

Project Update: April 2021

Project background

In this project, we planned to build capacity in the four communities out of eight villages in the area. The aim was to train village conservation leaders in the basic skills of natural forest management, law enforcement at local level and basic forest legislation. In the absence of sufficient forestry officers, local leaders play a significant role. Further, we will be replanting harvested native species in order to recreate ecological habitat, ecosystem processes, services and functioning for the threatened species. We plan to plant native and preexisting species including *Brachystegia*, *Grewia*, *Salacia*, and *Hymenocrdia*. These are native species known to provide the habitat for the endangered *Anthus sokokensis*.

Tree planting and training

The project team conducted training of community members on tree nursery management, seedling handling, appropriate tree planting procedures and post-planting maintenance. The aim of the training was to build capacity among community members so that they become able to properly plant nursery stock, raise seedlings, transport tree seedlings safely and evaluate seedling quality and grade.

Community members were also trained on the essential procedures of how to plan, organise and carry out transplanting seedlings by hand, digging the holes, on-site distribution of the seedlings and actual planting. We conducted a capacity building programme for 67 community members and 121 pupils from two primary schools. The training was conducted in two phases - phase I at the end of January 2021 and phase II in early March 2021. The trained community members will be recruited to prepare sites and conduct actual planting of the trees during the revegetation programme.

Tree planting training – Phase I







Tree planting training - Phase II



