

**Project Update: October 2012**

As the national tree planting season draws near, the project one leader one forest has intensified its preparatory activities for a successful season. Five villages were mobilised to gather seeds of the species the project intends to plant on the mountainside from mature trees - a total of 90 kg of assorted seeds were collected.

Up to 90 000 seedlings have already germinated in the two nurseries established in the area, and sowing is still underway. The project intends to raise up to 150 000 trees by the end of November 2012 - these should be ready for planting with the very first rains.

From public demand, the project has added another activity specifically targeting the youth, aimed at keeping them off bad habits by involving them in forestry development and management. About 300 boys and girls have registered their names to help the adults in all nursery work as well as the actual tree planting when the season is launched. The project has lined up extra activities for them, mostly sports with support from the local government offices.

