

Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation Small Grant Completion Report

Section I: Project information

Project title:	Study and display of wild orchid during Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition for awareness and education
Grantee:	Conifer Forest Research Sub-Centre Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environmental Research (UWICER)
Project period:	30 th April, 2018 to 30 th April, 2019
Total fund:	250000 (Two hundred and fifty thousand)

Section II: Project accomplishment

Project goal: <i>Orchid inventory, create awareness and education, study the ecology of the orchids</i>		
Objective 1: <i>To prepare the list of wild orchids in selected districts of western and central Bhutan</i>		
Project output <i>(List down the outputs as in the Results Framework)</i>	Output achievement <i>(Explain and indicate the tangible results against each output)</i>	Objective achievement <i>(Explain how the collective achievements of output/s have contributed to the accomplishment of the objective/s)</i>
Output 1: Comprehensive list of plants within the orchidaceae family prepared for the central and western region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 orchid species were displayed during the royal flower show at Thangzona and the orchids were mostly collected from Samtse, Thimphu, Bumthang, Chhukha and Wangdiphodrang district. 	Although, the intention was to display all the orchid diversity of western Bhutan during RBFE, the orchids that were not flowering during that period were collected but not displayed. Staffs from Bumthang Division and Wangchuk centennial Park was engaged in collection of the orchids from the field. Ngawang Gyaltsen from Nature Conservation Division was engaged during the flower show to identify the orchids and train the staff in orchid mounting and caring.

Objective 2: <i>Collect and raise wild orchids at NWFP sub-center, UWICER at Darla</i>		
<p>Output 2:</p> <p>Orchids of central and western districts of Bhutan collected and raised at NWFP sub-center at Darla</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition, orchids were collected and permanently mounted on nurse logs or in flower pots using growing medium such as coconut husk, charcoal and sphagnum moss. In some specific orchids, lime stone was used as growing medium. • After the exhibition, the orchids were transported to Darla and it can be still seen at NWFP and agroforestry sub-center . • Poly house (10X5m) with complete accessories have been purchased and set up at NWFP & agroforestry sub-centre Darla. 	<p>In addition to the existing orchid collection at NWFP and agroforestry sub centre at Darla, some special varieties of orchids were collected and mounted. The same orchids after the royal flower exhibition were transported back to Darla and raised in a poly house for research and also for future flower exhibition. The orchid collection of the 4th RBFE was also used during the 5th RBFE at Samdrupjongkhar. Additional orchid collections were made South Eastern part of Bhutan for the 5th RBFE and those also have been transported back to poly house at Darla after the flower show.</p>
Objective 3: <i>Create awareness on wild orchids of western and central Bhutan</i>		
<p>Output 3:</p> <p>Education and awareness on the ecological role and importance of the orchidaceae family in terms of socio-economic benefits created.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to thirty four thousand visitors including the locals, students and tourist visited the 4th Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition at Thangzona held in between 25th to 30th of April, 2018 	<p>The twenty three orchid species that were displayed during the RBFE were labelled with scientific names. During the flower show, two officials from UWICER were at the display location to explain on the importance of conservation and threats to diversity of orchids. Although there was a risk in displaying high value orchids such as <i>Paphiopedilum fairrieanum</i>, we displayed the species in order explain and discourage collectors from collecting from the wild as the natural</p>

	population is very small.
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Section III: Fund utilization status

Total approved budget	Budget disbursed from BTFEC	Total expenditure	Budget to be reimbursed/refunded
250,000 (Two hundred and fifty thousand only)	200,000 (Two Hundred thousand)	203114 (Two hundred thousand, three thousand one hundred and fourteen)	Three thousand one hundred and fourteen to be reimbursed)

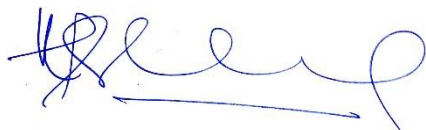
NB: Detail expenditure statement along with original receipts need to be submitted to BTFEC Secretariat for final closing of accounts.

Section IV: Recommendation to BTFEC

Ministry of Agriculture has been instructing UWICER to set up orchid garden since the first Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition at Paro. Since then effort has been to incorporate the expenditure for the flower show in the normal RGoB budget but the amount was never sanctioned till now. The project amount that was sanctioned to UWICER by BTFEC during the 4th RBFEE was very useful in giving hands on training to DoFPS staffs in mounting the orchids and giving post care during exhibition and in the poly house after the exhibition. The exhibits that were displayed during the RBFEE was helpful in educating and creating awareness among the general population on the diversity of orchids, importance of conservation and threats to the orchid diversity. UWICER would like to recommend BTFEC to continually support such activities in the future so that DoFPS could gradually have comprehensive list of orchids across the county. Such support will go a long way in making the general population understand the ecological role and socio-economic importance of the orchid species.

Submitted by:

- a) Name: Kaka Tshering
- b) Date:13/05/2019



- c) Signature: