

## Project Update: January 2015

In the first 6 months of conducting the project (from August 2014), we carried out all activities followed to the schedule. First, we had a good preparation for the field trip in Tam Dao National park, such as buying necessary equipments (plant scissors, newsprint, press straps, string tags etc) and making good contacts with the park authorities. After 5 collecting days, we had nearly 170 plant specimens. We also had a video file and many pictures describing plant morphology and habitats (the pristine habitat vs. the urban habitat). All specimens were handled by standardized methods in the museum. We recorded 52 species belonging to 36 families and four phyla. We are building the botanical collection by sewing samples on Croki papers (28 cm x 42 cm), labelling with scientific information, displaying in a closed transparent plastic bag and stored in plastic herbarium containers with the preservative chemical (naphthalene granules). We already made a contact with the teachers and parents of a class of grade 11 at Nguyen Hue High school for gifted students, Hanoi and a detailed schedule of the Tam Dao conservation class is fixed after a very constructive discussion.

