

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. 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. 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	Nils Navarro Pacheco
Project title	A communitarian campaign to reduce the illegal trafficking of wild birds in a Cuban local community
RSG reference	47.07.08
Reporting period	Final Report
Amount of grant	£5,500
Your email address	nils@cristal.hlg.sld.cu nilsarts@yahoo.com
Date of this report	1st March 2010

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
To study the tradition of trapping birds in Gibara village.			X	A full and detailed baseline study about the tradition of trapping birds was undertaken. It includes an image databank showing the process. The results were presented in local and international meetings
Set the problems in relation to the illegal trapping of wild birds.			X	Through the baseline study it was possible to show that the problem is that the people don't know the Cuban laws in relation to biodiversity. The inefficient application of the laws is the basis of the development of the illegal trafficking of wild birds
Improve action among the community through a festival about bird conservation.			X	A Communitarian Bird Festival took place in Gibara village; it included several local institutions such as museums, Schools, Culture Houses, radio and TV stations and others.
Conversion of local mini zoo into a site for environmental education and a breeding centre for endangered species.		X		Several visits were done by the leaders and local authorities and we obtained the agreement of the owner but the current economic situation on the island meant that many necessary items to complete the project were not available. We are using the mini zoo for environmental education programs with children from the camp nearest to the house and surrounding schools
Improve actions from the Cuban environmental authorities in relation to this problem.			X	We had several meetings with the authorities. The problem was presented to the government and many actions were undertaken. A control program was set up by the Inspection Department of the Ministry of environment of Cuba. A training course was taught for forest guards relating to the application of the Cuban 200 Law about biodiversity.
Design a long-lasting strategy to minimize and control the problem.			X	A long-lasting strategy was designed and will be led by the Inspection Department of CITMA to control it.

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

The current world economic crisis restricted access to many items or increased their price. Hurricane Ike hit Cuba close to Gibara village, destroying surrounding coastal areas and damaging a great part of the buildings.

These facts made it necessary to redistribute the total budget

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

1. Focussed the authorities and community's attention on the problem resulting in the approval of several protected areas.
2. Included the community, especially the younger generation, in nature conservation activities.
3. To create a long-lasting programme controlled by authorities in relation to bird trapping and illegal trafficking.

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

The local communities were including in any action through the communitarian festival "Protegiendo las Aves", especially the younger generation. Two protected areas were approved and right now Gibara is considered as an IBA site by Birdlife International, creating new jobs among the local people that will be involved in conservation efforts.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The leader is moving to western of the island right now.

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

The results have been shared at several national and international meetings such as Cuban Society of Zoology meeting and Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds Meeting.

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

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.

The rate exchange in Cuba varied among 1, 50-1, 70 £ versus CUC (Cuban Convertible Pesos), a transferring bank task are added too

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Design educational materials and flyers	600	600		
Printing educational materials	700	450		

Design of Radio and TV message	550	470		
Items for children awards (art competitions and other activities)	340	450		
Payments for a clown group	100	120		
Awards for the art and photographic competition	235	450		
Art shows expenses	160	200		
Fuel	150	215		The fuel costs increased due to price rises
Oil	65	87		Idem.
Expenses of the organising committee in Gibara village during activities	330	430		Increased prices after Hurricane Ike
Items to promote the local endangered bird's reproduction center	550	135,70		The reduction of budgeted due to the economic restrictions of several items after crisis and Hurricane Ike
Telephone, power and faxes tax	65	119,90		
Office materials	85	120		
Items to convert a museum saloon in a local wildlife art Gallery				
Illumination Items	150	150		
Frames and glasses staff	200	265		
Painting for wall and preparations	75	75		
Laptop computer	985	1 150		
Printer	130	96		
TOTAL	5 470	5 583,60		

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

To continue doing efforts, don't let down in supervising and improving actions.

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?

We used the RSG logo in any material and promotion such as, expositions, art shows, posters, flyers, multimedia CD's, books, verbal contacts with other, and PPT's presentations.

11. Any other comments?

Just thanks to RSG for supporting this project, it had been a huge contribution to the conservation of the natural heritage.