

## **Project Update: December 2012**

Work has commenced to identify suitable tree species for planting based on farmers' information, local inventories and field monitoring. In-depth interviews of farmers in Kodagu district of the Western Ghats were carried out to assess tree uses, planting preferences and available areas for planting. Tree growth and land availability studies are being carried out at several farms to assess species' growth behaviour and suitability for the project.

Discussions were also held with prominent community members, local leaders, NGOs and government officers to evolve appropriate incentives and establish a viable supply framework for native tree seedlings. We will continue to interact with and interview farmers in additional areas of the Western Ghats in order to build this database.