

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	Nguyen Manh Ha
Project title	Survey and conservation of gaur (<i>Bos gaurus</i>) in North Vietnam
Reporting period	2007-2008
Amount of grant	£4,995
Your email address	ha@cres.edu.vn ; ha.nguyenba@gmail.com
Date of this report	March 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
Provide update information on gaur's population in northern Vietnam			x	The result provided most update information on gaur in northern Vietnam which has not been surveyed since 1970s
Asses threats to the survival of gaur			x	All current and potential threat to gaur were identified and list with full comment on the level of each situation
Provide conservation recommendation for the conservation of the gaur in Vietnam			x	Report and recommendation of the survey was sent to local authorities, conservation agencies where gaur occurs for urgent conservation action as well as long-term conservation planning for the areas
Provide research and field experience opportunity for young Vietnamese researcher on endangered species conservation			X	The result of the project was use in my PhD thesis (Bio-ecology and conservation of gaur <i>Bos gaurus</i> in Vietnam) which was successfully defended in 2008. The survey team also include graduate student from National University for field experience learning as well as field working skill development

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

The most unforeseen difficulty was the gaur population was unexpected lower, the difficulty result for a longer tracking and hardship for estimating the actual number of each gaur' herd.

The gaur population smaller and disperses widely in large area, it also cause more difficulty for the team in term of time and budget for survey effort.

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

1. The project has provide most update information on the vulnerable gaur population in northern part of Vietnam which no such information was available for more than 25 years

2. the project provided three important recommendation to ensure the survival and long-term gaur conservation in northern Vietnam such as: (i) immediate anti-poaching management; (ii) creating protected area and movement corridor for isolated and fragmented gaur herds; (iii) undertake genetic analysis to check if there would be any inbreed or genetic degradation occur in isolated gaur population as the cause of inbreed and disease.

3. The survey result was contributed a significant portion for my PhD research skill and data was used as a part of the thesis.

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

This is a pure research project therefore local people involvement was limited. Some local involvements were field research assistant and interviewees.

However, while staying in local village, the team had it change to talk with local villagers on the important of the gaur and wildlife conservation; in this case the conversation would help to raise more interest of local people on the significant of protecting endangered species and ecosystem.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We plan to submit a follow-up conservation proposal on raising the wild cattle conservation in Vietnam focus on local conservation staff and young people.

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

The Vietnamese report of the survey was widely sent to conservation institution, organisation, local authorities and interested colleague. The distribution would bring a good opportunity of providing update information on how vulnerable and threatened the gaur is.

The team also share its survey methods, experience and coordinate (location) of gaur herd with other conservation activity. The data was also use in a PhD thesis that should widely distributed for any interested personnel (store at National Library, Hanoi)

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

The overall project time somehow was prolonged due to the deferent of proposed time and grant transferred from RSG. However, the 1 year period is good for a RSG

No.	Activity	Time	Compare to the anticipated
1	Collect Information on distribution of gaur in northern provinces and preparation for field survey	February-March 2007	Fit
2	Field equipment purchase	February-March 2007	Fit
3	Field survey	April-September 2007	Fit
5	Survey data analysis and mapping distribution of gaur in northern provinces	August November 2007	Fit
6	Additional survey	October-December 2007	
8	Final technique report and Final financial report submitting	February 2008	2009
9	Follow-up conservation proposal preparation and submission	February 2008	Not yet prepare

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
Local Forest ranger	550	1,100	550	Provided by CRES' marching fund
Local travel (Car and motor rental)	1,750	2,240	490	Provided by CRES' marching
Field costs (meal, lodge, local labours)	2,525	3,200	675	Provided by CRES' marching
Field equipment	0	1,330	1,330	Personal contribution
Communication Reporting	170	280	110	Provided by CRES' marching
TOTAL	£ 4,995	£ 8,150	£ 3,155	

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

The problem of wildlife conservation in Vietnam would be the result of weak conservation capacity, very few people interested in conservation work. Our next plan is to train local conservation staff such as forest ranger, protected area staff on endangered conservation knowledge such as animal survey skill, threat identifying, conservation planning. The vital skill will help the protection and conservation of endangered wildlife in Vietnam.

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?

The RSGF logo was printed in the report of the project. We also fully acknowledged the support of RSG on the PHD thesis.

11. Any other comments?

A periodic regional workshop should be held by RSG for the grantee to meet and exchange the experience on the project implementation. This activity eventually spread the RSG for a wider audience.