



George Nakhutsrishvili

Red List Authority Coordinator

George Nakhutsrishvili

Location/Affiliation

Institute of Botany, Ilia State University,
Tbilisi, Georgia

Number of members

45

Mission statement

The mission of the Caucasus Plant RLA is to contribute to increase current knowledge on the taxonomy and ecology of the species in the Caucasus and promote their long-term conservation.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

■ Research activities

i. We published a book: *Caucasus Ethnobotany* (2017). Rainer Bussmann (Ed.). Springer, 717 pp. The book contains information on traditional use of about 200 plant species in the three countries of the South Caucasus: Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The publication is based on literature data as well as field data collected in the last five years. (KSR #43)

Acknowledgements

We thank Dr. Rainer Bussmann for initiating and accomplishing the task of collection and publication of data on traditional use of plants in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Barometer of life

Red List: Finalise editing of 200 Red List assessments in SIS database for publication on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By collection of ethnobotanical data, the Caucasus Plant RLA members contributed substantially (most comprehensively for wild plant species traditionally used for food for thousands of years) to the accomplishment of a requirement of the Caucasus Plant Initiative: A Regional Plant Conservation Strategy for 2012-2020 (<https://www.mobot.org/MOBOT/Research/pdf/RedBook69mobot.pdf>), which is formulated as follows: Indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices associated with plant resources, maintained or increased, as appropriate, to support customary use, sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care. The team is continuing activities on this direction to collect and publish data on more diverse uses of plants in a broader geographic scale within the Caucasus region, which by preserving traditional knowledge of human-nature interaction helps in creation of a basis for sustainable use schemes of wild plant resources. Also, publication of about 200 assessments on the IUCN Red List of Threatened species will help in conservation of these species as well as associated habitats.



Traditional household utensils reflecting various uses of timber and other plant materials in the field museum in Tusheti, Georgia
Photo: K. Batsatsashvili

Local healer's medicinal plant collection in Tusheti, Georgia
Photo: K. Batsatsashvili



Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 1/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 43

KSR: Key Species Result

