

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 | Celsus Senhte |
| Project title | Improving livelihoods and biodiversity conservation in farm forestry landscapes, Sango-bay, Rakai |
| RSG reference | 05.12.08 |
| Reporting period | April 2009 to April 2010 |
| Amount of grant (£) | £11,999 |
| Your email address | celsussenhte@gmail.com |
| Date of this report | 30 th April 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 |
|--|--------------|--------------------|----------------|---|
| To extend local campaign to boost farm forestry | | | √ | Local campaigns were carried out to create networks, roll out trees and to sensitize communities to increase adoption of farm forestry. Extension of these services to other parishes and villages is in high demand and will be appreciated. |
| To roll out trees in villages/parishes | | | √ | All the areas mentioned in the project proposal were covered. However, there is still need for more tree seedlings to be availed to many other parishes where there is enthusiasm for farm forestry. |
| To educate communities about apiculture development and management | | √ | | 100 beehives constructed, only 60 successfully colonised. 40 awaiting re-colonisation. This should be continued in the next phases, for a larger area to be covered, such that the number of people enlightened is increased. |
| To carry out market research and disseminate marketing information to the stakeholders | | | √ | Market research to identify market niches for various farm forestry produce. |

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

| Challenge | Solution |
|--|---|
| Tree eating insects. According to reports from farmers, seedlings were in many parishes destroyed by tree eating insects that hindered their development. | Solicitation of funds from partner NGO (IRUCODI). The funds, though not enough, were used to buy insecticides for spraying, to kill the tree insects. Chlorpyrifos and endosulfan were used but were not very efficient in controlling some insects |
| Change in rain cycle. Some seedlings from the previous project phase were ready for transplanting in August but due to the change in rain cycle, they could not be transplanted. | The seedling transplantation phase was stopped until the rains resumed in late November, 2009. |
| An overwhelming response from the communities for the need of more educational facilities, demonstrations, and tree seedlings. | The enthusiastic communities that were not reached in the previous projects were promised to await the upcoming project phase, so that they too can be included in the project, to create an impact on the level of conservation of |

| | |
|---|--|
| | their wildlife resources. |
| Rodent and small animal browse. These have been seen to severely damage newly planted seedlings | Various traditional manipulative methods were used to clear rodents from the vicinity. The tree rodents reduced significantly and the seedlings are healthy. |
| Weeds | Target specific herbicides were employed (supported by IRUCODI) |

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

a) Local Campaigns to Boost farm forestry

Set up of Farm Forestry Advisory Service Groups and Networks

Two Farm forestry Service Groups (FFASGs) were formed in Kooki and Kakuto counties, each comprising five individuals. These groups are responsible for disseminating information on the role of farm forestry to the communities, as well its contribution to biodiversity conservation. They were also responsible for providing lessons on nursery bed construction and management, and silvicultural practices, among others.

In addition, after contacting and talking to some members working with forestry and community projects, and sponsored by RSGF, we have agreed to form a Rufford Small Grants Beneficiaries network. This network will share knowledge about their works. We will be able to learn from each other in terms of our successes and failures. The aim of the network is to carry out exchange visits with beneficiary farmers, stakeholders and other interested communities to facilitate knowledge sharing. This spirit is hoped to continue even in our next projects. At the moment four individuals have subscribed to this and we hope to bring more on board.

Main partners/collaborators

- Busia Women producers Association (BUWOPA), Uganda.
- Integrated Rural Community Development Initiative (IRUCODI): the NGO that I am affiliated to.
- Pro-Biodiversity Conservationists of Uganda (PROBICOU).
- Department of Wildlife and Animal Resources Management (WARM), Makerere University, Kampala.
- Natural Enterprise Development (NED), Uganda.

Over the years, we have been approached by some NGOs, and individuals interested in knowing more about the work I have been doing with the help of RSGF. Some were seeking consultancies while others wanted to have an experience of the work we are doing in Rakai. It is important to note that from all the associations, meeting, and phone calls, we as a team have management to establish links with the above bodies. These links are bound to stay active and from them, we shall expand on the work we are doing to include broader communities, and further promote conservation issues countrywide, as well as region wide. Some individuals have been enlightened and have been compelled to apply for funds to do related work in other areas of the country. Such spirit expressed by young conservationists in Uganda is very vital for the sustainability of our wildlife resources.

Introducing Social Farm forestry Networks

Networks have been formed among some beneficiary farmers and other stakeholders in Kabonela ad Kakuto. More networks will be formed as the project continues in the next phases so that there is

improved communication amongst all RSGF beneficiary individuals. The Social Farm forestry Networks have been formed by the help of the new created FFASG. By the end of the project period in future, it is projected that the entire district will have a lot of knowledge about farm forestry and its roles in biodiversity conservation as well as livelihood improvement, through adoption of the practices.

b) Tree Planting

Rolling out tree planting was based on the shared knowledge values in biodiversity conservation and improving rural livelihoods. Tree nursery construction and planting of seeds was started in late April 2009. The parishes of Kakuto, Kabonela and Kooki were the main stations.

Seven thousand eight hundred trees were planted in the booster phase of the project; an excess of 1800 trees from the 6000 that were originally planned for in the project. In total, 14,800 trees have been planted since the commencement of the project.

Table 1: Overall number and species of trees planted

| Tree species | Quantity | | | | Comment |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Booster phase | Total | |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp | 2500 | 2000 | 3000 | 7500 | Income generation, cheap to raise and rapidly re-grows after being cut down |
| <i>Pinus</i> spp | 0 | 800 | 1500 | 2300 | Grow rapidly and straight and good for storm formation. |
| Orange trees | 0 | 800 | 0 | 800 | Carbon sequestration, and nutrition in form of fruits |
| Mango trees | 0 | 0 | 1100 | 1100 | Carbon sequestration and nutrition in form of fruits. |
| <i>Ficus</i> spp | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 1000 | Soil improvement tree species and provides good habitat for many birds. |
| <i>Albizia</i> spp | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 1000 | For holding the soil in place. |
| <i>Acacia</i> spp | 300 | 200 | 200 | 700 | Nitrogen fixing. |
| <i>Moringa oleifera</i> | 200 | 200 | 0 | 400 | Herbal medicine |
| Total | 3000 | 4000 | 7800 | 14800 | |

c) Start of Apiculture projects in farm forestry landscapes

Honey bee production

Education on production - the created Farm Forestry Extension Agents educated the selected stakeholders on construction of beehives, management and production of bees/honey. One hundred beehives were constructed and distributed along with bees thereafter. They were supplied to the farmers who previously participated in the first and second projects, and had evidence of grown trees and land for apiary set up. A total of 60 beehives were successfully colonised whereas the remaining 40 were faced with technical problems but their re-colonisation is underway.

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

This project has been multifaceted, involving workers from various levels. Most of the workers involved in seed/seedling distribution, community mobilization and seedling transplanting were selected from the target communities. These included women, youth, opinion leaders, and local council leaders. This involvement gave a sense of belongingness to the communities, thereby promoting great enthusiasm. Establishment of working relationship with other community based organizations like ENVIROcare- Rakai, Pro-biodiversity Conservation, Kweterana Environmental Group, Rakai, and others has increased the level of community participation in terms of visitations, advise, knowledge sharing and dissemination.

Three hundred and twenty youth, 180 women, 80 men, 260 adults and 6 elderly people benefited through receiving multitudes of information about seed planting, nursery management, seedling transplanting, silvicultural practices, woodlot management, marketing tree products, forest restoration, and general biodiversity conservation, in the year 2008/2009.

Nine households have received beehives and their hives were colonized thereafter. These communities are the first to benefit in the ongoing beehive and beehive accessories distribution. Other households will soon be identified and involved.

Finally, 250 households received tree seedlings to start farm forestry and others have started nurseries, raising tree seedlings for sale to individuals interested in starting farm forestry as business.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we have plans to continue this farm forestry project. For the last 3 years, this project has generated great enthusiasm at grassroots level, sub-county, county and district level. It has also brought interest among team members and they are proposing we expand and involve several other stakeholders in other areas in Sango-bay that were not previously covered, as well as the neighbouring areas.

In summary, we plan to continue this work because of the following reasons:

- a) Immense enthusiasm by the grassroots communities.
- b) The goal to plant at least 100,000 trees by the year 2013.
- c) The goal to reach at least 600 households by the year 2013, with information regarding farm forestry, farm forestry resources, their uses, and general conservation education.
- d) Some of the activities cannot create great impact unless they are carried out in many areas. Activities like conservation education (more sensitisation and awareness) need to be widespread through out the entire district,
- e) There is still a need to explain to the communities about farm forestry, and how it relates to community conservation, biodiversity conservation and consumptive utilisation of forestry resources.
- f) There is a need to supply more beehives and their accessories (extractors, smokers, bee attires, etc).
- g) The need to provide more information about marketing, establishing market niches for farm forestry produces in other sub-counties and counties in Rakai district.

It is hoped that extension of this project by two more years will give it a very strong foundation. Stronger bases and networks will be created and these will help the project to continue and even be adopted by other districts in Uganda. This project is the first of its kind in Uganda, and a lot of interest is being generated.

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

The results of my work will be shared as follows:

- Visitations by other RSGF beneficiaries: we have set up an RSGF beneficiary's network in Uganda. So far we are four members. We are encouraging others to come on board. This network is helping those that are doing related projects to visit each other with their teams, plus a few community members/stakeholders.
- Brochure/leaflets: brochures/leaflets have been made and distributed to the public. These share information regarding: (i) the importance of biodiversity conservation; (ii) importance of tree planting; (iii) the number of tree species planted in the project area; (iv) the community response to the project; (v) our sponsors; and (v) our future plans. The brochure has been put on public notice board, at local council and district level.
- Publications: our work is being summarised into publishable manuscripts for publishing in conservation journals and bulletins.
- We are in the process of re-designing our website to display all our project activities and achievements to the general public, locally and internationally.

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

The RSGF Booster grant has been successfully used within one year (from April 2009 to April 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 |
|--|-----------------|---------------|------------|---|
| 1.0 Office Materials and Supplies | | | | The prices were almost as originally budgeted, with negligible difference. Some of the materials remained and will be used the continuing project activities. |
| 1.1 Communication | 360 | 359 | 1 | |
| 1.2 Stationery | | | | |
| 1.2.1 Writing papers | 50 | 50 | 0 | |
| 1.2.2 Flip charts | 300 | 300 | 0 | |
| 1.2.3 Markers | 50 | 50 | 0 | |
| 1.2.4 Pencils | 45 | 40 | 5 | |
| Subtotal | 805 | 799 | 6 | |
| 2.0 Local campaign to boost FF | | | | Social networks have been formed, as a result of local radio talk shows and mobilisations. Up to 7800 new tree seedlings have been transplanted and communities are very enthusiastic about the project. The next phase of the project should entail advancement of this service to a broader |

| | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| | | | | area in and outside the project area. |
| 2.1 Radio talk show | 600 | 568 | 32 | |
| 2.2 social FF networks formation | 440 | 440 | 0 | |
| 2.3 Rolling out tree planting | | | | |
| 2.3.1 Seeds | 5250 | 5249 | 1 | |
| 2.3.2 Input/labour | 160 | 160 | 0 | |
| 2.4 Final sensitization | | | | |
| 2.4.1 Workshops | 480 | 470.5 | 9.5 | |
| Subtotal | 6930 | 6887.5 | 42.5 | |
| 3.0 Honey bee production | | | | One hundred beehives constructed, 60 of them successfully colonised, the remaining to be set for colonisation in the continuation phase of the project. |
| 3.1 Community education | 240 | 245 | -5 | |
| 3.2 Bees | 1800 | 1755 | 45 | |
| 3.3 Bee hives | 750 | 777 | -27 | |
| 3.4 Labor | 320 | 320 | 0 | |
| Subtotal | 3110 | 3097 | 13 | |
| 4.0 Marketing | | | | Market and marketing information has been generated and dissemination of the information to the stakeholders is ongoing. |
| 4.1 Market research and information | 540 | 550 | -10 | |
| 5.0 Monitoring, evaluation and follow up | 450 | 450 | 0 | |
| 6.0 Report writing & other paperwork | 164 | 120 | 44 | |
| | | | | |
| Grand Total | 11,999 | 11,903.5 | 95.5 | The RSGF fund was used satisfactorily well. All the money was used for the specified project materials and activities. |

Exchange rate used (June 2008): £1 (pound sterling) = 3,400 UGX (Uganda shillings)

Balance carried forward: £95.50 (this will be included in the next phase of the project, and accounted for accordingly).

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

The important next steps are:

- Provision of Improved knowledge and understanding of biological resource conservation and management; e.g. design home calendars showing RSGF's effort to conserve biodiversity in Uganda; this is also a part of community conservation strategy, as the calendars will be given out free of charge to as many communities as possible, in the languages they best understand.
- To promote the farm forestry project within and outside Rakai district.
- To continue rolling out tree planting to other communities so that a larger number of individuals and households are covered (This will further enhance our conservation and environmental protection objectives); at least a total sum of 100,000 trees should be planted by the year 2013, and 600 households reached within the same period.
- To enhance farm forestry management strategies: It is important to manage farm forestry with a well thought-out strategy that addresses the financial, environmental, agricultural, non-agricultural, and personal and business goals of the farm.
- To promote mechanisms for participatory management, improved skills, capacity and learning for conservation and management of biological resources.
- To mainstream biodiversity and livelihood concerns in production landscapes.
- To train more stakeholders in bee keeping, extraction, processing, and marketing.
- To provide more bee hives, extractors, smokers, extraction attire and a detailed apiculture manual.

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, I used the Logo for the sign posts that we put near the landscapes that RSGF work is to be done. The logo is given to an expert artist who then draws it on a wooden frame. The frames are put on stands and planted at strategic point leading to the project sites.

11. Any other comments?

To ensure that this project is completely rewarding to the entire Rakai community or at least a good proportion, we need to extend it for at least 2 more years. This will help us reach more people, plant more trees, and educate more women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). With that done, the overall objective of enhancing biodiversity conservation while improving rural livelihoods in the Sango-bay and surrounding areas, will be tackled. The level of interest by the grassroots communities is a good justification for the extension of this work. In many areas communities resist subscribing to conservation work, so it is sheer luck that the Rakai communities are interested, and I encourage the continuation of this work. Those that were not reached want to be reached to get involved in tree planting and education. It is hoped that after the next 2 years the project will be completely sustainable.