GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility

FINAL ACTIVITY REPORT
Bireme CESP 2017-0002

By André Heughebaert Dec 14, 2018

Guidelines on how to complete the activity report are included in italics. Please include sources of verification as links or annexes.

Contents

1. Executive summary

Provide a brief explanation of the project and its implementation, the main capacity enhancement objectives achieved, lessons learned and conclusions.

With 3 additional months, we reached the end of this documentation project. Two successful workshops have been held in Brussels (October 2017) and (Paris in May 2018). Five country use cases have been produced and our final document including our recommendations are there. We have learned a lot from the EU reporting stakeholders in our countries and are ready to disseminate our conclusions to all EU member states and countries of the Emerald Network. With this we do hope that European GBIF nodes will become more and more involved in the mobilization of biodiversity data related to EU reporting and contribute to facilitate the process.

2. Contact information

Provide the name, institutional affiliation, role in the project and contact details of the author(s) of the report.

André Heughebaert, Belgian Biodiversity Platform, Project Coordinator

3. Project summary

This section should provide readers with a good understanding of the project, from the original plans to the final implementation, highlighting:

- *The capacity needs that instigated the project and how these have changed as a result of the project activities.*

- *The activities that have been completed at the time of writing the report, and those that are ongoing or pending (e.g. longer-term evaluation, follow-up projects/meetings/training events) and your plans for their completion.*
- *How the different partners in the project have contributed to its implementation.*

This project aims to describe EU reporting processes and data flows in several EU countries, investigate how GBIF could facilitate EU reporting and recommend changes to GBIF tools/procedures, if needed.
Best practices will be identified, summarized and spread to all EU countries.

Our objectives are:

- At national level, this project will improve our understanding of EU reporting:
  - Stakeholders (scientific and decision making bodies)
  - Data gathering and filtering, data flows
  - Decisions made during the process
  - Timeline of the process
- At broader scale, best practices and recommendations to further improve GBIF use in European reporting process.

Project articulates in two phases, a workshop being held before each phase.

3.1. Activities completed

Highlight the activities that have been completed at the time of writing the report. Explain how the different partners in the project have contributed to its implementation.

An informal kickoff meeting has been held in Helsinki during the Governing Board week.

The first workshop has been held in Brussels, on October 20th where we did agreed on a common methodology for describing the various country/EU legislation use cases.

The second workshop has been held in Paris, on May 3-4 where we did present and compare the five national uses cases. The Workshops minutes are available on our OSF repository.

Our final document is now completed and bundled with the five national use cases produced during the project.

3.2. Post-project activities

Highlight post-project activities if any (e.g. longer-term evaluation, follow-up projects/meetings/training events) and your plans for their completion.

We will invite other European GBIF nodes to conduct similar survey in order to gather more national use cases.

We are planning to publish an article on Bireme study and conclusions in Rio Journal early next year.

4. Project objectives

A list of the objectives included in your original project proposal, and a description of how your project activities contributed to meeting them. . Also include any additional objectives that were defined during the implementation of the project.

At national level, our objective was to improve our understanding of EU reporting: Stakeholders, data flows, decisions and timeline of the process. The five national uses cases gave us a good understanding of the people, institutions, data sources and tools involved in EU reporting. Even though we knew the actors we interviewed, we learned a lot from them.

At broader scale, we hoped to improve GBIF use in European reporting process. GBIF, data or services, was barely mentioned by the people we interviewed. For various reasons, the raw data sources are rarely available to GBIF at reporting time, some being published only years after, some never.

Our recommendations should improve this in the future.

5. Project deliverables

The original list of deliverables frrom your project proposal, including a description of the final deliverables produced.Make sure to include sources of verification for each of the deliverables, such as details of data mobilized through the project including DOIs to published datasets, and/or links to re-usable information resources or tools. Alternatively, the deliverables can be attached to the report as an annex.

Our final documents (study + five national use cases) available from OSF project:

- Bireme study
- Belgian use case
- French use case
- Irish use case
- Portuguese use case
- Norwegian use case

6. Project communications

Report on the way the results of your project have been communicated and shared with the project stakeholders and broader GBIF community . Please also review the page describing your project available from https://www.gbif.org/programme/82219/capacity-enhancement-support-programme#projects. Highlight any additional documents, events, news items or links that you would like to add to your page.

OSF was our central repository throughout the project and our main support for long-term communication.

7. Evaluation: lessons learned and best practices

An assessement of the overall outcomes and impacts of your project, including strengths and weaknesses in its implementation and results. If any changes have been made to the project plans please clearly indicate this and the reasons for this. Try to identify your experiences that could help others to design and implement projects more effectively, including the best practices to adopt and the pitfalls to avoid.

OSF is a great tool. We strongly encourage the Secretariat to recommend it as document repository to all CESP projects during the whole project lifecycle.

EEA and the GBIF Secretariat should take this opportunity to strengthen there relation, especially around the availability and reuse of raw data underpinning the EU reporting.
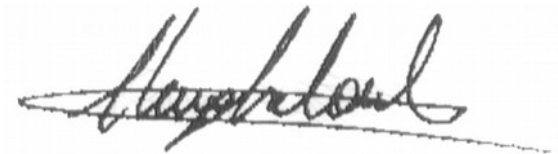
8. Future plans and sustainability

A description of how the partners involved will build on the results of this project in their future work. This could include future collaborative activities, such as plans to complete any unfinished project activities and how the future impact of the project could be monitored or measured.

We will circulate our final document as widely as possible but at least to all EU member states, all countries of the Emerald network and the European Environmental Agency.

9. Signature of the project main contact point

Signed on behalf of the project partners   Date

André Heughebaert, BiReMe coordinator   14. Dec. 2018

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