

## The Rufford Foundation Final Report

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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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

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Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Alona Prylutska
<b>Project title</b>	Shared House: development of long-lasting conservation strategy of urban bat habitats in developing countries of the Eastern Europe
<b>RSG reference</b>	18147-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	November 2015 – November 2016
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£4714
<b>Your email address</b>	pryluskaa@gmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	25/11/2016

**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
1. Development of lawful framework for the protection of bat colonies in buildings in Ukraine.				We established cooperation with "Environment People Law" public interest environmental law organisation ( <a href="http://epl.org.ua/en/">http://epl.org.ua/en/</a> ) about the development and implementation of normative legal acts on the bat conservation in cities.
2. Specification of data needed for effective conservation management.				<p>2.1. We bought thermo loggers and installed them into five crevices with bats for deep study and monitoring of the microclimate conditions in winter roosts (winter 2016-17) in buildings (with temperature fluctuations which provide hibernation success in frosty winter climate of Eastern Europe).</p> <p>2.2. We studied bat activity in winter time and analysed dataset and revealed that critical periods for bat survival are August-September and November-March.</p> <p>2.3. We started manufacture of artificial bat roosts with needed microclimate conditions. Pilot samples of summer bat boxes were made. Winter bat roosts will be done in Summer 2017 when we will receive temperature data from crevices with bats.</p> <p>2.4. We received new data on cases of bat mortalities, predators, parasites, etc. We established cooperation with National Scientific Center "Institute of Experimental and Clinical Veterinary Medicine" in Kharkiv.</p>
3. Spread the procedures of bat				3.1. Bat Rehabilitation Guide "How to manage Bat Rehabilitation Center and

<p>rehabilitation and population monitoring in urban habitats among research groups and volunteers in different countries.</p>			<p>how to provide bat rehabilitation work" was partly prepared (75%) and will be published in December 2016. It will consist of 11 chapters (how to rehabilitate bat in winter, baby bat keeping, injuries and treatment, lifetime rehabilitation, etc.). It will be first such bat guide in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia.</p> <p>3.2. We also organised the First Bat Report Meeting of Kharkiv Bat Group (December, 12, 2015) where 11 talks were presented by researchers, young naturalists, veterinaries and volunteers.</p> <p>3.3. 6000 units of bat education products (pocket calendars, calendars and leaflets) were printed</p> <p>3.4. 16 bat education lectures and mass actions were conducted and more than 1000 people participated.</p> <p>3.5. Trips with lectures to other Ukrainian cities (Lviv – Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk - The Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, Halych – Wild animal rehabilitation center of National nature park "Halytsky") were conducted in order to develop bat rehabilitation centres network. And we also received positive agreement and request to visit Mykolaiv zoo (Mykolaiv city) and National nature park "Podylsky tovtry" (Kamyranets-Podilsky city).</p>
<p>4.Bat rehabilitation work and data collection</p>			<p>4.1. 1410 bats (1335 live and 75 dead) of six bat species (<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>, <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>, <i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>, <i>Vespertilio murinus</i>, <i>Plecotus auritus</i>, <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>) which were accidentally found by citizens (most of them in Kharkiv city and in other Ukrainian cities) were rescued and rehabilitated in our centre during the period 1/11/2015-1/11/2016; On 3rd April 500 bats (saved during winter 2015/2016) were realised to the wild during the solemn bat realise event in Feldman Ecopark, Kharkiv.</p>

				<p>4.2. We managed to achieve closure of the internal crevices in one of the sections of "Derzhprom" building (where hundreds of bats hibernate). The number of bats found inside the building decreased from 340 in January-April 2015 to 1 in January-April 2016. 80 mosquito nets were placed on the window frame in V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (where often bats were trapped during migration period) and number of dead bats decreased from 357 in August-September 2015 to 111 (live and dead) in August-September 2016.</p> <p>4.3. More than 30 bats found with injuries were threatened and rehabilitated.</p>
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**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).**

In general we had not unforeseen difficulties in project realisation. The most difficulties are different branches of the project. Even having excellent team in Bat Rehabilitation Center, we also have plenty of working objectives. We employed all our best knowledge and power for getting success in all project branches.

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

1. We started manufacture first in Ukraine artificial bat roosts (summer and winter bat boxes) with needed microclimate conditions. Temperature conditions in bat roosts on the north-east border of noctule bat hibernation was studied for the first time.
2. Bat rehabilitation guide "How to manage Bat Rehabilitation Center and how to provide bat rehabilitation work" was prepared. It is the first such bat guide for the territory of Ukraine, Belarus and Russia.
3. More than 1000 bats of six species (all listed in Red Data Book of Ukraine - *Nyctalus noctula*, *Eptesicus serotinus*, *Pipistrellus kuhlii*, *Vespertilio murinus*, *Plecotus auritus*, *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) were rescued and rehabilitated in our Bat Rehabilitation Center; On 3 April 500 bats (saved during winter 2015/2016) were realised to the wild during the solemn bat release event in Feldman Ecopark, Kharkiv.

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

We shared our message about importance of development of long-lasting conservation strategy of urban bat habitats during each lecture about bats. Having an opportunity to install artificial bat roosts local communities will decrease number of people-bat interactions, which lead to decrease of bat mortality in urban area.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

First, we will finish the last stage of the current project - bat rehabilitation guide “How to manage Bat Rehabilitation Center and how to provide bat rehabilitation work” and manufacture of winter artificial-bat-roosts. We will continue our work with bat rescue volunteers in order to develop bat rehabilitation centres network in Ukraine, and will spread our experience to the Belarus.

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

The guide “How to manage Bat Rehabilitation Center and how to provide bat rehabilitation work” will be spread abroad.

Information about concrete bat boxes (where to buy and how to install) will be placed on our website [www.bat-kharkov.in.ua](http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua) and on the website of our NGO

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

Start of the project – November 2015. Finish of the project – November 2016. The project was implemented a little bit longer than anticipated.

**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
Bat research work and seminars in different towns of Ukraine	1230	350	+880	We didn't received support from other expected resources for this project, thus we set aside travels

				to other cities on the next stage of the project. Costs were spend for other items of current project.
Bat rehabilitation center costs	0	996	-996	Rapid movement around the city to rescue bats. Treatment, surgery and post-operative care. Food (larvae and mealworms, zofobus). Small supplies (bags, tweezers, etc.).
Bat educational events costs	0	125	-125	
Scientific equipment	214	980	+1169	
Materials for manufacture of concrete bat-artificial-roosts	120	250*	-130	
Rent of elevated work platform	429	200	+229	
Papery bat-friendly educational materials	544	845*	-301	
Vitamins and medicine for bats	50	50	0	
Batteries, accumulators etc. for headlamps and bat detector	192	170	+22	
Bat rings	0	420	-420	
Foam for wall up the attics inside the building	0	200	-200	
Mosquito nets for windows	0	70	-70	
Bank payment for cash withdrawal (1%) and exchange rate	0	58	-58	
<b>Total</b>	4714	4714		

\*increase caused by change in tax rate in 2015.

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

Spread our experience in other Ukrainian cities. Establishment of affiliates on the south of our country – Mykolaiv, on the West – Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Halych.

Development eco-educational work and bat rescue and rehabilitation work on their base.

Creation and install of artificial environment (bat boxes) for bats in Kharkiv and other cities.

Writing scientific papers about: 1) temperature data in bat roosts of Kharkiv city; and 2) Material on the bat distribution on the base of results of contact-center in Kharkov (2013 - 2016).

To organise bat research conference devoted to bat rehabilitation with invitation of foreign colleagues in bat rehabilitation for share experience.

**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, we used it in bat-friendly educational printed materials (wall and pocket calendars, leaflets, and brochure). During First Bat Report Meeting of Kharkiv Bat Group we thanks RSGF and place logo on our website.

**11. Any other comments?**

Many thanks to The Rufford Foundation for support of our bat conservation work in Ukraine during hard period in development of our country.