

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Marsya Christyanti Sibarani
Project Title	Conservation Camp: Training young conservationists for the future of Indonesian biodiversity
Application ID	23514-1
Grant Amount	£5,000
Email Address	marsyachr@gmail.com
Date of this Report	12 October 2021

1. 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
At least 2 post-camp projects resulted from the camp.				Six of 17 camp alumni organised in total seven events (trainings/talks/meetings), attended by a total of 220 participants, on conservation-related issues or skills. One participant started a conservation project (Tamang Dugong).
At least 50% of the participants publish popular or scientific articles.				One alumnus published an article in a scientific journal (DOI: 10.13057/biodiv/d220448).
At least 50% of the participants attend and give presentations at a national or international conference.				Three camp alumni gave presentations at scientific conferences.

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

During Conservation Camp:

- We allowed a maximum number of 20 participants for the camp. However, some selected candidates stepped down due to urgent personal matters. We had tried to avoid this by announcing the selection results long before the camp. However, three selected candidates still cancelled their attendance just before the camp, so we could not find replacements.
- Some trainers changed their arrival time suddenly due to work issues. We reschedule the activities by swapping their time slot for the trainers with a more flexible schedule.
- The national park was far from the local airport, so trainers who came by airplane needed to travel a long distance (3 to 4-hour drive). Although we already had a driver, but sometimes the arrival and departing schedule did not match to make 2-way trips. To address this, we occasionally asked the trainers to rent a car from the airport themselves and reimburse the cost when they arrived.
- One of our field activities involved marine survey in an intertidal area. The survey needed to be carried out during the low tide, but the exact tide time could only be obtained a few days before the due date. We consulted with

local fishermen and updated tide timetable regularly to determine the feasible survey date and time.

Post-camp activities:

- It was a challenge to follow up participants to be involved in the long-term progress monitoring. Two of 17 participants did not fill the final questionnaire because we were not able to reach them. We decided not to include their scores in the assessment.
- Regarding the mentoring sessions, it was hard to maintain routine meetings. However, we had anticipated this by having a mentoring group coordinator to remind the mentors to have their meetings.

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

- a. "Conservation Events" organised by the Camp alumni
After the camp ended, the camp alumni were assigned to organise a talk, a workshop, or a small studying group in their home city/university which aims to share the skills and knowledge they have gained during the camp. We only expected two events. However, they have exceeded our expectations. In total, six alumni organised seven events (an alumnus organised two events) with a total of 220 participants. The topics included introduction to research design, conservation career options, vegetation survey, GIS training, grant proposal training, and a focus group discussion on environmental issues. In addition, a conservation project on dugong conservation was founded by one alumnus. The camp alumni have successfully extended the skills and knowledge that were taught during the camp to a wider extent.
- b. Networking
The camp alumni have built strong networking with fellow alumni, the trainers, and the national park staff. We hope that this will be useful for their future plans in conservation.
- c. Involvement of the camp alumni in biodiversity conservation
Based on the latest questionnaires by the end of this project (August 2021), 14 of the 17 alumni of conservation camp are directly involved in biodiversity conservation: eight people work in conservation organisations, five study for bachelor's degree, and one studies for a master's degree.

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

During the Conservation Camp:

- We hired catering service for two weeks from the local community, coordinated by the Bali Barat National Park staff.
- We used transportation service to reach the field survey locations, i.e., car and boat rent, from the local people. They usually provide this service for ecotourism in the national park.

- We conducted a sociological survey of the local community who live around the national park to understand the roles of the park for them.

Post-Camp

- One of our alumni founded an organisation that focuses on the awareness-raising of dugong conservation, called Tamang Dugong, and organised an online focus group discussion for the local community representatives in Alor, East Nusa Tenggara. The FGD brainstormed the roles of local communities in conserving the ecosystem services and sustainable ecotourism.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the conservation events that were supposed to be organised by the camp alumni. We extended the length of the project to mid-2021 and allowed the alumni to organise online events. Alumni who lived in small cities were relatively safe and could still conduct face-to-face meetings.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we plan to organise a conservation camp every 2 years. The first one in 2018 were funded by crowdfunding, but the fund raised was only enough to cover around half of the expenses. In 2021, Rufford Small Grant funded this camp. We think it is not possible to organise another camp considering the COVID-19 pandemic. We might plan to conduct online training activities which may cost much less, trading it off with the effectiveness of the face-to-face training and the interpersonal bonding.

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

We plan to publish the results of the training impact assessments in a peer-reviewed journal. However, we think that our sample size was small to make a reliable conclusion which makes it less likely to be accepted in a peer-reviewed journal. Therefore, as an alternative option if it gets rejected, we will publish it as a conservation news article in Oryx.

We also plan to communicate our programme through our social media. After the last survey was done, we will publish the result of the training impact assessments as an infographic content on Tambora Muda Indonesia's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and website.

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

The grant was used over a period of 18 months (January 2020 to August 2021). The expected project length was 1 year (January 2020 to January 2021) with the following general timeline:

- conservation camp: January 2020
- post-camp activities: January 2020 to January 2021

One of the post-camp activities was "Conservation Event", in which the camp alumni organised a talk, a workshop, or a small studying group in their home

city/university which aims to share the skills and knowledge they have gained during the camp, hence creating a bigger impact beyond the camp. Because this programme was originally planned as a face-to-face meeting, it got delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Two alumni decided to organise online meetings. However, the other thought that face-to-face meeting was more effective. The participants who lived outside Java which was impacted hard by COVID could still host face-to-face meetings with limited number of attendants and strict protocols (wearing mask and social distancing). However, this was done when the local condition got better, hence still resulted in delayed execution.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Flight subsidies for participants	1250	1104	-146	Three selected participants cancelled their attendance.
Transportation subsidies for trainers	833	1095	+262	We needed more trainers than initially planned.
Driver	72		-72	One of the student crew volunteered as a driver and lent his car for the camp, so we did not have to hire a driver.
Car/boat rent for 12 days	217	351	+134	We needed to rent boats to reach the field survey locations.
Park ranger/staff hire	108	133	+25	Other than park rangers who guided us for fieldwork, we also needed to pay park staff who gave trainings/talks.
Fuel	144	87	57	Less travel was needed than expected.
Drinking water refill	87		-87	This item has been included in meal costs by the hired catering.
Drinking water gallons	14		-14	This item has been included in meal costs by the hired catering.
Meals	1733	1289	-444	We got cheaper price.
Printing, copy, and equipment	28	205	+177	We did not include field survey equipment on the proposed budget.
Medicines	56	30	-26	We got cheaper price.
Tent hire	180		-180	Trashbag Community Indonesia lent us with enough camping

				equipment for free, including tents and mattresses.
National parks permit fee for 35 people	126	116	-10	The national park permits and camping ground fees were merged into one receipt by the park administrator. We also got discounts because we camped for more than a week.
Camping ground fee	152		-152	Merged with national park permit fees.
Items not budgeted				
Post-camp events		353	+353	This item was not originally budgeted because we thought all budgets would be only enough for the 2-week camp and the alumni would self-raise-fund for the events. However, we managed to reduce the costs of some other items, so the extra can be used for the camp alumni to host their events at their home cities/institution. This item mostly consisted of meals and transportation-related expenses.
Books (gifts for mentors)		104	+104	To appreciate the one-year dedication of the mentors in nurturing the alumni.
Total	5000	4867	-133	

Notes:

We calculated the expenditures using the exchange rate when the grant was received (1 GBP = IDR 18,110.56) because that was the exact amount of grant received. We received a total amount of IDR 90,552,811. The current exchange rate is GBP 1 = IDR 19,336.10.

The real grant surplus is IDR 2,409,212.68, which equalled to GBP 133.03 using the past exchange rate or GBP 124.61 using the present exchange rate.

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

Increasing the skills and knowledge related to biodiversity conservation is indeed important for the capacity building of young conservationists. However, during the camp, we realised that although the former thing is important, networking, friendship, and leadership are also crucial in sustaining the resilience of a conservationist in this field. The friendship that was built during the 2-week camp and enhanced by the routine online mentoring, has keep the alumni close to each other and support each other in their own conservation endeavour. The camp has also facilitated the alumni to meet with the more experienced conservationists who have

humbly set aside their time to come to the camp and share their knowledge and experience, for example the Head of Zoology Department of Indonesian Institute of Sciences, the Chairperson of HAKA Sumatra, an owner of sustainable business, as well as scientists from Bali Barat National Park, various NGOs and universities. We also provided leadership training that will enable the alumni to lead future conservation projects, as already demonstrated by their post-camp assignments.

Based on our experience, we think that the replication of this kind of training scheme (an intensive training followed by mentoring groups) is important in nurturing future conservation leaders in Indonesia.

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

We mentioned that our training camp is funded by The Rufford Foundation during the camp, in publication materials and post-camp events. Specifically, we use the logo for the following items:

A. Notification and registration flyers



B. Event banner



C. Presentation slides



D. Post-camp events hosted by camp alumni



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

Name	Roles
Marsya Sibarani	Project Leader and Treasurer
Silvi Dwi Anasari	Project Officer
Sheherazade	Event organiser and mentor
Pramita Indrarini	Event organiser
Athena Syarifa	Event organiser and mentoring group coordinator
Muhammad Fathur Rozi Valentino	Transportation coordinator and driver
Diny Hartiningtyas	Registration coordinator
Muhammad Tezar Sanusi	Equipment and security staff
Saeful Nur	Equipment and security staff
Al Kahfi Bintang	Equipment and security staff
Bhisma Gusti Anugra	Publication material designer and event photographer
Kezia Ruth Marganti Sitompul	Logistic and medic
Ardiantiono	Mentor
Caroline Tasirin	Mentor
Irhamna Putri Rahmawati	Mentor

12. Any other comments?

None.