

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	Prabin Bhusal
Project title	Agroforestry Promotion for Livelihood Enhancement and Biodiversity Conservation (Pilot Project in the Panchase Protected Forest Area in Kaski District)
RSG reference	13443-1
Reporting period	Third and final Report, thrice a year
Amount of grant	£5314
Your email address	bhusalp1@gmail.com prabin@forestaction.org call2bro@gmail.com
Date of this report	July 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
Formation of Program Management Committee				Formed one in each VDC, worked effectively but also provide some incentives for their time and guidance.
Revitalisation of Small Farmers groups				They were the target group of the project and provided trainings by agroforestry experts, excursion in agroforestry plots made them aware of the contribution of agroforestry much better than traditional farming that helps in uplifting livelihood of poor and small land holders. The vitalisation of SFGs has reunited them as a strong group capable of raising their voices for government incentives as well.
Establishment of Demo Plot				Established one demo plot in a small farmer land of Chapakot VDC.
Agroforestry Awareness Campaign				Conducted in one secondary level school of each VDC. Good participation of students and teachers.
Calendar and pamphlet distribution				Contained project activities photographs and highlighting importance of agroforestry. Handed over calendars to Small Farmers Groups for distribution to all members.
Dissemination of community efforts				Still ongoing; preparing an article for national daily newspaper
Agroforestry promotion for biodiversity conservation				The conservation education, awareness through posters and calendars and demo plot initiation made them aware of the importance of biodiversity and agroforestry contribution for biodiversity conservation. SMGs are really excited about the initiation of demo plot and are awaiting its full results.

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

Well, I faced many such difficulties during the implementation of project activities. Most importantly to ensure the actual participation of the farmers in the initiation of the project work is one. As farmers are always busy in their own work and to take their whole a year time is a great challenge for me. However, after providing them importance training on agroforestry they really felt it their

own programme and of course I provided them with certain incentives as they have to sacrifice their earning time.

Similarly, understanding the local social, cultural and environmental condition is also a crucial and difficult and important part for the sustainability of the project. I have always tried to feel for them and adapt to them.

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

First: increased knowledge of agroforestry in the local community, the small farmers to choose and practice the appropriate agroforestry technique for better management of their land.

Second: increased in community participation and collective efforts for biodiversity conservation such as degraded land management, home gardens, traditional system of farming replaced by agroforestry.

Third: the community efforts were disseminated through calendars, radio programme and in local newspapers.

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

As the project was participatory action program where the involvement of local especially the farmers were crucial. In all the project activities the local community were involved. First in the Program Management Committee local teachers, farmers, youths participated. In training and excursion local farmers were the main target groups. They were made aware and learnt about the importance and techniques of agroforestry in their small land.

Similarly, the school students, teachers and locals were involved in awareness activities like conservation rally, school programme and in project activities dissemination programme. Thus involvement of locals was an imperative part of the project and they are made aware, they know the importance of agroforestry, they know the techniques of agroforestry, they are adopting it and replacing the traditional farming system.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I am planning to continue this work in the Terai region of Nepal where the issue of distant users and forest is creating conflict. As I am doing a research in the area to find out the ways in managing the conflict over forest between near and distant users. I felt agroforestry for distant users is the best way to fulfil their daily need of firewood and fodder for which they are fighting with the near users these days. Actually, more than 85% of the population, particularly southern distant users, are excluded from the community forestry programme. Current community forestry programme reaches only 16% of the Terai population (mostly nearby users). There is not as much of resources but more users and distant users.

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

I am planning to share my results with different stakeholders, my friends and colleagues. I will first share in my own office, I will also share in Institute of Forestry Pokhara, and I am also planning to take a small research to examine the actual change or activities or actions taken by small farmers

after some months. Similarly, I am also preparing an article on my project for national daily newspaper.

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

Actually, the grant was used over a year period, till to the end of the project. It was somehow as planned during the project proposal formation.

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.

1£ = Rs 130

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Program Management Committee and Small Farmers groups formation	150	170	20	Number of participants always exceeded that expected
DSA for team leader and assistant	1053+240	1053+240	0	
Training workshop and excursion cost	400	600	200	Experts costs and transportation costs of excursion exceeded due to increasing market price
Demo plot construction	150	150	0	
Dissemination costs (hoarding board, calendars, newspaper, pamphlets)	2046	1826	220	The extra amount was used for training and excursion
School Programme	675	700	25	More students' participants during school programme which increased the cost
Administrative costs, stationery and communication	500	425	75	The extra amount was used in transportation heading
Transportation	100	150	50	Always increasing due to frequent increase in fuel price
Total	5314	5314	0	

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

The next step is to examine the change the people adopted after some months and the progress of the demo plot. I feel and I have examined the serious conflict in natural resource (forest) due to lack of fodder and firewood in Terai Nepal. Therefore, I am planning to make people aware and adopt agroforestry so that they can decrease there dependency in forest and can fulfil the need of fodder and firewood.

**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?**

Logo of Rufford Foundation was used in most of the activities and the publication that were produced in relation to this project activities like banners, hoarding boards, calendars etc.

11. Any other comments?

I like to give thank to Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation because its contribution has played vital role not only in agroforestry promotion in Panchase but also in uplifting my career in conservation field and always encouraging me in conservation activities.

Last but not least I owe depths gratitude to my referee's Matt Low, Dil Bahadur Khatri and Ramji Prasad Neupane for their incredible support during the project and suggestion for next steps. Due to their support, I felt so comfortable while implementing the project activities.

I am looking forward to getting same kind of support from all in coming days and hopeful on it. I also like to appeal each person and concerned organisations to support conservation activities as possible from their side.

Annex 1

English Translation of Video Interview with Small farmer where the Demo plot is established: The Interview is attached

QUESTION: We have completed the one-year agroforestry promotion project in your VDC including other two, what do you think is it beneficial for you all, please explain your overall experience as one of the small farmer?

ANSWER: Well, we all were following the traditional farming system, we were unknown about the benefits and importance of Agroforestry. After this program we understood the benefits that we can get, the training and excursion programs are really the best part that encouraged us to know and adopt it.

We expect to come this sort of program in coming year as well.

Similarly, the demo plot with the good fodder species, that helps in reducing soil erosion are very beneficial and we hope if we protect and manage it we will get more benefits in coming days ahead.

Annex 2

Some Snaps of Demo plot: while planting fodder and fruit species in vegetable plot



Annex 3

Snap of Calendars which include the Project Activities and Importance of Agroforestry

