



GBIF

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...free and open access
to biodiversity data

A regional approach to training Annual calls for proposals from 2011



Workshop on species catalogues for Latin America (March 2011, Uruguay)

GBIF has actively supported the regionalization of training since 2008, encouraging its Participants to **collaborate in the organization of joint activities**, and also to **open up their training initiatives** to suitable partners and collaborators in their regions.

So far, **eight GBIF Participants** have organized regional training events, benefitting **170 people from 20 different countries**.

In 2011, the Secretariat formalized GBIF's support for these activities with a **public call for applications to receive financial support for the regional component of training initiatives**. Five proposals were selected for support:

- **training workshop on species catalogues for Latin America** by GBIF Spain, Montevideo (Uruguay), March 2011;
- **training workshop on biological georeferencing** by SABIF, Cape Town (South Africa), April 2011;
- **strategies for digitization and mobilization of natural history collections data** by GBIF India, Kolkata (India), June 2011;
- **second national meeting about biodiversity data sharing** by GBIF Benin, Cotonou (Benin), August 2011; and
- **2011 biodiversity data analysis and use workshop** by GBIF France, Paris (France), November 2011.



Participants at the workshop on georeferencing procedures (April 2011, South Africa)

Around **130 people from 26 countries** are estimated to have benefited from these training events, held in **English, French and Spanish**.

From now on, similar calls will be issued annually in the first quarter of the year.

Node managers and heads of GBIF delegations are encouraged to **start contacting other partners in their regions**, and to **explore opportunities for regional collaboration in training before that date**.



Group photo from the course on strategies for mobilizing biodiversity data in India (April 2011)

About GBIF

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) was established by governments in 2001 to encourage free and open access to biodiversity data, via the Internet. Through a global network of national and thematic nodes, and a Secretariat based in Copenhagen, Denmark, GBIF promotes and facilitates the mobilization, access, discovery and use of information about the occurrence of organisms over time and across the planet.

Vision - A world in which biodiversity information is freely and universally available for science, society, and a sustainable future.

Mission - To be the foremost global resource for biodiversity information, and engender smart solutions for environmental and human well-being.

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