

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole
Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Agung Nugroho
Project title	Improving local livelihoods through elephant conservation in Southern Sumatra.
RSG reference	18.12.07
Reporting period	Annual final report
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	pithecellobium98@yahoo.com
Date of this report	1 st March 2009

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
1. Increase local capacity (communities and forestry department) to manage HEC			Yes	<i>Rufford funding was not being requested</i>
a. Conduct HEC mitigation			Yes	<i>Rufford funding was not being requested</i>
b. Monitor HEC			Yes	<i>Rufford funding was not being requested</i>
2. Raise local awareness of HEC and elephant conservation			Yes	
a. Public awareness campaign			Yes	Produced 480 calendars and distributed to four main partners and 390 communities; one field media trip with attendance from one local TV station, two newspapers and two radio stations; one drawing and essay competition involving 60 primary school students
b. Attitude and awareness survey			Yes	Questionnaire survey conducted with 51 farmers from five focal communities
c. Demonstrate HEC mitigation			Yes	Involved 52 farmers in five villages; using siren fence for early warning system, watch tower for monitor HEC, iron canon for scaring the elephant, traditional fence 'pagar jarak' from the <i>Ricinus communis</i> plant, and lemon grass fence.
d. Final project information dissemination to policy makers			Yes	Presentation and discussion with head of natural resource conservation office (BKSDA) Bengkulu province, Mr Sutiyarto and project partner Mr Aswin Bangun (CRU). There was a positive response from Mr Sutiyarto, who agreed to continue the secondment of the KSDA rangers Mr Ramon Dias to the HEC mitigation project and Mr Edi Kesuma to the

				elephant survey project. Mr Sutyarto reiterated the need for ongoing and strong collaboration with this project, which provided the ideal opportunity to discuss the need for action in protecting remnants of the former elephant forest corridor between the PLG and KSNP.
3. Monitor and evaluate project results and effectiveness			Yes	The project has made significant progress over the course of the grant and has successfully adhered to the timetable and achieved all milestones. Numerous additional activities have been completed, such as the implementation of a community outreach component, and these have been important for BKSDA management.
a. End of year project review			Yes	Final report sent to Rufford and main project partners including; Department of Forestry (represented by BKSDA Bengkulu), CRU's, KSNP head office, two local NGOs and three universities.

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

In the beginning, it was difficult to get community members to agree to meet with the project staff to discuss issues surrounding human elephant conflict (HEC) and elephant conservation in Bengkulu. To overcome this challenge, project personnel conducted a series of meetings at selected farmlands instead where various mitigation methods were discussed and equipment displayed such as: siren fences, watchtowers and iron canons. Gradually the project staff gained the communities' trust and was able to set up a network for HEC mitigation strategies that were implementation by the forest edge communities involving 42 farmers and 51 farmlands.

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

1. Increased local awareness and knowledge about elephant conservation in Bengkulu area specifically that elephants need to be protected and that humans can live together peacefully with the elephants.
2. Increased local knowledge regarding HEC mitigation methods especially those which are simple to implement and cost-effective e.g. siren fences and watchtowers and iron canons as an early warning system.
3. Strengthen networking and collaboration between local communities, the forestry department (BKSDA), local government, and NGOs to monitor and mitigate HEC in the Bengkulu area through steering communities meeting and project partners workshop.

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

About 30 local community members with farmland around the project area were trained to set-up equipment for the trial mitigation strategy in Bengkulu project area. The local community also shared knowledge with others communities and project staff about HEC mitigation strategies thus increasing local awareness about elephant conservation issues in Bengkulu. Also, 60 primary school children from the one village were targeted for raising awareness for various HEC trial mitigation methods through environmental education and an essay and painting competition about forest and biodiversity conservation in the Bengkulu area. This helped the younger generation to increase their knowledge and awareness about elephant conservation issues around the project area.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we plan to continue applying the trial mitigation methods in the farmlands whilst improving the reporting system for handling conflict incidents. We also plan to continue helping local communities around the project area to address HEC incidents through team response units that also collaborate with the local government and BKSDA Bengkulu.

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

We conducted a project partner meeting with BKSDA Bengkulu and a local university (UNIB) to present and discuss the plan for a follow up project, which focuses on adapting the National Elephants Conservation Action Plan and implementing it within the Bengkulu province, Kerinci Seblat Landscape. The project also joined with the Bengkulu Elephants Conservation Consortium (BECC) that consists of some local NGOs, BKSDA Bengkulu, and the local media. The focus of the consortium is to coordinate all efforts regarding elephant conservation issues around the Bengkulu project area.

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 over a 1-year project period from February 2008 until January 2009. We were able to meet this timeline by setting up and adhering to a realistic timeframe which included a sufficient amount of time to conduct community outreach thus garnering local support for successful project implementation on the ground.

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
Salary – Public awareness and outreach (2 people)	1900	1900	-	
End of year project review	150	150	-	
Information dissemination to policy makers	310	310	-	
Public awareness campaign – travel, accommodation, food	1200	1200	-	
Attitude and awareness surveys	490	490	-	
Demonstrate HEC mitigations	520	520	-	

Public awareness calendar production	250	250	-	
Public awareness leaflets	180	180	-	
TOTAL	5000	5000	-	

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

The next step which we consider to be important is to develop a new reporting system for handling HEC between the local community and project staff. We also believe that setting up a HEC response unit to help communities would be beneficial. This requires developing a new reporting system. Previously, conflict incidents were relayed to the project staff by mobile phone but this was found not to be completely effective as sometimes the farmer did not have adequate reception from his farmland which resulted in project staff not receiving timely information with which to act upon. Therefore, we would like to test the use of walkie talkies which we anticipate will allow for a quicker and more effective exchange of information and thus a more immediate response to HEC incidents. We would also like to further support the continued involvement of the local communities to independently to monitor and mitigate HEC. This would increase the effectiveness of the trials, promote a sense of community ownership and ultimately provide a positive and effective model to be used for other villages.

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?

We used the RSGF logo in each power point presentation. Also during the project workshop in a slide presentation with the Department of Forestry and field media trip were shown in local television.

11. Any other comments?

The Bengkulu elephant conservation project has successfully collaborated with many stakeholders including the Department of Forestry (represented by the natural resources conservation office, BKSDA), local government (Pemda), CRU-PLG (Conservation Response Units), CSI (Conservation Science Initiative), local NGOs and the local University (UNIB Bengkulu). Through this collaboration, we hope to continue working together to effectively discuss elephant conservation issues and support effective strategies to mitigate HEC in the Kerinci Seblat-Bengkulu Landscape.