

Project Update: September 2013

Currently, our database has ethnobotany information of 72 species of medicinal plants (MPs) for 42 families. We identified 18 informants from Rivera city and suburbs, Tranqueras city, rural localities (Protected Area) of Lunarejo Valley and La Palma. Respondents of the Protected Area do not attend to medical centres and use MPs that they grow in their gardens, or they harvested from the hills, or are interchanged between neighbours. The sellers have knowledge of conservation practices and hygiene measures to collect and prepare MPs. Seven informants are sellers and harvesters, with 250 clients each on average. We have detected problems for conservation management of some species (e.g. *Scutia buxifolia*). A harvester from the city reported the present difficulty of access to the resource: "I used to walk 5 km to find the weed (yuyo), now you have to walk 10 km".

