

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:	Samson Komati Yuimb
Project Title:	“Public Awareness Education on Reforestation, Rainforest Conservation, and Climate Change in all the Schools in Western Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea”
RSG Reference:	23. 05. 008
Reporting Period:	August 2008 to November 2009
Amount of Grant:	£12,000
E-mail Address:	skyfdn@yahoo.com and/ or skyfdn@hotmail.com
Date of this Report:	November 30 2009

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
Implement awareness locally through radio and print media				Did run news articles twice, public notices six times, and went on local radio twice.
Visit schools throughout the Western Highlands and conduct awareness				Visited only 19 schools and more than 23 villages throughout the Western Highlands Province.
Buy laptop computer, digital camera, etc.				All items were purchased and proven very helpful and handy.
Hire of PMV Bus				Buses were of great help me.
Staff capacity building				All project staff were trained prior

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

The project team did not reach all the schools originally targeted because of two reasons: (1) physical road conditions were bad and vehicles seemed impassable; and (2) the project budget could not cater for more travel than those already traveled. Few schools were extremely remote for buses to access - only 4-wheel drive vehicles can go. To afford this type of vehicles, the rate of daily hire is expensive, and I did not want to risk blowing the budget. Instead of visiting all the 50 schools as initially targeted, I decided to substitute them with visits to rural villages nearby which were easily accessible by buses. We visited a total of 19 schools (out of the 50 targeted) and a total of 23 rural tribal villages (to make up for some of the targeted schools we did not visit).

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

- Climate change awareness has stirred an overwhelming interest among school children, teachers, community leaders, educated elites, and general public in the Western Highlands – this was generated by this RSG funded project. As a result, increasing number of invitations has been received from different schools and communities throughout the Western Highlands Province for similar awareness to be conducted at their schools and villages in 2010.
- The awareness education via direct in-person presentations at 19 schools and 23 villages and radio broadcasts along with newspaper prints and public bulletin board messages caused thousands of people to become concerned about their natural and social environments and thereby raising the level of need for reforestation and

conservation locally to a whole new level in the Western Highlands Province.

- The overwhelming reception, response, and participation by schoolchildren, teachers, villagers, and general public opened a window of opportunity for a greater awareness programme to be rolled out in the entire Western Highlands Province in all the 50 schools, all the tribal villages and hamlets, and all church groups over a 5-10 year period. Based on the success of this provincial roll-out would lead to replication throughout the rest of the 20 provinces in Papua New Guinea – this would require national government intervention in funding and implementation under the Ministry of Environment Conservation & Climate Change.

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

More than 25,000 people (including schoolchildren, teachers, and villagers) learnt about the different problems and challenges brought about by the climate change phenomenon, uncontrolled deforestation, and destructive environmental developments in Western Highlands Province and throughout Papua New Guinea. This awareness has jumpstarted eagerness, curiosity (with some remote instances of panic!), and anticipation among the local people. The villagers gathered in big numbers to receive the project team and myself in visiting them at their respective localities throughout the Western Highlands Province over the last 15 months of project implementation.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The intense level of interest and demand locally for further awareness and education on climate change, carbon trade, reforestation, and climate change prompts me to develop a wide-reaching project plan to be submitted in December 2009 or January 2010 to RSG Foundation to secure a Continuation Grant to continue this project in the remaining schools and many other rural villages (and tribes) throughout the Western Highlands Province. Once the rest of the province is covered through this pilot initiative, then alone I can present a case to the Government of Papua New Guinea through the Office of Climate Change and Carbon Trade (under the Prime Minister's Department) to secure a larger grant to implement a major programme throughout several provinces or all the 20 provinces of Papua New Guinea. This initiative that I have started has vast potential to be replicated nationwide by private entities, non-profit entities, government departments and programmes, and private individuals (such as myself) – however, this would have to be based on a successful model which can be cultivated in this pilot initiative in the Western Highlands Province.

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

There are several windows of opportunity for me to share my work with others in Papua New Guinea and hopefully with other countries in the Pacific Region or rest of the developing world:

- To develop a new website and present the successful model of implementing widespread awareness on climate change, reforestation, conservation in schools and villages online so that many in the province, nation, region, and the world may learn, share, replicate, and be inspired to cause change for the better of the world;
- I will summarize the “lessons learnt” from implementing this project and present it in workshops, seminars, and forums organized occasionally by foreign aid donors or government entities anywhere in Papua New Guinea;
- Publish the “lessons learnt” from implementing this project in the next issue of my organization’s newsletter (“Kokop Newsletter”); To write a feature story on the success of my project and have both the local newspapers run the article for the rest of the readers throughout the country to read and be informed or inspired accordingly;
- To attend ceremonies, lectures, forums, gatherings, etc. that I am invited to speak and to make presentations on the successful outcomes of the awareness project to inspire, inform, and challenge listeners (in the audiences) to become proactive citizens in their own local communities when it comes to reforestation, rainforest conservation, and climate change (including opportunities in carbon trade).

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

The RSG Booster grant of £12,000 was used to implement the awareness education project between August 2008 and November 2009. This project was supposed to have been completed in 12 months time as planned initially but was delayed due principally to the following reason: the Government of Japan through their Embassy in Papua New Guinea offered a grant of US\$76,306 to me to build 6 new classrooms at my village’s primary school. I managed this project which was successfully completed in August 30, 2009 and was opening by the Ambassador of Japan to Papua New Guinea, Hon. Hajime Nishiyama, on November 6, 2009 at Kokop Village in the Western Highlands Province. In any event, I have finally been able to successfully complete this project in 16 months time (August 2008 – November 2009).

8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in UK£ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used:

Item	Budgeted	Actual	Difference(s)	Comments
Hire of vehicle for transportation to all the project sites	K25,000	K16,650	Exchange rate differences	PMV bus hired served its purpose
Hire of PA (loud hailer) system to use in presentations	K15,000	K7,350	Exchange rate differences	Loud hailer was not used in some places/ sites
Designing, printing, photocopying of awareness materials	K10,000	K6,835	Exchange rate differences	Every location received free brochures, leaflets, and information sheets

Laptop computer, software programmes	K5,000	K4,550	Exchange rate differences	1 laptop was bought with Anti-Virus, Adobe, MS Office Suite, etc.
Electronic projector and associated items	K5,000	K2,823	Exchange rate differences	Project was only used in areas where there was power accessible.
Fuel for hire vehicle	K10,000	K7,762	Exchange rate differences	Due to high fuel price, it was costly.
Notices, newspaper advertisements, radio messages, and public boards	K5,000	K4,938	Exchange rate differences	This expense item was paid to almost the budget ceiling.
Digital camera and related software, CDRs	K2,600	K2,832	Purchase price differed from quoted initially	Digital camera is of great help, even now. The pictures here a lot.
Administration and contingency funds	K2,132	K2,150	Over spent K18 only here	Money used to provide lunch and other incentives for me and project staff.
Totals:	K69,732 (UK£12,000)	K55,890 (UK£12,000)	Exchange rate in August 2008: UK1.00 = PNG K4.6575, Exchange rate in May 2008: UK£1.00 = PNG K5.8110	

Important Notes: The exchange rate fall from K5.8110 per pound in May 2008 to K4.6575 per pound in August 2008 meant a loss of K13,842 (£2,971). So, in actual fact, the project budget of £12,000 was subtracted of £2,971 or £3,000 by the fall in the exchange rate alone. This led to the slashing and trimming of the initial budget down and the actual expenses were prudently controlled which yielded eventually to the total expenditure of £12,000 or K55,890.

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

Firstly, right now in Papua New Guinea, carbon trade and climate change are becoming an explosive issue. The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Rt. Hon. Sir Michael Somare MP, is the Co-Chairman of the Coalition of Rainforest Nations (CRN) – a group of more than 50 developing countries that are promoting carbon financing for poor economies through the REDD scheme in the global carbon market. Because of the Prime Minister's international role, significance, and attention, the country here is experiencing massive publicity by the press on climate change and carbon trade.

Secondly, Papua New Guinea ranks as the second largest rainforest nation in the world behind Amazon in South America. As such, it elevates the global need to promote carbon trade via REDD scheme regarding the sale of carbon credits through managed rainforest conservation. Equally so is the colossal need to promote awareness on climate change and carbon trading among Papua New Guineans whose 6.5 million population is predominately illiterate.

Thirdly, uncontrollable deforestation through commercial logging by powerful multinational conglomerates operating in Papua New Guinea's virgin rainforests through bribery and extortion poses a threat to rainforest conservation, climate change mitigation, and carbon trade deals by local landowners. This reality requires greater and expanded awareness among the local population so that they will know the real value of forests before they allow any more deforestation to be perpetrated by corrupt-ridden foreign logging conglomerates.

These three major factors collectively show that there is a pressing need to locally promote awareness on rainforest conservation, discourage uncontrollable or unsustainable logging, educate people on financial income through eco-friendly economic ventures using rainforest such as carbon trade via REDD scheme in the global carbon markets. This alone poses a grand opportunity for me and particularly my NGO, Papua New Guinea Climate Change Foundation Incorporated to pursue in 2010 onwards.

With these as the background, I see my role as promoter, educator, informer, and campaigner for climate change, reforestation, rainforest conservation, carbon trade, and sustainable logging as reaching a new level and new height by 2010. This would require additional funding from Rufford Small Grants Foundation through the Continuation Grant to pursue this development agenda in 2010 here in the Western Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea.

Once I have used the Continuation Grant from RSGF in 2010 in successfully implementing a major roll out of awareness on these pressing environmental issues right around Western Highlands Province, then alone a model can be cultivated to be replicated in all the remaining 19 provinces in Papua New Guinea. This model can then be marketed to the Office of Climate Change and Carbon Trade in Papua New Guinea for major funding to my NGO to implement a 5 or 10 year programme on awareness regarding climate change, reforestation, rainforest conservation, carbon trade, and sustainable logging in the country in the years ahead.

10. Did you use the RSG logo in any of the materials produced in relation to this project? Did RSG receive any publicity during the course of your work?

The Rufford Small Grants logo was used in all the printed publications and also verbally through our presentations in all project sites/ locations. The *Post Courier* newspaper reporters ran a news article on the awareness work by my team middle of 2009.

11. Any other comments?

I am sincerely and extremely grateful to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for funding my projects in 2004, 2006, and 2008. The final one in 2008 was the Rufford Booster Grant of £12,000 of which this project completion report is being made. Such grants have opened broader horizons in donor funding for other of my projects and establishing my NGO in Papua New Guinea as a reputable environmental organization. Without Rufford Small Grants funding in 2004, 2006, and 2008, I would not have built a solid reputation in project management of community development projects and also I would not have built a now promising locally-founded NGO in Papua New



Guinea. My NGO, Papua New Guinea Climate Change Foundation Incorporated (formerly known as “Kokop Village Eco-Forestry Development Organization Incorporated or KVEDO Inc”) is now recognized by other foreign aid donors in Papua New Guinea as a promising and reputable aid-funds manager and project implementer. This could not have been possible without the initial injection of RSG funds in 2004, 2006, and 2008. I am hoping to send in my Continuation Grant Application to RSG by end of December 2009 or January 2010 to continue the noble environmental work I have started since August 2000. Thanks so very much, indeed.

12. I agree to this report being published on the Rufford Small Grants website?

I would appreciate if a summarized version of this report is published in the RSG website for anyone in Papua New Guinea or anywhere in the world to read and know, and probably use my experiences to better oneself in similar kinds of projects.