

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	Anju Adhikari
Project title	Agroforestry campaign for minimizing impacts of shifting cultivation and biodiversity conservation
RSG reference	19248-1
Reporting period	March 2016 till March 2017
Amount of grant	£4,980
Your email address	anjuadhikari33@gmail.com
Date of this report	4 th April, 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
Agroforestry promotion group formation and strengthening				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project formed two farmer's group comprising 50 beneficiaries in total and strengthened through capacity building events. • Motivation of the participants affect this.
Awareness creation to shifting cultivators				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular awareness creation was performed on importance of biodiversity conservation, forest resource management and negative consequences of shifting cultivation and ways to minimise them through individual and group interaction together with other printed materials. • Literacy level, motivation, and willingness to participate in the project affect this.
Capacity building trainings on agroforestry model to groups				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building training provided to 50 beneficiaries followed by refresher training • Time availability of the beneficiaries' affects this.
Plantation of native fruits fodders and forage tree species				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,000 saplings planted • Timely supply of plants from vendor, transportation, and stray cattle and goat affect this.
Leguminous crop promotion				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeds of leguminous crop (chick pea, soybean, beans, black grams etc.) plus maize is provided to all 50 beneficiaries • Changing climate in extreme case
Promotion and scaling up of Improved Cooking Stoves (ICSs)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 50 beneficiaries installed the ICS • Transportation of equipment due to rugged terrain and willingness to give up their traditional stoves affects this

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

Since all the proposed activities in the project were "demand-based", the activities at the implementation level were very smooth and as anticipated. However, during the transportation of the fruit tree saplings, the team faced with a situation that was unwanted and unexpected. The issue was the blockage of rural road due to dry landslides due to which transportation of saplings and other project related items was a big challenge. We waited for one full day for the clearance of the road but due to the delay of road clearance work, we had to unload the stuff and make it to carry using porters for another whole day. This was really a big challenge as carrying using porters may damage the saplings. The result was that 82 saplings were damaged and we had to again order another 82 additional saplings, a week later to replace the damaged one. Eventually, all the targeted saplings (2,000 numbers) were planted.

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

- A) Awareness creation and capacity building: From the view point of project team members, this is seen as one of the most important outcomes of the project. It is because people in the project location were completely unaware about the agro-forestry model that could minimise the problem of shifting cultivation, which they have been practising since long time ago. They had no idea how to get rid of it and cannot even give up the shifting cultivation practice which was the only basis of their livelihoods. At least now, they are well known about the shifting cultivation and its importance. Additionally, they are also now capacitated in the practical issue of agro-forestry adoption in the field.
- B) Plantation of tree species: This is the core component of the project. In promoting agroforestry plus reducing effects of shifting cultivation, altogether 2,000 tree species of different fruits, forage and fodder were planted in the alternate rows of agriculture activity. In the long run, this will create a good habitat for different bird species, bear fruits in enhancing the livelihood options, and reduce the chances of landslides.
- C) Improved cooking stoves promotion: In reducing the use of firewood and improving the health of the beneficiaries, the project installed 50 stoves. Now, the beneficiaries are saving their time to collect firewood, amount of firewood use has been decreased to almost half plus protecting their health due to low emission of smoke.

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

As mentioned already, this project is a much needed in the project location as the issue of frequent landslides was a very common scene. When the project team briefed about their problem due to shifting cultivation practice and the solution that

the project team have in coping it, at first they were reluctant. The team took almost a month for sensitising them by frequent visits. Finally, they were convinced and accepted to cooperate with the team. All the selected beneficiaries from the local community were engaged heavily in implementing the project activities and making the project successful. At some point, the people from the community even worked without charging a single penny. This was mostly noticeable during the plantation of the saplings. This clearly shows their level of satisfaction and their involvement.

To talk on the issue of benefits that the local community gained through this project, the following different point best summarises it.

- Well known about the shifting cultivation's impacts on the biodiversity and the nature.
- Clear knowledge on the agro-forestry model in minimizing the impacts of shifting cultivation.
- Long term benefits from the planted fruit, fodder and forage trees in maintaining the biodiversity and ecosystem.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, definitely. We saw an overwhelming response from the community who had been facing a big problem from the impacts of shifting cultivation like soil erosion, landslides, loss of biodiversity, etc. Apart from this, planting trees is a very satisfying activity. Thus, if we see from the community as well as the project team members' perspectives, we surely plan to continue this sort of work.

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

In order to share the results of this project, I will be basically using a newspaper, online newspaper, social media, FM, and meeting. For this, I will write an article and then request an environment journalist for its wider dissemination through printed media. Also, the output will be shared through social media like Facebook and Twitter account. Since, I frequently meet with other NGO/INGOs who are working with the biodiversity conservation issue I will share my output with them as well when we meet.

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 was used for the period of March, 2016 till March, 2017 i.e. for 13 months only. With comparison to the anticipated or actual length of the project, it was good.

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
Agroforestry promotion group formation (50 beneficiaries * £ 1.5)	75	100	-25	Due to participation of more number of people than anticipated
Awareness program	450	330	120	
Capacity building training (First 50 participants, 2 days, £ 3 and Second Refresher, 1 day, £3)	450	550	-100	It was assumed initially 3 pound per day which was insufficient and cost 4 per day per participant.
Trees/fodder saplings purchase (2000 saplings * 0.6 £)	1,200	1,250	-50	Due to damage of saplings during transportation, additional 82 sapling purchase incurred 50 pound more.
Transportation cost of saplings (2000 saplings * 0.1 £)	200	250	-50	Due to dry landslides, more number of porters was hired than proposed.
Improved cooking stoves purchase (50 * 18 £)	900	900	0	
Monitoring	300	300	0	
Travel costs	80	80	0	
Food costs	735	700	+35	
Accommodation cost	490	490	0	
Reporting	100	100	0	
TOTAL	4,980	5,050	-70	The difference amount of -70 was somehow managed by the slight increase in Pound and Nepali currency rate.

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

Nepal has more number of shifting cultivators in other part of the districts as well who rely mainly on shifting cultivation as their main basis of livelihood. There is still a huge chance that the biodiversity degradation may occur in those areas in aggressive pace. After being involved in this project, I feel that this sort of work should not be limited in a small area only. This should be massively and rapidly replicated to other areas as well where shifting cultivation is very prominent. For this, all the stakeholders, should it be a government body, NGOs/INGOs, individuals or other, must come

forward. Not only this, donor organizations like The Rufford Foundation and others should increase its investment in this area.

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?

Yes, acknowledging the donor i.e. The Rufford Foundation was done massively by the project team members wherever and whenever possible. This ranged from meeting with different persons in project locations as well as in the circle of team members. In all places, the team members highlighted what the Rufford Foundation is, what is it doing and how can one get support from the organisation. Also, while implementing the project activities, a vote of thanks was always given to The Rufford Foundation by saying that "This work would not have been possible without the generous support of The Rufford Foundation".

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?

Hats off to the Rufford Foundation team for initiating such a beautiful work and providing fund for those who are motivated to work for the conservation of biodiversity and nature but lack amount. Without the existence of The Rufford Foundation, most of the beautiful brains' motivation and eagerness would degenerate in embryo.