

Spanish and Portuguese Platform for Botanical Diversity Data Online

Project Coordinator: Jaime Güemes

Amount: \$50000

Managing Institution: Universitat de València (Estudi General)
Valencia, Spain

Participating Institutions: Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, Jardim Botânico da Madeira, Universidad de Alicante, Sociedad Aranzadi, Universidad de Barcelona, Universidad del País Vasco, Jardín Botánico de Córdoba, Universidad de Oviedo, Universidad de Granada, Universidad de Gerona, Universidad de Almería, Instituto Pirenaico de Ecología, Real Jardín Botánico, Universidad Complutense, Universidad de Salamanca, Universidad de Santiago, Universidad de Valencia

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Abstract: This proposal is presented by the AHIM (Asociación de Herbarios Ibero- Macarónesico; <http://www.ahim.org>), which has been fostering co-operation among

Portuguese and Spanish herbaria since 1994. A priority of the association since its beginning is herbarium databasing which has been supported in various ways: 1.- adoption of a standard tool for herbarium databasing (Herbar); 2.- training seminars; 3.- and support for legacy data recovery. Currently, c. 6.5 million botanical specimens are kept in the c. 65 Portuguese and Spanish herbaria.

This proposal aims to put on the Internet data from about 400.000 specimens and provide training to enable databasing projects to be started or reactivated in other herbaria. In order to achieve this, the proposal identifies the blocks and constraints in making data from botanical collection in Spain and Portugal available and specifically target areas where efforts would be more rewarding. Five types of actions are identified: 1.-Support for putting collection data already databased and validated on the Internet; 2.-Support for data validation and quality improvement of collection databases; 3.- Support for legacy data conversion and recovery; 4.- Support for capacity building; and 5- Support for data sharing. These actions will be carried out by 17 institutions of Spain and Portugal, with the more representative collections of these countries, and with a good track of achievement and comprises the larger and more important collections in these countries. The partners and tasks to be performed by each one have been selected seeking effectiveness and efficiency. The project is conceived as a community effort that draws together curators and collection managers of herbaria of two countries.

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