

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	Ariel Isaías Ayma Romay
Project title	Restoration of mountain rain forests in the Yungas of Bolivia with native Queñua (<i>Polylepis racemosa</i>) and “Pino de Monte” (<i>Podocarpus glomeratus</i>).
RSG reference	44.07.08
Reporting period	From December 2009 to March 2010
Amount of grant	£ 4.985
Your email address	ariel.isaias.aymar@gmail.com
Date of this report	26th March 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
To produce 12,000 native plants			x	We produced more than expected: 14,000 <i>P. racemosa</i> and <i>P. glomeratus</i> seedlings and 15,000 other native seedlings in the municipal nursery, such as Aliso (<i>Alnus acuminata</i>), Chachacoma (<i>Escallonia salifolia</i>), Tara (<i>Caesalpinia spinosa</i>) and others.
To plant 6,000 saplings each of <i>Polylepis racemosa</i> and <i>Podocarpus glomeratus</i>			x	We planted 8,000 native <i>P. racemosa</i> and <i>P. glomeratus</i> plants, and another 6,000 native plants such as <i>A. acuminata</i> , <i>E. salicifolia</i> , and <i>C. spinosa</i> , together with the municipal government of Independencia. 4,000 native seedlings died of illness in the nursery.
To optimize restoration techniques		x		The growth of the plants is being monitored and supervised in the countryside. The growth was also monitored in the nursery. The growth and survival are being analyzed in function of fertilizers, sicknesses, soil conditions, and the origin of the seedlings. University students are volunteering to complete these tasks.
Train and motivate the local population			x	We led 15 workshops with the indigenous communities, 35 days of courses for children and teenagers, one environmental exposition, one art contest, two workshops with school teachers, and four months of lessons on educational radio programmes. Also, together with other local programmes, we participated in 10 workshops with a goal of defining local standards in the communities to protect native forests. We also wrote and printed a book about native forests.

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

Along the road, our project had to make some adjustments to the reality of the indigenous communities, schools, local policies and projects that were undertaken by other organizations. Our position was open-minded in order to coordinate and complement the other projects, listen to the

ideas and recommendations of the local people, find common goals, and in this manner obtain more financing to supplement our budget.

Six areas of reforestation were not able to be established but we reduced the number of reforested areas to three and increased the number of plants in each one. We made plots in Pajchanti, Salviani, and Jose Miguel Lanza School with 8,000 reforested seedlings. Also, we were able to give away many native plants to other local organizations and indigenous communities that were in need. In this manner, we helped to not only reforest our project but to promote reforestation throughout the region.

When we had workshops with the indigenous communities, they recommended that the native forests be protected from fire and logging. This activity was not in the project's plan but we wanted to adjust the schedule and support the idea of creating protected areas in the communities. This contributed to our principal objective because protecting the forests would protect the *P. glomeratus* and *P. racemosa* that grow there.

We saw that a great need existed to train and educate the people in the large region of Independencia and, because of limited resources, we decided to have lessons on the radio, reaching many more communities geographically. We passed on our ideas and objectives to protect the forests and promote reforestation of native forests.

Also, because many organizations are working in the region, we coordinated with them and did some activities together. We adjusted our priorities to the needs of the local people and the efforts of the organizations working there. As we were on a limited budget, we looked for additional financing for the educational radio programmes, the book publishing, and to encourage the creation of protected areas in the communities.

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

Coordination with and impact of local organizations: We were able to coordinate with other local organisations such as the municipal government, the ECOBONA project, the BIOCULTURA project, and the Association Kantuta Verde. We were able to influence their actions and get more support to complete our objectives. In this manner, we produced plants and reforested together with the local government, read educational programmes on the radio, published a book, helped to create protected forested areas with ECOBONA, and created protected areas and reforested native plants with BIOCULTURA.

Training and reforestation: Because of the training and motivational activities, many locals have begun to prefer native plants such as *P. racemosa* and *P. glomeratus* for the reforestation of their communities, versus using exotic plants. They learned in greater detail the benefits of native plants and the damages of burning the forest. For example, this year we planted 8,000 native plants and the local government and other organizations planted an additional 30,000 native plants. This is a figure not seen before and the region also experienced 50% less forest fires than the year before. The training courses and publication of the book are getting the school professors in the region to be more conscious of environmental issues and to include these topics in classes.

Creation of protected areas: Even though this project was not planned, it had a great impact on the conservation of the forests, plants and animals of the region. We achieved 339 acres of cloud forest and 2,275 acres of dry forests protected from fires and logging, all of this because of voluntary

actions of the local people. In these protected areas not only *P. racemosa* and *P. glomeratus* are protected but many more plants and wild animals.

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

The local communities and the schools were the main participants in our project and we were always considering and promoting their ideas. For example, the reforestation of native plants was carried out in their own land and with their own labour; the protected areas were voluntarily created by the same communities, promising to protect them; and the educational programmes over the radio and the training workshops were carried out in the native language “Quechua” so that they could learn and participate as much as possible.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We still have many plans. For example, this year we would like to do the following projects: continue with the production of more native plants in the nursery so that we can continue to reforest; strengthen the creation of protected areas with the local communities through workshops and labour with the local people; continue with the educational radio programmes and children’s workshops as well as workshops in the communities that we were not able to reach yet; publish a manual with the school teachers to teach in the long-term topics of reforestation, protection of forests, and the environment; and continue monitoring and evaluating the growth of the reforested plants; and evaluate how the communities’ protected areas are recuperating from the fires and logging.

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

We have been sharing our results through meetings with the municipal government of Independencia, indigenous communities, local schools, and other organizations. With friends, we have been sharing experiences through e-mail and an updated RSG web site. We think it would be important to share the results over the radio and publish the experience in technical magazines.

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

At this point, we have a 90% advance of the activities completed. We lack only the methodization of the experiences and skills learned for the reforestation of *P. racemosa* and *P. glomeratus*, which will take 2 months.

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. (1 £ sterling =15.46 Bolivianos)

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Collection of seeds				
Bus tickets (Cochabamba - Independencia)	6.10	12.21	6.11	More visits to the rural town were needed

Lodging in Independencia	23.89	44.80	20.91	We were in Independencia more nights and the hotel cost also went up
Food for volunteers in Independencia	35.84	44.80	8.96	There were more volunteers and they worked more days
Scissors to collect seeds with long handles (7 mts)	29.87	5.31	-24.56	We found smaller scissors at an economical price
Cloth bags to keep seeds	4.78	3.32	-1.46	We reduced the number of bags needed
Fuel	24.89	27.88	2.99	The price of gasoline rose
Use of motorcycle	53.10	79.65	26.55	More visits were made by motorcycle
Labour	0.00	66.37	66.37	We needed to contract local people to help the volunteers plant the seeds
Seedling production				
Plastic bags	86.29	86.29	0.00	20,000 bags were purchased at the same price
Green house shading material	58.08	0.00	-58.08	Was not purchased because materials were borrowed from the local government's nursery
Greenhouse plastic of 250 micras	58.08	0.00	-58.08	Was not purchased because materials were borrowed from the local government's nursery
Hoses for watering	4.98	0.00	-4.98	Was not purchased because materials were borrowed from the local government's nursery
Jugs for watering	5.31	0.00	-5.31	Was not purchased because materials were borrowed from the local government's nursery
Labor	82.97	331.87	248.90	We needed to contract local people to help the volunteers fill the bags with soil and peel the plants brought from the forest
Fencing for enclosures				
Posts	1019.49	0.00	-1019.49	Posts were not purchased because the local people donated them
Wire (500 m)	1019.49	1008.87	-10.62	Only 40 rolls of wire were purchased because the price rose
Cement	26.55	0.00	-26.55	Cement was not purchased
Stones	49.78	0.00	-49.78	Stones were not purchased
Transport	119.47	19.91	-99.56	We paid to transport the rolls of wire from Cochabamba to Independencia

Food for volunteers in Independencia	179.21	0.00	-179.21	This was not necessary
Lodging in Independencia	119.47	14.93	-104.54	The number of days for this activity was lowered
Bus tickets	12.21	9.16	-3.05	The number of trips for this activity was lowered
Labour	39.82	0.00	-39.82	This was not necessary
Plantations				
Bus tickets	18.32	30.53	12.21	More trips were made
Transport	99.56	298.68	199.12	Trucks were contracted three times to bring the seedlings to the countryside.
Food for volunteers in Independencia	546.91	1230.56	683.65	The number of days and number of young volunteers needed rose in order to do the planting in Pajchanti, Salviani, and the Jose Miguel Lanza school
Lodging in Independencia	59.73	119.47	59.74	The number of days doubled
Metal stakes	99.56	16.59	-82.97	We reduced the number of stakes to only for the plants in the experiments
Aluminium numbers	29.87	9.96	-19.91	We reduced the number of signs to only for the plants in the experiments
Camping equipment	199.12	0.00	-199.12	We were loaned camping equipment
Monitoring of seedlings				
Lodging for volunteers	59.74	149.34	89.60	The number of volunteers needed for the monitoring rose
Food for volunteers	149.34	149.34	0.00	
Bus tickets	12.21	18.32	6.11	More trips were made
Fuel	39.83	47.79	7.96	The cost of fuel rose, as well as the quantity purchased
Paper	3.98	3.98	0.00	Two packages of paper were purchased
Ink cartridge	9.96	9.96	0.00	One ink cartridge was purchased
Use of motorcycle	132.75	199.12	66.37	More trips were needed than planned
Workshops with local communities				
Fuel	19.91	47.79	27.88	More was purchased due to more trips to the communities
Board	2.55	0.00	-2.55	Was not necessary
Writing material	1.59	1.39	-0.20	Only the necessary material was purchased
Lodging	29.87	26.55	-3.32	We were more days in the communities and less lodging

				in town was necessary
Food for volunteers	44.80	149.34	104.54	More days were needed with the volunteers
Bus tickets	6.11	24.43	18.32	More trips to Independencia were required
Use of motorcycle	31.86	199.12	167.26	More trips to the communities were made
Workshops in local schools				
Fuel	6.63	7.96	1.33	The price of gasoline rose
Board	1.59	1.59	0.00	
Writing material	3.19	3.19	0.00	Only the necessary material was purchased
Lodging	59.74	104.54	44.80	More days of lodging for the volunteers were necessary due to longer workshops with the schools
Food for volunteers and prizes	59.74	143.37	83.63	For this same reason, more food was needed for the volunteers. Prizes were also purchased to encourage the students.
Workshops at local institutions				
Lodging	11.95	17.92	5.97	Lodging was needed for the public policy workshops
Bus tickets	6.11	6.11	0.00	
Preparation of posters				
Printouts (60*40 cm)	165.93	0.00	-165.93	We chose to work with the other organizations on the book and not do printouts
Preparation of booklets and other documents				
Paper	11.95	11.95	0,00	More paper was needed
CD	1.19	1.19	0.00	CDs were purchased to share information among the volunteers
Book "Forest of Independencia"	0.00	99.56	99.56	We made a contribution to print the book with other organizations
Radio programmes	0.00	99.56	99.56	7 radio programmes of 3 minutes each were recorded
Total	4985.26	4984.57	-0.69	

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

I would like to continue the activities that were carried out and implement future plans as well. I would like to participate in a second project with RSGF and continue looking for more financing to do more projects.

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, we always used the logo and name of RSGF in the reports, documents, printed materials and with the workshop and meeting presentations.

11. Any other comments?

I feel that the resources donated by RSGF were very well invested and put to use. Better results than anticipated were achieved. While some activities were not carried through, they were compensated for by other equally important projects.