

Project Update: November 2015

We managed to complete the first objective on introduction to local communities and authorities. A meeting was held at Malipati Business Centre and in attendance were the local Chief, the Headman, village heads, and members of Dip tank committees as well as representatives from the Rural District Council. The meeting was facilitated by members of the community development trust. We introduced ourselves to the community and made known our agenda. The research work to be carried out was explained and due credit given to the Rufford Foundation for assisting with research funds. The local authorities expressed their appreciation of the intended work and gave the necessary permission for the research work to go ahead. The Chief also expressed concern over the rate of deforestation in his area. Another meeting was held with the management of Gonarezhou National Park who also authorised and endorsed the research work. Therefore, we are now preparing for the next step which is the questionnaire surveys in the different communal areas as according to our listed objectives.