

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants 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	Gulnaz Jalilova
Project title	Education on Biodiversity Conservation in the walnut fruit forests in Kyrgyzstan
RSG reference	36.10.07
Reporting period	February, 2009
Amount of grant	4996 £
Your email address	jalilovagulnaz@yahoo.com; ecofund_taza@yahoo.com
Date of this report	February 17, 2009

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
The awareness of biodiversity conservation at school levels would be enhanced			X	Attractive seminars and fieldwork have been rapidly organized in May and June 2008 in 6 schools (3 Uzbek and 3 Kyrgyz schools).
Surveys and field works on bird diversity in different habitats with the participation of schoolchildren and experts might be conducted			X	Schoolchildren actively participated in all undertaken activities
Information and promotional materials, brochures, and booklets about the importance of bird diversity and general biodiversity would be disseminated through schools, local people and forestry sectors			X	Information and related materials have been distributed among the schools, local people and forestry sectors. In addition, a video was distributed, which was taken by the bird club members on the project implementation, It was the information most appreciated and accepted by local people.
A network "small bird club" among schools would be created		X		We could not do enough bird watching campaigns with club members, because of the short breeding season, as we started relatively late, after the expected date. The reason is that we could not get a grant on time. Nevertheless, we are going to continue next year, as the club members are very motivated.

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

During the project implementation, we did not have any problem or foreseen difficulties, as we have been working on forest management issues in the objective area for many years.

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

- The most important outcome was that we could train and educate some schoolchildren in 6 schools on biodiversity conservation, as schoolchildren play a great role in our society by being the leaders of future generations. The schoolchildren actively participated and were very motivated. This project was one of the first educational projects in these areas so far, and it was highly appreciated and accepted by local authorities as well. Furthermore, we could have a chance to discuss openly with each school's administration about their problems, willingness, plans and future activities.

- To organize a bird club. It was a great step towards nature conservation in the walnut fruit forests. We do not have enough equipment, tools, neither guidebooks, but we have a great deal of motivation for establishing the club in the future and to include more and more children in it. Actually, in these areas people are not concerned about the importance of birds as a main part of the walnut fruit forests' ecosystem. However, the bird club might be a main driving source for hundreds of children and local people in order to attract and involve them in bird conservation.
- To convince the local authorities such as forestry sectors and municipality administrations that they have to give more attention to schoolchildren's nature conservation activities. For example: organization of training campaigns, workshops with other schools etc. Such activities can make a great contribution to the sustainable forest development by encouraging children and raising their interest at early stages.

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

All involved schools, local people around the schools and forest enterprises have benefitted from our project by participating in seminars or by receiving disseminated materials. After completing the project, we will continue to work on dissemination issues, because it is the best, actually the only way to involve more people in nature conservation and to create benefits from it for further generations.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

As this project was one of the initial educational projects, we are going to continue the project on a wider scale including other forest enterprises and adjacent villages in the Bazarkorgon region. We have already received a planning grant from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and United National Development Programme (UNDP) in Kyrgyzstan, and the project will be started during the next months. Meanwhile, we are looking for additional funding. The Flora and Fauna International (FFI) is also interested in joining the project as a co-financer, as the FFI has been funding a couple of projects in Kyrgyzstan for 5 years. Furthermore, local forestry sectors and municipalities are willing to provide some support in the form of in kind contributions.

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

At the beginning of February, we have conducted a seminar at a regional level, where a lot of leaders from different NGOs, Organizations, Educational Department and the regional administration have participated. It was a preoperational seminar of the second project on "Education on Biodiversity Conservation the walnut fruit forests in Kyrgyzstan". The results of our work have been distributed through these institutions and NGOs among the local societies, and we are looking forward to working with them during the next project implementation.

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

The project was started in May 2008, but not in February 2008 as originally planned, due to the financial problem. We could not get the grant on time. Nevertheless, all activities have been done and achieved successfully. The planned length of the project was 13 months, but the actual length was 10 months, which was achieved by working rapidly.

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
Subsistence	2337	2326	11	Staff members allowance
Field work tools	410	410	0	-
Office requirement	219	38	181	It was not possible to buy a planned screen projector, due to a double price for a short time
Resource material production	730	730	0	-
Transport	1300	1300	0	-
Bank charges and tax 4%	-	192	192	-
TOTAL	4996	4996	384	

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

As this project has been implemented within the framework of a newly established Ecological Public Foundation, "TAZA", we are looking forward to working not only on education on biodiversity conservation, but also on conservation of specific endangered species in various habitats. Furthermore, we would like to concentrate more on poverty alleviation activities and the enhancement of renewable energy sources utilization, which might be a valuable contribution to sustainable development.

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

Yes, we have used the RSGF logo in all materials we produced: presentations, posters, videos, small bags, which were distributed to all schoolchildren. As we work with diverse NGOs and other organizations, it was not difficult to distribute the information about the RSGF at the local as well as the regional level.

11. Any other comments?

It was a great pleasure to cooperate with Rufford Small Grants Foundation, which we would like to thank. The support has been critical and valuable. Without the RSGF contrition, we would not have been able to implement our activities, and the project would not be in the position we are now by having encouraged communities, and to start our next projects. We are looking forward to further cooperation with RSGF.