

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	Pratima Bhandari
Project title	Community-based assessment and mapping of ecosystem services in Chure site of Banke National Park, Nepal
RSG reference	22126-1
Reporting period	June 2017- June 2018
Amount of grant	£4990
Your email address	pratimabhandari13@gmail.com
Date of this report	30 June 2018

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 assess the ecosystem services offered by Chure site of Banke National Park				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed household questionnaire survey. Completed biophysical survey/inventory. Completed secondary data collection.
To map out ecosystem services identified by local communities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIS mapping and analysis is still ongoing and will be completed during this year.
To raise awareness among local community on Chure ecosystem conservation				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed community and school level awareness campaign. Completed district workshop with stakeholders.

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

I haven't faced any unforeseen difficulties during the project duration.

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

- Most important ecosystem services offered by Banke National Park have been explored. In particular, separate analysis carried out for cultivated goods, harvested wild goods, water related services, and nature based recreation and tourism.
- Present status of ecosystem services and their temporal variation have been determined. The drivers of change in ecosystem services have also been identified.
- Awareness has been raised among local communities as well as school children for Chure ecosystem conservation.

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

This project made success by the strong support from local communities. Community forestry user groups were involved in different stages of the project. For example, local people were enthusiastically participated in awareness campaign, supported in field inventory/mapping, and provided required information during household questionnaire survey. About 60 local communities and 50 school students

directly benefitted from the awareness programme. In addition, involvement of local communities in the field assessment of ecosystem services can be regarded as the sustainable impact of this project in conservation of Chure ecosystem.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I am planning to continue this project by emphasising assessment of ecosystem services in buffer zone areas along the corridor of Banke and Bardia National Parks that lies in Chure region. These corridors are most important for the movement of wildlife, and provide the essential ecosystem services.

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

I have been analysing and writing report of this project, and expected to finish by next 6 months. I am writing this as a manuscript to be submitted to an international journal for review and publication. I will also share the results of this project in national and international conferences. In addition, major findings of this study will be made available to the national newspapers.

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

June 2017 – June 2018

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
Travel	630	630	0	Airfare (Kathmandu to Nepalgunj), local bus and taxi
Field equipment	900	840	+60	Purchase camera, GPS, topographic maps, and other field gears. Used some equipment available from district forest office, Banke
Food and accommodation	900	900	0	For 3 persons during field visit for 30 days
Awareness campaign	925	925	0	Publicity materials, tea, snacks, and venue for workshop
DSA for field assistants	1020	1140	-120	Hired 1 extra local helper that was not included in the budget. For total 3 assistant during household

				survey, and field inventory.
Communication	200	140	+60	For phone and internet
Stationery, Miscellaneous	415	415	0	Printing, copying, first-aid kits etc.
Total	4990	4990	0	

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

Chure ecosystem conservation is only possible by considering the local communities as a core elements of conservation, and by increasing their stewardship on conservation.

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

The Rufford Foundation logo has been used in the field activities, particularly in the community awareness programme. The RF logo was used in banner during awareness campaign, and in publicity materials distributed to local communities and school children. I also used RF logo in my presentation with acknowledgement during district workshop.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

- **Dr. Uttam Babu Shrestha:** Advising the field assessment of ecosystem services
- **Mr. Chandra Bahadur Nepali:** Assisted in field inventory, household survey, and organizing district level workshop
- **Mr. Dambar Bahadur Pun:** Assisted in organizing awareness campaign at local level, household survey, and field inventory
- **Mr. Mohan KC:** Assisted in coordination with the Banke National Park office, and field assessment of ecosystem services
- **Mr. Sakar Jha:** Assisted in household questionnaire survey in the field
- **Ms. Puja KC:** Assisted in school awareness activities, and publicity materials preparation

12. Any other comments?

I am thankful to The Rufford Foundation for generous support for this project. My sincere thank goes to Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)-Nepal for providing permission to carry out this project in the Banke National Park areas. I owe my sincere gratitude to Mr. Man Bahadur Khadka, Dr. Achyut Aryal, Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky, and Bhupendra Yadav for their support to implement this project and valuable feedback. I am thankful to staffs of Banke National Park office, especially Mr. Dil Bahadur Purja Pun, Neelam Karki, and Beju Poudel for their continuous support during the field activities. I am very much thankful to local people of "Hariyali Community Forest User Group", and teachers of

“Nepal Rastriya Secondary School” for their direct and indirect support in the field to accomplish this project.



Community awareness campaign.