

Final Project Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Caleb Boateng Ofori
Project Title	Scaling-up conservation efforts for the long-term protection of the critically endangered Togo-slippy frog (<i>Conraua derooi</i>) in Ghana
Application ID	19741-D
Grant Amount	£10,000
Email Address	calebofori@gmail.com
Date of this Report	02/11/2018

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
Reduce communities' dependence on critically endangered frogs stream habitat by improving community water supply				60% reduction in local communities' dependence on the slippery frogs' stream habitat realised through the construction of a single mechanised well (borehole).
Reduce hunting pressures on critically endangered frogs by engaging and educating school children on conservation				70% of the sampled population are now unwilling to hunt frogs for food after attending our awareness campaign and after school conservation programmes.

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

One project activity was to provide an indoor conservation learning experience based on a computer software application. Unfortunately, the Ghanaian-based Swiss developer encountered some problems (his company was hacked) and so could not deliver. Our after-school conservation activities was therefore only field-based.

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

An important outcome of this project is a significant reduction in people's dependence on the target frogs' habitat. About 60% of the population of the target community now depend on mechanised water well and reservoirs provide by this project for their daily water supply instead of the village stream that also harbours the last remaining population of the critically endangered Togo slippery frog. Two other wells will be constructed in January 2019 through additional funding that will be provided by Rainforest Trust. It is expected that the reduction in direct human interference in the frog's stream habitats will significantly increase reproductive success which will ultimately increase adult frog population.

Another important outcome is pupils' unwillingness to hunt frogs (behaviour change). During the project people young schoolchildren who hunt endemic frog for food and as an after-school fun activity were fully engaged in our after-school nature conservation activities including camera trapping. Thus, a high proportion of their after-school daily activity budget was taken up by our conservation programme. Thanks to a well-articulated behaviour change campaign incorporated into this after school activities, local people now prefer other protein

sources to frog meat as revealed by project monitoring conducted by university students from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. A significant reduction in frog hunting and consumption is therefore expected. In the absence of the direct threat of harvest, the Togo slippery frog population is likely to increase.

In addition to the above outcomes, our conservation interventions and outreach programs has led to wide acceptance of our conservation project in the target communities resulting in the donation of 1000 acres of private and community forest land for conservation. In the past 12 months we worked together with Rainforest Trust to legally designate 847 acres of this land as a new protected area in Ghana - the first of its kind (<https://www.modernghana.com/news/885709/ghana-sets-aside-847-acres-of-land-to-protect-endangered-fro.html>).

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

Local communities were actively involved in project implementation. Four representatives, two from each community, locally facilitated all aspects of project implementation. They organised, for example, inception meetings with stakeholders, community labour, and provided updates and feedback to the traditional authorities and the general community.

In addition to these four local project representatives, we also recruited and trained 10 young people between the ages of 14 - 28 as behaviour change champions in communities. These behaviour change champions had extra tuition from the project team on frog conservation and thus better understanding that enabled them to educate their peers. The participation of local personnel in project activities have significantly enhanced their capacity in project design and implementation.

The project also provided alternative water for the community with an original goal of reducing negative human impact on the target frogs' stream habitat. Incidentally, this activity also improved community water supply bringing social benefits which we believe has been critical in catalysing additional community support for the conservation of the target species and its associated habitat. The underground mechanised well that the project provided provides cleaner water and is much closer to the community. This has significantly reduced the time spent by women and children to fetch water from the village stream. Also, children are less infected by waterborne diseases and now have more time to spend in school instead of at the local clinic and hospitals.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes.

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

We have already drafted a manuscript in collaboration with colleagues and a professor at the University of Oxford that will soon be submitted to the International

Journal of Conservation, Oryx for publication. We have also shared our knowledge of the uniqueness of the project area with relevant government authorities including the Wildlife Division of Ghana and the local government authorities of the Ho West District Assembly.

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

The grant was expended over a 20-month period compared to an originally proposed 12-month period.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Living cost for 3 undergraduate students conducting project monitoring	420	560	140	Because of language differences students took longer to administer questionnaires. Two students worked for 14-days
Living cost for 3 project implementing team members	410	410	0	
Project T-shirts	950	500	450	We got a good deal for £5/T-shirt
Documentaries	435	450	60	
Projector	475	450	25	We got a better version for a little more than the budgeted amount
Cost of software	750	0	750	The developer could not deliver as promised, so we did not pay
Desktop computers	1,575	0	1575	Because the software was not delivered the computers were not required
Water testing and treatment kits	1,000	0	1000	Engineers advised to drill a deeper water well instead of harvesting water
Briquetting system for placing reservoirs	100	500	400	Initial cost was heavily underestimated
Cost of filters, taps and	300	0	300	The underground well was

other accessories				clean and safe to drink. No filters were necessary
Labour cost	200	600	400	
transporting	200	350	150	
reservoirs	1,500	3000	1500	We needed twice the budgeted reservoirs to meet the demand of the 3000 users
rain gutters and downspouts	550	0	550	As above, we did not harvest water, thus this was not required
drilling and mechanization of well	1,192	3200	1192	We drilled deeper and this cost a bit more
Total	9997	10005		

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

As earlier mentioned the local people donated 1000 acres of land for the conservation of the target species and other co-occurring threatened wildlife species. Using additional funding leveraged from the Rainforest Trust we successfully established an 847 acre protected area using municipal laws of the Ho West District. Expanding this reserve to 15,000 acres is important and will protect 11 other endangered species including mammals and birds and an important watershed that provides drinking water to over a 100, 000 people.

10. 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?

In a press released declaring the establishment of a new protected area the foundation's role in catalysing this landmark achievement was acknowledged, published and widely circulated. In addition, we printed the foundations logo on all project materials and PowerPoint presentations made to key government officials.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Michael Akrasi: Coordinated aspects of the project relating to awareness campaigns and students after school program

Francis Gyan: Coordinated aspects of the project relating to provision of alternative water source as well as project monitoring

Juluis Selasi: Organized and facilitated local involvement in one of the target communities

Average Ameh: Played key role in the involvement of traditional authorities in the project execution.

John Akagbor: University student involved I project monitoring

12. Any other comments?

I am very grateful to The Rufford Foundation continuous support to my conservation activities in Ghana.

