



...free and open access
to biodiversity data

*Le peu que j'ai appris jusques ici n'est
presque rien à comparaison de ce que
j'ignore et que je ne désespère pas de
pouvoir apprendre*

René Descartes, 1596-1650

*I hear and I forget. I see and I
remember. I do and I understand.*

Confucius, 550-479 BC

Regional Approach in Training 2010 brings the focus to ASIA

In 2009 GBIF successfully promoted regional collaboration in training among its Participants in **Southern and Western Africa** in a process that involved 9 different countries. This collaboration continues in 2010 with two additional regional workshops held in **Kenya and Burundi**, and two more to be held in **Tanzania** during 4Q 2010, all with increasing levels of autonomy by the local organisers.

This inspiring example, the capacity needs expressed by Participants in the region, and the large potential for expanding its membership in the area have encouraged GBIF to make a special capacity building effort in 2010 focused on **Asia**.

Three Participant GBIF Nodes (**India**, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development - **ICIMOD** and the GBIF Node for Chinese Taipei - **TaiBIF**) together with **Vietnam** as one of the partners of the SEP-CEPDEC project, led three regional workshops during 2010. In addition, another GBIF member (the Asean Centre for Biodiversity - **ACB**) is considering a fourth regional workshop for the 4Q 2010.

The three workshops have focused on promoting GBIF and biodiversity informatics, with emphasis on the digitisation, publication discovery and use of biodiversity data. The last workshop will concentrate on the integration of primary biodiversity data with information about protected areas.

97 people from **11 different countries** (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Georgia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Vietnam) participated in the events. Supporting the 'train-the-trainers' approach, several of those who participated as students in the first workshops have acted as trainers in consequent workshops or have led knowledge dissemination activities afterwards.

These regional events have demonstrated to be key to **build regional partnerships** on which future collaborations are based, and have substantially **increased the awareness about GBIF** in the region. The GBIF Secretariat **encourages GBIF Participants and partners to follow these admirable examples** of collaboration and tap into the huge potential of regional cooperation.

If you need assistance in the process of organising GBIF regional training events, please contact Alberto González-Talaván, Programme Officer for Training at the GBIF Secretariat (atalavan@gbif.org, Tel +45 3532 1483).



Training Workshop on Biodiversity Data
Discovery and Publishing
Dehradun (India), 3-7 May 2010



Training Course for Indochina: GBIF
and the Publication and Use of
Biodiversity Data
Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam),
19-21 May 2010



Open Access to, and publication of,
Mountain Biodiversity Data of the
Hindu Kush-Himalayan region
Kathmandu (Nepal), 14-18 June 2010

About GBIF

GBIF makes digital biodiversity **data openly and freely available** on the Internet for everyone, and endorses both open source software and open data access.

www.gbif.org

GBIF provides **scientific biodiversity data** for decision-making, research endeavours and public use.

data.gbif.org

GBIF is a network of **data providers who retain ownership and control** of the data they share. Linked datasets provide a more robust representation of biodiversity than any single dataset.

GBIF provides access to primary biodiversity data held in institutions in developed and developing countries. **Data shared through GBIF are repatriated data.**

GBIF is a **dynamic, growing partnership** of countries, organisations, institutions and individuals working together to mobilise scientific biodiversity data.

GBIF invites you to download species occurrence data freely and openly from <http://data.gbif.org>

GBIF invites you to **join and share your biodiversity data**, as well as participate in developing **new tools and services**.



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

