Project Update: October 2012

In October 2012, we visited public school in the village Bakuriani of Borjomi district and Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park. We organised seminars and excursions with school pupils to educate them about the biodiversity, life history and importance of the ants as bioindicators and main representations in ecology. During the seminars we underlined the behaviour and life history of the slave making, parasite ant *Myrmoxenus tamarae* which is a good bioindicator and is used in assessment of forests conditions, also biodiversity and importance of the other invertebrate bioindicators. Excursions were conducted with 10-15 pupils in the surroundings of village Bakuriani and Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park. These places contain mixed forests of Lesser Caucasus. The pupils managed to collect ants and associated insects using modern methods. They expressed high interest in this discipline and wished to take part again in such arrangements.

