# 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** | Tue Ha Van |
| **Project title** | Status and conservation action plan three globally threatened tree species of Dipterocarpaceae family in Xuan Son National Park in Vietnam |
| **RSG reference** | 8178-1 |
| **Reporting period** | From September 2010 to March 2012 |
| **Amount of grant** | £5,995 |
| **Your email address** | huongdim@yahoo.com |
| **Date of this report** | March 2012 |

**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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Setting up four survey tracks and may plots on locations distributed three dipterocarps to achieve exact data. | | | √ | Please see detailed the final technical report |
| Updating information about the distribution, the number and size of remaining populations and maturity, natural regeneration rate, relationship between dipterocarps and other tree species in forest, threats to natural habitats and the other ecological factors of each species | | | √ | |
| Making the maps of survey track and distribution of three dipterocarps | | | √ | |
| Gathering and storing seeds to build the living genetic bank for ex situ conservation activities | | | √ | |
| Testing germination of *Parashorea chinensis* in greenhouse and planting its seedling outside greenhouse as well as trying on seeds of the other species | | √ | | |
| Transferring the technical aspects about identification and modernisation survey methods to scientists in XNP | | | √ | |
| Increasing awareness of conservation threatened tree species and sustainable use of natural resources for local people as well as improving their income | | | √ | |

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

The difficult issue that was not foreseen that gathering of *Parashorea chinensis* seed was not so many due to the number of its maturities was only with two and snowing ability of the seed was right away after falling down within few day.

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

The project was carried out with the aim of three threatened dipterocars conservation, namely: *Dipterocarpus retusus*, *Parashorea chinensi* and *Vatica subglabra* of Dipterocarpaceae in Xuan Son National Park (XNP). The results of the project will provide an important construction to conservation, management and sustainable use for natural resources. There were outstanding outcomes of the project:

Firstly, all the information of the station of these species was sufficiently updated in XNP. The profile folder of each species was clearly displayed through the number of remaining maturities and populations were not so many. In addition, the populations' measure was realisable small size than other species in XNP forest. The natural regeneration rate of three species was significant slow growing rate, so that any activities could highly negative affected the species for protect and conservator the species, the scientist and the manager should make the policy and the plan on extending of population in future.

Secondly, the number of seeds of each species was list on living genetic bank should have gathered to provide material for ex situ conservation effort. Modernisation of biotechnology application on storage and germination of seeds has initiatively gained highly positive results.

Finally, both awareness of conservation threatened and rare species and improvement living of local people were increased while the project implemented in XNP. Conservationists and managers have recommended strategies for their conservation long- term and sustainable use of natural resources in XNP together.

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

Approximately 3.000 people are living in core of XNP, most of them are belong to Dao and Muong groups. They are living in significantly low standards of living, including high poverty and low education levels as well as have not enough land for food production by cultivation. The livelihood is ability dependent on the forest productivities. Through the project, local people participated in conservation activities and had benefited, as follow:

i) The training course was made in order to rise up the awareness about the conservation of threatened plant species and sustainable use of natural resources, most of all conservation and protection method were focused on typically three threatened trees of Dipterocarpaceae. They had also known more clearly about positions of each tree individuals and populations in the forest related with living of the community. The documents introduced dipterocarps in XNP as brochures and flyers, posters could help to increase the responsibility for reserving them.

ii) Under the instruction of conservationists, a major of the team to gather the plant seeds and fruits to supply the conservation team, the job could also increase the income inquiry of the local people.

iii) The project was also interested about women who participated mainly in the conservation training programmes and seed collection team, there were two aspects must be concerned, first improve the awareness of conservation and second the sustainable use natural resources plan must be created, because the women's knowledge are related to forest land in many forest-dependant communities is still limited.

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

i) Seeds of both *Dipterocarpus retusus* and *Vatica subglabra* are being tested on germinating in greenhouse.

ii) There are about 350 seedlings of *Parashorea chinensis* taking care into plastic-bags outside greenhouse within two months and then they will be planted in propagation in Xuan Son National Park.

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

i) The report was issued in English and Vietnamese versions. One report will submit to The Rufford Foundation and the other will share to the managers and scientists of XNP as well as the colleagues.
ii) One article will publish in Biology Journal of Vietnam in 2012 and the document is a reference to other scientists in Vietnam and International.

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

The time implemented the project was maximum 18 months while conservation action plans for plant need a long-term period, and it needs more time to complete the research. Because the in situ and ex situ conservation activities could be difficult tasks and risks, for example gathering seeds dependent on not only harvest but also period of breeding of each species, flowering annually species but with species interruptedly.

**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.**
**Table. Estimation cost to complete research for three species of the plant in XNP**

| Item | Budgeted Amount | Actual Amount | Difference | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Domestic transportation cost (four times), including: trips from Ha Noi to Phu Tho and returns, as well as studied locations | 1,200 | 1,500 | - 300 | The price of oil fuel rose up. So, more funds requested. |
| 2. Accommodation: 5 persons X 40 days | 700 | 700 | 0 | Approximately estimated |
| 3. Food: 5 persons x 40 days | 800 | 650 | + 150 | Saving budget |
| 4. Mapping | 600 | 600 | 0 | Approximately estimated |
| 5. Material for propagation | 600 | 500 | + 150 | Saving budget |
| 6. Local stakeholder consultative workshop | 600 | 600 | 0 | Approximately estimated |
| 7. Payment to local team for helping to implement project's activities at studied sites. | 700 | 700 | 0 | Approximately estimated |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8. Miscellaneous (communication, photocopy, photos, ect) | 295 | 295 | 0 | Approximately estimated |
| 9. Data analyses and final report writing | 600 | 600 | 0 | Approximately estimated |
| **Total** | 5,995 | **5,995** | | |

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

1. Cooperating between scientists and local people collecting the seeds of the plant in order to build a living gene bank, it is not only of Dipterocarpaceae but also other rare species distributed in studied area and extending areas of propagation in XNP.
2. Studying on genetic diversity and conservation activities for all threatened and rare tree species of Diptercarpaceae located in the North of Vietnam

**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?**

Yes, The RSGF logo was used sign in the first page of the report, poster and brochures of training conservation as well as the article.

Not yet. After the report is submitted and announced, the article will be published in 2012 on Journal of Biology.