

Project Update: June 2008

The Rufford small grant on the “**Community Involvement in conservation of Sarus Crane breeding habitat in three districts of semi-arid tract of Rajasthan, India**”, has been successful in spreading the message for conservation of Wetlands and the Sarus Crane and their importance for us. The project was carried out in three districts of Kota, Bundi, and Baran and partially in Jhalawar district of Hadothi. Field visits to important sarus crane nesting sites were made.

The posters, pamphlets and stickers were distributed to local people who are working actively for the conservation of the species. This helped us to obtain information from people about sarus crane nesting sites. A total of ninety three wetland sites were covered in three districts. Due to this for the first time we have been able to document several new wetlands and nesting sites of the sarus cranes in the region. The posters were distributed to government agencies such as Irrigation, Agriculture, Canal Command Area, Forest departments and also to Local and National NGO’s working on conservation of Wildlife.

Audiovisual shows and lectures were done to explain the breeding biology of the species. Field visits for the school children to nearby breeding sites and shown the nest. A team of rural volunteers has monitored and safeguarded the nests in their areas and in our efforts we were supported by some of the exceptional and enthusiastic villagers in taking the goals of this campaign forward. As a gratitude to their support and help during the campaign we had honor these grass root naturalists to bear the torch of conservation for the future in their areas on 19th April 2008. Media highlighted the help of these volunteers in their news and news papers.



1. Talk in one of the school

2. Distribution of poster to school children





3. School staff receiving the board, with description of Sarus crane

4. Field visit for the school children



5. Award ceremony for the local community



6. Certificate to all the local villagers for their help in conservation of the sarus crane

