

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	Alex Asase
Project title	Cultivation and conservation education on some endangered medicinal plants used for the treatment of malaria and wounds in Ghana.
RSG reference	10.11.08
Reporting period	May 2009 - April 2010
Amount of grant	£5850
Your email address	aasase@ug.edu.gh
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
Objective # 1: To establish a 10 acre garden for selected endangered medicinal plants at the University of Ghana			x	The activities under this objective, including acquisition of gardening tools, collection of plant materials for propagation, establishment of a nursery, land site preparation and transplanting of seedlings and production of labels, were achieved.
Objective #2: To promote conservation awareness about selected plants among Ghanaian university students.			x	This objective has also been largely achieved. We have trained 20 Ghanaian students on cultivation and sustainable harvesting of medicinal plants. The handbook for cultivation and sustainable harvesting of medicinal plants in Ghana has been completed but being revised based on the inputs / recommendations at the workshop to make it more user-friendly.

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

Climate change was an important factor that affected the timing of transplanting of the seedlings. We could therefore not transplant seedlings as initially scheduled.

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

(1) The establishment of a garden for the selected endangered medicinal plants that will ensure that the cultivated plants are conserved and can also be used for further education and training.

(2) Training of 20 Ghanaian university students on how to propagate, cultivate and sustainable harvest medicinal plants.

(3) The production of a user-friendly manual on the cultivation and sustainable harvesting of medicinal plants.

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

There was no direct involvement of local communities in this work. However, the project involved Ghanaian students who benefitted from the training provided.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, given the high rate of acceptance and successful implementation.

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

The results of the work will be shared through the handbook and also published elsewhere where appropriate.

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

The RSG grant was implemented over a period 12 months. Funds were received on the 30th of April, 2009 and the project implementation started in May 2009. The anticipated length for the project was generally reasonable.

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
Cost of maintenance and fuel for vehicle for field trip to collect seed and other planting materials in nearby forests.	300.00	300.00	0	
Cost of gardening tools (including shovels, forks, pick axe, watering cans etc).	700.00	750.00	-50.00	Prices of some tools were a little bit higher.
Cost of preparation and maintenance of compost.	500.00	450.00	+ 50.00	
Cost of establishing and maintenance of nursery.	600.00	600	0	
Cost of land preparation including planting beds.	300.00	300	0	
Cost of labels containing information on species names, families, origin, uses of plants and conservation status for display in garden.	500.00	500.00	0	
Cost of fencing the garden with wire gauze.	500.00	500.00	0	
Cost of production of handbook on cultivation of 20 endangered medicinal plants in Ghana @ £10 x 50 copies.	500.00	600.00	-100.00	Cost increased because of coloured photographs.
Cost of developing and printing 50 colour posters @ £5 x 50 copies.	250.00	0	+250.00	Coloured photographs and other information

				on the plants where added to handbook.
Cost of transport, food and accommodation for students for a three day-workshop @ £100 x 15 students.	1500.00	1700.00	-200.00	We were able to involve more students than initially indicated and spent less per person.
Cost of equipment hire, materials and other running cost associated with a three-day workshop.	500.00	300.00	+ 200.00	Some support received from the applicant's institution.
TOTAL	5850.00	6000.00	- 150.00	

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

This is a very good project that needs to be continued. The project must be expanded to include the propagation, cultivation and conservation education on other plants especially endemic, economic and endangered plants in Ghana. Training for local farmers and traditional healers on how to cultivate these plants is also highly recommended.

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 was printed on all materials produced in this project. We also acknowledged the source of funding during the course of the work using the logo.