

Ecosystem type	Ethnic group	Use Category	Key Themes	Example Quotes
Savanna Rangeland	<i>Maasai</i>	Food	Knowledge of edible plants is gender-specific; Females focus on vegetables, while younger generations are familiar with fruits somehow	“Kids nowadays go to school and watch television, they have less time to interact with nature, though they still know some fruit species”
		Material	Females hold knowledge of plant species essential for house-building due to traditional gender roles	“Females are the ones who build the house and know plants useful for building”.
		Medicine	Males possess broader knowledge of general treatments, especially for ailments affecting males, while Females focus on treatments for children and women	“Males treat diseases related to men health, while females know what to use for children and other Females”.
Flooded Savanna	<i>Pogoro</i>	Food	Young people know fruit species, while Females focus on vegetables, reflecting traditional gender roles	“Fruit species are more known to young ones, while vegetables are known to females because of their roles”.
		Material	Limited knowledge among females, except for materials used in crafting; traditional crafts knowledge is declining.	“Females know only the materials they use in crafting”.
		Medicine	Males specialise in general disease treatments, while females are more knowledgeable about remedies for children's and women's health; stigma affects youth usage. Transfer of traditional medicine knowledge is more apparent to traditional healers (Wambui).	“Only ‘Wambui’ are now passing medicinal knowledge to their kids; youth feel using traditional medicine makes them look naive”.
		Rituals	Females hold knowledge of rituals, especially those concerning young girls, maintaining certain cultural practices	‘Females know the rituals for young girls’

Coastal Forests	Zigua	Food	Females are more knowledgeable about fruits found in their gardens but cultural norms limit their forest knowledge.	“Females know food plant species but don't go to the forest”.
		Material	Youth, particularly males, are less familiar with forest plants for material use due to alternative occupations like motorcycling.	“Males youth should know material species but most work as ' <i>bodaboda</i> ' no one interested in going to the forest”.
		Medicine	Older males are the primary holders of medicinal plant knowledge; younger people rely more on modern medicine.	“Most people use modern medicine; Females stay home, so they know less about forest medicines”.
		Rituals	Certain species are culturally believed to prevent bad luck, though this belief is more prevalent among older generations.	“Some plants are used to dissolve bad luck”.
Miombo Woodland	Nyamwezi	Food	Edible plants like ' <i>mlenda</i> ' are still main vegetable in most homes. Edible wild fruits are also used particularly by those engaged in herding livestock in the wild.	“We still use <i>mlenda</i> as a vegetable at home, and some fruits especially when herding livestock”.
		Material	Shrinking forests have led to a decline in knowledge and availability of species used in construction and crafts.	“Forests are shrinking, and many plant species are disappearing”.
		Medicine	Older individuals maintain knowledge of traditional medicines, while youth only use them as a last resort.	“When we were young, we used these medicines, but youth now go to the hospital except in rare cases”.
		Rituals	Certain plants are used in rituals, though interaction with these plants is limited among younger generations.	“Youth only know some rituals, like when a family has twins or a breech “ <i>kashinji</i> ”
	Nyaturu	Food	Vegetables and wild fruits remain important dietary staples at home and for those who venture into the wild, especially during lean periods.	“People still use <i>mlenda</i> as a vegetable at home and gather wild fruits when they go into the wild”.
		Material	Knowledge of building materials is predominantly male-driven due to their role in house construction.	“Males know better about building plants because they handle construction and furniture-making”.

		Rituals	Females lead ritual practices involving species like 'Muhuvi' and males are culturally restricted from participating in these rituals involving females.	"Only females use <i>Muhuvi</i> tree for prayers; males cannot come close during these rituals".
Montane Forests	<i>Chagga</i>	Food	Shift to modern agriculture has reduced reliance on wild plants, though Females still retain the knowledge of native edible species.	"In the past, we relied on wild vegetables, but now we have other crops".
		Material	Commercial use of timber species has increased deforestation, affecting non-timber plants previously valued for other uses.	"Even non-timber trees are now being cut for commercial timber, and native species are not being replanted".
		Medicine	Males and females specialize in treating ailments relevant to their gender roles; however, younger people are more inclined to rely on modern medicine.	"Older people use traditional medicines, but young ones prefer the hospital even though they know these medicines exist".
		Rituals	Some species are culturally protected due to their symbolic importance, such as trees forbidden from being cut.	" <i>Mkuu</i> trees are forbidden from being cut as they have symbolic significance".