

Final Project Evaluation Report

Your Details	
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Project Title	Information campaign for the management of the common coqui frog in Costa Rica
Application ID	24278-2
Grant Amount	£4,135
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1. 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
Define the information to include				We made a workshop with the SINAC and define two main points to include in the campaign: 1) people should report the presence of <i>E. coqui</i> 2) The need to stop the spread the coqui by human actions.
Create informative materials				We make two videos, a website, posters and a banner, and social media.
Website				There is a website available with information about this project.
Field work				We gave talks to the committee of the biological corridor Volcánica Central – Talamanca, the Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservación. We talk to local organisations like The Turrialba connection, Nakepu, Jardín botánico del CATIE, el Clon Restaurant.
Evaluation				We had a delay in all project so we could not evaluate properly the results. We only applied a survey a small number of persons.

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

The beginning of the project was difficult. The graphic designer had some health issues so he couldn't continue the project for a couple of months. The development of information materials was one of the first steps, so we had to wait until he recovered to advance, and this generates a delay in overall project. This time was used to discuss and reformulate the direction of the campaign. We decided to focus on two main actions: avoid people to spread this species and promote the report of sightings of this species

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

- We informed and involved local organisations in the process to avoid the dispersion of the introduced common coqui frogs. These organisations now are aware of the issue of invasive species and risks posed by the dispersion of

the common coqui frog. They also motivate people to report sightings of this species to environment authorities and the social media profile of this project.

- We elaborated information materials that will be available for all people who want to learn about coqui frogs and invasive species. There is currently a website available where people can access information and report sightings of the common coqui frog.
- As result of this project three new sightings of coqui frog were reported in location where it has never been registered. Those locations are relatively near the known population of coqui frog. However, it is an alarming situation. Three recent reports have been made that inform about the presence of coqui frogs in places where we did know it was present.

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

We involved the local organisation and the now are aware of the problem of invasive species. The Turrialba conecction, Jardín botánico del CATIE, el Clon Restaurant, Soda Betty, SINAC-Turrialba, SINAC-ACC and Corredor Biológico Volcánica Central - Talamanca are organisations that are aware of coqui frog problem and have shared information materials from this project.

People who participated in the talks felt involved with a communal project and have shown interest in keep receiving information about the project. They mention that the coqui frog is a risk for the native species and the work we are doing in this project is really important.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, thanks to this project and the Rufford Foundation we established a solid alliance with an ONG named Costa Rica Wildlife Foundation. Through this ONG we are launching a project to develop projects on the topic of invasive species. Also, we will keep registering sightings of coqui frogs and other invasive species using social median and the website develop for this project.

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

The results will by share by social media in the profile of the project, also it will be present at the congress of the Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación 2019. In addition, we plan to publish a manuscript in a peer reviewed journal.

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

The grant was used during every step of the project. The grant came in the expected start date, so we were able to buy all the material needed in time.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Develop and maintenance of website	752	752		We agreed with the website developer the correct budget
Field work materials (audio and video recording equipment)	1127	1545	+418	Import fees increased the cost of materials. Also, the audio recorder broke and we had to buy a new one.
Educational materials (posters, biodegradable banners, stickers, etc)	190	250	+60	The environment authorities (SINAC) asked us to print some more posters for them to use. This material was covered by the Costa Rica Wildlife Foundation.
Workshops, meetings with stakeholders and talks to local people	501	300	-201	We couldn't complete one of the workshops we planned because of time.
Transportations (fuel and local transport)	188	210	+22	One of the participants of the project change his residence location to a farther place.
Lodging (20 nights / 2 persons)	751	945	+194	We had to pay for lodging and food of two extra volunteers during our visits, the help of to talk to people and prepare the materials during talks.
Food expenses (25 days / 2 persons)	626	935	+308	We had to pay for lodging and food of two extra volunteers during our visits, the help of to talk to people and prepare the materials during talks.
Total	4135	4937	+802	Some information materials were covered by the ONG Costa Rica Wildlife.

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

It is important to keep people informed about the project in order to motivate them to continue reporting sightings of coqui frogs. In general, the threat of invasive species has not been addressed properly in Costa Rica. It is needed actions to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts the cause. Work with people is the first

step, we also need to prioritise actions to manage invasive species in order to reduce impact in biodiversity.

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

Yes, we used it in every material we made. The logo was promoted in posters, banner and at the end of the two videos we created. We also presented the project in an international congress (Congreso de la Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación, 2020)

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

Jimmy Barrantes-Madrigal: Jimmy was the coordinator of all the project, was responsible of give talks, conduct workshops and field work.

Jorge Delgado: He coordinated the production of all information materials, also developed the website and logo of the project. He was the link within this project and the ONG Costa Rica Wildlife.

Mauricio Sanabria: he was our expert in communication. He assisted field work for video and audio recordings and editing.

Mariana Molina: She helped in the production of information material; she edited the posters.

12. Any other comments?

We are really thankful to the Rufford foundation for its help. We plan to keep working in this issue. The Rufford foundation has plant their seed and now we have to continue working.

Here are some photos we wanted to share:

Fig 1. Recording material for videos

Fig 2. Talk to the Corredor Biológico Cordillera Volcanica – Talamanca

Fig 3. Talk to the Corredor Biológico Cordillera Volcanica – Talamanca

Fig 4. Workshop with the Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación (SINAC)



Fig 5. Common coqui frog founded in Turrialba