

## Project Update: March 2017

In this third phase of the project, we focus on the environmental education programme on its development and reinforcement. Various environmental awareness and extension programmes including campaigns, an education mobile with primary school students/youth, and audio/visual programmes, distribution of posters, t-shirts, use of standing banners, session of short documentaries on environment in Malagasy language version have been used.

In the period of the environmental education activities, every category of the local community has been invited to attend such as the chief of the villages, the elders of the villages, young people, men, woman and kids. We have also hold a session especially for the children of the primary school with their teacher. The activities were focused on asking them about their knowledge of 'animals' in the forest and the importance of not destroying the forest and not killing the 'animals'. The impression that children of the site have knowledge and understanding on the importance of the forest and fauna. We have also noticed that the number of kids going to school are considerably increased compared on the previous years when most of children were going to work with their parents in the rice fields. The teacher affirms that this is due to the fact that kids are given free scholars materials from the government.

In order to bring more positive impact to local community concerning the biodiversity richness of the area, we create a 'biodiversity book containing all of the animals that we have recorded since the beginning of this project.



Left: Environmental Education. Right: Environmental education with primary school students.