

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	Ameen Charles
Project title	Strengthening of Community Conservation Initiatives in Buffer Zone of Kanha Tiger Reserve
RSG reference	11051-2
Reporting period	December 2012
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	cdcgbt@gmail.com
Date of this report	10/12/2012

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
To strengthen and aware rural people for community conservation initiatives	-	✓	-	The activities of awareness and strengthen initiated by project every month 10 community meeting conducted, project staff reached around 2000 people, 1-2 hour sessions conducted. More motivation and awareness activities required.
To strengthen Eco Development Committee[EDC] in project area	-	-	✓	Three to four meetings conducted with four EDCs during the year. The process of planning and making of policies has been initiated in the meeting of EDC. Continue follow up required.
To skill people on sustainable harvesting of NTFP	-	-	✓	170 people have been trained on scientific and sustainable harvesting of NTFP. Four people trained at IIFM [Indian Institute of Forest Management] at Bhopal on marketing and value addition of NTFP
Train 200 community volunteers on conservation issue	-	-	✓	More than 200 volunteers trained twice during the year. One full day training conducted at the conservation centre at Khajra village.
To support for compost pits	-	-	✓	10 households covered, pits constructed and preparation of organic manure initiated.
Promotion of improved wood stove to reduce pressure on forest	-	-	✓	Smokeless [CHULAH] wood stove demonstrated and constructed for 20 household in three villages, people using the improved wood stove. Replication of this required.
Integration of livelihood and conservation	-	✓	-	Vegetable seeds distributed among 380 families and 1500 fruit plants planted by 150 household. Vegetable cultivation gives immediate income by selling of vegetable and consumption at the family.

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

- This was second year of the project and this year we have not faced any major difficulties. There was unforeseen problem from rain. Heavy and continuous rains make some problem for vegetable cultivation. The seed were distributed and planted by people due to continue heavy rain the seeds were damaged and no germination. We distributed seed twice.

- Due to heavy rain we could not supply semi-timber plants; plants were not available during rainy season. After monsoon the plants were available but we have not provided because planting period was over.

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

- **Adoption of compost Pit:** The compost manure pit is one of the major areas for integration of livelihood and conservation. Through the use of good organic manure, the farmer will be able to increase crop production, good vegetable cultivation or selling of manure. The farmers now adopted the technique of composting by use of cow dung and bio waste.
- **Improved Wood Stove:** Use of improved and smokeless wood stove [CHULAH] is one of the most important outcomes because the families who have received support from the project using the wood stove for cook food. Their requirement of fire wood has been reduced, which means pressure on forest has been reducing. A total of 50 households continue using the wood stove.
- **Strengthening of EDC:** The Eco Development Committee is only institution at the village level which could play effective role for conservation of forest and wild life in buffer zone. There is participation of people but its not functioning nicely. The project has tried to make the EDC fully functioning. Today people trying to sit together and discussing various issues of conservation. In future the EDC required more training and exposure to protect forest and wild life. Strengthening of EDC is one of the good and important outcomes of the project.

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

The project is based on community participation. The involvement of local communities in the project is increasing. The project has initiated voluntary work to solve small community problems. This year people have voluntarily worked and solved different community problems. People worked collectively for making clean drinking water sources, cleaning of roads, repairing of roads, collective paddy transplantation and cutting, etc. All these works promoted community for collective approach. There is active participation of the community in project.

- **Planning:** The project staff and volunteers worked together for planning and implementation of project activities. Now people making collective planning for collection of NTFP and benefit share.
- **Livelihood:** The project gives good support for seeds. Improved vegetable seeds provided by the project, which gives good livelihood option for people. This year around 130 families able to increase family income around \$50 additional by selling of vegetables. As per feedback of the community they have used the vegetable at home which was very good support. In this area malnutrition is high among children and anaemia among women, through the cultivation of vegetable in long term good vegetable will be available for children and women.
- **Skill development:** The project has organize training on scientific harvesting of honey for another 30 people and follow up training of 29 people of last year trained. This year these team was able to harvest around 80 kg honey scientifically; they have processed at the conservation centre and sold out and earn money around \$300. This was first step of the

community benefit, as the harvesting practices increase they will be able to harvest more honey scientifically and without disturbing honey bee, forest and wildlife.

- **Improved wood stove:** This year we have provided support to another 25 families for improved wood stove. Ten demonstrations were conducted at the community level. People are learning making of improved wood stove. They are happy because through the use of this technique, the fire wood collection has been reducing.
- **Plantation:** This year 1500 fruit plants have been planted by the people. We have provided mango, guava, custard apple and lime plants for plantation. This will help in as livelihood option in future.
- **Awareness and information:** This year we have conducted community meetings at the village level and training at our conservation centre, these meetings and training gives information and awareness to people on various subject related with conservation and their basic rights also. We are now including another issue of development with conservation issue i.e. safe drinking water, sanitation, personnel hygiene etc.
- **Health services:** The organisations have developed the Community Conservation Centre as health information centre also. We have kept information on various common diseases in poster forms, people getting knowledge on malaria, TB etc. through posters when they visiting the centre.
- **SAMPADA Conservation Centre:** The centre name has given name SAMPADA it means WEALTH OR RESOURCES, There is different things has demonstrated for peoples learning, there is processing units of honey, NTFP, wood stove. A paddle pump for minor irrigation has been demonstrated. Every week around 15 to 20 people visit the centre.

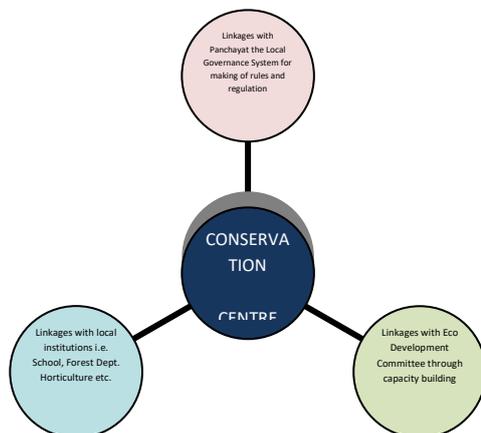
5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- We are very much interested to continue this work, because in last 2 years we have initiated lots of things with the community participation. Now community making demands for more work. The project gives direct support to local community and people mobilising for protection of forest and wildlife. One major intervention is to reduce pressure on forest, this problem needs more work. We have planned to introduce different non-timber and fodder species for plantation in their own land. The conservation centre has been established with in the community, now this centre will play more effective role on community conservation. We have trained volunteers to work continue but they need more and continue support.
- The project map will give more details about the project intervention and reach of the project. We are now covering 10 villages there is needed to cover more villages for sustainable change. This year through the project we have made some intervention with Eco Development Committee [EDC]. This committees need more support to be fully functional and strengthen for conservation. There is need to work with this EDC as well as local community. We have planned to bring the whole community with common understanding of conservation. We are now planning to work with schoolchildren and youths on conservation issue in next phase of the project.
- Now we are so much involved in KANHA towards conservation of forest and wildlife that we have to continue this work and above all, we want to continue our efforts. We will be preparing a larger proposal for the Rufford Booster Grant along with a workplan so that we can maintain the initiatives to conserve the entire ecosystem in a harmonious environment with the local communities in KANHA.



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

- We have already sharing our work with different organisation, NGOs, government departments and park administration. Our project staff have participated in two meetings with forest and park administration and share about the project activities done with the support of RSGF. The link of our report and website of RSGF has been given in our website www.cdcmp.org.in . In our progress report the details of the project has been given. We have shared our work through email with other organization. A meeting of local NGOs has been conducted to share about our work. Local news paper also published some news of training and about the activities. The village level governance system GRAM PANCHAYAT has been informed and representatives has been invited in the conservation centre.



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

- The project duration as per plan was Jan. 2012 to Dec. 2012, we have made implementation plan which is given below. The project staffs works with the project as fulltime, there was fully involvement of project as per work plan.

Villages to be cover in project		Bhalapuri, Mana, Garhi, Samariya, Saraitola, Ramhepur, Balgaon, Khajra, Lapti, Kugaon				
ACTIVITIES		Jan to March	April to June	July to Sept	Oct. to Dec	Indicators / Out comes
Community or SHG Meeting	Community conservation Meetings	30	30	30	30	
	Livelihood	?	?	?	?	Identify alternate source of livelihood
	Scientific harvesting	?	?	?	?	Knowledge and practice
	Firewood collection and use	?	?	?	?	Change in practice
	Bio-globules	?	?	?	?	At least 5 families per village adopted one enterprise
	Vegetable cultivation [Support & Plan]	?	?	?	?	Matching support for purchase of seed
	NTFP collection and Trading	?	?	?	?	Collection, processing and trading mechanism
	Protection of forest and wildlife	?	?	?	?	Level of knowledge and practice
	Biodiversity	?	?	?	?	Knowledge and awareness
	Nursery	?	?	?	?	5000 plants/ matching support to 10 farmers
EDC	Role of EDC	?	?	?	?	Coordination and action with forest department
	EDC initiatives	?	?	?	?	community work
SAMPADA Community conservation centre KHAJRA						
SAMPADA centre	Volunteer meeting at centre	?	?	?	?	At least 200 volunteer trained on different issues
	NTFP processing	?	?	?	?	Marketing plan and strategy for each products
	Demonstration	?	?	?	?	Visibility of different technology for energy conservation
	Trainings	?	?	?	?	200 women and trained
Models & Demo	Use of bio-globules	?	?	?	?	At least five families using
	Use of smokeless chulah	?	?	?	?	20 families constructed improved chulah
	Wormi composting	?	?	?	?	20 pits construction and production

	Vegetable cultivation	?	?	?	?	Income increase by Rs. 1000 to 3000 of all beneficiaries
	Fruit plantation	?	?	?	?	10 farmers identified and 0.5 acre of land used for horticulture
	Voluntary work at centre	?	?	?	?	Road cleaning, work at centre
School education	Orientation to school going children	?	?	?	?	Children's aware about environment
	Classes	?	?	?	?	Monthly two to three class on environment
	Competition Drawing theme based	?	?	?	?	Coordination with local school
	Rally	?	?	?	?	Coordination with local school

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
Training on forest and wildlife conservation to village volunteers and role of volunteers.	700	653	47	The training conducted as per plan the resources utilise which was available. No major difference
Training on primary processing of NTFP, packaging and marketing	500	524	-24	Extra expenses bear by organisation for cost of external trainer
Supply of vegetable seeds	600	714	-114	Seeds provided for three times, due to heavy rain seeds germination was poor, purchased extra seeds.
Supply of fruit, fodder plants	800	815	-15	More beneficiary added
Construction of vermi-compost pit for demonstration purpose	800	787	13	Beneficiary contributed some part of expenses
Supply of smokeless CHULAH [Wood Stove]	500	532	-32	Beneficiary contribution
Honorarium to project staffs	1900	1964	-64	Organisation contributed, bank interest also received and used in project
Local Travel	600	674	-74	Organisation contributed for extra expenses
Administrative cost [Stationary, Communication, Printing]	500	314	186	Admin expenses as per need, the money used in other programmatic expenses.
Total	6900	6977	-77	£ 1 GBP = 69 INR

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

- a. We need to carry out additional management activities in the villages i.e. construction of more compost pits, smokeless chulah, support for vegetable seeds and fruit plants which will strengthen the resource generating capacity of the community. A participatory management and resource use plan is being prepared for this.
- b. We now need to work with other small and homogenous user groups that we will identify in our target villages and evolve similar pasture restoration plans with them. These plans will then need to be implemented at scale to begin making a visible impact on the larger landscape.
- c. There is need to conduct some exposure visit for EDC members to understand and learn participatory protection of forest and community forestry.
- d. To maximise the efforts and repeat similar site based exercises in other areas of KANHA towards forest and wildlife conservation.

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 in the publication material, reporting formats and on the banner we used RSGF logo. One poster also designed on Tiger conservation/ facts. We have used logo every where as possible.



11. Any other comments?

- We are extremely grateful to Rufford Small Grant for the support of this project. With all support we were able to achieve two phase and set the goals towards integration of conservation and livelihood around Kanha Tiger Reserve. Since we are continuing the efforts in KANHA, the hope of restoration of wildlife and co-existence with local communities and wildlife has become our priority. Therefore, we look forward to Rufford Small Grant for continue support of our project.