

## Project Update: August 2011

Since 16 to August 17, 2011 had hold at the Young Center of the township of Bururi an environmental education sessions to the intention of the young living around the natural reserve of Bururi to change them in important actors in the protection of the natural forest of Bururi.

Expositions on the role and the functions of the forest of Bururi, the threats that weigh on the forest of Bururi, the role of youth in the protection of the reserve of Bururi and a documentary video on the natural reserve of Bururi, had been followed by the participants to this environmental education session. The young had made a guided visit in this reserve in order to educate themselves more of its biological and ecosystem wealth. For most young, although they are born close to this forest, it was for the first time that they discover a similar biological wealth. The end of these 2 days of sensitization has been characterised by an engagement of the young to invest to fight against all form of destruction of the biodiversity of this natural reserve through messages that they read publicly. They gave themselves rendezvous in mid-October 2011 to value the step made in the efficient protection of this reserve.

On 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011 in the office of the natural reserve of Bururi we held a day of reinforcement of the collaboration between 30 representing women of six local organisations and 10 forest rangers in the protection of the natural reserve of Bururi. The meeting was facilitated by Mr Nzigiympa Léonidas, initiator of the project of reinforcement of the integrity of the natural reserve of Bururi. The women and the forest rangers committed to increase their collaboration. They agreed to organise some patrols together in the forest from this week to discourage the recidivists who continue to destroy this forest. They also decided to relieve the message of call to the protection of this forest in all public administrative meetings. This meeting follows a set of other activities foreseen in the proposal: materialisation of the limit; sensitisation of communities and youth. Fruits of this sensitisation campaign have already been harvested: On September 5th and 6th 2011, the governor of the province of Bururi, the mayor of the township of Bururi, the policemen, the soldiers, the populations, all rose like one man to extinguish the bush fires that began to ravage this reserve. This change of behaviour of all social categories around this forest augurs a best future for the conservation of this natural ecosystem.

