

# Forest Peoples Project



Annual Report  
2002

# Forest Peoples Project

The Forest Peoples Project was established on 29 October 1999 as a company limited by guarantee to become the UK-registered charitable arm of the Forest Peoples Programme. The Forest Peoples Project was registered as a UK Charity in August 2000.

## Aims and activities

Our aims are to support indigenous and tribal forest peoples to:

- ⑥ promote their collective and individual rights;
- ⑥ secure their lands and manage their natural resources;
- ⑥ carry out sustainable community development;
- ⑥ educate policy makers, agencies and civil society about their concerns and aspirations.

We work to achieve these aims by means of

- ⑥ technical support, capacity building and policy advice for forest peoples;
- ⑥ networking with NGOs, indigenous support organisations and agencies;
- ⑥ researching and analysing the situation of forest peoples;
- ⑥ providing information on forest peoples.

## The Board and Staff

Our board :

Saskia Ozinga (Chair)

Nicholas Hildyard (Treasurer)

Carolyn Marr (Member)

Tricia Feeney (Member)

Albert Kwokwo Barume (Member)

Area of expertise:

Aid, trade and environment

Environment and development policy

Indonesian peoples, forests and environment

Development policy

Human rights lawyer

Our staff:

Marcus Colchester

Dorothy Jackson

John Nelson

Louise Henson

Lucy Mulvagh

Lindsay Hossack

Julie Manning

Director

Programme Coordinator

Policy Advisor

Senior Administrator

Project Support Officer

Project Administrator

Assistant Administrator

Photo credits:

all photos by Dorothy Jackson except

page 7, bottom right: Leo Blyth; page 9: John Nelson; Page 10: Ogiek Welfare Council;

Page 11: Marcus Colchester.

Cover picture: *Twa dancing at Nyaruguru, Gikongoro Province, Rwanda.*

# Overview of the year

Our overall long-term goal is improved social, economic and environmental living conditions for indigenous and tribal forest peoples. We aim to contribute towards this goal by helping forest peoples gain control over their futures through defending their own rights, developing sustainable livelihood skills, engaging with policy makers and strengthening their capacity. Closely linked to this is our work to influence the forest debate with the aim that forests are protected for sustainable use by people with secure rights. Our work therefore adopts a rights-based approach with strong advocacy and capacity building components. Currently we are working with indigenous 'Pygmy' peoples in central Africa, with indigenous peoples in Guyana and with Evenki reindeer herders in Siberia. During 2002 our activities covered four main areas: sustainable livelihoods and community development; influencing policy and practice affecting indigenous peoples; community land use mapping; and networking, information and support to local struggles.

⑥ We completed a successful first year of a 5-year integrated sustainable livelihoods, education and advocacy project with the Twa of Rwanda. Nearly 1000 Twa people have benefited directly from community development activities, increasing their food security and incomes, 40 secondary school children are being supported and the Twa made important gains in advocacy and human rights.

⑥ The first year of our project to commercialise Twa pottery was completed with 90 potters receiving basic training in business development and improved technology, and the revitalisation of a sales outlet in Kigali.

⑥ Our feasibility study of solar power for Twa communities worked with 13 Twa communities in Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo to identify appropriate low-cost solar products and possibilities for local assembly and distribution.

⑥ Our 3-year project to support Bagyeli communities affected by the Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline began in June, with field consultations and capacity building community meetings well under way, as well as dialogue with decision-makers involved in pipeline projects.

⑥ We continued to support the 3000 Ugandan Twa affected by the Mgahinga and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest national parks, to press for land allocation and maintain dialogue with the conservation authorities, resulting in greater awareness of Twa needs and rights.

⑥ Our project on Parks and Peoples in Africa, now in its second year, supported 10 indigenous communities in 7 African countries to dialogue with conservation authorities, increasing their understanding of the rights claimed by indigenous peoples.

⑥ We organised training for indigenous peoples in community land mapping, helping indigenous people in Guyana learn from staff of a Venezuelan mapping project, and laying the groundwork for community mapping with the Evenki people of Siberia.

# Sustainable livelihoods, education and advocacy for the Twa of Rwanda



CAURWA's regional office, and one of the extension workers.

In January 2002, in collaboration with our Twa partner organisation CAURWA and with funding from Comic Relief, we started a five-year project with the indigenous Twa communities of Rwanda, a group whose rights have long been violated, and which is now one of the poorest sectors in Rwandan society. The project integrates human rights, income generating activities and education with cross-cutting advocacy and capacity building activities.

FPP helped CAURWA restructure itself from an umbrella organisation for several Twa organisations into an independent NGO in its own right, with a new elected governing body. In March 2002 the restructured CAURWA was legally recognised by the Rwandan authorities as an indigenous organisation working explicitly for the benefit of Twa people, thereby increasing its status and public profile as an advocate for the rights of Twa people.

CAURWA opened regional offices in Gikongoro and Gitarama provinces and expanded its network of community volunteers (*antennes*) to 10 (seven men, three women) covering 10 provinces. The *antennes* provide links between Twa communities, local authorities, and CAURWA. Information flow between CAURWA and the communities has increased, local officials are better informed about the Twa's situation and Twa communities are better informed about services organised by local authorities.

CAURWA's Director talking to members of a Twa association in Kanazi, Kigali Rurale. Local authorities took land from this community to build a planned settlement (imidugudu). The Twa were demoralised and destitute, but with CAURWA's help they have organised themselves and are now a dynamic community.



CAURWA's Director visited local authorities in six districts to support the *antennes*' work and raise issues of land, health, education and housing. Local authorities welcome the *antennes*, valuing their reports and their local expertise in Twa issues.

FPP worked with CAURWA to build its organisational capacity, including organisational systems, project planning and management, monitoring and evaluation and fund-raising. We also helped CAURWA strengthen links with many policy bodies, development agencies, human rights agencies, technical experts and funders at national and international level, thus broadening its support base and increasing national and international awareness of Batwa issues and CAURWA's work.

## Human rights

CAURWA's aim is to increase Twa participation in national policy and civil society issues and increase official and public awareness about Twa concerns. During 2002, CAURWA dialogued with Rwanda's Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), to highlight concerns that the PRS would not reach marginalised groups like the Twa. In a meeting, organised by CAURWA, of Twa organisations and Twa community representatives with the Constitution Commission, the Twa pressed for Rwanda's new constitution to increase the representation of Twa at all administrative levels, include Twa in land distribution, recognise Twa as a disadvantaged group needing particular attention, and provide support for Twa education.

CAURWA has started lobbying on Rwanda's draft land code, which proposes various measures for land concentration, and is likely to further increase Twa landlessness. Data collected by CAURWA's *antennes* from Cyangugu province shows that 88% of Twa households lack agricultural land, compared with 11% in the general population. However, through the sustainable livelihoods programme (see below), and lobbying by the *antennes*, Twa communities have secured use rights to state-owned marsh land.

CAURWA is setting up a legal support office to provide assistance to Twa whose land has been expropriated or who have suffered other human rights violations. Twa representatives were trained in the traditional *Gacaca* justice process that will judge people accused of the lower categories of genocide crimes. The *antennes* have encouraged communities to participate actively in the process so that the Twa's suffering in the genocide is publicly recognised. CAURWA is continuing to document Twa prisoners and provide humanitarian assistance to them. CAURWA's annual human rights seminar enabled Twa community representatives to dialogue with the representatives of the Rwandan Human Rights Commission, the Unity and Reconciliation process, Gacaca and PRS.

The *antennes* are helping Twa communities to play a more active role in civil society and local structures. There are now some dozen Twa in different local administrative positions including local defence team, women's committee, Community Development Committee and *Nyumbakumi* (head of 10 households). CAURWA participated at the Durban World Summit as a member of the official Rwandan civil society delegation, and is a member of two civil society networks. CAURWA was also active at international level, notably at the African Commission's Working Group on Indigenous Populations, at which CAURWA's Director is one of three indigenous experts.

## Sustainable livelihoods

CAURWA's sustainable livelihoods programme is supporting 52 Twa community associations in five provinces with training and inputs in entrepreneurship, agriculture and animal husbandry. Most of the 995 direct beneficiaries and 4975 indirect beneficiaries are women. CAURWA is thereby reaching 19-22% of the total Rwandan Twa population, estimated at 22,000 to 25,000 people.

The project's activities have increased food security in the target communities, and generated small cash incomes. Communities now have more regular food supplies and families report eating at least

one meal a day. A fifth of the community associations are engaged in additional income-generating activities such as tilemaking, sewing, production of improved stoves or basketmaking, with inputs and training provided by CAURWA. A third of the associations have opened joint bank accounts or have access to local credit. For the first time they have financial assets, and are using them to meet urgent needs, to pay for schooling, decent clothing, membership of agricultural collectives and enrolment in health insurance schemes, or to buy land.

During 2002, CAURWA built 35 houses for Twa communities in Gikongoro and Butare provinces. The Twa were involved in the construction, thereby gaining skills in masonry and roofing.

## Education

CAURWA's education programme sensitised the Twa communities in the project about the importance of schooling and obtained material support for primary school children from half a dozen local agencies and NGOs. CAURWA also provided bursaries and school materials for 43 Twa secondary school pupils (31 boys and 12 girls). Holiday support meetings were organised in January and September at which the students set up their own committee and discussed issues and concerns. One of the students has now been employed as a CAURWA extension worker in Cyangugu province.

CAURWA's adult literacy programme uses the REFLECT method, which is based on PRA methods to develop themes and vocabulary rooted in the communities' own experience and environment, and has been promoted worldwide by Action Aid. CAURWA is pioneering the REFLECT approach in Rwanda. During 2002, CAURWA supported five literacy circles in three provinces, comprising 145 students (53 men and 92 women). Each circle was equipped with teaching materials and has two REFLECT facilitators chosen by the communities and trained by CAURWA. Sixty percent of the students can now read and write words with more than one consonant.



*CAURWA's antennes being trained in how to fill in a survey form to collect data about Twa communities.*

*Below top: Twa school girls dancing to celebrate new houses at Kimina.*

*Below bottom: Twa communities in Gikongoro and Butare showing their potato fields and roof tile production.*



# Twa pottery: income generation through Fair Trade



The pottery sales outlet in the capital, Kigali.

As the Rwandan forests were cleared for farming and cattle pasture, the Twa could no longer survive from hunting and gathering in the forests and developed alternative livelihoods as potters. Many Twa communities, particularly the women, now make pots, and see this as their main source of income, but due to low product quality and lack of marketing this is often a loss-making activity. To tackle this problem, in December 2001 we began a project, in collaboration with our partner CAURWA, to commercialise Twa pottery, based on Fair Trade principles. The project is funded by the Community Fund, and the Onaway Trust with additional contributions from local donors in Rwanda.

The project works with potting communities to improve the quality and quantity of production and with a retail outlet in the capital Kigali to increase markets and sales.

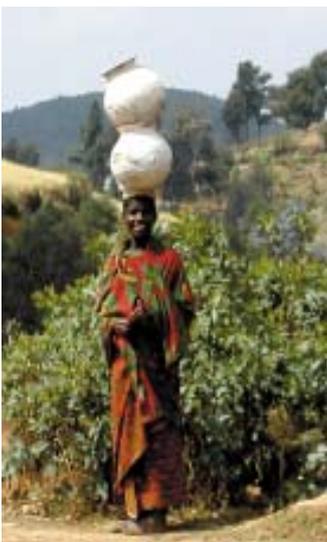
Six potters groups (90 potters) received initial community-based training in fair trade principles, Partnerships and Trading Agreements, costing, pricing and business development, and how to set up and manage a community-based association. The potters have set up their own association to exchange ideas and information, to represent potters in the project, and to carry out advocacy to support potters' interests, in collaboration with CAURWA's advocacy and human rights programme.

The project's retail team of four staff (three female, one male) were trained in business and retail skills, including book-keeping;

product ordering and sampling from producer groups; stock control; and marketing. They also had English language training and initial training in monitoring and evaluation.

To start improving quality of pots, the project brought an experienced technical specialist from Malawi to assess clay quality and technological needs, and train the potters groups in production technology and new product design. The product range was expanded with 10 new design samples produced for local hotels and overseas craft importers. The project helped potters groups obtain funds for kilns and warehousing.

To improve marketing the project has begun training the retail staff in quality assurance, market research, publicity and promotion. The pottery enterprise was publicised through pottery displays in hotels, bookshops and travel agents, advertising leaflets and radio announcements. The project is included in the Rwandan government's tourism strategy and has links with many local NGOs and agencies including tour companies, through which tourists can visit potting communities. The project is also developing links with national craft marketing cooperatives, international craft federations and international buyers. These links have increased national and international awareness of the Twa potters and their situation. Pottery sales have increased and will continue to increase as this year's capacity building inputs with the communities begin to bear fruit and the market expands.



Above: carrying pots to market.

Below: Making improved stoves that reduce fuel consumption and give a more even heat.



The project is helping Twa potters design and produce a range of modern products.



## Solar-powered technology for Twa communities

Following requests from the Twa organisations PIDP in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and CAURWA in Rwanda, we carried out a study to assess the feasibility of developing solar-powered technology for Twa communities. PIDP produces a weekly radio programme for Twa communities living around the Kahuzi-Biega National Park in south Kivu, but the impacts of this on Twa communities are limited as very few Twa families have a radio, and buying batteries is virtually impossible for households without any cash income. Provision of low-cost solar powered radios would increase Twa communities' access to information, reduce costs of buying batteries and reduce environmental damage from battery disposal. Low-cost solar lighting may also assist these communities to improve their living conditions.

The study was funded by the Westcroft Trust, the William Adlington Cadbury Charitable Trust, Grassroots Foundation, British Embassy in Kigali and Rainforest Foundation UK. It was carried out by a solar technology specialist, Leo Blyth, facilitated by FPP, using materials supplied by the UK non-profit organisation BioDesign, that has developed various 'Do-It-Yourself' (DIY) techniques for the low-cost assembly of small and simple solar technologies.

The aim of the study was to identify low-cost designs and assembly strategies for solar powered radios and radio-cassettes, and explore other solar applications that could benefit rural Twa and Twa NGOs.

A series of demonstrations and consultations were held with eight Twa communities in DRC and five Twa communities in Rwanda as well as Twa NGOs, private companies, educational establishments, national and local officials and development projects.

This led to the development of a range of DIY Solar technologies, which were demonstrated and evaluated in the communities to identify which were most appropriate.

An evaluation of local capacity and resources was also carried out, to determine their availability and accessibility in order to assemble and deliver the technologies.

A parallel assessment was also made of whether local assembly would be a viable and sustainable means of supporting the communities. This analysis led to the design of a framework for developing and transferring technology to the communities and four possible strategies.

The findings of the study strongly indicated that local assembly, distribution and/or use of the proposed DIY Solar technologies would bring practical benefits and opportunities to Twa communities and their support NGOs. The assembly and distribution of these low-cost systems can create income-generating and capacity building opportunities for NGO staff, small community enterprises and enterprising individuals within Twa communities.

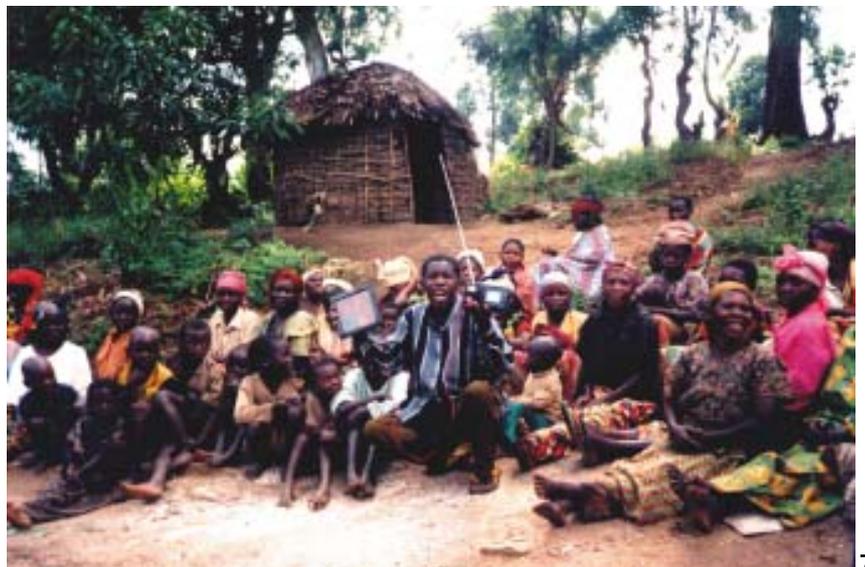
Batwa communities would benefit most through access to radio-cassette recorder-players and a self-sufficient solar power supply. Secondary benefits are also likely to stem from the strengthening and cohesive influence that collective use of solar powered radio-cassettes has within communities. The report is being translated into French to share the findings with our partners in central Africa, following which we will hold further consultations to find out how our partners want to proceed.

The full report is available on our website: [www.forestpeoples.org](http://www.forestpeoples.org)



*Solar expert Leo Blyth, demonstrating technology to Twa in Rwanda.*

*A Congolese Twa community with a solar-powered radio.*



# The Twa of the Mgahinga and Bwindi Impenetrable Forests, Uganda



Above: Twa community members in Kabare District.



Below: winnowing trays made from forest vines.

In south-west Uganda, Twa people were expelled from the Bwindi and Mgahinga forests in the 1930s and settled on the edges of the forests where they continued to have access to forest resources. This access was finally prohibited when the Bwindi and Mgahinga reserves were gazetted as national parks in 1991. The Mgahinga and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest Conservation Trust (MBIFCT) was set up to protect the two forest parks, funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and to carry out development activities with local communities to mitigate the impact of the parks. The closure of the forests caused many of the Twa to move from a fairly independent existence to being landless impoverished squatters, forced to survive by working for local farmers. Our sister organisation the Forest Peoples Programme has worked since 2000 with the Ugandan Twa and their organisation UOBDU (United Organisation for Batwa Development in Uganda). During 2002, the Forest Peoples Project took over the support work with the Ugandan Twa, funded by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation. The aim is to help the Twa enter into dialogue with the Trust, to increase their participation in Trust decision-making and ensure that the Trust's land purchase programme, set up to compensate the Twa evicted from the parks, is properly implemented.

In July 2002 the Trust's land purchase programme was closed down, due to the lack of growth of the GEF endowment fund on the stock market, resulting in a shortfall in funding. The Twa land programme was partly

reinstated after protests from FPP and UOBDU, but the Trust officer who had been managing Twa land purchases, and who had begun to work with UOBDU, had his contract terminated. The Trust's remaining Twa programme is now split between two different people within other sections of the Trust, and is due to end in February 2003, with potentially severe consequences for the Twa who have no other means of securing land or livelihoods. FPP is continuing to dialogue with the agencies involved in order to find a solution.

FPP co-financed and facilitated a workshop in May, in Kabale, Uganda between Twa community members of UOBDU and District Officials to discuss the policies and programmes affecting the Twa. In July we organised and facilitated another workshop in Kisoro, between conservation authorities from Bwindi and Mgahinga National Parks and Twa representatives from the three districts adjoining the parks. The results of these meetings were that

- \* government authorities and development organisations agreed to collaborate better in their work with the Twa

- \* NGOs working with Twa agreed that they need to design and implement their programmes more effectively

- \* The problems with the Trust fund were aired to a wider audience, although no solutions were found

- \* Plans for concrete actions relating to Twa forest use were proposed by the Uganda Wildlife Authority and CARE's multiple forest user programme.

The Bwindi forest.



## Bagyeli communities and the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline, Cameroon

The 4000 Bagyeli 'Pygmy' people live in the south-west of Cameroon, where their traditional lands are traversed by the controversial Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline, underwritten by the World Bank. Our previous work with the Bagyeli showed that initial consultations carried out by the pipeline project did not inform the Bagyeli adequately about the effects of the pipeline and that, by favouring the interests of settled farmers, the pipeline was likely to impoverish and disempower the Bagyeli.

This year we have been monitoring the Foundation for Environment and Development in Cameroon (FEDEC) and the administration of the FEDEC fund. This fund is mandated to finance the preparation of an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) in consultation with the Bagyeli community, as well the protection of Campo Ma'an National Park and Mbam Djerem National Park, as part of environmental mitigation for the pipeline construction. The Campo Ma'an National Park overlaps Bagyeli traditional hunting areas and will limit Bagyeli hunting and livelihood activities, thereby actually worsening their situation.

We raised our concerns with FEDEC board members and the International Advisory Group (IAG) set up by the World Bank to monitor project implementation, that the FEDEC Programme was not achieving its objectives. As a result the IAG visited FPP's partners in Cameroon to gather information about the pipeline's impacts on the Bagyeli, and discuss FEDEC.

In June 2002, we launched a three-year project building on our work with Bagyeli people since 2000. The project's aims are to support Bagyeli to gain more control over the pipeline process and to protect their lands and livelihoods. This work includes building the Bagyelis' information base, skills and confidence; helping Bagyeli to secure access to their natural resource base; and supporting the development of new institutional mechanisms that promote equitable dialogue between Bagyeli and their Bantu neighbours. The project is carried out in collaboration with two local NGOs, Planet Survey and the Centre for Environment and Development (CED).



*Bagyeli village, south-west Cameroon.*

The work is funded by the UK Department for International Development and Comic Relief.

The project is carrying out a population census and background research. We have organised meetings to bring together Bagyeli people from different communities to identify capacity building needs and discuss the impact of the pipeline on the Bagyelis' land tenure situation, the inadequate implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Plan by FEDEC, and the draft management plan for Campo Ma'an National Park.

In November FPP met with representatives of FEDEC, Planet Survey and CED to discuss Bagyeli representation in the development of the IPP. We also raised FPP's serious concerns about the rapid growth of FEDEC's field activities, which are beyond FEDEC's remit and are causing conflict and confusion amongst Bagyeli communities, and the complete lack of Bagyeli involvement in the IPP. FPP is working to promote open collaboration between Bagyeli community representatives and FEDEC so that the IPP will reflect Bagyeli priorities and their livelihood situation.

The project also involves the mapping of Bagyeli lands. FPP is supporting our partner NGOs CED and Planet Survey to build up their community mapping capacity by field training for NGO workers and community representatives. We will also fund the purchase of new mapping technologies. The production of community maps documenting Bagyeli and Baka land use and cultural heritage will enable these communities to assert their rights to land.

*Bagyeli forest camp.*



# Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas in Africa: from Principles to Practice

This project follows on from two previous projects carried out by FPP in Latin America and Asia to examine the obstacles preventing the implementation of new, internationally agreed, conservation principles that uphold indigenous peoples' rights to land and control over their resources. It is funded by the Community Fund.

The project enabled representatives from 10 indigenous communities in seven African countries (South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Cameroon) to document the impact of protected areas (national parks, nature reserves etc) on their livelihoods and land security. The communities presented these cases at a conference, also attended by conservation organisations, which FPP co-organised with CAURWA in Kigali during 2001.

During 2002, FPP followed up the Kigali conference by producing draft conference proceedings for comment by participants. A publication summarising the lessons of the project will be published during 2003. In addition during 2002, we

- financed further community consultations in all of the 10 case study areas and commissioned follow-up reports on the evolution of events in each of the case study areas;
- arranged an external project evaluation which involved field visits to five of the 10 case study areas;

- commissioned and facilitated a video of community consultations about the impacts of protected areas on indigenous peoples. Filming took place in November with communities in and around Campo Ma'an National Park, the Dja Wildlife Reserve and Lobéké National Park, Cameroon;
- facilitated preparatory research work by a UK-based researcher on Ugandan Twa history and land claims, and the promotion of their rights within the protected areas controlled by the Ugandan Wildlife Authority.

Our project has had the following impacts in the seven countries:

- Bagyeli interests will now be taken into account in the final management plan for Campo Ma'an National Park, Cameroon;
- Baka and representatives of the conservation agency ECOFAC have met for the first time ever to begin a dialogue to help overcome the longstanding impacts of the Dja Reserve, Cameroon, on Baka livelihoods;
- The situation of Baka in and around Lobéké and Boumba Bek National Parks, Cameroon, has been documented. Channels of dialogue between FPP, Baka communities and conservation authorities over their marginalisation and land rights have been established, and will be consolidated during 2003;
- In south-west Uganda Twa communities have held several large meetings with conservation authorities to call for new rules of forest access that take into account the Twa's special attachment to the restricted forests in the Bwindi and Mgahinga National Parks. Conservation authorities have begun to openly acknowledge the increased role Twa should play in the parks' management;
- In Rwanda, conservation authorities are working with Twa to develop new rules of forest access and alternative livelihood development strategies for communities around Nyungwe Forest;
- In Kenya, the Ogiek's work to document their situation has fed into processes to

*Ogiek hunting.*



# Laying the foundations for community mapping in Guyana and Siberia

develop new constitutional clauses governing indigenous rights to land in Kenya which hopefully now will be implemented under the new government's constitution;

- In Tanzania, Maasai communities from around Ngorongoro face increasing pressure from conservationists to vacate their lands, and up to 50,000 Maasai will be forced to move under new rules being developed through the new, conservation-dominated authorities. The project enabled Maasai representatives to produce reports to support lobbying activities, and to continue to challenge conservation organisations over the planned evictions.
- In South Africa, FPP supported a San negotiating team to secure a strong negotiating position and the restitution of rights to a significant part of the Kgalagadi National Park;
- In DRC, FPP helped fund an assessment of local NGO capacities in order to support greater Twa participation in the management of Kahuzi-Biega National Park. We also provided funding to support Mbuti and Efe Pygmy communities from conflict-torn Ituri District, who are now facing genocide by local armed militias operating near the Okapi Reserve.

Related to this work, FPP has continued to document the situation of Baka from south-east Cameroon, whose customary rights to land are under tremendous pressure from new forest conservation rules devised for Lobéké and Boumba Bek National Parks, and the protected areas around them which have been established without Baka involvement. In many parts of this region Baka are in the majority, yet they face persistent and significant marginalisation by government and the local conservation authorities in decisions about the allocation of forest rights. FPP has carried out community consultations with Baka across this remote region and begun to challenge conservation authorities about the Baka's situation. FPP is now working to identify ways of providing sustained support to enable Baka to secure their rights.

## Guyana

We provided funds from the Eden Bequest to FPP to assist training staff of the Amerindian Peoples Association in Guyana in the use of map-making software. The training will take place in 2003.

## Siberia

The Evenki are a reindeer-herding, hunting, fishing and trapping people, whose settlements, lands and herds were heavily centralised during the Soviet era. Under the Soviet system, the Evenki were reorganised into centrally administered State collective farms and the communities became heavily dependent on subsidised military transport, government handouts and cheap munitions, trapping kits and fuel. Since the collapse of the Soviet system, conditions in Evenki villages have become subhuman, with the failure of transport, food supply and heating systems. Malnutrition, social collapse and medieval levels of life expectancy have resulted. The Evenki, through their organisation, Arun ('Rebirth' in the Evenki language), are now struggling to re-establish themselves on the land and seek recognition of their land rights, vital now that they are in a market economy - though without ready access to markets.

We secured funds from a private trust to assist the Evenki to map and claim their lands. In early 2002, two FPP consultants travelled with mapping hardware and software up to the Evenki area, accompanied by staff from the national indigenous peoples organisation, RAIPON, and hosted by Arun.

During the two-week visit the team developed methods for training the Evenki in community land use mapping, but several obstacles, left over from the Soviet era, were also identified that could hinder the project. Russian laws restrict the use of government maps, prohibit the plotting of boundaries and the positions of landscape elements and the use of Global Positioning System devices, without special permits. After lengthy legal research and negotiation of institutional support for the project, by late 2002 the way seemed clear for the second stage of the project. This is now scheduled for mid-2003.



*A planning session with members of an Amerindian community.*

## Publications

Jackson D. Pygmy resurgence: an indigenous movement in Central Africa. Paper to be published by IWGIA in 2003

Jackson D. The Indigenous World by Regions and Countries: Central Africa. The Indigenous World 2001-2002. IWGIA 2002

Jackson D. Rwanda: Dispossessed Twa people press for recognition. WRM Bulletin 62: Indigenous Peoples. September 2002. <http://www.wrm.org.uy>

Jackson D. Sustainable livelihoods for Pygmy peoples. Paper for IWGIA seminar on Indigenous Peoples and Poverty, 13-16 November 2002, Tomellila, Sweden.

Jackson D. Batwa women and women's rights. Paper for MRG Regional Workshop on Peace, Reconciliation and Human Rights. Promoting the Rights of the Batwa Pygmies: Recognition, Representation and Cooperation. 17-19 December 2002, Kigali, Rwanda.

Mulvagh, L. Rwanda's Poverty Reduction Strategy Process. Briefing paper for CAURWA. November 2002

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Nelson, J. Sub-Saharan Africa. In Colchester, M, F MacKay, T Griffiths and J Nelson (2002) A Survey of Indigenous Land Tenure: A report for the Land Tenure Service of the Food and Agricultural Association. Rome: FAO

Nelson, J and N. Gami. Enhancing equity in the relationship between protected areas and indigenous and local communities in Central Africa, in the context of global change. TILCEPA Regional Briefing Paper. Geneva: IUCN. January 2003.

## Sources of funding

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 The Eden Bequest  
 Grassroots Foundation  
 Onaway Trust  
 Rainforest Foundation UK  
 Rowan Charitable Trust  
 Swedish Society for Nature Conservation  
 Westcroft Trust  
 William Adlington Cadbury Charitable Trust

## Income and Expenditure

Income: £406,546

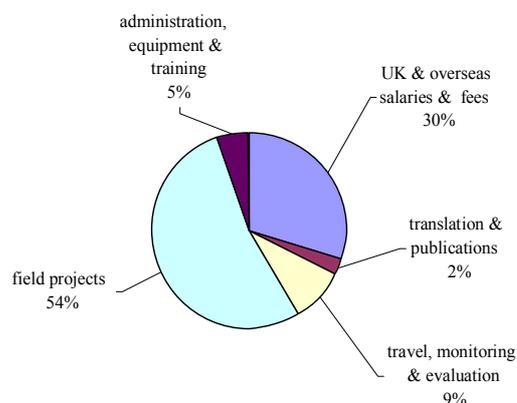
Income:  
 £406,546

Grants: 87%

Donations: 13%

Expenditure: £288,414

Expenditure:  
 £288,437



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