

## Project Update February 2016

During period under review I have managed to organise and conduct the first tree planting campaign on Mwamgongo village land. During this campaign, all village leaders were invited in the meeting where we reviewed the discussion we had before on the seminar conducted and facilitated under this project. We identified the types of indigenous trees that can be planted in the village land; most of which have medicinal values including *Sterculia quinqueloba* and *Cathium crassum*. These two species are the ones on which the efficacy study was conducted in phase one of this project.



Other tree species we agreed to start with are *Moringa oleifera*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Croton macrostachyus* and *Khaya senegalensi* on village land. We conducted a series of seminars to various village leaders, primary teachers and pupils of Mwamgongo village. I also managed to conduct village meetings on the issues of protecting community forest which has great value in ensuring the chimpanzee corridor from Gombe National Park to Zashé Community Forest is revived and protected. The importance of maintaining the community forest and planting trees to various areas in this village was thoroughly discussed to gain public support when tree planting campaign commences.



All village leaders, village environmental committee members and village land use management committee members participated in the seminars which were prepared specifically to each group and later combined. This was done purposely to provide benign environment for the respective members to discuss and learn more about their specific roles and responsibility with respect to the conservation of community forest and supporting agroforestry practices to the villagers' farm.

Seminar to teachers and pupils of the two primary schools within Mwamgongo Village were also conducted due to their importance in supporting community forest conservation. The target group to pupils was standard V, VI and VII. Environmental club was formulated and soon tree nurseries for the both schools will be prepared. Both pupils and teachers will learn how to prepare a tree nursery and later planting them into the schools farm and forest.

The tree planting campaign is planned to be conducted in two phases, around early December 2015 and around early March 2016. November 2015 will be used to enhance capacity building and prepare the entire community to be involved whenever possible in the tree planting campaign.