

## Supporting Conservation Through Mobilizing Ecological Data from Kalimantan, Indonesia

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**Programme:**BIFA

**Project ID:** BIFA5\_017

**Project lead organization:**Yayasan Borneo Nature Indonesia

**Project implementation period:**1/7/2020 - 31/12/2021

**Report approved:** 9/3/2021

### Narrative Midterm report

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#### Executive Summary

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We have:

- Introduced and socialised the GBIF project to all relevant team members within BNF and UGM: introducing the main aim, nature of deliverables for the project and advantages of sharing data on platforms such as GBIF.
- Attended the GBIF Data Mobilisation course in July-Aug 2020 and was awarded an advanced badge.
- Signed an MoU with our partner institution for the project, Universitas Gajah Mada (UGM), Jogjakarta and identified and confirmed two UGM project personnel who will be responsible for project implementation: one focussing more on mobilising datasets from GBIF and UGM for publishing on the platform, and the other to focus more on socialising the GBIF and data publishing for public access and encouraging relevant related organisations/institutions to mobilise and publish available datasets. These two project personnel, along with the project coordinator will also be responsible for providing support to other organisations/institutions in data mobilisation and publishing through training sessions and workshops.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Regular update meetings held with the PI and project implementation personnel
- Maintaining and updating database of records shared/owned by BNF and associated researchers

In the coming project phases, we plan to:

- Organise and conduct an internal data mobilisation training workshop for the two new UGM team members.
- Begin communication with relevant members from LIPI (Indonesian Institute of Science) to work towards publishing datasets through the LIPI IPT, which would strengthen our network in Indonesia.
- Consolidate all relevant datasets, and contact all relevant data owners to complete any necessary communication and socialisation of the project with them prior to dataset/metadata publication.

### Progress against milestones

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**Has your project published at least one dataset through GBIF.org?: Yes**

**Dataset published:**

Dataset	DOI
Mammals of the Natural Laboratory of Peat-Swamp Forest, Sebangau, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia	<a href="https://doi.org/10.15468/bgkmfu">https://doi.org/10.15468/bgkmfu</a>

**Has at least one member of your project team received certification following the BIFA capacity enhancement workshop?: Yes**

**Name of the workshop participant:**Namrata B Anirudh

**Certification obtained:** Advanced Badge

### Report on Activities

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#### **BNF Data submission:**

Prepared and compiled a list of 42 datasets from BNF and associated researchers that can be potentially published on GBIF, of which one has been published as a part of our mid-term deliverable.

We have recruited two UGM scientists to work as Implementation Officers on this project and are beginning internal training with them, to cover dataset preparation and submission. We have also begun reviewing our other datasets in light of information received during the BIFA capacity enhancement workshops, including reviewing any relevant gaps and metadata considerations relating to these.

#### **Connect network:**

We have begun creating a dataset list, to be shared with relevant stakeholders and data owners to compile important information required for the metadata of each dataset and getting the required permissions from authors, data holders and other stakeholders involved for publishing.

#### **Project socialisation:**

External project socialisation not yet begun – planned for after UGM Implementation Officers have settled into their new roles.

#### **Support submissions:**

Two new personnel appointed from UGM to assist with data mobilisation process of datasets from BNF, UGM and other related associated researchers. The two new personnel will be trained in data mobilisation, with the aim that they will then support and train personnel from other organisations in our networks to prepare and publish their datasets, as needed.

#### **Submit data papers:**

Not yet begun – scheduled for later phase of the project.

No further activities were undertaken due to COVID-19 restrictions and lock downs. The impacts of the pandemic on our work have included:

1) Delays in implementing project activities were experienced due to the pandemic restrictions imposed with respect to travel, face-to-face meetings and temporary closure of many institutions and offices. This, in turn, led to delay in finalising contractual agreements between BNF and UGM for the employment of the two UGM Implementation Officers for the project, leading to further delays in implementation of project activities.

2) With the approved extension to this project, we do not expect the delays experienced in the first project phase to impact the project at large. The activities will be conducted in the coming phase and will be implemented through alternative means if/as necessary (e.g., replacing in-person socialisations, collaborator meetings, etc. with virtual sessions). If any further unavoidable, unresolvable delays are experienced that impact our project timeline or require a further project extension request, these shall be conveyed to GBIF in advance.

*3) New expected implementation dates for project activities:*

BNF Data Submission: 2020/07/01 – 2021/09/30

Connect Network: 2021/02/28 – 2021/10/30

Project Socialisation: 2020/11/01 – 2021/12/30

Support Submissions: 2021/04/01 – 2021/12/30

#### Completed activities

##### **Activity name: Data mobilisation course**

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**Description:** Completed the course and was awarded an advanced badge after its completion

**Start Date - End Date:** 6/7/2020 - 31/8/2021

**Verification Sources:** Advanced badge for Data mobilisation

##### **Activity name: BNF Data Submission**

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**Description:** Completed all relevant GBIF training sessions and received an advanced badge on completion.

Prepared and compiled a list of 42 datasets from BNF and associated researchers that can be potentially published on GBIF, of which one is published as a part of the mid-term deliverable.

**Start Date - End Date:** 1/10/2020 - 6/2/2021

**Verification Sources:** Published dataset (Mammals of the Natural Laboratory of Peat-Swamp Forest, Sebangau, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia)

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**Activity name: Connect Network**

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**Description:** Created dataset list to compile important information required for metadata publishing, to be shared with relevant stakeholders and data owners.

**Start Date - End Date:** 1/11/2020 - 6/2/2021

**Verification Sources:** n/a

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**Activity name: Project Socialisation**

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**Description:** Internal project socialisation complete within BNF and UGM.

**Start Date - End Date:** 1/7/2020 - 30/9/2020

**Verification Sources:** n/a

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**Activity name: Support submission**

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**Description:** Signed collaborative agreement with Universitas Gadjadara (UGM) for data mobilisation and publishing as a part of the BIFA project.

Two new personnel appointed from UGM to assist with data mobilisation process of datasets from BNF, UGM and other related associated researchers.

**Start Date - End Date:** 1/9/2020 - 31/1/2021

**Verification Sources:** n/a

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**Report on Deliverables**

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### Deliverables progress summary

New project deliverables to date include:

- GBIF data mobilisation training completed for one project member (Advanced badge) awarded, with subsequent internal training planned for two additional project members.
- Compilation of a list of BNF and partner datasets potentially available for publication, including identifying potential data gaps and metadata issues for consideration. This list will be shared with relevant stakeholders and data owners as necessary, to acquire all relevant approvals and inputs before data publication.
- Published one BNF dataset entitled "Mammals of the Natural Laboratory of Peat-Swamp Forest, Sebangau, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia".

Some delays in our timeline for completing and submitting project deliverables have been experienced due to Covid-19 pandemic disruptions and restrictions.

It is possible that this may have an impact on the project through a reduced number of datasets published, due to time constraints and potential increase in pandemic restrictions enforced locally, which may make original plans of supporting external parties to publish their datasets more difficult to achieve, if in-person training and work sessions cannot be completed.

New expected dates:

Local training: Two graduates from the partner institute for the BIFA Project, UGM, will be trained by BNF in data mobilisation and publishing in February 2021, following which they will begin work on BIFA project implementation.

Additional training sessions will be held for other data contributor organisation staff from March – December 2021.

Stakeholder uptake: Socialisation of the BIFA Project and GBIF will be carried out with local and relevant government institutions from March – December 2021.

Data papers: these will be submitted for publication towards the end of the project period, building on our dataset publications.

### Progress towards deliverables

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**Title: Compiled 42 datasets (27 sampling event + 15 occurrence)**

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**Type:** Other

**Description:** 27 Sampling Event Datasets (~2278 records)

15 Occurrence Datasets (~1027 records)

**Sources of verification:** n/a

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**Title: Published one checklist dataset\_Mammals of Sebangau**

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**Type:** Dataset

**Status update:** Dataset uploaded on to the IPT and mapped to the Taxon core with Species Profile and DwC Occurrence as extensions. Completed metadata Waiting to be reviewed and published

**Dataset scope:** Public domain on GBIF}

**Expected number of records:** 68

**Data holder:** Borneo Nature Foundation

**Data host institution:** VertNet

**Sampling method:** Camera trapping Line transect surveys Ad-hoc surveys Harp trapping

**% complete:** 100

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.15468/bgkmfu>

**Expected date of publication:** 2021-02-09

## Communications and visibility

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Communication about and promotion of the project has not yet started in earnest, owing to the need to first focus on completing relevant GBIF training and the COVID-19 related delays described above, but as the project progresses and with the UGM Implementation Officers in place, this is planned through a variety of approaches over the next few months. First, we will (re-)connect with other researchers and organisations working in the region with potentially suitable datasets for publication in the GBIF database and as data papers, plus socialise and promote the project/GBIF to local government and conservation managers. Second, we will publish data papers as part of this project. Third, BNF matched funding will be used to support outreach communications relating to this project, including publication of website articles and social media posts on BNF's own platforms (e.g., BNF Facebook with > 20,500 likes and BNF Instagram with > 9,000 followers). Finally, we will liaise with the GBIF Secretariat, Asia Regional Node Manager and Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI; the proposed data hosts) to update on and promote the project and its associated datasets and raise their visibility within the GBIF network.

## Monitoring and evaluation

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### Monitoring and evaluation findings

The results of our M&E assessments to date indicate that:

- The first version of the electronic database of potentially available datasets has been compiled and set up so we can monitor the preparation/publication status of these and add new datasets to this database as we go along.
- Training has been monitored through your official attendance records and training badge awarded. We will keep a record of our internal training provision, progress and completion for the UGM Implementation Officers.

Implementation Officers will set up a further database/expand existing to record external socialisations, meetings, etc. and results of/actions from those.

Project implementation has been more bumpy than originally anticipated, owing primarily to disruptions and delays associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. In particular, this resulted in delays to the completion of recruitment, and initiation of training and work for the two UGM Implementation Officers, which has had a knock-on impact of work timelines. While this is unfortunate, we nevertheless regard our successful recruitment and the heavy involvement of these two recent Indonesian graduate scientists in the project as major project strengths, both in terms of networking and supporting other organisations, and for strengthening long-term scientific capacity and GBIF usage/impacts in Indonesia.

Management: Project supervision by Mark Harrison from BNF and Imron from UGM,  
Training and technical supervision/support from Namrata Anirudh (BNF), Project Implementation by UGM IOs  
Logistical support from BNF  
Administration, , communication support from BNF's teams.  
IT and technical support from David Bloom, VertNet  
Training, guidance, technical support and funding from GBIF

## Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on project implementation

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As mentioned above, COVID-19 has resulted in some delays in completion of activities and initiating new activities, which include:

- 1) Delays in implementing project activities were experienced due to the pandemic restrictions imposed with respect to travel, face-to-face meetings and temporary closure of many institutions and offices. This, in turn, led to delay in finalising contractual agreements between BNF and UGM for the employment of the two UGM Implementation Officers for the project, leading to further delays in implementation of project activities.

2) With the approved extension to this project, we do not expect the delays experienced in the first project phase to impact the project at large. The activities will be conducted in the coming phase and will be implemented through alternative means if/as necessary (e.g., replacing in-person socialisations, collaborator meetings, etc. with virtual sessions). If any further unavoidable, unresolvable delays are experienced that impact our project timeline or require a further project extension request, these shall be conveyed to GBIF in advance.

A revised expected timeline of activities is provided in the Report on Activities section. Due to the instability and frequent changes in restrictions and regulations in the current pandemic, we will inform GBIF if there are any further major changes in timelines/deliverables that we wish to implement in our project when applicable.

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GBIF leads the Biodiversity Information Fund for Asia (BIFA), a programme funded by the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan. The programme provides supplementary support for activities addressing the needs of regional researchers and policymakers through mobilization and use of biodiversity data.

