

25 – 28 June 2019, St Augustine, Trinidad

BID Caribbean regional meeting & Training in node management

Identifying Best Practices and Ensuring Sustainability



Pristimantis urichi (Boettger, 1894). Photo by [Zakariyya Ali](#) via [iNaturalist](#). Licensed under [CC BY-NC 4.0](#)



This programme is funded by the [European Union](#) and led by [GBIF](#)



Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) is a multi-year programme funded by the European Union and led by GBIF—the Global Biodiversity Information Facility—with the aim of increasing the amount of biodiversity information available for use in scientific research and policymaking. Since its start in 2015, 63 projects in the ‘ACP’ nations of sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific have received funding through the BID programme to

- Mobilize biodiversity data relating to protected areas, threatened species, and invasive alien species
- Use and extend best practices for digitizing natural history collections and mobilizing other biodiversity data
- Apply biodiversity data in support of decision-making and research
- Develop lasting national, regional or thematic networks to support ongoing data sharing and reuse

More information about the programme is available at www.gbif.org/bid.

Objectives

This regional meeting is one of a set that will take place in each of the ‘ACP’ regions, concluding the first phase of the BID programme, and aiming to identify regional priorities and actions that build on and expand the impacts to the benefit of both science and policy.

The regional meeting will have the following specific objectives:

1. Reflect on the overall impact of BID in the region, by sharing:
 - a. Results achieved through the BID programme
 - b. Guiding examples of the integration of biodiversity information into decision-making
 - c. Best practices in the mobilization and use of biodiversity data
2. Identify priorities and opportunities for the future to ensure the continuation of demand-driven data mobilization efforts within the region
3. Provide training to support the first stages of establishing a GBIF Participant node to sustain the activities started through the BID programme into the future

Topics of the meeting

BID impacts in the region

- Presentation of the regional results in the fields of data mobilization and capacity enhancement achieved through the BID programme
- Presentation of selected guiding examples of the use of biodiversity data for decision making
- Identification of best practices tailored to regional specificities

Planning for the future

- Understanding the regional biodiversity informatics landscape: developing a regional perspective of existing initiatives
- Understanding the demand for biodiversity data at a regional level: where do regional priorities lie?
- Planning for the future

Excursion and bioblitz

- Networking opportunity between project teams and regional partners
- Data mobilization through citizen science

Training in node management

- The GBIF network and community structure
- Making the case for Participation in GBIF
- Roles and functions of GBIF Participant nodes
- Governance models
- Strategic and implementation plans for nodes

Outcomes

- Identification of best practices in the mobilization of biodiversity data tailored to specific regional contexts
- Sharing of experiences in supporting the use of biodiversity data within academia and decision making in specific regional contexts
- Regional statement on future commitments to data mobilisation for ensuring long-term sustainability of biodiversity data sharing
- Development of plans to establish or strengthen nodes

On-site Workshop Support

GBIF Secretariat support

Andrew Rodrigues	Programme Officer	English, French, Portuguese, Spanish
Mélanie Raymond	Senior Programme Officer for Node Development	English, French
Maheva Bagard Laursen	Programmes Coordinator	English, French

Trainers, one-day workshop on training in node management

Anabela Plos	Node Manager, Argentina	English, Spanish
Liam Lysaght	Node Manager, Ireland	English
Mélanie Raymond	GBIF Secretariat	English, French

Mentors

Katia Cezon	GBIF Spain	English, Spanish
Miguel Vega	GBIF Spain	English, Spanish

Pre-workshop activities: One-day training in node management

eLearning activities: Section 1 – Introducing the GBIF community and Participant nodes

You will receive a personalized email with information on how to access the eLearning platform that we will be using throughout the workshop.

These eLearning activities are designed to take you through the key concepts in the GBIF guide to establishing an effective GBIF Participant node and test your knowledge ahead of the workshop.

You will also choose and become familiar with a use case that you will be working with during the workshop, and communicate this to your trainers and mentors.

It is essential that all participants complete the activities before the workshop.

Regional meeting

This schedule is provided to allow participants a sense of the contents planned for the event and is subject to change.

25 June 2019	
08:00	Shuttle pick up from Holiday Inn Express to the University of the West Indies, Conference room, Natural Sciences Building, St Augustine
09:00	Registration
09:30	Welcome and introduction to the workshop Mélianie Raymond – GBIF Secretariat The Dean, Dr. Brian Cockburn, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of West Indies The Head of Dept. of Life Sciences, Dr. Judith Gobin, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of West Indies
10:00	Practical information about the workshop Maheva Bagard Laursen – GBIF Secretariat
10:15	Ice breaker
10:30	Coffee/tea break

<i>BID impact in the region: Data Mobilization</i>	
10:45	Overall impact of the BID programme within biodiversity data mobilization and specific focus on the Caribbean – Maheva Bagard Laursen
11:00	Data mobilization in Belize: Initiating data mobilization efforts and overcoming challenges - Ivanna Waight-Cho
11:15	Inputs from other BID funded projects and discussion
11:30	Breakout session: What are the main outcomes within biodiversity data mobilization achieved by the BID programme? What are the remaining gaps and subsequent objectives within data mobilisation that can be identified in the region?
12:30	Lunch
<i>BID impact in the region: Data Use</i>	
13:30	Overall impact of the BID programme within data use and specific focus on the Caribbean – Maheva Bagard Laursen
13:45	Example of concrete use of biodiversity data for decision-making in Suriname - Eliza Zschuschen
14:00	Inputs from other BID funded projects and discussion
14:15	Breakout session: Recognizing GBIF-mediated data as a key resource for scientific research and decision-making: Are researchers sufficiently aware of GBIF as a source of primary biodiversity data? What are the key areas for which decision-makers need biodiversity data? Identification of key areas for biodiversity data mobilisation
15:15	Coffee/tea break
<i>BID impact in the region: Capacity Enhancement and Sustainability</i>	
15:30	Analysis of the main impact of the BID workshops and community of practice – Maheva Bagard Laursen
15:45	Toward a regional hub: the Atlas of Living Caribbean - Dimitri Ouboter & Vanessa Kadosoe
16:00	Breakout session: Disseminating knowledge and ensuring sustainability: Development of a regional community of mentors and building on results achieved through BID What are the key capacity needs, available resources and main barriers? What are the main objectives within capacity enhancement? What are the main objectives to ensure sustainability of the results achieved through the BID programme?
17:00	Summary of findings
17:15	Cocktail reception
19:00	Shuttle pick up from the Conference room, Natural Sciences Building to Holiday Inn Express

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Planning for the future – building on BID activities in the region

08:00 Shuttle pick up from Holiday Inn Express to the University of the West Indies, Conference room, Natural Sciences Building, St Augustine

09:00 Introduction to GBIF future initiatives and summary of data mobilisation outcomes from yesterday's discussion – Andrew Rodrigues
 Presentation: How does primary biodiversity data best support regional IPBES activities now and in the future? – Dr. Rahanna Juman

Break out Session: Developing a road plan for continuing data mobilisation activities in the future. How do we address the data mobilisation objectives that we identified yesterday?

10:30 Coffee/tea break

10:45 Summary of data use outcomes from yesterday's discussion – Andrew Rodrigues

Presentation: How does primary biodiversity data best support regional policy activities now and in the future? Natalie Boodram

Break out session: Developing a road plan for continuing data use activities in the future. How do we address the data use objectives we identified yesterday?

12:00 Summary of capacity enhancement outcomes from yesterday's discussion – Andrew Rodrigues

Presentation: Capacity enhancement in the Latin American and Caribbean region – Anabela Plos

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Breakout session – Developing a road plan for continuing capacity enhancement activities in the future. How do we address the capacity enhancement objectives that we identified yesterday?

14:15 Summary of sustainability outcomes from yesterday's discussion – Andrew Rodrigues

Breakout session – Developing a road plan for continuing sustainability activities in the future. How do we address the sustainability objectives that we identified yesterday?

15:00 Coffee/tea break

15:15 Plenary – Regional Statement of Intent

16:45 Closing Remarks

17:15 Shuttle pick up from the Conference room, Natural Sciences Building to Holiday Inn Express

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Excursion and Bioblitz

09:00 Shuttle pick up from Holiday Inn Express to the University of the West Indies Zoology Museum

10:00 Guided tour of The University of the West Indies Zoology Museum and the National Herbarium

12:00 Lunch

14:00 Caroni Bird Sanctuary

17:15 End of the day

28 June 2019: Node management training

07:30 Shuttle pick up from Holiday Inn Express to the University of the West Indies, Conference room, Natural Sciences Building, St Augustine

08:30 Welcome and introduction to the workshop
Introductions from the workshop hosts and partners; workshop overview

Benefits of GBIF Participation

09:00 Introduction to participating in GBIF
An introduction to the GBIF network and community structure. What is the process for becoming a GBIF Participant, what are the various modes of participation, what are the benefits of joining, and who needs to be involved?

09:30 Exercise 1: Identifying and prioritizing stakeholders to engage towards GBIF Participation. We will use a fictitious use case and work in groups to identify and prioritize stakeholders to engage in moving towards GBIF Participation.

10:30 Coffee/tea break

10:45 Exercise 2: Selecting rationale and arguments
Matching the most relevant arguments to the stakeholders. Role play activity to make a pitch to a Minister regarding GBIF Participation.

12:00 Exercise 3 : A participatory approach to establishing a Participant node

12:30 Lunch

Being part of the GBIF nodes community

13:30	Node models and governance Exploring the different models for nodes in the GBIF network, their typical roles and responsibilities, the reasons why nodes are needed, and how to design an appropriate governance structure for a node
14:00	Exercise 4: Scoping a node and biodiversity information facility Card-based activity to explore the roles, stakeholders, goals and affiliations for nodes and biodiversity information facilities.
15:00	Coffee/tea break
15:45	Node planning Understanding the purpose and key components of strategic and implementation plans for nodes
16:00	Exercise 5 - Developing strategic and implementation plans Consider how to develop tentative node plans following examples provided
16:30	Ongoing support for developing nodes How to build on the work started in the workshop and get access to further support from the GBIF community
17:00	Workshop evaluation
17:30	Shuttle pick up from the Conference room, Natural Sciences Building to Holiday Inn Express