

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.

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Rama Mishra
Project title	Develop Human Elephant Coexistence through Training and Awareness Programs to Locals Community in Central Nepal
RSG reference	18869-2
Reporting period	April 2016 – April 2017
Amount of grant	£ 4,965
Your email address	l.mishrarama@gmail.com
Date of this report	April 10, 2017

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
Develop Education materials (Poster, Brochure & Audio message for radio)				We have prepared a brochure (2000 copies), a poster 1500 copies and an audio were developed and distributed or broadcasted.
Aware local communities on human-elephant co-existence				10 units of the co-existence training were conducted in forest fringe areas of the Bara and Rautahat districts. More than 600 people participated in these training events.
Radio message and early warning system				<p>A radio jingle was developed in two languages (Nepali and local Bhojpuri) were developed and broadcasted three to five times a day during the peak conflict season (October to February).</p> <p>The FM radio agreed to broadcast the jingle voluntarily when elephants are around even after the project is completed.</p> <p>The radio jingle developed from this project were also used in other areas like Bardia and Chitwan for the awareness purpose.</p>

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

Not such specific problems/difficulties

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

- The project reached to the areas of high human-elephant conflict where such awareness programme is much needed.
- Encouraging participation of the local communities and good network with the local NGO. People now understand the risks when elephants are around and learned the skills of responsible behaviour towards elephants to avoid any human casualty

- No human-casualty has been reported from the area after the training program implemented in the area.

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

From this project we reached to the communities where no other conservation awareness activities were conducted before. People were happy about it and they also requested for continuation of similar programs in future. People actively participated in the training sessions and provided constructive feedback to the training. They were directly benefitted with the enhanced knowledge about elephants, ways to treat elephants responsibly and most important how to avoid human casualty from elephants.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I want to scale up similar work of community awareness to minimise human-elephant conflict focusing on human casualty in Nepal's Terai region. The human casualty is still happening in Eastern part of Nepal. So, I want to design a programme covering the Terai region of Nepal. I am also planning to study the reasons behind the elephants causing such problems through understanding the landscape use pattern and stress level of elephants.

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

I have a blog (www.jungalihatti.blogspot.com). I will put all of the materials produced from this project on the blog. I have also shared these products via social media such as Facebook and Twitter. I have also distributed the brochures and posters to the other elephant affected areas.

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 Grant was used for almost a year time from April 2016 to April 2017. But most of the activities were carried out in six months September 2016 to February 2017.

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
HECx Training - Training material Development (design and print presentation slides), training venue rent	225	320	-95	

HECx Training - Stationaries and snacks for participants of 10 events	1500	1435	65	
HECx Training - Resource person's fee	500	550	50	
Poster design & print	600	640	-40	
Brochure print	500	525	-25	
Radio message early warning system	520	550	-30	
Team leader's monthly stipend	600	600	0	
Transportation	300	300	0	
Communication and stationaries	120	130	-10	
Reporting and other miscellaneous costs	100	70	50	
Total	4965	5120	-155	Exchange rate: £1 = NRs. 150 (when I received the money)

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

The important next steps based on learning of our project are: 1) to scale up the awareness programme to the national level covering entire Terai region where human-elephant conflict is a major issue; and 2) understand the behaviour and ecology of the elephants involved on conflict. Community awareness and education programme requires continuous effort. One-time training and awareness can help but its effect cannot last longer. Such programmes should be continued periodically in the area. Such conservation awareness programmes should be focused on the most vulnerable communities living in the forest fringe. We have obtained encouraging feedback of the participants about our training and they also requested for follow-up training, awareness programmes and conflict mitigation measures like electric fences. I am also interested to study the ecology of elephants especially on the landscape use pattern during different seasons and stress hormones level of wild elephants.

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, I have used the Rufford Foundation logo in brochures, posters, banners, audio, videos etc. I have also acknowledged RSGF publicly for the funding during the training sessions.