Project Update: June 2015

From March to June 2015, we explored various valleys of Chitral from Briir, Bombrait, Drosh, Lowari, etc.

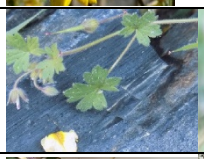
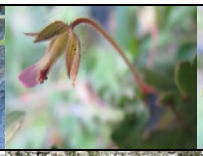
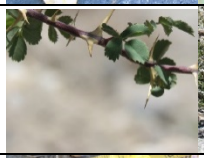
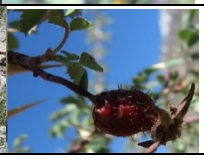
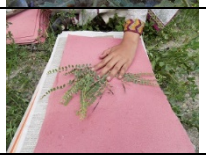
The exploration has been done from unique endemic flora from here and we found 17 total populations of endemic plants including one each for *Sophora mollis duthiei* and *Sophora mollis griffithii*, three for *Geranium pamiricum,* one for *Berberis brevissima,* one for *Malcolmia cabulica* var. *toppinii*, four for *Astragalus psilocentros* var. *psilocentros*, two for *Galium chitralensis*, one each for *Allium barszezewskii*, *Androsace lowariensis*, *Androsace aizon brririness* and *Oxtropis brririness*.

We also collected a few seeds of narrowly endemic plants (*Androsace aizon himalica* (ssp *brirriness*)*, Sohpora mollis grifftheii*). The leaves of are also collected in slica gel for next further molecular work.

There is sign of climate change in all valleys as previously no rainfall in April, May, and June recorded. The fields are managed in such a way to explore lower Chitral in earlier summer (until June) and next to upper Chitral (July onward) due to snow cover area.

New population of few also found, for e.g *Galium chitralensis* is found near the village of Brir valley as well as near lowari tunnel.

<u>Following endemics recorded:</u>

Sophora mollis duthiei	
Geranium pamiricum	  
Berberis brevissima	  
Malcolmia cabulica var. *toppinii* 1	
Sophora mollis griffithii	

Astragalus psilocentros var. *psilocentros*	*Galium chitralensis*
Allium barszezewskii	*Androsace lowariensis*
Androsace aizon bririness	*Oxtropis brirines*