

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Sai Bhone Myat
<b>Project title</b>	<i>Renanthera imschootiana</i> as a flagship species for environmental education and conservation in Yat Sawk Region, Myanmar
<b>RSG reference</b>	36.10.09
<b>Reporting period</b>	March 2010 to March 2011
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5,900
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:bhonemyat.sai@gmail.com">bhonemyat.sai@gmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> April. 2011

**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
Status surveys of orchid species		****		Yat Sawk is the largest region among 52 townships in Shan State. So, we could not take status survey for the whole region. We went regular survey trips where we can find the most orchid species.
Donation of seed pod, plant to laboratories		****		The propagation of <i>Renanthera imschootiana</i> is delayed in laboratories this year. Instead of donation to laboratories we built two orchid rehabilitation places and other orchid houses in villages to collect and propagate native orchid species. We can donate these orchids to laboratories for next year programmes.
Environmental education programmes			****	We made three environmental education programmes in schools, discussion and awareness talks with local people both in Yat Sawk town area and three villages as we planned.
Dissemination about conservation through out media			****	Nature conservation articles are published in the journals and magazines starting from the last week of March 2011. We planned to publish about 15 articles. The book "Basic information of wildlife conservation" is already printed and has to share to schools, universities and the departments as we planned.

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

Some unforeseen difficulties have come upon. We cannot take survey trips for the whole region. But the good thing is while we went survey trip around Mone-Pyin village we have a chance to talk with orchid hunter in that village. After discussion he volunteers in our work and we get a lot of help from him not only in survey trips but also in building orchid houses. This year orchid propagation labs focus to propagate on other orchid species for in-vitro culture. So we built orchid houses in villages, collect the detached orchid plants, accept donation of native orchid plants from local people's home garden and some of these orchid plants will donate to labs in the next year programs.

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

1. Orchid survey trips give: a chance to record rare orchid species, understanding of local ecosystem and also method to negotiation between wildlife species and local indigenous.

2. Environmental education programmes improve conservation attitudes of local people. The information of conservation from media also supports them and obtains their interest to native species and the conservation of these threatened species.
3. By building orchid rehabilitation places local people gave more attention on native orchid species and their endangerment. The knowledge of orchid propagation methods help to increase the population of native orchid plants.

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

The involvement of local communities is very supportive to my project. At first they are not familiar with our environmental programmes. After discussion and conservation talks they become interested in native species and conservation. The involvement of local people in native species conservation activities is the most important first step. We passed through this first step successfully, so we can make several survey trips, collecting of detached orchid plants during surveys, education programmes in schools and villages, orchid rehabilitation places with the help of local communities. The understanding and interest of local indigenous is necessary to engendering environmental stewardship, helping protect the native species, but also the broader environment.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, we planned to continue this work with the help of local communities as nature conservation should be an endless effort to be effective.

We will continue to publish conservation articles on the journal and magazine. We believe that sharing the knowledge of nature conservation through media will attract people's attention on native rare species and environmental conservation.

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

I plan to share the results of my works with the help of media (journal, magazine and radio). The book that I printed "Basic information of wildlife conservation" will share not only to local people but also to schools, universities and other interested communities.

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

The RSG was used over 12 months as we planned in the project proposal.

**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
Transportation fees	700	700	0	
Subsistence costs	1100	1000	+100	
Status surveys	400	500	-100	Three survey trips in the period of which most orchid species are in flower; and regular surveys in each three seasons.

Digital Camera	300	600	-300	Only DSLR camera can take pictures from a very high place and in the deep forest We bought Nikon D-5000 and accessories
Dissemination of information	700	700	0	
Cost for book publication (1000 copies)	1200	1200	0	
Posters, vinyl and pamphlet	450	400	+50	
Communication and reporting	400	400		
Orchid rehabilitation processes	400	400		Including orchid houses in village that collect native orchid plants which will donate to labs for in-vitro culture in next year program
Materials and collaboration for in-vitro culture	250	0	+250	This process is postponed to next year program
<b>Total</b>	£ 5900	£ 5900	0	Exchange rate of local currency- <b>kyats 1600 = £ 1 (10<sup>th</sup> March 2010)</b>

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

The continuation of conservation activities should extend to the whole Yat Sawk region with suitable financial supporting. We have to take survey trips the left parts to cover the whole region. Without solving the deforestation, we cannot make any other conservation activities in that region. Reforestation process and protection of natural habitat is the basic step to conserve native species. More environmental education programs among local people is needed because their interesting and participation is the only way for a substantial and long-lasting contribution to conserve their native species and ecosystem.

### 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?

During the project period we used the RSGF logo in vinyl, pamphlets and posters. The RSGF received publicity, through environmental education programs, discussions and orchid rehabilitation programs.

### 11. Any other comments?

Thank you very much for this grant. The survey trips should take for the whole region. The environmental education programs also need to do in other villages and schools. The continuous funding will help to fulfil our missions and support on environmental education and native species conservation activities.