



## **SECOND NATIONAL CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLANNING (CAMP) WORKSHOP FOR PRIORITISATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS OF KENYA**

**VENUE: African Centre for Capacity Building (AICAD)  
Headquarters, JKUAT**

**DATE: 24-26<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

The need for action to conserve medicinal plants has long been recognized by governments and institutions globally. For a country like Kenya where a majority of its population depends on herbal remedies for health care, the demand for plant products far outstrips supply and hence the urgency to put in place measures to ensure survival of medicinal plants resource base. Conservation Assessment and Management Planning (CAMP) is a process that enables consultation and formulation of strategies in a participatory manner for securing threatened species. Hence, the CAMP process provides a platform for stakeholders to share knowledge and data in order resources to come up with an objective basis for conservation action and investment.

For Kenya, the first CAMP process for prioritization of Medicinal plant species was done under the auspices of the IDRC funded Community Based Conservation of Medicinal Plants (CBCMP) project in 2005. A list of 100 medicinal plants species were considered using modified CAMP criteria developed at the workshop and from this, 42 priority species for conservation action agreed. The lists are attached in the annex.

However, in the recent past, additional initiatives have generated additional information and knowledge and data; the threats to both the species and habitats have increased, and the demand for supply intensified. In order to ensure that our conservation efforts are targeted to ensure efficiency and effectiveness, to

ensure continued availability of the medicinal plants resource to support livelihoods and human well being, we well as address the key drivers of threat; the Second National CAMP workshop has been organized to review and update the conservation status of our medicinal plant species.

### **Workshop objectives**

- To agree on the modified CAMP criteria and enhance capacity for conservation assessment of medicinal plant species.
- To review and update the national priority list of medicinal plant species.
- To strengthen institutional and professional collaboration in the area of medicinal plant research, conservation and use.

### **Desired Outcomes**

- Increased understanding of the medicinal plants CAMP process and consensus on tools for the conservation assessment and management planning.
- An updated list of priority medicinal plant species of Kenya.
- Preliminary guidance on priority action, research gaps and policy needs for the priority species.
- A way forward for the dissemination of the CAMP findings for Medicinal plants of Kenya

### **Context of the Workshop**

This workshop is organized jointly by the Useful Plants Project (UPP) and the BGCI/JRS project on implementing the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in East Africa; both based at the National Museums of Kenya. In the past two years, both projects have been involved in medicinal plant work in an effort to build capacity for conservation and promote sustainable utilization. Due to the shared objectives of the two projects, this workshop is co-hosted b both of them.

The Useful Plants Project (UPP) is an off shoot of the RBG Kew global initiative known as the Millennium Seed Bank Project (the MSBP), which provides for the development of collaborative projects between RBG Kew, partner countries and partner institutions. The over all goal of the project is to improve the welfare of poor communities and safeguard from extinction useful plants in Africa and Latin America by supporting capacity of local communities to successfully store and propagate useful plant species.

The BGCI/JRS Project on implementing the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation is a three year regional initiative involving the three East African Countries, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania; with the aim to improve access to information on taxonomy, conservation status and use levels of the regional flora. The project has focused capacity for biodiversity information management, developing medicinal plants databases and conservation assessments. The project output is to mobilize conservation data and information into knowledge in accessible formats for conservation planning and decision making.

