

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	Cao Thi Kim Dung
Project title	Distribution status and conservation of Vultures at Yokdon National Park, Vietnam
RSG reference	01.10.08
Reporting period	From June 2009 to June 2010
Amount of grant	£5,940
Your email address	caodungvast@yahoo.com
Date of this report	1 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
Identify the current distribution status of vultures within the boundaries of the national park			X	The current distribution status of vultures within the national park have been identified and will be presented in the final technical report.
Setting up a long-term monitoring programme		X		Monitoring programme have been set up and are running but need to keep going over the years
Identify and evaluate threats to vulture species			X	All the current and potential threats have been identified and evaluated.
Make recommendations for the future protection of threatened vulture species			X	The recommendations have been sent to related conservation organisations, national park authorities, army stations, decision makers and local communities
Raise awareness of local people			X	Awareness of local people and communities has been raised. Many local people joined in the awareness raising programme.
Collecting data for the bachelor and master thesis of team members			X	Collected data have been used for one undergraduate student's thesis and will be partly used for other master's thesis

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

As the national park is located on the border of Vietnam and Cambodia so the working (survey) permits took longer than we planned so we have to apply for the permits in advance and for long time before the trip.

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

- Identified the current distribution status of vulture species within Yorkdon National Park.
- Long-term monitoring programmes have been set up and are running. Two staff of national park have been trained and will follow the designated monitoring programme.
- Awareness of local people and communities have been raised, particularly the local authorities and staff. Before the project, nobody at the national park knew or cared about the importance of raptor species.

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

The local communities been have involved in many periods of the project. At the beginning as well as after finish field surveys, we invited them to join us at the seminars and presentations to

introduce about raptor species within their sites. We have interviewed people to collect the related information from them (about threats, status, roosting and breeding sites of raptor species).

During the field surveys and at some of the remote areas, we hired them as the local guide, and as the porters to carry the field equipment and food. During the awareness programme, we invited them to join us and they contributed their ideas on how to identify and protect threatened raptor species. The local communities have also joined to distribute our leaflets and documents. We have also planned to invite and train one local people joining in the future long-term monitoring of threatened raptor species within the park.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- Continue finding the financial support to follow-up the threatened raptors monitoring programme within the national park.

- Further training will be give to the key and potential local team members, national park staff on raptor identification, study of biology and ecology of the threatened raptor species, etc.

- From the findings of the project, the recommendations and consultants will be given to the national park's management board to include the raptor protection programme in the national park's annually action plan.

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

The seminars will be implemented to show the results at the national park and some other nature reserves. The final technical report will be sent to the donor and related International and local conservation organizations, local authorities such as Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network (ARRCN), Birdlife International in Indochina, WWF, FFI, WSC, IUCN, Hanoi National University, Vietnam Birdwatching Club, Forest Protection Department, Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources. Some papers will be prepared to send to the national Biology Journal, Bulletins.

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

No.	Activities	Proposed	Actual
1.	Purchase of equipment, medical supplies, insurance, permissions	June 2009	On time
2.	Training for local members	July and August 2009	On time
3.	Preliminary survey to identify key sites for identified species	September to November 2009	On time
4.	Field survey	December to March 2010	December to April 2010
5.	Conservation activities and final report	April and May 2010	May to July

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.

(All in £sterling, £1 is equivalent to 27,000 Vietnam Dong)

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Pre-expedition				
Medical supplies	150	150	0	
Insurance (medical, personal, transport)	150	210	- 60	We planned to buy insurance for five team members but finally we also have to buy for two local guides.
Field equipment (Binoculars, maps, GPS, tents)	700	820	- 120	We planned to buy two binoculars but finally we have to buy three as three local team members did not have one.
Expedition				
Food and accommodation costs (£ 5 x 100 days x 5 persons)	2,500	2,420	+ 80	
Guides and local labour (£ 4 x 100 days x 2 persons)	800	800	0	
Transportation - Train tickets; + Train tickets from Hanoi - Da Nang -Hanoi - Bus renting + Da Nang – Buon Ma Thuat_Da Nang - Motobike renting:	650	960	- 310	As the inflation in Vietnam and an increase of gas prices, all the tickets have also been increased.
Post-expedition				
Communication (Post, Fax, Email, Telephone)	200	260	- 60	The communication cost in the remote areas is more expensive.
Printing (Report, Photographs, posters, etc.)	250	320	- 70	An increase of gas and electricity during the project made an increasing of all kind of stationeries cost
Sub-total	£ 5,400			
10% contingency	540	540	0	We have used this sum of money for the above contingency items.
Total	£ 5,940			

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

Maintain the future long term monitoring programme. This is very important to keep the work going after the project. The monitoring programme will provide more details data on the status of the threatened raptors species within national park.

Further training to strengthen capacity of the local staffs to be raptor researchers and conservationist. The update information and study techniques should provide to the local staffs continuously.

Start study more details about biology and ecology of threatened raptor species recorded in the park such as red-headed vulture.

10a. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project?

Yes, we used the RSGF logo in our every training documents, raising awareness programme, seminars and presentations.

10b. Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

No

11. Any other comments?

We would like to express our great thanks to Rufford Small Grants Foundation for supporting us. We also thank the national park's management board and local authorities for all of their helps during our project implementation.