



Sud Expert Plantes Développement Durable (SEP2D)

Application form – 4th call for projects

« Collections »



Project title: Digitalisation for collection management of the National Herbarium of Gabon

Schedule: 2017-2020

Project leader: Dr. Pulcherie Bissiengou

Project summary: The National Herbarium of Gabon houses more than 70000 specimens. This results to the collecting efforts of Gabonese botanists as well as other botanists around the world, especially from Netherlands, Belgium, United States and United Kingdom. Several collections have been digitalised and taxonomic information can be retrieved through different database such as BRAHMS, GBIF. However, with a continuous collection size enlargement, some collections are still kept with no curation, that is not digitalised, labelled, mounted, sorted, arranged in cabinet and not listed in any database. This situation does not ease access to specimens and their associated data. Based on the fact that, herbarium collections are source of taxonomic information valuable in conservation and biodiversity studies, the present project aims to digitalise all collections in order to make information they contain easily available to general public and the scientific community.

Planned activities for the digitalisation process will be as follow:

- pest control
- digitalisation (specimen data entry, upload specimens data, printing out labels) using BRAHMS software
- mounting herbarium specimens
- storage and organization in cabinet
- taxonomic update
- Scanning of types and endemic species specimens

The expected result is to digitalise all approximately 10000 specimens kept at the main collection room and to curate about 10000 unmounted specimens stored at the mounting room. The types (1400) and endemic (580) species specimens will be scanned.