

Project Update: March 2011

The project team is pleased to report that from 10th January to 11th March 2011, it held 20 consultative meetings with local communities, traditional chiefs and other natural resource management committees living around the selected project areas in the Northern Region, Central Region and Southern Region of the country. Two consultative meetings were held in two strategic villages around the following protected areas; Nyika National Park, Vwaza Wildlife Reserve, Mughese Forest Reserve, Mafinga Forest Reserve, Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve, Dzalanyama Forest Reserve, Chongoni Forest Reserve, Liwonde National Park, Lake Chilwa Wetland and Mulanje Mountain Forest Reserve. The main aim of the meetings was to facilitate formation of Community-Based Task Force Committees (CBTFCs) to be responsible for enforcement of wildlife and forest laws and regulations, monitoring and gathering evidence of environmental crimes and build legal cases against those who transgress. The meetings have led to establishment of 30 CBTFCs, nine in the Northern Region, eight in the Central Region and 13 in the Southern Region. The members of these committees will be intensively trained in law enforcement, monitoring and gathering of data and procedures to be followed when building legal cases against transgressors.



Left: One of the CBTFCs established at Mughese Forest Reserve. Right: One of the consultative meetings held at TA Mabuka at Mulanje Secondary School Hall near Mulanje Mountain Forest Reserve.