

Project Update: September 2008

1. Recap of Previous project: During the previous project a number of trees (mainly citrus trees- oranges, eucalyptus) were planted. Due to extreme weather some trees were destroyed, but many individuals that took part in the project are satisfied with the results. A complete update of the level of success to-date will be provided at the end of the second project (Farm forestry for biodiversity conservation) in December of 2008.

2. Activities carried out so far

Activity 1: to perform activity on, we did a feasibility study, which involved going into the neighbouring villages to look for possible schools to give us space for setting up demonstration units. We met with the LC I and LC III Chairmen, who gave us the go ahead. The schools were selected based on interest of the school authorities and the availability of space for the units to be made. One Primary and Secondary school has provided land for the activity. Student education and tree planting will start in mid September, 2008, when the students are back to school for their third and final term in the year.



Figure 1: Land provided by the Primary and secondary schools, August 2008



Left: Dickson with headteacher of in July 2008. Right: Celsus and Dickson In Sangobay, June 2008

Activity 2: Furthering community education programmes on the importance of trees in farm forestry programmes and , environmental best practices and conservation of biodiversity. As a continuation of

the previous programme, our team set itself to listen to several problems that the selected individuals had faced as they were left to take control of the plants that were supplied to them. An evaluation of whether they critically used the conservation knowledge that was given to them, wisely was made, and additional knowledge was provided by the service providers (our team), where necessary. Under this activity the following specific areas were tackled to the advantage of the stakeholders:

- extension services on Wood lot management and marketing
- easy to read booklets on the potential of trees in conservation are being supplied to stakeholders (a copy will be attached in the next report).
- Partnership is being sought with some NGOs in Rakai (Uganda), and Mutukula in neighboring Tanzania to strengthen practices in regional biodiversity conservation.

Activity 3: Research into the role of planted farm forests in biodiversity conservation is being done by a student from Makerere University; this will be part of his special project contributing spatially towards achieving a degree in Wildlife Health and Management. When the thesis is finished, a copy will be sent to RSGF, together with a letter of appreciation.

3. What is remaining?

- Special schools training and set up of a demonstration units.
- More extension services, especially on mixing tree species for habitat patchiness
- Research into the role of planted farm forests in biodiversity conservation.