

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

Your name	Kanlaya SYDAVONG
Project title	Community Forest Management In Dongyang Area project (CFM), Lao's People Democratic Republic.
RSG reference	Ref: 09.04.08
Reporting period	Final report July 2008 - August 2009
Amount of grant	£ 5,850
Your email address	ksydavong@yahoo.com
Date of this report	9 th September 2009

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
Identify the role of the different stakeholders in the conservation of the Dongyang forest			Yes	Launching project was hold at Xaythany district's meeting room - there were participants from related line agencies and representatives from each village
Build the capacity of the staff			Yes	Workshop was hold for three days and knowledge of 15 project staff was increased
Boundary demarcation			Yes	Project boundary in 4 villages was implemented
Awareness raising		Yes		Training of the forest agents on communication and education methods Raising awareness within the local authorities, the mayor, local community councils Raising awareness within each village
Monitoring and assessment			Yes	Monitoring the progress of the project and adapt management of middle and end the project
Establishment and support to local associations		Yes		The project supported the existing development initiatives and developed further participation in the sustainable use of natural resources
Forest conservation		Yes		Raise local awareness of endangered species in the project area especially medicinal plants and threatened species
Dissemination of information to the surrounding villages			Yes	Information was disseminated for each village
Building capacity of agents and villagers		Yes		45 participants and were trained on forest management
Development of partnership with other NGOs and the private sector			Yes	Collaboration with partner and NGOs such as National University of Lao, LEAP, CEDS, SUFORD.
Introduction to alternative income generating activities			Yes	Improve the efficiency of existing cultivation methods and introduce the villagers
Dissemination of project			Yes	Monitoring of the progress of the

results				project, adapt future activities and project evaluation
Contribute to the reduction of the gender disparity in matters of education and training in six villages around Dongyang	No			Due to we have too many sub activities and other donor did not provide budget we thus could not achieve these activities and would like to ask for your support again
Economical promotion of women	No			
Promotion of the right to health and reproduction health of women and young girls	No			
Reinforcement of the implementation of woman rights and encourage their participation to decision making	No			
Improve women's involvement in environmental protection and conservation	No			

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

A few unforeseen difficulties occurred during the project implementation but were successfully resolved such as some local people don't want to be involved because they have to work every day in the field and working during rainy season led to major difficulties with regard to getting from site to site.

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

1. The major threats to the conservation of the forest values in the Dongyang areas where the project was conducted were identified and examined. The threats include uncontrolled logging in this areas for commercial purposes, which has degraded the natural values in some locations; and unplanned expansion of farming areas which has caused a reduction in habitat of wildlife.

2. The needs of local people for using the forest area resources for livelihoods were determined. People wish to sustainably use resources from the areas for subsistence needs. They also advise that there should be guidelines and procedures to enable them to legally and sustainably benefit from the forest areas.

3. Some possibilities for successful cooperation between the Authorities and local people to manage the forest resources were indicated. Local people proposed that in order to ensure effective cooperation there needs to be equality between local people and the Authorities in finalising the management decisions which recognise the rights and roles of people to the forest resources.

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

Local people were involved in the project through participation in planning and discussions with the project team members. Among those people who were involved in the project, the representatives of age groups, social groups (those who made their income entirely from farming; farmers holding positions in local civil societies such as women association, youth union, veteran association, etc), gender and ethnicity were considered and balanced.

Through their involvement in the project, local people have learnt the necessity for sustainable management of the protected area forest resources to meet the needs and objectives of various stakeholders. In addition, local people had the opportunity to voice their concerns related to their rights to benefit from the forest resources and related management activities.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I plan that after our first phase is completed, I will continue project as mentioned above due to we have too many sub activities and other donor did not provide enough budget so, we could not achieve these activities and would like to apply for your support again.

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

Public Presentation: We have made several times public presentations at the national conference and for students. In the future, such activities will be continued. Results have already been shared within the SUFORD through two presentations of the projects aims, progress and findings, government employees, NGOs, and members of the general public.

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

This RSG-supported project was carried out from the end of July 2008 to early August 2009. This period was quite exactly the same as the planned schedule.

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.

Item	Budgeted Amount £	Actual Amount £	Difference £	Comments
Travel expenses	872,28	799,75	72,53	Budgeted amount was mostly for renting a car.
Transportation	2.691,48	2.883,41	-191,3	Our fieldwork was mostly on the forest and transportation with car is mandatory. When project running, the prices of fuel increased
Food (logistics)	800,86	800,86	0	-
Accommodation	861,51	861,49	0,02	-
Daily subsistence allowance (DSA)	1,520	1,840	-320	We proposed a total of £1520 for daily subsistence allowance. However, there were some additional members from the

				field and additional working days in fieldwork preparation.
Materials for conservation awareness	376,9	689,62	-312,72	In the proposal we proposed only a calendar as material for conservation awareness. However, we used a calendar and posters for material awareness.
Communications	160,45	154,40	6,05	We only used communications budget for phone, fax and for the internet. The phone is very important for communication and develop coordination for project team
Equipment	920	940	-20	
	5,778.691	6,238.883	-369	

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

From this project we need to be more known on how to involve local governments (at Commune and District levels) in the Dongyang Area. At present, the Dongyang Areas are struggling to conserve the biological resources, especially to counter the negative impacts from local people, while the roles of the local governments in solving such problems have not been clearly defined.

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, the RSGF logo was always used in whole project undertaking in presentations, talking materials and stationary provisioning. Because we often work in the field and the internet is often not available, we could not provide enough information on our project to RSG, which will change and improve if we could conduct next RSG project.

11. Any other comments?

Many thanks for the continuing help and fund from RSG. This project gave an opportunity to work with local people, local communities, government staff, NGOs (local, national and international), university, etc.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for their support and wish all their other endeavours in conservation my best of luck.