

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants 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	Quyêt Khac Le
Project title	Positional behaviour and habitat use of <i>Rhinopithecus avunculus</i> in Chau Ca area, Ha Giang Province, north-eastern Vietnam
RSG reference	28.09.08
Reporting period	01 – 12/2009
Amount of grant	£5,418
Your email address	Quyêt2004@gmail.com
Date of this report	23 rd August 2010

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
Hire and train local research assistants			X	Four local people of Tung Ba Commune were hired and trained as the research assistants. They have assisted the PI in following study animals, collecting phenological data of forest and assisting in the field.
Characterise forest types and forest structure in Khau Ca forest			X	All trees of four established transects (4 X 1,000 m) were taxonomically rechecked. Two new transects and 30 plots (20 X 50 m) were established.
Collect data of positional behaviour of <i>R. avunculus</i>			X	Collected 118 observational hours of positional behaviour of <i>R. avunculus</i> .
Determine the positional repertoire of <i>R. avunculus</i>			X	A full ethogram of locomotor and postural behaviour of <i>R. avunculus</i> was developed. This ethogram is applied during analysing data.
Describe how <i>R. avunculus</i> uses the forests in Khau Ca area		X		All data is still transcribed and under progress of analysing.
Correlate locomotor and postural behaviour with habitat and substrate types for <i>R. avunculus</i>		X		All data is still transcribed and under progress of analysing.
Determine if particular aspects of the physical habitat are unsuitable for <i>R. avunculus</i>		X		All data is still transcribed and under progress of analysing.

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

- All study animals were semi-habituated and that meant data collection of their positional behaviour (118 hours) collected less than expectation (200 - 300 hours). PI continues collecting more data up to June 2010.
- A lot of animals were out of sight due to dense canopy of forest in Khau Ca. This influenced to PI and assistants following and observing the study animals.
- Strange and unpredictable weather conditions (rain, fog, etc.) prevented working efforts of PI and his team.

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

- Data set of six transects and 30 plots of Khau ca forest.

- Data of 118 observational hours of *R. avunculus*' positional behaviour and numbers of photographs of the study animals, biodiversity values and landscape in Khu Ca area.
- Implicate video photography method to study primate positional behaviour.

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

Four local people were hired and trained to be PI's local research assistants. By providing assistance to PI, they were paid monthly stipends that help them can support for their families. Beside that, their knowledge of conservation and working skills have been improved and secured them to work for other research and conservation project of biodiversity in Khu Ca area in future.

Local communities in Khu Ca provided daily labour such as porters paid by project.

As a result, the project has shared information of *R. avunculus* and other biodiversity values of Khu Ca forest that help to improve conservation awareness of local communities.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We continue collecting more positional behaviour data of *R. avunculus* up to August 2010 that help PI having enough data for a PhD dissertation. Hopefully, we will be able to raise more funding that help to study more aspects of its positional behaviour such as kinematics in locomotion.

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

Visible data including video footages and photographs have been shared with the management board of Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey Conservation Area (including Khu Ca area) for conservation awareness campaign.

We also shared information of human activities and other illegal activities inside Khu Ca area to the community-based Patrol Group and Ha Giang Provincial Forest Protection Department. This helped to improve protection of *R. avunculus* and its habitat in Khu Ca.

Collected data will be shared to scientific community by peer-reviewed reports and publications. At present, PI is co-authoring with Dr. Bert Covert (University of Colorado at Boulder), Dr. Kristin Wright (Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences) and Dr. Nancy Stevens (Ohio University) to write a book chapter titled *Positional behaviour of Tonkin snub-nosed monkey (Rhinopithecus avunculus)* of the book *Odd-nosed Monkey: recent advances* and a poster presentation titled *Implication of videography for primate positional behaviour study: a study case of Rhinopithecus avunculus in Vietnam* that will be presented in the 23rd Congress of the International Primatological Society, Kyoto, Japan, 12 – 18 September 2010. Other publications will be published in peer-reviewed journals including the *Primates*, the *International Journal of Primatology*, the *Vietnam Journal of Primatology*, and the *American Journal of Primatology*.

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

Activity	Time	Compare to the anticipated
Purchase equipment and suppliers	Jan 2009	Fit
Hire and train for local research assistants Pilot study	Jan – March 2009	Fit
Recheck trees of 4 available transects	Jan 2009	Fit
Establish 30 plots and 2 transects	Jun and Oct 2009	Fit
Collect positional behaviour data	Apr 2009 – June 2010	Extent
Transcribe and analyse data	Dec 2009 – present	On-going

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
<u>Foods and lodgings</u>				
Principal investigator	1,450	1,450		Fit
Local research assistants	2,900	2,913	-13	
<u>Travel</u>				
Hanoi - Ha Giang / Ha Giang – Hanoi	107	106	1	Due to increasing of petrol price
Travel in Ha Giang and Khau Ca	21	21		Used to add to expense of travel Hanoi – Ha Giang
<u>Accommodations</u>				
Hotels in Ha Giang town	86	81	5	Used to add to expense of research assistants
<u>Subsistence/ per diem</u>				
Porters	43	40	3	Used to add to expense of local research assistants
<u>Equipment and supplies</u>				
Binoculars	134	134		
GPS; Garmin 76CSx	269	269		
Petzl MYO XP Headlamp	43	43		
Uniforms	81	83	-2	Due to inflation made their prices increasing
Field camp-base and supplies (cooking supplies, canvas, sleeping supplies, etc.)	107	104	3	Used to add to expense of uniforms
<u>Contingencies</u>	177	177		Purchased for refreshment for local research assistant and local authorities, supplement to unfit budget lines including local research assistants and others.
Total	5,418	5,421	-3	

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

Continue keeping presence of researchers and research assistants who help to patrol and monitor the *R. avunculus* population and its habitat research activities in Khau Ca forest.

It is essential to study of capacity of Khau Ca forest for *R. avunculus* population. This could help to understand and predict to over population of *R. avunculus* in Khau Ca

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?

RSGF logo will be used in a poster presentation titled *Implication of videography for primate positional behaviour study: a study case of Rhinopithecus avunculus in Vietnam* that will be presented in the 23rd Congress of the International Primatological Society, Kyoto, Japan, 12 – 18 September 2010.

RSGF logo will also be used in any materials produced in relation to this project. I will send any publications such as reports, articles, dissertation and other publications resulted from the course of my work to RSGF.