

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	Alehegn Taye Shiferaw
Project title	Enhancing the Awareness and Participation of Local Communities for Sustainable Conservation of the Swayne's Hartebeest (<i>Alceluphus buselaphus Swaynei</i>).
RSG reference	14133-1
Reporting period	September 2013 to November 2014
Amount of grant	£ 6000
Your email address	alehegnt74@gmail.com
Date of this report	29/11/14

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
Entering the community and building trust			✓	It needs continuous awareness work with the community due to resource conflict.
Identifying, supporting and mandating effective local organisation			✓	Still more need to be done on churches and religious leaders.
Feedback to the community			✓	Enthusiastic community participation was achieved
Participatory learning and action on biodiversity, conservation, ecotourism and hospitality			✓	Here it needs day to day activities to understand their environment
Capacity building and establish nature clubs in all surrounding educational institutions		✓		Raising community awareness and enhancing their participation through establishing the task group was urgent hence take more effort and budget. For sustainable participation of the community persistent endeavour need to be done on surrounding elementary schools and educational institutions.
Facilitate conditions for knowledge transferring in the respective school		✓		A lot need to be done; time limitation was the bottleneck. The introductory work was interesting therefore if we make move the acceptance is good.
Promoting the park and designing community's benefits from it		✓		Requires more promotion works to attract more internal as well as external visitors and income in addition to benefit from resources from the park

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

- Unusual extended rainy season make the already scrambled road networking more difficult for communications.
- The unexpectedly increased inflation enhanced extra expenditures.
- Reduced initiation and trust among the local community during the inception period of the project to make continued community meeting and discussions inviting them into the system has taken unexpectedly lot time and endurances.

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

- Recurring of uncontrolled fire that escaped into the park has dramatically decreased.
- Hunting of wild animals including the Swayne's Hartebeest has almost stopped.
- Intruders for fuel and construction wood collection and for grazing of domestic animals into the park has decreased.

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

- Task forces from the local community, non-formal institution and formal administrative sector has been established, strengthened and actively engaged in the parks administrative activity which is the land marking success of the project.
- System for all judiciary and punishment activities for the intruders and other miss obedient has been formulated by the community and task forces and practising has been established.
- Participation of the local community in park protection (scouting) and decision making enhanced.
- The local community habituate using cutting and carry system of grass.
- The local community directly participated in controlling and conservation activates adopting cut and carry systems, so their animals are not dying because of lose of feeding during offseason. Local peasant administrative income has increased from punishment

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- Yes indeed!!
- A lot has to be done at elementary and junior schools for long lasting mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation.
- On surrounding community youths regarding ecotourism and self-employment.

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

- Organising repeated workshops and preset our findings, challenges and strength for the relevant sectors.

- Participating on the different the like workshops elsewhere in the country and present our project results.
- Compiling the project results and consulting with the educational systems for mainstreaming the project results and sustainable bio conservation practices.

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

For almost 1 year and almost the first 3 months were spent for interring into the community and building trust and initiation among the community.

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
Stationery, tools and training materials (videos, pictures, movies, printed t-shirts, hats etc...) purchase	556	600	-44	
Radio and TV broadcasting fee	741	0	+741	Covered by government
Budget for transport facilities and communication	1000	1200	-200	
Training materials (manual) preparation	370	305	+65	
conferences with higher governmental delegates and other stakeholders	370	378	-8	
Payment for subsistence during preparing the community (community mobilisation)	926	1425	-499	
Mainstreaming nature conservation awareness in surrounding elementary schools	852	372	+480	
Facilitating and establishing nature club in the respective schools	370	300	+70	
Preparing and facilitating conference with the community	185	663	-478	
Establishing and empowering participating (working with) group	630	757	-127	
TOTAL	6000	6000		

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

- Supervising and mentoring the already established taskforces.
- Mainstreaming landscape biodiversity conservation skills and knowledge into the educational system.
- Capacity building and helping the local community youths in self employment, ecotourism, and non timber forest products (apiculture, mushroom production, etc...).

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 indeed, very much!!
- Yes we've used the logo on the big regional workshops held at our park, we have introduced the logo and RSG motto to different universities like Arba Minch University, Biology Department and we have distributed RSGF logo for different higher delegates on different workshops and meetings.

11. Any other comments?

Today the local communities are conscious of their environment and of issues of biodiversity and conservation. And they are attentively looking up the area more than before. What needed is day today follow up. Moreover working on children's in elementary school indisputable. So if we may have possibility to continue the project we will work more on surrounding schools, educational institutions and women.