

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

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Nabin Baral
Project title	The Maoists insurgency and conservation in Nepal
RSG reference	10.11.06
Reporting period	May 2007 to May 2008
Amount of grant	£4050.00
Your email address	nbaral@gmail.com
Date of this report	June 12, 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
To measure resilience of community-based conservation institutions and describe the characteristics of resilient institutions		x		Needs another season of field research
To explore factors that would make conservation models more robust to external disturbances		x		Needs another season of field research
To document precursors of legitimacy for conservation institutions and explore its relationship with institutional resilience		x		Needs another season of field research
To assess commitments, motivations and attitudes of committee members, and explore their relationships with institutional resilience		x		Needs another season of field research

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

I did not have any difficulties during the project except that some remote places were physically challenging. I could not visit three committees due to difficulties in logistics and language barriers.

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

In Annapurna, conservation was happening despite the impacts of insurgency. The conservation area management committees were resilient to the Maoist insurgency but their degree of resilience was variable. The local people considered the committees as a legitimate authority to manage natural resources and they also trusted committee members to work on their behalf. The status of natural resources has not deteriorated during the insurgency, and sustainable development activities were carried on albeit with a reduced intensity.

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

After the completion of project, I am planning to send all committees a summary report in Nepali language. This way, local communities will benefit from information sharing.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I intend to replicate this work in other two community-based conservation models: community forests and buffer zones.

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

I am preparing two manuscripts for publication in international peer-reviewed journals from the data collected from Annapurna. Although my paper was accepted for presentation at the Resilience Conference, Stockholm, I could not attend the conference because a visa did not arrive in time. I am planning to participate in a couple of conferences this year.

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

I spent the RSG at the beginning of the project cycle to buy equipments. I went to Nepal in May 2007 and was there until August 2007. A big chunk of the grant was spent during the field research. International travel, accommodation and field assistants' salary were big amounts spent at that time. Towards the end of project cycle there was no expenditure. Most of the grant was spent during the first six months of the project.

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
International Travel	1,200.00	1,160.00	40.00	I humbly requested you to carry over surpluses (£290) for the next field season's expenditures in my booster application. This amount has been adjusted in the booster application.
Domestic Travel	400.00	400.00	0	
Per diem for Principal Investigator	1,000.00	1,000.00	0	
Subsistence payment for a local assistant	750.00	750.00	0	
Equipment, stationery, and expendable materials	450.00	450.00	0	
Report preparation and mailing	250.00	0	250.00	.
TOTAL	4,050.00	3,760.00	290.00	

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

The important next steps are to complete the field research in community forests and buffer zone, publish at least two papers shortly, and submit the research results for a Ph.D. degree.

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?

So far, I have used the RSGF logo in my report to your organization. The RSGF received some publicity during the course of this project. I mentioned the RSGF's name in all applications filed to get a permission to carry out research. Also, I mentioned your organization's name to my peers when they asked me about the funding source. I recommended them to apply for the grant if they wish.