Introduction to GBIF Participation

Tim Hirsch, Deputy Director, GBIF Secretariat
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

- Non-binding agreement to participate
- 2 time-limited MoUs from 2001
- Latest version (2012) not time-limited
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Three forms of participation:

- Voting country – financial contribution to core funds
- Associate country – time limited to 5 years
- Associate organization/economy
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

MoU establishes:

- Governing Board
- Executive Committee
- Standing committees (Science, Nodes, Budget)
- Secretariat
- Work Programme
PARTICIPANT NODE

Coordinating unit of biodiversity information facility within country/organisation

4 main functions:

- Promoting/supporting mobilization of biodiversity data
- Providing expertise on biodiversity data management/improving data quality
- Encouraging optimum re-use of available data
- Foster collaboration, especially through GBIF network
DATA PUBLISHERS

• All datasets shared with GBIF.org must come from registered data publishers

• Endorsed through Participant nodes

• Publishers from non-Participant countries can be endorsed by nodes committee (including region)

• Guidance available through GBIF.org on formatting and sharing data

• Nearly one-thousand registered publishers currently sharing data through GBIF.org