



Wendy “Who missed the flight” Mkhize

SA Student 2017 Nominee
(IPPS Conference 2018)

WHERE IT ALL STARTED (Back ground in hort):

▶ My father was a garden boy

▶ Worked at a nursery

▶ Worked for Real Landscapes (Servest)



Landscaping company



Vico Holdings (PTY) Ltd.

JV



Ushaka Marine World



Suncoast Casino



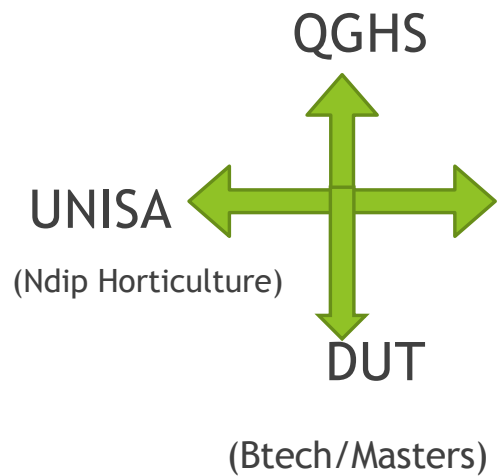
Isibaya Casino



► My father passed away



► Thanks mommy



← 2016 →



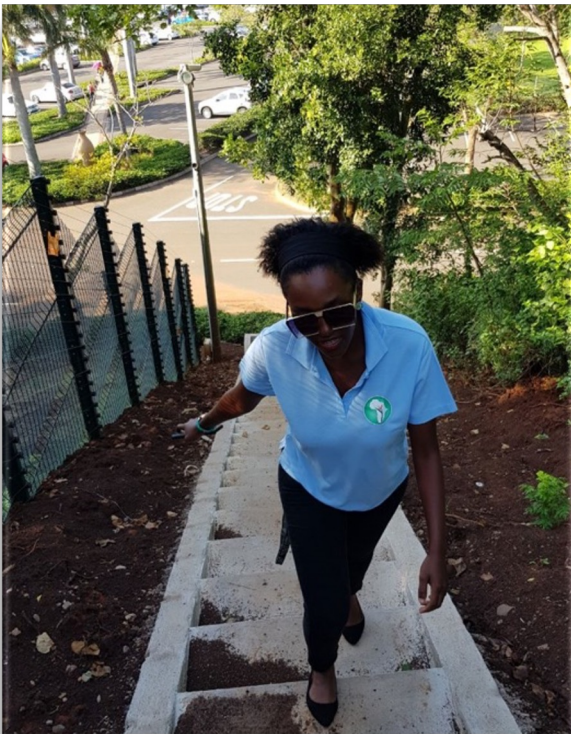
WHERE I COME FROM:

- ▶ Hail the Zulu!
- ▶ From Umbumbulu (eMadundube) KZN



EXPERIENCE:

- ▶ Vico Landscaping - Site manager (2008-2010)
- ▶ Servest Landscaping -Intern/ Facilitator/L.designer (2010-2018)
- ▶ eThekweni Municipality -Horticulturist (2018-...)

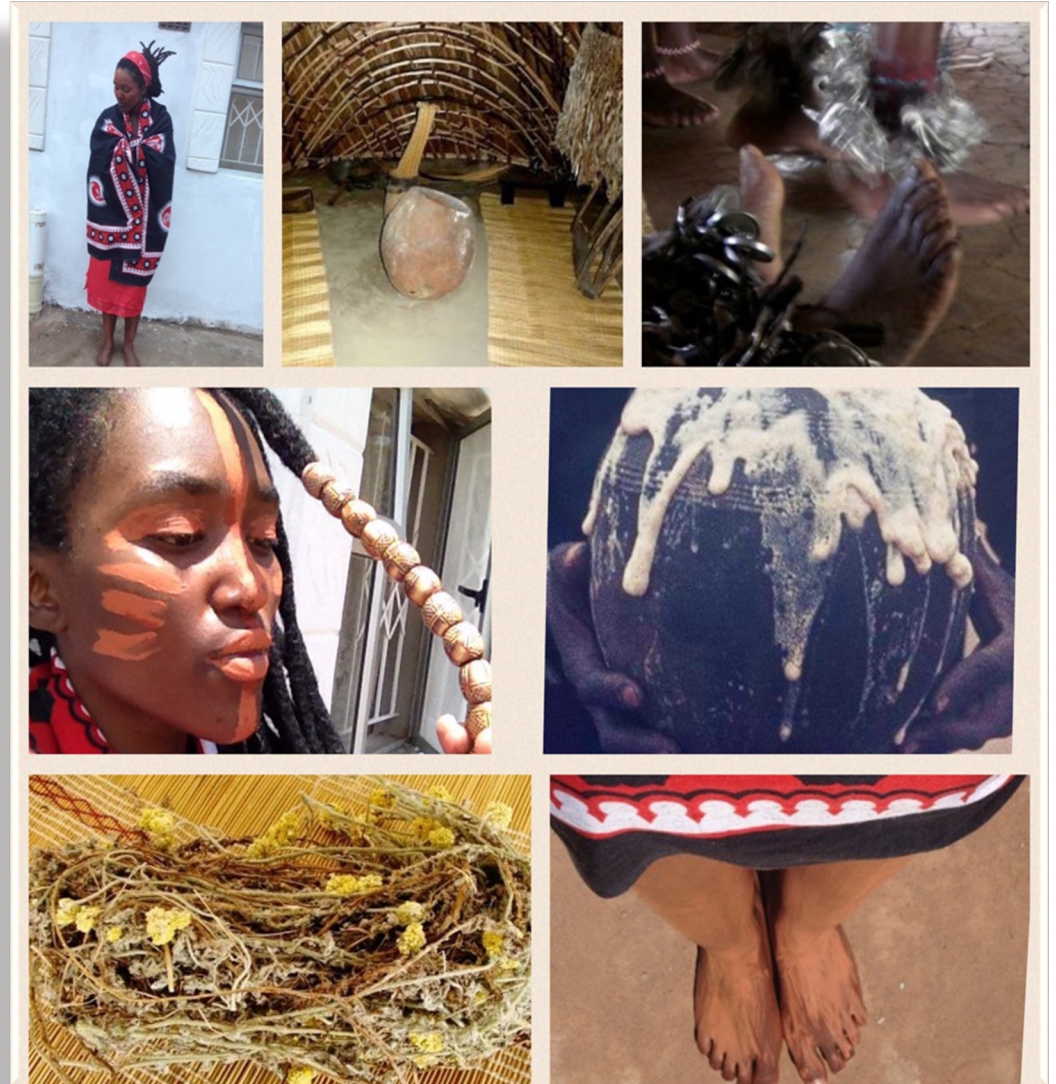




Silver SALI Award: The Best Domestic Design 2012

FIELD OF INTEREST:

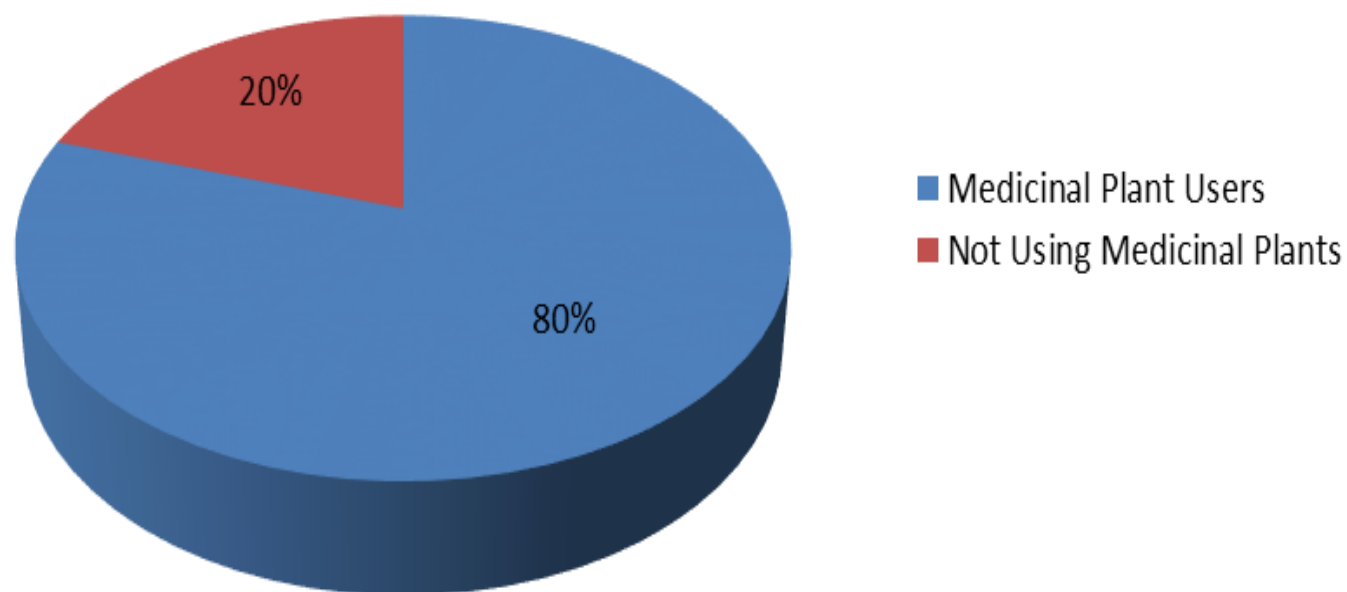
- ▶ Medicinal plants
 - Traditional medicine
- ▶ “Igobongo”
- ▶ Plants used in the ritual:
 - *Acacia xanthophloea* (uMkhanya kude)
 - Helichrysum sp.
- ▶ Done prior the initiation of ukuthwasa



IMPORTANCE OF MEDICINAL PLANTS:

- ▶ According to R.A Street & G Prinsloo (2013.1) “There is a growing interest in natural plant-based remedies as a source for commercial products. Around 80% of the South African population use traditional medicines to meet their primary health care needs; however, only a few South African medicinal plants have been exploited to their full potential in terms of commercialization. ”

The use of medicinal plants in South Africa






[R. A. Street](#) and [G. Prinsloo](#) Journal of Chemistry
Volume 2013 (2013), Article ID 205048

<https://www.hindawi.com/journals/jchem/2013/205048/>

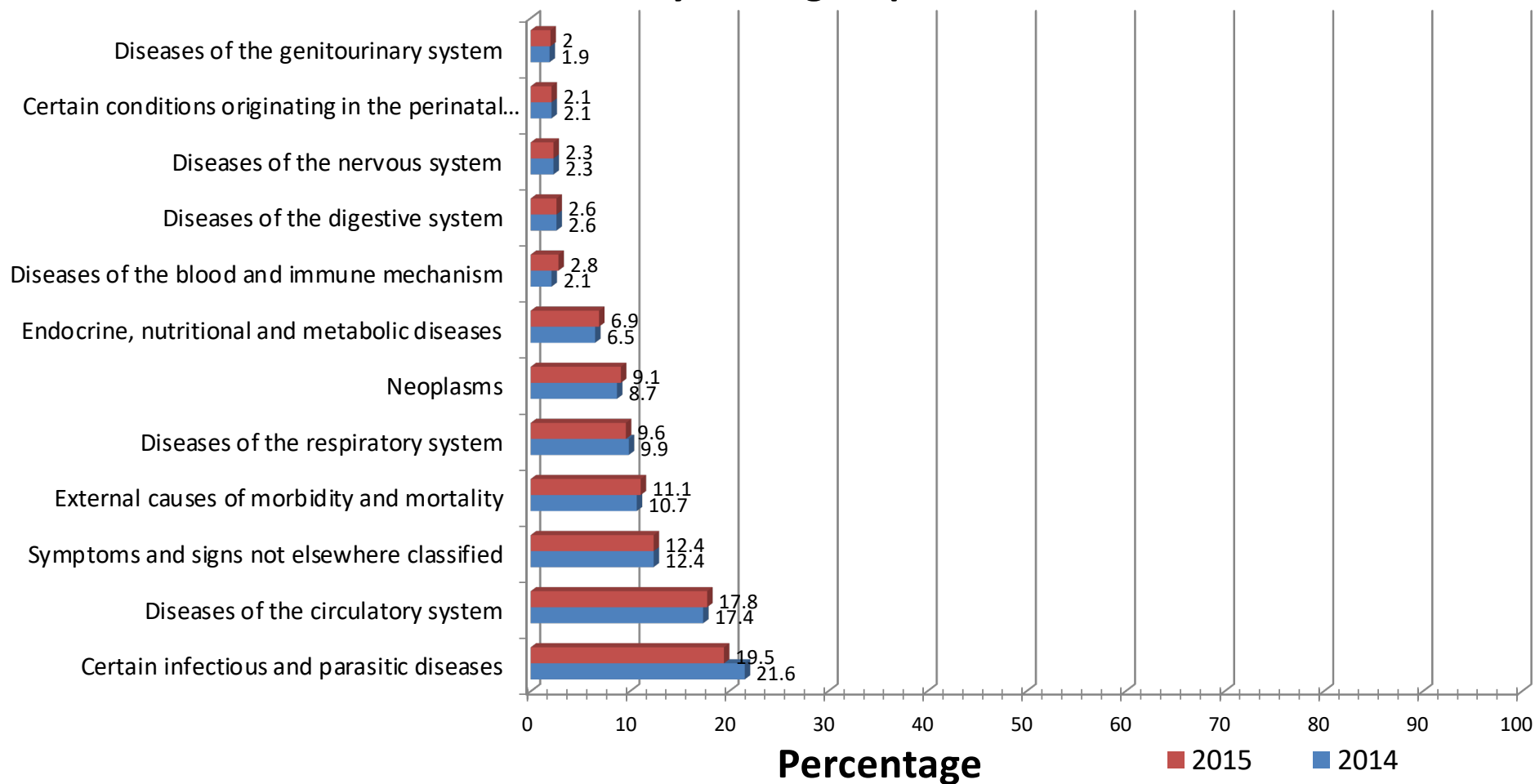
- ▶ These statistics are a clear indication of the relevance of medicinal plants in South Africa
- ▶ our population is currently estimated at **57 398 421** in the whole country, **45 918 736.8** of those people are using medicinal plants. In its raw form or as a pharmaceutical extract.



WHY IS HUMAN HEALTH IMPORTANT?

- ▶ To be healthy simply means to be alive.
- ▶ Stats SA released statistics that indicates the percentage of the main causes of deaths in South Africa 2014-2015.
- ▶ Over the 2 years SA Stats indicates a 98.2% of deaths were due to illnesses/diseases  medicinal plants   deaths.

% distribution of deaths by main groups of causes of death 2014-2015

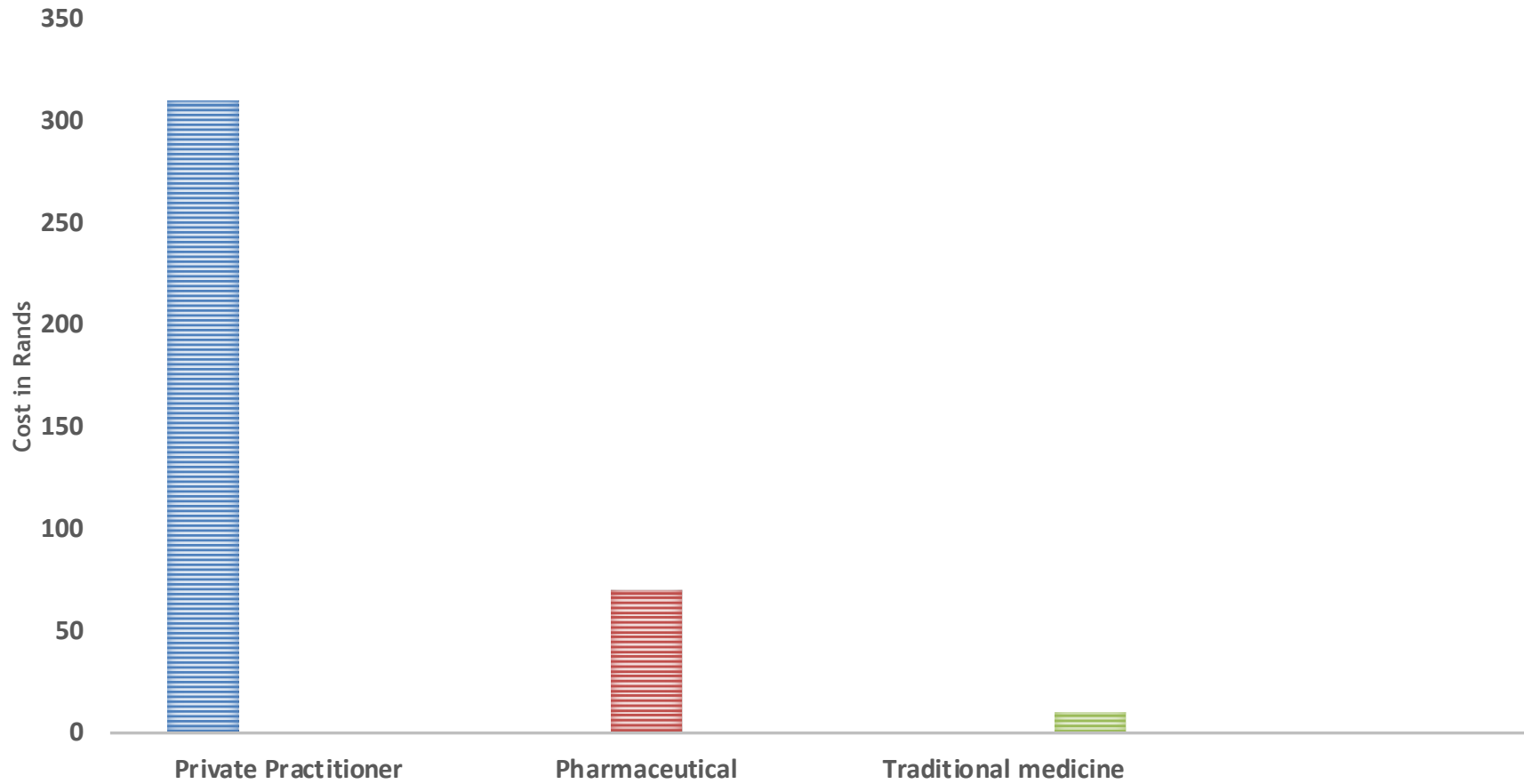


OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH PROJECT (Btech):

- ▶ I researched the use of African potato in Durban KZN, under the title “*Hypoxis hemerocallidea* (Hypoxidaceae): Characterising potential for medicinal value and developing tools for conservation.”
- ▶ Main objective → CONSERVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANT.
- ▶ Other objectives included -methods of use & cost of medicinal plants.
- ▶ **OVER HARVESTING!!!**



MEDICINAL PLANTS A CHEAPER OPTION IN DURBAN (KZN)



THE DIFFERENT USES OF MEDICINAL PLANTS:

- ▶ Bathing/soaking in
- ▶ Drinking
- ▶ Applying onto body/skin
- ▶ Gargling
- ▶ Steaming



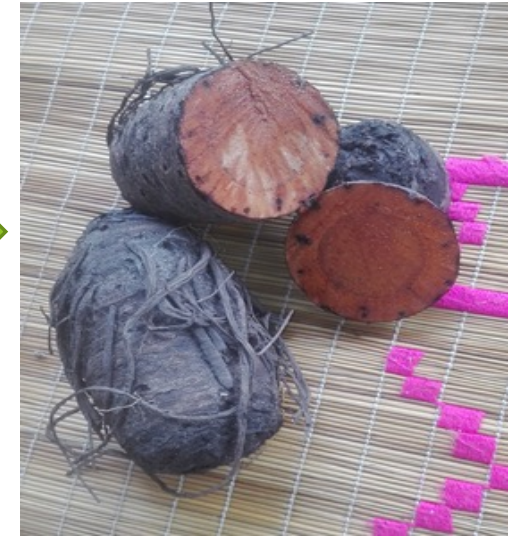
5 COMMONLY USED MEDICINAL PLANTS IN DURBAN-KZN:



Helichrysum sp. Ancestral Bluetooth



Aloe vera/ferox



Hypoxis hemerocallidea



Clivia miniata



Acacia Xanthophloea



WHAT I HOPE TO GAIN BY GOING TO Oz:

- ▶ Intense propagation skills/knowledge, particularly tissue culture
- ▶ Use skills to aid the over harvesting of medicinal plants with no conservation in KZN.
- ▶ Experience gained will assist in my master's degree research (medicinal plant active gene/side effect causing gene-Identify/Isolate/Improve/Conserve)
- ▶ International exposure & maybe possible FUTURE collaboration for my PhD.
- ▶ Visiting Lara Osborne (my roomie)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- ▶ Dr Lucy Gitonga (HOD Horticulture-DUT)
- ▶ MaDlamini (Retail herbalist Warwick Junction Herbal/Muthi Market Durban)
- ▶ Mbali Dlamini (DUT Btech Horticulture Student)



Good luck
Siyasanga
&
Sameer

