Project Update: December 2018

Summary
All literature, databases and herbarium specimens (Cairo University Herbarium, Agriculture Museum, and Desert Research Center) were revised and all localities of the vascular plants endemic to Matrouh Governorate (west Mediterranean coast of Egypt) were georeferenced in the GIS environment. Relevant institutions, such as the Sustainable Development Center for Matrouh Resources (Desert Research Center) and local inhabitants, were also informed and involved in the collection of data and threats associated with each taxon. Moreover, field surveys were done from April to August 2018; all possible sites within Matrouh Governorate and the current localities of three endemic taxa *Allium mareoticum*, *Pancratium arabicum* and *Anthemis microsperma* were georeferenced by using a GPS receiver. In the next stage, we will condense our survey to involve a lot of local people, awareness program and distribution of our printed materials.

In addition, in the next spring 2019, our searches will be focused on the localities of other three endemic taxa, *Bellevalia salah-eidii*, *Muscari albiflorum* and *Sonchus macrocarpus,* in order to improve the possible poor knowledge about their distribution and threats. All available coordinates will be used to carry out reiterative species distribution models, which will be used to improve the resolution of distributional and ecological ranges, as well as for finding other potential sites.

Page of the project on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/171096547045314/

Matrouh Governorate (Study area)

Pancratium arabicum (an endemic species in the study area).

Researcher catch Pancratium arabicum