

## 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**

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#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Daniela Dutra Elliott
<b>Project title</b>	Resource management, trade and conservation of wild harvested epiphytic orchid species in Oaxaca.
<b>RSG reference</b>	11570-2
<b>Reporting period</b>	April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012 to June 1 <sup>st</sup> 2013
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5991
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:ddutra@hawaii.edu">ddutra@hawaii.edu</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	June 14th 2013

**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
Detailed information on orchid population biology			X	We have finished the field work for 2012 and 2013. Data was entered and several analyses are being conducted.
Detailed information on orchid harvest			X	We conducted interviews with communities and analysed the data.
Detailed information on trade of orchid species			X	We finalised the market study by successfully identifying the market species. Results are being written for publication.
Construct a population viability analysis using matrix analyses		X		With the newly recorded data from 2013, we can now finalise our data analysis and create the final matrix analysis to help inform harvest and ecological plans for the area.
Develop recommendations for management strategies		X		We are in the process of pulling the data from all parts of the project to create these recommendations.

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

Originally the field portion of this project would end in the end of 2012. We realised at that time that an extra field season would be necessary to gather data on the biological traits of the orchid species we are working with so we continued with data collection through the June 2013. Just this week we finished collecting these final results. We can now with certainty build the matrix models we need to guide our recommendations on orchid harvest. We had to work hard to redistribute the funding we had to make sure we could continue the work, but we were successful.

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

We acquired detailed information on orchid population biology that wasn't available for these species before. We also have information on the ecological knowledge communities have on orchid harvest and how these species are important culturally. We have gathered data on the trade of over 30 orchid species that are coming from all parts of the state of Oaxaca and going to the central market to be sold. We have information on vendors, price, origin and volume. All these data combined allows us to create recommendations for management strategies. We are now using these data to create models that will help us predict how orchid populations are doing based on harvest pressure.

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

Local communities will benefit directly from the results of this project because after we provide local agencies with the results and recommendations, they will receive permission to pursue an orchid conservation project in their land that will benefit the protection of natural resources and local livelihoods.

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

Yes. We plan to continue working with this project.

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

We will share the results of this study with NGOs and governmental agencies working on conservation issues in the region. The results of this project are being published in peer-review publications and will help shed light on the conservation of hundreds of orchid species worldwide that are being overharvested from the wild. We have also presented the findings locally on the 5th International Canopy Conference that took place in Oaxaca, Mexico.

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

We used the funds from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. We stretched a few extra months to be able to collect more field data for the project.

**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
Field assistants (£34 a day for 60 days, two people)	2040	2853	813	We did an extra data collection season in 2013 that required field assistant hours.
Logging	900	1075	175	
Food	960	911	-49	
Transportation to field sites	540	1235	660	We had to rent a car in 2012 due to the difficulties getting to the field site.
Computer	450	450	0	
Supplies and shipping	1101	300	-801	
<b>TOTAL</b>	5991	<b>6824</b>	798	We used other to cover this difference

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

We now need to fully integrate the results with a comprehensive ecological plan for the region. To do that, we need to work with the local government agencies. We will continue working to make sure these results benefit local communities and the conservation of natural resources.

**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 presented the results of this project at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Canopy Conference, Oaxaca, Mexico and also at Society for Economic Botany Conference in Frostburg, Maryland (USA). We have also given talks about this project locally and have used the Rufford logo and explicitly talked about where the funding came from.