

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	Gang Chen
Project title	Promoting the Desert Communities Sustainable Development Methods for Better Wild Bactrian Camels Conservation in Xinjiang, China (Phase II)
RSG reference	36.02.10
Reporting period	June 2010 to June 2011
Amount of grant	£11,690
Your email address	gang_chen_his@163.com
Date of this report	June 20, 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
Establish a nursery to breed artificially branchy tamarisk seedlings and cistanche seeds to supply the 2610 remaining desert families		Yes		The breeding capacity of the nursery is not enough to supply sufficient seedlings and seeds to so many local desert families.
Plant seedlings of branchy tamarisks and seeds of desert-living cistanches on more abandoned desert land around the Lopnur reserve to generate sustainable income sources for local communities and strengthen conserving wild Bactrian camels			Yes	
Teach more local desert families to grasp our artificial planting technologies and methane application technology			Yes	
Conduct a complete monitoring of the wild Bactrian camels inside the whole Lopnur reserve to assess their current status.		Yes		Budgeted fund was not enough to cover all desired monitoring areas of the wild Bactrian camel habitats within Lopnur.

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

N/A

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

(1) A seedling nursery was established to provide more seedlings to a increasingly number of involved local families in this project.

(2) Local capacity building was initiated and pushed forward successfully.

(3) The unrestrictive sheep grazing business by local communities around the Lopnur has been basically eliminated.

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

Through educational campaigns including presentations, conservational brochures distribution and on-site demonstrations, local desert communities consisting of 2600 new families including about 8130 adults around the Lopnur reserve had been taught to grasp our artificial planting technologies and methane application technology for their welfare improvement. Seedlings of branchy tamarisks and seeds of desert-living cistanches supplied through the newly established nursery had been planted on more abandoned desert land around the Lopnur reserve by these families to generate sustainable income sources. Local conservationists were invited to join the training workshops to grasp the breeding technologies for the nursery so that they can run the nursery successfully later after the leave of my team members.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. We will be glad to continue this project work by follow-up investigations of the planting business of the newly involved desert families and follow-up monitoring of wild Bactrian camels.

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

We are going to publish project results for distribution to other organisations and individuals who need these materials.

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 from June 2010 to June 2011, when is in accordance with the anticipated length of this 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.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Fuel	£3820	£4158	£338	Duo to the increase of fuel price.
Posters and Brochures	£720	£720	£0	
The establishment cost of a nursery	£7150	£7150	£0	
TOTAL	£11690	£12028	£338	

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

Ensure the sustainability of the new planting business among local communities in the long run and make more continuous and extensive field investigations about the ecology of the whole Lopnur reserve and the status of the wild Bactrian camel population there.

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 printed the RSG logo on posters and brochures distributed to about 2600 desert families around the Lopnur wild Bactrian camels reserve. RSGF was widely known among local communities because we mentioned RSGF's project support when we made project presentation every time.

11. Any other comments?

Many thanks for RSGF's continuous and generous funding support to this project work.