

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	Madeleine Nyiratuza
Project title	Reducing the conflicts between local farmers and the managers of the Gishwati Forest Reserve, Rwanda
RSG reference	12294-1
Reporting period	October 2012-September 2013
Amount of grant	£5800
Your email address	nyiratuzam@gmail.com
Date of this report	11th October 2013

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
Train members of JYAMBERE cooperative in modern beekeeping			x	Members of JYAMBERE cooperative welcomed the project and both training sessions went very well. 15 members of JYAMBERE received a 10-day training by trainers from three local beekeeping cooperatives (COAPIRU, CODACE and COVED) and one person from the local Beekeepers Union (UNICOAPIGI) and on their turn they trained their colleagues during 5 days.
Support JYAMBERE cooperative to buy beekeeping equipment			x	FHA paid a fee to UNICOAPIGI to orient and assist JYAMBERE to buy beekeeping equipment. This activity went very well. Two members of JYAMBRE who were selected by the general assembly went to markets to buy the equipment with two people from UNICOAPIGI who were showing them where to get the equipment, the best quality and the right prices.
Support JYAMBERE cooperative to install the beehives			x	UNICOAPIGI oriented JYAMBERE in installing beehives. It availed three experienced people to orient JYAMBERE members to arrange the modern beehives in the apiaries and the traditional beehives in trees around the forest.
Support JYAMBERE cooperative to care for the hives and bees			x	UNICOAPIGI assisted JYAMBERE to get bees that are trapped in traditional beehives and to transfer them in modern hives. They continue to assist them in caring for the apiaries, the hives and the bees. FHA monitored all of the activities and the final evaluation showed the project achieved its objectives by 95%. The only problem met is the delay in installing beehives because it took time to finalise the construction of the apiaries.

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

As mentioned above, the only difficulty we met during implementation of this project is the delay in installing the beehives. This was because the construction of the apiaries delayed to be completed. We were expecting funding from an individual donor who finally was not able to provide this support because of economic issues. Two apiaries were constructed and the total cost was £1240. FHA provided £900 from the money that we gained from hosting guests and members of JYAMBERE cooperative contributed £340 from the benefits (from interest) they earned in lending money to cooperative members and other local people. This again confirmed that JYAMBERE cooperative is committed to this beekeeping business.

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

The three most important outcomes of this project are:

- **Members of JYAMBERE cooperative gained knowledge, skills and attitudes in modern beekeeping:** As mentioned above one person from COAPIRU (Cooperative des Apiculteurs de Ruhango), one person from CODACE (Cooperative de Developpement Apicole et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement), one person from COVED (Cooperatives des Volontaires pour l'Environnement et le Developpement) and one person from UNICOAPIGI (Union de Cooperatives Apicoles de Gishwati) trained 15 members of JYAMBERE in modern beekeeping. The trained people went and trained their colleagues under supervision of FHA and UNICOAPIGI. The farmers were very happy to learn new skills and to participate in another income generating activity apart from planting crops and rearing cows.
- **A new beekeeping site is created around the Gishwati Forest Reserve:** COAPIRU has five beekeeping sites, CODACE has five and COVED has four sites. Having one more site is going to increase the honey produced in the area and thus increase the beekeeping business viability and the cash income that is injected in the local economy.
- **The created beekeeping site is operational:** Although JYAMBERE cooperative members will start benefiting from this business in January/February 2014, we are confident that the money that members of JYAMBERE cooperative will get from this business will help to reduce the conflicts of illegal cattle grazing and crop raiding and also to improve livelihoods of these farmers. FHA signed a contract with them to ensure that this is implemented and we will continue to monitor their work and look for more funding to strengthen and extend this business. Also with the benefits from this business, JYAMBERE will be able to extend this business around the forest in the future. We estimate the annual income from this business to £3000 where each cooperative member will receive £35. This income will incentivise these farmers to transform the few existing plots for crops into pastures up to at least 300 m from the forest edge to mitigate crop raiding and to buy the wire to fence their plots to prevent cows from entering the forest. Indeed, the revenue will back the income from the sale of cows and milk to buy fresh maize and flour and other household needs, pay school fees for children or pay for health expenses.

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

83 local farmers grouped in JYAMBERE cooperative are the direct beneficiaries of this project. All of them were involved in this project. They participated in an inception meeting in which FHA explained to them the objectives of the project, the implementation process and the expected outcomes. They were also all trained in modern beekeeping, participated and financially contributed in constructing the apiaries, participated in installing beehives, and all participate in caring for the apiaries, beehives and bees. These cooperative members benefited from the training in modern beekeeping as they gained new knowledge, skills and attitudes. Also they will soon earn money from sale of honey and wax. Other beneficiaries are members of other local beekeeping cooperatives (COAPIRU, CODACE and COVED) and the Beekeepers Union (UNICOAPIGI). They benefited from fees they received to train JYAMBERE members and in addition UNICOAPIGI received a fee to orient and monitor the work of JYAMBERE. Also all of these cooperatives and UNICOAPIGI will benefit from increased income from honey that will be processed and sold at the national market.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, FHA and JYAMBERE are planning to continue this work. It will take JYAMBERE about 2 years to gather enough income to extend this business. In the meanwhile, FHA will continue to write grant proposals to support JYAMBERE to improve the two apiaries and extend them, continue to build their capacity in modern beekeeping, and to create new beekeeping sites around the forest. If funds are received, they will help to maximise the income from beekeeping and therefore increase the rate of reducing illegal cattle grazing in the forest and crop raiding done by chimpanzees and monkeys. This will also increase the proliferation of bees that are very important in crops pollination. Indeed; this will contribute to the improvement of local livelihoods; thus the reduction of diseases and deaths caused by malnutrition and poor health conditions, and school drop outs caused by lack of school materials for children and per diems for teachers.

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

The results of this work will be included in our annual reports to our partners including Rutsiro District; four Sectors adjacent to the forest (Kigeyo, Ruhango, Nyabirasi and Mushonyi), Ministry of Local Government, Rwanda Governance Board, Ministry of Natural Resources, Rwanda Natural Resources Authority and Rwanda Development Board. We will share the final report of this project with JYAMBERE cooperative and we will post it to FHA website.

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

We started implementing this grant in November 2012 and we end in October 2013. We were expecting to report on this grant in early of November 2013. We report this time to comply with Rufford Small Grant Foundation requirements. We are happy that we achieved most of planned activities during this period.

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.

The local exchange rate when we bought equipment was 1£= RWF980.

Item	Budgeted Amount (£)	Actual Amount (£)	Difference	Comments
Training in modern beekeeping (training equipment, materials, transportation and fees to trainers)	704	691	13	Balance from exchange rate
Fee to UNICOAPIGI for follow up and guidance	244	240	4	Balance from exchange rate
Buying modern beehives (Langstroths)	3000	2982	18	Balance from exchange rate
Traditional beehives	450	417	33	£3 from exchange rate and £30 from reducing beehives from 45 to 42
Honey extractor	484	481	3	Balance exchange rate
Smokers	60	45	15	£15 from reducing smokers from 4 to 3
Hand tools	24	18	6	£3 from reducing hand tools from 4 to 3
Bee brushes	8	8	0	Balance exchange rate
Capping scratchers	20	15	5	£5 from reducing capping scratchers from 4 to 3
Queen excluders	800	795	5	Balance from exchange rate
Bee suits	96	72	24	£24 from reducing bee suits from 4 to 3
Buckets	12	12	0	

Gloves	24	24	0	
TOTAL	5926	5800	126	£ 126 was subtracted from the budget in the proposal to meet the £5800 provided

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

The next steps are continuing caring for the apiaries, beehives and bees; and improving and extending the apiaries to host more beehives. Also training JYAMBERE cooperative members in improving the honey quality and multiplying the queens will be important. It will also be important to extend this business around the forest. FHA will continue to write more grant proposals for this end and will continue to work closely with JYAMBERE to ensure that some of the income is used to mitigate crop raiding and illegal cattle grazing. JYAMBERE may also be able to use some of income to extend this business in the future.

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, we used RSGF logo in presentations we made in our quarterly stakeholder consultation meetings. During the course of our work, we explained to all of the stakeholders that the money we are using to support JYAMBERE cooperative to start the beekeeping business was provided by Rufford Small Grant Foundation. This was done in meetings and written reports. Also in grant proposals that we write, we acknowledge the support of RSGF as the source of funding to start the beekeeping business in the vicinity of the forest.

11. Any other comments?

We thank the RSGF for supporting these farmers to start the beekeeping business. The project has positive effects on the forest regeneration and on its biodiversity and also on local livelihoods. We hope to continue working with RSGF to extend this beekeeping business and in other projects.