

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	LY QUOC DANG
Project title	Enhancement awareness of local community to protect the bats and Khmer culture in the Mekong Delta
RSG reference	13200-1
Reporting period	1 YEAR
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	lqdang@ctu.edu.vn
Date of this report	10 th March 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
- to raise awareness of youth and local community about bats and environment issue by improving sanitation campaign			x	This campaign was required by local government office as sanitation issue in the Bat Pagoda is poor and complicated, this campaign was aware youth, local people and tourists about bats and environment issue in the Bat Pagoda.
- to raise awareness of students and local community about bats and environment issue by conservation education program			x	This activity aims at raising awareness of students in order to strengthen the knowledge, information and skills to them, then they may bring back to their relatives.
- to raise awareness of youth and local community about bats and environment issue by painting contest			x	This contest tries to put bat issue into urgent one and ask them to raise their voice on the painting, this contest is first event in Vietnam to mention the bat. This way is effected more people to pay attention too.
- to evaluate and assess the changing of awareness of students and local people			x	The investigator is assessed and evaluated the changing of awareness and behaviour of students, local community, tourists and stakeholders
- to study local economic, social and environment issue from local community			x	This research was conducted raw data from local government, stakeholders and investigator interviewed 15 local people, organised PRA, did survey 40 students and interviewed five of them.
- to develop strategies of communicating the information from the project to others factors.			x	The project officer worked with local stakeholders to develop our strategies for next step to save the bats and Khmer culture in the Mekong Delta.
- to build and develop others ideas for the future project and networking in the region.			x	The project designed document and reports in order to release to others ones as this is kind of communications documents.

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

There is the requirement the letter of introduction from the University where I am currently working to Soc Trang Province People Committee as this project area is very sensitive issue in the region and Soc Trang Province. I tried to discuss many times with local government offices and they denied my expectations. Few of government officers did not accept the proposal and asked to move project to another areas in Soc Trang Province.

There is one activity “improving sanitation issue with you”, it is suggested by local government office and the project office is considered as it is on the project objectives and we have accepted the requirements from them. In this way, because the project budget is limited, the project officer asked additional budget from individual and local organisation in Vietnam to do it.

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

- 100 youth participated in order to “clean up” the environment in the Bat Pagoda; giving two scholarships for students in High School; train two undergraduate students to do thesis and they graduated.
- 40 primary students involved in conservation education by playing game and painting contest; two scholarship about action to save the bats together for two students from High School.
- 100 documents and reports from the project are released to the public and stakeholders.

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

The local communities are involvement into the project in differently ways from each activity in the project:

- Improving sanitation issue: when organising the campaign, the local people and local youth also participated with us, so the numbers of participants in this campaign increased to 120 people.
- Painting contest: during the contest, many local community, tourists are curiously watching and discussing with the organisers and the students. In addition to the student’s relatives as their parents came to the event and watched their daughters or sons. The conservation education programme is the same situation.
- Recommendation: the project is also consultation from the local community side in order to develop and build next strategies for the project. In this way, the local people participated very smoothly and strictly.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The project officer plans to develop next step in the Soc Trang Province and region in order to save the bats and improve Khmer culture, those are five activities:

- to enhance awareness of young generation and local communities about bats species and environmental issue;
- to improve sanitation issue by managing waste and sewage treatment system;

- to train development leadership skills to young generation
- to improve governance and reduce bats trafficking issue in Soc Trang Province and region
- to improve income and employment to local communities by livelihood activities improvements and vocational training activities.

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

We have been making the report paper as file documents and postcards. Those will be done soon at the mid-March 2014, then we release to our partners, local stakeholders in the province, colleagues and journalists. We plan to present our results in our organisation and plan to participate meeting, workshop in the region.

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

The project spent almost 11 months: 3 months for implementing to contact local government offices in Soc Trang Province and asked permission; 3 months for implementing four activities in the local; 2 months for doing assessment and evaluation as well as studying social-economic and environment issues in the local field research; 3 months for writing reports, designing file documents, and postcard.

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	Budget ed Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Transportation including per diem, meals, accommodation and local travel	1.800	1.800		The project officers tried to travel by motors in order to save budget in this case
Materials, equipment and others for conservation education programme and the campaigning	1.000	1.200	200	This amount was gathered from individual donors and local CSOs in VN
Project management and tuition fee for working group	1.800	1.800		This budget was given to project management, assistants, secretary, and volunteers
Others and local expense	400	800	400	This amount was gathered from individual donors and local CSOs in VN
Assessment and Evaluation	900	1.200	300	This amount was gathered from individual donors and local CSOs in VN
TOTAL	6.000	6.800	800	

* We would like to ask supports from individual and local CSO, they were supported 800 pounds.

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

- To improve income and employment to local community.
- To improve governance system in the province and region.
- To enhance awareness of young generation and local communities.

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?

I always use RSGF logo while organising any campaign, event, program and so on. Those are on banner, roll, banners, stick scan, name credit, posters, and paper invitation letters. We did sending some news from the internet to Jane during the course of our work.

11. Any other comments?

We expect to get next funding from RSGF and would like to collaborate with others donors in order to develop our strategies to save the bats, develop community, improve Khmer culture in the region. We are appreciated in working with RSGF.