

## Project Update: October 2017

Updates on progress for 2017: The project is led by Raymond Katebaka, while the Phionah Kansiime is the field based officer and Mercerine Kabanzira the event planner. The completion project with support from RSG resumed with: increase livelihood opportunities for communities involved in CFM of central Uganda.

A national dialogue was organised followed numerous engagements between AUC and NFA to fast track the preparation and signing of CFM agreements (Ref to the Dialogue Report). It's unfortunate that currently no agreement has been signed between communities and NFA. However, the project was launched at the district(s) by Resident District Commissioner (RDC), Local Council Chairman V. This was augmented by local government meetings and raising awareness with the Local Government of Masaka and Mpigi Districts. The field officer initiated working group to discuss and further refined the aims and agenda of the project and formulated the action plan with other relevant stakeholders who have worked to take the project further afield.

Communities in adjacent Kasonke CFR harvesting the palm trees for livelihood. This is a less harmful activity in CFM best practices.



In the picture is Raymond standing with the chairperson of women CFM group in Kasonke CFR.

### **Wild seed harvest**

The seeds of wild palms are harvested to from the CFRs with the *P. reclinata* and processed as a medicinal herb product used in cancer treatment. The products are sold locally today. The project has identified ways to involved best ways to market them for additional value hence improved livelihood.



Upon the launch of the CFM agreement(s) process communities in adjacent of Mpanga CFR improved their CFM land and established a seedbed and currently seedlings are being sold to passers-by in Mpigi District (see the pictures below of how areas was transformed by the communities). The activities undertaken during this period also included promote forest biodiversity conservation through CFM best practices in central Uganda.

### **Restoration**



### **Tourism**

Tourism is one of the livelihood activity required to be improved. In the project area, there is a landmark of an Equator line. At this point numerous tourists bypass every day. The project team visited the area and identified that inadequate tourism product innovation and development. (In set is Denis Lukato) AUC GIS specialist.





A documentary shoot has been part of the ongoing activities. The cameraman and Raymond standing on top of a hill adjacent to Mpanga CFR to ascertain the current degradation.

As a part of forest adjacent communities to foster CFM, an empowerment activity has been co-currently ongoing this included facilitation of capacity building for stakeholders in SFM of central Uganda.



Some communication materials were provided to the participants such as fliers, hats, and t-shirts.

### **Next step**

AUC and NFA are preparation to undertake an Integrated Stock Survey and Management Inventory (ISSMI) for Mpanga and Gganu CFRs. It's upon the completion of ISSMI that report consideration will eventuate into CFM agreement signing.