GBIF Node Mentoring Application Form
(*This call is open to GBIF members only*)

Application form to be filled jointly by Mentor person/organization and the GBIF Node that is requesting mentoring services. Application form should not exceed 4 pages.

Deadline for submission: **13 November 2007**. For any questions and/or submission of proposals contact the GBIF Secretariat at <u>mentoring@gbif.org</u> or fax: +45 35 32 14 80

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1. Recipient Node: (Name and full contact information of the Mentee GBIF Node)
Colombia
Head of Delegation: Fernando Gast Harders, Director, Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Biological Resources Research (IAvH)

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2. Mentor Node: (Name and full contact information). [Mentor must provide written confirmation of his/her participation].

       2.1. Spanish node of GBIF
       Francisco Pando (Node manager)
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       2.2. Dutch node of GBIF
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3. Clearly state the need for mentoring services/support (be clear and concise):

The Colombian Node of GBIF is administered by the Coordinator Team of the Biodiversity Information System of Colombia (SiB). In the SiB framework, the Node has implemented a well-founded information network schema; however, data provision to GBIF is still weak. The current proposal aims to combine the strengths of the SiB, as well as the expertise of the mentor partners, in order to bring the Colombian Node to a level of development comparable to the most advanced GBIF nodes. The following needs have been identified jointly:

      3.1. <u>Support and training in the implementation of a DiGIR/ Tapir node to facilitate data provision through the GBIF data portal</u>. At present, Colombian institutions are making available –at the national level-- approximately 1 million records through the Distributed Searches Engine® (http://www.siac.net.co/BancoConocimiento/S/sib_condiciones_acceso_distribuida/sib_condiciones _acceso_distribuida.php) of SiB, developed by the Humboldt Institute (SiB Coordinator Team). However, those data are not available through the GBIF data portal.

3.2. <u>Technical assistance in preparing a financial proposal for the implementation of an alternative data portal in Colombia.</u> The Colombian Node makes use of the SiB portal for data and information sharing and capacity building. Nevertheless, that portal was developed several years ago, parallel to GBIF's portal developments. At present, an enhancement of the Colombian Node portal is needed. It has been identified that the functionalities, concepts and tools used by the Netherlands Biodiversity Information Facility may be a very efficient alternative, but their implementation in Colombia requires a cost-effective strategy that has to be developed.

3.3. <u>Strengthening capacities of both the SiB Coordinator Team, and the actual and potential data providers, with the aim of maintaining a framework of sustainability for the Colombian GBIF Node, as well as for the national network.</u> To ensure the safeguarding of the whole data sharing process at the country level (e.g. digitization, validation and management) is mandatory to guarantee data provision to the GBIF network. Subsequently, it is necessary 1) to improve the skills of the Colombian node administration in the design of proposals and fundraising activities, and 2) to increase abilities of actual and potential data providers in data management and sharing.

3.4. <u>Cooperation and coordination between the Netherlands and Colombia to articulate the running processes of scientific research in biodiversity, with data management in the Biodiversity Informatics field.</u> There is a long history of scientific research on Colombian biodiversity by joint Dutch and Columbian research groups. Much information on the biodiversity of Colombia has been / is generated each year by researchers and students from Columbia and the Netherlands (especially from the University of Amsterdam). Hundreds of publications appeared but most of the "raw" data on Columbian biodiversity are not available on-line. A mechanism should be developed to enable digital data sharing (through GBIF) of recent and historic Columbian biodiversity research data present within Dutch research groups.

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4. Objectives (be clear and concise):

4.1. To strengthen the capacity of the national scientific community in data management and data publication, based on the GBIF network.

4.2. To strengthen capacities of the Colombian node on outreach issues and data management strategies.

4.3. To make the GBIF Colombian Node a data contributor to the GBIF network

4.4. To initiate cooperation for data sharing of Dutch – Colombian research data on Colombian biodiversity, including fundraising activities for a data recovery, data mobilisation and data sharing project

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5. Deliverables (be clear and concise):
1. A DiGir/ Tapir platform for data publication in the GBIF Network, established, with at least 1 provider up and running
2. 1 to 3 data resources connected to data.gbif.org (at least 300.000 records), using the DiGir / TAPIR protocol.
3. Two workshops/training sessions as follows:
   a. One workshop on data management for data providers
   b. One training and hands on session for IT technicians, comprising online publication on DIGIR/Tapir technologies, GBIF infrastructure, and tools for data portals.
   c. Agendas, training materials and account of results of the training component.
4. A list of researchers trained in biodiversity data management and data publication through the Internet
5. Report and lists about persons from Colombian projects and institutes able to setup DiGir (or Tapir) providers and connect databases.

6.	One e-discussion and one technical meeting between Dutch and Colombian Node teams, to design the financial proposal.
7.	One joint Dutch-Columbian project proposal outlining a mechanism for sharing historic and recent research data and ready to be presented to at least one funding agency previously identified (i.e. the Netherlands Embassy in Colombia or WOTRO (Science for Global Development) a branch of the Dutch National Science Foundation)
8.	A final report of the tripartite process

6. Time frame of the mentoring activity.

Starting date _**March, 2008**_____   Concluding date ___**December, 2008**_____

7. Requested (detailed) budget (include information on: a) funds requested from GBIF by the Mentor; b) funds requested from GBIF by the Mentee; c) costs to be borne by the Mentor; d) costs to be borne by the Mentee).

	Funds requested from GBIF by the Mentor		Funds requested from GBIF by the Mentee	Matching Funds		
	Spain	Netherlands	Colombia	Spain	Netherlands	Colombia
Personnel /Consultants				7.500 €	4.000 €	5.000 €
Travel Expenses	5.000 €	1.500 €			1.500 €	
Workshops and organisation			3500 €			
Technical support		5.000 €				
Participation of GBIF Argentina in Training Activities			1.000 €			1.000 €
	5.000 €	6.500 €	4.500 €	7.500 €	5.500 €	6.000 €

Total requested (GBIF Funds): 16.000 €

8. Work plan (please use the following format):

Activities	Timeline	Responsible	Key outcomes
1. Implementation of the DiGir (or Tapir) server - Spanish technician traveling to Colombia - Hands on working	One week. **May 2008**	Spanish node Colombian node	. Technical capacity in the country to publish data in the GBIF network . At least 1 DiGir (or Tapir) provider
2. Workshop on GBIF technologies (DiGir / Tapir) and Web portal developments to technicians from institutions of the Colombian node	Three weeks of preparation, five days of workshop. **May 2008**	Spanish node Dutch node Colombian node	- Technical capacity in the country to manage data in the GBIF network - Technicians (IT) of the SiB Coordinator Team and Member institutions, trained

Activities	Timeline	Responsible	Key outcomes
3. Workshop/training session on "biodiversity data management and online publication"	Three weeks of preparation, two days of workshop/training session. **May 2008**	Spanish node Colombian node	- Quality of Colombian data increased - Data providers (collections), trained - SiB Coordinator Team trained
4. Connection of 1 to 3 of datasets to data.gbif.org	Two days. **May 2008**	Spanish node Colombian node	1 to 3 datasets connected to data.gbif.org
6. Design and submission of a joint sustainability proposal - E- meetings for outlining and developing the proposal - One on-site meeting	**September – December 2008**	Dutch node Colombian node	One proposal ready to submission SiB Coordinator team trained
7. Remote support and helpdesk for Digir/Tapir instalation in Colombia during 2008	**March - December 2008**	Spanish node Colombian node	Report
8. Monitoring of the data provider: server performance, datasets, number of users, etc	**November 2008**	Colombian node	Performance report