

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	Dr. Lalith Ekanayake
Project title	Conduction of awareness programmes on sea turtles and coastal biodiversity conservation for the coastal communities in southern and eastern coast of Sri Lanka
RSG reference	12726-1
Reporting period	From 1 st November 2013 to 31 st October 2014
Amount of grant	£ 5,951
Your email address	bcssl@yahoo.com
Date of this report	23 rd November 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
Increase the education and awareness on sea turtle biology & conservation, legislation and law enforcement on sea turtles among the coastal communities such as fishermen, school children and other coastal resource users.			✓	This objective was successfully achieved. The school kids were very interested for the programme.
Increase the community knowledge on sustainable use of surrounding natural coastal resources.			✓	The objective was fully achieved and the people understood the importance of the protection of their surrounding in sustainable manner. Received good feed back from the community about the knowledge they gain from the programme.
Reduce the current threats to sea turtles.		✓		This is a long term objective and will take some time to get full effect from the programmes. However, the fishermen and school children were understood about the threats and importance of conserving sea turtles.
Receive more active participation of coastal community members in sea turtle conservation.		✓		This also a long term objective and will take some time to fully achieve. However, during the programmes the community members, especially school kids were interested for the turtle & coastal ecosystem conservation activities and they agreed to put their full effort to stop destructive activities from their parents. The selected school volunteers will keep their activities.
Receive more information on sea turtles from coastal community members such as tag recoveries.			✓	It was started to receive information from community members and also from other people such as Police officers about turtle stranding and whales stranding. The government officials received the information through our news paper articles.

Increase the availability of educational materials and news paper articles on sea turtles and coastal ecosystem in Sri Lanka.			✓	A leaflet was printed and distributed among participants. Many newspaper articles on sea turtles and coastal biodiversity such as sea turtles, mangroves, dolphin, whales etc were published.
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

Actually there was no any unforeseen difficulty during the project period.

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

The education and awareness level on sea turtle biology & conservation among the coastal communities such as fishermen, school children and other coastal resource users who depend on mangroves, coral reefs, sand mining, shell mining etc and other general public was increased.

Educational materials and many newspaper articles were published on sea turtle and coastal ecosystem conservation. The two news papers rerelease over 200,000 copies per week. If we assumed one newspaper was read at least three people at a single house (except libraries), approximately the conservation message went through about 600,000. So the message has gone to a larger number of people.

The school children will take the conservation message more successfully for the future generation.

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

The community members were participated for the awareness programmes. Most of them (mainly fishermen) were very interested about the programme and got information on coastal biodiversity conservation. Although they didn't get direct economical benefit, they understood how they indirectly get benefit from conservation of coastal biodiversity including sea turtles.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are so many schools which we didn't conducted the programmes. So it is planning to conduct another series of programme to targeting many more students and community members. Further, during this project we have participated three day exhibition at a school for their science exhibition. Within that three day about 13,000 children and their parents were attended to the exhibition (<http://youtu.be/lqYfjnFwi8w>). So the BCS planning to continuously participating this kind of awareness exhibitions to educate larger gathering within a short period of time about the importance of coastal biodiversity conservation.

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

The results of the project will be included in the BCS web site (www.bcssl.org) which is planning to launch within couple of weeks. Further the result will be summarise and publish in local news papers. Further, it is planning to present a poster paper at the Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation which will be held in Turtkey April 2015. I will be submitting an abstract before 30th November 2014 for this symposium.

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

It was planned to complete the project within one year from November 2013 to October 2014. So the project was completed as planned.

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.

Local exchange rate used: 1 GBP = LKR 208

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Programme officer (£ 60 per month x 12 months)	720.00	£ 720.00 LKR 149,760.00	0	
Lecturer fee (£ 15 per programme x 48 programmes)	720.00	£ 720.00 LKR 149,760.00	0	
Audio setup	250.00	£ 250.00 LKR 52,000.00	0	
Multimedia projector	300.00	£ 346.00 LKR 72,000.00	£ + 46 LKR 9,568.00	A quality projector was little expensive than the actual budget. So the additional funds were obtained from the transport budget.
Transport	1,440.00	£ 1,394.00 LKR 289,952.00	£ - 46 LKR 9,568.00	£ 46 was taken for purchase the multimedia projector.
Refreshment	480.00	£ 480.00 LKR 99,840.00	0	
Media promotion in newspapers	1,000.00	£ 1,000.00 LKR 208,000.00	0	
Printing a leaflet	500.00	£ 500.00 LKR 104,000.00	0	

Office rent (£ 10 per month x 12 months)	120.00	£ 120.00 LKR 24,960.00	0	
Electricity and telephone bills (£ 12 per month x 12 months)	144.00	£ 144.00 LKR 29,952.00	0	
Accountant payment (£ 15 per month x 12 months)	180.00	£ 180.00 LKR 37,440.00	0	
Audit fee (£ 75 - one time payment)	75.00	£ 75.00 LKR 15,600.00	0	
Stationeries	22.00	£ 30.00 LKR 6,240.00	£ +8.00	Additional funds provided by BCS
Total	5,951.00	£ 5,959.00 LKR 1,239,472.00		

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

BCS will keep contacts with the selected school children which attended the programmes for future conservation activities. This will lead the long term sustainability of the programme. Further, it is important to continue this programme for much more community members along the Sri Lankan coast. It must be continue writing articles to the newspapers (especially children newspapers) to update and refurbish the knowledge about importance of coastal ecosystems.

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?

Yes, the logo was used for the leaflet produced to distribute among participants and a banner with the logo was displayed during the programmes. Further, the logo included in the newspaper advertisement published in the Wijeya (Sinhalese) and Wijey (Tamil) weekly children newspapers. Six advertisements were published (altogether over 700,000 copies of news papers) with the RSGF logo. More over two video clips published in the YouTube.

<http://youtu.be/4eP1YGIRE-c>
<http://youtu.be/lqYfjnFwi8w>

11. Any other comments?

I would like to acknowledge the Rufford Foundation Small Grant scheme for supporting this awareness programme and expecting to continue the programme.

Appendix I

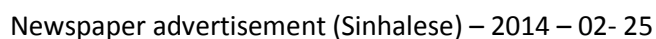
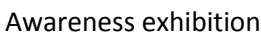
Some Photos of the programmes, newspaper advertisements & articles



Banner used at the awareness programmes



School awareness programmes



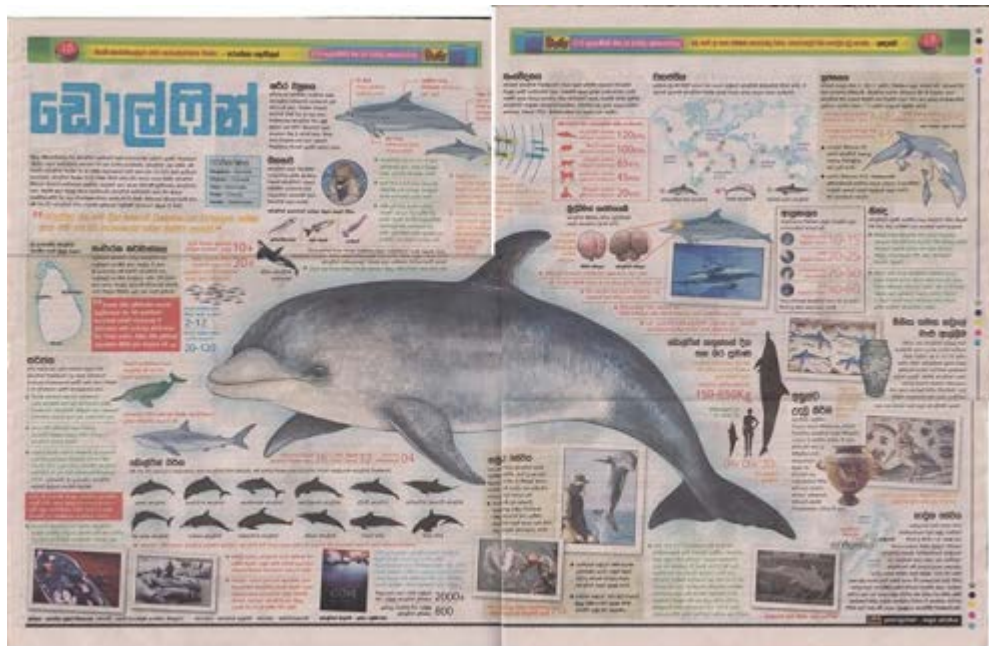


Newspaper advertisement (Sinhalese) – 2014 – 04- 08



Wijeya Sinhala newspaper 2013-12-03 - Benefit from lagoons

Newspaper advertisement (Tamil) – 2014 – 04- 08



Wijeya Sinhala Newspaper - 2013-12-24 - Dolphins



Wijeya Sinhala Newspaper 2013-12-10 Importance of Mangroves



Wijeya Sinhala Newspaper - 2014-01-28 - sea with so many resources



Article in the Ada newspaper (2013-01-20- www.ada.lk) - about sea turtle hatcheries

දැඩුවම ලැබූ විකාස වෛද්‍යවිරුක්තයෙන් 30% ක් නැවතත් ප්‍රතිකාර සේවාවල දැනට පවතින දැඩුවම ප්‍රමාණවත් නෑ, වසර 5ක සිරදැඩුවම දෙන්න

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සත්සර නිමිතාද

SATHSARA NIMNADA

on **25th January, 6.30 p.m.**
at **BMLIC, Nida Hall**





සමනල ජයසිංහ (සමනල) Nishani Jayasinghe (Nishani)

සමනල ජයසිංහ (සමනල) Nishani Jayasinghe (Nishani) විසින් රචනා කරනු ලබන **සත්සර නිමිතාද** නම් කෘතිය මාලිකා විද්‍යා මණ්ඩලයේ (BMLIC) නිදා ශාලාවේ 25 වන ජනවාරි, පෙරවර 6.30 ට පැවැත්වෙනු ඇත.

සමනල ජයසිංහ (සමනල) Nishani Jayasinghe (Nishani) විසින් රචනා කරනු ලබන **සත්සර නිමිතාද** නම් කෘතිය මාලිකා විද්‍යා මණ්ඩලයේ (BMLIC) නිදා ශාලාවේ 25 වන ජනවාරි, පෙරවර 6.30 ට පැවැත්වෙනු ඇත.

Online Tickets

www.sichitsika.lk

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