



NDF WORKSHOP
WG 4 – Geophytes and Epiphytes
CASE STUDY 5 SUMMARY
Ansellia Lindl
Country – **Kenya**
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NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS FOR THE GENUS *ANSELLIA* LINDL. IN KENYA

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The genus *Ansellia* Lindl. belongs to the family Orchidaceae, one of the largest and most diverse families of the flowering plants. It comprises one morphologically variable species, *Ansellia africana*, which is widely distributed but restricted to the continent of Africa.

Field surveys and inventories undertaken in five Provinces with distinct *Ansellia* populations, show that the genus is widespread in Kenya. Based on local qualitative data and field studies, marked declines in populations are recorded and major threats identified. These include unsustainable national utilization for commercial purposes, loss/alteration and fragmentation of the habitats and natural causes. Data obtained from the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Center (UNEP-WCMC) and questionnaires on trade and utilization of *Ansellia* both at the national and international level is analyzed. Results show that national utilization in relation to international trade is significant and has impacted negatively on wild populations. Information from the Internet indicates that there is an international demand for *Ansellia* as potted plants. Conservation and management plans for the species are considered through field verifications and interviews. It is evident that species management programmes or equivalent are lacking. Population trends are not monitored and habitats are not effectively protected. A non-detriment finding indicates that harvest methods are unsustainable and control measures are inadequate.

Key words: *Ansellia*-Orchidaceae-Kenya-Trade-Conservation