

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Paras Bikram Singh
<b>Project title</b>	Awareness Program for the conservation of threatened wetland birds in and around Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR), Eastern Nepal
<b>RSG reference</b>	12714-2
<b>Reporting period</b>	08/12/2012 to 30/04/2014
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5950
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:ecoparas@yahoo.co.uk">ecoparas@yahoo.co.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:ecoparas@gmail.com">ecoparas@gmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	11/05/2014

**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
Generate awareness among student for wetland bird conservation through school teaching and conservation related activities.			X	All objectives were evaluated based on proposal and field implementation.
Enhance the capacity of influential people regarding to wetland bird conservation through training and excursion.			X	
Aware <i>Mallaha</i> people towards wetland bird's conservation through training and awareness programme.			X	
Aware mass of people around KTWR towards wetland bird conservation through FM radio programme.			X	
Upgrade Kosi Bird Observatory, the only one bird observatory in Nepal, for conservation education proposes.			X	

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

Second National Election for constitutional assembly was held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This election compelled us to change schedule of the programme. Other factors that affect the projects were farming season and thatch grass collection from the reserve.

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

- a. Students were made participation in different activities of the project. Knowledge of students and their attitude towards birds were changed dramatically. Total 743 students were benefited directly from this project.
- b. Influential people such as teachers and local leaders were trained well regarding conservation of wetlands birds and many of participants used telescope first time. They knew benefits of conservation and their role in conservation of wetlands and their creatures specially wetland birds. Furthermore, tribal people *Mallaha* who are depend on wetland were aware through group discussion and training.
- c. Publication of posters and distribution, Display of Hoard Boards and Simsar programme broad casted from FM Radio influenced both participants of the program and non-participants.

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

As this project was directly targeted to local people through students, influential people and Mallaha tribe, the participants in each activity was enthusiastic and overwhelming towards programme activities. Everyone changed their perception towards wetland bird and conservation. Students and teachers upgraded their knowledge level on birds and conservation. Mallah people were mainly benefitted through training on wiring. Other non-participants residing around KTWR were benefitted through FM radio programme, posters and hoarding boards.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, I am planning to continue this work in future on landscape level. Additionally, this work will include migratory bird research and analyse aspect of bird watch tourism.

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

Electronic copy of this report will be distributed to various organisations working in conservation in Nepal and around the world. At the same time, link of Rufford website will be uploaded to social media to view this report.

**7. Timescale: Over what period was The Rufford Foundation grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?**

The Rufford Foundation grant was used entirely to implement this work. The number of days expended in the field as per proposed. However, total period was expanded because of constitution election in Nepal, other local reasons and my involvement in other conservation activities in Annapurna Region.

**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 from Kathmandu to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve	£120	£210	-£90	Local transportation was not available to visit each school. Hence, hiring of motorcycle was only option.
Poster Design and Printing	£500	£500	0	
Hoarding Board (Flex Print)	£200	£120	£80	We use walls of public buildings to display hoarding board and cost of framing was reduced.
Stationeries (Diary and pen)	£ 100	£130	-£30	The cost was because of price difference in the market.
Field Allowance for Chief Instructor	£996	£1056	-£60	Coordination meeting before each programmes increase total days of field work

Allowance for Teachers	£60	£60		
Allowance/travel cost for trainer	£180	£180	0	
Breakfast, tea, snack and lunch during the program for Mallaha (training and group discussion)	£400	£388	-£12	Only six participants attended the training out of 10. Hence, cost was not as expensive as proposed.
Workshop for influential people	£1280	£1254	£26	Total days of workshop was reduced to four days as it is compulsory to provide allowance and travel cost for influential people to organise programme
Living allowance for Chief Instructor and assistant	£664	£704	-£40	Coordination meeting before each programme lengthen total days of field work
Simsar (Wetland) FM radio program	£500	£475	£25	£25 was reduced by FM Radio during negotiation.
World Wetland Day Celebration	£300	£345	-£45	Travel cost for teacher who took student to Kusha for wetland day celebration was provided
Upgrading KBO	£450	£450		
Photograph, Film Roll and Photo development	£100	0	£100	Only digital camera was used in the field.
Report Preparation, Printing and Postage	£100	75	£25	Cost for printing report was reduced.
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5950</b>	<b>£5947</b>	<b>£3</b>	

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

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and Kosi Bird Observatory should continue to work with schools, teachers and members of buffer zone in reference to wetland bird conservation. They can at least conduct education campaign twice a year. The next steps after this programme, the work should be more focus on educating youth clubs, participatory research on migratory water birds, and identification of bird watching hotspots at landscape level.

**10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

The Rufford Foundation logo was printed with poster and hoarding board as major supporter of this project. Furthermore, the logo was printed on banner of each program activities. Apart from logo, news on program activities of this project were broadcasted from FM radio.

**11. Any other comments?**

The Rufford Foundation has contributed significantly on conservation of nature in Nepal and has become one of the most popular organisations working in nature. Moreover, flexibility on time schedule has supported grantee to choose best time for the effective implementation of programme.