

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	Manh Hung Bui
Project title	Structure and restoration of natural secondary forests for biodiversity and wood supply in the Central Highlands, Vietnam
RSG reference	15192-1
Reporting period	Final report
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	bui manh hung vfu@gmail.com
Date of this report	06/04/2015

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
Structure of both secondary forest and primeval forest			x	I set up and investigated 20 plots, 10 plots for secondary forests and 10 plots for primeval forests.
Plant species diversity indexes of each forest type and compare them with each other			x	I worked with one tree species identification. We identified all tree species in 20 plots.
Spatial distribution of big trees and regenerating trees			x	All tree locations are measured and recorded.
Investigation and analysis of gaps and soil samples		x		Because, all soil samples are too heavy, so I only transferred 80% of them to the lab in order to analyze.
Working with two scientific assistants of Kon Ka Kinh National Park and some local people			x	I worked with two scientific assistants from Kon Ka Kinh national park and three local people. I trained them and shared knowledge and skills with them.

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

- Primeval forests are very far and remote, so it is very difficult to get there and investigate. Therefore, we camped and brought food in the forest.
- Leaf sample collection of high trees is very difficult. Therefore, we had to prepare some long sticks to take samples.
- Rain is a difficulty. It makes investigation in the rain forests very difficult. We had to prepare rain coats and some other things to protect electric tools.
- Soil sample transfer is difficult, because the lab is very far from the study site. So I could not take all of them to the lab. A solution is that I mixed some samples (same horizons) together and transferred them to the lab. So the results are more objective.
- Data analysis and report writing take longer time, compared to the plan.

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

- The biodiversity of the secondary forest is much higher than that of the primeval forest.
- However, the structure of the secondary forest is changed significantly. Number of small trees is higher, so diameter distributions are different. The number of gaps is greater but the average size is smaller. Light intensity reaching to the forest floor is greater, so that is good conditions for regeneration.
- People's awareness regarding to tree conservation, especially valuable species, is enhanced significantly. In addition, some knowledge and skills related to plot establishment, investigation skills and group working are improved, especially for staffs of the park.

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

I worked with two staff of the park and three local peoples. They helped me to set up plots, do measurements, prepare food and bring tools to investigate. I shared, trained and paid them. So the project benefits them by knowledge, skills and wages.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- I plant to survey more details about very valuable species in Kon Ka Kinh national park in order to restore and conserve them.
- I plant to investigate structure and restoration of secondary forests in other parks in Central Highland of Vietnam.

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

Firstly, the results will be submitted to Vietnam Administration of Forestry and Ministry of Agriculture of Rural Development. After that, a PhD proposal will be developed based on this project, so some articles and PhD dissertation will be published. Therefore, I can share the project results with other scientists and conservationists around the world. I will organize a seminar with my co-workers in Vietnam Forestry University (VFU) to talk about the project and discuss them for further development. Finally, I can share the results with Vietnamese students at VFU through my lectures when all data analysis work is finished.

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 was used from October 2014 to March 2015. However, my project was from June 2014 to December 2015.

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
Air flight, train and bus tickets	450	450	0	
Accommodation	500	630	-130	Fieldwork time is longer (5 months)
Hemispherical photography (a camera and a lens)	200	235	-35	The prize is changed
GPS (GARMIN GPS Map 62)	180	180	0	
Equipments for me and assistants	400	510	-110	Fieldwork time is longer (5 months)
Tree species identification books	100	100	0	
Wage for field assistants	1350	1687.5	-337.5	Fieldwork time is longer (5 months)

Wage for surveyors	1020	1275	-255	Fieldwork time is longer (5 months)
Food, gasoline for assistants and surveyors	800	1000	-200	Fieldwork time is longer (5 months)
Total	5000	6067.5	-1067.5	

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

I will finish all data analysis work, finish all reports and disseminate the results.

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?

No, I have not used RSGF logo yet, because I have not finished reports and publications. I will use the logo in my reports, lectures, similar and some other publications. I will acknowledge RSGF in my publications, especially Ph.D. dissertation in the future.

11. Any other comments?

This project will be developed to my PhD project. Therefore, I will submit some first chapters to Rufford Foundation when I finish such as: sample analysis and data analysis. I will submit my PhD. dissertation after defending.