

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	Swen Renner
Project title	Training foresters to establish a sustainable monitoring scheme of wildlife in Myanmar
RSG reference	17058-1
Reporting period	13th January 2015 to 30th November 2015
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	Swen.renner@boku.ac.at
Date of this report	23 December 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
Learn theory and practice on monitoring of biodiversity, at least for the common forest birds			X	
Implement simple monitoring schemes for birds in their protected area or home vicinity with standardised methods and protocol regimes (taught with an example)			X	
Understand simple statistical analysis to analyse the data		X		Mostly achieved but time was too short to go into necessary detail at some issues that came up during discussion
Learn first steps in scientific report writing.		X		Mostly achieved but time was too short to go into necessary detail at some issues that came up during discussion

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

None of relevance. The unsafe situation during elections in Myanmar made short term changes (dates) necessary.

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

N/A

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

The local NGOs and university were fully involved and had full benefit of the project.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, (1) through a follow up application with Rufford, (even if likely unsuccessful as I understand), and (2) through ERASMUS+ Mobility activities and a cooperation between my university and Mandalay University.

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

The success of the project is likely a publication (draft in advanced stage) that will be published in an open source repository, that the scientist can share the work we have done. In addition, I plan to further use channels in Myanmar (Facebook and other social media as well as discussion in person) to follow the trainees in their career development.

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 actual use was limited to 14th-28th November 2015.

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.

Note the drastic change in the exchange rate between GBP/USD/EUR/Kyiat from the date of application to today. This actually allowed for providing food for all participants without extra costs for the project.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Airfare	1,602.00	1,694.57	-92.57	For two persons (originally estimated for one only, cheap airfare allowed for a second trainer)
Local transport	1,085.00	470.00	+615.00	For all trainers and participants; change of venue allowed to save funds here. Note: One trainer and two trainees paid themselves because they received funds by their employers for participation.
Accommodation	1,068.00	1,076.93	-8.93	Hotel/guest house for all.
Equipment	772.00	474.57	297.43	Some equipment provided by the host institute and some by the Renner.
Food	0.00	703.77	-703.77	

Per diem	473.00	626.75	-153.75	Sai Aik, Renner, Suarez; all others were provided food.
Total	5,000.00	5,046.59	-46.59	Not accounted is the further funds provided by the host and the applicant's institute. Missing parts are paid by the institute (BOKU).
Visa and express mail	0.00	89.79	-89.79	Paid by Institute (Renner, Suarez)
2 additional trainees	0			Paid themselves (Travel, accommodation); estimate

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

While the species skills of most trainees were excellent, trainers and trainees identified further knowledge gaps that need to be addressed sooner or later:

- In depth theory on the background how to develop scientifically sound research questions (identify and formulate hypothesis);
- Statistical skills to analyse the data appropriately;
- Skills in how to write and formulate scientific reports in English with the appropriate (and up to date) structure and ideas.

I plan to follow up on those issues with funding from further organisations and particularly as exchange between universities.

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?

Yes, the logo was used on the banner of the workshop. The Rufford Foundation got some publicity while the participants were counting birds and explaining to the interested public what we are doing.