

## The Rufford Foundation

### Final Report

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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**

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Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Subhranshu Bhusan Swain
Project title	Sustaining tribal /forest dependant community participation in management of Telkoi – Pallahara elephant corridor, elephant conservation & mitigation of man elephant conflicts
RSG reference	21593-D
Reporting period	1st May 2017 – April 2018
Amount of grant	£ 10000
Your email address	<a href="mailto:subhransu1963@yahoo.com">subhransu1963@yahoo.com</a>
Date of this report	22-05-2018

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 strengthen the knowledge, attitude, behaviour and practices of existing 120 community based elephant trackers through advanced refresher training on management of habitat, how to watch elephant movement and defensive measures to drive out elephant herd				It is assessed that 90% of the trained trackers are delivering services positioning at their own village. The trackers have gained adequate knowledge and skill to organise community level events, meetings, sensitisation-cum-awareness programmes to mitigate human-elephant conflict. In each village two elephant trackers are regularly strengthening and facilitating the community based patrolling work, transferring skills and organising field demo to young people on elephant deterrents such as use of fire crackers, noise makers, chilli pest and wild ants and on early warning system, use of lights and siren to drive back elephant herd. They regularly update resource map and educate community/ villagers on usual route of elephant herd.
To organize training for 240 tribal farmers on cultivation and marketing of non-lure crops –this provides alternative incomes and reduces the dependency on subsistence crops that are prone to damage by elephants				234 farmers were trained for 3 days at the office training hall of Paribartan. They were trained on varieties of non-lure crops, organic pest control measures, and application of indigenous knowhow for better yielding. It is observed that the trained farmers are engaged in transferring the gained knowledge to their fellow community members. They also organised exposure programme at their farm sites to motivate farming community to adopt non-lure crops.
To undertake plantation (150000 seedlings) with elephant's favourite fruit				Plantation work was undertaken massively in fallow forest area with elephant friendly fruits bearing plant

bearing plants and fast growing bamboo species and digging of elephant trench around 60 villages coming in the vicinity of elephant corridor.				<p>and bamboo. Seeds and seedlings were procured from community nursery and with tribal women doing plantation work during last rainy season (July-Sept 2017). Regular watch and ward was undertaken by the women's groups and the survival rate is about 70%. Village wise database is available regarding number of trees planted and the coverage area.</p>
To generate awareness among tribal and forest dependent communities on re-creation of lost transit paths and training villagers by trained elephant trackers on consequences of unsustainable natural resource use and options for communities to support elephant corridor (spread over 56.61 sq. km and 23.8 km long having width from 0.08 to 4.6 km.) conservation efforts furthering mitigation of man elephant conflicts.				<p>Tribal and forest dependent community were regularly sensitised regarding the deforestation issue and Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor and how it affects their life and livelihood which boost the human-elephant conflict. Tribal and forest dependant community are regularly monitoring the forest health, participation for conservation, regeneration and management of common resources and water bodies and monitoring the transit path. The women's groups are taking responsibility to monitor the community patrolling and undertaking cleaning and pruning activities of elephant corridor and their habitat.</p> <p>It is observed there is enhanced community participation for management of Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor and their habitat. Close cooperation established in between line forest administration, community patrolling team and the villagers.</p>
To organize regular village meetings for mobilizing tribal community/forest dependent community's support and participation for protection, conservation and regeneration of natural forest, reserve,				<p>On regular basis village level meetings were organised in all 60 villages. Villagers were educated on government compensation and insurance scheme in case of elephant attack. Villagers were educated and provided with hand holding support on regular update and</p>

water bodies and corridor health with focus on elephant friendly plantation activities.				management of village resource map, identification of fallow forest land for plantation, conservation and management of water bodies, water holes inside the corridor for consumption of elephant as a measures to check trespassing to the villages.
To promote farm based livelihood option with non-lure cropping pattern for tribal community residing adjacent to Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor, thus reduce crop raid, furthering mitigation of Man – Elephant conflicts				In order to mitigate human-elephant conflict Paribartan team continuously sensitising villagers for adoption of non-lure crops. Now the farmers already adopted non-lure crops, shared their experience how this reduces crop-raid by elephants and trespassing into settlement. Gradually the farmers are accepting the diversification of cropping pattern like adoption of non-lure crops.

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

During digging of elephant-proof trench, there was a conflict between adjacent villagers as vested interest groups, smugglers involved in smuggling forest produces and ivory. They instigated tribal community not to dig elephant-proof trench. By continuous follow up and organising regular meetings, the villagers were sensitised on the benefit of elephant-proof trench and how it will help to mitigate human-elephant conflict.

The nursery promoted by Paribartan and by the community unable to meet the requirement/ demands of sapling/ planting material because of a germination problem that was due to excessive heat wave.

Farmers adopted farming of non-lure crop realised the benefit very slowly, however internalising no crop raiding by elephant herd. The project team engaged constantly in persuading the farmers and villagers to adopt non-lure crop to minimise human-elephant conflict.

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

The canopy coverage of Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor has been enhanced because of tribal community participation in conservation, regeneration and management of forest and woodlots. Villagers of the adjacent villages are regularly updated with information related to availability of forest products, wood lots, transit path, and resting place of elephant herd, so there are fewer casualties.

The project applicant and the project team regularly sharing the outcomes of elephant and habitat conservation measures and regarding the human-elephant conflict mitigation strategies particularly the benefit of promotion of non-lure crop (less crop raid and elephant trespassing to settlement and frequency was less and fewer casualties) with media, policy makers and with CSO/CBO/conservation groups which facilitating for necessary policy changes for adoption of public-private and community partnership as one of the approach for peaceful co-existence of humans and elephants.

Sixty community patrolling groups and 120 trackers were regularly undertaking patrolling work to check poaching, habitat depletion/destruction and forest fire. Tribal communities gained knowledge to use conventional and scientific methods for deterring elephant herds without using lethal weapons. Tribal women participation in conservation of elephant, habitat/Telkoi-Pallahara Corridor is gradually enhanced participation of women's groups of non-programme villages.

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

In order to build ownership on the project Paribartan team involved the community members from the beginning (planning) of the project. The community members actively involved in preparing micro activities, prioritise the important ones and fix appropriate timeline to complete each of them. It was observed that all the activities identified during the planning were successfully completed by the community with the support of the line administration and Paribartan team.

- ❖ A pool of trained trackers with upgraded knowledge and skills on human-elephant conflict mitigation strategies, conservation, regeneration and management of habitat including the water bodies available to carry out the conservation initiatives.
- ❖ A total of 234 trained farmers with knowledge on farming of non-lure crops, organic pest control measures, application of indigenous know-how for better yielding available to transfer knowledge to the farmers of their village and of adjacent villages.
- ❖ The tribal communities were trained on scientific procedures of nursery raising activities such as soil preparation, sowing of seeds, watering, thinning, pest and weeds control measures, etc.
- ❖ The project also equally involved the women members of the community in monitoring of the community patrolling activities, cleaning and pruning of the elephant corridor and processing and marketing of non-lure crops.
- ❖ Healthy relationship has been developed between the line forest administration and the community which enables the community members to contribute meaningfully for a comprehensive plan on conservation of elephant, their habitat and mitigation of human-elephant conflict.
- ❖ Gained knowledge on safety measure during elephant attack immensely support to save life of the community, and there is increased awareness on how to drive back elephant herd back to forest/habitat without any teasing.

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

The ongoing activities for mitigation of human-elephant conflict will be continued to save the elephant from extinction as well as conservation and judicious management of elephant habitat/corridors for peaceful co-existence of both human and elephant. The following activities will be undertaken.

SL No	Activity	What Can be done
1	Training and advance training to farmers and villagers on diversification of cropping pattern (Non-lure) crop to reduce incidences of crop-raiding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Refresher training programmes will be organised to increase the number of trained farmers of the 60 villages on non-lure crops.</li> <li>2. Information on cropping pattern on different varieties of non-lure crops.</li> <li>3. Crop planning focusing on zoning of land (adjacent to corridor, habitat, transit path) and identification of conflict hotspots.</li> <li>4. Adoption of multiple cropping pattern as well as preparation and use of bio-fertiliser for maintenance of soil health.</li> <li>5. Exposure visit to demo field to acquire first-hand knowledge.</li> <li>6. Community patrolling and collective crop guarding.</li> </ol>
2	Value addition and strengthening of marketing channels for marketing of produces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Capacity building of farmers on value addition (grading, sorting and processing).</li> <li>2. Training of the farmers such as processing of the raw materials, packaging and branding.</li> <li>3. Selection of high yielding varieties of non-lure crops and plan for scaling up those varieties.</li> </ol>
3	Conservation, regeneration and management of habitat/Telkoi-Pallahara Elephant corridor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cleaning and pruning of corridor.</li> <li>2. Plantation of elephant friendly fruit bearing species and bamboo.</li> <li>3. Regular community patrolling to ensure forest health and watch and ward of plantation activities.</li> <li>4. Judicious collection of NTFP and management of common resources.</li> <li>5. Capacity strengthening and sensitisation on conservation of water bodies and water hole in and around the habitat/corridor.</li> </ol>
4	Strengthen Public-private-community Partnership Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved coordination between the community and line forest administration.</li> <li>2. Strengthening and regular handholding support to community patrolling groups for sustaining patrolling activities.</li> <li>3. Regular interface with stakeholders including line</li> </ol>

		<p>forest administration for adaptation of this approach.</p> <p>4. Dissemination of project outcome at local/ state/ national level for replication of the same.</p>
5	Advance training to the existing trackers	<p>1. Refresh cum advanced training will be provided to trackers to sharpen their knowledge, behaviour and attitude to better deliver services.</p> <p>2. Regular updating of their data base and assessment of their skill and competencies to sustain the task.</p> <p>3. Design and development of trackers role and responsibility, terms of reference of service delivery and orientation on it.</p> <p>4. Advocacy with line forest administration for provision of performance based incentives to the trackers.</p> <p>5. Use of conventional and non-conventional approach to drive out elephant and building skill to use transfer the acquired knowledge to community.</p>
6	Regular Village level meeting	<p>1. Awareness raising and advocacy on to reduce human-elephant conflict.</p> <p>2. Capacity strengthening of villagers on preparation and updating of resource map of existing common resources and monitoring of the same on regular basis.</p> <p>3. Establishment of early warning mechanism regarding elephant presence, their movement to zero down causality.</p> <p>4. Involvement of forest habitat/corridor health/plantation activities.</p> <p>5. Massive campaign on various tested approach/strategies to mitigate human-elephant conflict.</p>

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

- ❖ The approaches and strategies, activities and outcome of the project "Sustaining tribal /forest dependant community participation in management of Telkoi – Pallahara elephant corridor, elephant conservation & mitigation of man elephant conflicts" will be shared at different local/state/ national level seminar/conference/workshops/interfaces in order to draw the attention of the conservation professionals, academicians and policy makers.
- ❖ Young professional belonging to various backgrounds undertook their studies in these areas and informed about the impact of these mitigation strategies on the lives and livings of the tribal community.
- ❖ Case studies and success stories documented during the process of implementation will be shared with different partners and collations for wide visibility and replication of the model.
- ❖ Media advocacy with use of the local print media were also initiated to publish the initiative of the local tribes for reduction of human-elephant conflict and preservation of their livelihood.



- ❖ The small video prepared by Paribartan will be shared with groups and policy makers. (Already this brought visibility of Paribartan and Rufford Foundation partnership on mitigation of human-elephant conflict).

**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 applicant and the project team successfully implemented the project titled as "Sustaining tribal /forest dependant community participation in management of Telkoi – Pallahara elephant corridor, elephant conservation & mitigation of man elephant conflicts" within the span of 12 months

The project was started on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017 and planned measures were intervened as per the set timeline and the project was completed on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

**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
4 days Refresher training to 120 trackers @ 4 £ per day	1920	2031	+ 111	Due rise of cost of food and refreshment
Training Materials @ 1 £ per head	360	349	- 11	-
Resource person Honorarium for 4 batches(1 resource person per batch) with 4 days duration @ £ 15 per day per batches	-			-
720 sensitization and advocacy meeting, 1 meeting per month per village @ 2.5 £ per meeting	1440	1438	- 2	-
3 days orientation training to 240 farmers of 60 villages on adaptation and promotion of non lure cropping system to deter elephant from crop raiding	1840	1933	+ 93	Due rise of cost of food and refreshment
Training Materials @ 1 £ per head Resource person Honorarium for 8 batches(1 resource person per batch) with 3 days duration @ £ 15 per day per batches	-	-		-
Resource person Honorarium for 8 batches(1 resource person per batch)	0	-		



with 3 days duration @ £ 15 per day per batches				
Nursery Raising with 40,000 Bamboo seedlings and 1,10,000 elephants favourite fruits bearing plants @ £ 1 for 50 plants	2440	2419	-21	-
Design and development of 300 Manual on enforcement cum anti-poaching activities (5 set per village) @ £ 1 for set	300	300	0	-
Appropriate equipment for Enforcement operations team for 9 identified poaching hotspots Caps T shirts, Binocular and mobile phone @ £ 50 per team	450	450	0	-
Utensils materials & other equipments, 2\ motor cycles/four wheeler to be used for project, implementation, monitoring and for other project work & office equipment	0	-	0	
Folk Media Show involving local tribal artist for 60 villages @ £ 5 per village	0	-		
Project Monitoring ( on quarterly basis) @ £ 50	200	206	+ 6	Due to cost escalation
Digitations and Documentation of case studies/video documentation	200	206	+ 6	Due to frequent visit to collect photographs from field/community
Engagement of external evaluator for 5 days @ £50 per day at the end of the project.	250	252	+ 2	Support for transportation to field (Petrol cost)
Project Management cost @ 5% of the total project cost	500	508	+ 8	Cost escalation
Audit fees @ 1% of the total project cost	100	100	0	-
Bank charges	0	9	+ 9	This is bank transaction charges
Totals	10000	10201	+ 201	Excess of £ 201 gained as bank interest and it was utilised.

*Interest gained from grant amount £ 201 as bank interest and that was utilised for the project activities. The local exchange rate used is One £ = INR 83.81.*

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

Based on the results and achievements of the implemented project, Paribartan team strategically jotted the following planned measures to be undertaken with the support of completion grant of Rufford Foundation. It is expected during this phase forest dependent community, villagers, trackers will be capacitated to manage and sustain the appropriate measures to address the man-elephant conflict issue.

The following steps/activities will be undertaken to make this project a sustainable one:

1. Advance training to trackers (focusing more on sustaining community patrolling activities), use of both scientific and indigenous methods and practices to deter elephant and community mobilisation on protection, conservation, regeneration and management of habitat/ Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor adopting public-private and community partnership.
2. Advance training to farmers on promotion of non-lure crop and crop diversification to reduce elephant raid in crop field.
3. Involvement of stakeholders in conservation of elephant, their habitat/ Telkoi-Pallahara corridor.
4. Capacitate tribal and forest dependant community for community led guarding system to track elephant herd, monitor movement and patrol to check poaching and habitat depletion/destruction.
5. Regular campaign and advocacy to be undertaken to adopt time tested strategies, approach to mitigate human-elephant conflict.
6. Sharing of experience and advocacy to diffuse the outcomes of the project that would minimise human-elephant conflict in different parts of Eastern Ghats mountain region.

## 10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Rufford Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Paribartan has used the official logo of Rufford Foundation in all the IEC/BCC materials used during the implementation of the project. This apart it has also used the logo during the training workshops and in the video documentation.

## 11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Role in the Project
1	Subhranshu Bhushan Swain	Applicant-cum-Project Lead	Overall implementation of the project, monitoring, handholding support to the project team, liaisoning with various stakeholder, advocacy, disseminate of project outcomes, Monitoring of field level activities, compilation of report, documentation of success stories, Act as

			resource person to trained trackers and Farmers
3	<b>Basanta Naik</b>	Project Coordinator	Manage day to day implementation, Coordinate with line forest administration as well as the internal team members, data collection, preparation of first hand report, identification and documentation of success stories, preparation of training plan and calendar
4	<b>Ajay Kumar Biswal</b>	Team Member	Support during implementation of field level activities, data collection, preparation of reports, technical inputs to the elephant trackers on conservation measures, handholding support to farmers to adopt non-lure crops
5	<b>Akshyaya Kumar Panigrahi</b>	Accounts Officer	Regular maintenance of accounts, Activity wise detailing of accounts, Financial and program monitoring, handholding to project staff.
6	<b>Sarat Kumar Rout</b>	Program Officer	Identify Elephant trackers for training, Organise training programs of elephant trackers, support field workers and Elephant trackers for implementation of community level activities, Monitoring of patrolling, cleaning, pruning, regular participation in community level meetings
7	<b>Babuli Biswal</b>	Program Officer	Identify farmers for training, Organise training programs of the Farmers, support field workers and identified farmers for implementation of community level activities, Monitoring of farming activities, motivate farmers of adjacent villages to adopt non-lure crops, support during exposure visits regular participation in community level meetings to share outcomes
8	<b>Dalimba Sahoo</b>	Field Worker	Mobilize community for Patrolling, farming of non-lure crops, cleaning & pruning of the forest areas, regular meeting of the community and documentation of the meeting proceedings
9	<b>Sushila Naik</b>	Field Worker	Mobilize community for Patrolling, farming of non-lure crops, cleaning & pruning of the forest areas, regular meeting of the community and documentation of the meeting proceedings
10	<b>Suresh Penthoi</b>	Field Worker	Mobilize community for Patrolling, farming of non-lure crops, cleaning & pruning of the forest areas, regular meeting of the community and documentation of the meeting proceedings
11	<b>Kuni Naik</b>	Field Worker	Mobilize community for Patrolling, farming of non-lure crops, cleaning & pruning of the forest areas, regular meeting of the community and documentation of the meeting proceedings
12	<b>Sita Laguri</b>	Field Worker	Mobilize community for Patrolling, farming of non-lure crops, cleaning & pruning of the forest

			areas, regular meeting of the community and documentation of the meeting proceedings
<b>120 Elephant Trackers</b>			

## 12. Any other comments?

The planned measures were well accepted by the communities. It has been observed that the trained farmers changed their cropping partner and accepted non-lure crops and also motivating their fellow farmers to adopt the same as livelihood.

On behalf of all the stakeholders, the tribal community, the forest dwellers, women's group, and the project team, Paribartan is extending heartfelt thanks to RF, UK for the project partnership. During the project period all the community volunteers, Project team members worked hard to implement the planned activities within the specified time limit and over all contributed to reduction of human-elephant conflict.

However, for sustaining the short term and long term outcomes, for mitigation of human-elephant conflict and sustaining community participation for management of elephant habitat and Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor the project need to be continued with the activities i.e capacity strengthening of existing trackers, nursery raising. Plantation in fallow forest land with fruits bearing plant and bamboo, expansion of non-lure farming and value addition with micro social enterprises above all regular monitoring of corridor health by women groups improve food and forage availability and minimize trespassing of elephants to settlement. Hence we request Rufford Foundation to consider support to carry out the project activities.

