

2003 TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

CATEGORY : Medicine & Health

**PROJECT TITLE : Investigation on traditional
medicine from plants in Namibia**

SCHOOL : Okahandja Secondary School

FINALISTS : Cynthia Kavetjiua Tjipuka

COUNTRY : Namibia

TADITIONAL MEDICINES IN NAMIBIA

CYNTHIA TJIPUKA

My project is about investigation on traditional medicines in Namibia. This is all about plants and different herbs that different people in Namibia use for medicinal purposes. The objective of this project is to inform the world of how valuable nature is and how we can try to conserve nature's treasure so that valuable knowledge cannot pass away with olden experienced herbalists. Understandably the enquiry into indigenous medicinal herbs arose from the need to expand the possibilities of ones own medical practice. It was very important for me to satisfy our farmer's thirst for knowledge, which is what I want to do with the rest of the world.

In this project I have included most but not all of the plants that we use in Namibia for medicinal purposes. Seeing that some of these plants do not grow in certain parts of the country, I have also tried to clone it in other parts of the country. I have also made a powder from one of the plant's leaves and tested it on several people within the country.

To conclude my findings and experiments I would like to say, let us try to take these precious knowledge left for us from our ancestors and maybe one day in the future we might need it in some ways.