

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	Pui Yong Min
Project title	Establishment of the Bornean Amphibian Conservation and Rescue Center: in conserving two Critically Endangered species of <i>Pelophryne</i> in Borneo
RSG reference	14620-1
Reporting period	Jan 2014 to Jan 2016
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	pui8783ibec@gmail.com
Date of this report	16 January 2016

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
Setting up the ACE -Bio-secure isolated amphibian husbandry Amphibian Conservation and Educational centre (ACE), formerly known as BACC			√	The Amphibians Conservation and Educational Centre (ACE) is strongly supported by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, the team managed to get the approval from the university to use/renovates the ANIMAL HOUSE for the centre. This will be permanent facilities for the centre, including an educational centre, an office/recording keeping room, a laboratory, quarantine area, and six isolated rooms for amphibian conservation breeding. Construction of six isolated room partition was done, and currently waiting for installation of the doors.
Field collection		√		During our field trip in June 2014 and another from 19th-24th December 2015, we managed to record the calls of both targeted species, noted on the microhabitat, environmental data within the habitat, and species distribution. Unfortunately, no female or tadpole was encountered during the trips. Last field trip to Mt. Murud will be organised from 4th-11th March 2016.
Ex situ conservation management of two species of Bornean dwarf toad (<i>Pelophryne linanitensis</i> and <i>P. murudensis</i>)		√		The construction of the isolated rooms is nearly done. The enclosure/tanks, racks, will be set up upon completion of the door installation.

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

The construction of the biosecure husbandry needs longer time, this including administration works with the university to get the approval to use and convert the ANIMAL HOUSE to permanent facilities for the amphibian conservation and educational centre (ACE). Female frogs seem to be hard to find in the wild, most adults male were detected through calls. More fieldwork efforts are needed in order to find adult female and the tadpole.

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

In overall, the project schedules are not fully followed and many of the objectives still not fully archived, as stated above, consequently did not contribute to any significant outcomes. In light of the efforts, the current project serves as a starting point in long term efforts of the Bornean amphibian conservation, after receiving approval to utilize the building (ANIMAL HOUSE) and the centre (ACE) will be launched on April 2016.

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

The university authorities indirectly aware of the needs to conserve local amphibians, particularly those are endangered and endemic to Borneo. The project also engaged long term collaboration with local enforcement authorities, such as the Sarawak Forestry Department and Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

During the fieldwork to Mt. Murud, we hired local helpers (driver, guides and porters) to work with us, we exposed them to our research and monitoring techniques.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, as for long term plan, the Centre will serve as a rescue and rehabilitation centre and for monitoring of pathogenic fungus, BD, in Sarawak and other parts of Malaysia.

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

The educational centre within the facilities will be open to the public and visitors, information related to the project will be displayed in the centre in addition to amphibian related materials. Data on the life history and calls of both species will be documented in relevant journal paper.

This project will be highlighted in conservation talks and the launching ceremony of the centre will be conducted during the forthcoming annual event, the 5th International Bornean Frog Race 2016, on 30th April 2016, at Lambir Hill National Park, Miri, Sarawak.

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 RSG grant was granted to me in January 2014, most listed equipments were purchased in February and March. A field visit to the sites was conducted once in Jun 2014 and December 2015, data on calls and natural history of both targeted species was successfully collected. The actual schedule was too short, in considering all administration works in applying to utilise the university building.

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. 1GBP= RM5.074 as in 2014

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Sample collection/travel costs	1000	1560.90	-560.90	More data collection are need, especially to find the females.
Chytrid infection analysis	500	-	500	Will be used once the centre is ready and necessary.
Construction materials for bio-secure	2000	1379.60	620.40	Remaining budget will be use for maintained cost and to support another fieldwork to Mt. Murud.
Amphibian husbandry Industrial rack systems (41.39 x 8)	300	331.12	-31.12	The quantity of the rack was reduced to eight from 10, the unit price was underestimated.
15-gallon aquarium x 50 (16.75 x 30)	500	502.5	-2.5	
Air conditioning unit x 2	800	492.70	307.30	The remaining budgeted amount will be use as maintained cost for the air conditioning.
Drainage and misting systems (Misting system 2 units x 187.23) (Water Drum 1 x 11.43) (PVC pipes and joints) (Basket 2 x 2.36)	500	425.69 374.46 11.43 35.08 4.72	74.31	The remaining budgeted amount will be used for the maintaining cost in the future.
Florescent light fixtures and bulbs x10 (ADA light 6 units x 31.53)	100	189.18	-89.18	The unit price was underestimated.
Feeding tools	100	63.07	36.93	The remaining budgeted amount will be in fieldwork.
Feeder boxes x 5	100	53.21	46.78	The remaining budgeted amount will be used in buying feeder foods (e.g. stock fruit flies)
Supplementation (vitamin/mineral)	100	61.10	38.90	The remaining budgeted amount will be used in printing materials in the future.
Total	6000	5039.07	940.92	

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

Obtain more data on life history of targeted species and to get fund to maintain the centre.

**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 Foundation logo was printed and mentioned as a funder in our permitting proposal in applying permit from the Sarawak Forestry Department and Sarawak Forestry Corporation. The logo also printed on the signboard of the centre. In the future, the logo will be added in any printed materials related to the project (posters and flyers).