BID Africa 2017 – Small Grant Template
Midterm narrative report

Instructions

- Fill the template below with relevant information. If no result has been achieved on a specific point, please indicate it as "no result achieved yet" and **indicate expected date of completion**
- Use the information included in your project Full proposal (reproduced in annex III of your BID contract) as a baseline from which to complete this template
- The information provided below must correspond to the financial information that appears in the financial report
- Sources of verification are for example direct links to relevant digital documents, news/newsletters, brochures, copies of agreements with data holding institutions, workshop related documents, pictures, etc. **Please provide access to all mentioned sources of verification** by either providing <u>direct link</u> or sending a copy of the documents.
- This report must <u>first</u> be sent as a **Word document** to BID@GBIF.org and be pre-approved by GBIFS
- Once this report is pre-approved in writing by GBIFS, it must be signed by the BID project coordinator and sent by post to:

  The Global Biodiversity Information Facility Secretariat (GBIFS)

  Universitetsparken 15

  DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø

  Denmark

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Template

1. Table of Contents

2. Project Information

2.1. Project Coordinator: Institution/network/agency name:

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew Madagascar

2.2. Main contact person and role:

Dr. Hélène Ralimanana, grant coordinator and project leader

2.3. BID proposal identifier:

BID-AF2017-0103-SMA

2.4. Project title:

Alien, native, and endemic grasses of Madagascar

2.5. Start date and end date of the reporting period:

Start date: 01/10/2017, end date: 31/12/2018

2.6. Country in which the activities take place:

Madagascar

3. Overview of results

3.1. Executive summary

Give a short summary of the activities implemented and the outcomes of the project for the reporting period (500 words maximum)

This report is related to the period from October 2017 to 30th May 2018. We have done the following activities during the eight months:

- Two database officers (Ms Razafiniary Velosoa and Ms Razanajatovo) have been recruited for doing data transcription from herbarium sheets images and compiling data in Brahms. The Botanical Records and Herbarium Management System (BRAHMS) is a software providing an integrated management system for preserved specimens, botanic gardens, seed banks and field surveys as well as those undertaking floristic or taxonomic research. The BRAHMS project is based at the university of Oxford and the software is updated by our project partner, Denis Filer. This software is also used by Kew Madagascar Conservation centre (KMCC) for compiling the data to update the grass data at MNHN which will be automatically uploaded to GBIF.

  After getting training from the KMCC database manager (Ms. Linah Rabarivola) Velosoa and Henintsoa started working on the first batch of 2918 specimen photos brought by Dr Vorontsova. Then all Madagascar Poaceae specimen images from the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle (P) Herbarium were also extracted and have been copied to external discs and brought to Madagascar. These data, and Maria's research and the grass data from Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza (PBZT-TAN) have been cleaned and combined in the main BRAHMS project database.

  Linah has carried out verification of data quality in the database from Velosoa and Henitsoa every two weeks. Regular meeting with the project leader is done at least every two weeks for monitoring progress or solving problems encountered. After Linah's training in Cape Town in on 3rd to 8th December 2017, a unique RDE file (Rapid Data Entry) has been created to for storing top quality compiled data. The fields names in this RDE correspond to the Darwin Core fields to facilitate upload to GBIF in the future. From October to date 5910 collection instances have been recorded in this big, cleaned, top copy database. We have done a first upload of 5910 data to GBIF the end of May 2018.

- On 3rd to 8th of December 2017, Linah attended the training on capacity enhancement workshop organized by BID at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden. In March a workshop has been organized by Linah at KMCC office and the aim was to share the knowledge she has acquired in Cape town to our staff and participants from PBZT and university of Antananarivo. In April, Linah also attended the second workshop organized by GBIF about data use for decision making in Cape Town.

- To monitor the progress of the project and for a meeting between the university, KMCC and Dr Maria Vorontsova has been done in March 2018.

- Georeferenced collection instances are now marked according to their accuracy: GPS data, confident within one degree squere, or lacking confidence within one degree square. The first distribution map has been produced as a test page for the project deliverable Grass Atlas of Madagascar, with the locality accurancy marked in colour.

3.2. Progress against expected milestones:

Give an overview of all the expected milestones for your project from the beginning until now (see Annex IV of your contract)

Expected milestones/activities	Completed? Yes/No	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
Completed capacity self-assessment questionnaire for data holding institutions https://www.gbif.org/document/82785/self-assessment-guidelines-for-data-holding-institutions (EN) https://www.gbif.org/document/82813/modele-dauto-evaluation-pour-les-institutions-detentrices-de-donnees (FR) (***Early Progress report milestone***)	yes	Completed self-assessment showing the progress of the activities: some activities are already done or in progress and others are needed to start	Capacity self assessment report sent to GBIF
At least one national data publishing institutions are registered with GBIF.org Guidelines to become a publisher: https://www.gbif.org/become-a-publisher (***Early Progress report milestone***)	yes	Paris herbarium (MNHN) is resgistered to GBIF.They carry out automatic upload from RECOLNAT to GBIF	GBIF data base
At least one person from the project team has completed the certification process following the BID Capacity Enhancement workshop on Data Mobilization organized as a part of the BID programme Africa 2015 or the BID programme Africa 2017 (***Early Progress report milestone***)	yes	Marie Linah Rabarivola has attended the workshop in Cape Town	Capacity self assessment report sent to GBIF
Knowledge dissemination activities have been scheduled following the first BID Capacity Enhancement workshop (***Early Progress report milestone***)	yes	A workshop has been done at KMCC office on 19th – 21st March 2018. Participants from PBZT, and university of Antananarivo and the KMCC staff have attended to this workshop.	Images and tweets posted @TeamKMCC https://twitter.com/RABARIVOLALinah/status/976340662135283712

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			(tweet posted March 21st) https://twitter.com/HRalimanana/status/976738015430238208 (tweet posted on March 22nd)
At least one dataset has been published to GBIF.org (**Midterm report milestone**)	yes	A first data upload to GBIF has been done on May 2018	GBIF data base https://www.gbif.org/dataset/ac8e5183-e233-4168-96a5-67541049aa67
The data users identified in the full proposal have documented their intended use of the mobilized data and provided early feedback (**Midterm report milestone**)	yes	Maria Vorontsova has made sure the GIS data are suitable for future research on grasland ecology; a system for marking map points in different colours according to georeferencing accuracy has been devised and implemented; first test map was made.	Emails from Maria Vorontsova and notes from in person meeting in Antananarivo, 13 March New KMCC blog https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/05/29/avancement-du-projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-graminees-de-madagascar/

3.3. Project deliverables and activities

Refer to the table in section 2.2 "Deliverables, activities and reporting criteria" of your BID full proposal. Provide updates on the status of each of planned deliverables. In the event of unexpected delay, please provide detailed explanatory notes and indicate planned completion date. Add as many rows as needed.

Deliverable	Related activity	Completed ? Yes/No	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
Brahms database for all Madagascar grass collection	Extract from RECOLONAT	Yes (JPG but not high quality TIFF images due to technical issues at MNHN)	Poaceae data and images have been extracted from RECOLONAT (Paris herbarium) and saved in the external disks.	Blog post at @teamkmcc.wordpress.com https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/03/21/projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-poaceae-de-madagascar/
Brahams database for all Madagascar grass collections	Brahms reconciliation	Yes	Data from Maria Vorontsova's research, TAN data base incorporated and reconciled by Maria Vorontsova. Data compiled and specimens images are already brought by Maria Vorontsova in 3 hard disks to Madagascar and given to the database officers (Henintsoa and Velosoa).	Monthly signed reports submitted to grant coordinator, @teamkmcc.wordpress. com, GBIF portal https://www.gbif.org/dataset/ac8e5183-e233-4168-96a5-67541049aa67
Database for all Madagascar grass collection	Data transcription and georeferencing	In progress	Activity in progress. The data officers do the transcription of grass images in Brahms	Monthly signed reports submitted to grant coordinator
Brahms database for all Madagascar grass collections	Data quality control	In progress	Activity in progress. Velosoa and Henintsoa send weekly to Linah (database manager) the RDE files for quality checking. The checked files are compiled in one database.	Monthly signed reports submitted to grant coordinator GBIF portal: https://www.gbif.org/dataset/ac8e5183-e233-4168-96a5-67541049aa67
RECOLONAT full data for Madagascar	Upload to RECOLONAT	No	We have not done it yet.	

This programme is funded by the European Union

Poaceae				
GBIF full data for Madagascar Poaceae	Upload to GBIF	Yes	We did the first upload through Madagascar	GBIF portal: https://www.gbif.org/dataset/ac8e5183-e233-4168-96a5-67541049aa67
Grass atlas of Madagascar	Grass Atlas of Madagascar	In progress	Test maps for some species have been produced	@TeamKMCC (a tweet posted on May 8th) https://twitter.com/vorontsovams/status/993813505462669312
Grass atlas of Madagascar	Alien Grass National strategy Workshop	No	Activity planned on December 2018	

3.4. Datasets published on GBIF.org

Refer to the table in section 2.4 "Biodiversity data mobilization plan" of your BID full proposal. If the dataset is not yet published, please indicate the name of the institution that is expected to host the data when published in the column "DOI or URL/Planned hosting institution". Add as many rows as needed.

Dataset title	Publishing institution	DOI or URL/Planned hosting institution	Date/expected date of publication	Explanatory notes
Alien, native and endemic grasses of Madagascar	KMCC	https://www.gbif.org/dataset/ac8e5183-e233-4168-96a5-67541049aa67	May 2018	5910 data occurrences published and the update will be done when the data transcription is completed
Poaceae of Madagascar from Maria Vorontsova research	KMCC		September 2018	It has not been published yet. We are planning to upload the data to GBIF portal on September 218.
Poacea of Madagascar at TAN herbarium	KMCC		October 2018	It has not been published yet. We are planning to upload the data to GBIF

				portal on October 2018.
Poaceae of Madagascar from Bosser's Graminées de Paturages et cultures de Madagascar	KMCC		November 2018	It has not been published yet. We are planning to upload the data to GBIF portal on November 2018.

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3.5. Examples of use of biodiversity data available through GBIF

Use the table to document use or planned use of data available through GBIF as part of your project. You may want to refer to the section 2.5 "Plan to support the integration of biodiversity information into policy and decision-making processes" of your BID full proposal. Please provide the DOI for datasets downloaded from GBIF in the "Contributing dataset(s)" column. Briefly describe how the data contribute or are planned to contribute in the "targeted application" column (ca. 50 words). Provide the date or approximate timeframe in months for the completion of activity in the "Date/time frame" column. Timeframe indicated may be after the completion of the project unless targeted application is one of the deliverables of your project. Please provide links to any documents or webpages documenting the use in the "Sources of verification" column. Add as many rows as needed.

Targeted application	Data user	Contributing dataset(s)	Date/time frame	Sources of verification	Notes
Identification and monitoring of existing or new **grass invasions**, to support the Madagascar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans 2015-25 (MEEF 2016), Strategic Goal B, Objective 9	University of Antananarivo Malagasy governmental bodies and NGOs Centre for Invasion Biology http://academic.sun.ac.za/cib/ South African National Biodiversity Institute - Invasive Species Programme IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group	Georeferenced records for all Madagascar grasses, and native/alien status; Madagascar grass Atlas	2019 - 2030	new projects KMCC reports	This data use can only begin once the data gathering phase of our project is fully complete, i.e. the locations of all grasses are known and invasions have been identified and the Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop has taken place. Monitoring of grass invasions will be a long-term venture.
Development of conservation strategy for **restricted endemic grasses**, including the publication of IUCN Conservation Assessments	University of Antananarivo Madagascar Plant Specialist Group (in charge of reviewing all IUCN conservation status assessments for Madagascar plants) Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre Missouri Botanical Garden in Madagascar (MBG)	Georeferenced records for all Madagascar grasses, and native/alien status; Madagascar grass Atlas	2019-2025	IUCN Conservation Assessments published online New details in Itremo management policy	This data use can only begin once the data gathering phase of our project is fully complete, i.e. the locations of all grasses are known and invasions have been identified and the Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop has taken place. Knowledge of endemic grasses will be disseminated to the managers of multiple

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					protected areas.
Development of **management strategy** for Itremo Protected Area, and especially decisions on fire management	Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre Caroline Lehmann (University of Edinburgh)	Georeferenced records for all Madagascar grasses, and native/alien status; Madagascar grass Atlas	2019-2025	KMCC reports New details in Itremo management policy	The data will be used in the context of our new Darwin Scoping Award to Caroline Lehmann "Native grass pasture management to feed people and protect forests"
Work towards underpinning future policy by **researching the history** of High Plateau grasslands	Maria Vorontsova at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Graduate students at KMCC and U Antananarivo University of Edinburgh (collaborating ecology researchers)	Georeferenced records for all Madagascar grasses, and native/alien status; Madagascar grass Atlas	2019 - 2030	Grant applications Research publications (including Solofondranohatra et al. Frontiers Ecol. Evol., in press) Nantenaina Herizo RAKOTOMALALA MSc thesis due in December 2018	This is a long term research program and data disseminated by this grant are likely to remain relevant also beyond 2030
Submit **grant application** to study native forage grasses and their utilisation in cattle meat production, ensuring Madagascar's food security in the face of climate change (for submission to the Darwin Initiative summer 2019, https://www.gov.uk/guidance/darwin-initiative-applying-for-main-project-funding)	Maria Vorontsova at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre	Georeferenced records for all Madagascar grasses, and native/alien status; Madagascar grass Atlas	Summer 2019	Darwin Scoping Award to Caroline Lehmann "Native grass pasture management to feed people and protect forests" awarded 2018 Darwin standard project application due for submission summer 2019	Our draft Darwin application failed to win support from RBG Kew grants office in summers 2016 and 2017; following their advice we applied for a scoping award and received it; this has caused an extra year's delay in submission of the full Darwin application now planned for 2019

3.6. Events organized as part of the project

List all the events that have been organized as part of your project. Please provide links to any documents or webpages documenting the use in the "Sources of verification" column.
Add as many rows as needed.

Full title	Organizing institution	Dates	Number of participants	Sources of verification
Project progress monitoring meeting with partners	KMCC	13th Mars 2018	Seven participants: Pr Vololoniaina Jeannoda (University of Antananarivo), Dr Maria Vorontsova (RBG Kew), Mr Stuart Cable (RBG Kew), Dr Hélène Ralimanana (KMCC – RBG Kew), Linah Rabarivola (KMCC – RBG Kew), Velosoa Razafiniary (KMCC – RBG Kew), Henintsoa Razanajatovo (KMCC – RBG Kew)	https://twitter.com/vorontsovams/status/973524180170956800 https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/03/21/projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-poaceae-de-madagascar/
Knowledge dissemination activities	KMCC	19th to 21 st March 2018	Hélène Ralimanana (KMCC – RBG Kew), Andriamanohera Ando (KMCC – RBG Kew), Randrianasolo Vonona (KMCC – RBG Kew), Rabarijaona Romer (KMCC – RBG Kew), Razanajatovo Henintsoa (KMCC – RBG Kew), Razafiniary Velosoa (KMCC – RBG Kew), Ravaoarisoa Soloniaina (Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza), Ramanandraisoa Voahangy Lalao (Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza - PBZT), Ramanantsialonina Ravo Nantenaina (University of Antananarivo) Rakotomalala Nantenaina (University of Antananarivo)	Images and tweets posted @TeamKMCC https://twitter.com/RABARIVOLALinah/status/976340662135283712 (tweet posted on March 21st) https:///twitter.com/HRalimanana (tweet posted on March 22nd))
Knowledge dissemination to public	KMCC, RBG Kew		Najarisoa Olinirina (University of Antananarivo) Maria Vorontsova (RBG Kew) Ralimanana Hélène (KMCC- RBG Kew) Rakotoarisoa Solofo Eric (KMCC- RBG Kew)	Open access papers: http://journalmcd.com/index.php/mcd/article/view/570 http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/283/1823/20152262

			Jatmi Dransfield (RBG Kew)	Identification guide to Grasses and Bamboos in Madagascar
			Besnard Guillaume (Université de Toulouse)	https://www.kew.org/science/news/beauty-of-madagascar%E2%80%99s-grasses-revealed-for-the-first-time
			Andrew McRobb (RBG Kew)	
			Razanatsoa Jacqueline (PBZT)	

4. Updated calendar for the BID project implementation and evaluation period

The calendar should be completed in the same way as in the Full Project Proposal, but should include any expected changes. Provide reasons for any expected changes in section 4.1 'Explanatory Notes'.

Implementation period start date and end date (dd/mm/yy)																
Activity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	**Notes**
GOAL 1 - Increase available biodiversity data, within and beyond the grant period																
Extract from RECOLNAT	x	x	x	x												The data extractions from RECOLONAT have been done from month 1 until month 4 instead of in month 1 in the full proposal because the responsible in Paris herbarium did not arrive to extract the data in one time due to the size of the images.
BRAHMS reconciliation	x	x	x	x												There was a one-month delay in the realization of this activity due to the delay in the extraction of data in Paris Herbarium.
Data transcription and georeferencing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				The database officers have started doing transcription and georeferencing just after getting training and getting grass specimens photos from Dr Maria Vorontsova.
Data quality control	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ms Linah Rabarivola has started doing the data control at month 1 for checking firstly the capacity of the data officers after training, secondly for finding the which area is to be reinforce, and thirdly for improving the data quality in the future.
Upload to RECOLNAT										x		x				We are planning to do the first upload to RECOLONAT in month 10 instead of in month 7 in the full proposal because the technicians in Paris are not available.
Upload to GBIF								x						x		There is one-month delay in doing the first upload to GBIF

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	1	2	3													
																because of the delay in taking decision, so KMCC has taken the initiative in doing the upload in month 8.
GOAL 2 - Apply biodiversity data in response to conservation priorities																
Grass Atlas of Madagascar											x	x	x	x		
Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop														x		
Evaluation period start date and end date (01/01/2019 – 31/03/2019)	1	2	3													
Final financial and narrative reporting		x	x													
Data quality control	x	x														
Grass Atlas of Madagascar	x	x	x													
Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop	x	x	x													

Evaluation period start date and end date ((01/01/19))				
Activity	1	2	3	**Notes**
Financial and narrative reporting		x	x	
Data quality control	x	x		
Grass Atlas of Madagascar	x	x	x	
Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop	x	x	x	

4.1. Explanatory notes:

All project deliverables are on track, with only one exception: upload to RECOLNAT (MNHN) and then GBIF. Unfortunately, we have had difficulties in the maintenance of regular communication with Marc Pignal and colleagues at MNHN Paris. According to the original plan we should have uploaded a test batch of data back to RECONLAT and from there to GBIF, and we were planning to write and publish a data import procedure to move data effectively from BRAHMS to RECOLNAT, something that could be used for other future projects. Since we have received no replies from our colleagues in Paris it has not been possible to do this data transfer and Denis Flier has been unable to prepare an importation procedure. We will continue to communicate, and we hope to complete this part of the project with delay, during the summer 2018.

In case the BRAHMS to RECOLNAT to GBIF data upload procedure is not successful we have also established an alternative data transfer process: from BRAHMS directly to GBIF via colleagues at MadBIF. The updates to the data upload plan reflect these changes.

5. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other cooperation

5.1. Relationship with project partners

Please describe the relationship between your project coordinating team/institution and your project partners, and with any other organisations involved in implementing your BID project.

Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza: have contributed RDE files with data on all their Poaceae specimens; good working relationship;

Département de Biologie et Ecologie Végétales (DBEV), Faculté des Sciences Université d'Antananarivo: Professor Jeannoda attended our project meeting on 13 March, she very much supports this project, and dates have now been set for the Alien Grass National Strategy Workshop: 6-7 December 2018. Good working relationship;

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew: Maria Vorontsova has been in continuous communication with project coordinator and staff resolving day to day BRAHMS issues; Maria has brought all specimens images to Madagascar on hard drives; Kew IT volunteer Sarah Ficinski has been trouble shooting RDE file upload. Good working relationship;

Herbier du Muséum national d'histoire naturelle: Marc Pignal has extracted and provided Paris specimen data and also all the specimen images. He has carried out data extraction several times until this was done correctly. Image transfer from Paris to Kew also had to be repeated due to theft of hard drives at Kew. Currently we are experiencing some delayed communication regrading the upload of data back to RECLNAT;

Department of Plant Sciences, University of Oxford: Denis Filer assembled the BRAHMS project database incorporating Paris data, a project which took a few months to finalise. He is available to work on data upload back to RECOLNAT. Good working relationship.

5.2. Links to other projects and actions

Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions, e.g. GBIF nodes, other BID funded projects, etc. If your organization has received previous grants in view of strengthening the same target group, to what extent has your BID project been able to build upon/complement the previous project(s) ?

MadBIF (Node Manager Mr Herizo Randriambanona and the node staff and our mentor Mr Andry Rakotomanjaka) have been the new contacts for us and a great help in establishing a GBIF upload process directly from Madagascar.

University of Edinburth (researcher Dr Caroline Lehmann) has become involved and supportive due to the future significance of this data for ecology research.

University of Pretoria (rangeland management expert Dr Wayne Truter) is a new memeber of our collaborative network and will visit Madagascar for the first time in March 2019 on the new Drawin Scoping Grant.

Experience was shared with the **Guinea BID project** also supported by RBG Kew (Charlotte Couch) and making use of Paris specimen images.

Data has already been of direct benefit to the academic study of Nantenaina Herizo RAKOTOMALALA (MSc student) and Cedrique Lova Solondranohatra (PhD student) both registered at the **University of Antananarivo** and supervised by Professor Jeannoda, with co-supervision by Helene Ralimanana and Maria Vorontsova.

6. Visibility

Please refer to the [BID guidelines.](#)

6.1. Visibility of the BID project

How is the visibility of your BID project being ensured?

Short summary

Three blog posts about the project has already posted at @teamkmcc.wordpress.com Information about it is also seen at GBIF website.

https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/03/21/projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-poaceae-de-madagascar/

https://www.gbif.org/project/617jpsl7c4OkumSuqyQ0W6/alien-native-and-endemic-grasses-of-madagascar

https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/05/29/avancement-du-projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-graminees-de-madagascar/

Blog texts are also posted each month and we are planning to put GBIF and EU logos in the them.

Sources of verification

www.teamkmcc.wordpress.com

https://twitter.com/vorontsovams

https://twitter.com/TeamKMCC

6.2. Visibility of the EU contribution

How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured within your project implementation?

Short summary

We will put EU logo in the blog about the project posted at www.teamkmcc.wordpress.com

Sources of verification

www.teamkmcc.wordpress.com:

https://teamkmcc.wordpress.com/2018/05/29/avancement-du-projet-gbif-bid-sur-les-graminees-de-madagascar/

Signature _ _____

Name of the contact person for the BID Project: Dr Hélène Ralimanana

Date report sent by email in Word format to bid@gbif.org for pre-approval: 31/05/2018

Date report sent by post to GBIF Secretariat: _____