

Project Update: October 2016

Findings and way forward: We found that the native and indigenous plants are further imperilled due to alien invasives and land use change. Climate change and socio-cultural change curtailed the effect. The knowledge associated with these indigenous medicinal plants species is in jeopardy amid the changes of climate, land-use, socio-culture and bio-medicalisation. This is further plagued due to traditional healers' and elderly peoples' unwillingness to fully share what they regard as secret information. Thus more participatory research convincing local communities about the importance of indigenous knowledge and indigenous medicinal plants to the future generation is immediate. GIS mapping, distribution modelling using IDW and documentation and conserving indigenous species like *Paris polyphylla* and *Oroxylum indicum* and their associated knowledge would greatly extend the conservation education among community members and their children and outreach to the larger communities.



Left: Our flier poster posted in wall of forest office for wider information. Right: Flowers of *Oroxylum* used for religious and ritual purposes.



Left: A villager collecting *Oroxylum* pod. Right: Ripu with Prof Keshab Shrestha in field.