

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	Sonam Choenjur
Project title	Developing Mobile Apps to promote conservation awareness on Endangered Birds and other endangered mammals in Bhutan.
RSG reference	20934-1
Reporting period	20 December, 2016 – 15 February, 2018
Amount of grant	£ 5, 000
Your email address	sonamchoenjur@gmail.com
Date of this report	15 December, 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
To develop a mobile application to provide information on conservation status of endangered species.				The information on red panda was not included as the data for this species was difficult to get.
To conduct Researchers' meet for the collection of data presented by the researchers				All the required data was collected except for red panda.
Habitat modelling of endangered species using GPS				GPS coordinates were collected, however it could not be displayed in the application due to unsupported format
To sensitize students on the use of mobile application				Sensitised 30 students from school and 150 students from college
Collection of feedback on application				Feedback collection is not done as not much time has passed since the launch of application. However it will be done later.

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

The project had overcome few challenges to become successful. During the data collection since the study site being in a place where the power supply is not available, the instant recording of data could not be done. However, these data were immediately recorded when we arrived in urban area.

While doing habitat modelling for snow leopard and tiger, we faced difficulty in getting their exact location. This issue was solved by collecting the data from previous research.

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

- i. **Development of mobile application:** The mobile application to provide the information on conservation status of four endangered species (black necked crane, white bellied heron, snow leopard and tiger) was developed. The

application will provide information on habitat and conservation status of the above stated species. To get more number of users some features like direct linking to the site where students frequently visits such as questions bank were also added to the app.

- ii. **Researchers' Meet:** 13 researchers were gathered in the meet to present their findings. Many of the researchers shared about black necked crane and white bellied heron. Few shared about tigers, snow leopard, red panda and Assam macaques. The relevant data was collected for the use of application data.
- iii. **Habitat Modelling:** The habitat modelling or GPS coordinates for endangered mammals were collected from the researchers during researchers' meet. For black necked crane and white bellied heron, project team visited the field and collected from there. However, it could not be shown in the application due to unsupported format.

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

The local communities have helped and involved themselves in every possible way. They helped in providing the information about the types of species found and their whereabouts. They participated during the presentation of project result and they agreed to help concern official in conservation of endangered species.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

This is the first ever application made by me so, I feel accomplished. However, I have a plan for making it better in future. To make the application more reliable, I have a plan for adding information about all endangered species found in Bhutan. Initially the application has information on only four endangered species found in Bhutan. To attract more users, I also have a plan to add features like quizzes, games and news.

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

The results of this project was shared in different methods such as posters, presentations and through application. If people are using the application, then the result is directly visible through it. Posters were used in school during sensitising workshops and presentations of the project. The work was also shared in a social media (Facebook).

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 grant was used throughout the year however, it was mostly used at the initial stage of the project to purchase project equipment, to train the enumerators for data collection, to conduct meetings for gathering data presented by different researchers. Partial amount was used in development of the application to seek help from expertise.

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
Equipment and Instrument: Procurement of laptop, mobile phones, GPS etc.	1500	1890	-390	Laptop has cost Nu. 56,780/- each. Mobile phone has cost Nu. 15,030/- each. GPS has cost Nu. 14,195/- (All at exchange rate of £ 1 = Nu. 83.5)
Workshops, meetings, seminars: Sensitization workshops, awareness, advocacy and project exit meeting Subsistence Field	1000	800	200	
Subsistence Field Allowances: DSA for Project Coordinator, enumerators, field guides	1000	900	100	
Field expenses: Food, logistics, camp shifting, mileage, transportation	800	710	90	
Project management and operational cost: Utilities, printing, stationery	500	500	0	
Contingency Cost	200	200	0	
Total	5000	5000		

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

The failure in conservation of the endangered species found in Bhutan is mainly due to lack of advocacy programme. In future researcher should focus more on advocacy.

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?

The Rufford Foundation logo was used in the application, researchers meet and in every gathering organised for the purpose of this project.

11. Any other comments?

RF should consider the continuation of grant with less formalities after comparing with first grant.

