

## The Rufford Small Grants 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Suman bhattarai
Project title	Rhino conservation through livelihood enhancement, poor's education and awareness creation by mobilizing youth and community based organization
RSG reference	56.05.08
Reporting period	Yearly
Amount of grant	5984.00 £ (five thousand nine hundred and eighty four £ ) (rsg contribution)
Your email address	Sumancha004@yahoo.com
Date of this report	July 10, 2009

**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
Coordination				Expected: 4 grantees but Done: 6 grantees with many local CBOs
Alternative Income Generation Program				Proposed: Fishery, Home Gardening and Beekeeping Actual: Home-gardening with Fishery, Beekeeping, Pig rearing, Poultry
Song Competition				Expected Participation: 600 Actual: More than 1000
Essay Competition				Expected: 8 Schools Actual: 8 Schools
Talk Programme				Expected: 10 CBOs and 3 Forest user groups Actual: 13 CBOs and 3 Forest User groups
Documentary Show				Expected total Participant: 500 but Actual: 400
Radio				Expected: Conservation issue but Actual: Conservation with legal issue and participatory based
Plantation				Expected: 1000 seedlings but Actual: more than 1500
Workshop				Expected: 8 groups but Actual 13 groups
Women Education				Expected: 50 but Actual 110. We also support school for environment conservation activities. We made this possible from drama budget
Publication				Proposed: Pamphlet/Booklet Done: Pamphlet/Booklet and support to publish biodiversity Journal. Reduction in Number
Education Material Production				Proposed: 80 dozens but Actual: 100 dozens
Student Schooling				Proposed: 30 students and actual: more than 30 students (still reunning)
Progress Update				Proposed: Quarterly but Done: Monthly with event wise

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

During the project implementation, some conservation issues came unexpectedly which are indeed to address; like, increase in participant numbers, activities and days. Though it was quite hard to conduct extra activities in our project within proposed time and budget, I tried to settle emerging issue as much as possible by transferring some budget from other activities i.e. I requested resource person to help as volunteer in some cases, I requested owner to wave hall charge, I reduced personal expenses and I requested other grantees/individual having similar interest to cover some part also. Several volunteers, club members and local teachers were mobilized and encouraged local community-based organization to undertake organizing responsibility of program.

I faced more hardship while distributing the project reports to share achievement and learning in neighbour areas. There was not any platform to keep our reports and any network between local conservation organizations to share conservation information from one to another. That is why, lots of project either our or others were facing same problems in the area. Rhino conservation project had many success stories, but they are limited in specific area. Project had made coordination with many organization and grantee but lack of platform and network between local institutions; regular conservation information sharing programs were not running in satisfactory way.

Only organizing some activities in a small area is not enough to address whole conservation issue. It is indeed to scaling out and set network between local groups for effective conservation actions. We should keep more attention to maximize the cost effectiveness in conservation.

Thus, I am planning to establish small cupboard-based library and conservation network between local partners to enhance conservation effectiveness with minimum resources. So that, other parties can also place their reports and share their achievement/learning easily in one hand and people will get conservation information easily on the other. This idea also minimizes the cost in long run.

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

During the project period and after the completion, I had found several feedbacks from referees, participants, co-workers, conservationists, professionals, locals, well-wishers, individual and team member of project. Most of them are positive and encouraging me to move ahead enthusiastically. Though many techniques were shared at local level, I was unable to address emerging public voices somewhere due to time limit and financial dearth. Still there are many things to do in days to come.

The strength of this project is project intervention towards local people. Anyone can see our project performance in a single visit in project site and communicate with our local partner. The main achievement of this project is "High Participation, Development Community Ownership and Project Existence".

On the basis of feedbacks of concerned parties, I evaluated three most important outcomes; they were

**A. Livelihood Programme (Alternative Income generation Activities)**

Project has developed a conservation based poor oriented concept “Conservation Based Integrated Income Generation Activities (IGAs)”. It included fishery, poultry, pig rearing, home gardening and bee keeping and can be established in a small piece of land even in yard also.

Project had made several interaction programs with many framers and established 8 demonstrations by targeting poor farmer having small piece of land. This time project had kept demonstration at 8 farmer houses and provided small subsidy for this demonstration. But they will pay back the remaining part of expenditure (excluded subsidy) cost within one year (after getting income). And this returned money will provided to next poor again in refundable basis.

Many people were impressed with this concept and they are interested to adopt for their livelihood. Some farmers had also adopted this concept after learning from demonstration. Strengths of IGAs

- Conservation based
- Poor oriented
- Multidimensional
- Eco – friendly
- Sustainable

Expectation: It helps to reduce the threats which are emerged from poverty and destruction-based income generation e.g. firewood / fodder collection, deforestation and poaching etc.

#### B. Project Intervention at Community Level

We implemented project in the joint venture of community-based organizations and youth participation. So, people participation was high in most activities. Due to high participation, project was compelled to organize some activities two times, women environment education and conservation tour.

Community people were aware about the project objectives and they had adopted project learning in these days also. We can see easily in the field in these days (after project completion). To strengthen project objective, our team is still continuing some activities voluntarily from our side. Similarly, community-based organizations are also continuing the project activities which ensure the long-term conservation and RSG existence in the project site.

#### C. Women Environment Education

Women are real forest users because their daily duties are visit forest, collect fodder/firewood/wild fruits, cooking, livestock feeding. So, I realized conservation education program for them and conducted as per need.

Project had planned to provide the environment education for 50 women, but project provided conservation education to more than 110 women because many women showed interest to take environment conservation education. Similarly, project had planned conservation tour for 45 women, but project had to take more than 100 women for the conservation tour. This reflects the active involvement and eagerness of women to learn about the conservation importance.

After involving in these activities, women are motivated to make action for nature conservation. From which we can expect positive role of women on nature conservation in days to come.

Besides these.

Radio program was also notable program because it had covered different aspects like forest/wetland/agriculture ecology, endangered flora/fauna and legal punishment for poaching and trafficking. Project interviewed professionals and user i.e. conservationists, lawyers, researchers, park administrators, Buffer Zone peoples and Forest User Group Member, to explore the real situation from their perspective. I personally satisfied with all activities of this small-scale proposed project because I was able to make some contribution in conservation through RSG support.

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

Rhino conservation project worked as community-based project and all activities were carried out through local people's involvement and organized in the joint venture of local Clubs, CBOs, Women groups, Farmer groups, CFUG, Chitwan National Park BUG, and Schools etc. Most of team members were also local.

The project proposal was developed in the close coordination of local community and it was also learning of previous project. We always felt that locally created and promoted activities will be effective and that can touch target people and strike real issue. I therefore carried out most of field based activities in the leading of local organizations and people similarly as past.

Firstly, we (rhino conservation project and local partners) made understanding about our role and responsibilities in the project implementation and continuity. After this project, local partners (Buffer Zone User Groups, Community Forest, Schools and Clubs) and project team (PARC) should be responsible for the continuity.

Local people were involved in the activities as participants in training, contestant in competition, organizer and co-worker in the conduction of field-based activities. This time, we had also worked jointly to implement school activities. All demonstration activities were kept in local people yard so that concerned people can generate income from that demonstration also.

Project gave first priority to local people prepare income-based work; like, board making, painting and writing. It used to buy needed things and field gear from local shop so that local people could also generate income. Project had decided "team members should stay at local people's house during project period and they had to pay for their accommodation charge".

Poor farmer got chance to keep the demonstration activities in their home. Poor children got schooling opportunities. To promote the community-based program, I conducted radio program through community-based FM station and which is still running.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Only organizing some activities or launching some conservation concept cannot address conservation issue totally. Continuity and long-term impact with proper extension program is essential after the project completion.

I was able to show project intervention towards community in both projects but I was unable to disseminate my achievements to other forest user groups, Buffer Zone User Groups, Schools, CBOs, and Clubs etc. as per expectation. Due to unavailability of platform and conservation network between them, it is hard to share the findings, achievements and learning in large scale at local level.

RSG has approved more than seven projects for Chitwan National Park but their findings and achievements are constricted only specific areas and donor agencies. If we establish small platform (Conservation library) and conservation network between forest user groups, buffer zone user groups, school, clubs and CBOs, we can share own achievements and learning with others which will maximize cost effectiveness. Same kind of problems of other areas can be solved easily by sharing achievement and learning.

Off course, it is indeed to strengthen rhino conservation project in Chitwan if we want to keep rhino existence forever. And I have realized this time also it is my responsibility to strengthen previous achievement and scale out in boarder spectrum.

By realizing the necessity of continuity, I made RSG team “Partnership for Rhino Conservation (PARC)” responsible for its continuity this time also. Some essential previous activities will be continued through PARC. Some activities: Women Environment Education, Radio Program, Poor Student Support Program, School teaching program, Monitoring and Evaluation, are still running in Chitwan.

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

After the completion of first project, I shared project reports and learning through website; [www.rhinonepal.org](http://www.rhinonepal.org), radio program; “Conservation Campaign”, email and report distribution. Project local partners: clubs, women groups, Forest User Groups, Buffer zone User Groups, School etc. disseminated project achievements through notice dispatch, meetings and interaction at local level. Prepared documentary of all activities had been shown to local people.

Similarly, I will continue same ways in this time also. In addition, we will dispatch project learning and achievements in our notice boards which were established in first and second project. And I am planning to establish small conservation library and network to strengthen/boost conservation approach in booster (next) project.

## **7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?**

For the proposed one-year project, RSG for nature conservation was the major funding partner and Biodiversity Conservation and Research Forum (BICORF) was co-funding partner. As per proposal/application we used RSG in following status.

Time	Activity	Support
July 2009 ----- August 2008	Livelihood Demonstration Activity (Fishery, Home-Gardening and Beekeeping), Talk programme, Workshop, Interaction/Coordination Program, Conservation Tour, Documentary Show, Website Update, Radio Program, School Teaching Program, Education Material Production and Distribution, Poor Students Support, Team Formation, Past Activities Monitoring and strengthening, Women Environment Education, Conservation Notice Board Installation, Nursery Establishment and Seedling Distribution, Plantation, Essay competition, Song Competition, Poster Production and Distribution, Pamphlets Production & Dispatch, Rewarding School for environment Conservation, Reporting	Rufford Small Grant Foundation (Major Funding)  &  BICORF (Co-funding)
Will be Contd... After July 2009	Women Environment Education, Radio Program, Poor Student Support Program, School teaching program, Monitoring and Evaluation	Partnership for Rhino Conservation (PARC) Formed by RSGF project "Rhino Conservation" in first phase

**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.**

The detail of the budget and expenditure is presented with difference and comments.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Website charge	100.00	100.00	±0	Fix charge
Communication	216.00	240.00	-24.00	Budget increased due to increase in communication activities.
Bank Charge	50.00	50.00	±0	Fix charge
IGAs Training (Fishery, bee-keeping, Home-gardening)	900.00	960.00	-60.00	I conducted extra activities with proposed activities
Talk/Essay/song competition	300.00	250.00	+50.00	I minimized this budget to add in IGAs and other activities
Documentary show	100.00	100.00	±0	Developed basket fund & limited on that
Radio Programme	988.00	1000.00	-12.00	I took our presenter in field also
Conservation Board installation	240.00	260.00	-20.00	Budget increased to repaint previous boards
Youth Campaign/Workshop	300.00	250.00	+50.00	I urged owner to wave hall fare of some days
Plantation	300.00	300.00	±0	Developed basket fund & limited on that
Drama	200.00	200.00	±0	Developed basket fund & limited on

				that
School teaching	200.00	220.00	-20.00	I produced education hanging boards
Women Environment Education	200.00	225.00	-25.00	Due to increase in participant number, budget wasn't enough & pulled from another topic.
Education Material Production / Distribution	100.00	200.00	-100.00	I increased volume so budget was pulled from another topic.
Poor Students Schooling	200.00	250.00	-50.00	To address the teacher demands we support additional children
Publication (Brochure/booklet)	200.00	175.00	+25.00	I minimize publication budget for other
Team Members	1200.00	1060.00	+140.00	We made compromise to minimize personal expenses as much as possible to conduct all activity as far as possible
Transportation	240.00	230.00	+10.00	I used personal bike and student facilities to reduce this budget
LCD Projector (hiring)	150.00	125.00	+25.00	We take in package so budget is saved and used other purpose
Teaching Materials & Stationery	200.00	210.00	-10.00	Due to increase in participant number, budget was increased for stationery
Refreshment	150.00	200.00	-50.00	Due to increase in participant number, proposed budget was insufficient
Reporting	100.00	125.00	-25.00	I printed some photo for reporting which increased budget
TOTAL	6634.00	6720.00	-96.00	(Remaining budget was managed in the support of BICORF/Nepal)

*Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation Contribution: 5984.00 GBP. Exchange rate= 1 GBP:123 Nepalese Rupees (Local currency).*

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

Effectiveness, continuity and existence are the fundamental elements of Project that is why I am always looking forward to keeping our (Rufford, BICORF and myself) presence in conservation sectors on regular basis. I have planned to strengthen and smooth our previous achievements and scale out in board spectrum.

I eagerly feel to continue some highlighted activities; livelihood activities, radio program, school teaching, poor student supporting program, women environment education, street drama and documentary show because these are the backbone of awareness creation and conservation. With these activities I am looking ahead for additional activity i.e. establish "SMALL LIBRARY with CONSRVATION NETWORK" and also for requesting to RSG and allied agencies to make these programs successful in coming days too to strengthen conservation activities at local level.

I therefore still continue Women Environment Education, Radio Program, Poor Student Support Program, School teaching program, Monitoring and Evaluation which are still running after two-year project.



**10. Did you use the RSGF 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 Small Grant for Nature Conservation was used in most of the activities and publication that were produced in relation to this project. I also encouraged to our local partners to write RSG contribution when we carried out activities in the joint venture.

Logo was used in activities banner, certificate (Competition, Participation), T-shirt, Pamphlets, Education Material, Webpage, Poster, Prize, Booklet, conservation /notice board, Income Generation Activities Site/Place etc.

But in few cases, I wrote name and address of RSG where preparing banner and painting service were unavailable. After the project completion, we could see your logo in some activities; like PARC's activities.

**11. Any other comments?**

I like to give a biggest thank to Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation because its contribution has played vital role not only in rhino conservation but also uplift my career in conservation field. Similarly, many young people had got chance to learn about the conservation and poor has got opportunities of schooling and adopt livelihood activities.

I like to remember all stakeholder of this project; Biodiversity Conservation and Research Forum-BICORF, Buffer Zone User Groups, Buffer Zone Forest User Groups, Co-workers (RSG-Grantees), NGOs, CBOs, Schools, Clubs, Women Groups, Men Groups, Students, local youth for their unaffordable contribution to make possible of this project's activities.

It is my noble request to RSG officials to visit Nepal and monitor your grantee's performance which encourage grantees to work more enthusiastically. I like to appeal all to visit our project site; local community will assist you to show our project performance.

Last but not least I owe depths gratitude to my referees (Chiranjibi Prasad Upadhyaya, Neelam Chandra Paudel, Binod Regmi, Dr. Keshab Datta Awasthi, Roshan Raj Devkota and Shankar Paudel) 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 form all in coming days and hopeful on it. I also like to appeal everyone and concerned agencies to support conservation activities what is possible from your side.