Project Update: January 2015

I am glad that the accepted paper which I attached on my December 2014 report has now being published online at European Journal of Medicinal Plants after the payment process was complete. The paper is attached in this report.

In disseminating the information obtained from the lab work I started with the known traditional healers surrounding Gombe National Park, I decided to opt for this approach purposely, in order to gain their trust and co-operation in the great plan ahead, i.e. public education activities to schools, village people and village leaders which will be done hand in hand with planting some trees that are of medicinal values and off-course any other trees that will be found important by the community. The plan here is to create connection between planting of trees and their values, to ensure sustainability of the identified activities.

Although, it wasn't an easy task, I also managed to find ways to document some of the medicinal plants known by traditional healers around Gombe National Park which are inside and outside the park i.e. adjacent villages to Gombe National Park. This park is surrounded by four villages i.e. Mtanga, Chankele, Bitale and Mwamgongo and up to now I have managed to travel into three villages (Mtanga, Mwamgongo and Chankele) and visit elders who are known to have this knowledge. They find it good to support the idea of updating the park information on the medicinal plants found in Gombe National Park and its surrounding communities. I obtained a number of plants which I later made an effort to identify them scientifically since those elders only know plant species by their local names. In so doing I managed to disseminate my findings to the key practitioners which I hope they are an asset for educating others on the importance of forest to community.

Development of this critical information is taken as a prerequisite for implementing conservation education relating to medicinal values of the forest around Kigoma region. Therefore I am still continuing to obtain further information from the last village i.e. Bitale to finalizing the activity of documenting plants which are known to have medicinal values and which are used by the communities around Gombe National Park.

Table 1: Table which show medicinal plants found in Gombe National Park and adjacent community as mentioned by some of traditional healers around Gombe National Park

S/No	Local Name in Kiha Language	Scientific Name	Medicinal Value	Plant Part
1.	Bucheli	*Cyperus alternifolius*	Skin fungus, male aphrodiasic, respiratory infections	Leaves and roots
2.	Budyankende	*Monanthotaxis poggei*	Antidote for snakebite, stomach-ache	roots
3.	Buliga	*Dioscorea dumetorum*	Antidiabetic	Tuber

4.	Embipori	*Afrosersalisia cerasifera*	Skin fungus	Roots
5.	Gologombe	*Ficus* spp.	Skin infection, cuts, toothache	Latex
6.	Kachinda Nfizi	*Ectadiopsis oblongifolia*	Stomach ache, root, gonorrhoea coughing, diarrhea, Malaria	Roots and leaves
7.	Kahawa Mwitu	*Oxyanthus speciosus*	Headache, low level of haemoglobin	Leaves
8.	Kamasi	*Azanza garckeana*	Malaria, liver problem	Roots and leaves
9.	Kamembe	*Bridelia cathartica*	Skin infections, diarrhea, respiratory infections, pneumonia	roots
10.	Karusambwa	*Stephania abyssinica*	Dysentery, diarrhoe, stomach complaints, STDs, eye problem, malaria	Leaves and roots
11.	Kibolela	*Mussaenda arcuata*	Contraceptive agent, dysentery, boils	Leaves and roots
12.	Kifumbe	*Piliostigma thonningii*	Intestinal worms, bacterial infections and anti-inflammation	Stem and root
13.	Kifumufumu	*Ficus* spp.	Bacterial infections, pneumonia, heart problems	Leaves
14.	Kihololo	*Ficus trichopoda*	Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-diarrheal	Stem
15.	Kihondogori	*Cussonia arborea*	Anemia, ant-diarrhoea, venereal diseases, cough in children, fever, anti-malaria	Roots and stem barks
16.	Kihungere	*Protea* sp.		
17.	Kijigojigo	*Ficus vallis-choudae*	Child fever, gastro enteritis, dysentery, anaemia	Leaves root barks and stem barks
18.	Kikali	*Zanha golungensis*	Anti-malaria, wounds and hernia	Root and stem barks
19.	Kinuke	*Hyptis suaveolens*	Gastric ulcers, parasitic cutaneous diseases, anti-inflammatory, wounds	Leaves
20.	Kirukamseke	*Sterculia tragacantha*	Anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory, boils, anti-	Leaves and root barks

			venom (snake bite), gonorrhea, syphilis, tapeworm	
21.	Kulimwonga	*Ipomoea cairica*	Urinary infection, sterility in women, constipation, anti-fungal	Leaves and root barks
22.	Lusieno Makubwa	*Ficus exasperate*	Intestinal pains, bleeding and wounds, high blood pressure, rheumatism, asthma and venereal diseases	Leaves and root barks
23.	Lusieno ndogo	*Ficus asperifolia*	Anti-diabetic, purgative, sterility	Leaves
24.	Mabungo katikati	*Saba comorensis* bar. Florida	Rheumatism, antifungal, food poisoning, dysentery	Leaves and stem barks
25.	Mabungo Makavu	*Salacia leptoclada*	Anti-malaria, anti-anthritis, diabetic	Leaves and stem barks
26.	Mabungo mgege	*Syzygium cumini*	Asthma, dysentery, ulcers	Leaves and stem barks
27.	Magusu	*Uapaca kirkiana*	Dysentery	Roots
28.	Manyashe	*Steganotaenia araliacea*	Pneumonia, asthma, peptic ulcer, fever, dysentery	Stem bark

Among of the village elders who has indiginous knowledge on medicinal plants from whom I collected information on various medicinal plants.

One of the traditional healers showing me some of the plants used to treat various diseases and how they collect the bark. It will be very unfortunate that if these plants will not be found in the near future. Therefore my passion is to get to see to it that we have as many duplicate of it as possible.

Mtanga village, a village near the park some of the hills have been cleared for other activities it is my objective to assist community to practice more sustainable activities including agroforestry activities to ensure land is protected. This offers me an opportunity to implementing the idea of planting the medicinal plants.

I am also plan to find a place for preparing a botanical garden for medicinal plants, since I have enough number of plant species identified to start with.

Another activity which I did was to start small tree nursery garden for the *Sterculia quinqueloba* which will be among of the trees that will be supplied to schools and communities for planting and educating them.

Prepared nursery for 500 seedling of *S. quinqueloba* the scientific authenticated medicinal plant, which will be supplied to communities including schools for planting