

Project Update: June 2013

During April, May and June 2013, Trees for the Future and Agroforestry Organization undertook five training sessions which included three agroforestry workshops and two environmental conservation awareness workshops. Mau Forest has experienced massive deforestation due to various illegal activities which include unlicensed timber harvesting, charcoal burning, cutting down of trees for fuelwood uses and encroachment of forest by community members creating space for cultivation. Trees for the Future and Agroforestry Organization trained these community members from Narok and Mau Narok on various applications of agroforestry techniques which will allow them grow trees on their farms and reduce encroachment of the forest. Some of the techniques taught during the agroforestry workshops included alley cropping, forest gardens, wind breaks, soil improvements, forest restorations and how to integrate trees with food crops. Also, TFFAO undertook environmental conservation awareness aimed at enlightening the community living near Mau Forest on the importance of conserving the forest, reporting all illegal activities taking place inside the forest and forest restoration. Around 1500 community members participated during the training and another more than 5000 will be trained indirectly by some of the participants as trainers of trainers.

The participants were very positive on training and they requested more training and workshops which TFFAO is going to undertake. Regarding nursery work, more than 30,000 tree seedlings have been raised which will be planted in the deforested lands. Also members have agreed to share some seedlings and plant on their farms for timber, fuelwood and fodder leaves since one of the main causes of deforestation is forest encroachment by community members looking for fuel wood, building materials and fodder for their livestock because they don't plant trees on their farms. The remaining trainings will be undertaken during the month of August.



