

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. 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	Le Manh Hung
Project title	Conservation of Globally Endangered White-eared Night Heron at Ba Be National Park, Vietnam.
RSG reference	20.08.09
Reporting period	January 2010 to January 2011
Amount of grant	£ 5,918
Your email address	hungniltava@gmail.com
Date of this report	15 February 2011

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
Identify the current distribution status of white-eared night heron within the national park			X	The current distribution status of white-eared night Heron has been identified
Identify and evaluate threats to the species			X	All the threats have been identified and evaluated
Provide recommendations and data to related conservation organisations, national park authorities, decision makers and local communities		X		We have been not able to send to all the related organisations as the final technical report are in preparation process.
Improved team's members capacities			X	All the local team's members have been trained and got the skills on the survey's methods and long term monitoring of the species
Raising awareness of local communities		X		Awareness of local communities has been partly raised. However, we need to spend more time and afford to introduce and show them the importance of white-eared night heron.

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

There were no unforeseen difficulties during our works.

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

- (i) The current distribution status of white-eared night heron of Ba Be national park has been identified.
- (ii) All the threats to the white-eared night heron have been identified and evaluated. The recommendations for species' protection have initially been produced to the related organizations.
- (iii) The long term monitoring programme and nest protection programme have been set up.

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

The local communities have been involved throughout the project period. At the beginning we invited them to join our seminars and presentations to introduce about white-eared night heron within their sites/area. We have collected the related information from them (about roosting sites, threats to the species, etc.). They worked for us as local guides to find bird nests. During the conservation activities, the local communities also joined us. The local people helped us to distribute the leaflet and posters. At the end of the project, local communities joined the seminars presented our final results, contributed ideas and signed the commitments for long term nest protection programme.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- Maintaining the long term monitoring programme by carrying out the on-going nest protection programme.
- Looking for the financial funding to support the work (apply for Booster Grant and other potential grants to continue this project including nest protection programme and awareness raising).

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

Seminars will be organised to show the results at the national park, local communities and authorities. The final technical report will be sent to the donor to be published on the website, related international and local organisations, local authorities such as Ba Be National Park, Birdlife International in Indochina, WWF, FFI, WSC, IUCN, Forest Protection Department, Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Hanoi National University, Vietnam Birdwatching Club, etc. Some special publications will be sent to the International, national Biology Journal, Bulletins such as Forktail, Asia Birding, etc.

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

No.	Activities	Proposed	Actual
1.	Equipment purchase, medical supplies, insurance, permissions, poster printing	January 2010	February 2010 (late due to money transfer)
2.	Training for local members	February 2010	March 2010 (late due to money transfer)
3.	Preliminary survey to identify key sites for the species	March 2010	April 2010 (late due to money transfer)
4.	Field survey	April to September 2010	End of April to September (almost on time)
5.	Conservation activities	October and November 2010	November – December 2010 (late due to money transfer)
6.	Final report and delivery	December 2010	February 2011 (late due to the late starting)

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.
(All in £sterling, £1 is equivalent to 29,000 Vietnam Dong)

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Pre-expedition				
Field equipment (Projector, maps, binoculars, GPS, etc.)	700	820	- 120	We planned to buy two binoculars but finally we had to buy four as more people from the National park were engaged in our works.
Medical supplies	150	175	-25	Due to economic inflation
Insurance (Medical, personal, transports)	150	150	0	
Posters	200	200	0	
Expedition & campaign				
Food and accommodation costs (£ 3.5 x 100 days x 6 persons)	2,100	2,310	-210	We increased number of days (from 100 to 110) for important nest protection programme.
Guides and local labour (£ 3 x 100 days x 2 persons)	600	660	-60	We increased number of days (from 100 to 110) for important nest protection programme.
Allowance for journalists, key persons from schools, organisations and local communities.	300	280	+20	Some journalists joined the activities as volunteers
Transportation				
- Car renting + Hanoi –Ba Be-Hanoi (£ 55 x 6 = 330) + Motobike renting (£ 0.1 x 4000 km = 400)	730	860	-130	The car renting price was higher than our estimation due to high economic inflation.
Post-expedition & campaign				
Communication (Post, Fax, Email, Telephone)	200	183	+17	Telephone was cheaper
Printing (Report, Photographs, posters, etc.)	250	250	0	
Sub-total	£ 5,380			
10% contingency	538	508		We used this for the above contingency items.
TOTAL	£ 5,918	£ 5,888	+30*	* The amounts of US\$30 was used to buy the gifts (T-shirt) for two first nest protectors.

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

- Keep going with the nest protection programme. This is very important to keep the work going upon the project's completion.
- Build up the species action plan. Re-assess the status in the Red Data Book.
- Strengthen the capacity of the local staffs on study techniques (focus on the methodology to study biology and ecology of the species), it is necessary to improve the capacity and knowledge continuously.

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, we used the RSGF logo in our every training documents, seminars and presentations.

11. Any other comments?

We need more time to have comprehensive studies about biology and ecology of this species. We would like to express our great thanks to Rufford Small Grants Foundation for having supported us. We hope to continue receiving your kind supports/assistance from RSG for our future studies of this endangered bird species.