

# Centre for Oriental Traditional Medicine (COTM)

## **Expected Partners**

- Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine (TCI) Unit, World Health Organization (WHO),
- Jamia Hamdard (University), India,
- BioNatural Healing College (BNHC), California, USA,
- Paris-Saclay University
  France

As part of the working group of Prof. Dr. Michael Keusgen

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## Mission

The Centre is an interdisciplinary unit that engages in teaching, research and knowledge transfer in different aspects of traditional medicine. The Centre promotes the study of and research on traditional medicine in Central Asian countries with the aim to improve the quality of health and human life by developing scientific information on traditional medicines and drugs, their safety, quality control and policy development.

### Goals

1. Research and development in Traditional Medicine, particularly in Afghanistan and countries of Central Asia.

2. Studying the challenges associated with the quality, safety and effectiveness of traditional medicines in health practices and those related to the globalization of Traditional Medicine.

 Provide research-based advice for establishing and enhancing the legal framework of Traditional Medicine.
 Research innovative methods and natural ingredients employed in the treatment within Traditional Medicine.

#### Facts

• Less than half of the people in the world have access to essential health services (WB, WEF).

•Between 60–80% of the population of developing countries rely on traditional medicine for their basic health care needs (WHO).

•Over 40% of countries have fewer than 10 medical doctors per 10,000 people (WEF).

• Safety, efficacy, and quality are the major challenges of traditional medicine worldwide

• interest in traditional and complementary medicine is expanding beyond products to focus on practices and practitioners.



Allium mirum Wendelbo., Bamyan, Afghanistan (Keusgen 2016)

#### **Objectives**

1. The scientific study of traditional medicines, focusing on safety, efficacy, and quality. 2.Establish and enhance the legal framework and policymaking in Complementary and Traditional Medicine. 3. Archiving of data & information in view to preserve traditional medicinal knowledge. 4. Establishing a collection of samples of medicinal plants and natural ingredients applied in Traditional Medicine of the countries in Central Asia.

*Ferula sp.*, Parvan, Afghanistan (Keusgen 2016) https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/fb16/ipc/ag-keusgen/centre-for-oriental-traditional-medicine

A clinic of traditional healers in Kabul, Afghanistan (Babury 2018)