

## **Project Update: January 2014**

The second RSG project aimed at introducing agroforestry practices within the Mikolongwe Valley for soil improvement and wood supply to protect the new mountainside forest started with a general community meeting where a number of changes to the original plan were suggested.

1. Communities agreed that the nursery location be changed to a lower land due to scarcity of water given the period in which the funds were received.
2. It was proposed that eucalyptus be included in the list of tree species to be raised and be planted in upland areas where food was not being grown. Eucalyptus are known to be good firewood and grow fast in the local conditions.

Trees in the nursery are growing very well, although there was slow growth during the first 2 months due to water problems, when the well wasn't deep enough to meet the water requirements of the plants. A total of around 38,000 will be ready for planting in January 2014.

