Mission statement

The mission of the East African Red List Authority (EARLA) is to bring botanists within the Eastern African region together to document the plants and assess and document their risk of extinction and thereby publicise the threats and encourage their conservation.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

- Red List
  i. Three workshops have thus far been held as part of the Lake Victoria Basin Project, the first was held in Kampala Uganda, in April 2016, and 185 taxa were assessed; the second was held in Huye Rwanda, in September 2016, where 189 taxa were assessed; and a third one in January 2017, in Entebbe Uganda, where 111 taxa were assessed. (KSR #1)

Capacity building

- Capacity building
  i. The EARLA has 15 members from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan and three ex-regional members from the UK and US. Membership includes expert botanists from the region’s main herbaria and universities. For each workshop on red listing, all members attend and bring data from their respective institutions; each assessment workshop deepens the capacity of members to conduct Red List assessments. (KSR #5)

Acknowledgements

We thank the MacArthur Foundation for funding of the Lake Victoria Basin Plant Red List Project. We acknowledge Will Darwall and the Freshwater Plant Specialist Group for bringing the EARLA into the Lake Victoria Basin Project. We also thank the members of the Dragonfly Specialist Group for involving EARLA in their fieldwork.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Barometer of life

Red List: (1) all backlog (going back to 2005) assessments published on RL website; (2) assess 600 plant species as part of the Lake Victoria Basin; (3) all trees from the East Africa region assessed by the EARLA and provided to the Global Tree Assessment; (4) conduct one workshop with balance of Mohamed bin Zayed funding.

Capacity building

Capacity building: develop ongoing capacity amongst East Africa botanists to take part and conduct Red List assessments.

Conservation action

Proposal development and funding: the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) funded South Sudan project either completed or officially abandoned depending to security in the country.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By 2020, make a serious contribution to the knowledge and conservation of plants within the East Africa Region, by completing a range of red listing projects and, through collaborations with the Red List Unit, update and publish backlog assessments from previous quadrennia.
Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 2/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:
- Barometer of life (1 activity)
- Capacity building (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 5

KSR: Key Species Result

Euphorbia hubertii
Photo: Quentin Luke

Barleria penelopeana, Endangered
Photo: Quentin Luke

Diospyros shimbaensis, Endangered
Photo: Quentin Luke