

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. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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	Gashumba Damascene
Project title	Community conservation of biodiversity of Volcanoes National Park through development of modern beekeeping.
RSG reference	8078-1
Reporting period	2nd August 2010 to 3rd March 2012
Amount of grant	£5836
Your email address	redorwanda@yahoo.com
Date of this report	29 March 2012

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
Introduce the project to local leaders, Park Manager and beneficiaries			✓	In elaborating project proposal funded by Rufford Small Grant Foundation, we consulted local leaders and communities .When the project get funded, we returned to the leaders to inform them about the fund received from Rufford Small Grant Fund, the objectives of the project , activities, deliverables and the time frame of the project. Local leaders at all level: District, Sector, Cell and Village, Park Manager and communities have appreciated the project and promised to actively contribute to success of the project. This objective have been achieved because the local leaders collaborated with the project in all stage of the implementation mainly by inviting and facilitating the community meetings , trainings and follow up, and also by providing official documents to cooperatives
Organise beekeepers working around Volcanoes National Park (VNP) into cooperatives			✓	Burera is one of the Districts that surrounding VNP and where is located our project, there have been identified 438 beekeepers including 102 women and 63 youth. All these beekeepers are now gathered into six beekeeping cooperatives that have formed their union called (UNICOOPAV =Union des cooperatives apicoles des Volcans Union of beekeepers cooperatives in Volcanoes area"). Since February 2012, UNICOPAV started to collect all honey produced by beekeepers at cooperative level for market research and processing even if the processing is still at low level because of lack of appropriate material.
Training of trainers			✓	Beneficiaries in their general meeting elected a committee composed by seven peoples, namely: President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer, secretary and two controllers. This committee has chosen 50 persons who have been trained as trainer of trainers, and then after they are trained the remaining beekeepers member of cooperatives, in the programme we called at home training under the supervision of REDO staff lead by GASHUMBA Damascene.
Construction of two demonstration apiaries			✓	Two demonstration apiaries have been constructed, one in Rugarama sector another one in Cyanika sector both of BURERA District. Although the beekeepers are gathered in six

				<p>cooperatives, only two are managing the modern apiaries supported by the project: ABUNZUBUMWE cooperative in Rugarama sector and cooperative COOPACY in Cyanika sector. The other four remaining cooperative are managing their apiaries equipped by traditional hives and will progressively replace them by modern ones as now they have learned how to develop modern apiary , based on the training they received and the lessons learnt from the demonstration apiaries and the visit they regularly exchange with the two supported cooperatives.</p>
Equipping the constructed apiaries.			✓	<p>The two constructed apiaries have been equipped with 30 modern beehives i.e. 15 hives in each apiary.</p> <p>Beekeeping materials have also been purchased such as smokers, veils, brush and others as well as the harvesting material.</p>
Monitoring the project			✓	<p>The project has been monitored by REDO technician experienced in modern beekeeping in collaboration with cooperative committee and sector technicians.</p> <p>The project has been regularly visited by Park leaders and Rwanda Agriculture Board: a government institution in charge of Agriculture and livestock.</p>
Contribution to the Volcanoes Park biodiversity and livelihood improvement		✓		<p>During the evaluation we made, we found out that the livelihood of the project beneficiaries have been improved even if the production of 50kg by each hive was not reached; we only harvest 30 kg in each modern hive and 15 kg in one traditional hive.</p> <p>The total honey produced is 1200 kg that cost 1,350,000 Rwf (Rwanda francs). This money has been divided into three parts :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500,000 Rwf on account opened in local bank; - 450,000 Rwf to pay medical insurance for cooperative members; -400,000 Rwf used in buying goat for every cooperative member, because the goats purchased were not equal to cooperative members, they decided that the members who didn't receive goats will get baby goat after first birth. To receive goat on first round was based on choosing " Yes ", member decided in their meeting to write Yes and No and put all papers in basket, member who had chosen Yes , received goat and he who chooses No had to wait for the

				<p>second round.</p> <p>Regarding biodiversity conservation, the beekeepers have been trained on the importance of Volcanoes National Park and how local people, mainly beekeepers, could participate in its conservation and also how to use modern method in harvesting honey. There was no fire in Volcano park in 2010 and 2011. Also we expect not having fire in park forest this year and in Volcanoes Region the importance of pollination have been demonstrated and appreciated by the communities for the following crops: aubergine, beans sun flowers, passion fruits and pyrethrum. We are also working with the park botanist to know the plant species that have benefited by the bee pollination.</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The heavy and long rainy season in 2011 have not allowed bees to work properly in visiting flowers and therefore the harvest has not been as large as was planned. Because the bees were not able to go out as normal, we taught our beekeepers how to feed bees during heavy rain or in drought periods.

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

1) We have been able to organise beekeepers into a cooperative and increase the production while before they worked individually and the production scattered.

2) Beekeepers are now working in close collaboration with the Park Manager for better conservation of biodiversity and park protection. Beekeepers used to go in forest for wild honey harvesting and they know where poachers put their snares. In 2011, the park guard discovered 112 snares in the Park Forest thanks to the collaboration with the beekeepers who know every corner of the park and area in park liked by poachers. Also no case of fire was reported in the Park Forest in 2010 and in 2011 because our beekeepers have trained in modern honey harvesting and on how to protect the biodiversity of Park.

3) Thanks to the project, the beekeepers have improved their livelihoods by working with banks and saving their income, paying their health insurance and buying goats for producing manure for their soil conservation and crop production improvement. The beekeeping cooperatives are registered at district level and have official documents.

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

In total, 438 beekeepers including 102 women and 63 youths have been trained in modern beekeeping and they are now gathered in cooperative registered at district level. They produced 1200kg honey which is sold at local market where the residents of Burera District and tourist of Volcanoes National Park are benefiting from the availability of honey.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Beekeepers are now gathered in cooperatives and well organised. REDO, led by Gashumba Damascene, and has been appointed by Rwandan Ministry of Agriculture to facilitate honey value chain in Volcanoes area. This chain is composed of beekeeper cooperatives, honey traders, banks, district authorities, Rwanda Bureau of Standards, park leaders, Rwanda private sector federation; REDO is supported by SNV (Netherlands based organisation). This process will make the activities of the project to be sustainable.

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

Every year in Burera District there is an open day event where every partner is presenting its activities and making an exhibition of its products .The last event happened in December 2011 where we presented the honey produced by beekeepers cooperative and the participants appreciated the honey presented. The next will be in June 2012. In our meeting, workshop and reports given to the district, province and line ministry we present the results of the project.

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

August 2010 to February 2012.

Date of reporting: 29th March 2012, I waited the honey harvest period which has been completed by 15th March 2012.

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
Contact meeting	160	160		
Training fees	1000	974,34	26	Two trainees have not participated on the last day because of sickness.
Construction of bee farm	680	738	-58	We used more material than planned
Purchasing 30 modern bee hives	900	900		
Harvesting material purchasing	1000	1000		
Transport of Material and staff	1200	1260	-61	Field visit needed many trips than planned
Communication fees	96	96		
Monitoring, follow up and reporting	800	920	-120	Field visit needed more trip than planned because of period characterised by heavy rain and different meeting not planned in project organised by different stakeholders and district, like Joint Action Forum among

				others.
Total	£ 5,836	£6049	£-213	

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

For the next steps I will continue to follow up the cooperative in field activities using REDO beekeeping extension officers. I will also continue to facilitate the honey value chain development in Volcanoes area and share the project results with different stakeholders and facilitating the beekeeping cooperative in market research as well. I will also continue to mobilise matching fund to complete the project for sustainability propose.

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?

On the two demonstrative apiaries constructed there a sign post on each, explaining the project and that has a logo of RSGF. In different exhibition and training we organised we used the logo of RSGF and also on our beekeeping report

11. Any other comments?

I would like to thank the Rufford Small Grant Foundation for supporting this project, and especially Jane Raymond for her continuous coaching during the project implantation period. The funding provided has enabled me to organise beekeepers around Volcanoes Park and the conflicts between park and local community are progressively reducing.