

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	Rosemary Tonjock
Project title	Conservation and Ethno-mycological studies of Macro-fungi (mushrooms) in the Mount Cameroon region.
RSG reference	54.12.09
Reporting period	June 2010-July 2011
Amount of grant	£5,311
Your email address	rosemary32us@yahoo.com ; kinge.rosemary@ubuea.cm
Date of this report	27 th July 2011

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
Ecological survey			X	100 % achieved, however identification of species took so much time than expected and analysis is still ongoing.
Ethno-mycological Survey			X	100 % achieved, analysis of data completed, and result has been published in <i>International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms</i> .
Market Analysis			X	100 % achieved
Conservation Education		X		70 % achieved. The heavy rains disrupted some of our gatherings. Projector hired had failure with the bad weather condition and some of our equipment got damaged. Funds were deducted and used to cover some cost for communication which was not initially budgeted and to repair laptop which was damaged during field work.
Check list of macro-fungi			X	100 % achieved So far, however, check list is in final stage of preparation, according to IUCN 2005 categories and criteria.

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

S/N	Problem encountered	Solution
1	We did not budget for communication and tips for the local communities participating in ethno-mycology.	The funds were provided from the conservation education budget.
2	It was very difficult interviewing and discussing with the traditional practitioners.	The village heads assisted by talking with the traditional practitioners and informing them of the benefits.
3	All project sites were partially accessible by cars and some of the roads were very bad, this increased the transportation cost. The remaining part of the journey was done by trekking especially up the mountain.	We had to trek in some instances.
4	For ecological surveys we spent time camping up the mountain. There were a lot of wild animals and we were frequently disturbed by elephants.	The hired local community members were those that had tactics in sending away the elephants and wild animals not to approach our tents.
5	Difficulties working in the mountain	We had a first aid kit with us, which we used

	region. Some field members had mild accidents like wounds.	at the site of the accident and proper medical care was carried out upon arrival in town.
6	Project laptop got broken during the field work and latter Virus attack on some of our files.	We repaired the laptop and retrieve some information and install a stronger anti-virus, though some information was lost.

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

- For the first time a checklist for macro-fungi from the Mount Cameroon region is been prepared and a red list will be prepared soon using IUCN criteria like Extinct, Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened and Data Deficient. Proposals for protection of rare and threatened fungi in this region will be determined in the near future.
- Diversity and distribution of macro-fungi has been determined around the different flanks of the mountain.
- Conservation of macro-fungi has been achieved through education and documentation of ethno-mycological knowledge.

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

The local communities were involved at all stages of the work from initiation with meetings and execution in the field, accommodation was used from local resources in some villages. Some guides and porters were hired from the local communities during the project. In fact, the local communities took active part in the project and they were acknowledged in the publications resulting from the work.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we want to continue this work. For the ecological survey, there is need for continue monitoring long term in other to produce an accurate and comprehensive redlist for the macro-fungi in this region. During the project period it was found out that most of the edible and medicinal mushrooms of conservation importance were sold further from the area of study. Hence, there is a need to carry out a national market survey of the macro-fungi sold in major markets in Cameroon as a prelude to conservation. In addition to that, there is a need to continue with conservation education.

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

We have/will share results of our research as follows:

1 Scientific publications/presentations:

A paper has been published in **the *International Journal of Medicinal Mushrooms*, 13(3): 299–305 (2011) on Ethnomycological Studies of Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms in the Mount Cameroon Region (Cameroon, Africa) by Tonjock R. Kinge,1* Ebai M. Tabi,1 Afui M.Mih,1 Egbe A. Enow,1 L. Njouonkou,2 & Nji T. M.3**

It can be viewed at:

<http://dl.begellhouse.com/journals/708ae68d64b17c52,44cae58e6753b88e,7dd7b1dd323cf62c.html>

- 2 Data are currently been analysed on ecological diversity and distribution of macro-fungi in the Mount Cameroon Region and this will be published in an open access journal.
- 3 The first checklist of macro-fungi in this region will be published in the months ahead after peer review.
- 4 Awareness programme will continue with the communities.
- 5 Poster presentation has been delivered locally and an oral presentation has been accepted to be delivered at the 6th International Medicinal Mushroom Conference in Zagreb, Croatia in September 2011.
- 6 A Master of Science student benefited from this project and the result will be shared in an oral defence in October 2011 an RSGF will be acknowledged.
- 7 We also plan to publish a conservation guide for the macro-fungi in this region.

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

The grants was used for 13 months, though the project is still ongoing as data analysis is still been done for the ecological diversity study. Funds were received on May 26th, 2011 and the project actually started on 31st May 2010.

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
Training of project members one time	200	200		
Contact meetings with villages, councils, school authorities and resource	250	250		
Paid field assistance for ethno-mycological, market, ecological surveys and conservation education	2030	2070	+40	Additional funds provided by PSACEMM NGO
Lodging, transportation and communication	940	1550	+610	Funds provided from conservation education budget
Conservation education, and report writing	1850	1230	-610	Some funds used for communication, tips for local communities and for repair of laptop which was damaged during field work
Contingency allowance	264		-263	

Bank charges		223	+223	
TOTAL	5534	5523	-11	Local exchange rate used: 1 GBP = 700 CFA Francs (May 2010)

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

- Continue with ecological diversity and distribution studies in other to accurately produce a red list for this region.
- To carry out a nationwide market survey in the major markets in Cameroon to properly access the conservation status of macro-fungi in this region.
- To continue with conservation education.

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, the RSGF logo was used in the poster presentation and all oral presentations delivered during the course of the project.
- The logo has also been used on our conservation guide draft.
- The logo will also be used in the thesis defence oral presentation.
- The Rufford Small Grant Foundation was also acknowledged in the publication in the *International Journal for Medicinal Mushroom*.

11. Any other comments?

It was quite a great experience. The enthusiasm of the villagers and their active participation, the commitment of the project team made it possible to attain our objectives. The local communities are looking forward for the continuation of this work. It will be great if RSGF can provide a second grant for the way forward. Attached to this report are some photos and materials from our work.