

Project Update: December 2009

Activities undertaken based on drawn a work plan in project document:

- The project team organized and held consultation meetings with chiefs and local communities in the project area.
- These meetings were very important because they resulted in lobbying and mobilizing chiefs and local communities to form farmer's clubs/associations.

Achievements

- A number of farmer's clubs/associations have been established in seven villages bordering the project area.
- 10 consultative meetings had been successfully held in villages around Nkuwadzi forest.

Milestones

- The activities have built a good rapport with local communities, including other stakeholders in the project area.
- At least three quarters of the population in the project area had understood the importance of forming and joining farmer's clubs/associations.
- 30 farmer's clubs/associations have been formed in the project area comprising 350 farmers of which 65% (227) are women.
- 5 farmer's clubs are chaired by local chiefs while 18 by women and 7 by men. This shows how women are actively involved in development projects.



Left: Ms. A. Shawa holding one of the consultative meetings in villages around Nkuwadzi forest. Right: One of the women farmers clubs formed in the project area.