

Project Update: May 2009

Ten short training courses were conducted on opportunities and promotion of forest-based enterprises to 434 members of Village Natural Resource Management Committees. (I.e. from January to March 2009). These people were drawn from 20 villages surrounding Mulanje Mountain Forest Reserve (MMFR). They were trained in bee-keeping, indigenous fruit harvesting and processing, cane furniture and fire briquette production and guinea fowl rearing. Among the 434 communities trained, there were 18 village headmen and 58% were women. These people will serve as trainer of trainers in their respective areas.

Promotion of income generating activities in the project area has significantly helped communities to see the reason why they should manage indigenous forest resources in MMFR and other areas so as to continue deriving benefits from forest resources.



Left: Part of classes of local communities trained in forest-based enterprises at Nuhasuwa School. Right: Some of the village headmen who were trained in forest-based enterprises sitting with the project leader (far right).