

The bionet\* bulletin is published by **BioNET-INTERNATIONAL's** Secretariat. It is available in English, Spanish and French and online @ [www.bionet-intl.org](http://www.bionet-intl.org).

BioNET is a not-for-profit initiative that promotes taxonomy via capacity building, advocacy and its affiliated local partnerships (LOOPs) so that all countries can know and identify their biodiversity and thereby address sustainable development and conservation priorities. BioNET is donor funded; this publication and other international work is currently supported by a grant from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

## New Developments

### **BioNET: BioNET's African partnerships help complete the World Bee Checklist**

The Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) has recently made available The World Bee Checklist, a complete list of all the world's 19,436 named bee species, about 2,000 more than previously estimated. There is a current crisis known as "colony collapse disorder," an unexplained phenomenon that is wiping out colonies of honey bees. This has highlighted the need for more information about bee species and their interactions with the plants they pollinate. The Afrotropical bee names were supplied, and will be maintained, by the African Pollinator Initiative (API), which is a joint project involving several BioNET partnerships, namely [SAFRINET](#), [EAFRINET](#), and [WAFRINET](#). Should anyone have queries concerning either API or Afrotropical bee names, contact the BioNET-SAFRINET Regional Coordinator, Connal Eardley e: [eardleyc@arc.agric.za](mailto:eardleyc@arc.agric.za) Working with specialists around the world, ITIS is a vital component of the United States Geological Survey - National Biological Information Infrastructure. Source: [Physorg](#).

### **New listserv to engage the scientific community in the Convention on Biological Diversity**

The Convention on Biological Diversity is due to agree regulations governing access to and benefits from biological diversity in 2010. The regulations need to protect the rights of sovereign nations over their genetic resources while also facilitating national and international science for the increase of knowledge to support the Convention and sustainable development. The CBDCC listserv has been created to support open discourse and engagement of the scientific community in these negotiations. The listserv is a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. [More...](#)

### **Biodiversity Collections Index - now available**

Research into biodiversity relies on the use of specimens. These specimens are held in reference collections around the world. The Biodiversity Collection Index is a central index to these collections and is now available as a 'Beta' version. Please register and update information on collections you know about and / or join the [Google Group](#) for support and discussion of new features. [More...](#) e: [Roger@BiodiversityCollectionsIndex.org](mailto:Roger@BiodiversityCollectionsIndex.org), t: +44 131 552 7171 ext 3015, f: +44 131 248 2901

### **ASEAN wildlife crime task forces meet in Lao PDR**

Members of ASEAN-WEN, the world's largest wildlife law enforcement network, met in Vientiane in May to map out the next steps to suppress the rampant wildlife crime in Southeast Asia, which is robbing the region of its rich biodiversity and natural resources. [More...](#)

**Events** | Only newly posted events are listed here. For a full listing, click [here](#).

### 12-30 January 2008

Course on Plant Families of Southeast Asia with special emphasis on non-timber forest products. Nationaal Herbarium Nederland, Universiteit Leiden Branch, The Netherlands

**Contact:** Dr. Paul Kessler e: [prefect@hortus.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:prefect@hortus.leidenuniv.nl) | Dr. Marco Roos, e: [roos@nhn.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:roos@nhn.leidenuniv.nl) t: +31-71-5273522. [More...](#)

### 9 February-20 March 2009

Natural History Collections Management Training Program for Latin American and Caribbean Professionals. Washington, D.C., USA. [More...](#)

### 2-6 March 2009

The 11th Pacific Science Inter-Congress in conjunction with 2nd Symposium on French Research in the Pacific. Tahiti, French Polynesia. [More...](#)

### 1-5 November 2009

Conference of The African Association Of Insect Scientists. Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania. **Contact:** Prof Karamoko Diarra, e: [kdiarra@ucad.sn](mailto:kdiarra@ucad.sn) | [kara\\_diarra@hotmail.com](mailto:kara_diarra@hotmail.com)

## Publications

### Access and Benefit Sharing: Good Practice for Academic Research on Genetic Resources

The brochure offers easy to understand information about the issue of Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Resulting from their Use according to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It also contains case-studies, check-lists, contract elements and options for benefit sharing from an academic research perspective. The good practice text was originally written for scientists working in Switzerland, but the information is also applicable to researchers working in other countries. It is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#). **Contact:** e: [abs@scnat.ch](mailto:abs@scnat.ch)

### New publications from CABI

\* Guide to Cultivated Plants

\* Onions and Other Vegetable Alliums, 2nd edition. Crop Production Science in Horticulture Series, No. 15

**Contact:** [orders@cabi.org](mailto:orders@cabi.org)

## Grants

### Global Change SysTEM for Analysis, Research and Training (START): Call for pre-proposals: Africa Small Grants 2009

Opportunity for research funding for African scientist from START. **Deadline:** 15 August 2008. t: +1-202-462-2213, f: +1-202-457-5859, e: [caskauffman@agu.org](mailto:caskauffman@agu.org). [More...](#)

### Darwin Initiative: Call for funding applications: round 16

The Darwin Initiative offers funds to encourage the sharing of UK biodiversity expertise with local partners in countries with a wealth of biodiversity, but who lack the means to protect these resources and to assist in meeting their CBD commitments. **Deadline:** 15 August 2008. [More...](#)

## Vacancies

### Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium): Two Scientific Collaborators

There are two positions open at the Royal Museum for Central Africa for EU projects in the field of Digital Libraries and Digital Imaging. **Deadline:** 31 July 2008. e: [jobs@africamuseum.be](mailto:jobs@africamuseum.be) [More...](#)

**Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF): Head of Participation**

The [GBIF](#) Secretariat seeks an experienced and energetic coordinator for their Participation work. This is a senior-level post reporting to the Director, with an initial contract of up to five years. **Deadline:** 4 August 2008.**e:** [HOP@gbif.org](mailto:HOP@gbif.org) [More...](#)

## BioNET LOOP contacts

Established LOOPS

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