

# **BID training workshop Report**

**28/11/2016**

## **Preamble:**

The report covers the period from 01/06/2016 - 01/11/2016.

The training was aimed at equipping biologists in possession of biodiversity data with skills to enable them prepare data for upload on GBIF as well as write Data papers for publication in peer reviewed journals.

A total of thirty (30) participants from were invited to participate in the training including National Herbarium, National Gene bank, research institutions and well as Academia (Universities). The training was conducted at the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology and Biotechnology, College of Natural Sciences, Makerere University.

Dr. Lizanne R from EWT and Dr. Collins E. Bulafu organized and facilitated the training with funding from GBIF\_BID project

## **Course content and training materials:**

The one week course was advertised on GBI portal. All participants were asked to come with datasets to be used during the training. All participants were given the following course materials on Memory sticks. The full course content is attached (BID-TWorkshop-course-content-Aug-2016):

### **Training materials:**

- Day one: Data papers and tasks for day one (PPT attached)
- Day two: Converting and Cleaning messy data and introduction to Darwin core and templates as well as tasks for day 2 (PPT)
- Day three: Introduction to QGIS-Georeferencing and tasks for day 3 (PPT)
- Day four: Completing tasks for day three and draft data paper writing (one draft data paper attached)
- Day five: Introduction to Niche modelling and online course materials highlighted and wrap up as well as awarding certificates

### **Achievements so far:**

1. Eighteen (18) biologists were equipped with the skill sets outlined in the BID proposal (see attendance list attached and photos)

2. One draft paper was written by C. Bulafu (draft attached) with other drafts to be followed up after data clean up and update from at least 5 participants.
3. Network for data holders/users established and importance of data publishing and data paper publishing highlighted. Many biologist expressed interest in finalizing their manuscripts enabling them to upload data
4. Busitema University has approached Collins Bulafu to do a similar training on data paper and data publishing to its scientists.

## Challenges

1. Only few participants came with ready to use data. Other datasets needed to be updated with for example Georeferences, taxonomic clean up etc.
2. Ownership of data was an issue which needed to be discussed further although benefits were highlighted during the training
3. Many of the datasets are being used to write manuscripts and thus might take longer than expected to be available for upload
4. How to deal with dataset covering fauna e.g. dragonflies dataset.

## Next steps:

1. All participants need follow up to help them clean data, write the data papers (see attached example-Samuel-sample-data-August-2016). The Acanthaceae data also needs cleaning
2. Most of the participants who did not turn up expressed a desire for one-on-one interaction to help them learn the skills passed on during the training. This is a worthwhile activity to do.
3. Follow up with UGABIF to get the IPT portal activated.
4. Establish an online FAQ page to help participants interact with trainers.