Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Ouedraogo Sambo
Project Title	Restoring communal forests to save threatened plants species in Burkina Faso (ReCoF/SaTPB)
Application ID	38184-1
Date of this Report	October 30th, 2024

1. 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
Identification of fruit, cultural and medicinal plants used by the populations living near two communal forests			Yes	This objective has been achieved. We found in each locality 10 most use ligneous species
Assessing the status of the populations the target species			Yes	The structure of the targeted species has been stablished and their dynamic assessed
Developing endogenous sustainable strategies to reduce communal forests vulnerability by target species			yes	Local people have been trained on three main technics to protect forest from continuous degradation

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

a). A census of species prevalent in local populations
In the 2 study sites, an ethnobotanical survey was carried out to identify species of interest to the local population.
In both locations, a list of 10 species most used by the local population was drawn up. These species offer a variety of useful uses, and have the potential to encourage people to preserve them.

b). Population dynamics of utility species
The demographic structure of utility species cited by the populations of the 2 localities was drawn up to evaluate the dynamics of these species that are useful to the populations.
in the zitenga site, the utilitarian species are: Balanites aegyptiaca,Vitellaria paradoxa, Parkia Biglobosa,Tamarindus indica,Adnsonia digitata,Sclerocarya birrea,Bombax costatum, Senegalia macrostacya,Ficus sur, Combretum micranthum while in Kombissiri, the list contains the same species except : Balanites aegyptiaca,Ficus sur, Combretum micranthum which are replaced by: Pterocarpus erinaceus, Deutarium microcarpa and Lannea microcarpa.
These results show stable dynamics for Vitellaria paradoxa, Lannea microcarpa, Combreum micranthum, Balanites aegyptiaca, Senegalia macrostachyac and Deutarium microcarpum, while the populations of Pterocarpus erinaceus, Ficus sur, Parkia biglobosa, Tamarindus indica, Adansonia digitata, Sclerocarya birrea and Bombax costatum show regressive dynamics in both zones.

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c). Training on endogenous conservative strategies

Training of surrounding peoples on three conservative strategies: Water retention trails, half-moons and local seed planting. For that, two groups of 10 men and 30 women (a village association group) of Zitenga and 25 persons in Kombissiri were trained on the three strategies to conserve forest soils fertility and boost forest self-restoration.

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

The main difficulty encountered during this project was the inaccessibility of the Kombissiri forest due to the security situation. There was a period when it was forbidden to penetrate certain forests. But fortunately, the measure concerning this forest has been lifted and we have been able to continue our activities.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.

People in the 2 zones welcomed the project and our team. They got involved on several levels:

- The chief of each village, the women's representative and the president of the village committee helped us prepare the inhabitants for the surveys.
- the target populations in the 2 localities agreed to take part in the training courses
- the people actively participated in the planting we carried out in the communal forests

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are some plans:

-control invasive species expansion in the two forests
-estimate carbon stock of these two communal forests for conservation purposes
-Identify candidate plant species for cuttings in degraded areas

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

To share our results, we have prepared posters for the public (5 per locality), and a scientific article is being drafted for submission to a scientific journal by the end of December.

The results will also be presented at a scientific symposium in 2025.

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

In view of these results and their importance, we plan to continue monitoring the implementation of strategies and planting local species of interest identified by local populations.

We plan to investigate the traditional and religious practices used to preserve plant biodiversity and produce a catalog for the municipalities hosting the study.

8. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Yes, we used the Foundation's logo for field work (equipment), for printed posters and on purchased equipment (computer).

in the article to be published, the foundation will be identified as the funder of the study.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.
Issaka Joseph BOUSSIM: Head of the Lab, scientific supervisor of the team
Sambo OUEDRAOGO, Pincipal investigator, Grant
Loyapin BONDE, advisor in research methodologie,
Wendemy Fracois Kagambèga, advisor in methodology and results communication
Georges DAO, field work, data analysis