

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Sylvanna Antat
Project title	Promoting Coral Reef Conservation through education and nature experience
RSG reference	13684-1
Reporting period	6 th June 2013- 2014
Amount of grant	£5976
Your email address	s.antha@snpa.sc
Date of this report	4 th February 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 create an interest in coral reef survey among the Seychelles youth		x		An interest for coral reef management and scientific survey has been created, with a number of students visiting our offices and declaring their plans to pursue careers in marine science and conservation. A number of students came on work placement during their holiday, so that they could learn survey techniques. The snorkelling activities are ongoing.
To create awareness of EDGE corals and coral reef ecosystem, increasing knowledge on their uniqueness			x	EDGE corals were able to be identified on snorkelling trip and students could learn about those. Teacher presentations enabled them to learn about these corals and their conservation and disseminate this information in their classes so that all students could gain. This was also achieved through the exhibitions.
Improve understanding of the threats to coral reefs and how individuals can contribute towards conservation			x	Achieved through presentations with teachers and discussions in the field during snorkelling, as well as through the exhibition on all three major Seychelles islands.
To increase youth interest and involvement in conservation of coral reefs and participation in marine field activities			x	Through the exhibition, youths has a better idea of coral reef conservation and understands that our organisation works in conservation, so they are better able to approach us for work experience
To encourage youth to take ownership of conservation education and share messages within their communities, in this way becoming advocates for the ecosystem they		x		Achieved through the exhibition and snorkelling, but more work needs to be done with youths to ensure their messages reach a wider community

want to conserve				
To contribute to the EDGE coral and coral reef ecosystem knowledge within the Western Indian Ocean		x		Increased number of young Seychelles learning about conservation of these species. More to be achieved towards end of EDGE project and through further presentation and snorkelling activities
To build capacity of young people in coral reef survey and build an interest in marine research		x		Explanation of survey methods and the work of research staffs during snorkelling sessions, to teachers and through posters at exhibitions.
Generate an interest in and encourage creation of education materials among students, that can be shared with the communities			x	Achieved through the cartoon competition and exhibitions

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.

- a. Students were educated and made aware of the importance of coral reefs and conservation work being carried out in Seychelles.
- b. Students learnt to snorkel and interact with the species in the marine environment, so as to encourage their involvement in conservation.
- c. The general public learned about EDGE corals, coral conservation and how to reduce threats to coral reefs.

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

While only students were directly involved in the project, other members of local communities were educated and made aware of the plights of coral reefs, through our exhibitions, and through students who learnt from our snorkelling activities and presentations and could bring these information home. Teachers in different schools across the island gained information from presentations and used this information to create awareness in their classrooms.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The presentations in schools with teachers is ongoing and will include post secondary schools this year. There are plans to also bring presentations to hotels so as to help change behaviour of tourists when they use reefs. The snorkelling activities will be ongoing, during school holidays and as schools invite us to take their students snorkelling and provide presentations. We are working closely with Pointe Larue Secondary schools as they want to introduce a snorkelling programme for students with learning difficulties.

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

Results of our work will be shared through our website and through our newsletter.

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

The grant was used over a period of 6 months while the project was anticipated to be for a year. However, snorkelling activities are ongoing so will be conducted past the end date 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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Waterproof camera	1110	1090.83	19.17	
Posters	300	295.83	4.17	
Brochures	500	500	0	
Prizes	1185	1183.33	1.67	
Fins	390	890	-500	Part of budget for venue hire was used to purchase additional snorkelling materials
Mask and snorkel	870	1890	-1020	Part of budget for venue hire was used to purchase additional snorkelling materials
Venue Hire	1621	116.67	1504.33	Venues were offered free of charge and at discounted prices, for the exhibition which means that part of the budget was left over
Total	5976	5966.66	9.34	

The local currency exchange rate was £1 = SCR18. What had been budgeted for venue hire was not used as three of the venues were offered to us, free of charge by organisations running those venues. And the fourth venue was offered at very low (discounted) cost. This mean that there was part of the budget left over, which was used purchase additional snorkelling materials so that even more pupils can participate in our snorkelling programmes.

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

Important next step will be to produce documentaries on our coral reefs and its conservation, and these should be done by students and in the local language, as well as English. These can be used for dissemination at different national events and exhibitions, on national TV during theme days and in presentations at schools and hotels. Snorkelling camps should be organised so that more time can be spent with students and passions can be developed for conservation of coral reefs and a dive club should be set up to introduce and encourage diving for young people as well as include teaching these young students how to carry out surveys and collect data. This will encourage students to follow a career in conservation, and also to develop a love for conserving and protecting coral reefs.

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?

The Rufford logo was used on all posters and brochures produced, both for the EDGE coral exhibition and for future exhibition where these posters and brochures will be used. It was made clear that the funding for the prizes and posters, as well as support for the exhibition came from the Rufford Foundation. It became clear that Seychelles community, both local and scientific have for the most part never heard of the Rufford Foundation, and the second half of 2013 allowed us to introduce 'The Rufford Foundation' to the Seychelles community, and show the kind of work and activities supported by the Foundation.

11. Any other comments?

The Rufford Foundation has provided a wonderful opportunity for the young people of Seychelles to 'discover snorkelling' and develop an interest in conservation, which is beneficial for both the youths, and the environment of Seychelles.