SANBI and BHL Africa: preserving biodiversity literature
What is BHL?

• **Consortium** of natural history and botanical libraries

• **Cooperate** to digitize and make accessible

• for **open access and responsible use**
Global BHL

- Cooperative network
- Operating programs and projects
- Open access principles.
BHL Africa

- BHL Global initiative
- Network of African institutes
- Access to biodiversity literature
- Guiding principles and values
How **BHL Africa** come together?

- November 2011 in **Chicago**
- JRS Foundation
- BHL-Africa June **2012**
- **15**\(^{th}\) April **2013**
What role does SANBI Libraries play in BHL Africa?

- NEMBA
- The Biodiversity Information Management Directorate (BIM)
- [http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org](http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org)
- SANBI Libraries
WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE
Great challenge

- Funding
- Input of all stakeholders
- Training
- Preservation
- Copyright
Benefits of participating in BHL Africa

• Easy access
• Improved visibility
• Capacity building
• Sharing information
• Archiving
• User communities
The way forward........

• Digitize heritage information
• Closed information
• African continent
• The BHL consortium
• Partnerships
ANY QUESTIONS?