



## Project description

### Aspects of direct feeding competition in wild Siberut Macaques (*Macaca siberu*)

This study investigates defined aspects of the feeding ecology of Siberut macaques (*Macaca siberu*) within the SCP study area and was designed in close cooperation with the PhD-student Christin Richter, in order to support her doctoral work. The behaviour of Siberut macaques at different food patches within the home range of one of Christin's study groups will be observed, to collect data on:

- (1) agonistic interactions,
- (2) the influence of foraging behaviour, and
- (3) the influence of alternative food

on the social behaviour between the different individuals, age and sex classes.

The data to be collected will provide both, a detailed description of the foraging behaviour of *M. siberu* and the influence of food resource characteristics on the social behaviour and aggression rates of individuals within a group. The study's results will provide information on the habitat requirements of Siberut macaques and therefore help to optimize the conservation efforts for this species.

Collection of the data in the field will take place between January 2010 and June 2010. Analysis of data and publication (Master thesis) will be done at the Georg-August University of Göttingen (Courant Research Center "Evolution of social behaviour").