

## **Project Update: November 2010**

From 13-22 September and 8-19 November 2010, the project team held a series of meetings with local communities and traditional leaders in 21 villages bordering Kasungu Wildlife Reserve. Ten of the villages visited are in the Zambian side and 11 in Malawi. The aim of the meetings was to solicit views from traditional chiefs and local communities on alternative income-generating activities that can be promoted in their respective villages to offset over-dependency on wildlife resources, which is another major cause of poaching and deforestation in Kasungu Wildlife Reserve. The results of the meetings held have revealed that from both sides, communities are interested in promoting beekeeping (for honey and wax production), fish farming, vegetable cultivation, guinea fowl and poultry farming, and livestock rearing. However, it was pointed out that mushroom cultivation is not a viable entrepreneurship in their areas and hence should not be promoted.

