

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	Kashuf Batool
Project title	Diversity and Communities Conservation education of Butterflies in Salkahala Game Reserve, Kashmir, Pakistan
RSG reference	15521-1
Reporting period	2014-2015
Amount of grant	£5360
Your email address	kashuf@hncf.org.pk
Date of this report	June 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
First time exploration of the butterflies diversity and habitat association in the Salkhala Game Reserve			Yes	Project was successful to gather information on butterflies of the Salkhala game Reserve, which is one of the preliminary efforts to collect data on the diversity of butterflies and threats. In total 43 species of butterflies were recorded from different habitat types like grasslands, conifers forest and pasture etc.
Establishing preliminary database and survey plots for future monitoring of butterflies			Yes	For the first time project established transects for the long term monitoring of the butterflies fauna in Salkhala. Surveys were conducted through transect method with 500 m long transect with six sub-sections in each transect. In total, six transects were laid down in different habitat types along altitudinal gradient for this study.
Training of wildlife staff to monitor and protect butterflies and their habitat			Yes	Six wildlife field staff were provided with the training and also involved in the field surveys to build their capacity to monitor butterflies on established survey plots.
Highlighting of the beautiful butterflies as indicator of ecosystem health among locals through awareness raising			Yes	Four awareness workshops were organised for the school children whereas eight workshops were organised for communities as well to educate them about the importance of butterflies as indicator of ecosystem health. On average 45 community members attended each conservation awareness workshops. Conservation educational material was developed and distributed among communities and student as a part of conservation education and awareness campaign.

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

N.A

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

Preliminary data on the diversity of butterflies of the project area and threats to the habitat, which will be of great help to take conservation action to help protect the butterflies and their habitat. This information is also important for policy makers to think about the conservation of butterflies neglected earlier. Establishment of surveys plots which will be helpful in monitoring of the butterflies on long term bases. First ever involvement and education of communities for the conservation of butterflies.

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

Nature clubs were established in the project area and butterflies conservation education was spread among students through workshops, quiz and painting competitions. Local communities were also educated about butterflies and their role in ecosystem through workshops and nature walks. These activities also helped created awareness among local communities which has never been done before in the project area. Locals showed great interest towards conservation of butterflies and their habitat. Communities were surprised how great works do these small creatures.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I would like to continue my efforts to help conserve the butterflies of the area by working with local communities especially women and children. I am planning to educate communities especially women about the conservation of butterflies and through landscape-scale conservation and management intervention.

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

The research done through this project is of great value as such type of information was missing from the area. So I planned to publish the research outcomes in an international peer reviewed conservation journal to share these important findings with other. I am also planning to attend student conservation conference to present my research work and highlight the important butterfly fauna of the study area. It is anticipated that I may be able to attract the attention of policy makers to think equally about butterfly's conservation along with other large animals and birds.

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

RSG project was of 12 months between July 2014 and June 2015. All the activities of the project were completed within the given timeframe.

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
Local assistance 1 Person@ £10 /day for 96 days	960	960		
Allowances to wildlife field staff 2 persons @ £5 for 96 days	960	960		
Workshop for school children 4 @ £100/workshop	400	400		
Workshops for communities 10 @ £80/workshop	800	800		
Monitoring workshop for wildlife field staff	300	300		
Awareness material (Posters and pamphlets etc.)	500	500		
Total	5360	5360		

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

Yes, to continue our efforts to help conserve the butterflies and their habitat I feel it is very important to launch a butterflies conservation education campaign of communities especially women and children in addition to the training of women to help manage the grasslands and most importantly landscape-scale conservation and management intervention are very important to save the habitat of butterflies from changing into houses and roads.

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

11. Any other comments?

As a women and native of the area, I understand that education of the women of this area and their involvement in the conservation process is difficult but very important. Women

perform duties like cattle grazing, grass cutting firewood collection which leads to the habitat degradation of the butterflies along other biodiversity. Women do not have as such formal conservation education in this part of the country and especially in this remote part of Himalaya so the only way is to educate them is through such project which could help build their capacity in the conservation. I am grateful to Rufford Small grant for providing me with such an opportunity to help educate the women to make them think about the conservation of butterflies by protecting the natural habitat.



Natural Flowering in the project area



A swallowtail Butterfly



A Blue Pancy butterfly



A school girl taking part in the competition



First prize winning painting



Nature walk with school children