

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	Subhransu Bhusan swain, Secretary ,Paribartan
Project title	Sustaining tribal /forest dependant community participation in management of Telkoi – Pallahara elephant corridor, elephant conservation & mitigation of man elephant conflicts.
RSG reference	18168-B
Reporting period	15 th October 2015 to 15 th October 2016
Amount of grant	£ 10000
Your email address	subhransu1963@yahoo.com
Date of this report	12 th December 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
<p>Organise regular village meetings for mobilising tribal community/forest dependent community's support and participation for protection, conservation and regeneration of natural forest, reserve, water bodies and corridor health.</p>				<p>Paribartan team organised village level meetings in all 60 villages and tribal partners were sensitised and educated on various conservation measures also regarding information on government compensation and insurance schemes in case of elephant attack. During village level meetings villagers were imparted with inputs for conservation, protection, and judicious management of forest resources, water bodies and monitoring of corridor health for mitigation of man and elephant conflict. A resource map was available in all 60 villages and it is used as reference document for assessing the habitat and corridor health, facilitate for decision making regarding required numbers of seedlings, species and areas to be vegetated. Women's groups initiated conservation initiatives of water reserves/ perennial water bodies and during last summer made check dam for storage of water for wildlife and initiated early warning system in case of breaking of forest fire.</p>
<p>Organise advance refresher training for existing 120 community based elephant trackers to amplify their knowledge, attitude,</p>				<p>119 elephant trackers of 60 villages were provided with refresher training and engaged at community level to organise village level meetings, liaise with line forest and revenue department for filing of form to facilitates distribution of compensation</p>

<p>behaviour and practices on management of corridor and habitat, defensive measures to drive out elephant herd with indigenous and scientific know how.</p>			<p>to affected family/community. Regular watch and ward is undertaken by trained trackers and in case of elephant presence, inform villagers in advance thus reducing incidences of casualties.</p> <p>Also it is essential to equip trackers on regular basis with different approaches and successful local specific methods to address man-elephant conflicts and foster tolerance behaviour among affected tribal community.</p> <p>However continuous training inputs are required as the level of retention capacity among trackers somehow less.</p> <p>The role of trackers for mobilising farmers for adaptation of non lure crop seems important that to say from 2017 onwards the trackers will be entrusted with skills on value addition to non-lure crops and facilitate opportunities for marketing of the produces.</p>
<p>Awareness generation among tribal and forest dependent communities on re-creation of lost transit paths and training villagers by trained elephant trackers on consequences of unsustainable natural resource use and options for communities to support elephant corridor conservation efforts furthering mitigation of man elephant conflicts.</p>			<p>Tribal community are critically made aware regarding dire consequence of deforestation/degradation of forest woodlots and Telkoi -Pallahara corridor of due to unjust and unsustainable use, exploitation, and for development of infrastructure and mining and irrigation project as a result there is shortage of space for movement, defragmentation and shortage of food and forage for elephant herd. Continuously the community members were provided with inputs that enhanced their participation for conservation regeneration and management of common resource and water bodies. Now the villagers are identifying the obstructed transit path and intimating the forest</p>

			<p>department wildlife division to take corrective measures not only this women groups are shouldering responsibility to monitor community patrolling and undertaking cleaning and pruning of the elephant corridor and their habitat. In the context of re-creation of lost transit path long term intervention is required however there is increased awareness among forest dependant community for protection and conservation of elephants and their habitat.</p>
<p>Promote farm based livelihood option with non lure cropping pattern for tribal community residing adjacent to Telkoi - Pallahara elephant corridor, thus reduce crop raid, furthering mitigation of Man – Elephant conflicts</p>			<p>This project ultimately aims to look at ways to develop a tolerant relationship between elephants and people in areas where the two species co-exist. To achieve this outcome one approach is promotion and diversification of cropping pattern like adopting non-lure crops.</p> <p>It is experienced by the tribal farmers those accepted and undertaking non lure cropping - the benefit is there was less crop raiding and elephant trespassing on the settlement and frequency was less and fewer casualties.</p> <p>There is resistance to accept this approach from farming community but we are hopeful in long run there will be changes in attitude and mind set as they realised the benefit, however continuity in this regard is highly required.</p>

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

Paribartan team continuously tried to mobilise community to adopt farming of non lure crop and gradually successful in changing the practices of farmers. Preserving and storing farm produce i.e. turmeric, zinger are not adequately dealt with by

farming community as there is no cold storage facility and farmers are not adequately trained on processing and value addition of the same. Farmers expressed this during regular interface and village level meeting at the same time admit that adaptation of non lure crop farming reduced frequency of crop raid by elephants. To address this project applicant and the Paribartan team organised meeting of buyers and sellers and a MoU was signed in this regard.

It has been planned a long range management plan for value addition of those farm produces (for non-lure crop-turmeric and zinger) will be developed so that there will be positive attitude among farming community for farming of non lure crop.

Secondly during plantation programme August-September 2016, the nurseries raised by Paribartan and the community based nurseries unable to meet the demand of bamboo sapling/planting materials because perhaps due to wrong assessment.

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

Paribartan is continuing the project for conservation of elephant and their habitat/Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor, with participation of tribal and primitive tribal groups and forest dependant community. The project partnership established between Paribartan and Rufford is opening opportunities for community concern and concerted action for protection and conservation of elephants and their natural habitat. Appropriate local specific strategies in the context of tribal way of life coupled with both conventional and scientific approach were adopted for realisation of outcomes furthering attainment of project objectives and goal.

The three most important outcomes.

- 119 trackers are available in all programme villages with knowledge, attitude, and behaviour towards peaceful co-existence of humans and elephants. Facilitates community mobilisation process for management of elephant habitat/Telkoi Pallahara Elephant corridor, regularity in organising village level meeting where various mitigation measures on man-elephant conflicts regularly discussed and become the linchpin between the community and with line departments for conservation of elephant and their habitat carry out monitoring, early warning and organising awareness activities and expedite disbursement of compensation in case of crop raids, house damage and casualties. There is enhanced tolerance behaviour among tribal and forest dependant community thus less use of lethal attack on the elephants
- The trackers, community, project team and line forest administration identified villages as a hotspot of man-elephant conflict areas and tribal community are

capacitated to use conventional and scientific methods i.e. of chilli, placing of red ant nests, sirens, flashlights and construction of barrier such as trench for deterring elephant herd. The most important outcome is villagers are systematic to drive back elephant heard to forest without using lethal weapons so there is no injury.

- The project applicant and the project team sharing the outcomes of elephant and habitat conservation measures and the man-elephant mitigation strategies particularly the promotion of non lure crop - *(benefit is there was less crop raiding and elephants trespassing on the settlement and frequency was less and fewer casualties)* with media, policy maker and with CSO/CBO/conservationist which is facilitating for necessary policy changes that to say *Public Private and Community Partnership* as one of the approach for peaceful co-existence of humans and elephants.

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

This project is totally community led and managed project. Community participation in project cycle right from planning to monitoring-evaluation facilitates community's ownership and instils confidence to manage common resources including Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor.

- Enhanced knowledge attitude behaviour and practices for elephant conservation, regeneration and management of elephant corridor.
- Tribal and forest dependant community acquired scientific knowledge on nursery raising and plantation techniques.
- Women's groups gradually acquire processing and value addition techniques of non-lure crop- zinger and turmeric and it needs to be sharpening.
- Resource map available in all 60 villages and community have knowledge on existing availability of minor forest produce, perennial water bodies, corridor and transit path.
- Trained local farmers equipped with elephant-friendly crop planning practices that discourage crops known to be attractive to elephants (such as paddy, banana and sugar cane), while encouraging the cultivation of crops that are unpalatable to the elephant. Our activities were specifically focused on farming of non lure crop (turmeric, ginger and chilli) and observed less crop raid by elephant herd.
- Participation of women groups in protection regeneration and conservation of habitat and elephant corridor and monitoring of forest health with support of resource map.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The initiated action for conservation of elephants/corridor management and mitigation of Man – Elephant conflict will continue and as the planned measures undertaken would certainly ensure the safe existence of wild elephants as well as to benefit villagers who are the victims of the conflict.

The plan to continue the work.

SL .No	Activity	What Can be done
1	Refresher and advance training Training to Farmers on farming of non lure crop	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refresher and live demo for capacity building of farmers to enhance their knowledge, attitude, behaviour and practices. 2. Land use planning including zoning of crop field (adjacent to corridor, habitat, transit path and identified conflict hotspots. 3. Site/land specific decision on crop adaptation and cycles with support of technical expert and application of indigenous knowledge. 4. Soil fertility conservation and management practices e.g. use of cover crop and bio-fertilisers. 5. Exposure to demonstration field to acquire first-hand knowledge. 6. Regular monitoring techniques on crop raid and loss. 7. Leadership and community mobilisation skill development. 8. Patrolling and collective crop guarding.
2	Regular awareness generation activities on elephant conservation activities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular village level meeting on adaptation of non-lure crop. 2. Techniques of crop guarding to minimise conflict and casualty. 3. Usefulness of bio-deterrent and use, crop storing, yield, etc. 4. Sharing of cost benefit analysis (non-lure cropping and traditional farming). 5. Sustainable land and water management among farming communities. 6. Land suitability assessments/crop suitability to identify most appropriate agricultural land utilisation.
3	Establishment of	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiation of local specific non-lure farming.

	Demonstration Sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Farming of selected variety. 3. Use of organic pest and bio-fertiliser. 4. Regular demonstration in participation of farmers. 5. Monitoring growth, casualty. 6. Assessment of yield and comparative analysis with elephant favourable crops. 7. Field trial and mobilisation for scale up as a strategy to mitigate man–elephant conflicts.
4.	Marketing/market linkages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen existing cooperative. 2. Tie up with export market within the sub-region. 3. Facilitate and provide training for farmers in areas of trade and post harvest technology in partnering with government agency/technical agency. 4. Forward contract and linkages with the commercial sector where farmers are offered a guaranteed market and a minimum price for their produce will be encouraged and supported. This will ensure stabilisation of production. Contractual agreement will have to be developed. 5. Facilitation for allocating a certain number of reserved stalls for cooperatives at regulated market places/exhibition/tribal fair, etc. 6. Facilitation for appropriate training for primary value-addition, such as efficient packaging techniques, with a view to enhancing quality standard of products sold locally.
5.	Small Enterprise development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selection of turmeric and zinger as farm product and scaling up farming of non-lure crop. 2. Value addition. 3. Skill building on value addition and processing. 4. Encouraging small enterprise development by value addition and processing ginger, turmeric and chilli are already tested crops to reduce the impact of human-wildlife conflict upon rural farmers' livelihoods, by improving and diversifying farmers' incomes through value addition of non lure crops.

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

- In order to bring visibility of Paribartan initiated activities with funding support of Rufford Foundation, UK the applicant and the project team shared various adopted method of man-elephant mitigation approaches and the

participatory community centred conservation of elephant and their habitat/Telkoi-Pallahara elephant corridor initiatives during local/state and national level during work shop seminar and interfaces. This apart a team of young conservation group from diverse domains, zoology and social work, stayed at the project site for 7 days and prepared their dissertation and mentioned regarding the initiative of community led early warning system and the perennial water bodied conservation initiatives of tribal and forest dependent community and how it is beneficial and less occurrence of elephant trespassing to settlement.

- Digitised case studies will be compiled and consolidated into a visual package; the same will be circulated among stakeholders that would create scope for replication of the project work inside and outside India.
- Media personnel were visited the field area and flashed the tribal community initiatives in local news paper.
- Elephant death is promptly reported by the media and there is pressure for autopsy with support of local villagers and thus facilitated for revised conservation activities particularly this is helpful in case of fall of elephant in unused well.

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

It is worth mentioning that the team leader and his team adhere to the timeline and successfully implemented the project.

The Rufford Foundation grant was used during the 12 months project period which was stated from 15th October 2015 and ended on 15th October 2016 and there was no major deviation.

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
Capacity strengthening of community members and stakeholders of 60 villages during regular village level meetings	1080	1070	10	It was due to changes in price
Support to villagers for refurbishment of	2100	2087	3	Material Cost fluctuation

logistics and equipment (Spot light, Siren, Noise making instrument etc.) to deter elephant during crop raid				
Advanced management training to the existing 120 Male Tribal Elephant Trackers	1920	1908	12	Less expenses due to cost fluctuation
Training materials	120	120	0	-
Supply of kit to elephant tracker i.e. rain coat, cap, boot etc.	120	119	1	-
Organize six no's of awareness camp/workshop cum Live demo on promotion of non lure cropping system	300	298	2	The difference was due to less travel expenses /claims of participants
Sensitization and mobilization of farmers through Demo farm	300	298	2	-
Support to community or village for construction of elephant proof trench and repairing of constructed trench	1400	1420	-20	All most same
Nursery Raising with 40,000 Bamboo seedlings and 1,00,000 elephants favourite fruits bearing plants	1550	1570	-20	Cost variation of polythene
Monitoring & Digitations and Documentation	400	397	3	All most same
Engagement of consultant/ agency for Evaluation of the project	250	258	-8	-
Audit fee	100	99	1	All most same
Project Support Cost including Administration	360	358	2	All most same
Bank Charges		8		It is bank charges which was not reflected in the budget
Total	10000	10010		
Grant Received from RSGF	10000 £ sterling	Total Amount For project Including Opening Balance + Bank Interest is -10010		
		Exchange Rate = 1 £ sterling = INR - 99.89		
Opening Balance INR 0 £ sterling Interest Gain by Bank INR 63 £ sterling				

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

The project team of Paribartan is off opinion that the activities carried out with funding support of Rufford Small Grant Fund for conservation of elephant and the

participatory management of their habitat/Telkoi-Pallahara Elephant corridor should be continued and the applicant should submit the proposal for 2nd Booster Grant to continue the project work.

The outcomes of the project will be a best site for live exposure for CBOs, community members and other stakeholders on use of conventional as well as scientific methods and approach for mitigate the man–elephant conflict. We are hopeful RSGF will sustain the project support for the initiated initiative for Telkoi –Pallahara corridor management with community participation.

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?

In all IEC/BCC materials we used the logo of RSGF and in all communication materials we used the logo of RSGF.

11. Any other comments?

The real field happening are the project outcomes of the implemented planned measures of Rufford Foundation supported project.

The project team and other stakeholders are provided their best effort for the success of this project.

The process of change is well reflected in filed particularly among the affected tribal farming community and their acceptance to non-lure cropping in spite of less return in comparison to cash crop and now they internalised that ecological farming of zinger, turmeric and chili in long run will incur good return and the intended beneficiaries are opined that the project should continue.

Training input on value addition and processing of non-lure farm produce has to be incorporated in the next project phase. On behalf of Adivasi community, especially of women groups, and forest dependant community Paribartan is extending heartfelt thanks to RSGF, UK for project partnership. During the project period the committed volunteers, staff and team members concertedly involved in delivering services as envisaged in the project plan document. Time bound and appropriate local specific strategies in the context of tribal way of life for mitigation of man - elephant conflict and corridor management were adopted for effective and proper grounding of planned measures. The trained tribal executing their commitments as torch bearers being the elephant tracker for conservation, protection, and judicious management of forest resources, water bodies and water masses and the elephant's corridor and sub corridors.