1. **Status of Traditional Medicines in Management of non-communicable diseases in Tanzania**

**Global Use of Natural Products in Cancer Patient Management**

**Background**: Number of users of traditional medicines for cancer management increases with time. The management starts at family level where patients and their families initiate uses of traditional medicine and later after diagnosis they continue using both modern and traditional medicines concurrently. Increase in the use of traditional medicines in management of cancer draw institutions interest into further researches in that area.

**Methodology**: Four focus group discussion and in depth interview was conducted among staff working at two research institutions conducting Traditional Medicines researches in Tanzania. With the guidance of interview guide, information was collected was analyzed to capture status of the researches continuing in their centres, success stories so far achieved as well as challenges faced. Questionnaires were electronically shared with district traditional medicine coordinators to collect information on status of traditional medicines in the districts including management of cancer.

**Results**: From two institutes that conduct traditional medicine researches, only one has a well developed product that was found to have positive impact on management of cancer. The product found effective in management of Brain tumor, Benign Prostate Hyperplasia and early stage breast cancer.

**Analysis**: Research institutes have a great potential to conduct cancer researches on traditional medicine but they fail to do so due to lack of resources to do so. Despite of having strong relationship with traditional healers with products that show positive impact on management on cancer but their researches focus on others diseases basing on the donors’ interest.

**Conclusion**: More than 10% of 12,000 of Tanzania flora and fauna has medicinal value therefore supporting research centers that conduct traditional medicine will results into coming up and develop traditional medicine that will manage and treat different types of cancers.