

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Tillo Boboev
Project title	Enhancing conversation of rare and endangered plant species by conduction of field researches and increasing the level of public awareness in Eastern Khatlon, Tajikistan
RSG reference	12320-2
Reporting period	January 2013 – October 2013
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	ganjtabiat@gmail.com
Date of this report	December 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
<p>Study the current state of rare and endangered plant species and develop scientific recommendations.</p>			Yes	<p>The current status of rare and endangered plant species determined through conducted studies in Baljuvon and Shurobod districts, eastern Khatlon, Tajikistan.</p> <p>As a result of conducted studies seeds of the new plant species was collected and introduced in Alive Red Book demonstration plot in the Kulob Botanic Garden.</p> <p>Moreover, scientific recommendations were developed based on research findings and results and recommendations were shared with Environment Protection Department of the Republic of Tajikistan and Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan.</p>
<p>Conduct awareness raising campaigns for rural inhabitants and representatives of respected state agencies.</p>			Yes	<p>Meetings and other events were conducted with Education and Ecology departments of Kulob town and target districts, in order to maintain close links with them, as well as to involve secondary schools and schoolchildren in the project.</p> <p>As a result, necessary information regarding rare and endangered plant species was provided through mini lectures in secondary schools to pupils to form the ecologically friendly views towards natural resources.</p> <p>As a part of awareness raising campaign, seminars in Baljuvon and Shurobod districts were conducted for rural inhabitants as well as representatives of respected state agencies. The main aim of the seminars was to inform the population about the</p>

				<p>importance of preservation and protection of these plant species through seminars and to give information regarding rare and threatened plant species.</p> <p>Moreover, week of open doors was conducted in Kulob Botanic Garden, to demonstrate to participants of week of open doors how the rare and endangered species look like, importance of their existence, their contribution on balancing of ecosystem etc.</p> <p>Conducting direct meetings and awareness campaigns consider one of the effective methods of conveying messages to target population. In order to strengthen the result of the conducted events, informative brochures and leaflets were prepared and distributed to participants of the conducted awareness events.</p> <p>In line with the project work plan, a photo exhibition “SOS” was organised through demonstration of taken photos regarding the current state of rare and endangered species. During photo exhibition participants had opportunity to obtain informative materials and ask questions regarding the state and importance of the rare and endangered species. In addition, information materials were distributed to participants of awareness raising campaigns.</p>
--	--	--	--	--

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

The main difficulty which our team faced was travel issue during field visits. Due to price increase on fuel and food additional funds were spent for travel and transportation from PO “Ganji Tabiat” funds.

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

- Environment Protection Department of the Republic of Tajikistan, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan and International Union of Nature Protection (IUNP) plan to update the Red Book of Tajikistan and proposed PO “Ganji Tabiat” to collaborate in this initiative through identification of plants species as per determined criteria by the Ecology and Environment Protection Department. Within the framework of the RSG project, we already started conducting similar research and identifying the current state of the rare and endangered plant species. The project was implemented in very good period and the project results reached the national level, which our team did not even expect. This was one of the most important outcomes of the project as well as significant contribution to protection and conservation of nature in Tajikistan.
- According to research findings, six rare and endangered plant species were newly identified and planted in the demonstration plot “Alive Red Book”. This was considered as one of the most important outcomes, as the main purpose of the project is conservation of the rare and endangered plant species. The list of the identified plant species stated under:
 - *Juno rosenbachiana* (Regel) Vved.
 - *Allium karataviense* Regel
 - *Allium giganteum* Regel
 - *Allium trautvetterianum* Regel
 - *Fritilla riaregelii* A. Los.
 - *Eremurus albertii* Regel
- For the first time in Kulob town, was conducted photo exhibition of the rare and endangered plant species. What is more, participants of the photo exhibition and other awareness campaigns conducted within the framework of the RSG project received necessary information concerning importance of the project activities and conversation of Nature as a whole.

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

Local communities were involved in the project by participation in seminars, week of open doors, photo exhibition and meetings. Moreover, prepared information leaflets and brochures were distributed to population of target areas as well as to respected state agencies and organisations.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We stay positive towards continuation of this work in future, as we managed to bring the results of this work up to national level and build stronger links with respected state agencies within Tajikistan. Conservation and protection of nature is an ongoing process and in future we hope to achieve higher and better results.

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

The project results will be shared during future meetings and events with local NGOs, nature protection state agencies, international NGOs and field visits through presentations, articles and distribution materials.

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

The project was anticipated for 10 months (January 1st to October 31st 2013) and we have successfully managed to fulfil all project activities by the due date.

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
Staff	£2 350	£2 350	£0	The budget was used as planned.
Local travel	£50	£100	£-50	Due to price increase the allocated funds for local travel was not sufficient and as a result additional funds were used from PO "Ganji Tabiat" budget.
Local transportation	£400	£412	£-12	Due to price increase on fuel, additional funds were used from PO "Ganji Tabiat" budget.
Equipment and supplies	£950	£930	£20	We managed to save £20 during procurement of necessary equipment and supplies.
Local office	£400	£400	£0	The amount anticipated for local office has been spent according to budget line.
Civic Awareness Campaigns	£1 850	£1 894	£-44	Due to price increase, unexpected expenses occurred.
TOTAL	£6 000	£6 086	£-86	In general, we successfully fulfilled the budget plan despite the deficit on budget amount.

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

We are going to modify the methods of our work and adapt it with the received suggestions from target population as well as respected state agencies on protection of nature in Tajikistan. One of the suggestions proposed by the target population of Baljuvon district, Sari Khosor village was, instead of using scientific names of selected rare and endangered plant species, using their local names, which will be more understandable for the rural population. In this regard, PO "Ganji Tabiat" plans to prepare and distribute a simple introductory brochure particularly for the rural inhabitants.

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, we used the RSGF logo in leaflets, banners and booklets, Moreover, the RSGF logo was displayed during seminars, week of open doors and photo exhibition.

11. Any other comments?

We are very grateful to RSGF for financial support that gave us chance to tackle important issues of our area connected with preservation of wild flora. In the course of implementation of this project we have discovered many other ways and opportunities, which will be considered in our future plans.