

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. 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	Rama Mishra
Project title	Conflict to coexistence: Training locals to save themselves and the elephants in Chitwan National Park, Nepal
RSG reference	14449-1
Reporting period	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015
Amount of grant	£4990
Your email address	l.mishrarama@gmail.com
Date of this report	30 Sep 2015

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 train 300 local community members on human elephant co-existence			✓	More than the target (total 437) people trained
To develop awareness materials (poster or calendar and brochure)			✓	Calendar was not produced but poster and brochures were produced and widely distributed
Radio message and early warning system			✓	Radio message on human elephant coexistence is continued for more than three months in Madi FM.

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

A major earthquake (magnitude 7.8) caused a lot of damage in Nepal. My home is Gorkha was also damaged. It affected and delayed some of the activities. But it did not affect overall output of project as the effect of earthquake was less in project area (Chitwan and Parsa).

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

The project primarily focused on reducing human deaths and injuries from elephants in Thori and Nirmalbasti area of Chitwan's buffer zone. Human elephant co-existence trainings were organised in six different locations. Posters and brochure was developed and distributed widely.



Left: A training session on Human Elephant Co-existence in Nirmalbasti-4, Bramhanagar, Nayabasti, Parsa.

Right: Chairperson of Nirmal Thori BZUC (front right) and trainer Mr. Babu Ram Lamichhane (front left) describing locals about the elephant behavior and ways to avoid conflict after an incident of human injury caused by elephant in Thori.

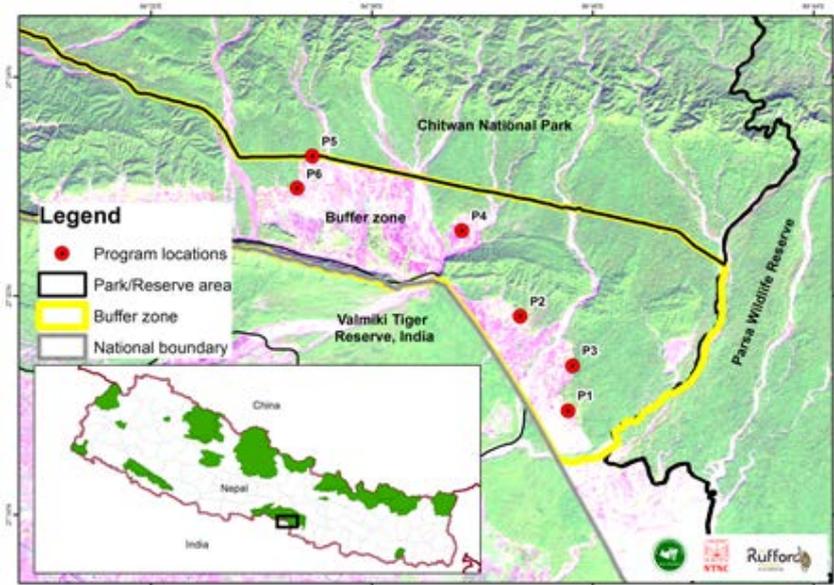


Figure 1: Map showing the HECx training locations (P1 to P6).

FM based early warning system was piloted. From these activities, followings were the outcomes.

- Awareness level of local people increased about elephant behavior and their conservation.
- People are able to act responsibly towards elephants and elephants became less aggressive in the project area.
- No human deaths in project area from elephants while few people died in neighboring areas in India and Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

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

The project itself was community based. All six units of the coexistence trainings were organised in consultation with buffer zone user's committee. Chairperson of the BZUC MR. Hari Prasad Khanal chaired all the training programmes. The training was conducted at settlement level targeting the locals. All the participants learned about elephants, their behaviour, and causes of conflict with people and ways to avoid

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, such training to local people is required in Parsa and Bara districts of Central Nepal too. The human injury and deaths have gone to minimum in the areas where such trainings were organised. But there are still such cases every year in forest fringe areas of Bara and Parsa.

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

I have been running the blog (www.junglihatti.blogspot.com). I will put all the findings and materials produced from the project in my blog.

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

The grant was used for more than a year. It was originally planned for a year. Due to earthquake, one activity (FM based early warning system) was postponed for more than two months. Local FM (Radio Madi www.radiomadi.com.np) has agreed to continue the radio message broadcasting even after the end of this 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
HECx training materials	300	250	+50	As training materials developed in local market with discounted rate
Tea snacks for participants	660	725	- 65	
HECx training- and Transportation and communication	180	240	- 60	We required to hire jeep for training which cost was hiked than the planned.
Stationeries	300	320	- 20	More participants than planned
Resource person's fee	260	260	0	
Radio message development & broadcasting costs	250	260	- 10	FM agreed to continue the broadcast even after the project for another 6 months with small amount of extra money
Early warning system establishment	630	570	+ 60	We planned to use six informants, but four informants were enough for the purpose.
Brochure design and printing	500	570	- 70	As there was high demand for brochure more copies (3000) was produced in discounted rate.
Transportation & communication	240	210	+30	
Team leader's salary	1500	1500	0	
Reporting and miscellaneous costs	170	190	-20	
TOTAL	4990	5095	-105	

1 £ Sterling= NRs. 155

The budget breakdown covers only for the RSG support.

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

The co-existence trainings at local level is very effective in reducing human casualties (death or injury). But the problem of elephants is not only limited to death and injury. Crop and property loss are still severe in the area. Thus, maintenance of electric fence to stop elephant movement as well as establishing quick and effecting relief mechanism should be next steps along with awareness programs.

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, all the published materials included logo of Rufford small grants. During the training programme, name of Rufford as funding agency was also announced orally.

11. Any other comments?

The project was implemented in collaboration with Chitwan National Park (CNP), National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), Buffer Zone User's Committee (BZUC) and Radio Madi. All the training events were chaired by the chairperson of BZUC, training was facilitated by NTNC's research officer and ranger of CNP and training materials were developed in consultation with Dr Kamal Prasad Gairhe (senior Veterinary Officer of CNP). Such collaborative efforts resulted very smooth and successful implementation of the project.