

Project Update: September 2015

Activities during June and August

With the beginning of the rainy season in June, we established 30 experimental plots with tree treatments (grazing, cutting and control) and together with the local farmers parts of these plots are enclosed. In July, we planted 2160 pine seedlings of *Pinus oocarpa* in these plots.

We measured the survival of pine seedling during August 2015. Our results were very good, despite the climate in this summer is unusual, precipitation events are scare and temperature are higher than in previous years (ENSO El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon). In addition, we carry out a forest inventory and the census during the rainy season to evaluate natural recruitment. Our first observations showed that natural regeneration is scare or absent.

Next phase of project

The next steps of our study are continue with the monitoring of plant survival, recording the growth rate of competitor grasses and presence of cattle grazing, furthermore a detailed soil analysis of each experimental plot will be conducted.

