

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Lương Quang Hùng
Project title	Second RSG grant: "Raising the Standard" - Strengthening Conservation Education Capacity in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam.
RSG reference	RSG-06.08.06
Reporting period	20.10.06 - 20.04.08
Amount of grant	5,000 GBP
Your email address	luongquanghung@gmail.com
Date of this report	20/02/2009

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Project goal: To ensure identified target groups in Quang Nam are aware of the importance of natural resources and conservation, have a clear conservation consciousness, and the skills to act accordingly.

Project objective: To strengthen the capacity of the Quang Nam provincial government and partners to promote conservation through education, both formal and informal, to a range of identified target groups.

Primary actions: To train the provincial conservation education working group (CEWG) to further strengthen their capacity to conduct and coordinate the successful implementation of the provincial conservation education action plan that they developed supported by the Rufford Small Grants Scheme.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Training courses for CEWG	X			Through my first RSG, CEWG members have trained on the series of the relevant conservation education issues. My 2 nd RSG will continue train them on Training of Trainer skills and the study tour on conservation education in the National Parks in Vietnam. However, many CEWG members have been promoted in higher position so they have been very busy with their daily works. We could not mobilise and organise the training courses for full members.
Training courses for district CECNs.	X			Although the Provincial Forest Protection Department (FPD), who leads CEWG and implement provincial CE action plan, has developed the activity plan and commitment of project activity implementation to develop and mobilise local conservation education collaborator networks at the district level within BCI project in 2007 but until now, this activity has not implemented yet. No district CECN has established so my 2 nd RSG project could not implement (see Appendix 1 for reference)
Training courses for commune CECNs	X			There are 14 established commune CECNs by 14 commune people committees (Que Son district : Que Ninh, Que Phuoc, Que Ninh; Nam Giang district : Tabhing, La Dee, Dakpre, Dakpring; Phuoc Son district : Phuoc Nang, Phuoc My, Phuoc Cong; Tay Giang district : Bhalee, A Tieng, A Vuong, A Nong). We have organised 7 training courses for 7 commune CECNs but using money from MOSAIC project. We have intended to use my 2 nd RSG budget for training other established commune CECNs through co-financed by

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
				RSG and BCI project. FPD has developed and committed to implement activity plan and commitment of project activity implementation to organise conservation education training courses for conservation education collaborator network in three communes in 2007 but until now, this activity has not implemented yet (see Appendix 2 and 3 for reference).
CE handbooks for CE members			x	The CE handbooks were compiled and published with 1,000 copies in October 2006. However, we used the money from MOSAIC project. We have planned to republish another 1000 copies of this handbook with using money from my 2 nd RSG. However, my 2 nd RSG was not implemented completely so I decided to refund my 2 nd RSG fully instead of unfinished piece of work. That reason I did not republish other 1000 copies.

These above mentioned reasons have exceeded my efforts and my best ability for implementing my 2nd RSG grant completely and timely.

So it is with great sorrow and regrets that I have to refund my 2nd RSG after over two years trying to finish it. I am extremely sorry for my failure.

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

- Mr. Thai Truyen (he was vice-director of Quang Nam Forest Protection Department and also the leader of CEWG) has resigned and moved to Ho Chi Minh City for new job. Losing his leadership, CEWG has met with serious difficulties.
- Many Provincial Conservation Education Working Group (CEWG) members have been promoted to higher positions (Four CEWG members have been promoted from head of sub-departments to vice head of departments, four others from vice head of sub-department to head of sub-departments, three others from officers to head of sub departments). This is excellent results of my first RSG's capacity building activities but

also the 'impacts' for my 2nd RSG's activities as they have been very busy and not had time for CEWG.

- My 2nd RSG project is follow-up project, which is only implemented whenever the previous government activities have done. Furthermore, the RSG recipient is only indirect implementer, so my project has to rely on the direct implementer, in this case is Quang Nam FPD.
- Quang Nam FPD, the leading department in CEWG has been overloaded their own projects: the United States Fish & Wildlife Service projects; the John, D. and Catherine, T. MacArthur Foundation project, especially the five year Biodiversity Corridors Initiative (BCI) Project in the Central Truong Son of Vietnam, funded through the Core Environment Program of the Asia Development Bank. Though these projects, they have planed and committed to mobile and establish Conservation Education Collaborator Networks at district and commune levels. However, as above-mentioned, they have just established seven commune CECNs in seven communes around the Song Thanh Nature Reserve. They have even delayed their own three projects for long time. This is the main reason; they have not had enough time and manpower for implementing my 2nd RSG's activities
- Furthermore, my office has varied seriously as some staffs have left for new jobs and in sometime has insufficient staffs. I was promoted from Conservation Education Officer to WWF Quang Nam coordinator and my office did not have a CE officer position since 2006. My new position has taken my time too much. However, I have tried to work on conservation education as much as possible by continuing to provide technical support for CEWG as well as FPD Quang Nam CE Officer. I have also tried to urge FPD to establish district CECNs as well as to conduct the training courses for established commune CECNs. Unfortunately, FPD has not able to implement these RSG's activities.

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

- With technical and financial support from my 1st RSG project, CEWG has developed and submitted Quang Nam provincial conservation education action plan 2005 - 2010 to Quang Nam Province People Committee for approval. By the decision no 3708/QD-UBND dated on 30/09/2005, Quang Nam PPC promulgated the "Quang Nam Conservation Education Action Plan 2005 - 2010". This action plan have been implementing in Quang Nam by CEWG members.
- By establishing commune CECNs, RSG project has provided opportunities for grassroots, who are extremely poor ethnic minorities in remote and isolated areas as well as the other people in province to strengthen their weak voice via village meeting as public forum. There have been some excellent evidences for this outcome as at least two serious forest criminal cases have been prosecuted by local people's denouncements:
 - One forest criminal case has occurred in Nam Giang district with two district government officers have been prosecuted, the vice chairman of Nam Giang district people committee has been held responsible and disciplined.

- One biggest forest criminal case in the history of Quang Nam province has occurred in Que Son district. There were 11 people (which of 9 province and district government staffs) have been prosecuted including director of Provincial Agriculture and Rural Development Department, vice director of Provincial Forestry Department, vice chairman of Que Son District People's Committee, director of district FPD, Head of District Finance - Planning Department,...
- Many members of the CEWG have incorporated CE components within their annual workplan as well as provincial level training courses: department of Forest Protection, department of Nature Resource and Environment, Department of Forestry, Department of Ethnic People, Farmers Union, Department of Culture, Sport and Tourism...The Quang Nam Association for Conservation of Nature and Environment was established last year. Nature, biodiversity and environment have become the especial concern in Quang Nam province toward sustainable development goal. The Department of Forest Protection and Department of Nature Resource and Environment are two key departments to implement CE action plan with their networks from province - district - commune level.

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

The CECN members are the representative from every village as well as the commune officers so local communities has involved directly in RSG project. The CE training courses and CE handbooks have been provided to the every commune CECN members. The CECN members have gained the basic knowledge and skills to understand and recognise the importance of forest and nature resources for their lives, why they should protect their community forest. They have also known how to strengthen their voice to against forest violators, illegal activities, especially forest corruption.

By these ways, the capacity of grassroots has been built and improved.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I no longer am work for WWF in Quang Nam so I hope my colleague in WWF Quang Nam office and Mr. Nguyen Tan Sinh, FPD Quang Nam CE Officer to continue support our partners implementing *Quang Nam Biodiversity and Natural Resource Conservation Strategy 2005 - 2020; Biodiversity and Natural Resource Law Enforcement Action Plan 2005 - 2010; Conservation education action plan 2005 - 2010; Song Thanh Nature Reserve Management Plan 2005 - 2010*. These efforts will probably gain the 2020 Goal of province "All forest and freshwater systems in Quang Nam are effectively managed under a strategic provincial plan for biodiversity and natural resource conservation, contributing to sustainable development goals through institutional strengthening, good governance, watershed protection and raised standards of living for rural communities".

As deputy CTA, what I can do for continuing this work is to replicate and adapt RSG approach for my current project "Nature Conservation and Sustainable Management of

Natural Resources in Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park Region project, KfW component” in Quang Binh province, central Vietnam.

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

We have published all reports, CE materials by hardcopy and softcopy as well as CD ROM so other people can access the results of our work.

I have also shared the results for our partners in my current Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park Region project. These results will be adapted and replicated in this project.

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

18 months is good enough for implementing the RSG project and submitting final report. However, my RSG project was failed because of the series of mentioned reasons above, there is no problem with timing.

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
Travel/Training	3,200	0	3,200	To refund full budget
For CEWG	1,400	0	1,400	
For district CECNs	800	0	800	
For commune CECNs and CISNs	1,000	0	1,000	
Publication & Materials	1,200	0	1,200	
CE handbooks for CEWG, CECN, CISN.	1,200	0	1,200	
Office costs, communications	600	0	600	

Office costs	300	0	300
Communications	300	0	300
TOTAL	5,000	0	5,000

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

Key CEWG members such as FPD, department of Nature Resource and Environment continue implement the CE action plan as well as establishing and training the CECNs in at least the other mountainous communes.

As a new policy in Vietnam for few years ago, in every forested commune has commune ranger to work. He plays role as adviser for commune people committee on all issues relative to forest and forestry. Commune rangers need to train on appropriate knowledge and skills so he can advice and support commune people committee as well as commune CECN.

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?

I have used the RSGF logo in all relevant materials produced in relation to this project such as meeting, workshop, especially reports and official government documents: Quang Nam Biodiversity and Natural Resource Conservation Strategy 2005 - 2020; Conservation education action plan 2005 - 2010; Conservation education handbook for CEWG and CECN.

We have sent the hardcopies of Quang Nam Biodiversity and Natural Resource Conservation Strategy 2005 - 2020; Biodiversity and Natural Resource Law Enforcement Action Plan 2005 - 2010; Conservation education action plan 2005 - 2010; Song Thanh Nature Reserve Management Plan 2005 – 2010 to RSGF.

I will send soft copy of Conservation education handbook for CEWG and CECN (in Vietnamese version only) as the result of my 2nd RSG.

11. Any other comments?

If possible, I would like to suggest RSGF panel to hand over my second RSG fund as new RSG project to another person in Quang Nam province, who can be sure to implement this project

12. I agree to this report being published on the Rufford Small Grants website

Signed (or print name) _____



