

## Pre-announcement: BID call for proposals from Africa



GBIF will issue its first call for proposals from sub-Saharan Africa for the [Biodiversity Information for Development](#) (BID) programme in September 2015, with a potential total of €900,000 in funding assigned to this call.

Three broad categories of grants are anticipated.

- National biodiversity data mobilization grants to establish or strengthen national biodiversity information facilities
- Regional biodiversity data mobilization grants to develop international collaborations to increase biodiversity data relevant for biodiversity conservation priorities
- Small biodiversity data mobilization grants of up to €5,000, which seek to mobilize biodiversity data through the preparation of data papers

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## Surveys seek to understand biodiversity data needs and resources in Africa

GBIF is also seeking input for the BID programme via surveys for data holders and decision makers.

The survey for data holders, available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Portuguese](#), seeks opinions from data holders regarding the financial or technical challenges they face in sharing data and its use in research and policy.

The survey for decision makers, also available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Portuguese](#), seeks opinions about how well information needs are currently served.

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[News update on gbif.org](#)

BID was launched at a four-day conference - *Africa Rising: Mobilising Biodiversity Data for Sustainable Development*, led by the [South African National Biodiversity Institute](#) (SANBI). The programme aims to increase the availability and use of biodiversity information in the '[ACP nations of sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific](#)'.

► **READ MORE**

[News update on Africa Rising](#)

## Six finalists selected for GBIF Ebbe Nielsen Challenge

An expert jury has selected six highly innovative finalists from among 23 submissions received for the inaugural [GBIF Ebbe Nielsen Challenge](#), inviting their creators to compete for €25,000 during the innovation prize's second and final round.

The six finalists reflect a wide range of uses of open-access biodiversity data from the GBIF network. They range from browser-based insights on dataset quality to regional bird and frog soundscapes, and from a web application that provides interactive predictive modelling to social media-powered biodiversity assessments.

The winners (in alphabetical order) are:

- #myGBIF, created by [Tom August](#) (United Kingdom)
- BioGUID.org, created by [Richard Pyle](#) (United States)
- ecoSpace, created by [Miguel Porto](#) (Portugal)

- GBIF dataset metrics, created by [Peter Desmet](#), [Bart Aelterman](#) & [Nicolas Noé](#) (Belgium)
- GBIF Soundscape, created by [Ben Raymond](#) & [Peter Neish](#) (Australia)
- Wallace, created by [Robert P. Anderson](#), [Matthew Aiello-Lammens](#), [Bob Muscarella](#), [Bruno Vilela](#) & [Jamie Kass](#) (United States, Denmark and Spain)

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[News update on GBIF.org](#)

## GBIF awards six capacity enhancement grants for 2015

GBIF has selected six projects to receive support through its capacity enhancement programme in 2015. The projects involve 16 national Participants, three organizational Participants and other partners to address specific capacity needs in Africa, Latin America and Europe.

The selected projects focus on mobilization, access and use of digital biodiversity data as well as translation of essential technical and training documentation.

The projects to receive support this year are:

- A Latin American collaboration to establish a national biodiversity website and data publication workflow for Uruguay led by [GBIF Uruguay](#)
- A European project led by the [Belgium Biodiversity Platform](#), host to the Belgian Node, to translate the technical documentation and user-interface required for reusing [Atlas of Living Australia's](#) software to develop national biodiversity portals
- An African project in which the lead agency, [Endangered Wildlife Trust](#), will train seven GBIF nodes in ecological niche modelling and make the training material available to the community
- A project in Africa headed by [GBIF Portugal](#) to promote GBIF in Portuguese-speaking African nations
- A [GBIF Malawi](#)-led project to identify training and infrastructure needs related to biodiversity data management in the country and to achieve stakeholder commitment in implementing GBIF activities.

- A project in which [GBIF France](#) mentors [GBIF Madagascar](#) in strengthening their national network and publishing new data.

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[News update on GBIF.org](#)

## Winners of the GBIF Young Researchers Award for 2015 announced

Gonzalo Enrique Pinilla Buitrago, a Colombian-Venezuelan Master's degree student at the Instituto de Ecología in Xalapa, Mexico, and Fatima Parker-Allie, a PhD student from South Africa, are the two recipients of the 2015 GBIF Young Researchers Award.



Fatima Parker-Allie's work will seek to advance the field of biodiversity informatics in South Africa in three distinct and complementary areas:

- The development of a national BSc (honours) curriculum for biodiversity informatics
- Data quality improvements that make biodiversity data more fit for use in research applications
- Distribution models of commercially important fish species in southern African waters under different climate scenarios.

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In the project outlined for the award submission, Pinilla Buitrago proposes to examine historical



distribution patterns of fauna through niche modelling techniques, using data accessed through GBIF and other sources. He will draw upon half a million records related to 493 mammals and more than 7,000 records for 112 beetle species. The research will also use data from the [Mammal Networked Information System](#) (MaNIS), and [CONABIO](#) (Mexico's National Information System on Biodiversity, and home of the GBIF national node) along with additional records from published literature.

► **READ MORE**

[News update on GBIF.org](#)

## GBIF Annual Report for 2014 published

The GBIF Secretariat has published its annual report for 2014, describing progress made in meeting the goals of the 2014-2016 work programme.

The publication also outlines key achievements in the GBIF network.

► **DOWNLOAD**

[GBIF Annual Report 2014](#)

## Task groups to help make data more 'fit for use' in key research areas

GBIF has assembled a pair of panels of international experts to explore how best to improve the use and application of GBIF-mediated data in agrobiodiversity and distribution modelling.

Each task group will assess coverage and completeness of data—often referred to as 'fitness for use'— and lend its expertise to recommend

approaches that could improve research and applications in these thematic areas. Their work is part of a broader strategy to engage expert communities of interest to understand how biodiversity data are applied in particular use cases.

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[News update on GBIF.org](#)

## Data quality guide now in Portuguese

Arthur Chapman's definitive "Principles of data quality" is now available in Portuguese thanks to GBIF Portugal and Brazil's national node SiBBR.

► **READ** the new [Portuguese translation in PDF](#)

► **READ** it at [Google Books](#)

► **READ** the [English original](#)

## GBIF DATA IN USE

*The Secretariat maintains a programme to monitor use of GBIF-mediated data in scientific literature. The following peer-reviewed articles represent some recent highlights.*

Gwitiraa I, Murwira A, Zengeya FM, Masocha M & Mutambu S (2015). [Modelled habitat suitability of a malaria causing vector \(\*Anopheles arabiensis\*\) relates well with human malaria incidences in Zimbabwe](#). *Applied Geography* 60: 130-138.

*Author countries:* Zimbabwe

In hope of contributing to better, more effective strategies for controlling of malaria, the authors developed a habitat suitability model for *Anopheles arabiensis*, one of the disease's vectors, using occurrence records from GBIF.org and other sources. The results showed a positive if weak correlation between suitable habitat for *A. arabiensis* and disease incidences recorded by Zimbabwean health facilities, suggesting the model's potential utility as an indicator in prioritizing disease prevention or treatment efforts.

Brown KA, Parks KE, Bethell CA, Johnson SE & Mulligan M (2015). [Predicting plant diversity patterns in Madagascar: understanding the effects of climate and land cover change in a biodiversity hotspot](#). *PLoS ONE* 10(4): e0122721.

*Author countries:* United Kingdom, Canada

Seeking to understand the impacts of climate



ANJAVY DRY DECIDUOUS FOREST, NORTHWEST MADAGASCAR. C. MICHAEL HOGAN. PUBLIC DOMAIN.

and land cover change on tropical patterns of plant diversity, the authors use GBIF-mediated occurrences for 828 genera and 2186 species to model three scenarios and predict future changes to biodiversity in Madagascar.

Kraemer MUG, Sinka ME, Duda KA et al. (2015). [The global distribution of the arbovirus vectors \*Aedes aegypti\* and \*Ae. albopictus\*](#). *eLife* 4:e08347.

*Author countries:* United Kingdom, United States, Brazil, Sweden, Belgium, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei

Dengue and chikungunya are a pair of mosquito-borne viral infections that have become increasingly widespread public health threats over the past 50 years. Here the authors update the known and predicted distributions of *Aedes aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus*, the two species responsible for transmitting the viruses to humans. By showing that both species now inhabit all continents—and may yet have room to expand their ranges further, particularly in the case of *Ae. albopictus*—these findings provide baseline for understanding the geographical factors of their spread and what health planning measures might help control it.

Moonlight PW, Richardson JE, Tebbitt MC et al. (2015). [Continental-scale diversification patterns in a megadiverse genus: the biogeography of \*Neotropical Begonia\*](#). *Journal of Biogeography* 42: 1137-1149.

*Author countries:* United Kingdom, Colombia, United States, Singapore, China, Chinese Taipei

Why are the tropics such a hotbed of plant diversity? What causes and mechanisms are responsible for shaping these evolutionary patterns? Here the authors tackle 'one of the most intriguing questions in modern biogeography'

by seeking to understand the origins and spread of the genus *Begonia*. Pairing genetic analysis of the evolution of around 1,600 Andean-centered *Begonia* species with a reconstruction of their ancestral ranges (which relies on 22,374 GBIF-mediated records), the findings highlight *Begonia*'s numerous radiation events and the importance of chance in regional and continental-scale dispersals of species.

Mylne AQN, Pigott DM, Longbottom J et al. (2015) [Mapping the zoonotic niche of Lassa fever in Africa](#). *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene* 109(8): 483-492.

*Author countries:* United Kingdom, United States

Lassa fever is a difficult-to-diagnose viral illness that claims an estimated 5,000 lives annually in West Africa. With previous research having pinpointed the Natal multimammate mouse (*Mastomys natalensis*) as the virus' animal host, the authors used more than 2 million GBIF-mediated records for all members of the family Muridae to model the host species' distribution.



NATAL MULTIMAMMATE MOUSE (*MASTOMYS NATALENSIS*). BY BATWRANGLER VIA FLICKR. CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

Combining the model with known locations of Lassa infection in humans and animals, the results highlight an at-risk population of 37.7 million people in 14 West African countries—including four that have yet to report any cases—where conditions are suitable for transmission of the fever. This concluding paper in a series that also mapped the zoonotic niche of the Ebola, Marburg and Crimean-Congo viruses offers a spatial guide for future surveillance, diagnosis and treatment of Lassa fever, potentially enabling more rapid public health responses in the sub-Saharan regions susceptible to this acute viral illness.

Silva-Rocha I, Salvi D, Sillero N, Mateo JA & Carretero MA (2015). [Snakes on the Balearic islands: an invasion tale with implications for native biodiversity conservation](#). *PLoS ONE* 10(4): e0121026.

*Author countries:* Portugal, Spain

Although the long chequered history of human interaction with the Balearic Islands has presented nearly innumerable opportunities for biological invasion, this paper focuses on four recently introduced snake species: the horseshoe whip snake (*Hemorrhoids hippocrepis*), the Montpellier snake (*Malpolon monspessulanus*), the false smooth snake (*Macroprotodon mauritanicus*) and the ladder snake (*Rhinechis scalaris*).

The authors analysed mitochondrial DNA from tissue samples to understand the snakes' origins and invasive pathways. Then, relying primarily on GBIF-mediated data to understand the native distribution of each species, they estimated their current and future habitat suitability in this Mediterranean archipelago. These combined molecular and ecological analyses suggest that the nursery trade in olive trees may be a likely and single source of each invasion, and that climate change might improve conditions for these already widespread alien species.

## NEW DATA

### Major increase in Brazilian plant and fungus data

Around 100 of Brazil's herbaria have published data through GBIF.org for the first time, tripling the total number of [records published by Brazilian institutions](#) to more than 4.3 million.

This surge of records results from a collaboration between the Brazilian-based [speciesLink](#) network, the [National Institute of Science and Technology's Virtual Herbarium of Flora and Fungi](#) (INCT-HVFF), Brazil's national node [SiBBR](#), and the GBIF Secretariat informatics team.

► **READ MORE**  
[News update on GBIF.org](#)

## BELGIUM

[Waterbirds of the Botanic Garden Meise](#)

Publisher: [Botanic Garden Meise](#)

Total records: 5,666

Records of feral geese and coots recorded in the botanical garden as part of a project to study the habitat preferences of these birds.



BOTANIC GARDEN MEISE, BELGIUM. BY DONAR REISKOFFER, VIA FLICKR. CC BY 3.0.

[Atlas of the breeding birds in Flanders](#)

Publisher: [Research Institute for Nature and Forest \(INBO\)](#)

Total records: 330,046

The dataset holds observations from three breeding seasons (2000-2002) for 197 taxa, 183 species and three subspecies of which breed in Flanders.

## Benin

Census of plant species

Publisher: [GBIF Benin](#)

Total records: 8,061

Three datasets with records of plants observed [near Monts-Kouffè forest reserve](#), central Benin, in the [Pahou forest reserve](#), and in the [Toffo forest reserve](#).

## Colombia

Highlights from 31 datasets published recently:

- Three datasets with a total of 6,839 records pertaining to the characterization of wild capybara habitat in the department of Casanare, published by the Alexander von Humboldt Institute. Records include information from an assessment of current status of wild

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populations of [capybaras in the municipalities of Paz de Ariporo and Hato Corozal](#), [plant species in capybara habitat](#), and of [capybara food species](#).

- 12,962 records of dung beetle specimens from the collections of the Alexander von Humboldt Institute. A portion of the records relates to [dung beetles from Colombia's coffee-growing areas](#) and the rest are of [species associated with dry forests](#).
- 3,535 records of insects of importance to [public health](#) such as mosquitoes and blood-sucking assassin bugs, collected in the country over 15 years by researchers at the publishing institution, the [Colombian Institute of Tropical Medicine](#).
- 6,677 observations of birds in flower farms in the Savanna of Bogotá and eastern Antioquia. Among the observed species are the critically endangered spot-flanked gallinule (*Gallinula melanops bogotensis*), and the endangered Bogota rail (*Rallus semiplumbeus*) and ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis andina*). Published by the [Asociación Bogotana de Ornitología](#).
- 1,623 records of 11 primate species observed in the Amazon border between Colombia and Peru, between March 2005 and May 2015, published by [Fundación Entropika](#).

## Democratic Republic of Congo

New publisher: [Université Pédagogique Nationale de Kinshasa \(UPN\)](#)

Total records: 213

Five datasets with a total of 213 records of [plants](#), [edible insects](#), [livestock](#) and [fodder](#).

## France

[Mosquitoes of French Guiana](#)

Publisher: [Laboratoire EDB "Evolution et Diversité Biologique"](#)

Total records: 1,138

Records are from an ongoing study of mosquito distribution in the area.

## Germany

[Palaeontological collections of the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart](#)

Publisher: Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart

Total records: 46,025

Nine fossil datasets that included specimens preserved in amber, 540 million-year-old invertebrates and 66 million-year-old mammals.

## Ireland

[Bird Atlas 2007-2011](#)

Publisher: National Biodiversity Data Centre

Total records: 458,185

Irish observation data from a wider survey of bird distribution across Britain and Ireland, in summer and winter, over the four-year period from 2007 to 2011. More than 2,000 Irish citizen scientists participated in the survey. Findings for Ireland are summarized in a [video available on you tube](#).

## Israel

Publisher: [Israel Nature and Parks Authority](#) (INPA)

Total records: 406,535

21 datasets from eight data holders including the INPA, HaMAARAG – the Israel National Program for Ecosystem Assessment, and the collections of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

## Netherlands

[Fish observations from historic reports](#)

Publisher: [Reptile, Amphibian and Fish Conservation Netherlands](#) (RAVON)

Total records: 19,700

Fish market records from between 1860 and 1907 documenting landings of important migratory fish species such as Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser sturio*), Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) and Allis shad (*Alosa alosa*).



ATLANTIC SALMON (*SALMO SALAR*). BY HANS-PETTER FJELD VIA WIKIMEDIA. CC-BY-SA.

[Breeding bird monitoring programme](#)

Publisher: [Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology](#)

Total records: 94,696

Data records were gathered between 1969 and 2009 by mapping bird territories in study plots.

## Norway

[Insect database of the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research](#) (NINA)

Publisher: [Norwegian Institute for Nature Research](#)

Total records: 125,572

Records pertain to insects collected in Norway.

## Portugal

[Flora of mainland Portugal](#)

Publisher: [Sociedade Portuguesa de Botânica](#)

Total records: 140,687

Citizen plant observations uploaded to [Flora-On](#) and validated by experts. The Sociedade Portuguesa de Botânica created the platform, which is maintained by the volunteer efforts of its associate members.

## Russia

[Brittle star collection of the Russian Academy of Sciences](#)

Publisher: [Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg](#)

Total records: 8,401

Records represent specimens collected from 1800 onwards, with the oldest specimens collected in Canada and Greenland.

## Spain

[Atlas of Iberian water beetles](#)

Publisher: [Department of Ecology and Hydrology, University of Murcia](#)

Total records: 62,015

The Atlas includes all available distribution data extracted from literature—museum and private collections, PhD theses and other unpublished sources—up to 2013.

[Ant collection of the University of Granada](#)

Publisher: [Dept. of Zoology, University of Granada](#)

Total records: 8,196

### [Bird ring-recovery data](#)

Publisher: [Aranzadi Science Society](#)

Total records: 304,689

Bird-ringing data were gathered through the [Aranzadi Ringing Scheme](#) active since 1950.

### **Sweden**

[Invertebrate type specimens at the Swedish Museum of Natural History](#)

Publisher: [GBIF-Sweden](#)

Total records: 6,948

Records are of type specimens in the museum's invertebrate collection, including those of soil roundworms (nematodes), marine bristle worms (polychaetes) and echinoderms.

### **Uganda**

[National Biodiversity Data Bank observation records](#)

Publisher: [Albertine Rift Conservation Society \(ARCOS\)](#)

Total records: 57,218

Records include observations of those of chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), L'Hoest's monkey (*Cercopithecus lhoesti*), African buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*), blue duiker (*Cephalophus monticola*), and the threatened bat White-winged serotine (*Eptesicus tenuipinnis*).

### **United States**

[Invertebrate Paleontology Collection of the Florida Museum of Natural History](#)

Publisher: [Florida Museum of Natural History](#)

Total records: 249,368

Molluscs from the southeastern United States are the focus of this specimen collection.

[Vascular plant collection of the New York Botanical Garden Herbarium](#)

Publisher: [The New York Botanical Garden](#)

Total records: 1,432,584

Specimens are from the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium, the fourth largest in the world.

[Invertebrate paleontological specimens](#)

Publisher: [Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History](#)

Total records: 210,019

The museum has nearly one million specimens from every major invertebrate fossil group. Among the published records are a number of holotypes

– single specimens which are the base for the description and names of species.

## **GBIF COMMUNITY**

### **GBIF France launches new national data portal for biodiversity**

GBIF France has launched the [Atlas of Living France](#), a new data portal providing access to more than 17 million biodiversity data records published by French institutions.

The website, which allows users to explore occurrence records and metadata, uses open-source code developed by GBIF's Australian Participant, the [Atlas of Living Australia \(ALA\)](#). The new French atlas is the second national portal developed with the ALA's tools, coming on the heels of [GBIF Spain's release](#) last year.

► **READ** [the full story on GBIF.org](#)

► **ACCESS** [Atlas of Living France](#)

### **Finland launches public test version of new national data portal**

The Finnish Biodiversity Information Facility (FinBIF) has launched a new portal providing free access to 35 million occurrence records of nearly 50,000 species recorded in Finland.

Released in a public test version, [Laji.fi \(species.fi\)](#) is developed by the Finnish Museum of Natural History (LUOMUS), host of the GBIF national node.

► **READ** [the full story on GBIF.org](#)

► **ACCESS** [Laji.fi](#)

## **AROUND THE NETWORK**

### **World Register of Introduced Marine Species launched**

The [World Register of Introduced Marine Species \(WRIMS\)](#) database, which records alien oceanic species, has been officially launched. The database records more than 1,500 introduced species, noting their source location by country, sea area and geographical coordinates.

WRIMS draws upon earlier work by the [IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group](#) to develop an annotated dataset for the [World Register of Marine Species \(WoRMS\)](#).

► **ACCESS** [WRIMS website](#)

## Open access data comes to Natural History Museum, London

The 80 million specimens in the Natural History Museum (NHM), London, comprise one of the world's most important scientific collections. In February, NHM published a dataset containing more than 2.5 million specimen records through GBIF.org.

An article written by Kyle Copas from the GBIF Secretariat provides an insight into the dataset and into NHM's large-scale digitization effort.

► **READ** [the full article on NBN.org.uk](#)

## Funding available to publish Norwegian species occurrence data

GBIF Norway invites project proposals for the co-funding of publication of Norwegian species data to GBIF.org. The call is primarily addressed to Norwegian institutes. However, international institutions holding occurrence data from Norway are also invited to apply.

► **READ** [application details](#)

## Pilot project explores securing traditional knowledge via ALA

The Olkola people, researchers with Australia's national science agency [CSIRO](#) and the [Tropical Indigenous Ethnobotany Centre](#) (TIEC) are looking at establishing a model for two-way information exchange between the Atlas of Living Australia and indigenous groups. The pilot project is expected to start mid-2015.

This is one of two Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (IEK) pilot projects that the Atlas of Living Australia supports.

► **READ** [the full story on the ALA blog](#)

## Conference showcases Belgian biodiversity informatics projects

The [Belgian Biodiversity Platform](#) and other partner institutes organized a full-day conference in Brussels in May that highlighted several tool-focused Belgian research projects.

The event started with three keynote presentations:

- [The biodiversity informatics landscape in Belgium](#), by Hilde Eggermont of the Belgian Biodiversity Platform
- [The future of biodiversity informatics](#), by Vince

Smith of the Natural History Museum, London

- [The controversy within publishing data on the open Web](#) by Pieter Colpaert of Open Knowledge Belgium

These and presentations on other biodiversity informatics initiatives are available via the [conference website](#).

## Tool developed to crossmap checklists

Participants at a training hackathon in Leiden in March developed a new tool, [gn\\_crossmap](#), which helps compare checklists of scientific names to names from a source of reference. Hosted by Naturalis in March, the event was [one of five GBIF-funded capacity enhancement projects for 2014](#).

- **READ** [about gn\\_crossmap on the Global Names Architecture blog](#)
- **READ** [description of how to use the tool](#)
- **READ** [full report of the Leiden training hackathon](#)

## German data portal funded with a three-year €5.8 million grant

The German Research Foundation DFG has approved funding of €5.8 million for the three-year next phase of the [German Federation for the Curation of Biological Data](#) (GFBio). The funds will refine and upgrade the services offered by this national biodiversity data infrastructure. Established in December 2013 and coordinated by the University of Bremen, GFBio represents a collaboration between 19 national partners, including the hosts of GBIF's German nodes.

► **READ MORE** on the [GFBio website](#)

## MENTORING AND TRAINING

### Material from Norwegian data paper workshop available online

GBIF Norway, assisted by the Belgium Biodiversity Information Facility, organized its second workshop on 24-25 March 2015, on writing data papers – searchable metadata documents describing datasets and published through a peer-reviewed process. Twenty-three participants from the NTNU University Museum in Trondheim, the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre (Artsdatabanken)

and the GBIF network developed manuscripts based on existing datasets, some of which will be submitted for publication.

► [READ agenda and course material](#)

### GBIF Benin featured on national TV

A [13-minute introduction to GBIF Benin](#) and their activities was aired on BB 24, the second largest television network in the country, on the occasion of a data mobilization workshop that the node organized in Cotonou in May. The programme features interviews with both Gaston Akouehou, the head of Benin's delegation, and node manager Jean Cossi Ganglo.

► [SEE TV spot on GBIF Benin](#)

### GBIF France trains Malagasy data managers on data publishing and use

Thirty-two participants from 12 biodiversity organizations in Madagascar received training from visiting experts from GBIF France during a four-day event hosted by the local node, MadBIF.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP IN MADAGASCAR

The June workshop is part of [one of six capacity enhancement projects to receive GBIF support in 2015](#).

Participants used their existing datasets during the workshop, which led the Ecole Doctorale de Biodiversité et Environnements Tropicaux, Université de Toliara to publish its collection of [527 occurrences from a plant inventory of the Beza Mahafaly Reserve in southwest Madagascar](#).

► [VIEW event updates on Twitter at #FormationMadBIF](#)

## EVENTS

[6th International Barcode of Life Conference](#)  
18 - 21 August 2015, Guelph, Canada

[Systematics Association Biennial](#)  
26-28 August 2015, Oxford, United Kingdom

[50th European Marine Biology Symposium](#)  
21-25 September 2015, Helgoland, Germany

[XVII Congress of European Mycologists](#)  
21-25 September 2015, Madeira, Portugal

[RDA Sixth Plenary Meeting](#)  
23-25 September 2015, Paris, France

[Building Capacity for Conservation & Resource Management in Africa](#)  
28 September - 2 October 2015, Nairobi, Kenya

[2015 TDWG Annual Conference](#)  
29 September - 3 October 2015, Nairobi, Kenya

[Eye on Earth Summit 2015](#)  
6-8 October 2015, Abu Dhabi, UAE

GBIF - GB22 Nodes Training Course  
4-5 October 2015, Antananarivo, Madagascar

[22nd GBIF Governing Board meeting \(GB22\)](#)  
8-10 October 2015, Antananarivo, Madagascar



**GBIF VISION** *A world in which biodiversity information is freely and universally available for science, society, and a sustainable future.*

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