

A man with a bandage on his forehead and sunglasses on his head is looking off to the side in a forest. He is wearing a dark blue shirt with yellow accents and a 'cool.e' logo. The background is a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

**COOL
EARTH**

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**Rentokil
Initial**

Isaac Dauge, Biodiversity Officer (Papua New Guinea)

Cool Earth x Rentokil Initial Review 2020/21

Introduction

*Matthew Owen, Director
October 2021*

The pandemic of 2020 brought home that populations across the world are interconnected more than ever before. The actions of people on one side of the world quickly and significantly impact those of others thousands of miles away. The virus managed to travel to every corner of the planet, including to the remote rainforest villages that Cool Earth works in.

This meant Cool Earth's field operations were largely halted to prevent the transmission of coronavirus to our

rainforest partnerships. Our local teams in Peru and Papua New Guinea, and our NGO partners around the world had to take a step back from the daily operations and come up with new solutions on how to carry on supporting people on the ground without direct visits.

Our partner communities requested urgent need for support to help tackle the coronavirus threat to their remote villages where health care was severely inadequate and hospitals a long distance away. The result was a rapid need to find local connections and expertise to pull together ideas on how to work together on this new threat to communities.

Through tackling the need for emergency food, face masks, simple sanitation and medical supplies, we focussed on building relationships that are now proving to be the key to supporting people. From improving livelihoods and wellbeing to fighting forest loss and inequalities resulting from the climate change effects already felt.

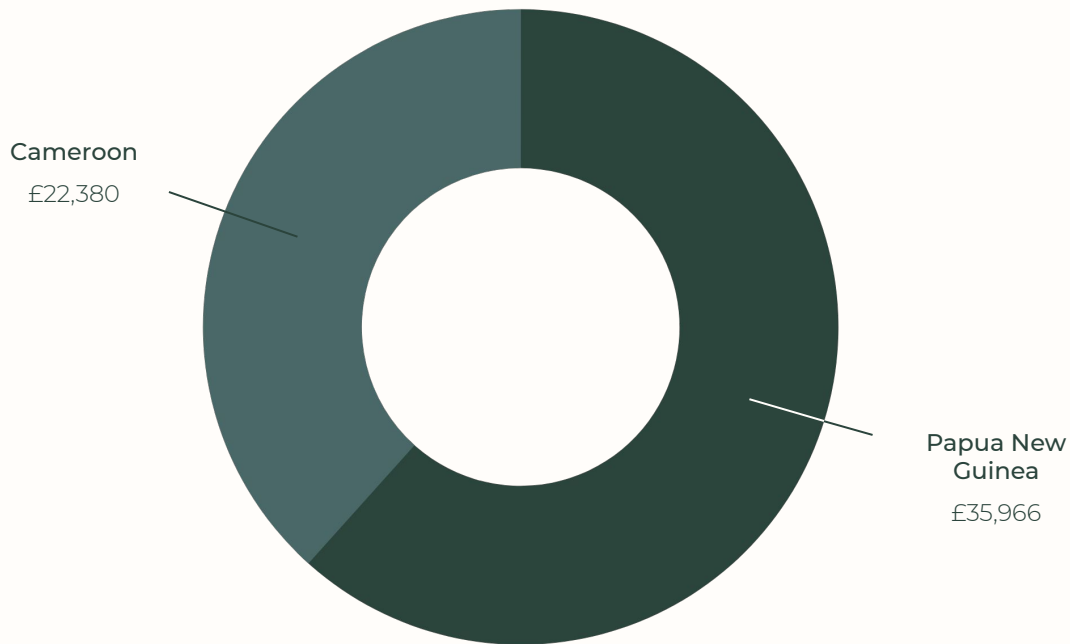
Last year has shown more than ever that people living in rainforests know how to protect it more than anyone else. Thank you to all at Rentokil Initial for backing collaboration and funding local groups who know what works best in their communities, their neighbourhoods and their rainforest.

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Financials

Building on from the successful two-year foundation of the partnership with Cool Earth, Rentokil Initial continues its investment in people-powered conservation.

Backing people to protect rainforest and fight the climate crisis.



Papua New Guinea

With restrictions in place, existing project work in Papua New Guinea (PNG) was forced to slow down. The focus was shifted to building stronger networks with local people, government and NGOs to address the Covid-19 emergency.

To reduce the risk of Covid-19 affecting people in the partnership villages, Cool Earth collaborated with the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP), partnering with the United Church in PNG. With eight villages identified, teams met community leaders and discussed their needs for improved sanitation, focussing on Covid-19 prevention.



Papua New Guinea

Three years of investment from RI has seen these partnerships thrive. The 2020/21 project included clean water infrastructure, behaviour change and PPE objectives.

With 24 hand wash stations built, located at congregational areas such as schools, markets and health centres, 2,649 people now have access to clean, drinking water. Community awareness sessions were held to make people aware of measures they can take to avoid getting Covid-19 and what to do if there are local cases. Thirty-three community volunteers were trained to spread public health messages in

their villages, distributing hundreds of leaflets and posters. Masks, gowns, thermometers, alcohol gel and soap have been distributed to health centres, aid posts and schools.

As the local economy shut down took place, food prices at supermarkets increased and rural market stalls have collapsed. With available funds, the Wabumari Community Association focussed on supporting households and small businesses. Families were able to buy food and necessities. The funds also allowed small goods stalls to purchase in bulk and continue to trade within their villages, removing the risk for people living rurally to

have to travel to the crowded town.

November saw the beginning of the parabiology project. Conservationist Dr Chris Dahl provided positive feedback about the potential of the site to attract researchers for conservation, and about the employment of local people as guides. Community members are now starting to gather forest data to present to researchers for setting up long-term forest health monitoring plots. Training plans are also in place for community members who want to develop careers in the field of conservation and in becoming guides.



Not only have these hand washing stations vastly improved life for over 2,500 people, sanitation training has been provided for 33 volunteers from eight villages including our three partner organisations.

[Click here to find out more.](#)



Frog species *Paedophryne amauensis* found in the New Guinea rainforest pictured on the tip of a graphite pencil.

Image credit: Dr Chris Dahl.

[Click here to find out more.](#)



Your donations have enabled crucial rainforest protection to continue despite a recent spate of gang violence, police blockades and shootouts in Alotau, Papua New Guinea.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Cameroon

Following a successful two-year programme with CCREAD Cameroon, and thanks to Rentokil Initial funding, Cool Earth has been able to continue working with further communities in the southwest Cameroon region.

15 new members have joined the community rainforest education and control groups, allowing for an increase in monitoring trips and campaigns against bush burning. New members attended training on how to organise activities on rainforest protection for their respective communities.



Cameroon

Community education and control groups reached 267 community members who had not previously attended outreach sessions. Outreach by community groups has reduced the number of small-scale illegal timber exploiters from 28 to only eight, and rates of loss of species such as obeche, mahogany and sapele have reduced significantly.

Covid-19 has also had an impact on the lives of Cool Earth's community partners in Cameroon. With emergency response grants, 834 households received food support.

Much needed health supplies were delivered to rural rainforest communities including 5,000 face masks, 500 sanitary pads and 5,000 bottles of hand sanitiser. Free malaria testing and instant treatment was also delivered to 300 children.

With the expansion of project activities to 20 new communities, plans are in place to continue monitoring and supporting work in five pilot communities, as well as an installation of solar energy. The coming months will involve setting

up community rainforest education and control groups in each of the new communities, as well as the establishment of community nurseries for the development of non-timber forest product species for the regeneration of old farm plots.

A rainforest threats analysis is also planned along with a community mapping exercise to clarify community boundaries and forest territories.





Covid-19 emergency supplies are carried into the forest in Cameroon.

[Click here to find out more.](#)




The CCREAD team delivering aid in Cameroon.

[Click here to find out more.](#)



A CCREAD staff member balancing a solar panel on their head, walking down a road with misty hills and the Congo Rainforest in the background.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

A tropical beach scene with palm trees and a forested hill in the background. The foreground shows a sandy beach with some debris. In the middle ground, there are several small, rustic huts with thatched roofs. The background is a dense, lush green forest covering a hillside, with mist or smoke rising from the trees. The sky is overcast and grey.

Rentokil Initial is backing local
and indigenous people in the
rainforests of Papua New Guinea
and Cameroon, the custodians of:

over 42,000 hectares
of rainforest

20,224,222 trees and

over 8 million tonnes of
carbon stores

Mozambique

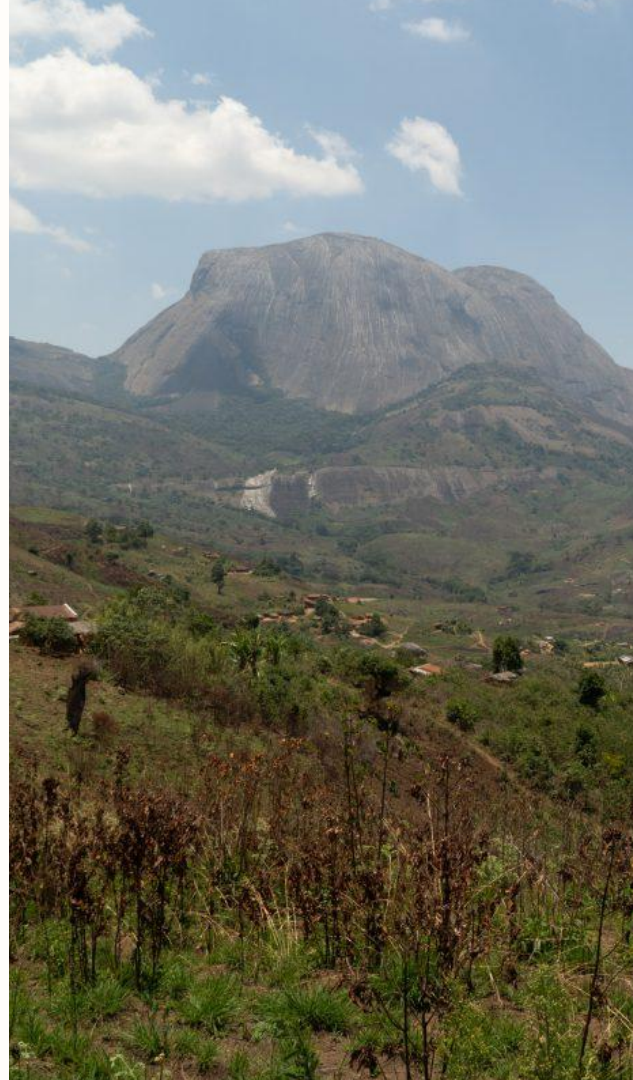
Since Rentokil Initial's grant support in Mozambique in 2019/20, activities under the Mount Namuli Legado project have successfully continued.

There have been some constraints as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, but activities generally remained on track, adjusted to meet government health and safety guidelines.

With a total of 54 hives installed, five honey harvests were carried out with over 23 kilograms of honey harvested. The Namuli beekeepers have also been able to sell the honey to the Mozambican company Agrimel. Work has also continued on conservation

agriculture and land tenure projects. Community facilitators were selected as advocates and leaders in the community to work on land delimitation.

As Cool Earth's partnership with Namuli came to its end in May 2021, we are very grateful to Rentokil for its support. All the project activities will continue with the Legado Namuli team independently. We are optimistic and excited for the future of the people of Namuli and will be continuing to follow their journey in the efforts to protect the unique biodiversity of the Mount Namuli forest.



Colleague Engagement

Stuart Offord, Head of Sales Academy (Medical & Ambius), secured a place on #TeamCoolEarth for the 2021 Virgin London Marathon.

Stuart joined 50,000 runners on the famous course from Blackheath to The Mall on Sunday, 3 October. A born fundraiser, Stuart has surpassed his fundraising target and raised £3,500. His tip for successful fundraising? *"Bring people on your journey together with updates and regular feedback on how things are going. They will feel more invested in you and the charity".*





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