

Project Update: May 2002

Conservation clubs have been initiated in five primary schools and one secondary school; these clubs have participated in seedling planting for 10 hectares of indigenous plants during the rainy season from March to May. We have also initiated essay writing competition in schools on environmental conservation issues so as to increase environmental conservation awareness.

We had a really successful environmental education conducted throughout the area of the forest reserve which is surrounded by five villages namely Kibangile, Kibungo, Mwarazi, Uponda and Matombo village. The villagers responded positively to environmental education particularly when they were made aware that the kimboza Forest Reserve is rich in Biodiversity and had some flora and fauna species which are not found anywhere in the world.

As a result of environmental education, a total of 23 conservation groups of villagers were formed for the five villages. These groups each one comprising 9 people has agreed to prepare nursery for seedling ready to for planting next year during the long rainy season.

The team has now started distributional and ecological survey of the forest reserve. We hope that our findings will provide the base for recommendations facilitating to protect the area.