

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Bui Van Huong
Project Title	Saving Vietnam's endangered plants: Illegal Orchids Trade survey in Hanoi city
Application ID	32177-1
Date of this Report	November 15, 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 provide a comprehensive understanding of the wild orchid trade in Hanoi. The information includes their trade chain from collectors to the clients and/or export, current market prices of threatened species, the diversity of supply sources, harvesting, and trading trend				Our surveys focused on the illegal trade of wild orchids in Hanoi. A total of 39 orchid species in five genera were recorded for illegal trade, concentrating mainly on the <i>Paphiopedilum</i> and <i>Bulbophyllum</i> genera.
To provide recommendations for conservation measures respect to orchids management, including how to regulate the collection and managing trading hub/market and raise awareness on orchid and plant conservation of the public				Forest rangers participate in field surveys and training courses conducted to improve forest ranger capacity to manager and identify wild orchids.
To share findings and encourage more research on studying orchid trade and conservation for endangered orchids				We published two papers with new species based on the results of this objective. We are also preparing one manuscript related to this objective for publishing the next time.

2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- a).** Providing the species checklist of the wild orchid trade in Hanoi includes current market prices of the threatened species and diversity of supply sources, harvesting, and trading trend.
- b).** Increasing awareness on the protection of wild orchids by local people, management, and forest rangers.
- c).** The findings research will share and help scientists, forest rangers, and local people easily look up needed, to avoid any confusion later.

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

A broad challenge we faced was that frequently people in all hubs/markets or local people are hesitant to reply to questions related to illegal trade – it is considered to be a taboo topic because of fear of legal repercussions. We addressed this issue by using local team members who took a keen interest in collecting the information and were familiar with local customs and realities and successfully put the survey participants at ease. Besides, there was a slight delay in conducting the interview surveys because of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the political instability in the country.

Finally, we received the enthusiastic support of management and forest rangers so our project was completed with good results.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

At this stage, local communities were involved as the survey respondents and field guides for surveys. However, the findings of the project will permit the development of wild orchid conservation activities and public awareness programmes that are fine-tuned to local attitudes. Besides, we provided local participants with conservation skills including basic identification of threatened orchid species and prohibition of trading.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Based on the outcome of the projects, we plan to conduct the public awareness programmes such as training, education talks, and campaigns not only in Hanoi city but also in other regions where we already conducted the orchid illegal trade and wild orchid consumption surveys in Vietnam.

Moreover, we are planning to continue extending wild orchid illegal trade and wild orchid consumption surveys in the border region, the northern part of Vietnam. It is our intention to apply for a 2nd Booster Grant.

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

We will plan to publish in a peer-reviewed journal which will help to reach more audiences. Besides, we plan to share my findings with law enforcement agencies and organisations working on combating the illegal wild orchid trade.

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

We will prepare a proposal for a Completion Grant to promote wild orchid conservation public awareness programmes with local communities and partners who mainly depend on illegal orchid trade as their subsistence. In addition, we will prepare a proposal for a 2nd Booster Grant to continue wild orchid illegal trade and wild orchid consumption surveys on the border of northern Vietnam.

8. 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?

The Rufford Foundation was acknowledged as a sponsor for our project on our website (<https://ccd.org.vn/en>). We used the Rufford Foundation logo in all my presentations related to this project. Moreover, I acknowledged the grant and The Rufford Foundation in the manuscript at a peer-reviewed journal.

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Bui Van Huong: Project coordinator, organised, managed, designed and implemented the project.

Ta Thi Nu Hoang: Lecture, Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Management, Vientam National University of Forestry/ Field Assistant.

Dinh Thi Kim Van: Conservationist, Center for Nature Conservation and Development/ Field Assistant.

Le Minh Tuyen: Forest ranger, Department of Hanoi Forest Protection, Hanoi Department of Agriculture and Rural Development/ Field Assistant.

Sung A Trang: Local Assistant

10. Any other comments?

I am deeply grateful to The Rufford Foundation for the financial support which made this project possible. Illegal trade has been and remains a serious concern in the country, and with projects like this we are starting to obtain the necessary information required for designing biodiversity conservation strategies in Vietnam.





