

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

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole Grants Director**

#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Pitra Akhriadi
<b>Project title</b>	Assessment of conservation status of <i>Rafflesia</i> in west Sumatra, Indonesia
<b>RSG reference</b>	32.08.08
<b>Reporting period</b>	2009-2010
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5150
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:leleuita@yahoo.com">leleuita@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	June 30 2010

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

2.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Accessing the distribution site of <i>Rafflesia</i> in west Sumatra			√	Project implementation started in January 2009. It began with a full team meeting to make job description and trained the team to collect field data and mapping the species in the field. In February 2009, team members started to access the study site and continued till June 2009. Nine study areas were accessed on the appropriate project time schedule. One study site was accessed in January 2010.
Locating and mapping <i>Rafflesia</i> in west Sumatra			√	Locating and mapping of <i>Rafflesia</i> in the study site was conducted successfully for six months from February till June 2009. Two study areas were difficult to access because they were located in extreme habitat: one in the bottom of deep valley and another one located in very steep cliff. The cliff can only be reached after the team sailed for one hour from the mainland.
Social network and public awareness			√	Questionnaires and bulletin produced and distributed in the appropriate project time schedule but local workshop and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was postponed till January 27, 2010
Education and conservation training		√		The training started in February 2009 and was planned to finish in November 2009. But Padang suffered a strong earthquake on September 30, 2009 and the training was postponed for 3 months. Finally, the training finished on March 22, 2010. Formerly 16 members of KCA-LH <i>Rafflesia</i> attended the training but 3 of them dropped out with unclear reasons.

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

**4.**

In the beginning we thought it was not difficult to find any particular location reported by the previous researcher. However, the study area is larger than we expected, and the study site is not too easy to find, especially for the study area that is not popular as a tourist destination. To solve this problem, the project coordinator went to the target location first and gathering any appropriate information about the study sites and found the local guide if needed. Any previous local networks established by member of RMT are also very useful to access the study site.

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

For the team, identifying the conservation status of *Rafflesia* in west Sumatra is the first important outcome that is really important to determine the next step to formulate the conservation management plant for the conservation of *Rafflesia* in west Sumatra.

Secondly, the existing population of *Rafflesia* in west Sumatra has been located and mapped. This result is important as this is fundamental basic data to conduct population monitoring in the future. No doubt, insufficient basic data about the species and its population are an inhibiting factor for the conservation of *Rafflesia* in west Sumatra.

The third is the opportunity to identify the conservation problem that faced *Rafflesia arnoldii* R. Br. in Cagar Alam Batang Palupuh and communicate the condition with village stakeholders through Focus Group Discussion to find any constructive ways to eliminate negative impact of the tourism activities in this famous *Rafflesia* nature reserve.

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

Not applicable

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

Yes, in 2011 we will be doing the second part of this study. With these results we have written down a proposal for the next year of work and tried to obtain any support to continue the work to conserve these threatened species.

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

A hard copy of this report will be distributed to Indonesian science institution as a scientific authority of Indonesia, Governmental Unit of Conservation in West Sumatra, local environmental NGOs and local stakeholders. The result of the project will be presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Flora Malesiana Symposium held in Singapore Botanic Garden, Singapore in August 2010. Besides that, if there any symposia and meetings about *Rafflesia*, we will be there to share the results with all interested people.

**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 January 2009 to May 2010. This was different from the project time schedules proposed in the application proposal that planned to finish the project on December 2009. We postponed the conservation training activity for 3 months, because all the members of this working group go down to the disaster area to search and rescue and to help people to get recovery from the impact of earthquake disaster and with distributing the emergency aid from donors. Effectively, the training started again in January 2010 and finished in March 2010. In January the team had an opportunity to access study area 10 that was recently identified by the local people in the study site.

**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
Pre-fieldwork	£650	£650	£0	
Fieldwork	£2,250	£2,525	£275	Increasing of the field cost caused by the cost needs to access two new study areas recently identified by the villagers during the project time. We must rent motorboat to access one of the new study sites
Public Awareness	£1,200	£1,200	£0	
Training	£400	£400	£0	
Reporting	£400	£400	£0	
Contingency	£250	£0	£0	Contingency budget used to cover the deficit of field work cost
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5,150</b>	<b>£5,175</b>	<b>-£25</b>	

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

To finish implementing the project results, we need to gather the important biology and ecological aspect of the species to complement the recent data available to formulate an effective management plan for the species. Determining the priority area based on the condition of the populations and identifying the problems through regular monitoring and promoting participation of the local people to take in part in conservation efforts in the important study site is vital.

**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, the educational material produced during the project has the RSGF logo on the front, as you see in poster, training certificate and during the talks, workshop and results dissemination activities, it was always clear that the project would have not been possible without RSG support.

**11. Any other comments?**

Thank you for your support, all these achievements are because of your help and with this project has begun a new face for the *Rafflesia* conservation in west Sumatra. Any previous observation by the team has got support and hopefully useful to conserve species of concern. We will continue working to create and establish an effective management plan so that the species are kept safe in their habitat and local inhabitants get benefit from the species without disturbing the existence of the species. Any support from you will be appreciated.