

Project Update: November 2012

Project progress

The actions of planting water grasses normally thrive. Each peasant grassroots group organises days to plant according to their consensus. The water grasses grow well, however some of them are removed by winds and waves.

For the Munene village, 1 km is planted, for Mkwechi village 900 m and for the Lweba one 1, 5 km. We find it is difficult to count the planted cuttings because as soon as some are removed by waves, the others are planted immediately. September and October 2012 were very bad and our activities enormously decreased; these 2 months were characterised by abundant rains and almost day after day. The lake level has considerably increased, that is why the planting work was bad.

Positive change in the targeted villages

The local people were sensitised and they were well aware of the importance of the lake protection and its biodiversity. It's satisfying to see how the local people are enthusiastic for biodiversity restoration.

But also, the local people associate fish to reeds; we mean, the fishing is done in the water grass boarding. Surely, the species which disappeared begin to reappear. The hippos begin to stay in that region. They take a rest and get food.

Our local grassroots groups have become focus of village development. They don't only incite people to the lake protection and its biodiversity but also to enable them to work for self-reliance in that region, one of the poorest in the world.

Conclusion

All the activities of the project are going well, the Lake ecosystem restoration becomes effective. We are sustainably protecting the lake and its biodiversity.

