

Project Update: June 2014

I started to fulfill the first quarter of our project with my colleagues in April 2014. We organised seminars for pupils in Abastumani at N1 and N2 public schools, Varkhani, Khevasheni and Adigeni for 5 days. The pupils and teachers were informed about the importance of ants and butterflies. Especially we emphasized the importance of the ant species (*F. pratensis* and *F. rufa*) and butterfly (*Phengaris alcon*) as good bioindicators for the assessment of fragmentation of forest and meadow ecosystems. During our presentations we talked about butterfly species - *Phengaris alcon*'s interesting life cycle. We showed the photos of *F. pratensis* and *F. rufa*'s nests and explained to them how they were built. Our presentations provoke great interest in pupils and teachers and they also participated in the talks. After the seminars the pupils were taken on the excursions.



Left: Ant collecting. Middle: Field trip in Abastumani. Right: Khevasheni.



Left & Middle: Abastumani School. Right: Varkhani.