GBits

GBIF Newsletter

No. 10 - April 2009

The mission of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) is to facilitate free and open access to biodiversity data worldwide via the Internet to underpin sustainable development. Priorities, with an emphasis on promoting participation and working through partners, include mobilising biodiversity data, developing protocols and standards to ensure scientific integrity and interoperability, building an informatics architecture to allow the interlinking of diverse data types from disparate sources, promoting capacity building and catalysing development of analytical tools for improved decision-making.

CALLS FOR ACTION AND PARTICIPATION

GBIF Call for Mentoring Proposals 2009 is now open

The GBIF Secretariat is glad to announce the opening of the 2009 Call for Mentoring Proposals. Deadline for applications is 8th May 2009. [*read more…*]

GBIF Call for Participation: 'Content Needs' Survey by the GBIF Content Needs Assessment Task Group

The GBIF Secretariat established a Content Needs Assessment Task Group (CNATG) to assess the priority needs of users of GBIF-mediated globally integrated primary biodiversity datasets. [*read more…*]

Call for Nominations for the GBIF LSID-GUID Task Group

GBIF has identified the provision of stable and resolvable identifiers for biodiversity objects as one of the central challenges to developing a global bioinformatics infrastructure. [*read more…*]

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

GBIF and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation

GBIF and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on 12 March 2009. The MOC was signed by GBIF Executive Secretary, Nick King and ACB Executive Director, Rodrigo Fuentes. [*read more…*]

GBIF and CAB International collaborate on evaluation of bibliographic data

GBIF and CAB International (UK) have signed a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) regarding a collaborative project to perform an evaluation of bibliographic citations that are part of the CAB Abstracts dataset. [*read more…*]

GBIF commissions Data Publishing Framework Task Group

GBIF has constituted a Task Group to provide recommendations on needs and potentials for bringing a cultural change towards free and open access to primary biodiversity data, through the establishment of a 'Data Publishing Framework' that addresses social, technical, and policy concerns on this topic. [*read more…*]

GBIF convenes Task Group on Metadata

GBIF has convened a Task Group to provide advice on metadata. The Metadata Implementation Framework Task Group (MIFTG) will provide recommendations and guidelines on implementation of a metadata framework for the GBIF network. [*read more…*]

Meeting of GBIF Data Publishing Framework Task Group (DPFTG)

The GBIF DPFTG will meet from 5-8 June 2009 at the Secretariat in Copenhagen, Denmark. [*read more…*]

Meeting of GBIF Content Needs Assessment Task Group (CNATG)

The GBIF CNATG will meet from 24-27 June 2009 at the Secretariat in Copenhagen, Denmark. [*read more…*]

Meeting of the North American Nodes 22-24 April

The Regional Meeting of the GBIF Participant Nodes in North America took place on 22-24 April. The meeting was hosted by the United States Geological Service – National Biological Information Infrastructure (USGS-NBII). More information will follow in the next issue of GBits.

TOOLS & SERVICES

Integrated Publishing Toolkit (IPT) V1.0 released

As planned in the GBIF Work Programme 2009-2010, the GBIF Secretariat is pleased to announce the public release of the Integrated Publishing Toolkit (IPT) v1.0 on March 31, 2009. [*read more…*]

GBIF developing tools for processing scientific names and checklists

GBIF and Silverbiology, a software development company, have signed a contract to develop some taxonomic name processing tools in support of users needs within the GBIF network. [*read more…*]

GBIF develops species internet mapping application for EOL

In collaboration with the Encyclopedia of Life (EOL), GBIF has developed a generic, rich Web-based internet mapping application to dynamically represent species occurrence density. [*read more…*]

PARTICIPATION

GBIF welcomes the Society for the Management of Electronic Biodiversity Data (SMEBD) as a new Associate Participant [*read more…*]

For a full list of GBIF's current Participants, click here.

SECRETARIAT NEWS

GBIF appoints Head of Participation: Dr Eric Gilman

Following an extensive recruitment process, Dr. Eric Gilman has been appointed to the new Head of Participation post at the Secretariat in Copenhagen. [*read more…*]

New Programme Assistant for Nodes takes up post May 1st

On 1 May, Mélianie Raymond will take up her post as Programme Assistant for Nodes at the GBIF Secretariat. [*read more…*]

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