

The Rufford Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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	Suman Bhattarai
Project Title	Awareness Creating and Knowledge Imparting Project for the Conservation of Internationally Valued, Nationally Endangered and Globally Threatened Species " <i>Rhinoceros Unicornis</i> "
RSG Reference	07.07.06
Reporting Period	One Year
Amount of Grant	£3990
Your Email Address	Sumancha004@Yahoo.Com , Suman@Rhinonepal.Org
Date of This Report	January, 2008

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
Website				Most, not all, events were updated in time (www.rhinonepal.org)
Campaign				Team Formation "Partnership for Rhino Conservation-PARC" and that will continue program as much and far as possible.
Conservation Club				Existence clubs were involved instead of formation. And programs were conducted in joint venture of them and RSG project. To encourage clubs, clubs were rewarded by providing sports dresses having RSG project's logo for their contribution
Orientation Program				43 local students from different areas were involved as participants.
Essay Competition				Expected contestant = 50 but actual =75
Pamphlet Production				Proposed = 1500 but production = 3000
Poster Production				Proposed only poster production but actual poster with the biodiversity journal
Adult Environment Education				Proposed & expected participant women groups= 2 but Actual =7 groups 25 number
Drama				Children performed on the consequences of poaching and impressed more than 1000 people.
Poem				All age people, young to old age women and man, had taken part
Song				Competition was able to impress more than 1000 people: children to old age people
Radio Program				Proposed monthly (12 episode) but contracted weekly for ½ Year (26 episode)
Conservation Board				Proposed number =10 but actual=12
Habitat Conservation (Plantation)				Proposed-1 day but actual done day= 2 (fuel wood-60, Fruits-50, Fodder-25 & ornamental -25 species)
Support to Poor Students				Proposed=10 students but actual= more than 80. Still, we are supporting students.
Coordination				Expected only with Community Based Organizations (CBOs); Actual 4 RSG project, NGOs, CBOs, Schools, Community forest User Groups (CFUGs), Bufferzone User Groups (BUGs), local clubs, women groups etc.

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

Budget and time were main unforeseen difficulties to address the emerging demands which were indeed. We focused on proposed programs and limited to timeline which created hard to address the emerging local voices. Teachers, local people and clubs used to request more training, plantation, poor student support, school teaching and school level competition. To fulfil those demands to some extent, I saved and transferred some money from other activities i.e. we requested resource person to wave some wages and I reduced the personal expenses also. For managing time, I requested volunteers, club members and local teachers and encouraged local clubs to take responsibility on undertaking activities.

In field and school visit period, I found lots of children without schooling and some were near to leave study because of economic condition. It is truth that awareness is not possible until and unless people are uneducated. I had to shout other Rufford grantees and other organizations for support because that was needed to be addressed as far as possible and I got some what success. To change people's attitude is really a complex task. We can not change attitude of poor people towards conservation without alternative because their livelihood is dependent in park's resources from the past.

Thus, I am planning to conduct small scale livelihood activities as alternative for next steps.

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

Though I could not address all emerging voices during the project, I personally satisfied with this small-scale proposed project and proud of feed back of referees, participants, co-workers, locals and individual involved in project. The main achievement of this project is "Gathering of all age people i.e. children to old age, for conservation". I evaluated three most important outcomes by considering feed backs of participants, contestant, conservationist, students, teacher, Rufford grantees and my team members; they were

A. Participation/Support: Peoples' participation in all activities was higher than expected. In the song competition, poem and drama activities, there were more than 1000 people which was the great success of this project in a small village. I was really impressed with the women's participation and their devotion in women-oriented conservation activities. The project was able to gather supports of youth, students, teachers, schools, local clubs, women groups, CFUG, Chitwan National Park BUG. All field-based activities were conducted in the leading of local organizations which can easily see in photographs and movie clips (find the CD).

B. Poor Children Schooling Program/Extension: In proposal, I planned to support only 10 poor students to encourage them towards education but I was able to support more than 80 students through this project. While visiting school and meeting with schoolteachers, I found many students were unable to afford their educating materials. I realized that critical situation and saved money from other activities for them. I produced 200 dozen copy and 60 dozen pencils for these students. Conservation slogan and RSGF logo were printed in the copy for sharing the conservation theme and introducing the supporting organizations. I viewed that it was the perfect idea to aware students in conservation, encourage them for their study and to introduce supporting organizations through single attempt.

C. Coordination: It was my strong belief that coordination with concerned organizations and local people made possible to break hardship. Due to the coordination with many organizations and people, I was able to address many emerging demand of Students, local people, schools, clubs etc during project period. In the coordination with Rufford's other grantee for producing education materials, I could support many students and install more conservation notice boards. Resource person helped by reducing their fee on training for increasing participant's number. Lots of organization's supports made possible large-scale plantation. Local clubs and schools put their hands-on conservation program voluntarily. In the coordination with CFUG and Chitwan National Park BUG, I encouraged local clubs to plant fruits plants so that they could raise fund by selling fruits for sustaining their clubs and conduct conservation activities in sustain basis. Community FM station was also ready to help us by waving one-month charge after RSGF project to search fund for next phase.

Besides these, Formation of team (PARC) for the continuity, rewarding the clubs by providing sport dresses, encouragement of organizations and individual while falling in scarce were the other incredible achievement of this project.

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

The project was community-based project and all activities were carried out through local people's involvement and organized in the joint venture of local Clubs, CBOs, Women groups, Farmer groups, CFUG, Chitwan National Park BUG, Schools etc.

We always felt that locally created and promoted activities will be effective and that can focus the target people. I therefore carried out most of field-based activities in the leading of local organizations and people. I had already mentioned in my proposal that the proposal was developed in the encouragement of local people and some extra activities were also carried out before approval of proposal from RSGF.

Local communities were involved in the activities as participants in training, contestant in competition, organizer and co-worker in the conduction of every field-based activities.

All activities except school teaching orientation were conducted in field and even things (resources and field gear) needed for the activities were bought in local shop so that local people could also generate income. During the field visit, team members should stay at local people's house and they had to pay for their accommodation charge.

Poor children got schooling opportunities, farmer got the ideas of organic farming and promotion of alternative energy and students got knowledge and ideas for creating sound environment and conserving wildlife. Club got opportunity to sustain by generating income through fruit species plantation.

To promote the community-based program, I conducted radio program through community based FM station and which is still running. Most of team members are also local.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Conservation issue can't be addressed with one attempt or one-year package program. Conduction of some activities and formation of team will keep less meaning in conservation if we can't able to give its continuity or run in sustain basis. I carried out many activities as far as possible through RSG project that was initiation. Off course there are still many issues to be addressed for rhino conservation in Chitwan and I felt that it is my responsibility to encourage many more people and community to put their hand on conservation in coming days too. It is my noble duty to evolve realization on people for conservation.

By knowing and understanding necessity of continuity, I had formed a team "Partnership for Rhino Conservation (PARC)" in first step and made PARC responsible for its continuity. Some of previously conducted activities were too much essential for the continuity by broadening site. I therefore have planed to continue this work through PARC.

Some activities, radio, school teaching and poor student support, are still running in Chitwan.

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

After the completion of each and every activity, results and reports were shared through website; www.rhinonepal.org, radio program, mail and next program. In the case of local people, concerned clubs, women groups, CFUGs, BUGs, school used to dispatch notice and share in their meetings.

Documentary of all activities had been prepared and this documentary will be shown and distributed to share the achievement of the project. I have sent one copy CD for RSGF via post, please find it.

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

The project was designed for one year and RSGF was the major funding partner and Biodiversity Conservation and Research Forum (BICORF) has also supported as co-funding partner. RSG was used whole over the period.

Time	Activity	Support
February 2007 January 2008	Website Preparation, Radio Program, School Teaching Orientation Class, School Teaching Program, Stationery Distribution to other Grantee, Poor Students Support, Youth Awareness Campaign, Team Formation, Past Activities Monitoring, Adult Environment Education, Rewarding the clubs, Conservation Notice Board Installation, Seedling Distribution, Plantation, Poem Competition, Essay competition, Song Competition, Drama, Poster Production and Distribution, Pamphlets Production & Dispatch, Education Material Production, Report Preparation & Dissemination, Rewarding the Club	Rufford Small Grant Foundation (Major Funding) & BICORF (Co-funding)

Contd... February 2008	Radio Program, Poor Student Education Program, School teaching program, Website Updating	Partnership for Rhino Conservation (PARC) Formed by RSGF project "Rhino Conservation"
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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 detail of the budget and expenditure is presented with difference and comments.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Banking Charge	No	35	-35	It was covered from another topic
Website	250	235	+15	Reduced price for the conservation program and it had been transferred to other activities
Publication & FM Charge	200	219	-19	By hearing people advices, I produced more Pamphlet, poster & increased FM's time than proposed
Communication; Phone/email/internet	180	191	-11	Coordination with others was seemed more effectively than expected.
Wage	300	198	+102	We requested training resource person for their voluntary support somewhere by showing the demand of poor student program and participant's interest.
Training	100	252	-152	Proposed for 2 clubs but actual 7 women groups, 1. FUG, 1 BZUG
Stationery	170	206	-36	Due to the increased in number of participants, budget was not enough and pulled from another topic.
Day Celebration	400	400	00	Developed basket fund & limited on it
Poor Students Program	250	400	-150	Our vision was to support only 10 students but found that many students deprived from education which rose the expenditure and settled by minimizing other expenses
Competition	100	160	-60	We appealed local community for competition which raised participation and expenditure

Member's Accommodation	1460	1230	+230	We made compromise to minimize the expenses as much as possible to conduct all activity as far as possible
Transportation	300	275	+25	Our team used student facilities which made possible to reduce this budget
Camera & Teaching materials	630	580	+50	Bought low quality camera for other activities that kept more meaning
Conservation Notice & Sign Board	500	600	-100	School's demand made actual numbers of board more than proposed
Reporting	150	125	+25	I minimize reporting expenses as much as possible without reducing quality
TOTAL	4990	5106	-116	Remaining budget was requested with BICORF for payment

Exchange rate= 1: GBP:124 Nepalese Rupees (Local currency).

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

I am always looking forward to keeping our (Rufford, BICORF and myself) project's existence for rhino conservation on regular basis. My feeling is to continue some activities; radio Program, school teaching, poor student supporting program, women environment education, street drama and documentary show because these are the backbone of awareness creation. I am looking ahead for additional activity i.e. income generation activities, and for shouting to RSGF and allied agencies for making these programs successful in coming days.

I therefore still continue radio program, school teaching, website updating and poor student support program and which are still running after one-year project.

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, I used RSGF logo in each and every activity and publication that were produced in relation to this project. Logo was also kept in banner of each and every activity while conducting. Logo was kept in certificate (Competition, Participation), Pamphlets, Education Material, Webpage, Poster, Prize, Booklet, conservation / notice board, banners etc. (See photographs).

Due to remoteness and inaccessibility, I am unable to keep logo in few cases. I am going to use RSGF logo in some future activities if it does not create problem to your organization. I planned to keep RSGF logo because PARC was formed in the support of RSGF.

11. Any other comments?

I felt so comfortable which was not hoped while developing and submitting the proposal and starting the project. I like to thank all stake holder of the project; Rufford Small Grant Foundation-RSGF for major funding, Biodiversity Conservation and Research Forum-BICORF for co-funding, Co-workers (RSGF-Grantees), NGOs, CBOs, Schools, Clubs, Forest User Groups, Bufferzone User Groups,

Women Groups, Men Groups, Students, local youth for their unaffordable contribution to make possible of this project's activities.

I like to request RSGF officials to visit Nepal and monitor their grantee's performance on wildlife, nature and natural resource conservation. I also like to appeal everyone and concerned agencies to support conservation activities what is possible from your side.

Last but not least I owe depths gratitude to my referees for their incredible support during the project and suggestion for next steps.

I am looking forward to getting same kind of support form all in coming days and hopeful on it and local people will be benefited with our future program.