

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	David Novoa Mahecha
Project title	Resilience in building conservation agreements: An analysis of the constitution of the Yaigojé Aporis National Park
RSG reference	19572-1
Reporting period	04/21/16 to 09/10/17
Amount of grant	£1632
Your email address	dnovoa@javeriana.edu.co
Date of this report	September 14 th of 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
Characterize the process of defending and protecting the territory that led to the management agreement Yaigojé-Apaporis National Park				I do not have any comments.
Evaluate the variables associated with the resilience of the process to defend and protect the territory that led to the management agreement Yaigojé-Apaporis National Park				
Identify elements of social learning in the process of defending and protecting the territory that led to the management agreement Yaigojé-Apaporis National Park				

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

During the development of the process there was only one difficulty. This was the difficult situation of public order in the region, which led to the postponement of the socialisation of the research project for December. However, the research project was sent in physical and digital, pending the presentation for the end of the year to the indigenous communities.

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

The purpose of this work was to contribute to the discussion in the construction of agreements for the conservation, use and management of biological and cultural diversity of protected areas within the framework of joint management between indigenous peoples and the Colombian Government, taking as case study The Yaigojé Apaporis Park Reserve, with a view to providing conceptual elements to a new relationship model that reinforces the protection and strengthening mechanisms of the territory, since the role of local communities doesn't always coincide with the institutions responsible for conservation and exercise of environmental authority.

From a process of characterisation of facts in the defense, protection and strengthening of the territory, together with the evaluation of variables associated with the resilience and identification of the social learning elements of these events

that led to the management agreement between ACIYA - Association of Indian Captains of Yaigojé Apaporis- and Parques Nacionales for the constitution of a PNN - Natural National Park -, the discussions and reflections of the research were centered. Within a qualitative and descriptive analysis, it was observed that the knowledge systems, the creation of the reserve, the formation of ACIYA, the extension of the reserve and the constitution of the PNN Yaigojé Apaporis were the most outstanding events on the part of the indigenous peoples of the Apaporis base to defend, protect and strengthen the territory against mining and external threats.

The shamanic and cultural aspects of territorial management restructure the learning, the social participation and the polycentric governance as variables to develop resilience in this type of events for the defense, protection and strengthening of the territory. The vision of the local communities on the integrality of the territory turned out to be the starting point to understand the complexities inherent to the management of the protected area in order to articulate the different visions and territorial logics. The learning and recommendations of this work will contribute to the consolidation of the local communities and their traditional authorities, and Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia around the joint management of the Yaigojé Apaporis Park Reserve.

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

Local communities participated in the methodological development of data collection within the research project. These spaces of exchange of knowledges were the semi structured interviews and the community workshops.

On the other hand, the communities saw or will benefit from linking the results of this research project to the construction of the management plan (REM) of the Yaigojé Apaporis Park Reserve. In addition, it strengthens the coordination and decision-making exercise between ACIYA, as an indigenous authority, and Parques Nacionales as an environmental authority in the co-management.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are. Now, I am working with Parques Nacionales in the field of knowledge management of the protected areas of the Colombian Amazon. The idea is to generate information on the approach of the work with the work done in the topic of governance with indigenous communities for the conservation and use of biodiversity. Likewise, show the case of Yaigojé, as it is a key example of coordination between the Colombian state and the indigenous.

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

In the first instance, share the document of the research project with the actors that interact with the Yaigojé Apaporis Reserve Park in the territory. These are governmental and non-governmental entities. And as a second instance, publish the research project in some scientific magazine to make the subject more visible.

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 Rufford Foundation grant was used during April and September 2016 where the field visit was made. Still pending the socialization of the results of the research project with the indigenous communities in the territory. It is expected to carry out this activity at the end of the year at the congress of traditional authorities. Likewise with Parques Nacionales in an own space.

The anticipated or actual length of the project, it can be said that the proposed values corresponded to the project execution phase. The only thing that changed was the time of socialisation of the results due to the time to do the same, since these dates depend on the local communities, not the researcher.

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
Fuel for boat on the river communities (Centro providencia, Bella vista y Playa)	109	109	0	I do not have any comments.
Rental boat x 3 (Centro providencia, Bella vista y Playa)	83	83	0	
Small motor oil x 3 (Centro providencia, Bella vista y Playa)	11	11	0	
Accommodation Leticia x 8 days	86	43	43	The difference will be used for the socialization of the present project with the indigenous communities in the territory for the month of December.
Accommodation Pedrera x 9 days	58	38	20	
Feeding Pedrera and National Park Yaigoje Apaporis x 41	132	106	26	
Incidentals	194	138	56	
Feeding carried river Miriti to river Apaporis	19	19	0	I do not have any comments.
Feeding by workshop participants	129	129	0	
Workshop materials	65	60	5	The difference will be used for the socialization of the present project with the indigenous communities in the territory for the month of
Feeding Leticia x 8 days	36	27	9	
Accommodation National Park Yaigoje Apaporis x 33	142	122	20	

				December.
Fuel carried river Mititi to river Apaporis x 3	29	29	0	I do not have any comments.
Engine spark plugs x 3 (Centro providencia, Bella vista y Playa)	18	18	0	
Engine spark plugs x 3 (Pedrera-Centro providencia-Pedrera)	18	12	6	The difference will be used for the socialization of the present project with the indigenous communities in the territory for the month of December.
Rental boat x 3 (PedreraCentro providenciaPedrera) x 3	97	66	31	
Fuel for boat on the river x 3	291	200	91	
Flight Leticia-Pedrera-Leticia x 3	291	194	97	
Flight Bogotá-Leticia-Bogotá x 3	355	236	119	
Total	2,163	1,640	523	

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

I believe and reiterate that I must continue positioning the results of this research project in the different institutional spaces where I am working where coordination with indigenous peoples is very important for the conservation of the Colombian Amazon. Likewise, I hope to continue contributing to a differentiated model of protected areas with overlapping where co-management and governance are adaptive and resilient.

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, I used The Rufford Foundation logo in the defense of the research project and the delivery of final thesis document in the Pontifical Javeriana University. It is expected to use the logo again in the presentation of the results of the research project with the indigenous communities in the territory and Parques Nacionales in an own space.

11. Any other comments?

To thank for The Rufford Foundation for believing in the elaboration of this project from the beginning. Because it is not easy to facilitate this type of support in the construction of a differentiated model of co-management in the protected areas in the overlapping with indigenous peoples. On the other hand, be flexible in following the commitments established when the times in the field are different at the time of executing them.

For real, the assistance provided made possible the realisation of this research project as a dream when I started working in this territory, the Yaigojé Apaporis.