

The Rufford Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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	David Dawson Maleko
Project title	Ecological survey and community empowerment for conservation of Critically Endangered Uluguru Bush-shrike (<i>Malaconotus alius</i>) in Uluguru Mountains, Tanzania
RSG reference	14662-1
Reporting period	March 2014 – Feb. 2015
Amount of grant	£5827
Your email address	davedive2@yahoo.com
Date of this report	10 March 2015

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
Current population of <i>M. alius</i> and habitat condition known, and maps for <i>M. alius</i> population distribution produced and made available		✓		Very few individual birds were spotted or heard and habitat condition was poor due to high levels of disturbance, illegal logging being major factor. Maps for bird distribution with accordance to habitat condition and altitude produced and waiting for approval from respective authorities
Permanent transects and plots established and used to monitor both population and habitat quality of <i>M. alius</i> inside Uluguru Nature Reserve and in the outer nearby secondary forests in the village lands.		✓		Due to safety reasons and ensuring that there is continuous monitoring of the <i>M. alius</i> habitat condition and population the existing forest trails for management and tourist activities were used and a systematic survey protocol and data sheets were produced and adopted by both forest rangers and local forest guards.
At least 10 forest rangers and 10 local people (indigenous ecologists) trained on forest disturbance and bird survey techniques and actively involved in the project activities (field surveys)			✓	Six forest rangers and nine local forest guards trained on forest disturbance and bird survey techniques and now continuing with the surveys.
At least six local artisans both women and men in the communities are trained in the production and installation of the firewood efficient cook stoves, and at least 198 energy efficient cook stoves are installed in 198 households inhabiting slopes and plateaus of Uluguru mountains.			✓	This was fully achieved. However, adoption rate was not uniform across the three project villages. Moreover, there were two additional villages out of the project area that also adopted the technology.
Improved public and key stakeholders' awareness on the conservation status, threats and sustainable measures for conserving the critically endangered Uluguru bush-shrike (<i>Malaconotus alius</i>).			✓	This objective was well achieved through training and flyer distribution; however more efforts are needed to foster sustainable livelihoods as still some community members are purchasing illegally harvested wood unknowingly.

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

Steep slopes and hazardous terrain was amongst major setback during the bird surveys and this was tackled through sticking to the existing forest management trails with limited establishment of new transect lines. Another challenge was lack of interest to the project activities in a one project village in which it took long time to create awareness and even adoption rate was very low compared to other villages. Major reason for resistance was noted to be some community members were growing plants that are banned by the government and they were unhappy to see outsiders in their village. This challenge was overcome through working closely with community leaders and government officials at the respective village.

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

- Promotion of adoption of efficient cook stoves to the three project villages in which over 200 stoves were built under the initiatives set by this project. Awareness on the importance of using improved cook stoves in relation to reduced use of fuelwoods and improved household health through reduced household air pollution and other benefits. Training of local artisans and establishment of fuel wood efficient cook stove promotion groups in the project villages was amongst major drivers for achievement of this initiative.
- Awareness on the importance of conserving the critically endangered Uluguru bushshrike (*Malaconotus alius*) raised amongst different community members. At the end of the project most of the community members (over 50%) were more aware on both existence and conservation importance of this endemic bird species in the Uluguru Mountains. In which, conservation threats to the bird such as unsustainable fuel wood collection, logging and debarking of large trees for medicinal products inside the reserve were easily pointed out by community members.
- Permanent transects and datasheets for population monitoring of the critically endangered Uluguru bushshrike (*Malaconotus alius*) and disturbance monitoring established and adopted by both forest rangers and village environmental groups around Uluguru Nature Reserve. However, only few individual birds were seen or heard the survey identified the hotspots for directing conservation efforts for ensuring continuous survival and increased population of *M. alius*. Also, confirmed that very low population of the *M. alius* still exists in Uluguru Mountains in particular inside Uluguru Nature Reserve. Moreover, it was clearly observed that *M. alius* is very sensitive to disturbance and it only inhabits in natural undisturbed forest areas.

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

There was a high level of community participation including women and youths from selection of project beneficiaries, construction of fuelwood efficient cook stoves and bird survey. In which, vulnerable groups community members including very poor, women and youths were equally involved through the project life. Full involvement of community members was a reason for the success of this

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. There is an urgent need to foster efforts for up-scaling and out-scaling the fuel wood efficient cook stove technology to other villages (community members) that were outside this project for ensuring that there is large scale efforts for conserving the Critically Endangered Uluguru bush-shrike (*Malaconotus alius*) in Tanzania. Also, there is a need to promote further adoption of conservation agriculture and tree planting practices in the households residing in the Uluguru Mountains for reduced deforestation and forest degradation.

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

Through publication of the project findings into scientifically peer reviewed journal, presenting in relevant conferences and sending articles/stories to relevant organisations/media. For example, I wrote a story regarding the importance of conserving the Uluguru Mountains in a newsletter (ISSN 9987640028) vol. 17 Nov. 2014 of the Sokoine University of Agriculture.

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

11 months compared to the anticipated 12 months

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
Binoculars (six items) for bird watching	120	120	0	A high quality four Bushnell PowerView Super High-Powered Surveillance Binoculars were bought instead of six and each was 30 GBP
Tape recorder and Microphone (Marantz PMD-222 audiocassette recorder, Sennheiser K6-ME66 directional microphone, plus the shipping costs and Raven Interactive Sound Analysis Software for analysis of bird callings	630	425	205	Sony PCM-D50 Portable High Resolution Audio Recorder for the same purpose was bought instead following advice from an ornithologist.
GPS navigation device for recording coordinates, altitudes and for mapping and tracking	125	360	-235	Three GPSs were bought instead of one as the three project villages were distantly located and it was deemed necessary to provide one for each village environmental group for bird monitoring
Digital camera of high resolution for project documentation	300	300	0	

Stationeries, fliers, leaflets, poster and brochures for publicity and awareness raising	450	340	110	Cost for poster and brochures were relatively low compared to budgeted
First aid kits for provision of initial care in case of illness or injury	80	80	0	
Hiking boots for field team protection during survey on the mountain	150	180	-30	Number of people who were deemed necessary for support of hiking boots and gum boots during the field surveys was higher than that of prior planned
Tape measure for measuring the plot dimensions	12	12	0	
Accommodation for the field team	680	690	-10	
Transport costs for the project team and partners (Fuel and car hiring)	860	500	360	Some money that was budgeted for car hiring was saved as the Uluguru Nature Reserve Management car was used in some field trips and fuel prices went down
Meals and refreshments for the-project team during field work	720	720	0	
Inception and feedback workshops and meetings	900	900	0	
Training and production of firewood efficient cook stoves	800	1200	-400	Metal cylinder for chimney was an additional item/cost for making the cook stoves more efficient and durable and it was not budgeted earlier. During project implementation it was deemed to be necessary to support the poor households with the item in order to increase both efficiency and adoption of the improved stoves especially through drastic reduction in household air pollution.
Total	5827	5827	0	

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

Further promotion of adoption and effective use of the energy efficient cook stoves, permanent monitoring of the bird population and reduction of habitat disturbance are important undertakings. Tree planting and conservation tillage promotion are key steps towards ensuring that higher rates of habitat loss for Uluguru bushrike are curbed.

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

Yes. RSGF logo was used in the project flyers and posters during various project activities including trainings and village meetings.

11. Any other comments?

The duration of the project seemed to be short and there is a need to keep boosting the adoption and use of efficient cook stoves for reduced forest degradation in the Uluguru Mountains.

