

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	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	9895-2
Reporting period	January – October 2012
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	esama_1@yahoo.co.uk
Date of this report	November 23, 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
Administration and material			X	The approved project equipment, materials and services were duly acquired.
Trip to present report of past 1st RSG and poster to Minister, some organisations and embassies.		X		Although it was achieved in two trips instead of one, it was however difficult to get the desired tête-a-tête with the minister, directors of international organisations and ambassadors. But the media outings were hilarious successes.
Running of "Medicinal Wildlife Quarter Hour" over radio.			X	12 slots done from March to August 2012 at Abakwa Radio, Bamenda.
Production of a short film on sustainable medicinal wildlife			X	The film: <i>Medicinal Wildlife Palaver</i> , 49 minutes long, through entertainment conveys in depth the medicinal wildlife conservation message; conservation through art.
Facilitation (subsidising) of the acquisition of seven wildlife exploitation licenses.		X		Minimally achieved because of difficulties by applicants to obtain the required <u>Authorisation to Buy and Bear Fire Arms</u> from the local administrators at whose "personal discretion" such permits are given. But the publicity given the RSG subsidy also by the Wildlife Services greatly raised awareness on the need for the legal acquisition of medicinal wildlife products
Seminar for tradipractitioners and wildlife licence holder			X	Achieved with the laudable collaboration of the Regional Services of Forestry & Wildlife, Veterinary/Animal Breeding, Public Health, Zootechnical Research, and the Union of Tradipractitioners. The certificate adorns homes and shrines of attendees of the training.
Participation at African Traditional Medicine Day			X	The keynote paper for the commemoration in the North West Region was presented by this promoter of medicinal wildlife

				conservation.
Reproduction of the medicinal wildlife posters			X	The poster proved to be an ideal vehicle for conveying the conservation message. And because it is being used also in universities it would instigate research. We doubled the reproduction for more distribution.
Monitoring and evaluation		X		Only half of the questionnaires distributed were returned but those received and analysed gave us relevant feedback and advice on future activities.

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

- I. The fact that all three members of the project team had to be involved in project implementation on voluntary basis – no remuneration in terms of monthly allowances, ended up seriously burdening the project coordinator or promoter, because the other team members had to pay more attention to the direct sources of their livelihood or studies, and couldn't be obliged to always be sacrificing for the voluntary project work. Consequently I sometimes had to source for assistance from outside the team or wait for the project colleagues to have free time. This contributed to the extension of the project period by 1 month.
- II. Our budgeting for the subsidies for hunting permits had the later known hurdle at the level of the local administrators charged with issuing the Authorisation to Buy and Bear Fire Arms having the "personal discretion" to issue one or not. This blocked many hunters had started the process to apply for the RSG subsidy, which the Forestry/Wildlife services greatly encouraged.
- III. The lack of prior knowledge that film making was an intricate, costly and time consuming business that has to do with quite many contacts, interactions and negotiations, such that the production of *Medicinal Wildlife Palaver* became a project within a project. This became very tasking, considering my then main job of a protected area manager.

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

- I. Passing the medicinal wildlife conservation message through an entertaining, action movie *Medicinal Wildlife Palaver*, in English and French (it has French sub-titles) and could subsequently be shown on national and international chains.
- II. The radio and TV presentations of the medicinal wildlife conservation work over the CRTV, received nationwide and worldwide by satellite, following which we have been receiving very comforting feedback from far and wide.
- III. After organising the training seminar, this promoter of medicinal wildlife conservation was co-opted into the Executive Committee of the North West Union of Tradipractitioners as Technical Adviser (and I accepted) because the natural healers recognised that the work goes a long way to protect an important source of products for traditional medicine.

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

- ✓ Local media practitioners/animators for the radio slots and film launching advertisements.
- ✓ Radio quests/resource persons for the Quarter Hour radio slots.
- ✓ Participants and resource persons for the training seminar.
- ✓ Participation as film actors, filming crew and others in producing the film.
- ✓ Animators and youth groups for the film launching.
- ✓ The beneficiary of the RSG-subsidised hunting permit.
- ✓ Transport vehicle and motorbike taxi operators.
- ✓ Hotels.
- ✓ Operators of documentation services (public secretariats) for the printing and photocopying of project documents.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

There are strong plans to continue this work. While deepening the work in this pilot project site, with greater youth involvement, we have to extend and replicate the work in other parts of Cameroon and the Central African sub-region in the long term.

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

We will continue using the poster (both hard and electronic copies) and now the film, to ignite discussions about the work, locally, nationally and internationally. Besides publicising the work in articles like we did in *Non-Wood News* magazine No. 24 of May 2012, we intend to publish the analysed report of the 2010 questionnaire survey and the current lessons learnt in a book form.

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

RSG No. 9895-2 was used over 10 months, instead of the planned 9 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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Administration and materials	875.9	900	-24.1	The replacement of the laptop battery, the hard drive and the processor, more than in the budget.
Trip to present report of past 1st RSG and poster to Minister, some organisations and embassies.	276	311.62	-35.62	There was a second trip, because we could not achieve in first trip. But the radio and TV participations were free government support to the initiative.

Running of "Medicinal Wildlife Quarter Hour" over radio.	331	331	-																									
Facilitation of the acquisition of seven wildlife exploitation licenses.	965.5	551.18	+414.32	Finally only one hunter succeeded to qualify for the subsidised hunting permits.																								
Production of a short film on Sustainable Medicinal Wildlife	689.5	1580.42	-890.92	Had initially been highly underestimated. The actual: <table border="1" data-bbox="986 667 1300 1473"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Screen play</td> <td>28.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Film Shooting contract</td> <td>620.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Film registration & vetting</td> <td>96.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Editing & subtitling</td> <td>165.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Launching posters, adverts & invitations</td> <td>137.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Launching venue</td> <td>82.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Projectors</td> <td>48.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snacks</td> <td>82.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Animators</td> <td>41.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post production</td> <td>275.86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mini total =</td> <td>1580.42</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Amount	Screen play	28.69	Film Shooting contract	620.69	Film registration & vetting	96.55	Editing & subtitling	165.52	Launching posters, adverts & invitations	137.93	Launching venue	82.76	Projectors	48.28	Snacks	82.76	Animators	41.38	Post production	275.86	Mini total =	1580.42
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Seminar for tradipractitioners and wildlife licence holder	1855.8	1805.8	+50	Some of those invited failed to attend.																								
Participation at African Traditional Medicine Day	138	138	-																									
Reproduction of the medicinal wildlife posters	400	600	-200	It became necessary to increase the posters as a good vehicle for the campaign.																								
Monitoring and evaluation	255.1	50	+205.1	Done only in two localities with fewer questionnaires, especially due to time constraints.																								
Supplementary fund following budget adjustments as requested by RSGF during the review	213.2	213.2	-	Supplemented the film production																								

process, long after online application.				
Total	6000	6481.22	-481.22	This negative balance is expected to be squared up through further fund raising with the medicinal wildlife film. £193.38 is already in hand, pending £287.84.

Local exchange rate used: £1 = 725CFA Francs

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

- Training of youth volunteers for the medicinal wildlife conservation work.
- Organising of interactive training workshops in the 7 divisions of the North West Region to work on their flagship medicinal wildlife species.
- Replication of the work in the sister English speaking South West Region of Cameroon, starting with a study of its medicinal wildlife use.
- Publication of the findings and lessons learnt from the work so far, with a comparative view of medicinal wildlife use of the two ecoregions (grassland and tropical forest).
- Further media outings.
- Establish a framework for a Medicinal Wildlife Conservation and Education Centre.
- Lay the groundwork for the extension of the work to the eight French speaking regions (provinces) of Cameroon.

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 was prominently used in the following materials:

- The reproduced poster of medicinal wildlife species.
- Acknowledgement in the film: *Medicinal Wildlife Palaver*.
- Both sides of the film jacket.
- Invitation cards for the film launching.
- The front wall of the film launching hall.
- The front wall of the hall for the training seminar.
- The certificate of participation issued after the training seminar.
- The acknowledgement page of the RSG-subsidized hunting permit.

11. Any other comments?

Because I have come to the end of my civil service career, I shall have and devote full time to my non-governmental conservation and civil society work, including what shall henceforth be known as the Medicinal Wildlife Conservation Project (MWCP) besides other projects under the Centre for Indigenous Resources Management and Development (CIRMAD), an NGO of which I am presently the Coordinator.

I greatly thank the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for the support so far and hope for further support as we plan to deepen the work in the field and extend and replicate it beyond the pilot site.