

# Introduction to GBIF Participation

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# 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



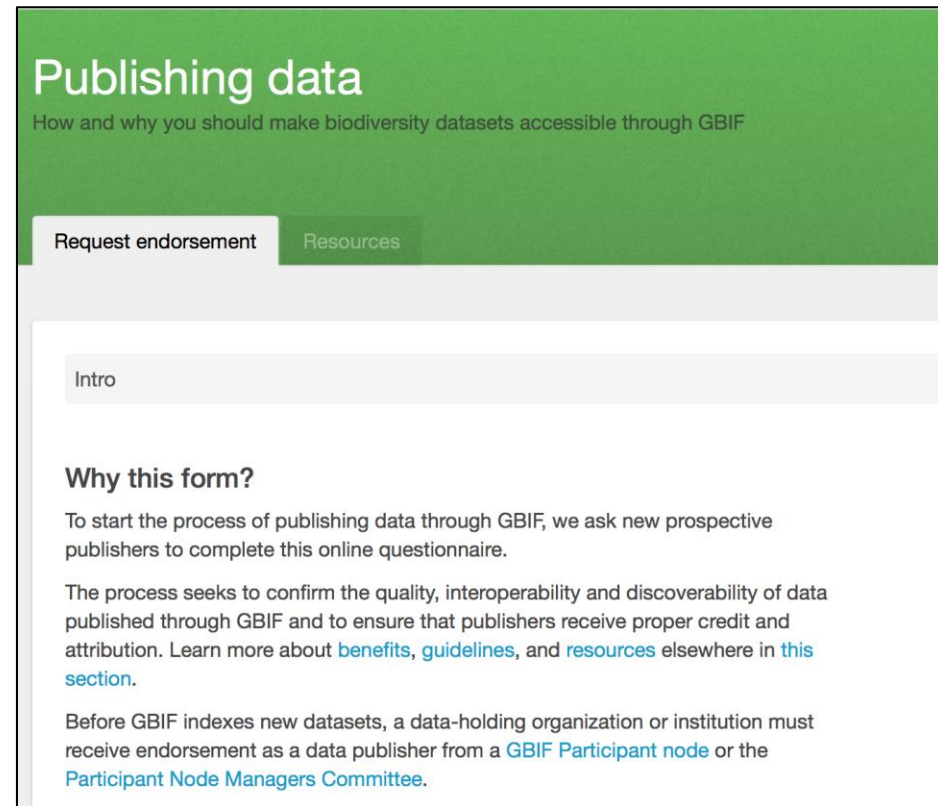
Establishing an Effective GBIF Participant Node  
*Concepts and general considerations*



*March 2015*

# 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



**Publishing data**  
How and why you should make biodiversity datasets accessible through GBIF

Request endorsement Resources

Intro

**Why this form?**

To start the process of publishing data through GBIF, we ask new prospective publishers to complete this online questionnaire.

The process seeks to confirm the quality, interoperability and discoverability of data published through GBIF and to ensure that publishers receive proper credit and attribution. Learn more about [benefits](#), [guidelines](#), and [resources](#) elsewhere in [this section](#).

Before GBIF indexes new datasets, a data-holding organization or institution must receive endorsement as a data publisher from a [GBIF Participant node](#) or the [Participant Node Managers Committee](#).