



## Conservation of Eastern European medicinal plants: Arnica Montan in Romania

MICHLER Barbara, KATHE W., SCHMITT Susanne - World Wide Fund For Nature Londra  
ROTAR I., PACURAR F. - USAMV Cluj-Napoca

The purposes of the project is to to develop a model for the sustainable production and trade of Arnica montana resulting in benefits for biodiversity and livelihoods. The principles of which can be used to inform the development of conservation approaches and methodologies for other endangered medicinal and aromatic plants and their habitats. This model can be tested on other species and will have conservation benefits for habitats, extending beyond benefits for the targeted species. Ecological management and human management are equally challenging and essential for the success of the project. Based on experiences from a previous project and preliminary scientific data on Arnica distribution, growth and reproduction in the area, key components for successful project implementation have been identified: research on Arnica ecology, trade chain, socio-economic context and drying methods; training and capacity building; development of a local Resource Management and Trade Association; development and construction of Arnica drying facilities.