

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. 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. 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

Your name	Xiuxiang Meng
Project title	Resolving the conflict between minority communities and wild boars in Dafengding National Nature Reserve (DNNR), Southwest China
RSG reference	Ref: 03.07.07
Reporting period	Nov. 2007~Dec. 2008
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	mengxiuxiang2006@hotmail.com
Date of this report	9 th June, 2009

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
Explore the biological and ecological characteristics of flourishing wild boar.			Yes	Worked out the ecological characteristics in summer and winter.
Assessing criteria for wild boar damages.			Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked out: 5%~10% crops damaged by wild pigs and mainly in summer. • Ecological farming is the best compensation for the wild pig damage.
Ecological farming as an alternative living style.			Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of ecological farming (12 days for more than 200 peoples); • Provide 400 Bee-buckets to 100 Yi families; • 100 families were funded for wild pig farming
Environmental education and Education improvement.			Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 members lectured for more than 200 Yi adults and pupils for 3 months;
Academic presentation			Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One journal paper has been composing; • Attend national conference 1 time; • Make public presentation 5 times;

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

- It should be the continuing assessing of the Ecological Farming. Now, although the wild pig farming and bee rearing have been undertaken, however, the efficiency will have to be monitored to make its development be more sustainable. We have talked with the local collaborator to conduct related activities.

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

- In DNNR, such factors as vegetation and plant diversity, human disturbance, abundance of food, water, topography, concealment and aspect influence the occurrence of wild pig;
- There are 1405~2068 wild pigs in DNNR;
- In total, 5%~10% of local crops was damaged by wildlife, mainly by wild pigs;
- Ecological farming is the best compensation for the wild pig damage;

- The nature conservation will be related to the fundamental biological studies, ecological development and education improvement.

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

- Established Dafengding Society of Ecological Farming managed by the local communities;
- There are 200 Yi families in our Ecological Farming project and they get seed money;
- More than 200 Yi adults and pupils had been educated and improved for 3 months.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

One to broaden our working site to some other minority regions, e.g. North-western China. In fact, we have planed to go to work in Hui Nationalities in Gansu Province this summer, where the alpine musk deer has been endangered, and the wild pig is damaging the local living of Hui peoples, and their is conflict between nature conservation and intensive ecological tourism.

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

Public Presentation: We have made several times public presentations at the national conference and for students. In the future, such activities will be continued.

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

From Nov 2007 to Feb 2008, the team consisting of 20 students and 4 teachers has been working in DNNR. From July 2008 to August 2008, the team consisting of 13 students and 3 teachers has been working in DNNR; From March to June 2008 and from Sept to Dec 2008, the members in local communities have been continuing the project.

The actual length of the project reached more than the planned length;

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
Fee for Guide: 5 £×120×3 guides	£1,800.00	£1,500.00	£300.00	Less expending days owing to local volunteering.
Public presenting, environment education and visiting in Yi People household etc.	£1,200.00	£1,500.00	£300.00	More Food and gift provision to local poor.
Living provision, accommodation, and equipment such as raincoat, sleeping bag and camp.	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0	

Travel in DNNR	£1,000.00	£1,200.00	£200.00	Employing the local traffic more days.
Travel from Beijing to DNNR	£2,000.00	£1,800.00	£200.00	Lower price.
TOTAL	£8000.00	£5000.00 funded by RSG, and other £3000.00 funded by "985 Research Project" of Central University for Nationalities.		

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

In the future project conducting in minority regions of China, more minority undergraduates and local minority pupils and adults should be attracted and encouraged to participate.

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

Yes, the RSGF logo was always used in whole project undertaking in presentations, talking materials and stationary provisioning. Because we often work in the field and the internet is often not available, we could not provide enough information on our project to RSG, which will change and improve if we could conduct next RSG project.

11. Any other comments?

Many thanks for the continuing help and fund from RSG. Because of RSG grant, we established an excellent team well-known in China for our work in minority regions. I would like to say I and my team have been growing and developing with RSG. In the future, I hope I could work harder and behave as the representative researcher of RSG in China and even Asia. Thank you so much!