

Project Update: February 2012

1. We tried to strictly follow computed values of patch size and isolation from Arc-GIS and Fragstats software to choose sampling sites based on contrasting levels of fragmentation. However, we were somehow constrained with availability of the study species, its seedlings and rarely ripened fruits. Anyway, we selected eight remnant forest patches and we still believe that our choice is based on contrasting levels of fragmentation.
2. Collection of seedling data and samples were successfully accomplished between January and first week of March 2012.
3. We have started processing export permits for our samples and this will be finalised in early April 2012.
4. March is the peak fruiting season of the study species, *Prunus africana*, in our study sites. Hence, we have commenced the seed sample collection and hope that this task will be accomplished in early April 2012.
5. We have communicated with local authorities to arrange a date in April 2012 to conduct conservation training workshop for important stakeholders (forest scouts, representative farmers, conservation practitioners and other relevant authorities).

