

MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT

Guidelines on how to complete the activity report are included in italics.

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1. Project overview

Please insert text in the table

Project title	Nigeria Node Mentoring	
Project ID	CESP2018_012	
Project period	Start date (dd/mm/yy): 19/06/2018	End date (dd/mm/yy): 18/05/2019
Project lead		
Name of the main contact person	Name: Dr.(Mrs.) OmokafeAlabaUgbogu	
Name of institution	Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria	
GBIF Participant represented	GBIF Nigeria	

Role(s) in this project	Coordinator	
Project partner(s)		
Name and institution of the representative	GBIF Participant represented (if applicable)	Role(s) in the project
GANGLO Cossi Jean, University of Abomey-Calavi	GBIF Benin	Prime Mentor/ Trainer
Anne-Sophie Archambeau, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)	GBIF France	Mentor /Trainer

2. Executive summary

Provide a brief explanation of the context and the approach taken up to the mid-term of the project, as well as a summary of the main conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations for the remaining project period.

The Nigeria Node Mentoring project under CESP is being mentored by Benin and France GBIF. We had our first mentoring program with BeninGBIF in Benin in December 10-14, 2018 on “*Workshop on GBIF Node Management, Biodiversity data analysis, and Data uses to support Decision making on Biodiversity Conservation*”. It was a huge success with 5 Mentees from Nigeria (Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN), University of Calabar and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria). The Nigeria Node organised a workshop on “Biodiversity data Management and Usage” held in January 21-25, 2019 at Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria. The Workshop featured all that we learnt from the BeninBIF. In addition, we taught them Data mobilization and publication on GBIF platform, publish on GBIF platform.

Efforts must be made to get the real Data holders to work by making provision for their incentives and perhaps Nodes should be empowered with some funds that can be used to pay them. Both the controller of the Data holders (Older ones) and the young and energetic ones should be trained. Experience has shown that the younger scientists who are students get the trainings faster than the older persons who are the custodians of the Data. If one trains only the older ones with the data, they may not be able to cope with stress of Data entry, while the younger ones, though good but do not have control over data. These were our experiences. We have over 20 National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) that we requested for on the BID project. They have been trained and are helping with Data entries with us in FRIN. After the

one year service, some of them(especially the jobless) could be engaged in Data entries across Nigeria if funds are available to send them out.

The interactions among NgBIF and GBIF Benin/France will aid the transfer of Knowledge through training/mentoring activities with the objective of acquiring the best practices in the running of biodiversity information facility's activities and management of national biodiversity data.

[Insert text here]

3. Introduction to the project and its objectives

1. *Provide a summary of the overall project to help readers understand its objectives, including, for example:*

- *The project's main objective(s) and expected impact*
 1. Guidance and technical support in order to implement a better data mobilization strategy, to mobilize and publish new data using the tools developed by GBIF and following data quality best practices.
 2. The project will enhance a more coverage across the various ecological zones.
 3. This project is to meet one of the essential goals of GBIF in capacity enhancement to strengthening NgBIF in sustainable performance of GBIF programmes in Nigeria and to expand the National networks.

- *How the deliverables will contribute to the main objective(s)*

1. Nigerian node staff and key holders were assessed and trained for data mobilization and publishing
2. Well organized National workshops in 2 locations
3. The Broader scientific communities aware of GBIF
4. Mechanisms to promote incentives for data publishing in place

- *The targeted capacity needs as outlined in the project proposal*

The Broader scientific communities aware of GBIF, assessed and trained for data mobilization and publishing

2. *Explain to readers what they will find in this report. It should include:*

- *A description of how the evaluation has been carried out (e.g. consultation or surveys with project partners and participants). Please refer to section 3.6 "Monitoring and evaluation" in your original project proposal.*
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-N2D2QXJQV/>
- *A description of how the project partners will use the evaluation results.*

[Insert text here]

4. Project deliverables - status update by mid-term

Provide updates on the status of each of the planned deliverables by the mid-term, listing the related activities connected to these and explanatory notes. In the event of identifying a deliverable as “delayed”, please provide detailed explanatory notes and planned actions to address this issue. Please provide links to any documents or webpages in the “Sources of verification” column. Add as many rows as needed.

[Please update table]

Deliverable	Related activity	Status: Completed / on track / delayed	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
Nigerian node staff and key holders are assessed and trained	Workshop training on Biodiversity management and uses	On track	SurveyMonkey was sent	https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-32PBP95JV/
Upgraded NgBIF website for the node	Increased space in NgBIF	On track		
Well organized National workshops in 2 locations	First Workshop training held in Ibadan	On track		https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-32PBP95JV/
National and Regional strategies learnt	Trainig in Benin Republic	On track	To deny the people who had refused to publish of Node’s endorsement on their applications to GBIF project.	

Deliverable	Related activity	Status: Completed / on track / delayed	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
The Nigeria Node identifies with its logo	Being considered	On track		
The Broader scientific communities aware of GBIF	Invitation sent to various field areas of Biodiversity		Specialists from broad Biodiversity Data holders attended the Workshop	https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-32PBP95JV/
Mechanisms to promote incentives for data publishing in place	Promise made of incentive for published data	On track	Incentive was announced at the workshop for published data	

5. Project calendar - status update by mid-term

The calendar should be completed the same way as in section 3.7 of your Full Project Proposal, but should also clearly indicate any expected changes (e.g. use of colour-coding to indicate expected changes). Please provide justifications for any expected changes in the notes column.

Activity	2018							2019				
	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
<i>Initiate steps of exposure to node activities and development of framework for mentoring activities-through emails, Skype meetings</i>							X					
Node Mentee –assessment visits to Benin Mentor GBIF, to be exposed to different models of node operations and provide directions							X					

and basis for operations of NgBIF, sharing of Mentor's experiences												
Invitation of Node manager , IT engineer and Data engineer from Benin GBIF mentor to attend meetings and training in Nigeria (Ibadan) - on technical on GBIF standards, tools, data publishing to the GBIF portal, data quality and data uses							X					
Deadline for mid-term reporting							X					
Preparation for the training in Zaria									X			
Training on technical on GBIF standards, tools, data publishing to the GBIF portal, data quality and data uses, in Zaria (North),										X		
Invitation of Node manager , IT engineer and Data engineer Ng GBIF mentees to attend meetings and training in Benin - on technical on GBIF standards, tools, data publishing to the GBIF portal, data quality, data uses and upgrading the NgBIF website for the node (<i>This Second trip is to meet with GBIF France</i>)												
Establishment of basic data infrastructure, Acquisition of Web server, accessories and software (Upgrading the NgBIF website for the node)									X			
Evaluation and Reports writing										X	X	

Deadline for final reporting													X
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6. Project communications

Describe how the results of your project are being, and will be shared with the project stakeholders and broader GBIF community.

The Nigeria Node Mentoring project under CESP is being mentored by Benin and France GBIF. We had our first mentoring program with BeninGBIF in Benin on 10-14 December, 2018 on the “Workshop on GBIF Node Management, Biodiversity data analysis, and Data uses to support Decision making on Biodiversity Conservation”. It was a huge success with 5 Mentees from Nigeria (Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN), University of Calabar and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria). The Nigeria Node organised a workshop on “Biodiversity data Management and Usage” held in January 21-25, 2019 at Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria. There was an opening ceremony where the Nigeria Node Manager(Prof. Omokafe A. Ugbogu) made a power point presentation introducing the GBIF’s meaning, Missions, Operations, and the various facilities and Data information available on GBIF platform and on how they can be assessed; NgBIF with its achievements and its Membership Status of Nigeria in GBIF. The workshop was declared open by the Director General of FRIN and the Head of delegation for NgBIF, Prof. Adeshola O Adepoju after his opening remarks. The Workshop featured all that we learnt from the BeninBIF. In addition, we taught them Data mobilization and publication on GBIF platform. We had an interactive session held towards the end of the training with a “*promise of incentive to Data publishers*” and a “*Communique*” emanated with the intention of meeting with the Government for the purpose of making Nigeria a Voting member of GBIF. Relevant links were also made available. The workshop was very successful with well over fifty participants across Nigeria.

Please also review the project webpage available from <https://www.gbif.org/programme/82219/capacity-enhancement-support-programme#projects> and provide any additional documents, events, news items or links that you would like to add to your page.

The Second Biodiversity Data Management and Usage will hold in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Therefore, Biodiversity Data holders, especially from the North, who intend to participate should watch out for the dates. Meanwhile, Northern Participants at this First Biodiversity Data Management and Usage, have been charged to be doing the underground preparations for the Workshop.

7. Mid-term evaluation findings and recommendations for the remaining project implementation period

This section is to summarize and document the mid-term evaluation of the project’s progress and any changes to the project plans based on the findings of this mid-term evaluation.

This section of the report should also cover, for example:

- *Areas of success/best practices/lessons learnt from this first stage of project implementation, which can be built on during the remainder of the project period.*

People who indicated willingness to attend were overwhelming and so we used SurveyMonkey to really target data holders and not just students (which was our experience during the training organised under BID project and our experience with our BID partners some of whom never had Data). Furthermore, many of the University Lecturers were free to attend the training because of their National strike. We were made to exceed our budget in trying to accommodate them in terms of hall space and feeding.

- *Any feedback on the project's relevance from the partners and stakeholders.*
SurveyMonkey was used, though not all the participants responded. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-N2D2QXJQV/> The participants were very appreciative of the training and its relevance to their work, especially how to keep their data in International standard.
- *Comments on the project implementation, its efficiency and effectiveness.*

The project implementation is very efficient and effective, except that BeninGBIF and FranceGBIF cannot visit Nigeria for security reasons according to them. So, NgBIF will have to continue to learn by other means possible.

- *The management arrangements for the project, including support from the GBIF Secretariat.*

The management arrangements for the project is okay, especially support from the GBIF Secretariat and people wish for more of other trainings that will help them in teaching, research and publication.

WhatsApp groups based on general attendance and specialised area of Research were created.

However, the second visit to Benin to meet with France is no longer visible. BeninGBIF is not ready to visit Nigeria for security reason. NgBIF is going to continue to learn by other means possible.

- *Any reflection on the mid-term evaluation itself that could help inform the project's final evaluation and final report.*

Please also use this section as an opportunity to identify the main lessons from the project experience that could be applied in other contexts, including any best practice that others in the GBIF community could apply. In addition, outline any recommendations for the GBIF Secretariat or the community to reinforce the initial success of the project.

1. Efforts must be made to get the real Data holders to work by making provision for their incentives and the Node will fashion out with the Federal Government Budget in FRIN on how the Node could be empowered with some funds that can be used to pay them. It is however, noted that the unused CESP fund cannot be claimed for incentives of Data mobilization.
2. Both the controller of the Data holders (Older ones) and the young and energetic ones should be trained. Experience has shown that the younger scientists who are students get the trainings faster than the older persons who are the custodians of the Data. If one trains only the older ones with the data, they may not be able to cope with stress of Data entry, while the younger ones, though good but do not have control over data. These were our experiences
3. We have over 20 National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) that we requested for on the BID project. They have been trained and are helping with Data entries with us in FRIN. After the one year service, some of them (especially the jobless) could be engaged in Data entries across Nigeria if funds are available to send them out.

[Insert text here]

8. Annex 1 – Additional sources of verification

Please use this section to provide any additional sources of verification, for example links to relevant digital documents, news/newsletters, brochures, copies of agreements with data holding institutions, workshop related documents, pictures, etc.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-32PBP95JV/>