

## 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. 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. 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**

#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Jyantha Jayewardene
<b>Project title</b>	Schools' Awareness Program
<b>RSG reference</b>	07.01.08
<b>Reporting period</b>	March 2008 to December 2008
<b>Amount of grant</b>	4865 pounds sterling
<b>Your email address</b>	romalijj@eureka.lk
<b>Date of this report</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2009

**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
1) To teach the school children the value of elephants			X	To achieve all five objectives listed here, we incorporated into the two lectures that were given at each school session, the necessary material for that dealt with the objectives. The feedback we have received shows that the children have benefited from these lectures.
2). To teach the school children about the ecology, biology and physiology of elephants			X	As above
3). To make the school children aware of their role in the religion and culture of the country.			X	As above
4). Inform the school children that only a few elephants cause damage to crops and houses, and cause human fatalities.			X	As above
5). Make the school children aware of the need to conserve elephants for the future as part of their and the world's heritage.			X	As above

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

We are very happy to report that no unforeseen difficulties were encountered

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

1. We have been able to reach children in 50 rural schools where their families are directly affected by the depredations of wild elephants. On an average there were 70 children at each session.
2. We have been able to show the children who attended our sessions that the elephant is not a bad animal and that they too have feelings and also have a social life.
3. Most of the children have lost their dislike for wild elephants and some have even contacted us later with conservation queries etc.

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

My earlier experiences in working in a large development and human settlement project in Sri Lanka, is that the most effective way to get a message to the adults in a village community, is through the children. The changed attitudes of the school children toward the wild elephants will be transmitted to the parents. Whenever there are parents at our lectures we speak to them about elephant conservation, whilst the children are also there.

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

Yes we would like very much to continue this work, which we feel is a very effective strategy in elephant conservation.

In fact we hope to apply to Rufford SGF for another grant

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

This program has adequate publicity in the local media both electronic and print.

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

When we made the application was made we anticipated that it would take us one year to carry out the necessary schools sessions under the RSGF grant. However we were able to complete the work much earlier than expected.

**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
Payment to Project Coordinator	2105	2105	Nil	This is a straight forward monthly payment
Honoraria to lecturers	1315	1315	Nil	This too is a straight forward monthly payment
Accommodation for lecturers	438	510		Accommodation costs have increased since budgeting
Cost of books to be donated to school libraries	877	900		The increased cost of books is reflected in the over expenditure
Cost of Reports to be sent	65	Nil	65	No printed reports were sent. Only by e-mail
Miscellaneous	65	40	25	Total estimate not spent
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4865</b>	<b>4870</b>	<b>90</b>	

NB: 1 GB pound Sterling = Sri Lanka Rupees 228

**NB:** The costs borne by the Biodiversity & Elephant Conservation Trust will be:

The cost of operation the van for transport (fuel, repairs etc)

The cost of preparation of educational programs and materials

The cost of maintaining the equipment, (Slide projectors, sound system, black curtains, power generator

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

We have to continue the work that we are doing until the maximum number of children are aware of the need to conserve the elephant in the wild.

**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?**

We had a banner made out with the Rufford SGF logo and also saying that the sponsorship was from RSG

**11. Any other comments?**

I, Jayantha Jayewardene, Managing Trustee of the Biodiversity and Elephant Conservation Trust, am grateful to the Rufford Small Grants Foundation for their generosity in giving us this grant to carry our conservation work.