

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.

NEWS

GBIF announces the 2008 Ebbe Nielsen Prize winner

The 2008 winner of the Ebbe Nielsen Prize is Dr. Vince Stuart Smith, British cybertaxonomist from the Natural History Museum in London. [[read story...](#)]

GBIF-France to support the implementation of the SEP-CEPDEC collaboration

GBIF-France, the French national Node has agreed to serve as a mentor Node for the African and Asian countries participating in SEP-CEPDEC. [[read story...](#)]

GBIF Task Group on Global Strategy and Action Plan for the mobilisation of Natural History Data

GBIF is creating a Task Group on Global Strategy and Action Plan for the mobilisation of Natural History Data. A call for nominations for membership has been sent to all GBIF Participants. [[read story...](#)]

GBIF-funded bee digitisation projects mobilise approximately 500,000 primary biodiversity records

Two of the bee digitisation projects funded by GBIF as a contribution to the Global Pollinator Initiative are now complete and together they mobilise over 500,000 primary pollinator (biodiversity) records. The two projects were undertaken by the USDA-ARS Bee Biology and Systematics Laboratory, USA and the Reference Centre for Environment Information (CRIA), Brazil, respectively. [[Read story...](#)]

TOOLS & SERVICES

GBIF Data Portal version 1.2.2 is now available

The GBIF Data Portal has reached version 1.2.2. Data is now searchable by altitude and depth and offers access to 147.5 million records. [<http://data.gbif.org>]

GBIF website to be revamped

The GBIF web site, <http://www.gbif.org>, is about to be revamped. The new version of the site will be more up-to-date and easy to use. The GBIF Secretariat would appreciate any comments and suggestions for improvement from users of the current site. Comments should be sent to anmnielsen@gbif.org no later than 14 September 2008.

Integration of GBIF data with the IUCN WDPa to be demonstrated in October 2008

There will be a demonstration of the integration of GBIF species occurrence data with the IUCN World Database on Protected Areas at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2008. [[read story...](#)]

GBIF Integrated Provider Tool

A new Integrated Provider Toolkit which will simplify data harvesting and provide ready visualisation of data for providers is under development. [[Read story...](#)]

GBIF CDs and DVDs with county information

As part of GBIF's promotional and training digital material, GBIF has produced a number of CDs or DVDs for targeted countries. [[Read story...](#)]

PUBLICATIONS

GBIF documents in Chinese

The Chinese translations of the GBIF documents *Principles of Data Quality* and *Principles and Methods of Data Cleaning* have kindly been provided by TaiBIF, the national node of Chinese Taipei. To go to the list of downloadable GBIF documents, click [here](#).

PARTICIPATION

New GBIF Participants

GBIF welcomes four new Participants. Kenya became a new Associate Country Participant as of July 2008 and Cuba as of August 2008. International Long Term Ecological Research (ILTER) and the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) became new Associate Participants as of August 2008.

For full list of GBIF's current Participants, click [here](#).

EVENTS

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

GB15

The registration for the 15th meeting of the GBIF Governing Board is now open. The Governing Board meeting and related events will take place 1-7 November 2008 at the Arusha International Conference Centre, Arusha, Tanzania. Governing Board delegates and GBIF Committee members are encouraged to register as soon as possible. More information is available from <http://www.gbif.org/GB15>. For participants who wish to explore Tanzania and share their experience, a wiki has been set up at <http://gb15tourism.gbif.org>.

Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG) Annual Conference 2008

The annual TDWG Conference will take place in Perth, Australia on 19-25 October. Five GBIF Secretariat representatives will attend the conference. More info at <http://www.tdwg.org/conference2008/>

CONTACTS

Postal and physical address:

GBIF Secretariat
Universitetsparken 15
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø
Denmark

Tel: +45 35 32 14 70
Fax: +45 35 32 14 80
E-mail: info@gbif.org

Contact information for GBIF Secretariat staff:

http://www.gbif.org/GBIF_org/gbifs