

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	Prakash Bhattarai
Project title	Community participation for conservation of threatened orchid <i>Dactylorhiza hatagirea</i> in Jumla District
RSG reference	16864-2
Reporting period	April 2016
Amount of grant	£4995
Your email address	light.bhattarai@gmail.com
Date of this report	May 2016

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 assess population dynamics of the threatened <i>Dactylorhiza hatagirea</i> in the study site.		x		We calculate frequency, density and abundance of the species in 2015. We plan to continue the work in successive year for population dynamics of the species.
To ascertain level of threats to the <i>Dactylorhiza hatagire</i> (vulnerability assessment)			x	We examined the level of threats and rank them. Illegal trade is the main threat to the species followed by grazing, local used and trampling. The target species is vulnerable in the study area.
To cultivate <i>Dactylorhiza hatagirea</i> in private land.			x	We were able to cultivate <i>Dactylorhiza hatagire</i> in private land.
To establish institutions for proper management and conservation of the target species.			x	We facilitated to establish a legalised institute for proper management of target species named <i>Pnachaula Samrakshan Samuha</i> .
To strengthen capacity and raise awareness of people towards conservation.			x	We conducted capacity strengthen training and community and school awareness program.

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

A massive earthquake hit the country during the project time, so we delayed collecting of social and ecological data for 1 month. Furthermore, the protest of district people against government decision of federalism turned to violence and the emergency declared by the district authority compelled us to start our work lately.

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

1. One of our prime goal of the project is to assess the population dynamics of the *Dactylorhiza hatagirea*, whether it is enough for sustainable harvesting or not. We calculated frequency, density and abundance of target species. The change in demography of the species will be calculated by sampling in the same place in successive years. The species in the study area were vulnerable

and their collection from the wild must be prohibited until it gains the fairly healthy population.

2. The experimental plot established in cultivation of target species in private land was of great success, though not all the tubers that we used were germinated, we were able to cultivate it. Now the area were supposed to leave for natural pollination and germination by seeds, under direct supervision of local people. The weeds in the field were controlled. This would directly contribute in the livelihood of remote people.
3. We circulated our goal of conservation of the threatened orchid species *Dactylophiza hatagirea* through conservation awareness programme, training and sustainable use. We accomplished training and group discussion in order to raise awareness of the threatened *Dactylophiza hatagirea* both in communities and schools. Furthermore, we established *Dactylophiza* Conservation Group (*Panchaule Samrakshan Samuha*) in three different communities of three different VDCs. The members of *Dactylophiza* conservation groups were trained and the group member took a lead to raise awareness among the people after completion of the project.

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

The local communities were involved in all activities except scientific sampling of the target species. Local people were the key respondents of questionnaire survey for vulnerability assessment of target species. They were involved in training, preparing sustainable harvesting guidelines and social awareness programme. They were able to understand the sustainable harvesting of species as well as legal basis and conservation of species in the wild. The *Dactylophiza hatagirea* Conservation Groups (*Panchaule Samrakshan Samuha*) were established in local communities to conserve *Dactylophiza* along with other valuable plant species. The group discussions in the communities were fruitful for raising awareness among the local people. We conducted school awareness programs in two schools at district headquarter where most of the students were from study VDCs. Most of our trainings were conducted in the office of Department of Plant Resources, so we are able to make a link between the Department of Plant Resources and local people, which will provide local support for conservation and capacity building of local people for consecutive years.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

There are a lot of reasons to conduct the work in the study area. We should have to gather the demographic data for population dynamics of the study area. Moreover, almost all the VDCs of the district consists the target species and are traded illegally and harvested heavily, so community awareness programmes and capacity strengthening training are the necessity of the community. So we should have to replicate the conservation awareness programme and training in other VDCs of the

district. Moreover, we will probably expand cultivation of target species in other remote VDCs for livelihood improvement of local people.

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

We planed to share our work via Rufford Small Grant websites where one can find a detailed final report as well as a final report and even research articles (after publication) through www.rufford.org. One can browse scientific articles from the respective publication (aiming to publish an article in online publication). Furthermore, we also submit the detail final report to the Department of Plant Resources where local people have easy assess.

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 RSG grant was used during April 2015 to April 2016. We extend the work for 1 month because of the massive earthquake during the project period and also the emergency declared by the government against the protest of local people against federalism.

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
Travel Cost	200	300	-100	Higher than predicted (increased of airfare from airlines)
Food Cost	2100	2000	+100	
Living Cost	1050	995	+55	
Daily allowance for one local people	490	420	+70	
Awareness materials	300	300	0	
Community awareness and formation of PSS	300	345	-45	
School conservation awareness programme	200	180	+20	
Capacity building training	255	325	-70	
Stakeholder meeting	0	100	-100	
Report production	100	100	0	
Total	4995	5065	-70	

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

The population of target species is very fragile, so the harvesting of the species should be banded by the local people to regain healthy population. It is very

difficult to control the illegal harvesting and trade of the species so alternative sources of income promotion activities should be launched by the government. We aim to promote cultivation of target species in private land and handed our progress to the Department of Plant resources. Now they placed that activities in their yearly annual plan. Despite, they have limited budget to focus on a single species so the next project should have to launch in the other VDCs of the district so the people of entire district get the benefit. So the extensive awareness of the species in the whole district is the prime need and the awareness towards its sustainable use should have to teach for those whom we cannot cover in this project.

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, we used the logo in awareness materials and in lecture classes. The local people were aware about the Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation. This project is new for the district supported by RSG so people now are familiar with RSG support grant for conservation of species.

11. Any other comments?

We want to extend the project activities in other VDCs of the district to support livelihood and conservation of species. We will further sample in the previous place to calculate population dynamics of the species.