

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Alona Prylutska
Project Title	Shared House II: Implementation of a long-lasting conservation strategy for bats in Ukrainian settlements
Application ID	31915-2
Grant Amount	£5,595
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Date of this Report	11.02.2022

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
to establish a regional system of bat monitoring in buildings				<p>We have chosen nine countryside houses in different villages and parts of the Kharkiv region (NE Ukraine) and one in Kiev region (N Ukraine) where bat colonies live in summer and people are friendly to them. We set up several bat boxes at the buildings as additional roost sites for bats and provided people simple monitoring plan. We created short video stories about these cases; some of them are on our YouTube channel already.</p> <p>https://youtu.be/zlnBMLMirB0 https://youtu.be/FV1m0BSsECg</p>
to continue research about ecological requirements of bats in urban and rural areas				<p>Studies of temperature conditions of winter and summer bat roost sites in conditions of continental climate of eastern Ukraine were continued. Measurements of temperature conditions in summer roosts in countryside buildings, and in winter roosts in crevices of buildings in Kharkiv city were done. Also, we are measuring and monitoring temperature conditions at all our refrigerators that used as hibernation chambers during winter bat rehabilitation at Bat Rehab Center.</p>
to prevent mass mortality or disturbance of house-dwelling bats during renovations				<p>We sent letters to companies which conduct heat-insulation of buildings and window replacement in Ukraine, providing them with actual information about bat conservation needs.</p> <p>We also made a connection with the industrial alpinists from different Ukrainian cities: e.g., Poltava, Kamyanske, Ivano-Frankivsk. They often rescue bats (or do not disturb their roosting sites) when people complain about neighbouring bats and educate people about importance of bats.</p> <p>We organised press conference lecture about bat survival in cities and best ways of bat-human coexistence</p>

			<p>(https://youtu.be/tUCg9cCXqEw)</p> <p>We are planning to continue this activity in future, cover more target organisations, take part in conferences for building companies and promote bat conservation needs.</p>
to implement small citizen science project concerning mapping of bat colonies roosting in buildings in Ukrainian cities			<p>A web application for mapping of bat colonies roosting in buildings within Ukrainian cities was developed and placed on our website http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/en/map-en/</p> <p>We are encouraging bat fans and owners of the colonies' buildings to participate and map the colonies. Also, we record them via our call-center of Bat Rehab Center.</p>
to keep up the high level of bat rescue work of BRC in Kharkiv city and spread it to other big cities of Ukraine, where bats are found			<p>In winter 2020/2021 we had a record bat number at rehabilitation. More than 3000 bats were accidentally (or during renovation work) found by citizens all over Ukraine, rescue and transported to our Bat Rehab Center; in April 2021 we organised four Bat Release Fests in different cities all over the country: Kharkiv (East), Dnipro, Zaporizhzhya (Centre) and Ivano-Frankivsk (West) and released bats back to the wild. In each of the city we released local bats rescued in that city. We invited people to this outreach event. We expand our network of bat rehabilitators in different Ukrainian cities from 13 to 23 and consult them online during the winter season.</p> <p>We have made the rebranding of our Bat Rehab Center with new logo. 70 bat education lectures were conducted at our Bat Rehab Center. We also organised lectures for students at Ivano-Frankivsk University (online), Kremenchuk (Poltava region), Kryvyi rih (Zaporizhzhya region). 25 000 units of bat education products (stickers, wall calendars, post cards) were printed.</p> <p>17 TV news and programs were made by Ukrainian media.</p> <p>https://youtu.be/SNBtjopIGc</p>

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

In general, we had not unforeseen difficulties in project realization.

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

1. Organising and managing the Bat Release Fests in four cities (Kharkiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk) in one spring (first for Ukraine) and totally rescued 3000 bats of nine species during winter 2020/2021.

This bat event has attracted more than 500 people in Kharkiv city and near 200 in Dnipro, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk cities. And huge number of people gets to know about our bat conservation work via dozens of Ukrainian TV news and programs.

- https://youtu.be/1YqA_iBXsaQ
- <https://youtu.be/Dw9ZVf1QCDs>
- <https://youtu.be/VzbWZfWxkeQ>

2. Concrete bat boxes were successfully manufactured and installed across the Kharkiv region; the promotion company among citizens was started well.
3. We have huge impact in media. Popular TV shows and programmes and news highlighted our work in bat conservation in Ukraine, what leads to higher awareness level. 365 days per year we received calls all over the country concerning different aspects (from what to do with found bats to how to kick them out).

Recently famous TV travel show (with Dmitry Komarov) released a detailed episode about our Bat Rehabilitation Center. The episode reached a half of a million views only on YouTube for a few days. It means that millions get clear and valid information about bats.

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

We shared our message about importance of development of long-lasting conservation strategy of urban bat habitats during each lecture about bats. Having an opportunity to install artificial bat roosts local communities will decrease number of people-bat interactions, which lead to decrease of synanthropic bats mortality in urban and rural areas.

During our bat awareness activities, such as open street summer fest "SamiSobiFest" in Kharkiv city, our ongoing open lectures among visitors of Feldman Ecopark (at our bat collider), people of different professions listen to our truth information about bats. At our winter bat office in Kharkiv we have hundreds of volunteers each year, helping us with weakened bats. We use bat rehabilitation for educational purposes to show living bats to people. In this way, we manage to stimulate emotions about

the animals, inform people about the fascinating bat biology, false myths and their ecosystem services for the economy (forest and agriculture).



5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Sure. We want to install more bat boxes in Kharkiv region and share the idea all over the country. Increase the involvement of people in our "bat colonies" citizen science project. Continue raise public awareness as the greatest tool in bat conservation all around the country.

Noteworthy, the current pandemic of COVID 19 has led to a deterioration of the public image of bats, which makes our activities even more significant for bat conservation.

We are planning to continue the work with companies which conduct heat-insulation of buildings and window replacement in future, cover more target organisations, take part in conferences for building companies and promote bat conservation needs.

Also, we are planning to translate our book "The Guide on Bat Rehabilitation" in English and share it online. In summer 2022 we want to organize summer school in Kharkiv city for bat rehabilitators (volunteers) from all regions of Ukraine.

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

Our book "The Guide on Bat Rehabilitation" was spread among colleagues, bat rehabilitators and volunteers in Ukraine and abroad (Russia, Belarus). The electronic version is available at our website http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Manual_for_bat_rehabilitation_ua-1.pdf

Information about concrete bat boxes of two types (where to buy and how to install) is placed on our website <http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/en/bat-box-en> and YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/FV1m0BSsECg>, <https://youtu.be/zlnBMLMrB0>

Web application for bat colonies in buildings records is available on the website <http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/en/map-en/>

All the time we shared news on the project via our social medias
<https://www.facebook.com/BatsUkraine>
https://www.instagram.com/bats_ukraine/
<https://www.youtube.com/c/batsukraine>

And on Ukrainian TV news and programs:
<https://youtu.be/p5poAVsldVU>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LL0scHdkmXk>
<https://youtu.be/pFkPkn9700Y>
<https://youtu.be/kaFKbjOUZ3A>
<https://youtu.be/DtrWnABz7Tk>

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

Start of the project – September 2020. Finish of the project – December 2021. The project was implemented a little bit longer than anticipated.

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
Thermo loggers Ibutton (10 it.)	890	890		
Petterson u256 usb	510	450	-60	We bought two instead of

Ultrasound Microphone (2 it.)				3 it.
Development of Web application for bat colonies in buildings recordings	800	800		
Veterinary medicine, vitamins and food (insects) for bats	200	200		
Bat rings Aranea (3000 it.)	405	465	+60	They become more expensive
Materials for manufacture concrete bat boxes (70 it.)	490	490		
Layout and publishing the bat-friendly educational materials (pocket-leaflets, stickers, posters, wall calendar) (25 000 it.)	750	750		
Fuel for car for movements with bat boxes (and its installing) within Kharkiv region	400	400		
Train tickets & accommodation from Kharkiv and back to 5 Ukrainian cities for 2 persons	1050	1050		
Payment overheads (% grant transfer to NGO account), unforeseen expenses	100	100		
Total	5,595	5,595		

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

Launch the branches of our Bat Rehabilitation Center in the five biggest Ukrainian cities. Develop a network of certified bat experts in Ukraine who are trained to rehabilitate bats in distress and launch educational work and local campaigns.

Continue raise awareness about the importance of bats in our ecosystems (i.e., urban) and for the economy as pest controls even on national scale. Make people proud that bats live close to them in settlements.

Spread our “shared house” campaign all over the country and promote using bat boxes as alternative roosts for bats.

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 bat-friendly educational printed materials (Bat Release poster, wall calendars, stickers, the book "The Guide on Bat Rehabilitation"), during our online lectures and in credits on YouTube videos, also we placed logo on our website as a partner (see www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/en).



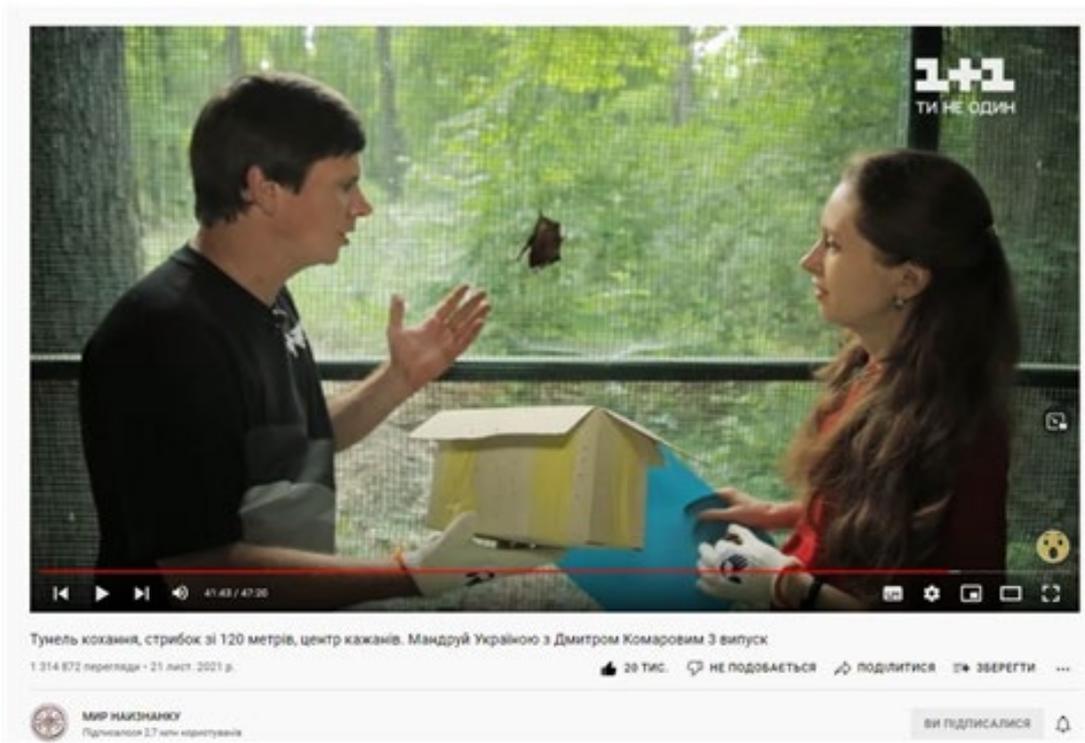
Wall calendar



Stickers with common myths and facts about bats



Press conference about bat-human coexistence in Kharkiv.



Bats become heroes of the famous TV travel show “Travel around Ukraine with Dmitry Komarov” visited us, this episode has more than 1 million views.



Our book “The Guide on Bat Rehabilitation”



TV news about hibernating bats in the fridge (we have some bags with The Rufford Foundation logo).





TV news about 2000 of bats rescued during winter 2020-2021.



Poster for Bat Release Fest in 2021, was shown in four cities of Ukraine (Kharkiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk) hundreds of people visited the events

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

Vitaly Hukov, PhD student in zoology (bats) of V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, bat specialist in BRC, created and manufactured bat boxes, took part in our educational bat events, rehabilitated bats at Bat Rehab Center.

Olexiy Parfilov, zoologist in Kharkiv city Zoo, volunteer (the driver and technician) of the Bat Rehabilitation Center. He was involved a lot in bat boxes manufacture and installation procedure.

Anton Vlaschenko, Dr.S., Associate Professor in H.S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University, bat specialist, conducted scientific bat research during hibernation period. Took part as a speaker at educational bat events.

Nataly Shanuk, artist, student of Kharkiv State Academy of Design and Fine Arts, the author of illustrations for bat-friendly information and education materials which we have published.

Tanya Kizim, Pavel Dokienko, Inga Semisow – designers and artist who were volunteers and helped with illustrations for printed materials.

Anastasia Domanska, the veterinarian of CentrVet clinic. She controlled the welfare of all bats at rehabilitation (made different operations, surgery procedures, handfeeding of bats pups) at our Bat Rehab Center.

Anton Biatov, gis specialist, he developed the web application "Bat colonies collector" and provide technical support concerning it.

Maryna Yerofeeva, Alona Shulenko, Marharyta Moiseenko, Valery Bohodyst – students of biological departments of V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University & H.S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University, bat rehabilitators, rehabilitated and treated weakened bats at Bat Rehab Center. Raised the awareness about bats among visitors of Bat Rehab Center.

12. Any other comments?

Many thanks to The Rufford Foundation for support of our bat conservation work in Ukraine during hard period of COVID-19 pandemic and the misguided blame for bats.