

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	Veronica Jenge
Project title	The Promotion and upscaling of conservation Education, Participation and Awareness creation for the conservation of Eyasi basin, Tanzania
RSG reference	16665-2
Reporting period	June 2016
Amount of grant	£4950
Your email address	VeroJenge@gmail.com
Date of this report	2016-08-22

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
Community Awareness on Eyasi's important ecosystem services			X	We were able to conduct all awareness programmes and activities as planned.
Development of wetland based school curricula		X		We had a full primary curriculum on environmental education developed but there were some few concerns from other schools to try and make it simpler considering the limited resources available within there schools. Five schools have therefore been earmarked to have a revised simpler curriculum that will integrate their day to day.
Setting up of Youth wetland week and Youth Water day			X	Our four activities for the youth wetland week and water week were successfully carried out with maximum participation from different youth groups. We are planning to involve more partners who can pledge and commit to annual support for the activities.
Capacity building on wetland monitoring			X	Successfully trained 11 youths and community members on wetland monitoring which has become very useful in both quarterly and bi-annual monitoring of the habitat in

				Eyasi.
Networking and stakeholders forum.		X		We have networked with three other departments in the local government (fisheries, environmental and rural development) who have been helpful in helping implement some of our activities. We however are still discussing with two NGOs to bring them on-board and have a much stronger all-inclusive consortium.

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

Just as expected we had some difficulties securing an agreeable date for the stakeholder's forum. We wanted to make sure all are able to attend. We however were helped by the elected chairman of the forum who managed to get all the partners and stakeholders agree to specific dates. Even though two of the attendance were about 95% all the other four meetings had 100% attendance.

Two of the trained youths had to leave the village for other commitments and this became a small challenge as we had to further train more youths on basic habitat monitoring. The two youth members have always been in contact and occasionally come to the site for briefs and to help with monitoring.

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

- A. Community awareness and promotion of environmental education. We carried out seven community awareness programmes within the Eyasi region and five school outreaches. These programmes were very important as we got to discuss and elaborate about the important Eyasi ecosystem and the need to protect and preserve the lake. We were able to reach a total of 234 people from the community and schools. Our initial target was between 250-300 people.
- B. Establishment of the Eyasi Village Environmental Committee (VEMC). The VEMC was set up to help with defending and raising awareness on the Eyasi

basin as a local resource. The VEMC also presented a petition to the local authority about upstream developments which are causing a lot of health and environmental problems in the basin. Additionally, the VEMC also started the process of advocating for the development of a community environmental management plan which will help in safeguarding the already made gains in the 1st and 2nd RSG projects

- C. Development of the habitat checklist for Eyasi basin was a great milestone for us. One of the most comprehensive datasheets has now been developed for the basin during the project time. We are still geared and insistent on continuing with the monitoring and identification of other all the species in the basin.

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

The community was directly involved in all the activities within the project at different capacities. For example, the stakeholder's forum was composed only of local representatives who are interested in conserving Eyasi basin. This meant that the decisions of the forum were a representation of what the community wants and advocates for. Through the VEMC the community members also participated in developing petitions for the overlook into developments in upstream areas. A lot of pollutants flow downstream to the basin and thus affecting the locals. It's a petition that is now with the local representatives.

Furthermore, monitoring of the habitat (vegetation and animals) has been solely done by the local community who were trained in basic monitoring skills. This we believed is a more sustainable way of ensuring continuity in monitoring as the skills will further be shared within other community members

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We are very much planning on continuing our conservation work in Eyasi. Both the two projects have had immense outcomes and the work has put Eyasi in a national limelight through the contacts in the local authority. We hope that with our previous work we can convince stakeholders to come together and establish a Management Plan for the basin that will be helpful in its conservation and protection.

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

Written reports and final comprehensive report will be available at the information centre in the local government offices, schools and churches. This will enable

everyone to have access to the reports and assess the outcome of the project. We will also conduct post project seminars and trainings where the information will be shared. Furthermore, through local programmes and radio channels, we can highlight and inform on the project. Similarly, through publications of information, education and communication materials such as fliers, brochures and relevant adverts.

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

The project was carried out for a total of 14 months even though it was planned for only 12 months. This was anticipated as there were some activities that required more time to organise and execute.

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
Training and workshop	850	895	+45	The purchase of stationery rose a bit compared to the planned budget. We had to buy extra fuel for running the generator (electricity for projector and training requirements)
Development of Environmental school curricula	480	500	+20	The difference of 20 pounds was due to extra drafts of the school curricula
Youth Wetland Week and water week	800	840	+40	We had to pay two community members to help with logistics for one of the days as two of our volunteers could not make it on time for the Youth Wetland day.
Networking and	650	650	0	

Awareness creation				
Service Learning Training	670	720	+50	We travelled to Arusha for some service learning training and extra costs due to the travel were incurred.
Biodiversity assessment/monitoring	620	620	0	
Project operational cost	380	375	+5	
Monitoring and evaluation	500	350	-150	We were able to do the monitoring of the project and evaluation within the facilities of the county office and therefore some of our earlier planned costs were reduced especially during the community evaluation of the project.
Total	4950	4980		

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

The most important initiative and steps would be to expand and do more intensive outreach and education programmes in Eyasi basin. We are already continuing to foster and improve our networks especially NGOs working in the area and also with the country government departments. We believe that with more stakeholders on board we will be able to achieve a much greater impact.

Other important next steps could include:

- a. Identifying low cost actions/interventions that the community can undertake to protect the basin.
- b. Employ rigorous scientific approach in investigating the distribution patterns and persistence of different species.
- c. Continue with annual monitoring of Eyasi Basin and especially the lake.

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 we used RSG on all the publications and letter head. In all our meetings and outreach RSG was always acknowledged as the funding organisation and therefore the community members are aware of the role RSG has played in

11. Any other comments?

In order to have a long term conservation a new paradigm approach involving a bottom-up approach is necessary. We have noticed that meaningful conservation change is only possible and effective if its lead by the community as opposed to the