

*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

### Call for comments on draft version of GBIF white paper

GBIF has convened a group to prepare a white paper with a set of recommendations to GBIF for the community development, management and deployment of Knowledge Organisation Systems. You are invited to review (or circulate for review to interested colleagues) the paper. Deadline for comments is 7 December. [[read more...](#)]

### Call for the NPT Advisory Group is open

The Nodes Portal Toolkit is envisioned as a suite of informatics tools for helping GBIF Participants to deploy, maintain and extend biodiversity data portals (at the national, regional or thematic level). Deadline for application is 15 December. [[read more...](#)]

### GBIF Small Awards for Evaluating Checklist Publication Format

The GBIF Secretariat is offering a limited number of small awards of up to €5,000 to GBIF Participants to evaluate the current DarwinCore Archive taxonomic data exchange format. Deadline for application is 20 December. [[read more...](#)]

### Discussion Paper on 'Data Hosting Infrastructure' released for community consultation

The GBIF Secretariat wishes to solicit the comments of the GBIF community and other scholarly societies on the current version of the draft Discussion Paper on 'Data Hosting Infrastructure'. Deadline for comments is 30 January 2011. [[read more...](#)]

### Testing of the GBIF Integrated Publishing Toolkit

The re-engineering of the GBIF Integrated Publishing Toolkit (IPT) is nearing completion with a release candidate (2.0RC1) expected to be offered for community testing on the 29th November. You are invited to participate in the testing. [[read more...](#)]

## COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

### Albertine Rift region commits to biodiversity data and data-sharing

On 20 October the Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS) celebrated the signing of a Regional MOU on the collaboration in biodiversity data and information sharing by leading national institutions from a number of countries. [[read more...](#)]

## TOOLS AND SERVICES

### Enhanced data exchange formats improve data publishing

Recent adoption of the DarwinCore Archive data exchange standard has enabled an increase in the total number of records mobilised through the GBIF network from 215 million in September 2010 to more than 267 million. [[read more...](#)]

### Project Coordinators for the Nodes Portal Toolkit appointed

The GBIF Secretariat is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Bruno Danis and Mr. Nabil Youdjou as Project Coordinators for the development of the Nodes Portal Toolkit (NPT). They

will be working together with the various NPT stakeholders towards the development of the NPT core modules, expected to be ready for beta testing around Q4-2011. [[read more...](#)]

## PARTICIPATION

### GBIF - now 101 Participants

GBIF is happy to welcome two new Participants. The [Principality of Andorra](#) became GBIF's 100<sup>th</sup> Participant when they joined as Associate Country Participant in September. [ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability](#) joined as a new Associate Participant in October, with the MoU signing ceremony conducted at the CBD CoP10 in Nagoya, Japan. The total number of GBIF Participants is now 101, comprising 55 GBIF country members and 46 international organisation members. For a full list of GBIF's current Participants, click [here](#).

## PUBLICATIONS

### Three Key documents released for use and uptake by the Participants and data publishers

- [State-of-the-Network 2010: Discovery and Publishing of Primary Biodiversity Data through the GBIF Network](#)
- [Best Practice Guide for 'Data Discovery and Publishing Strategy and Action Plans'](#)
- [A special issue of the journal Biodiversity Informatics on 'Towards a Global Strategy and Action Plan for Discovery and Publishing of Natural History Collections Data'](#)

### GBIF-India Pilot Project Workshop Proceedings Available

The proceedings and key recommendations of the workshop on 'Developing an EIA Biodiversity Data Publishing Framework: India Pilot Project' held in India, during 23-25 June 2010 can now be accessed through the GBIF website. [[read more...](#)]

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

### GBIF Network generated high profile at CBD CoP10

The wider GBIF community generated a conspicuous profile amongst the large number of events and participants at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP 10), held in Nagoya, Japan, October 18-29, probably the most important international meeting of 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity. [[read more...](#)]

### GBIF Governing Board Meeting held in Korea

At the 17th Meeting (GB17) of the GBIF Governing Board in Suwon, Republic of Korea in October delegations unanimously adopted the GBIF [Suwon Declaration](#) and furthermore approved a new, open-ended Memorandum of Understanding and a budget for 2012 - 2016. Elections for the Science and Nodes committees took place and the Annual Ebbe Nielsen Prize was awarded together with the new GBIF Young Researcher's Award. [[read more...](#)].

### GBIF participation at GEO VII Plenary meeting & Ministerial

The GBIF Executive Secretary represented GBIF at the recent Group for Earth Observations (GEO) Annual meeting held in Beijing China, Nov 2-5. [[read more...](#)]

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