

## 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>	Deepak Acharya
<b>Project title</b>	Empowering People/Media for Rhino Conservation
<b>RSG reference</b>	<b>Ref: 13.06.07</b>
<b>Reporting period</b>	One year
<b>Amount of grant</b>	4796
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:acharyad99@hotmail.com">acharyad99@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	October, 2008

**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
enhancing awareness level of bufferzone people on the conservation efforts of rhino in Bardia National Park			✓	Local people were made aware on importance and their role in rhino conservation by mobilising teachers, CBO members, buffer zone committees and VDC chairpersons through several discussion, training and workshop.
Involve media persons in rhino conservation effort			✓	Project activities were implemented in coordination with Federation of Nepalese Journalist (FNJ) branch of Bardia. A network of Conservation journalist has been formed. The network is acting as a forum to share the efforts and issues of conservation. The capacity and motivation of the journalists were enhanced through the exposure visit to Chitwan and Bardia national parks and their buffer zone areas. The organized attempts to raise the issues of conservation and creation of national pressure to resolve those issues are expected from the forum.
Information on rhino conservation more widely available primarily to the buffer zone community		✓		Conservation Information Centres were established in five VDC offices. Materials supported from the local, national and international organizations on conservation have been kept in the centre. Since there is limited availability of such materials, particularly in local language; the centres need to be further equipped with the materials that are published in Nepali and local language.

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

None

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

- Local people, CBOs, teachers and buffer zone management committees are sensitized on the issues of rhino conservation
- Media Persons established a network of conservation journalist and initiated to share and disseminate the issues and efforts of conservation

- Five conservation information centres have been established in five Village Development Committees (VDCs) in Bufferzone area of Bardia national park.

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

Most of the activities were based on the participation of local people and community based organizations. Project activities in which the local people directly participated were: Discussion with environment and science teachers, Training of trainer (ToT) to members of CBOs, Workshop with bufferzone committees and Discussions with chairperson of Village Development Committees (VDCs). Similarly, respective VDCs allocated space to establish the conservation information centres.

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

Buffer zone management committees, local leaders, Community Based Organizations, and local media are now sensitized on the issues of conservation. These organizations will further be empowered to prioritize conservation education and awareness raising activities on their programs. Awareness campaigns, media mobilization and conservation education will be organized in coordination with Federation of Nepalese Journalist and Buffer zone council.

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

The project activities were published in different newspapers, radio and television channel. The final report itself acts as a tool to disseminate the result of the work. The report will be submitted to different organisations. A separate part of dissemination of this work will be considered while designing next project to continue this work.

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

The RSG was used to implement the project activities from October, 2007 to September, 2008. It was anticipated to use the fund within period of twelve months; therefore, there is no significant difference in anticipated and actual length of 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.**

Items	Budgeted £ sterling	Actual £ sterling	Difference	Comments
Daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for team leader	1127.81	1130.68	-2.87	*
DSA for assistant	491.02	492.27	-1.25	*
ToT to selected CBOs members (Refreshment)	349.85	350.74	-0.89	*
ToT to selected CBOs members (Resource persons (RP)cost)	138.1	69.23	68.87	1 extra RP hired
Workshops with buffezone subcommittees Chairperson	220.96	221.52	-0.56	*
Discussions with environment & science teachers	368.26	369.20	-0.94	*

Discussion with VDC Chairpersons	128.89	129.22	-0.33	*
Workshop with journalist	128.89	129.22	-0.33	*
Establish network of conservation journalists	268.52	269.21	-0.69	*
Journalists tour	460.33	476.89	-16.56	
Information desk on VDCs office	767.22	749.94	17.28	
Accessories and stationery	268.52	269.21	-0.69	*
Transportation	76.72	92.30	-15.58	
Bank charges	0	35	-35.00	**
				<b>Exchange rate</b> <b>Planned:</b> £ 1 = Rs.130.34 <b>Actual:</b> £ 1 = Rs.130.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>4795.15</b>	<b>4784.63</b>		

\* Difference in planned and actual exchange rate \*\* was not considered during budget planning

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

- Conservation education in school
- Awareness campaigns at community level
- Good governance training to key persons of BZ management committees
- Interactions between park authority and local people to reduce park people conflict

#### 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?

The RSGF logo was used in the banner of each programme and certificate provided to the participants. The support of RSGF was highlighted in the news of project activities published in different local and national newspapers, FM radio and television.

#### 11. Any other comments?

I would like to thank Bardia national park, Buffer Zone council and management committees of Bardia national park, schools which participated in our program, Manau, Baganaha, Thakurdwara, Suryapatuwa and Shivapur VDCs in BZ of Bardia National park, Federation of Nepalese Journalist (FNJ), Bardia and Chitwan branches for their kind cooperation during the implementation of project. Similarly, RSGF deserves thank for providing financial support towards the project.