

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	Martin N. Etone
Project title	Tackling the Bushmeat Crisis Through Conservation Education
RSG reference	17.01.10
Reporting period	January 2010 to February 2011
Amount of grant	£11,985
Your email address	communityactionfordevelopment@yahoo.com
Date of this report	25 th February 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
Continue Identification and Sensitisation of Actors in 'Bushmeat' Collection and Trade			Fully achieved	During this period only 68 hunters have been identified. This brings the total number of hunters known to 288 since 2007. These have been fully sensitised against illegal hunting practices and wildlife regulation. Besides hunters they came out with village-based strategies to enhance monitoring and control of local hunting practices. However, some people hide their identity as hunters for fear that they could be arrested.
Produce and distribute sensitisation tools			Fully achieved	In 2010, we produced and distributed 150 posters and 300 leaflets with information on wildlife matters to various stakeholders in the bushmeat industry. Materials have been distributed to hunters, bushmeat sellers, chief palaces, forestry administration, councils and the communities concern. These tools are helping us to reach may more people with information about wildlife policy and management.
Organise more workshops on wildlife policy and regulations			Fully achieved	We organised one workshop on the 1994 wildlife in Bangem on 24 th November 2010 under the auspices of the Senior Divisional Officer for Kupe Muanenguba Division. During this workshop, 51 participants representing hunters, traditional authorities, the security forces, NGOs and Government departments gained knowledge about this law and its legal provisions with respect to illegal hunting.
Continue to organise hunters into wildlife management groups			Fully achieved	During the period under review, we have assisted to organise hunters and bushmeat dealers to organise into three wildlife Common Initiative Groups. The groups are found in Ndbse, Ntho and Muaku villages.
Capacity building of wildlife groups			Fully achieved	We have organised one training workshop on monitoring of illegal hunting for three wildlife groups. Thirty participants (28 men and 2 women) gained practical skills and techniques of checking unsuitable

				hunting practices within their communities.
Identify and document customary right and rules in wildlife management		Partially achieved		Through village meetings and discussions, we are gathering information about existing customary rights and rules in wildlife management. This activity is still on-going.
Continue the provision of alternative micro-enterprises to hunters and bushmeat traders			Fully achieved	Three wildlife groups comprising of 54 identified hunters have been assisted in the practice of micro-enterprises other than illegal hunting. These include, pig farming, beekeeping, snail farming, small scale poultry and gardening.
Construct a central pig breeding and distribution unit			Fully achieved	We have constructed a small pig demonstration and breeding unit with two piglets (one boar and one sow). This unit is expected to serve as a learning centre for the entire public and a source of future piglets for potential project beneficiaries.
Collaboration with relevant government ministries and institutions			Fully achieved	We used a participatory approach in the execution of project activities, involving relevant stakeholders. Staff of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF), Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) provided technical assistance and officiated in meetings while target communities hosted smaller meetings. Traditional authorities assisted in village meetings while hunters provided local knowledge.

2. Unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled

2.1 Open resistance from some people to desist from hunting and human-wildlife conflicts

Most people frown at Cameroon's wildlife law because it totally prohibits trapping and sale of bushmeat. This coupled with increasing wildlife-human conflicts over food crops and forest products provoke people to go into illegal hunting, thus violating the law. However, based on people's request, CAD came up with a draft proposal for local hunting arrangements between the administration and local populations. This document will be presented and discussed by various stakeholders in subsequent meetings.

2.2 More requests than we can support

We received lots of requests from the public, particularly in the area of alternatives such as snail and livestock farming. But we have been unable to satisfy all identified hunters with the necessary equipment and inputs as a result of limited resources.

2.3 Theft and death of snails and pigs

In some farms, snails have been stolen by thieves and others died due to the environmental conditions and high temperatures that we are experiencing this year. Two of our pig farming groups suffered from the recent African swine fever epidemic.

2.4 Lack of extension means

Despite the difficult terrain and vast area of coverage, CAD has no means of extension (no extension motorcycles, no vehicles) to follow-up project activities. So we resorted to hiring motorcycles/cars at exorbitant costs, otherwise we trek over long distances to the field. This did not only reduce staff efficiency (when they get exhausted before reaching the communities.) but also limited activity expansion to other needy communities. In addition the long-term cost of hiring bikes and vehicles is far more than the cost of purchasing one or two motorcycles.

2.5 Poor communication network

We operate in an area where communication is still difficult. For instance we can access internet/e-mail facilities only in Nkongsamba; a town situated over 45 km away from Bangem. Hence, it is difficult to receive or send very urgent information or letters on time. Though this makes communication expensive we subscribed to an internet account with ISMAM Internet Center in Nkongsamba.

2.6 Inadequate staff remuneration.

CAD staffs do not receive salaries. What they earn as allowances is practically impossible to keep them satisfied with the work they do. This poor remuneration might lead to job dissatisfaction, low efficiency and loss of work spirit. However, while we only work with volunteers, CAD is trying to contact other donors for possibilities of increasing our funding base.

3. The three most important outcomes of your project.

3.1 Formation of wildlife groups

In order to improve local community participation in wildlife management, we legally constituted and functionalised three hunters groups through registration as Wildlife Management Common Initiative Groups (WMCIGs) in Nteho, Ndibse and Muaku villages. These local wildlife management structures are expected to work in close collaboration with staff of Forestry Posts and CAD to monitor illegal hunting activities, provide periodic information on wildlife issues and engage in alternative income and bushmeat activities. Members of WMCIGs have been trained and engaged in alternative livelihood options to hunting such as snail farming and organic vegetable production to limit their total dependence on illegal exploitation of wildlife resources. This is an important legacy for the project and a gateway for participatory management and decision-making power and the eventual gain in forest services. However there is need for the wildlife group members to be given capacities in wildlife management.



3.2.0 Supporting Hunters and Bush Meat traders in alternative Micro-enterprises

Besides raising community awareness about the plight of endangered species and promoting primates conservation, the project is building local capacities and supporting hunters in viable micro-enterprises intended to curb the ever rising pressure on wildlife resources in the region. These conservation-related livelihood support systems are not only contributing to people's living conditions, but equally kindle their interest in taking a leading role in wildlife management. During the third phase of this project we

continued to assist local populations in enterprises such as pig farming, beekeeping, snail farming and small scale poultry. This brief report highlights the achievements made so far in the above areas. We have recorded the following achievements:

3.2.1 Pig Farming



We continued to support piggery activities of our target groups through on-farm training and the provision of improved piglets to hunters and bushmeat traders. Ten pigs have been bought and distributed to 10 hunters (six men and four women). Three of the hunters have gone ahead to introduce more pigs into their farms. This has raised the total number pigs in the field to 13. It should be recalled that our approach here is that of Passing-Over-the-Gift. In this case, when a beneficiary group produces piglets, one piglet is passed on to a newly identified hunter or bushmeat trader. CAD pig farms are spread over in Ndibse, Nteho, Nkack, Muaku and Bangem. In addition, we set up a small pig demonstration and breeding farm with two pigs in Bangem to ensure a more regular supply of piglets to hunters and bushmeat traders in future. Besides supplying piglets to needy people, the unit will also serve as a learning center for the entire community.

3.2.2 Snail Farming



Snail farming is increasingly attracting local interest, particularly among women and children. Beside the provision of six bundles of plastic nets and snails to four wildlife groups, eight snail farmers (three men and five women) have been involved in this activity with a total of over 7000 snails on their farms. Some of the farmers are already earning income from this venture. It is worth noting that although snails serve as an important alternative to bush meat; this valuable resource is itself subject to severe threats not only in our project area but in West Africa in general where it is heavily collected for food and income.

3.2.3 Expansion in Beekeeping or Apiculture



We have bought and donated 10 bee hives to project beneficiaries. In addition the Nteho wildlife group has constructed and installed an additional three hives through self effort. This has brought the total number of beehives installed to 12. Out of this number four have been colonised by honey bees (*Apis mellifera*). In addition, some members of wildlife groups are helping to build the capacities of fellow community members in this venture.

Provision of Beekeeping equipment

In order to facilitate practical beekeeping, CAD purchased and donated bee farming equipment to beneficiary groups and individuals. These include 10 hives, 12 veils and six smokers. Excepting bee hives, the equipment serve as protective clothing for bee farmers during hive inspection and honey harvesting processes. The distribution of this equipment is as follows:



	Bee suits	Smokers	Veils	Bee hives
Pepper soup women	5	2	5	4
Hunters (men)	6	3	6	6
CAD	1	1	1	0
Totals	12	6	30	10

3.2.4. Small-Scale Poultry



Another alternative enterprise being promoted among hunters is small-scale poultry using both local and improved breeds. Seventy chickens have been donated to local people. The farms exist in Ndibse, Nteho and Nkack. Local people are generating significant income from the sale of fowls as they serve as suppliers to CAD.

3.2.5. Organic Gardening



We sustained efforts in the diversification of the food and income sources of local people as well as influencing their hunting habits. Following the distribution of seeds, we have assisted wildlife groups and individuals to set of vegetable farms. Eight vegetable farms (three group farms and five individual farms) have been established involving 12 women and three men. In addition, almost all families we worked with grow at least one type of vegetable in home gardens. Vegetables cultivated include egusi, fluted pumpkin, okra, bitter leaf (*Vernonia sp.*) and *Amaranthus sp.* However most of the seeds supplied failed due to the long drought period experienced in the area this year

3.2.6 Basketry

Though not initially planned, we supported one hunter in basketry as alternative income-generating enterprise to illegal hunting. This enterprise has a local and tourism market that we found worth promoting. Baskets are used locally by both men and women in harvesting and transporting farm produce to markets as well as for storage.



3.3 Explanation of wildlife Regulations to Local Communities

We have organised a sensitization workshop on the 1994 Wildlife 2010 at the Women Empowerment Centre hall in Bangem. This workshop was presided over by the Senior Divisional Officer for Kupe Muanenguba Division, Mr. Tabe Etchok. The workshop that brought together 51 participants drawn from the Technical Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, local administration, NGOs, Traditional authorities, hunters and bushmeat dealers. The objectives of the workshop were:



- To explain the 1994 Wildlife Law and its legal provisions to local people.
- To highlight the effects of current local unsustainable practices on both people and wildlife resources.

- To elaborate a strategy for wildlife management and livelihood improvement in the Muanenguba/Bakossi forest areas.

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

Local communities took part in the conception of this project and regularly participate in project implementation. Besides taking part in planning of activities, they shared indigenous knowledge and experiences with project staff, hosted small meetings, provided land, unskilled labour and local materials in the course of project implementation. The idea of alternative micro-enterprises is most welcomed as indicated in the number of request we receive in our office. In addition, people are particularly happy to learn about the wildlife law but criticise the complete prohibition of the sale of bushmeat and failure for the law to clearly state the benefits local populations could derive from sustainable wildlife management.

Project Impact

- Hunters are aware of the dangers of their hunting practices on wildlife and the implication of killing protected species and they are now discussing wildlife legislation and plight of endangered species with others in the community. For instance, local hunters have recognised and acknowledged the fact that illegal hunting can affect traditional healing systems, marriages, traditions and cultures of people if certain animal species go extinct or become rare. They also recognised that hunting cannot be inherited as farms and other property.
- Hunters and bushmeat sellers are willingly organising into specialised village-based (wildlife CIGs) with interest in natural resources and environmental management at grass root level. This is an important gateway to collective decision-making and participatory management of resources.
- All members registered in the newly formed CIGs have vowed to decline from hunting, selling of bushmeat and to collaborate with the forestry administration in ensuring wildlife conservation.
- Wildlife groups are using their registration certificates as a strong force to request financial support from small government grants and possibly expand in activities other than hunting, e.g. Rumpi and ACEFA programmes. CAD is helping groups to access some of this information.
- Local people are able to criticise the wildlife law, saying that it falls short of defining their responsibility rights and benefit from wildlife management. In fact some hunters requested that the law be revised to meet community needs.
- Hunters, through their wildlife groups, have taken up other livelihood options than hunting. These groups are already generating additional income and nutrients from beekeeping, snail farming and pig farming.
- Local communities including hunters have defined community-based strategies to foster wildlife management and land use practices to curb pressure on wildlife resources in the project area.
- The project has realised an existing good rapport and working relationship with the government through local Forestry Administration (MINFOF) as well as with Traditional Authorities, wildlife groups and local communities in project activities. MNIFOF staffs provide free technical assistance while communities host small meetings and shared ideas with others. Exchange of knowledge and skills enhances between project partners and beneficiaries.
- Thanks to the impact of this RSG-supported project, CAD is always involved in national discussions relating to Cameroon forest, particularly the National Forest Forum.

5. Our Plans to continue this work

Yes. We plan to continue because:

- Hunters are progressively recognising the economic value of the alternative hunting options

being promoted among local populations. Now that CAD is persuading people to decline from hunting, we need to intensify, expand and ensure the sustainability these newly introduced alternative sources of income and nutrients so that people spend more time doing them than going hunting. Also many identified hunters are yet to benefit from the newly introduced alternative enterprises.

- There is need to continue building of the wildlife groups formed by way of training and equipment so that they can better monitor illegal activities in the project area. Furthermore, need to organise training workshops on each of the above livelihood systems, particularly in the area of beekeeping and pig farm management so that local people's skills will be more developed in these activities than in hunting.
- We plan to continue running a demonstration and breeding pig farm where piglets will be raised for onward extension to hunters and others relying on hunting activities. This too could be a good exit strategy for this project.
- Also, we intend to introduce cane rat domestication as an alternative livelihood option to hunters and community members in our target region.
- In order to understand the bushmeat market situation in the project area, there is need to conduct a bushmeat market survey to generate baseline information to inform conservation and decision-making'
- There is the need to improve CAD's networking capacity through registration with national and international networks so as to ensure information and experience sharing with organisations having similar conservation objectives.
- Finally, we plan to introduce an environmental education component of this programme to school children who might grow up to become hunters when they drop out of school for poverty or poor academic reasons. In this way we shall be building an informed new generation that takes interest and leadership over wildlife protection at an early age.

6. How we plan to share the results of your work with others

We plan to share our results by:

- Sharing our webpage contact given us under the Rufford Website. In fact this is already working marvellously as staff from organisations such as WWF send us appreciation based on what they see and read about our work on this page.
- Producing and distributing project reports to other stakeholders such as the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Environment and Nature Protection, Councils and Traditional authorities.
- Presenting our experiences during network meetings and workshops when we have such opportunities.
- Producing and publishing articles about our work in the print media and distributing wildlife posters we have produced.
- Highlighting our previous achievements when making new project proposals.

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

This project was implemented over 14 months. This is two additional months over the anticipated period of 12 months.

8. Budget: 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
Consumables(Training, Office, Logistics				
Training materials	277	166	111	
Workshop hall	62	26	36	
Lodging for workshop participants	310	563	(253)	Due very high taxes and inflation, prices of hotel rooms rose drastically from £7 to £13.
Resource persons	310	258	52	We had to pay resources in up to 5 meetings and workshops.
Office stationery	299	257	42	
Workshop facilitation	0	21	(21)	Payment of a workshop facilitator was not initially previewed.
Sub-total	1,258	1,291	(33)	
1. Report Production				
Field/progress reports	62	21	41	
Final reports	31	26	5	
Distribution of reports	21	0	21	
Sub-total	114	47	67	
2. Travel Cost				
Transportation of equipment/materials	41	72	(31)	
Field or Extension visits	558	354	204	
Participants transport to workshops/meetings	496	771	(275)	We spent high on moving participants due to high cost of transport associated with bad roads, especially as most workshops/meetings held during the raining period.
Bike hire/vehicle hire	124	229	(105)	Bike hiring was necessary for extension but was not earlier previewed in the budget.
Fuel	146	20	126	
Sub-total	1,365	1,446	(81)	
3. Field Equipment/Materials				
Watering cans	72	63	9	Cans were cheaper than expected.

Wheel barrows	129	88	41	Prices of wheel barrows dropped
Bee hives	190	237	(47)	Seasoned wood prices soared
Bee suits	248	330	(82)	"
Smokers	74	87	(13)	"
veils	112	152	(40)	"
Vegetable seeds	72	24	48	
Improved piglets	258	258	0	
Vaccines/dewormers	21	8	13	
Pig feed	108	110	(2)	
Nails	31	0	31	
Field motorcycle	2,891	0	2,891	Our total project budget stood at £11,997 but we only received £9,625. So we could not purchase a motorcycle because we lost up to £2,372 due to currency fluctuation and payment of receiver's charges. Again, we would have faced more difficulties implementing project activities if we had to buy a motorcycle. Consequently we spent considerable on bike hiring.
Cutlasses	0	16	(16)	These items were necessary during the establishment of vegetable gardens and pig farms, but did not feature in the budget.
hoes	0	10	(10)	
Diggers	0	42	(42)	
Poles for pigsty construction	0	8	(8)	
Sub-total	4,206	1,433	2,773	This great disparity stems from the fact that we lost up to 2,372 due to currency fluctuations, drop in exchange rate and payment of receiver's charges.
4. Office Equipment				
Computer	361	361	0	
Printer	134	103	31	
Digital camera	139	155	(16)	
Photocopier	671	697	0	
Office telephones	0	52	(52)	
Sub-total	1,305	1,368	(63)	

5. Sensitisation Tools				
Leaflets	289	258	31	
Posters	310	361	(51)	
Distribution of posters/leaflets	0	31	(31)	
Shooting of video	568	258	310	
Editing of video	0	201	(201)	
Writing and provision of commentaries	0	46	(46)	
Production of 100 copies of video	0	124	(124)	
Media coverage	103	0	103	
Sub-total	1,270	1,279	(9)	
6. Food				
Breakfast	77	52		
Lunch	232	249		
Sub-total	309	301	8	
7. Administrative Cost				
Office rents	248	248	0	
Electricity	74	40	34	
Subscription to internet/email	165	83	82	
Fax	0	6	(6)	
Telephone	0	72	(72)	
Postage	0	7	(7)	
Photocopy	71	32	39	
Sub-total	558	488	70	
8. Project staff allowances				
Project Coordinator	620	568	52	
Wildlife officer	496	454	42	
Bee technician	496	454	42	
Sub-total	1,612	1,476	136	
Total	11,997	9,129	2,868	
Actual Amount Received from RSG	9,625	9,129	496	
Excess Receipt over Expenditure			496	This amount is left in the bank to keep the current account running.
Comments to Financial Statement	CAD actually received £9,625 (equivalent to 9,321,895 FCFA) from RSG instead of the £11,997 (11, 618,000FCFA) as earlier budgeted. This shows a disparity of up to £2,372 or 2,297,220FCFA. This loss could be largely due to fluctuations in currency or drop in the value of the pound and payment of receiver's charges. Due to this great loss, CAD was unable to meet up with the cost of purchasing a motorcycle (£2,891 or 2,800,000FCFA). The £496 as balance is kept in the bank to keep the current account running.			

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

The important next steps include the following:

- Continue the dissemination of wildlife policy and regulations, particularly in newly identified hunting communities. By so doing there will be widespread knowledge of the law and the plight of endangered species.
- Capacity building of village wildlife groups formed, Traditional Councils and Communities to check illegal activity. This is going to be by way of legalisation, training and equipping these village structures to better effect control.
- Advocate for the revitalisation of Traditional Wildlife Management Practices by assisting hunters groups, Notables and Traditional Councils in defining and enforcing Customary rules that favour sustainable wildlife conservation as well as discourage unsuitable hunting practices.
- Continue assisting hunters in viable alternative micro-enterprises (snail, beekeeping and pig farming) so that they can expand in these new lines of activities, earn significant household incomes and reduce current pressure on endangered species;
- Produce and distribute sensitisation materials such as leaflets, posters, banners and billboards carrying information about wildlife regulations and sustainable hunting methods.
- Conduct Primate Surveys as well as Bushmeat Market surveys to generate baseline information about existing primate population, bushmeat production and contribution to household income, marketing chains, and actors involved in this sector.
- Carry out habitat restoration activities via tree planting and agroforestry.
- Introduce wildlife conservation education in schools and colleges. This is because children form the hope for the future and might grow up to become hunters when they drop out of school for poverty or poor academic reasons.
- Produce a video to increase the visibility of project activities.

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. We used the RSG Logo on our posters, the press release to Ocean City Radio and on the project video. In addition, RSGF financial support is acknowledged in all our reports, copies of which we extend to partners such as the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Environment and Nature Protection.

11. Any other comments?

We wish to extend our profound gratitude to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for the financial support given us to implement our wildlife project with local communities. It is our wish that this collaboration grows from strength to strength to the advantage of marginalised communities and endangered species. In addition we extend our thanks to local communities and other conservation organisations that have assisted us in one way or the other in the course of this project.