

Project Update: August 2021

January- March 21

Activities: Prospecting, seed collection, germination trial, seedling production and site identification

After the prospecting, we have conducted the collection of tree seeds and the harvesting of cuttings. These activities were followed by the germination trial conducted at the Laboratory of Tree Seeds Centre of Ouagadougou (project partner) and the setting up of the nurseries (Photo 1). A total of 3000 seedlings were produced in the villages of Baré and Tin. We are also identified appropriate sites for the implementation of vegetation enclosure practices and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). Prior to the last activity, we have done a floristic inventory and dendrometry measurements in the chosen sites.



Photo 1: Seedlings of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* ready for transplanting

April – May 2021

Activity: Education campaign and training

We held conservation workshops and training sessions at the regional direction of the National Research Institute of Sciences (Bobo Dioulasso). The purpose of the workshops was to build the capacity of local population and students in the protection of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* and threatened plant species. The training workshops dealt with pertinent plant conservation issues including conservation strategies for endangered woody species with focus on *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides*.

Through PowerPoint presentations, group discussions, demonstrations and video documentaries all the 20 participants were introduced to various ways to engage their peers and community members (Photo 2). The participants were introduced to various ways for sustainable use of natural vegetation in their location.



Photo 2: Group discussions of participants from Baré during the training

June - August 2021

Activity: Planting operation

The project collaborates with local government agencies and National Trees Seeds Centre to plant seedlings of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* by involving the local population. After hole preparation, about 1,500 seedlings of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* were planted in each village from 9th July 2021 (Photo 3).



Photo 3: Seedling of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* planted in a plantation hole at Tin

Next activities to be conducted:

- Implementation of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), to be conducted in September 2021.
- Interviews with local communities.
- Site monitoring and analyses.