

## Project Update: February 2011

**1. Gymnosperm Species Community Structures and Regenerations Study** The survey at Pu Luong Nature Reserve found only two isolated population of *Pinus kwangtungensis* on the peak of a limestone hill (20° 25' 981" N; 105° 14' 336" E). Within the survey plot of 1000 m<sup>2</sup> at the top of the hill, the species comprised 27.6% total individuals as compared to other species. The regeneration study found only six very small saplings within 1000 m<sup>2</sup>; these individuals were less than 20 cm in height. It was also observed that germination rate of *Pinus kwangtungensis* was very low. There is no evidence of continuation of its generation development to the next in order to maintain their life cycle.

The field survey found some isolated populations at the peak of a terrestrial hill located at 20° 28' 017" N; 105° 05' 624" E. The study found that the *Amentotaxus yunnanensis* population comprised 5.9 % of the total individuals in this plot community. The regeneration study found 16 saplings; all individual saplings were less than 20 – 60 cm. It was also observed that germination rate of this species was too low.

The survey found two isolated populations of *Cephalotaxus mannii* on terrestrial hills of Pu Luong Nature Reserve (20° 28' 298" N; 105° 05' 156" E), the study found that the *Cephalotaxus mannii* population comprised 6,4% of the individuals in this plot. The regeneration study found 12 saplings; development of seedlings to reach maturity varies, and has apparently taken place for quite a long period. It may be noted that regeneration process is still low.

**2. Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species of Gymnosperm in Northwest of Vietnam** This has been continuing with the planting 400 saplings of Gymnosperm species. This activity is part of efforts to conserve rare, vulnerable, and endangered Gymnosperm species found in the northwest of Vietnam. The project was undertake n further ex-situ conservation through participatory conservation activities involving local people, park staffs and British Embassy staff; they helped to plant 400 gymnosperm saplings at Cuc Phuong National Park (the project was to upgrade the ex-situ Gymnosperm Conservation Center previously established at Cuc Phuong National Park through the First Gymnosperm Conservation at Cuc Phuong National Park project grant sponsored by RSG). The project has been developing a living gene bank of gymnosperm species through the gemination of cuttings and propagation experiments in Cuc Phuong nursery, and to transfer them to the ex-situ Gymnosperm Conservation Center.



