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	Revocatus Petro Mushumbusi
Project title	Community based conservation status of *Oxystigma msoo* tree species in Rau Forest Reserve
RSG reference	80.09.08
Reporting period	Final report
Amount of grant	£5623
Your email address	mushumbuz2002@yahoo.co.uk
Date of this report	25th January 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
Determination of abundance and distribution of *Oxystigma msoo* in Rau Forest Reseve			Fully achieved	Within the established plots in Rau Forest Reserve, *O. msoo* were countered and measured (height and diameter at breast height (DBH)). The measured *O. msoo* were classified as mature (DBH > 10 cm), pole (5 < 10 cm DBH), sapling (2 < 5 cm DBH) and seedlings (< 2 cm DBH or 150 cm height).
Laying out of conservation stategies of *Oxystigma msoo* in Rau Forest Reseve and other possible areas			Fully achieved	Collection of seeds from mature *O. msoo* in Rau Forest, raising of seeds in the nursery for about 5 months and transplanting of seedlings to forest were done by community from both villages (Kaloleni and Njoro).

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

Identification of *Oxystigma msoo* seeds was a big problem**.** It took a time searching for seeds before identifying them. Consequently, it was suggested to tie up the nets on flowers of *O. msoo* up on the tree and continue monitoring until when seeds got mature and drop themselves on nets. Seeds normally mature in April and May while the project started in February; therefore 3 months were lost while waiting for seeds to mature**.** Initially we used cuttings as one way of raising seedlings but all them died.

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

The project implementation involved local communities from the beginning of the project to where it has ended. The following projects outcomes have been realized:

(i) The discoveries of *Oxystima msoo* seeds was a very big success to my project as it took us a time before identifying it. We also sent an order of tree seeds from Tanzania Tree Seed Agencies without success.

(ii) Raising of seedlings in the nursery for about 5 months and transplanting them to Rau Forest reduced the loss biodiversity in the reserve.

(iii) Increased awareness to local people about conservation of *O. msoo* and their habitat

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

The project implementation was to large extent done by local communities living in Njoro and Kaloleni villages. The major benefit for local communities is realisation of the importance and status of O*. msoo* in Tanzania and the World in general and increases of conservation strategies of natural resources around them. The education provided and practiced will be substantial for long time and may be passed between generations.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans

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

- I have shared the results with Njoro and Kaloleni local communities through the whole project as everything discovered was through their efforts.
- During the whole period of the project, our nurseries have been visited by many people including students from universities who are studying Forestry and Environmental Sciences. Through this we shared our results with them.
- Through publications; I am expecting to publish some papers in Tanzania Forestry Research Institute Newsletter. Two of them will be having the following tittles; *Status of* Oxystigma msoo *in Rau Forest Reserve, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania* and *Preliminary Observations of* Oxystigma msoo *in Nursery, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania*.
- I am expecting to design brochures as a guideline for *Oxystigma msoo* conservation strategies which will also provide means of sharing the results

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

The project was expected to take 12 months, from January 2009 to the end of December 2009. Unfortunately, the fund from RSG was released on the end of January 2009, hence, project implementation started in February 2009. Therefore, the project was implemented in 11 months (from 2nd February2009 to 31st December 2009), with the different of one month from the anticipated time.

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
Travel expenditure	601.43	745.56	-144.13	The fuel price changed in response to the world market fuel price fluctuation and rise in taxes
Accommodation	1,431.98	1,399.44	32.54	The differences were due to the

				reduction of number of working days i.e. Feb – Dec 2009 instead of Jan – Dec 2009.
Allowance/refreshment	3,390.93	3,356.11	34.82	The differences were due to the reduction of number of working days i.e. Feb – Dec 2009 instead of Jan – Dec 2009
Project equipment and stationary	155.13	164,12	-8.99	There was underestimating costs of Suunto and Calliper
TOTAL	5,579.47	5665.23	-85.76	

The local exchange rate used: £1 = 2095TSHS on 29th January 2009.

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

The results of this project indicate that it is possible to protect *Oxystigma msoo* from extinction if the remaining trees are conserved and transplanted seedlings monitored in Rau Forest Reserve. Therefore, the next important step is to monitor and manage the transplanted seedlings in the reserve. Monitoring will be done by Njoro and Kaloleni communities. The monitoring of transplanted seedlings is very important as some seedlings may get dry and need of replacement of other seedlings as some of them are still in the nursery. It was noted that one of the drawbacks of *O. msoo* in Rau was climbers e.g. *Lantana camara* which act as a parasite and hinders growth of the tree, therefore a close follow up of the young transplanted trees is necessary before being attacked by climbers. Some of the seedlings were transplanted on open spaces in forest nearby the border of the forest which makes them to be in danger once there is fire outbreak. Therefore, this makes monitoring to be essential by making fire break yearly until when the trees reach a time where they can not be destroyed by fire.

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?

No, I didn't use the RSGF logo in any materials.

11. Any other comments?

It was reported that saplings of *O. msoo* are more harvested as they are used as broom handles (supporter) because of their straightness. This overexploitation of saplings is extensively done and is resulting to danger of *O. msoo* in the reserve.