

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	Mohan dev Joshi
Project title	Working with Community to Improve Livelihoods and Enhance Conservation of <i>Paris polyphylla</i>
RSG reference	18378-2
Reporting period	March, 2017
Amount of grant	£4994
Your email address	training@dpr.gov.np / mojspost@gmail.com
Date of this report	April 20, 2017

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
improve the local people's livelihood by strengthening the supply chain and maintaining the productivity				Three training/workshop activities were introduced for the farmers and for all the stakeholders concerned. Plant processing and value addition techniques (low cost drying, storing and testing methods) were introduced. For the first time in Jumla, in collaboration with District Plant Resources Office, Jumla, we introduced quality based price (depending on the oil percentage for the oil containing aromatic plants and depending on grading for other medicinal plants). To find out the weak and fragile link of supply chain, we organised a workshop, which suggested starting of block-wise collection practices. Workshop observed there are three pre-requisites for ensuring smooth supply chain; harvesting at the right time, ensure the quality of product and domestication of the MAPs at community level. This programme was thus instrumental in fulfilling the key knowledge gap, motivating and organising all the concerned stakeholders by introducing quality based pricing and ensuring the productivity (by community based plantation and home herbal garden).
Long term conservation of <i>Paris polyphylla</i>				We observed that the main issue for the long term conservation of target plant and other MAPs was community sensitisation. Unsustainable and premature harvesting was observed trend. There was no system of pre-hand testing of quality of product, no introduction of domestication techniques and community had zero knowledge on negative impacts of

				haphazard collection. We start with sensitising the communities by introducing the activities like conservation group formation and training programmes for them. Furthermore for the demonstration (seeing is belief) we started school garden programme and started cultivation in community forest. Home herbal garden successfully launched household based plantation programmes. Besides training programmes were instrumental in enhance people's knowledge and changing people perception on natural resources.
Fulfil policy-practice gap for long term conservation of the medicinal plants.				Based on the observations, learning and community interaction, preparation of species conservation action plan will be done. The work is still under process. Once completed, the plan will be recommended to the concerned ministries and departments. Also, this successful model of ensuring conservation and income for communities need to be replicated.

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

The remote accessibility of the place was completely ignored while we set the timeline. It was a great lesson for us in terms of working with communities, knowing their perception and reading how much they are concerned about the natural resources. One thing we didn't foresee while proposed the programme was that, once involved, community wants continuity of the support, while due to our limited budget and timeframe, it wasn't possible. While downing the activities, one must ensure the long term carrying of the project.

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

- Domestication of the medicinal plants: Through the programmes like home herbal garden, school garden and cultivation in community forest, medicinal plants cultivation has been domesticated.
- Enhancement of the livelihood opportunities: Quality based market, fulfilling the market gaps and linkage of the market chain ensures people get their portion of money involved in MAP trade.
- Community engagement and conservation group formation.

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

As this project is wholly based on community involvement, local people were involved right from the workshop, training and conservation actions. Local communities were also involved in home herbal garden, which brings wild plants to the kitchen garden. Community Forestry User Groups were involved in setting up nursery for plant production and conservation. People from every walk of life (students and teachers for school garden programme, farmers for conservation, and market stakeholders for workshop, governmental and non-governmental organisation for conservation linkage) were involved and benefited from the programme.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. We took one small step with the generous support from The Rufford Foundation. Now the work needs to be taken towards fruitful conclusion. Community based detailed conservation and market plan involving identification of pocket areas, demarcation of blocks for harvesting and practice of adaptation tools is planned to take this conservation work towards next level.

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

Based on the project, a draft version of journal article has been prepared, which will be published in relevant journal to share the knowledge. Also, one popular article highlighting the policy practice gap and immediate steps needs to be taken will be published in local media in local language.

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 anticipated starting period for the project was December 2015; however, the first work of site selection was only done in last January taken into consideration the crop calendar. Also, it was expected that the work shall be completed by October, 2016. Though, given the activities and remote accessibility of the project site, it took us 1 year and 3 months (We completed our last activity by March, 2017).

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
Travel and Lodging/Food	2764	2900	+136	Due to the remoteness of the site, it was hard to find non-expensive tickets and places.
Awareness materials	100	100	0	
Conservation Group Formation	0	0	0	Managed from other sources
Home Herbal Garden	540	400	-140	Some items were deducted due to over expenditure in travel items.
School Garden Program	330	330	0	
Cultivation in Community Forest	80	80	0	Fund for the construction of nursery was managed from DPRO.
Seminar/Workshop	440	440	0	One other seminar were also managed.
Training Programs	660	660	0	
Report Production	80	80	0	
TOTAL	4994	4990	-4	

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

Next activities will be as follows: detailed plan including species conservation action plan, sustainable harvesting plan, demarcation of pocket areas, Collection calendar and exercise of adaptation tools.

10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did The Rufford Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

The awareness materials, correspondence letters with stakeholders, governmental and non-governmental organizations used the RSGF logo.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

12. Any other comments?

It was knowledge packed road for us while traveling uphill for the implementation of the project. And all this happens because of RSGF. On the behalf of all the communities, we would like to thank you for your faith and your continuous support.