

## **Project Update: April 2012**

### *Day of the communal environment dedicated to the protection of the natural reserve of Bururi*

On 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012, as part of the project to reinforce the integrity of the natural forest reserve Bururi, we organised a communal day devoted to environmental awareness for the protection of the nature reserve of Bururi. The central theme of this day was: "the forest is life, preserve it for present and future generations."

The day was graced by the presence of Madam Governor of the province of Bururi, the General Director of the National Institute for Environment and Conservation, the Mayor of the town of Bururi, officials from the town of Bururi province, local populations, environmental clubs from four primary schools and two high schools and a group of drummers.

Walking through the forest was guided by the curator responsible for protected areas of the province of Bururi preceded the ceremonies. Songs, poems, dances and sketches punctuated the speeches of different personalities above. All praised the ecological importance of this forest and tourism.

This day was covered and supported by the corresponding of five radio channels including the national radio and television of Burundi. It was for the first time such an event is organised around the Bururi forest. Immediately after the ceremonies, many participants have publicly committed to support in protecting the forest. The ceremonies were closed by the awards ceremony in nature to the environment clubs.



