

Project: Sustainability of protected areas ensured by enhancing the knowledge of communities of all levels on biodiversity, the prevailing legislature and global policies through publications.

Project Number :SRL/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/2014/07

Grantee organization : Field Botanist Association

Period: (18 months) 2014/2015 (Completed)

Role of TERN: Knowledge Management and Capacity Building

Plant identification is a hobby which developed in to science overtime. At present it is necessary and useful for researchers, professionals, students, agriculturists, foresters and many others in different fields including policy implementation. However, unlike in the field of fauna, resources available for identification of flora is insufficient. This project was implemented as the second phase of a GEF/ SGP project to address the gap in quality field identification material for plants. Under the first phase a checklist was published for plants of Sri Lanka containing plant taxonomy information in Sinhala,Tamil and English.

Under the current phase, a plant field guide including 384 plants of Sri Lanka has being published in Sinhala medium. It will be distributed in local schools and universities. Simultaneous to the publishing the book, the grantee has conducted several awareness development programmes for different stake holders including students and forest department staff. The author of the book is a well respected retired forester with a vast amount of field experiences and knowledge on plants of Sri Lanka.