## Project Update: June 2017

Since forest reserves in Ghana are managed by state institutions and held in trust for the local authorities, an approval from the Forest Services Division of Ghana will have to be given before any forest-related activity could be carried out in a reserve. As a result, a proposal was submitted for a grant of a permit to carry out a reforestation project in the Ongwam II Forest Reserve which has fringe communities two of which are Kruwi and Hwidiem, the case study communities.

Interestingly, the Director of Plantations showed a strong interest stating that this is the first small scale plantation project (carried out by an individual and to have official records) with community livelihood improvement and sustainable reforestation strategies attached. He stated that this will serve as a pilot project to measure how effective and efficient future similar projects will be.



Left: Going to mapping area. Right: mapping area.



Left: Site full of elephant grass. Right: Illegal farm in degraded forest reserve.