

Project Update: June 2013

The project officially kicked off on 25th June 2013 when the grant was deposited to the account. According to the work plan, the first activities included meetings with the community leadership and with the community members within the project area as well as developing project training materials. I am happy to report to you the following achievements for June 2013 (last week of June):

1. The core steering committee met the Sub county Community Development Officer (CDO). In the Uganda Local Government Structure, the CDO is the government technical person who oversees/monitors both government and non-government projects in the sub-county. He pledged his support for the project. He requested for our work plan which we ably submitted. He also advised on the villages within the sub-county that needed extra attention with regard to reforestation.



(CDO-on the left & Leonard/Project team leader-right, Gombe HQ)

2. We have been able to register as a Community Based Organisation under the name “The Eco-earth Environment for Peace (TEEP) Initiative). This means that we are legally recognised to operate community based initiatives within Wakiso District in Uganda (as per our organisation objectives). The CDO advised that all village local council leaders within the project area become part of the steering committee as resourceful persons. As founders of the TEEP Initiative, we believe that environmental stability advances prospects for peace, hence the phrase ‘environment for peace’. I am the TEEP Initiative’s Managing Partner.
3. Our website is fully operational (<http://teepinitiative.zohosites.com/>) and The Rufford Foundation support has been fully acknowledged. This is also the case with our headed paper which we use for correspondence on all matters concerning the project.

Upcoming tasks for the period 1st July-31st July

- Completion of training materials
- Two sensitisation workshops: one for the sub-county leadership (councillors within the project area, village local council leaders and the core sub county leadership) and the other for the community members. These workshops will essentially hinge on the ability of indigenous knowledge to effectively inform contemporary environment conservation initiatives.
- Identification of households to benefit from the project interventions. The project targets a maximum of 12 households from each of the five selected villages within the project area.
- Identification of propagation materials for the tree nursery beds.
- Identification of location of the tree nursery beds.