

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	Liyong Emmanuel Sama
Project title	Promotion of the sustainable use of indigenous wildlife resources as medicinal wildlife in Cameroon's North-West Region.
RSG reference	53.07.09
Reporting period	February – November 2010
Amount of grant	£5840
Your email address	esama_1@yahoo.co.uk
Date of this report	November 27, 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
Identification of medicinal wildlife species of Cameroon's North West Region and means of acquisition.			X	Except for information on some four species that need to be further crosschecked in the field for the study results to be fully conclusive.
Awareness campaigns for sustainable medicinal wildlife.		X		General opinion holds that this being a novel idea more time and action is needed to achieve deeper awareness in the populace. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Need to reproduce and widely distribute the medicinal wildlife poster especially to educational institution. ➤ More media campaigns through flyer distributions, radio talks and audio-visual and written press coverage of our activities, etc.
Examination of results with stakeholders to chart the way forward for sustainability in use/management of identified species.			X	The results were examined at the Bamenda Symposium on Sustainable Medicinal Wildlife of November 10 2010, and useful recommendations were proffered through working groups on the way forward for greater sustainability in medicinal wildlife by stakeholders.

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

- i. There was the difficulty of making tradi-practitioners allow time from their busy schedules also as farmers and craftsmen, to talk to us and answer questionnaires. It became necessary quite early in the study to always tender some motivation gift/token, especially considering that their clients pay consultation fees for such of their times as we were taking. In some cases we had to use interpreters who needed to be paid somehow.
- ii. We did not foresee the necessary expenses for movements around town for project activities.
- iii. We did not foresee the necessary expenses for movements to distribute the Medicinal Wildlife Poster to some key establishments.
- iv. We did not foresee the need for travelling expenses for a trip to the capital city to formally present the study results, poster and symposium recommendations to the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, for our work to effect any legislative and/or policy change. We wish to do it as a next step.

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

- i. Identification of the medicinal wildlife species of the project site and their usages.
- ii. Awareness raising: medicinal wildlife is becoming a common nomenclature, with the public realising its vulnerability, as compared to medicinal plants. Through networking we are waking up the consciences of conservationists, government officials, tradipractitioners, media people, researchers, etc. locally, nationwide and internationally and the imperative need for all to wake and work for sustainability in medicinal wildlife.
- iii. Our poster of *Medicinal Wildlife Species of Cameroon's North West Region* (with species named in three languages, with national and CITES listings indicated), now adorns households, offices and schools, permanently raising awareness on the need for sustainability in medicinal wildlife.

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

Local communities were normally involved in the project activities and normally derived some direct and indirect benefits:

- a. The tradi-practitioners contacted mainly in the rural communities benefited more publicity for their trade, besides token gifts to some.
- b. Field liaison volunteers (FLVs) and many once-off guides and interpreters in the rural communities benefited cash payments.
- c. Transport vehicle and motorbike taxi operators.
- d. Inn owners.
- e. Operators of documentation services (public secretariats) for the printing and photocopying of our documents.
- f. The local press which passed our awareness messages and covered the symposium of results.
- g. Local theatre group which produced and rendered a sketch at the symposium, and script writers who helped to draft the story line we have prepared for a future medicinal wildlife film.
- h. Photographers and a video producer who produced a video clip of the symposium's holding.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Considering this as a pilot phase, it is imperative to continue this work for it to achieve a meaningful effect on the sustainability of medicinal wildlife, first to consolidate our achievement at this regional level, then nationally (and in the Central African sub-region in the long term). More so because it appears that the only other study on medicinal wildlife in Africa was done only in East and Southern Africa (1986).

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

Besides the ongoing distribution of the medicinal wildlife poster, the sharing of results has been greatly achieved through the Bamenda Symposium on Sustainable Medicinal Wildlife of November 10 2010, at which participated government services, conservation organisations, tradipractitioners, teachers, civil society personalities and the media; our presented results were discussed and recommendations proffered to government services, conservation bodies and tradipractitioners, etc.

on necessary actions for sustainability in medicinal wildlife. We will distribute the results and symposium recommendations to stakeholders in the domain.

The symposium was widely reported on two nationwide audio-visual channels and in Cameroon's leading English language newspaper all connected to the web, besides two local TV and radio stations.

An official handing in of the results to the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife (in charge of wildlife management) is also envisaged, if possible with press coverage for greater awareness raising.

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

The grant was used over a period of 10 months instead of the anticipated 8 months, mainly due to Coordinator's change of work station in September 2010. However, the extension was mainly for the planning for the symposium which also depended on the time schedule of some personalities.

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
Computer Laptop	562.5	543.49	+19.01	In good order.
Computer printer	150	130.43	+19.57	Spent only on printing and photocopying.
Digital camera	162.5	150.82	+11.68	Recently malfunctions.
Tape recorder	37.5	34.51	+2.99	
Binoculars	37.5	47.55	-10.05	
Stationery	125	163.04	-38.04	
Sleeping bags (3)	75	81.52	-6.52	
Pack bags (3)	40	40	-	
Field Guide Books on Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish and Insects of Africa.	150	149.46	-0.54	
Subsistence costs	1500	1500	-	Rate reduced to match exchange rate.
Transport costs	750	750	-	= // =
Communication costs	150	163.04	-13.04	More on research by internet especially for production of poster.
Sketches	125	27.17	+97.83	Paid for writing of a film script (£27.17); balance of £97.83 preferred for priority activities rendered under-budgeted by changed exchange rate.
Radio talks	437.5	369.99	+67.51	For radio talks and telecast messages.

Medicinal wildlife poster (500 copies)	500	543	-43	50 more posters were added by a local NGO (CIRMAD); yet inadequate, considering high public demand.
Participation at African Traditional Medicine Day (August 31, 2009)	125	-	+125	Tradipractitioners' Union was being reconstituted by 31/08/2010; amount used to supplement priority activities.
Workshop for results and recommendations.	562.5	697.28	-134.78	Cost increase also for wide press coverage of organised symposium.
Allowances for Field Liaison Volunteers	350	348.7	+1.3	Only 2 were fully contracted for 2 Divisions (£108.7); once-off guides and interpreters were contracted for the other areas (£240) = £348.7.
Contingency	0	100	-100	For some eventualities and necessary activities not foreseen in the budget (Movements around town; equipment servicing; token gifts; banking expenses, etc.)
TOTAL	£5840	£5840	-	

Local exchange rate used: £1 = 736CFA Francs

NB/- Differences in expenditure occur because of changes in the market price of some of the items. More so, the actual value of funds received in local currency (CFA Francs) dropped due to a change in exchange rate at the time of transfer of funds from RSGF. This consequently affected the initial amount budgeted in local currency (exchange rate used at the time of request of funds was **£1 = 800 CFA Francs**). Thus funds for some items were preferred for priority items/activities and judiciously used to ensure that the project's main aims are achieved.

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

The most important next steps are:

- Crosschecking of information on some given 4 species with tradi-practitioners in the field;
- Support some local people to obtain Hunting Licences and Collection Permit (for trading in wildlife products) by which tradi-practitioners can legally acquire medicinal wildlife products, to instil and example of legality in that line, especially as the region now has only one legal hunter and collection permit holders;
- Reproduce/multiply the Medicinal Wildlife Poster for greater awareness raising and to satisfy the apparent high demand for it;
- Produce a short film on the sustainable management/use of medicinal wildlife to highlight Cameroon's wildlife legislation on the issue;
- Organise a training seminar for tradipractitioners on the sustainable use of medicinal wildlife.

- Monitoring and evaluation of awareness raised and level of sustainability achieved.

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?

The RSGF logo had the pride of place in our working documents like the questionnaires and the flyer messages. It also had the pride of place at the symposium. In our letters we specified that the activities are funded by the Rufford Small Grants Foundation. Our project name “RSG-Sustainable Medicinal Wildlife Initiative” also glorifies RSG, the source of our strength.

11. Any other comments?

The open-door policy of the Rufford Small Grants Foundation generates quite a multitude of creative ways of doing conservation work and bringing development to our world. May the Almighty God keep blessing all those who keep this global initiative going.