

## The Rufford Foundation

### Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Honnavalli N. Kumara
<b>Project title</b>	Evaluating the status of NTFP trees and development of a model for sustainable harvest of <i>Garcinia gummi-gutta</i> in Aghanashini Lion-tailed Macaque Conservation Reserve, Western Ghats, India
<b>RSG reference</b>	Our ref: 11070-B
<b>Reporting period</b>	February 2012-December 2013 (final and complete period)
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£11,601
<b>Your email address</b>	honnavallik@gmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	March 2014

**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 assess the status of woody trees and regeneration of NTFP trees			Achieved	Assessment was made and provided the details according to different sites in the landscape
To explore the availability, harvesting and processing of <i>Garcinia gummi-gutta</i>			Achieved	We were able to establish good database on this, and which has helped further to develop the strategy to manage the harvesting and processing of the same fruits
To develop a model for sustainable harvest, processing and marketing strategy for <i>Garcinia gummi-gutta</i>			Achieved	Model has been developed based on the interaction with the all stakeholders, and based on this the forest department has already initiated the few steps to achieve this goal

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

One of the components of the study was to interact with the companies that use these fruits as a raw material, initiating the dialogue with them was a challenging, however, based on different other contacts the same was achieved but which took lot of our time.

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

1. Study has provided the baseline data on all the NTFP trees distribution and status in the landscape. Based on this, we have recommended the restoration work for different areas. Keeping this in the mind, jointly we have written the proposal with the forest department to support the restoration work.
2. During this entire study, local people have good confidence on the restoration of the patches where the forest has been cut, and there was good response for our words, in harvesting right fruits. However, they are seeking subsidised driers facility to dry the fruits, which will further reduce the firewood collection from the forest so that reduces the loss of forest.
3. Based on our study and interaction with the forest department, we were able to convince to establish many more Village Forest Committees, where it was not there. This step was to have a control over people to harvest right fruits and to convince them to use appropriate driers to processing the fruits. Further, to remove the middlemen in the marketing of the fruits, so that the local people get proper benefit.
  - a. Accordingly, few new VFCs are formed.
  - b. Marketing of the fruits are been initiated through VFC.
  - c. Department stopped going auctioning the collection of fruits to outsiders in some of the VFC areas.

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

Provided above

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

Yes, we continue our activities until the goals are achieved. Since, people also have lots of confidence on us, and they are also looking for streamlining of harvesting of fruits of *Garcinia gummi-gutta* to its marketing. Which also require more support from the Forest Department and many other stakeholders, that already we have established? Otherwise, conserving the entire habitat will be difficult for the many endangered and endemic species present in the area.

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

Already report was submitted to the forest department, and other stakeholders. Based this, department has taken many actions, and jointly prepared the proposal to achieve few of the goals. Apart from this, we also publish our findings in the journals.

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

Although, initially it was proposed for 18 months, but due to various other reasons (since the study-involved tackling of many stakeholders, which took lot of our time) got extended for another six months.

**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
Travel and Vehicle hire	2316.00	1966.00	-350.00	*
Field station rental	247.00	0.00	-247.00	*
Consumables	343.00	266.44	-76.56	*
DA for RF and Wages	5968.00	6444.90	+476.90	*To support the research personnel for the extended period
Equipments and toposheets	685.00	1479.86	+794.86	*To procure the system to analyse the data and to write the report and maintain the data
Workshops	1233.00	993.41	-239.59	*
Communication	124.00	107.25	-16.75	*
Printing and Report	411.00	106.32	-304.68	*
OPC	274.00	236.95	-37.05	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>11601</b>	<b>11601</b>		*

\*Permission was procured and re-budgeted the funds to support the extended period of fieldwork

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

- a. Restoration of the patches which have been exploited.
- b. Help the local people to procure the appropriate driers for the fruits.
- c. Convince all the stakeholders to manage the suggested marketing.

**10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation 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 presentations of all the interactions.