resources for her team (material, financial, technical knowledge, and skills (e.g. high-quality and effective communication and data tool kits such as cameras, and GPS units to well collect and manage data and communicate our work and impact.) that require more training, equipment, and networking opportunities. We work with partners like

Maliasili, Honeyguide, and Lion Landscapes to instill soft skills and improve existing staff competence through the provision of training, equipment, and facilities.

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

This project engages and promotes local communities' participation in lions and other wildlife conservation around core protected areas in southern western Tanzania. Throughout the past four Rufford Grants, the project involved local community members through an awareness campaign, sensitized and influenced behavior, practices, and attitude changes to support lion existence in southern western Tanzania. On the other hand, this grant involved building collective wildlife conservation interventions by focusing on intentional community engagement initiatives to promote community-based natural resource management. The project encouraged the local communities living around core protected areas to preserve the buffering wildlife habitats and remaining forest areas (Over 3000km²) (both private, community, and open) to be preserved in support of lion and other wildlife conservation and in a process to maximize community members participating in biodiversity conservation to improve access to conservation benefits and to put local communities at the center of conservation. The project created a platform for organizational collaboration to secure more resources and skills to empower community-based conservation societies to carry out conservation programs and improve alternative livelihoods (income-generating activities and jobs) and agendas sustainably. The project has contributed to our organization's development of a five-year strategic plan with a vision of having a healthy landscape where lions and other wildlife co-exist through the promotion of community-based conservation approaches. More information on how the local community is involved is shared in the above sections.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I plan to continue and expand this work to ensure a lasting impact. Our immediate focus is on scaling up the installation of lion-proof bomas (LPBs) in additional households with frequent occurrences of carnivore incidents, further reducing human-wildlife conflict in surrounding villages. Additionally, we want to focus on the second phase of Village NRMG to villages surrounding protected areas, to ensure the execution of developed village action plans and in collaboration with conservation stakeholders to develop the natural resource by-laws at the village and district level, ensuring sustainable resource use and governance. We plan to reach more sub-villages in our 25 focal villages through conservation education and awareness outreaches: Public presentations and discussion, film shows, mass communication through community radio stations and via our HLC Loudspeaker Early Warning systems, seminars and meetings, and engaging more youth via school wildlife clubs in conservation actions. In partnership with Honeyguide in strengthening community-based Conservation, we want to support the Mpimbwe and Uyumbu wildlife management areas to have a strong and effective management team, structures, and systems.

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

We use the following platforms to share the project results:

- a) WASIMA Website: <http://www.wasima.or.tz/>
- b) Rufford website project page
- c) [Project LinkedIn page](#)
- d) Updates, progress reports, and final reports to stakeholders
- e) WASIMA Quarterly, semi-annual, and annual [Newsletters](#)
- f) Brochures and calendars which are made and distributed to the community and stakeholders
- g) Public, local, and formal presentations with various stakeholders during meetings, seminars, and conferences with stakeholders.

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

- a. Implementation of the second phase of village Natural Resource Management and Governance. We want community leaders to be able to implement their developed plans, and influence and engage proposed stakeholders in each action. Also, in collaboration with partners and stakeholders, we will develop our first natural resource management by-laws at the village level.
- b. Invest much in monitoring and evaluation part in our program's impacts and effectiveness, ensuring our targets and goals are met. We need to develop partnerships and encourage researchers to focus also on the Lion conservation in Western Tanzania.
- c. Conduct 5 Management and leadership capacity building training and mentorship to the Uyumbu and Mpimbwe WMA management team. In partnership with Honeyguide Foundation, we want the WMA to have clear strategic management plans to ensure resources are well managed and attract investors to maximize its potentiality in the community and conservation of wildlife and habitat.
- d. Conduct a study on the effectiveness of LPBs and their impacts on the community and wildlife incidents. Through this, we want to expand the installation process of LPBs to nearby households with frequent occurrences of carnivore incidents within our 25 villages, with our main focus in Sikonge, Kaliua, Mpimbwe, and Nsimbo District Councils.
- e. To continue to conduct community lion conservation education outreaches in 25 villages. Our conservation awareness outreaches will involve village meetings, HLCs Loudspeaker Early Warning systems (LEWS)-6 to be installed, Radio sessions, cinema shows, public discussions, and quizzes held at least twice per sub-village. They also include local leaders' educational park trips involving village natural resource leaders, local medicine practitioners, herders, former lion killers, women, and youth. We will also have village school wildlife clubs to promote youth engagement in lion and habitat conservation.

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?

Yes, through:

- a) WASIMA Website: [Our Supporters - WASIMA](#)
- b) Project [LinkedIn](#) page
- c) Public, local, and formal presentations
- d) WASIMA [YouTube](#)
- e) Letters and documents to local and formal stakeholders
- f) Organization reports
- g) Online WASIMA newsletters
- h) Brochures and calendars

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

- a) Prof. Monique Borgerhoff Mulder Technical Advisor Ph.D. Anthropology. Has researched in Western Tanzania for more than 15 years. mborgerhoffmulder@ucdavis.edu. She played roles as a mentor and my project and Organization Technical Advisor.
- b) Harriet Kivuyo Field Officer BA Rural Development. She has 4 years in Mpimbwe. harriet2006tz@yahoo.com
- c) Gilya Lino. Human-Lion Coexistence Program Coordinator MSc. Ecosystem Science and Management. 4 years of field experience working in the field as human-lion coexistence villages around the Ugalla ecosystem. linogilya@gmail.com.
- d) Belinda Mligo. Human-Lion Coexistence Program Coordinator MSc. Public Health and Management. 2 years of field experience working in the field as human-lion coexistence villages around the Rukwa-Katavi ecosystem. bendomligo@gmail.com

10. Any other comments?

- 1) With a new strategy, WASIMA calls for resources to self-equip and sustain programs and staff and to qualify for partnership and collaborations with conservation stakeholders to maximize our conservation effort in the landscape.
- 2) Investment in monitoring and evaluation of lion occupancy, lion and landscape, and other wildlife research are highly needed in western Tanzania reserves (3 National parks, 8 game reserves, and 3 WMAs).
- 3) Frequent joint patrols are needed to sustain our current focus community-based wildlife conservation areas; Mpimbwe and Uyumbu WMAs buffering Katavi and Ugalla River NPs, and Lwafi and Ugalla River Game Reserves respectively.
- 4) We need more resources to provide health insurance and improve working (transport, food and soft skills field equipment, and safe combat) conditions for our VGS, LCAs, and Field Officers. We currently have two Motorbikes that would be of great support to maximize timely response to emergencies and events as shared by LCAs.
- 5) More issues apart from HLCs and habitat degradation exist in the landscape. The community and livelihood dynamics call for more initiatives to address human-

wildlife conflicts, Natural resource governance, climate changes, drought, and poaching.



Figure 1: Village representative showing the village map during the Village NRMG at Kizi, photo by Jonathan Kwiyege



Figure 2. Jonathan explaining about power relations among village stakeholders during Village NRMG Appraisal at Mirumba village, photo by Abiud Mpasa



Figure 3. Sitalike primary school wildlife club displaying their lion artwork during drawing competition session, photo by Happyness Jackson



Figure 4. A lion proof boma's family photo after installation of the boma at their household. Photo by Malilo Vitalis.



Figure 5: Mr. Benson Mleми (WASIMA Field Officer) training Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs) how to use GPS units, photo by Abiud Mpasa.



Figure 6: Villagers reading brochures during our public outreach presentation at Ilalangulu village, in south of Katavi National Park. Photo by Elizabeth Aliponda.



Figure 7: Village leaders from Kibaoni ward watching hippos during a day in a park at Katavi National park. Photo by Abiud Mpasa.