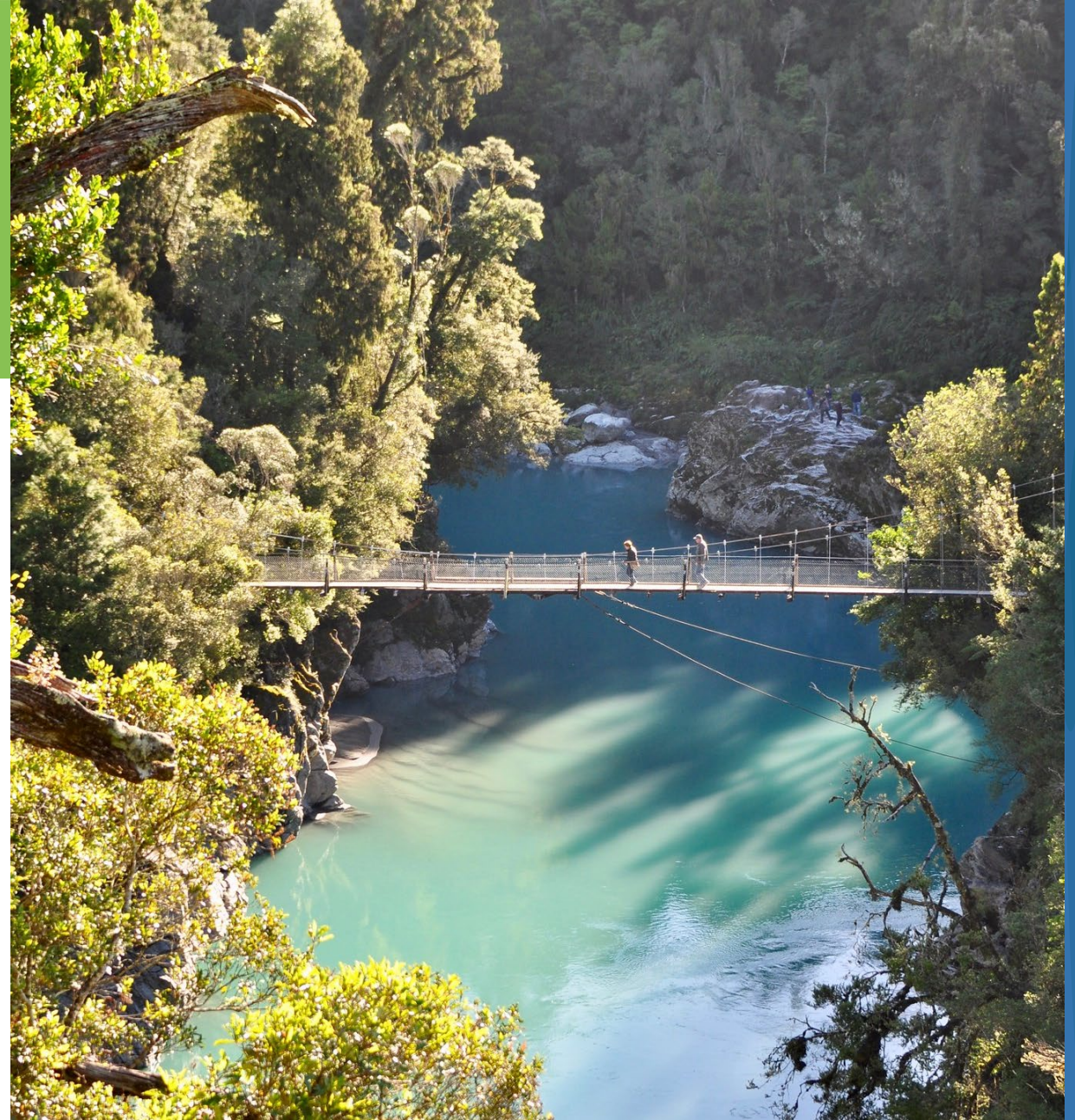**GBIF** | Global Biodiversity Information Facility

# Update on Nodes Strategy 2022

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# UPDATING THE NODES STRATEGY FOR 2022

- The strategy was prepared by the Nodes Steering Group to frame the work of the Nodes Committee

- It recognizes 2022 as a bridging year to prepare for GBIF's next strategic period 2023-2027

- The regional meetings and reports should aim to share progress on the 7 strategic objectives

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## 1. INVESTIGATE REGIONAL COORDINATION

- Consider how the model of regional support contractors could be adapted or reused to further strengthen regional support

- Working with the Secretariat, investigate needs for further regional support and coordination

- Define possible tasks under this coordination

- Assess the implications in terms of governance and relation with the Secretariat

- Identify potential alignment with other regional initiatives

- Work with the Secretariat to identify and prioritize activities for targeted supplementary funding, under the resource mobilization roadmap (activity 1c)

- Evaluate the use of regional cloud-based IPTs to inform recommendations for further development

NEWS | 25 JANUARY 2022

First thematic help desk to support mobilization of biodiversity data related to disease vectors

*Efforts to boost mobilization of data on wild host, vector and reservoir species connected to human health*

## 2. IMPROVE DATA RELEVANCE

- Key roles of nodes in assessing the users needs, and publishing complete and relevant data

- Building on this foundation, GBIF is piloting thematic helpdesk services and calls for data papers for strategically and scientifically important thematic areas

- Disease vector data help desk - with other thematic areas to follow

- Opportunities for nodes to assist in engaging with thematic communities to strengthen the mobilization of relevant data across the network

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## 3. EXPLORE NEW DATA TYPES

- Nodes increasingly supporting mobilization of emerging data types: sampling events, abundance data, camera traps, DNA sequences…

- Reveals important challenges in the use of GBIF's current simplistic data model

- While continuing to support data mobilization using the current tools and standards, Nodes will engage with exploratory work in 2022, aiming to progressively develop and enrich GBIF's data model:
    - Review of case studies and suggested changes to the data model
    - Helping to mobilize exemplar datasets as pilots

- Work towards a gradual adoption of a richer data model in coming years

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# Simple websites for biodiversity

A Jekyll theme with build in support for displaying subsets of data mediated through GBIF.org

## 4. LOWER TECHNICAL THRESHOLD

- In response to a demand from nodes for light-weight solutions for lowering technical barriers, GBIF ran a successful pilot phase for hosted portals for nodes in 2021

- This will be developed into a hosted portals programme in 2022 that will be open to all nodes

- The nodes are in a good position to continue to gather requirements, design mock-ups and prototype such low tech, simplified solutions for data publishing tools, hosted portals and data repositories

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## 5. STRENGTHEN OUR NETWORK

- All nodes have limited resources. Technical resources can easily be solved through cloud-based solutions. Human resources are more difficult to address.

- Nodes shall seek to improve their human resources with an ideal team of 4 FTEs per country node.

- Recognizing that this is a combined responsibility with the Heads of delegation, Node managers will report on progress to establish this ideal team.

- GBIF provides opportunities for capacity development through training, mentoring and the Capacity Enhancement Support Programme.

- GBIF recognizes the need to strengthen communication of the value of GBIF to key stakeholders, including funders, and will undertake an external economic valuation and assessment of the impact of the GBIF network. Nodes should have input into the development of this report, and reflect on ways to highlight benefits of engagement.

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## 6. REDEFINE PARTICIPATION

- In 2022, the GBIF work programme includes an activity on "Reviewing the current status and models of participation in GBIF both at national and organization level, with a view to developing recommendations for the new strategic implementation period at GB29" (Activity 1e).

- Nodes should reflect on that and suggest ways to recognize and expose the value of national/thematic efforts beyond the formal official/financial participation to GBIF

- Engagement of new country/organization participants should also be considered here

## 7. STRATEGIC USE OF REMOTE TOOLS

- COVID-19 pandemic challenges: travel restrictions, fewer in-person events, less direct contacts with publishers and users.

- This affects most of the nodes' local activities such as training, hosting, support, advocacy, communication and networking with other nodes.

- Nodes have been investigating, experimenting and disseminating remote tools for Nodes: eLearning, chat, forum, data portal, webinars, etc.

- The 2022 regional meetings will likely be affected by the ongoing travel restrictions across much of the network.

- We will consider how best to employ our experience with virtual events and tools for remote working to support our objectives for regional meetings, while focusing on support for in-person discussions and community building when and where this is possible.

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THANK YOU