

Final report to the Jana Robeyst Trust Fund

Project Title:	the Mbeli-Bai Study
Organisation:	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
Award Amount:	US\$1,724 (Seventeen hundred twenty-four Dollars)
Award Date:	8-September-2016
Grant Period:	8-September-2016 to 30 th November 2016
Report Period:	8-September-2016 to 8- February- 2016

1. Evaluation of accomplishments/successes

The below provides an evaluation of the accomplishments made on each of the three activities under the auspices of the collaboration between the Jana Robeyst trust Fund and the Mbeli Bai Study:

1. Support the ongoing research efforts through the acquirement of high quality technical equipment, including a telescope, data collection devices as well as their protection and software;

With the support of the JRTF it was possible to purchase all proposed technical equipment. The acquired telescope replaced an old and damaged model and improved the ability for the research team to adequately observe and identify individuals in the bai. The iPad with accessories and software allowed the MBS team to trial the first protocols of the Animal Observer App by end 2016. This Apple application, designed by Damien Caillaud from the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International, allows for easy customizable data collection through scans or focals on multiple individuals and/or groups in a spatially explicit interface. Via the offline Animal Observer Toolbox, data can be extracted and stored in a relational database. In addition, data for 'other species' may be collected through the app or through Microsoft templates. In the reporting period, significant progress has been made towards the ultimate objective to switch entirely from paper based to digitalized data collection methods which will improve data collection speed, effectiveness, and accuracy.

2. Support the daily operations at the Mbeli research site through the acquirement of essential camp supplies;

The camp supplies acquired by the JRTF have been essential in keeping the project operational throughout 2016. The temporary closure of the Mbeli research camp for safety reasons meant that research had to be based from the observation platform itself. With the acquired materials it became possible to sleep overnight at the Mbeli Mirador and allow the regular research and monitoring to continue. After camp rehabilitation, most camp materials will continue to have a function in the research camp whilst others will remain at the observation platform in case researchers wish to continue to camp overnight at the bai for special observations, or in case they are prevented from returning to the base in the evening because of adverse weather conditions.

3. Support capacity building of Congolese research assistants through the acquirement of English and statistical learning materials.

All proposed capacity building materials were acquired with support of the JRTF and it was even possible to purchase an additional three books on Excel and SQL. The topics of the acquired learning materials (English, 'R', Excel, and SQL) are highly relevant to the education level and areas of interest of the Mbeli research assistants. English course books have already been used intensely by Mbeli research assistant Aymard Nkounkou in September-October 2016. Unfortunately, both former research assistants were incapable to continue their work with the MBS. However, we expect to recruit at least two new assistants by April 2017 for whom the education materials will also play an important role in their capacity building.

2. Financial Report

Mbeli Bai Request for funding from the Jana Robeyst Trust Fund - August 2016									
Budget category	Category/line item	Unit	Estimated costs			Date of purchase	Qty.	Actual expenditure	
			Qty.	Unit cost (euro)	Total cost (euro)			Unit cost (euro)	Total cost (euro)
100	Technical/research equipment	Lump sum	1		917,44				847,43
100-01	Data collection tablet - iPad mini 4 - 64 GB	p/item	1	419,47	419,47	15-sep-16	1	375,99	375,99
100-02	Protective cover data collection device - Apple Otterbox Defender	p/item	1	53,10	53,10	9-jan-17	1	59,95	59,95
100-03	Screen protector for data collection tablet - ISY ITG-1002 Screenprotector iPad mini 4 (0.33mm glass)	p/item	1	21,24	21,24	15-sep-16	1	10,95	10,95
100-04	Screen cleaning liquid	p/item	1	5,31	5,31	15-sep-16	1	6,94	6,94
100-05	Telescope - regular quality, Nikon Prostaff 3 16-48x60	p/item	1	211,50	211,50	17-sep-16	1	256,95	256,95
100-06	Rite in the Rain pen	p/item	2	13,04	26,07	15-sep-16	2	14,99	29,97
100-07	Wrist hand strap (to prevent dropping pad in the bai)	p/item	4	12,00	48,00	15-sep-16	6	1,28	7,68
100-08	iPad software (incl. Short Shots and Mirrosoft packages)	p/item	1	132,74	132,74	24-nov-16	1	99,00	99,00
200	General camp supplies/'petite materielles'	Lump sum	1		338,26				345,87
200-01	Single person tent (bughut)	p/item	3	47,79	143,36	15-sep-16	3	54,85	164,55
200-02	Drinking bottles	p/item	4	8,85	35,40	15-sep-16	4	6,57	26,28
200-03	Oven gloves	p/pair	2	10,00	20,00	20-sep-16	2	9,99	19,98
200-04	Ziplockbags	Set of 50-100	1	5,00	5,00	15-sep-16	1	10,01	10,01
200-05	Tea towels	p/item	4	2,00	8,00	20-sep-16	4	3,09	12,35
200-06	Towels	p/item	4	2,00	8,00	22-sep-16	4	3,37	13,49
200-07	Week planner (Magnetic whiteboard planner)	p/item	1	31,50	31,50	23-sep-16	1	7,99	7,99
200-08	Table cloth (Easy clean & dry model)	p/item	1	10,00	10,00	20-sep-16	1	11,90	11,90
200-09	Can opener	p/item	2	3,00	6,00	20-sep-16	2	5,00	5,00
200-10	Kitchen knives high quality (ceramic)	p/item	1	30,00	30,00	21-sep-16	1 (set of 2)	25,58	25,58
200-11	Kitchen knives low quality (small cheap)	p/item	4	1,00	4,00	22-sep-16	4	1,19	4,75
200-12	Potato peeler	p/item	1	1,00	1,00	n/a	0	0	0

