Enhancing data publication, access and use capacities in the private sector

Narrative Midterm report

Executive Summary

By the time we write this report, the project partners have carried out different actions in 3 of the 4 proposed goals.

Transfer information, experience, and best practices to the CR, GT, and EC nodes, for the construction of national communities of data publishers from the business sector: Here we have held two online meetings. The first one was to establish the roadmap. The second related to the first mentoring, which was developed in two sessions.

Create a virtual course for the business sector on publication, access, and use of shared data through GBIF: Two meetings were held with representatives of Geopark and ANDI to identify the thematic needs for a training cycle (the minutes of the meetings are shared). With these inputs, five courses were defined (a document with the structure and defined topics is shared). The contents were adapted and new ones were created for each course (the documents with the details for each course are shared). In addition, 16 short videos were made, divided into three tutorials (document with the inventory is shared). A call and launch of the courses were made only for Colombia and then a launch for the region is planned, once the strategy of each node is advanced. The courses already have more than 200 participants through the e-learning platform https://aprende.biodiversidad.co/

Mobilize data from some companies in the nodes of CR, GT, and EC that agree to participate in a pilot: With the support of ANDI, we made an open invitation to all Colombian companies that have subsidiaries in other Latin American countries. In the meeting, we identified potential companies with which to initiate a pilot in each of the project's partner nodes.

So far, no changes in the proposed activities are necessary.

Report on Activities

Activity progress summary
During the first months we have carried out different actions in 13 of the activities we have committed to.

Kick-off virtual meeting with project partners (2023-01-25): This meeting was held in January to establish the roadmap and new dates for the activities according to an adjustment made to the calendar.

Virtual meeting with the partners of the private sector (2022-08-16 & 2022-09-13): Two meetings were held with representatives of Geopark and ANDI to identify the thematic needs for a training program and subsequently validate the proposal designed by the Colombia node. ANDI has been Colombia's partner and strategic ally in building its business community, and Geopark has been one of the companies publishing and financing these actions. At this stage, it was not possible to involve the other nodes due to delays in the formalization of this project and the lack of knowledge of the business communities in their countries.

Definition of the course structure (2022-08 / 2022-09): Five courses grouped in a training program were defined and entitled "Gestión corporativa para la naturaleza: ruta de formación para movilizar datos sobre biodiversidad".
Course 1. Business and biodiversity: fundamentals for publishing data with value.
Course 2. Learning a new language: introduction to the Darwin Core.
Course 3. Hands on! how to use the Darwin Core.
Course 4. Data Metamorphosis: transforming a GDB to the Darwin Core.
Course 5. Open data and collection permits.

First Mentoring meeting (2023-04-11 & 2023-04-17): In this session with the nodes of Guatemala, Ecuador and Costa Rica, the strategy and contents developed by the Colombian node to articulate the productive sector as a data publisher through GBIF were shared. The discussions were developed in three chapters:
- General overview of the strategy developed by Colombia (Dairo Escobar).
- The role of technical support in the publication of data for the participation of the business sector (Ricardo Ortiz).
- The role of communications in the consolidation of the business sector as a data publisher (Andrés Duarte).

Adaptation of existing contents (2022-09 / 2022-12): The contents of the SiB Colombia laboratories were adapted for the first three courses of the training cycle. This material was updated and improved based on the needs identified in the business sector. Recording and production sessions were held for all classes and activities were designed to validate the knowledge acquired in each module.

Creation and editing of short how-to videos (2022-09 / 2022-12): In parallel to the content adaptation, 16 short videos were made, all available on YouTube, divided into three tutorials.
- Tutorials for biodiversity data access and use
- Tutorials for publishing open data through SiB Colombia
- Tutorials for reporting data associated with harvesting permits

Course call and selection of candidates (2022-11 / 2023-01): This activity was held on November 30, 2022 at ANDI's facilities only for companies in Colombia. The call was open until January. There was no selection process, taking into account that the methodology and platform allows unlimited participation. It is expected that once there are pioneer companies in the partner nodes of the project, a new launch will be made with the contents adapted for the region.

Course execution (2023-02 / 2023-06): Although the training program is self-paced and open to everyone, during a specific period we offered a tutorial per course to enhance the learning experience. A total of 233 people enrolled and at least 172 of them have started the proposed courses. On June 8th the mentoring for the last course ends and we will be able to generate a balance and specific metrics on the execution of the training program.

Creation of new contents (2022-09 / 2022-12): In parallel to the adaptation of content, specific content for the business sector was created to complement the training program. These were courses 4 and 5.

Data mobilization (2023-05 / in progress): With the support of ANDI, we made an open invitation to all Colombian companies that have subsidiaries in other Latin American countries, to extend the invitation to these companies to participate in the project. In the meeting where we socialized the invitation, we identified potential companies with which to initiate a pilot in each of the project's partner nodes. Each node is now in the process of developing individual strategies to mobilize the first data sets.

Completed activities

Activity name: Kick-off virtual meeting with project partners

Description: Online meeting with project partners to organize the roadmap.
Start Date - End Date: 25/1/2023 - 25/1/2023
Verification Sources: Minute:
https://bit.ly/kickoff_2022-010

Activity name: Virtual meeting with the partners of the private sector

Description: Virtual meetings to clarify and identify additional needs that should be addressed on the course. We focus on the feedback of the two private sector partners of the project Geopark and ANDI.
Start Date - End Date: 16/8/2022 - 13/9/2022
Verification Sources: Minutes:
https://bit.ly/virtual-meeting-business-sector-partners

Activity name: Definition of the course structure

Description: Definition of the topics of the course and the format of each content: written, practical guides, how-to videos, self-assessments etc.
Start Date - End Date: 1/8/2022 - 30/9/2022
Verification Sources: Document:
https://bit.ly/courseStructure

Activity name: First Mentoring meeting

Description: Meeting of the four GBIF partners, Colombian node explained to Guatemala, Costa Rica and Ecuador their strategy to work with the business sector, the challenges and solutions found after more than 2 years working with ANDI. Together we build a road map for Guatemala. Costa Rica and Ecuador to start working with the private sector.
Start Date - End Date: 11/4/2023 - 17/4/2023
Verification Sources: Minutes:
https://bit.ly/first-mentoring-meeting

Activity name: Adaptation of existing contents

Description: The contents of the SiB Colombia laboratories were adapted for the first three courses of the training cycle. This material was updated and improved based on the needs identified in the

business sector. Recording and production sessions were held for all classes and activities were designed to validate the knowledge acquired in each module.
Start Date - End Date: 1/9/2022 - 29/12/2023
Verification Sources: Documents:
https://bit.ly/adaptation-of-contents

Activity name: Creation and editing of short how-to videos

Description: Creation and editing of16 short (3-6 minutes) videos explaining data quality tools and how to search, download and use GBIF data.
Start Date - End Date: 1/9/2022 - 30/12/2022
Verification Sources: Document:
https://bit.ly/short-how-to-videos

Activity name: Creation of new contents

Description: In parallel to the adaptation of content, specific content for the business sector was created to complement the training program. These were courses 4 and 5.
Start Date - End Date: 1/9/2022 - 31/1/2023
Verification Sources: Document:
https://bit.ly/creation-of-new-contents

Activity name: Course call and selection of candidates

Description: This activity was held on November 30, 2022 at ANDI's facilities only for companies in Colombia. The call was open until January. There was no selection process, taking into account that the methodology and platform allows unlimited participation. It is expected that once there are pioneer companies in the partner nodes of the project, a new launch will be made with the contents adapted for the region.
Start Date - End Date: 30/11/2022 - 31/1/2023
Verification Sources: Document:
https://bit.ly/course-call-business-sector

Report on Deliverables

Deliverables progress summary

Kick-off virtual meeting with project partners (2023-01-25): 100% - This meeting was held in January to establish the roadmap and new dates for the activities according to an adjustment made to the calendar.

Virtual meeting with the partners of the private sector (2022-08-16 & 2022-09-13): 100% - Two meetings were held with representatives of Geopark and ANDI to identify the thematic needs for a training program and subsequently validate the proposal designed by the Colombia node. ANDI has been Colombia's partner and strategic ally in building its business community, and Geopark has been one of the companies publishing and financing these actions. At this stage, it was not possible to involve the other nodes due to delays in the formalization of this project and the lack of knowledge of the business communities in their countries.

Course structure (2022-08 / 2022-09): 100% - Five courses grouped in a training program were defined and entitled "Gestión corporativa para la naturaleza: ruta de formación para movilizar datos sobre biodiversidad".
Course 1. Business and biodiversity: fundamentals for publishing data with value.
Course 2. Learning a new language: introduction to the Darwin Core.
Course 3. Hands on! how to use the Darwin Core.
Course 4. Data Metamorphosis: transforming a GDB to the Darwin Core.
Course 5. Open data and collection permits.

First Mentoring meeting (2023-04-11 & 2023-04-17): 100% - In this session with the nodes of Guatemala, Ecuador and Costa Rica, the strategy and contents developed by the Colombian node to articulate the productive sector as a data publisher through GBIF were shared. The discussions were developed in three chapters:
- General overview of the strategy developed by Colombia (Dairo Escobar).
- The role of technical support in the publication of data for the participation of the business sector (Ricardo Ortiz).
- The role of communications in the consolidation of the business sector as a data publisher (Andrés Duarte).

Adaptation of existing contents (2022-09 / 2022-12): 100% - The contents of the SiB Colombia laboratories were adapted for the first three courses of the training cycle. This material was updated and improved based on the needs identified in the business sector. Recording and production sessions were held for all classes and activities were designed to validate the knowledge acquired in each module.

New contents (2022-09 / 2022-12): 100% In parallel to the adaptation of content, specific content for the business sector was created to complement the training program. These were courses 4 and 5.

Short how-to videos (2022-09 / 2022-12): 100% - In parallel to the content adaptation, 16 short videos were made, all available on YouTube, divided into three tutorials.
- Tutorials for biodiversity data access and use
- Tutorials for publishing open data through SiB Colombia

- Tutorials for reporting data associated with harvesting permits

Virtual training reference guide: 0% - will be developed in the second part of the project.

Course call and selection of candidates (2022-11 / 2023-01): 100% - This activity was held on November 30, 2022 at ANDI's facilities only for companies in Colombia. The call was open until January. There was no selection process, taking into account that the methodology and platform allows unlimited participation. It is expected that once there are pioneer companies in the partner nodes of the project, a new launch will be made with the contents adapted for the region.

Second mentoring meeting: 0% - will be developed in the second part of the project.

Course execution (2023-02 / 2023-06): 95% - Although the training program is self-paced and open to everyone, during a specific period we offered a tutorial per course to enhance the learning experience. A total of 233 people enrolled and at least 172 of them have started the proposed courses. On June 8th the mentoring for the last course ends and we will be able to generate a balance and specific metrics on the execution of the training program.

Certificates of completion: 50% - will be completed in the second part of the project.

Data mobilization (2023-05 / in progress): 10% With the support of ANDI, we made an open invitation to all Colombian companies that have subsidiaries in other Latin American countries, to extend the invitation to these companies to participate in the project. In the meeting where we socialized the invitation, we identified potential companies with which to initiate a pilot in each of the project's partner nodes. Each node is now in the process of developing individual strategies to mobilize the first data sets.

Completed deliverables

Title: Kick-off virtual meeting with project partners

Type: Documentation
Description: Minutes of the Kick-off meeting
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/kickoff_2022-010

Title: Virtual meeting with the partners of the private sector

Type: Documentation
Description: Minutes of the meeting with the capacity needs identified.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/virtual-meeting-business-sector-partners

Title: Course structure

Type: Documentation
Description: Document with the detailed course structure, length, specific topics and activities for each topic.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/courseStructure

Title: First Mentoring meeting

Type: Documentation
Description: Minutes of the meeting with the topics addressed, and road map for Guatemala, Costa rica, and Ecuador.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/first-mentoring-meeting

Title: Adaptation of existing contents

Type: Documentation
Description: New version of the adapted contents based on the identified needs of the business sector.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/adaptation-of-contents

Title: New contents

Type: Documentation
Description: New contents based on the identified needs of the business sector.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/creation-of-new-contents

Title: Short how-to videos

Type: Resources
Description: 16 short videos (3-6 minutes) about how to use data quality tools and how to search, download and use GBIF data. These videos are in Spanish, responding to a language need in our community.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/short-how-to-videos

Title: Course call and selection of candidates

Type: Documentation
Description: Document with the description of the selection process and its results.
Sources of verification: https://bit.ly/course-call-business-sector

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Events

Lanzamiento Ciclo de formación virtual para el sector empresarial

Dates: 2022-11-30 - 2022-11-30
Organizing institution: SiB Colombia, ANDI, Geopark, Instituto Humboldt
Country: Colombia
Number of participants: 107
Comments: Hybrid event: 35 participants on-site, 72 online.
Website or sources of verification: https://www.youtube.com/live/8SceS_l9ckk?feature=share

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Communications and visibility

Stage 1: - The call for participants was published on the website.
Course call:
https://biodiversidad.co/post/2022/nueva-ruta-formacion-empresarial/
https://biodiversidad.co/comunidad/formacion/ruta-formacion-empresas/

Stage 2: Social media to amplify the content.
Expectation...
https://mailchi.mp/a5edb5a224c8/lanzamiento-gestion-corporativa-naturaleza-14484581
https://mailchi.mp/b0e00b0af443/inscripcion-lanzamiento-ruta-formacion
https://mailchi.mp/0db97c7594d1/inscripcion-lanzamiento-ruta-formacion-15129305

Save the date...
https://twitter.com/sibcolombia/status/1594879374356103168
https://twitter.com/sibcolombia/status/1596254626315177985
https://twitter.com/CNAB_ANDI/status/1595825345927827462
https://twitter.com/FAAEColombia/status/1597923399115866112

Launch...
https://www.facebook.com/SibColombia/posts/pfbid022VtN7bicQWcrQrbaZ7wsxunm3b1XovD3pUqYZVHiAKZy4dCCs2X7B54Xoz
https://twitter.com/sibcolombia/status/1597959087022804994?s=20&t=ZqBfi5vVoogrbHQfJDTh6g

Stage 3: Videos
https://youtu.be/DtwNBZe1aRc
https://youtu.be/8SceS_l9ckk

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation findings

Overall, we can say that we have a positive balance to date. Most of the project time has been dedicated to the design and structuring of the training cycle. This process started relatively quickly with the gathering of requirements on content needs, taking into account that the Colombia node has been understanding the needs of this community for about three years. However, the development and production of content at the level expected by this community was a challenge. The production involved many hours of recording and editing content to ensure a pedagogical scope. At this point of the Project, we are satisfied with the result, which hundreds of people interested in it can use.

Due to the setbacks presented with the formalization of the project and the commitments already acquired with one of the partners, the initial design of the courses was made with a scope oriented to the Colombian community. However, efforts are being made to generate a version 2 adapted for the LAC region that can be used by the project's partner nodes, once the first data publishing companies are in place.

Once the training cycle is completed, we expect to make a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the courses designed. Likewise, with the data sets, we will be able to mobilize with the networking actions that we are carrying out with some companies in Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Ecuador.

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on project implementation

This project has not been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.