



# BID Africa 2017 – National Grant Template

## Midterm narrative report

### Instructions

- Fill the template below with relevant information. If no result has been achieved on a specific point, please indicate it as “no result achieved yet” and **indicate expected date of completion**
- Use the information included in your project Full proposal (reproduced in annex III of your BID contract) as a baseline from which to complete this template
- The information provided below must correspond to the financial information that appears in the financial report
- Sources of verification are for example direct links to relevant digital documents, news/newsletters, brochures, copies of agreements with data holding institutions, workshop related documents, pictures, etc. **Please provide access to all mentioned sources of verification** by either providing direct link or sending a copy of the documents.
- This report must first be sent as a **Word document** to [GBIF@GBIF.org](mailto:GBIF@GBIF.org) and be pre-approved by GBIFS
- Once this report is pre-approved in writing by GBIFS, it must be signed by the BID project coordinator and sent by post to:

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility Secretariat (GBIFS)  
 Universitetsparken 15  
 DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø  
 Denmark

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### Template

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This programme is funded by the [European Union](#)



## 2. Project Information

### 2.1. Project Coordinator: Institution/network/agency name:

Dr Miasa Eustache: University of Toamasina, Institut Supérieur de Sciences, Environnement & Développement Durable (ISSEDD), together with

Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie: GroundTruth (GT)

### 2.2. Main contact person and role:

Dr Miasa Eustache, Project management/ co-ordinator. Assistance with organising a venue for AFRESH.IO, guidance and supervision to university students for projects focussed on freshwater ecosystems (especially those focused on diatoms EPT taxa and WQ), acting as a central repository for all collected samples, supervision of students to assist in digitising/mobilising existing data, assistance with coordinated sampling efforts across Madagascar and providing support to a long term monitoring project to be established with TBA

Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie, Project coordination and support to all project partners, facilitating and organising AFRESH.IO workshop, training delegates to use citizen science tools, development of diatom ecological bands, miniSASS data management/uploading

### 2.3. BID proposal identifier:

BID-AF2017-0306-NAC

### 2.4. Project title:

The Forgotten African Islands - Addressing the gap in freshwater biodiversity knowledge for the Indian Ocean Islands.

### 2.5. Start date and end date of the reporting period:

February 2018 – May 2018

### 2.6. Country in which the activities take place:

South Africa

Madagascar





### 3. Overview of results

#### 3.1. Executive summary

*Give a short summary of the activities implemented and the outcomes of the project for the reporting period (500 words maximum)*

The focus of this midterm report is on updating the progress of activities and milestones, in particular, the publishing of a primary dataset of Madagascan EPT data to GBIF, communicating new links to other projects/actions and partners, and documenting feedback from proposed data users.

Since the project commencement, in collaboration with Natural History Museum London, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle Natural History Museum, Albany Museum and Texas A&M, where EPT taxa (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera) are located, we have been able to check specimen records, capture and then recheck data. We have thus been able to publish 186 of records of Trichoptera, obtained from both museum records, and gleaned carefully from the literature, to the GBIF database as of 30th May 2018. Literature searches for information regarding species occurrence data has continued, and we still expect some 800 records of Ephemeroptera from Cantonal Museum of Zoology – Lausanne (CMZL), as well as additional diatom records and Plecoptera, although the records for these latter two groups are limited and the quantity at this stage remains unknown.

In terms of data user feedback, we propose that the University of Toamasina will use the existing data sets and new data (collected through voluntary sampling) to form the basis for future on-going student research projects, which can be aimed at developing local ecosystem health metrics/indices. Projects can be undertaken in collaboration with and under the supervision of experts from SA, the broader AFRESH network and other international partners – for continued sustainability. CNRE, a project partner based in Madagascar (which is linked to MadBIF) will use the data to develop a regional river ecosystem monitoring programme and database (for use by scientists, researchers, students etc). This would support IUCN global efforts, to assist ISSEDD/Toamasina in the development of national river health monitoring metrics/indices, using diatoms and EPT taxa. From a broader perspective, an outcome of the AFRESH.IO workshop, will be the drafting of a proposal to develop a long-term monitoring programme which incorporates citizen science based monitoring.

In terms of expanding our network to link up with other important institutions and actions, we have been in contact with Owen Griffiths and Steve Goodman, both of whom have specialist interest and have done extensive collecting and research on Madagascar, and who will prove to be very vital links in terms of assisting us with the 'Gaps' in biodiversity on Indian Ocean Islands, and capacity building as well as extension of the project.

The agenda/dates for the AFRESH.IO workshop has been circulated, venue bookings for the workshop have been made, along with various flight bookings and logistic preparations. Thus far at least 80% of the first budget instalment received from GBIF has been spent. Skype planning meetings have been held with project partners and a GBIF dissemination session (Workshop 1) has been held internally at GroundTruth for project staff.



### 3.2. Progress against expected milestones:

Give an overview of all the expected milestones for your project from the beginning until now (see Annex IV of your contract)

Expected milestones/activities	Completed ? Yes/No	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
<p>Completed capacity self-assessment questionnaire for national biodiversity information facilities</p> <p><a href="https://www.gbif.org/document/82277/capacity-self-assessment-guidelines-for-national-biodiversity-information-facilities">https://www.gbif.org/document/82277/capacity-self-assessment-guidelines-for-national-biodiversity-information-facilities</a> (EN)</p> <p><a href="https://www.gbif.org/document/82782/evaluation-des-capacites-pour-les-systemes-nationaux-dinformation-sur-la-biodiversite">https://www.gbif.org/document/82782/evaluation-des-capacites-pour-les-systemes-nationaux-dinformation-sur-la-biodiversite</a> (FR)</p> <p><b>(Early Progress report milestone)</b></p>	YES	The questionnaire was completed by GroundTruth in conjunction with the project lead ISSEDD and MadBIF	Receipt of capacity self-assessment acknowledged by GBIF secretariat via e-mail (Maheva)
<p>At least one national data publishing institutions are registered with GBIF.org</p> <p>Guidelines to become a publisher: <a href="https://www.gbif.org/become-a-publisher">https://www.gbif.org/become-a-publisher</a></p> <p><b>(Early Progress report milestone)</b></p>	YES	<p>We have three data publishing institutions registered as part of the project. BOKU University of Austria which is linked to the Freshwater Information Platform (data publishing unit registered as "BioFresh" at GBIF)</p> <p>ISSEDD (the project lead's institution) is also registered as a data publishing institution with GBIF</p> <p>CNRE - a project partner based in Madagascar is linked to MadBIF</p> <p>We will also initiate the process of getting GroundTruth registered with SANBI as a data publishing institution.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gbif.org/publisher/b872b075-9ab5-4e27-b6c6-5add6b890379">https://www.gbif.org/publisher/b872b075-9ab5-4e27-b6c6-5add6b890379</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gbif.org/publisher/c51031f4-69df-4b81-b296-5fdd72e7e693">https://www.gbif.org/publisher/c51031f4-69df-4b81-b296-5fdd72e7e693</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gbif.org/publisher/c8ce072d-9c61-4ec8-b8e7-0c36a8122791">https://www.gbif.org/publisher/c8ce072d-9c61-4ec8-b8e7-0c36a8122791</a></p>
<p>At least one person from the project team has completed the certification process following the BID Capacity Enhancement workshop on Data Mobilization organized as a part of the BID programme Africa 2015 or the BID programme Africa 2017</p> <p><b>(Early Progress report milestone)</b></p>	YES	Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie attended the BID Capacity Enhancement Workshop on behalf of the project management team. All post workshop activities were completed and have been submitted for evaluation. Evaluation results have not yet been provided by GBIF BID	Participant list for GBIF BID Capacity Enhancement Workshop 1 Cape Town
<p>Knowledge dissemination activities have been scheduled following the first BID Capacity Enhancement workshop</p> <p><b>(Early Progress report milestone)</b></p>	YES	<p>The first knowledge dissemination activity was completed in Feb 2018 at the GroundTruth offices with key GroundTruth staff.</p> <p>The second will take place over Skype and the third will take place at the AFRESH.IO workshop.</p>	Link to GroundTruth website with project information and planned knowledge



			dissemination dates: http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands
At least one dataset has been published to GBIF.org ( <b>Midterm report milestone</b> )	YES	Dataset compiled from existing records of one of our key groups (286 records of Trichoptera in total), obtained from museums records and literature, has been submitted for publication. This includes: - 154 records of Trichoptera from museums - 132 Trichoptera from the literature - We are currently sorting through Ephemeroptera records in the literature, and also expect to receive about 800 museum records from Cantonal Museum of Zoology – Lausanne (CMZL). - Plecoptera and diatom specimens are also expected, but in lower numbers.	<a href="https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6">https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6</a>  metadata are available at: <a href="http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadata/bf_mdb_view.php?entryID=FA11">http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadata/bf_mdb_view.php?entryID=FA11</a>
The data users identified in the full proposal have documented their intended use of the mobilized data and provided early feedback ( <b>Midterm report milestone</b> )	YES	Two of the main intended data users are the University of Toamasina and CNRE: <b>ISSEDD/Toamasina:</b> - To use the existing data sets and new data (collected through voluntary sampling), to form the basis for future on-going student research projects which can be aimed at developing local ecosystem health metrics/indices. Projects can be undertaken in collaboration with and under the supervision of experts from South Africa as well as, the broader AFRESH network and other international partners for continued sustainability.  <b>CNRE:</b> - Long term goal is to use the data to develop a national river ecosystem monitoring programme and database, using the data (for use by scientists, researchers, students etc), This would	





		<p>support IUCN global efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To assist ISSEDD/Toamasina in the development of national river health monitoring metrics/indices, using EPT taxa and diatoms.</li></ul> <p><b>All Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- An outcome of the AFRESH.IO workshop, will be the drafting of a proposal to develop a long-term monitoring programme which incorporates citizen science based monitoring.</li></ul>	
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### 3.3. Project deliverables and activities

Refer to the table in section 2.2 "Deliverables, activities and reporting criteria" of your BID full proposal. Provide updates on the status of each of planned deliverables. In the event of unexpected delay, please provide detailed explanatory notes and indicate planned completion date. Add as many rows as needed.

Deliverable	Related activity	Completed ? Yes/No	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
Conference and networking meeting for freshwater aquatic scientists and students working in Africa to share knowledge; and to gather information related to the Indian Ocean Islands which is vital to this project.	AFRESH.IO Conference/workshop	No - change in proposed dates from early progress report. Confirmed dates (16-20th July 2018) – See section 4. Planned completion date July 2018	Name change to AFRESH.IO. Number of attendees will be around 25-30, will include project partners, key personnel and some keen students. Focus will be on networking with key personnel that can be trained to train others as well as training keen students that can be involved with AFRESH moving forward as well as long term monitoring research projects.  Reporting criteria will remain the same.	<a href="http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands">http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands</a>
Training of project partners, TBA alumni, students, researchers and conference delegates from the Indian Ocean Islands in the various indices and citizen science tools available to assess river health and aquatic ecosystems.	Training at AFRESH.IO	No - change in proposed dates from early progress report. Confirmed dates (16-20th July 2018) – See section 4. Planned completion date July 2018	Will take place at the AFRESH.IO workshop to be held in Madagascar.  Reporting criteria will remain the same though will include estimated number of persons trained in total. People to be trained from the region is estimated to be around 16, with an additional 9 international delegates to be trained.  Training materials will be included in the reporting criteria.	AFRESH.IO Workshop Agenda that has been circulated and shared with project partners  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17WhHi_q134r6JhuLk/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17WhHi_q134r6JhuLk/edit</a>
Training and assistance with the collation, digitisation and uploading of data that is mobilised over the course of the project to GBIF and an additional online information platform - the Freshwater Information Platform (FIP).	Upload Indian Ocean Island data to FIP/GBIF	No - Planned completion date March 2019 but uploading of data and associated collation, digitisation and error checking has commenced from March 2018 and a dedicated session/with training will be held at the AFRESH.IO workshop focusing on uploading of data and publishing.	Reporting criteria will stay the same.	Link to raw data that is being processed  <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681</a>  ~800 records of Ephemeroptera from CMZL expected to be added to the google sheet this week. Additional records from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle





				are currently being added
Verification and quality control of all data mobilised during the course of the project.	Quality control of data	No - Planned completion date March 2019 but quality control/verification of data has commenced from March 2018.	This is currently taking place as data sets are being compiled, collated and reporting criteria will remain the same  Taxonomic experts in respective fields have checked/verified species level data and distribution records. Coordinates have been error checked using tools from the GBIF Workshop 1 (INfo XY and Google Earth). Species names have been verified by taxonomists and digitisers using Global Names Resolver and expert knowledge.	Link to raw data that is being processed and verified.  <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681</a>
Collate, digitise and upload existing EPT and diatom data housed in museums for the region	Mobilisation of existing data	YES - and ongoing Our first set of data comprising Trichoptera species, has been collated, digitised and uploaded from existing records	Reporting criteria will remain the same and will be covered in the metadata produced for the data sets.	<a href="https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6">https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6</a>
Use data generated during the GBIF project to establish the basis for a long-term monitoring project with TBA, CNRE and the University of Toamasina that can be used to generate research articles or inform policy - This is in line with the national priority of preservation of the environment and ties in well with the recently published IUCN freshwater report for Madagascar	Long-term monitoring project	No - Planned completion date February 2019 but planning has commenced and will largely be formalised in July 2018	A proposal for the long term monitoring research project will formalised at the AFRESH.IO workshop together with project partners and will be completed following the workshop. This will include a water quality and aquatic ecosystem health assessment component.  Future student projects will focus on the development of metrics/indices (including the potential for a diatom tool) for the region. These tools/metrics/indices will be based on the historical datasets published through the course of the GBIF project.  Reporting criteria will remain the same.	AFRESH.IO Workshop Agenda that has been circulated and shared with project partners  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17WhHi_q134r6JhuLk/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17WhHi_q134r6JhuLk/edit</a>
Ensuring that data generated for the Indian Ocean Islands is made freely available, accessible and usable by the public - in line with the national priority of open data.	Open Data	Ongoing	No changes apart from this activity applying to the entire project duration. Data will continuously updated. Metadata to the datasets are freely available at the Freshwater Metadatabase and will be published as open access article in the Freshwater Metadata Journal.	<a href="https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6">https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6</a>





### 3.4. Datasets published on GBIF.org

Refer to the table in section 2.4 “Biodiversity data mobilization plan” of your BID full proposal. If the dataset is not yet published, please indicate the name of the institution that is expected to host the data when published in the column “DOI or URL/Planned hosting institution”. Add as many rows as needed.

Dataset title	Publishing institution	DOI or URL/Planned hosting institution	Date/expected date of publication	Explanatory notes
<b>IO-Historic Freshwater EPT taxa:</b> Existing data for Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera (and possibly Odonata) taxa for the Indian Ocean region contained currently in key institutions and Museums	GroundTruth	BOKU / FIP <a href="https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6">https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6</a>  metadata are available at: <a href="http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadb/bfmdb_view.php?entryID=FAI_1">http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadb/bfmdb_view.php?entryID=FAI_1</a>  both resources will be continuously updated	The first data set, comprising information for Trichoptera from the Indian Ocean Islands from the following institutions has been published: NMPC (National Museum Prague), CBGP (Centre de Biologie pour la Gestion des Populations, Montferrier), MNHN (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle), INHS (Illinois Natural History Survey), USNM (United States National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institute), ZMUB (Museum of Zoology, University of Bergen), NRM (Swedish Museum of Natural History), NHM (Natural History Museum Vienna), OPC (Olah Private Collection, Debreceen under protection of HNHM), ZIN (Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences) and AM (Albany Museum).	Several sources of data in museums/institutions have been identified & the status/quantity etc. of the data are being evaluated. Literature searches have been conducted and will continue in order to glean data accordingly. We will continue to uploaded data as it is made available from these institutions over the course of the project. Data may also be further split into several databases (this is yet to be confirmed).  Templates for capture are in the process of being added to Google Spreadsheets for all partners to access and contribute to: <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681</a>  Data citations will be changed to include main data providing personnel/institutions.
<b>IO-Historic Diatom Data</b> Existing data for Diatom taxa for the Indian Ocean region contained currently in key institutions and Museums	GroundTruth/ISSEDD/BOKU to be confirmed	BOKU / FIP	To be confirmed	Several institutions possibly housing data have been identified and contacted (NHM, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, SAIAB) however no diatom records have been obtained as of yet. Literature searches are in the process of being conducted and data gleaned accordingly-  Templates for capture are in the process of being added to Google Spreadsheets for all partners to access and contribute to: <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AFIzo398CXrKLIR6GNvb3Y0_YCI8837In3rbZAWpyZY/edit#gid=180423681</a>



				=180423681
<b>IO-Recent Freshwater EPT taxa:</b> Newly collected data that will be captured/digitised as a result of the project	GroundTruth/ISSEDD/BOKU to be confirmed	BOKU / FIP	Dec 2018/Jan 2019 – with modifications /additions to extend beyond life of GBIF project	Following co-ordinated voluntary sampling efforts in the region, collected data will be identified and verified before being captured and uploaded to a central database in Darwin Core format. Initially this data set will comprise only a few occurrence records but with time and contributions from long term monitoring projects it will expand. Data will continue to be added to this data set even after the GBIF project has terminated – this will be achieved through long-term monitoring research projects to be established with TBA, linkages to other research projects (African Insect Atlas), citizen science involvement and other projects in the region
<b>IO-Recent Diatom Data</b>	GroundTruth/ISSEDD/BOKU to be confirmed	BOKU / FIP	Dec 2018/Jan 2019 – with modifications /additions to extend beyond life of project	Diatom data will be collected during and following the AFRESH.IO workshop as part of training but also as part of citizen science, voluntary sampling efforts and inclusion in long term monitoring research projects



### 3.5. Examples of use of biodiversity data available through GBIF

Use the table to document use or planned use of data available through GBIF as part of your project. You may want to refer to the section 2.5 “Plan to support the integration of biodiversity information into policy and decision-making processes” of your BID full proposal. Please provide the DOI for datasets downloaded from GBIF in the “Contributing dataset(s)” column. Briefly describe how the data contribute or are planned to contribute in the “targeted application” column (ca. 50 words). Provide the date or approximate timeframe in months for the completion of activity in the “Date/time frame” column. Timeframe indicated may be after the completion of the project unless targeted application is one of the deliverables of your project. Please provide links to any documents or webpages documenting the use in the “Sources of verification” column. Add as many rows as needed.

Targeted application	Data user	Contributing dataset(s)	Date/time frame	Sources of verification	Notes
The collation of historical data contained in museums and institutions will allow for a gaps analysis to be performed - this will inform future student research projects and the long-term monitoring proposal (see below). To a large degree, the identified knowledge gaps can also be quantified based on existing records that have been collated.	University of Toamasina and University of Antananarivo North West University GroundTruth/ISSEDD Local consultancies Researchers (International; and Local)	<b>IO-Historic Freshwater EPT taxa</b>  <b>IO-Historic Diatom Data</b>	Expected date/ timeframe of completion of first data set 31st May 2018, in line with GBIF milestones Completion of final datasets by March 2019	BOKU / FIP <a href="https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6">https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fb6835d0-b72e-464e-b49a-b69e5b9cc0b6</a>  metadata are available at: <a href="http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadata/bf_mdb_view.php?entryID=FAI_1">http://data.freshwaterbiodiversity.eu/metadata/bf_mdb_view.php?entryID=FAI_1</a>  both resources will be continuously updated	Ongoing and will be continuously updated
Long-term monitoring research project proposal to lay the foundation for future projects and freshwater research priorities, as well as monitoring in the region. The research proposal will include elements related to citizen science and the use of mobilised data (EPT taxa and diatoms) to conduct water quality and aquatic ecosystem health assessments. This proposal will be underpinned by a gaps analysis based on data mobilised during the GBIF project	University of Toamasina and University of Antananarivo  North West University Researchers (International; and Local)  CNRE - Centre National de Recherche sur l'Environnement - <a href="http://cnre.recherches.gov.mg">http://cnre.recherches.gov.mg</a>  LRSAE - Laboratoire de Recherche sur les Systèmes Aquatiques et leur Environnement  IRD - <a href="http://www.madagascar.ird.fr">Institut de Recherche pour le Développement</a> <a href="http://www.madagascar.ird.fr">http://www.madagascar.ird.fr</a> Government	<b>IO-Historic Freshwater EPT taxa</b>  <b>IO-Recent Freshwater EPT taxa</b>  <b>IO-Historic Diatom Data</b>  <b>IO-Recent Diatom Data</b>	Expected date/ timeframe of completion of first version March 2019 and then ongoing First version to be completed during the AFRESH.IO Workshop (July 2018)	To be confirmed	This will be an output from the AFRESH.IO Workshop



### 3.6. Events organized as part of the project

List all the events that have been organized as part of your project. Please provide links to any documents or webpages documenting the use in the "Sources of verification" column. Add as many rows as needed.

Full title	Organizing institution	Dates	Number of participants	Sources of verification
Internal Meeting and knowledge dissemination session with GroundTruth Staff	GroundTruth	Feb 2018 (completed)	5	<a href="http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands">http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands</a> - full details have been added to the GBIF and GroundTruth websites
Key Project Partners Skype Teleconference (separate teleconferences)	GroundTruth, ISSEDD, BOKU, NHM (London)	February 2018 (completed)	10	
AFRESH.IO – Main Training workshop	GroundTruth, ISSEDD, NHM, CMZL	16-20 July 2018	25	<a href="http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands">http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands</a> - full details have been added to the GroundTruth website as of the 31st May?  AFRESH.IO Workshop Agenda that has been circulated and shared with project partners  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17Whi_ql34r6JhuLk/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17Whi_ql34r6JhuLk/edit</a>
AFRESH.IO BID Knowledge Dissemination Sessions (data mobilisation and data analysis)	GroundTruth, ISSEDD, BOKU	16-20 July 2018	25	<a href="http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands">http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands</a> - full details have been added to the GroundTruth websites as of the 31st May?  AFRESH.IO Workshop Agenda that has been circulated and shared with project partners  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17Whi_ql34r6JhuLk/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q1dp9zQsesCYXcvH4QgksT4wo17Whi_ql34r6JhuLk/edit</a>





Coordinated voluntary sampling	GroundTruth, ISSEDD, REEF, TBA, Diospyros	To be confirmed (Ideally between August 2018-October 2018)	~50-100	To be arranged
Possible Training Session to be held during Tropical Biology Association Course	TBA, GroundTruth, ISSEDD	2019 Still to be confirmed	Approx. 25	Discussion currently under way





#### 4. Updated calendar for the BID project implementation and evaluation period

The calendar should be completed in the same way as in the Full Project Proposal, but should include any expected changes. Provide reasons for any expected changes in section 4.1 'Explanatory Notes'.

Implementation period start date (01/10/17) and end date (31/12/18)																
Activity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Notes
Planning	X	X	X	X	X				X					X		Extended in the early progress report
Mobilisation of existing data		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Under way - Extended in the early progress report to cover entire project duration and emphasis increased. More budget reallocated to this activity
<b>BID Capacity Enhancement workshop – Data mobilization and publication (Participation is mandatory)</b>			X													Completed
<b>Early Progress evaluation &amp; Reporting</b>			X	X												Completed
<b>BID Capacity Enhancement workshop – Data use (Participation is mandatory)</b>					X											Completed
<b>Mid-term evaluation &amp; reporting</b>								X	X							Completed this document
AFRESH.IO Workshop										X						Moved to July 2018 (in the early progress report) to accommodate partners, better time of year, venue availability and to ensure budget is available. Venue booked , agenda circulated, participants notified
Training										X						Training will coincide with the workshop
Collection / Mobilisation of new data										X	X	X	X	X	X	Shifted to coincide with the date of the AFRESH I.O workshop (early progress report) and extended after workshop ( ideally will extend beyond life of project)
Quality control						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Extended (see the early progress report) for the duration of the year following planning workshop



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Long-term monitoring research project proposal					X	X					X	X			X	X	Slight extension (see early progress report). Will include guidelines for the development of a diatom tool/index for the assessment of aquatic ecosystems as well as recommendations for water quality and aquatic ecosystem health assessment -to include provision for future student research projects. The diatom tool activity as well as the Water quality and aquatic ecosystem health assessment activity have been removed from this table (following approval of the early progress report) and instead incorporated into this activity.
Upload data to FIP/GBIF						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Moved slightly earlier in the year (see early progress report) currently under way
Open Data		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Extended to cover entire project duration.







Evaluation period start date (01/01/2019) and end date (31/03/2019)				
Activity	1	2	3	Notes
Final financial and narrative reporting		X	X	
Long-term monitoring research project proposal	X	X		As per the early progress report: Increased emphasis – will incorporate the thinking behind the diatom tool and the regional water quality and ecosystem health assessment. It will outline a regional strategy going forward, will include the research objectives/memorandum identified by project partners workshopped at AFRESH.IO, will highlight major knowledge gaps and will attempt to quantify those gaps, it will also outline the role that citizen science can play in data generation/monitoring and will build on all data mobilised during the GBIF project. It will also provide a critical stepping stone to obtain continued support and funding for freshwater research in the IO region

#### 4.1. Explanatory notes:

Budget expenditure has been submitted together with this Mid-term progress report for the consideration of GBIF. No changes have been made to other activities in the project in terms of timing and they are as per the early progress report. Notes on the status of activities is provided below.

**Mobilisation of existing data** – We have focused on the mobilisation of existing data (such as the collections in the NHM, Swiss Cantonal Museum Zoology Lausanne, Albany, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, A&M and elsewhere), and have kept the mobilisation of newly collected data to an added extra as part of the project. The first dataset, comprising Trichoptera records, has been published as of the 31st of May 2018, which is in line with a milestone required by GBIF for this report. Since we expect more data from other sources, we will continue to add data to the core data set over the course of the project/year.

**Mid-term evaluation & reporting** –Our expenses for the AFRESH.IO workshop are estimated to be around 18.000 Euros (with a chance that this will be reduced if co-funding is provided for certain delegates flight costs) – supporting documentation (i.e formal quotes for accommodation, venue etc as well as flight costs and other workshop cost estimates) will be provided shortly after submission of this report to GBIF for consideration. Given the costs involved, during the early progress report the date of the conference was shifted to ensure that the 3<sup>rd</sup> payment instalment from GBIF can be received (with all supporting reports required submitted) before the AFRESH.IO workshop occurs. We trust this will still be possible.

**AFRESH.IO Workshop** – The AFRESH.IO workshop is confirmed for July 2018, venues and flights have been booked and an agenda has been drafted and circulated. We would like to request that the 2nd and 3rd instalments be paid upon submission of this mid-term progress report in order to cover confirmed costs for the workshop in July.



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**Training** – No change apart from the shifted date of the AFRESH.IO workshop. Training will coincide with the workshop.



**Collection / Mobilisation of new data** - As per our early progress report, the collection and mobilisation of new data has been shifted to coincide with the date of the AFRESH.IO workshop when training on collection will be offered but it has also been extended following the workshop. It is envisaged that the collection and mobilisation of new data will extend beyond the life of the GBIF project. The intention is that during the GBIF project a data set of newly collected organisms is commenced but that the real value of this data set will come with time as project partners continue to contribute through citizen science efforts, but also the through long term monitoring research proposal and additional funding/future years. Importantly, less of a focus has been placed on this activity than was originally envisaged in the initial proposal. We still intend to train delegates who attend our workshop in the collection of EPT taxa and Diatoms and also to hold a co-ordinated voluntary sampling effort to collect new data for the Indian Ocean Region and Madagascar in particular – but these newly collected would be compiled into a separate data set to be uploaded to GBIF /initiated through our project but also to be grown and added to in the future through additional funding. It will be viewed as an added extra to the project.

**Quality control** – The quality control period has already commenced and as per our early progress report was extended to cover the revision of mobilised data for the duration of the year and as data is collated and made available for publishing.

**Long-term monitoring research proposal** - Preliminary planning for this activity has already commenced, but the AFRESH.IO workshop will be used to formalise this activity with all project partners together and will be finalised at the project termination date once all data mobilised during the course of the GBIF project have been assessed (the GBIF project in itself will elucidate where additional and specific knowledge gaps exist and will be used to quantify these gaps).

**Upload data to FIP/GBIF** – We have uploaded the initial data, comprising Trichoptera specimen records from museum records (with those from the literature soon to follow). We will continue to update the dataset with additional records (currently being extracted from various institutions) for other taxa as well as newly captured records (from field collection in July), when data are received, collated and verified.

**Water quality and aquatic ecosystem health assessment** - This component has been removed from the gantt chart and the deliverables table as per our Early Progress. Instead this component will be incorporated into the development and formalisation of a long term monitoring research proposal which will chart the way forward for a national assessment to be undertaken. It will highlight/quantify gaps and will draw on all data that has been mobilized during the GBIF project.

**Diatom Tool** - This component has been removed from the gantt chart and the deliverables table as per our Early Progress Report. Instead the thinking behind this component will be carefully incorporated into the development and formalisation of a long term monitoring research proposal. Budget allocations to this activity have also been reallocated accordingly. If suitable data exists/or is mobilised, preliminary analyses can be conducted towards developing the tool as a beta version based on genus level occurrence.

**Open Data** - The provision of open-access data will remain a priority throughout the project and will apply as soon as data are made available for publishing.



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## 5. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other cooperation

### 5.1. Relationship with project partners

*Please describe the relationship between your project coordinating team/institution and your project partners, and with any other organisations involved in implementing your BID project.*

Relationships are good - no change since early progress report, apart from increased communication (via e-mail and Skype), our GBIF Mentor has been kept apprised of all activities and has been involved in Skype communications.

### 5.2. Links to other projects and actions

*Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions, e.g. GBIF nodes, other BID funded projects, etc. If your organization has received previous grants in view of strengthening the same target group, to what extent has your BID project been able to build upon/complement the previous project(s) ?*

Great links established with the African Insect Atlas as mentioned in the early progress report. Since then some further developments have taken place:

We have been in contact with Owen Griffiths, based in Mauritius, who is the Joint Managing Director of Bioculture: Caring for life, and is very involved with non-marine mollusc research in Madagascar and also actively engaged in conservation and collection projects on the island. Owen is also connected with staff of the Tsimbazaza museum in Tana. Owen is very keen to be involved and will provide a very useful link for the field project and training at AFRESH.IO.

We have also been in contact with another important link, Steve Goodman, who is a renowned ecologist working with international conservation groups and local biologists in Madagascar, to record and preserve ecosystems increasingly threatened by rapid deforestation and population growth. He is very involved with conducting biological surveys and creating inventories to improve the scientific knowledge and research in Madagascar and had also founded the Ecological Training Program (ETP) that mentors, trains, and prepares local Malagasy biologists in vital conservation issues.

Our intention is to involve Owen and Steve in future student projects and also in the voluntary sampling that is planned. There is scope to involve these individuals and their linked institutions in the planned establishment of a long term monitoring proposal.

We have also initiated contact with Nancy Job, freshwater ecologist at SANBI, in order to begin the process of registering GroundTruth with SANBI, as a data publishing institution and for future collaboration.

A proposal to obtain additional funding to extend/build on the GBIF project post Jan 2019 is underway. We will be submitting a proposal to Earthwatch to request funding to implement some of the long term monitoring ideas we have already come up with, but also to strengthen some of the partnerships already formed through the project.

Our project lead in Madagascar Dr Miasa Eustache has met Brian Fisher, as well as other leading taxonomists (Dr Helen Barber-James (Albany Museum), KD Dijkstra (Naturalis Centre Netherlands)) in person to cement networking possibilities for the future and to strengthen the AFRESH network and involvement of the Indian Ocean Islands. Miasa has negotiated other meetings with some entomologist teams from Ankatso University (Antananarivo), from Mahajanga University (West of Madagascar) and from



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Toliara IHSM University (South of Madagascar) to expand our field actions in the future and in the long term. Furthermore, Miasa met with Nicolas Deflandre, who was conducting an external review to evaluate GBIF/BID projects on behalf of the European Commission in Madagascar between 19th to 23rd March 2018. Comments were received from Nicholas which as far as possible have been addressed. Unfortunately while he suggested that we shift the workshop to an earlier date to reduce the costs of flights from Europe (and thus potentially free up more funds to allow more people to attend) – this was not possible as 1) the venue, logistics and accommodation had already been booked and 2) the venue size is limited to 25 people.

Further meetings have been had between Miasa and local project partners CNRE.

## 6. Visibility

Please refer to the [BID guidelines](#).

### 6.1. Visibility of the BID project

*How is the visibility of your BID project being ensured?*

#### Short summary

The GroundTruth website has been updated to host a separate linked page to the GBIF project and a brief blurb of the project and details of the AFRESH workshop and planned knowledge dissemination activities. We have also uploaded the link to our published dataset which has been submitted to GBIF as of the 31st May 2018. Additionally the project is already a part of the Freshwater Information Platform. It is linked to from the “Freshwater Projects & Networks” section.

ISSEDD will produce a similar page on the ISSEDD institution website respectively. Several researches and PhD students will visit these sites.

#### Sources of verification

Link to GroundTruth Website with updated progress on the project and links to the published data  
<http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands>

Update to GBIF Website (regarding project information & events) will be provided shortly with new article regarding GBIF Project

Link to FIP website from where it is linked to the project:

<http://www.freshwaterplatform.eu/index.php/networks-projects.html>

### 6.2. Visibility of the EU contribution

*How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured within your project implementation?*

#### Short summary



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All activities within the project especially knowledge dissemination sessions and workshops/conferences (e.g. AFRESH.IO) will specify that the project has received European Union funding. Additionally any publication or document (including training materials, workshop notes/agendas) compiled by the project team in whatever form and by whatever medium, including the internet shall include the following statement: "This project is funded by the European Union". The words "European Union" will be hyperlinked to <http://europa.eu>. That attribution will also be accompanied by the EU flag. Both GBIF and the BID programme will also be acknowledged.

A website page and link to the GBIF project – indicating all project partners and funding sources has been added on the GroundTruth company website and has been added to the Freshwater Information Platform website.

### Sources of verification

Link to GroundTruth Website with new article blurb regarding GBIF Project - <http://www.groundtruth.co.za/research-projects/2018/1/29/the-forgotten-african-islands>

Link to FIP website showing EU contribution in relation to the GBIF project Insert link to FIP here

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the contact person for the BID Project: Dr Miasa Eustache and Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie

Date report sent by email in Word format to [bid@gbif.org](mailto:bid@gbif.org) for pre-approval: 31 May 2018

Date report sent by post to GBIF Secretariat: \_\_\_\_\_



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