

Weed knowledge in Western Indian Ocean and Southern African region

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## ABSTRACT

Biodiversity information on weeds, covering species descriptions and distribution, is essential for understanding the ecology and distribution of weeds and their management. WIKWIO (Weed Identification and Knowledge in the Western Indian Ocean), a European Union's African Caribbean Pacific Science & Technology II programme funded project, is focused on the Western Indian Ocean region to develop species information systems on weeds in food and cash crops. Wikwio aims to assimilate weed knowledge through its participatory portal to strengthen a science and technology network of stakeholders such as scientists, extensionists and farmers in the African region.

The portal platform has a Citizen Science module, a graphic driven species identification module, a species pages module conforming to Species Profile Model and a spatial module. Subscribing to open data paradigm, all the data on the portal is covered by Creative Commons license framework. Mobile applications for identifying 345 weed species and contributing to citizen science module are deployed. The poster will expose the portal features and related apps seeking participation from the stakeholders from the African region.

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