



7th GBIF Asian Nodes Meeting Tagaytay, Philippines, 28-30 June 2016



Regional Node Meeting Report 28 – 30 June 2016 Kimberly Hotel, Tagaytay, Philippines

Executive Summary:

The 7th GBIF Asia Regional Nodes Meeting was convened to discuss the following agenda: 1) Country Report of each Node Manager, 2) Status Report of all BIFA Projects, 3) GBIF Strategic Plan and Work Programme 2017-2021, 4) Asia Regional Strategy, 5) BIFA Phase 2 Project Proposals, 6) election of Regional Representative and Deputy and 7) Biodiversity Informatics Curriculum Workshop (Annex 1). It was attended by GBIF Node representatives from India, Japan, Philippines, Viet Nam, ACB, ICIMOD and the GBIF Secretariat (Annex 2). The meeting was an opportunity for Asia Nodes to update the team on work progress related to the Asia Regional Strategy, the status of implementation of Biodiversity Information Fund for Asia (BIFA) projects, and vote on the next set of Asia representatives. The participation of the Deputy Director of the GBIF Secretariat in the person of Tim Hirsch enabled the updating of the Asia Nodes on changes in the secretariat set-up, on the GBIF Strategic Plan and Work Programme and an introduction to the proposal selection process of BIFA Phase 2. Relevant discussions included: accelerating discovery of undigitized NHCs and alignment of the Asia Regional Strategy with the GBIF Strategic Plan and Work Programme that incorporated suggestions of the Asia Nodes representatives. Discussion on the future implementation of the GBIF Asia Nodes included proposals for BIFA Phase 2 that should align with the new priorities identified with the updates proposed for the Asia Regional Strategy, plans for BIFA project-generated the Biodiversity Informatics curriculum workshop and GBIF Asia and its contribution to the revised Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) process.

Day 1 : Preliminary

After a short prayer and the singing of the Philippine National Anthem, BMB Assistant Director Antonio Manila of the Biodiversity Management Bureau welcomed the participants and encouraged the participants to develop the regional plan. A brief introduction of all Node representatives followed (with their expectations of the meeting)

Tim Hirsch (Deputy Director of the GBIF Secretariat)

- recalled the challenges of mobilizing data from countries and emphasized the need to have a strategy for Asia.
- encouraged by the accounts of the workshop in the Philippines and that he was extremely gratified that soon there will be data from the Philippines.
- said that GBIF is aware that this is not an easy part as the sharing of data is a challenge where the benefits of sharing data is not known.

Sheila Vergara (ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity)

- underscored the importance of collaboration at the regional level and placed value on the knowledge products that may be created from out of organizing data - important to selling the idea of data management.

Other participants introduced themselves:

- Nakul Chettri – node manager from ICIMOD since 2009
- Mai Hong Quan – representative from Vietnam (observer)
- Darwin Tejerero –Node Manager for Philippines (PhilBIF)
- Yu Huang Wang –Node Manager TaiBIF , Deputy Regional Representative
- Tsuyoshi Hosoya –Node Manager JBIF, Regional Representative
- Tim Hirsch –GBIF Secretariat
- Gautam Talukdar -India
- Sheila Vergara – ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)
- Christian Elloran- ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)
- Lilybeth Macabebe - ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)
- BMB Staff (meeting Secretariat) introduced themselves

Photo Ops- picture taking to document the meeting (Annex 25)

I. Presentation of the meeting agenda by Tsuyoshi Hosoya (JBIF)

- welcomed the participants and informed that the meeting is an annual event with 11 participant nodes coming from Asia and 6 participant nodes are in attendance for the meeting;
- outlined the topics for discussion in this meeting to be included in the reports : node status, ongoing projects, BIFA projects and the AD-NHC in Asia, the next round of BIFA, updating of the regional strategy and the election of the next Asia representative;
- highlighted the challenges in Asia including communications, fund availability and allocation of personnel. He recalled past activities of the Asia node, including the creation of the regional strategy, the introduction and access to the BIFA fund in 2015.

II. Announcement of process of selecting the next representative and assistant representative of GBIF Asia

- Tim Hirsch briefed the meeting on the process of selecting the next representative and assistant representative of GBIF Asia and encouraged submissions in order to complete the process in the next 2 days.

III. Node Status Report

I. Yu-Huang Wang (Taiwan Biodiversity Information Facility ,TaiBIF)

- informed the meeting that TaiBIF was founded in 2004 under the then National Science Council now the Department of Life Science, Ministry of Science and Technology that provides an annual fund of about 1.4 TWD/year. ;

- conducts training workshops on data publishing and related lectures and seminars. Current main projects and activities include BIFA - related projects (Biodiversity Informatics Cookbook, mobilizing Biodiversity data from ASEAN PAs;
- maintain development of TaiBIF portal and information system for monitoring and reporting national biodiversity.
- supports the preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan preparation of TaiBIF.

Reported that few datasets have been submitted to TaiBIF because data contribution is not enforced. TaiBIF will receive financial support from the Ministry of Science and Technology for the next three years in order to engage and collaborate with universities and organizations in pursuit of informatics summer and winter training. (Annex 3)

II. Gautam Talukdar (GBIF India)

- briefed the meeting on the change in leadership of the GBIF India Node and progress in data publishing in India including new researches, potential sources of data from new initiatives and challenges in popularizing data papers, mobilizing legacy data and sourcing fund support from internal sources.
- outlined the future plans of GBIF India particularly mobilizing data from future engagements and workshops. (Annex 4)

III. Tsuyoshi Hosoya (Japan Biodiversity Information Facility , JBIF)

- briefed the participants on recent activities on data mobilization, outreach and on BIFA related projects. On data mobilization JBIF is searching for undigitized legacy data, providing curators directories, promoting data exploitation to users.
- explained the data flow to GBIF and S-Net (for domestic use) from National Institute of Genetics, National Museum of Nature and Science. Data published from Japan exceed 4 million, 80% of which were based on specimens. JBIF is also conducting training courses on data management and data use. The national strategy of the Japan Node promotes the collection and application of biodiversity information. The report included current and regional strategy – related projects and activities related to mobilizing data from museums.
- informed the meeting that JBIF activity is supported on a voluntary basis and is thus the weakness of the organization. (Annex 5)

Discussion: variability of data sharing modes were discussed. In the case of Japan, data sharing is centralized. The complexity of data sharing with OBIS (marine data) may be reforming the way that data is shared to both GBIF and OBIS. The OBIS nodes are using IPTs and an agreement is being done where data should be shared to both GBIF and OBIS. It was clarified that the proposal is to have marine data tagged to trigger harvesting by OBIS as all data are being delivered through IPTs to GBIF.

IV. Darwin Tejerero (Philippine Biodiversity Information Facility, PhilBIF)

- provided updates on the operations of the node.
- informed the meeting that the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Director was the head of delegation with the Assistant Director as the alternate. The BPKMD – KMIS section chief is the node manager. Over 30 BioWeb partners are the sources of

information and some of whom were trained through the recently held Training of Trainers. Updates include: the adoption of the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) for 2015 – 2028, mapping of Philippine Bird Species, Updated Species database using DwC, Phil Red List Committee designated to update the national list of threatened Philippine fauna.

PhilBIF expressed their needs and challenges including capacity to set up IPT for BMB, protocol in the approval of registration request for new data publishers and the allocation of funds to support mentoring of other BioWeb members. (Annex 6)

- V. Sheila Vergara (ASEAN center for Biodiversity-ACB, Associate Node)
- briefed the meeting on the background of ACB, its history as associate member of GBIF and on recent node activities that include: ACB's support to the Philippines Node (to BioWeb, Phil CHM Partners), and to PhiBIS (Phil Biodiversity Info System).
 - reported recent node activities including the organizing of the Orientation Workshop on Mobilizing Biodiversity Data from ASEAN Protected Areas. Attendance to 22nd meeting of the Governing Board (GB22) of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility held at Antananarivo, Madagascar on October 3-10, 2015.(Annex 7)
- VI. Nakul Cheetri (ICIMOD HCH-BIF)
- discussed Mountain learning, knowledge and enabling centre. Science and policy as a new role of ICIMOD. Membership in several MEAs, 210 million people in the HKH, important in global asset for humankind, is a data deficit area (IPCC) thus need for consistent and comparable data, need for research and periodic monitoring, regional cooperation on research monitoring and data sharing is inevitable. Organized vertical transects. GBIF work is imbedded in their work, member countries encouraged to contribute to ICIMOD and to GBIF also. They mobilize workshops to encourage data contributions and training courses, Regional Database Systems that organize and allow the downloading of data. ICIMOD has contributed to IPBES in deliverable 3C. (Annex 8)
 - reported that Bhutan is not using IPT but uses DWC and Nepal is interested to be associate member, interested in IPT.
 - stressed that interests need to be formalized. Occurrence data sets need to be found in GBIF and need to be checked for technical issues.

IV. BIFA Project Phase 1 Status Report

Tsuyoshi Hosoya presented a brief introduction about BIFA and the ongoing BIFA funded projects in the region (Annex 16).

1. Strengthening GBIF Philippines project – by Ms. Armida Andres of BMB
 - presented updates of the PhilCHM/ PhilBIF and highlighted the knowledge learned by members of the BioWeb including the action plans that evolved out of the planning discussions. She mentioned the interest of the CHM network contributors, particularly the academic community (CLSU, MSU Tawi Tawi and Silliman University) to publish their data through the IPT.
 - reported on the future and action plans of these partners that include registration, mentoring, hands on orientation, data cleaning, publishing and information campaigns. Concerns include

weak internet connection in far flung areas and lack of trained personnel to manage the IPT. (Annex 9)

GBIF was curious to know how many of the BioWeb members are interested to set up their own IPTs. Tim reiterated that data uploaded to GBIF are downloaded from the website and each of these downloads are provided with a DOI. This enables the documentation of the frequency and numbers of data to monitor data utilization. Ms. Armida wished that they could come up with more incentives in the future.

2. Mobilizing data from AHPs –by Ms.Sheila Vergara of ACB

- reported their preparations related to the implementation of the “Orientation Workshop on Mobilizing Biodiversity Data from ASEAN Protected Areas”. The report included the objectives of the orientation that focused on organizing and generating information from ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs) and the effect it would have on the availability of biodiversity information in interoperable formats for the ASEAN Region in the form of increased exposure and awareness on the use/function of camera traps as a helpful tool for acquiring real time biodiversity information and complement transect information, on the increased willingness of AHP managers and/or staff to share biodiversity information and support to science informed decision making and policy development. The Orientation Workshop was scheduled for the following week and was a collaboration between the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and TaiBIF. The workshop has received confirmation of attendance from 21 AHP personnel and 4 trainers, and will be supported by ACB staff. The Mount Makiling Forest Reserve (MMFR), the sole AHP in Los Banos, Laguna was selected as the site for the field deployment of 11 camera traps. (Annex 10)
- reported on the status of the project Orientation Workshop on Mobilizing Biodiversity Data from ASEAN Protected Areas.

3. Biodiversity Informatics Cookbook on GitBook – by Yu-Huang Wang of TaiBIF

- reported on planning meetings to organize the cookbook: discussion on outline, 1st and 2nd editorial meetings organized to discuss the schema. The first announcement for the BIC training workshop has been released but limited responses. Important dates: deadline for nomination, June 30, 15 July for sending flight schedules and 30 July deadline for approving flight schedule and estimate of airfare. He reminded that Asian Member States interested should first register at ACB to be able to publish their data. Yu Huang demonstrated a spreadsheet that simplifies the encoding for meta data. (Annex 3)

4. Development of the Biodiversity Database System in Viet Nam – by Tsuyoshi Hosoya

- Mai Hong Quan emphasized the need to build capacity of Viet Nam in biodiversity info and biodiversity management as part of their preparations in order to actively take part in GBIF.
- Tsuyoshi Hosoya reported on activities related to the implementation of the project. Activities include a visit to Japan by the Vietnamese counterparts for 4 days of training and an opportunity for the development of the potential Vietnamese node. The need to link National Biodiversity Database System (NBDS, developed by JICA) to GBIF through an IPT was also emphasized. A collaboration with JICA with the use of BIFA money to encourage contributions from data holders. He presented the outline of the program. (Annex 11)

5. Integrated Checklist of Endangered Species by Tsuyoshi Hosoya

- reported the need for each country to publish an authoritative list for endangered species. Also an integrated red list may not be very useful because of the partial, irregular update of the data and uncertainty of the scientific name.

Discussions and Agreements on the issue regarding some species not found in GBIF:

- It was agreed that there is a need to check these species names against the taxonomic backbone. It may be resolved if the (integrated) checklist is published in GBIF that would automatically be incorporated in GBIF backbone taxonomy. The taxonomic backbone will be offered in the near future to be a tool that could batch match (up to 20000 records). Hosoya informed the meeting and showed evidence that there were examples of names earlier published (from IPNI) were not found in GBIF. There is thus a need to publish such list immediately for the uptake of the taxonomic backbone.
 - It was proposed that the unresolved names will be provided to all Nodes so that these can be checked against the national lists. It was pointed out that ABCDNet is coming up with a MAP project with the interest to have a regional checklist of plants. However, concern was raised regarding the provision of data to organizations outside of the ASEAN for ASEAN data.
6. Task Group on accelerating discovery of undigitized NHCs (Natural Historical Collections) by Tsuyoshi Hosoya
- provided some statistics related to the digitization of NHCs and demonstrated that paid staff constituted the most contribution to the digitization of data and he reported that translating the questionnaire in Japanese was the reason for increased response in Japan.
 - Discussed the promotion of the use of the questionnaire so that the metadata of NHCs could be exploited for prioritization of the target. Gautam requested clarification on the outcome of the survey as difference criteria may apply. Tim explained that the results will not provide a priority list but guidance on how to develop a plan for digitization.(Annex 12)
7. Presentation on regional and subregional assessments of Biodiversity and Eco Systems in Asia Pacific region by Gautam Talukdar of India (Annex 13).
- explained the overall scope of the assessment and defined the scope of work in the Asia Pacific Region including West, South, North East, South East Asia and Oceania. The assessment includes the identification of contributions of biodiversity and ecosystems and their interdependences on economy. Chapter outlines are:
 - ✓ Setting the scene
 - ✓ Nature's benefits to people
 - ✓ Status trends and future dynamics of biodiversity and eco systems underpinning nature's benefits to people
 - ✓ Direct and indirect drivers of change in the context of different perspectives on quality of life
 - ✓ Integration and Cross scale analysis
 - ✓ Options for governance, institutional arrangements and private and public decision-making across scales and sectors.

Tim Hirsch pointed out that the initial draft is up for review upon registration in IPBES.

- scenarios and modeling as a gap in terms of human capacity and data being largely non interoperable and the data gaps in Asia are impeding the development of models;

Day 2

GBIF Strategic Plan and draft Work Programme 2017-21 by Tim Hirsch (GBIF)

- Reported that the Strategic Plan is approved (Annex 14). It is a result of a brainstorming session in 2015 in Copenhagen that discussed the strategic priorities of GBIF consolidated and circulated among the GBIF community from where a draft Strategic Plan was submitted in GB in Madagascar that was approved in principle with some adjustments regarding detail.
- A parallel consultation process will work out the details of the work programme

Priorities of the Strategic Plan are:

Empower Global Network:

- Focus on People
- Strengthen skills
- Equip nodes
- Equip data publishers
- Expand National participation
- Plan implementation
- Coordinate resources

Enhancement of biodiversity information infrastructure:

“Provide leadership, expertise and tools to support the integration of all biodiversity information as an interconnected digital knowledgebase”

- Modernize data standards
- Deliver names infrastructure
- Catalogue collections (partner to deliver single NHC catalogue, use collections metadata as first stage in content mobilization)

Fill data gaps:

“Prioritize and promote mobilization of new data resources which combine with existing resources to maximize the coverage, completeness and resolution of GBIF data, particularly with respect to taxonomy, geography and time”

- Identify priority gaps
- Expand data streams
- Engage data holders
- Rescue datasets
- Liaise with journals

Improve Data Quality:

“Ensure that all data within GBIF network are of the highest possible quality and associated with clear indicators enabling users to assess their origin, relevance and usefulness for any application”

- Ensure data persistence
- Assess data quality
- Enable data curation

Deliver relevant data:

“Ensure that GBIF delivers data in the form and completeness required to meet the highest-priority needs of science and, through science, society:

- Engage academia
- Document needs
- Support biodiversity assessment
- Assess impact

Discussions:

- There are evident needs for the alignments with the regional strategy;
- Current regional plan components fit into the current work program and will be the basis of the review of the Asian Regional Strategy. BIFA projects contribute to the strategic plan priorities and should be the necessary effort at the Asian level as guided by the Strategy Plan.

BIFA Phase 2 (Annex 15)

Tim Hirsch reported that an amount of Euro 142,857 is available for second round of BIFA, Euro 20,000 for overheads and the remaining Euro 120,000 available for funding. D. Hobern suggested that 50% be allocated for each of the following:

- Asian Biodiversity Informatics Conference
 - Clarify connections between IPBES, GEOBON, APBON
- Small data mobilization grants
 - Mob of data from existing collections / field research
 - Possibly limit 10k per institution
 - Target key gaps

Asian Regional Strategy

Discussion:

- To revise the current strategy - referring the next (2017-2022) Work Plan, a review and evaluation of the current Regional Strategy has to be conducted with a brainstorming session to collect ideas aligning with the next Work Plan.

Presentation of the current GBIF Regional Strategy - Tsuyoshi Hosoya (annex 17):

Strategy 1: Build network of data holders and providers in the region by sharing information on GBIF and regional nodes informatics infrastructure as well as information on existing thematic databases such as FishBase, IBIN, ILTER, species group networks.

Strategy 2: Popularize the data paper incentive through development of metadata catalogues and corresponding datasets.

Strategy 3: Explore (funding) options for mobilizing legacy data housed in museums and herbaria and (mechanism) for repatriation of biodiversity data from Asia housed in other countries.

Strategy 4: Strengthen help desk facility at regional nodes to ensure the use of DwC-A standard for generating new biodiversity data (metadata, occurrences, checklist) and to better mobilize the publishing of data through GBIF IPT platform.

- As a result of brainstorming, the challenges and possible actions were identified under each of the five priority field in the next Work Plan (Annex 18);
- Tsuyoshi Hosoya wrap up these ideas as an strategy and circulated the documents.

BIFA

Discussions:

- Currently, only 3% of GBIF data is coming from Asia.
- The current suggestion of allocating 50% of the BIFA funds for the conference was discussed with the group with Hosoya informing the group that he will not be available to organize this.

Discussion on the Criteria for application for the BIFA2 fund:

- it should come from an existing node- but could partner with an unregistered nodes,
- that the proposals contribute to the ideas brought forward for the Asia strategy, and
- single node proposals are acceptable.

Agreements:

- It was agreed that an expanded GBIF meeting will be convened potentially in Viet Nam next year.
- Euro 40k was proposed to be allocated for this meeting that will include representatives outside of the current GBIF Nodes to extend the engagement.
- the meeting objectives will be collected from the components of the Asian Strategy as proposed.
- Data publication was proposed, as in BIFA1 to be a measurable outcome.
- Participants were requested to develop concept ideas from out of the proposed strategies / activities proposed.

Day 3

Election of Regional Representative and Deputy Representative

The extension of the terms of the GBIF Asian Regional Representative and deputy officer for another two(2) years were confirmed. This was after other nominated participants declined the position to give chance to other nominees.

- Dr. Tsuyoshi Hosoya - elected as Regional Representative
- Yu Huang Wang - elected as Deputy Regional Representative

Selection of / potential invitees to expanded GBIF Asia regional meeting, 2017 (Annex c/o Tim):

Tim proposed the following selection process for the invitees:

1. determination of GBIF Asia members / non members countries in the Asian region
2. ASEAN, ICIMOD countries (GBIF include India and Pakistan),
3. other NE Asia IPBES subregion, Oceania and Organizations and Economies.

Discussion/Agreements:

- 2 invitees for GBIF member countries and 1 invitee for non GBIF member country;
- Considering this selection process, the 40k funds allocated will not cover the 45 or more participants.
- Tim mentioned and Nakul confirmed that the objective of the meeting will determine the participation. If policy makers will be invited, time should be allocated to articulate to them the benefits of and best practices of GBIF. There may be need to invite someone (from Europe / a country or from Asia) who could present best practices (eg amphibian checklist in the Philippines, from GBIF and museum data).

BIFA Biodiversity Informatics Cookbook Workshop

Yu-Huang announced the programme for the BIFA funded training course in September. It emphasizes improving skills on data publishing in the Asia Region. He suggested for comments on the CookBook that they are currently preparing. Nakul suggested that participants be subjected to a pre-training and post training questionnaire to determine the changes in Knowledge and Skills Assessment of the participants. The pre-training questionnaire can also be used to adjust the modules to fit the needs of the participants. Otherwise, interaction with participants upon their arrival will be the only way to know their KSAs

Key Biodiversity Area – presented by Sheila Vergara of ACB: (Annex 21)

- Topic was discussed and put in the table where GBIF Asia could make a case
- discussed that in the process of designation where sites are identified using KBA criteria, in compiling species occurrence, this should be a routine, where species occurrences is taken into account - it should be part of the adoptive process to include GBIF into the KBA process.
- as the authorities going through this process and BI doing IBAs, the underlying occurrence data that enables transparency of data should be available at GBIF such that dataset could be converted to DwC.

- The KBA process has not transcended into practice- workflow of getting data in terms of getting species occurrence, use GBIF as a transparent link
- gap analysis where done looking at species included in the local management plans, then search on literature and search on GBIF -found out that only 80% of these species were found in GBIF. Complete dataset on species can be accessed in GBIF can be a supplementary tool to bring together species occurrence and management plans.

On the inquiry of Tsoyushi Hosoya on how to apply the process of applying some data from GBIF and other data sources in Japan, Sheila Vergara replied that there is a need to establish cost and benefit analysis for South East Asia being a member of GBIF which could be a good product to help sell GBIF in the region.

Tim Hirsch stated that how the data is used and what is already being made of it has to be measured and getting experts together to give their views on where species are.

BIFA

- Need more discussion on the criteria.
- The Secretariat reminded the group that BIFA project selection criteria should be handed in the Steering Committee soon.
- Should be up and running before the current come to an end.
- Should be done before the 2017 first quarter, consistent with the MOE (Japan) schedule.
- Realistic time table for the secretariat to implement this.

Meeting Report

It was agreed that the Philippine Node will prepare the report with the assistance of ACB. Participants were asked to submit copies of documents they have prepared in relation to this meeting.

Closing messages

ICIMOD informed the group that they have benefitted from continue to support and be part of the process. Thanked the organizing team for the field trip

Mai Hong Quan – thanked the organizers, will raise the importance of GBIF to his superiors and encourage membership to GBIF

Darwin Tejerero – thanked everyone and Yu Huang and Hosoya for their help and wished everyone a safe trip back.

Yu – Huang – thanked the organizers for organizing the meeting in such a short time. Thanked Tim and Hosoya for facilitating the discussion.

Hosoya – thanked the Phil Node for the meeting preparations and the opportunity to visit Taal Volcano. Recalled the process of getting used to GBIF and its processes and hoped that he would be able to do better in the next round with the help of Yu-Huang. Reiterated the empowering of the Global Network and its importance.

Gautam – stated that the meeting has been the most informal meeting and appreciated the achievement of the goals in the given time concluding that the participants had become more efficient in the course of time. Thanked the meeting facilitator and the BMB team who made the event possible.

Tim Hirsch:

- thanked the exceptional organizing of the BMB team. Conveyed his personal thanks to Hosoya and Yu-Huang for the job well done in the past 2 years and taking on the next 2 more years which could be a good opportunity to expand our region.
- stated that what's been happening, is extremely encouraging and showing practical outcomes for BIFA at the early stage. Enjoyed the 2nd Asia meeting, learned a lot especially the face to face discussions.
- Take the opportunity to make sure that discussions at the regional level are informed what is going on elsewhere.
- Stressed that the process discussed on the meeting should be driven by the regional nodes with the Secretariat facilitating.

Annex 22 – List of ACRONYMS used in the report

Annex 23- Group Picture of the Regional Nodes

Annex 24 –News Item about the Meeting

Additional Attachments:

- Signed Grant Letter of the Regional Meeting
- Signed Addendum to the Grant Letter of the Regional Meeting



DRAFT MEETING PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 28 June

08:30 – 09:00 REGISTRATION

OPENING FORMALITIES

09:00 – 09:05	Welcome	Tsuyoshi, Tim
09:05 – 09:15	Opening remarks	Dr Theresa Mundita S. Lim
09:15 – 09:20	Self-introductions	All
09:20 -- 09:30	Announcement on process for electing regional representative and deputy	Tim

Part 1: STATUS REVIEW

09:30 – 10:30	Node reports and questions	All node managers
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00 – 11:15	BIFA phase 1: review of project selection process	Tim
11:15 –12:30	BIFA project status report	Reps of four ongoing projects
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30 – 14:30	Secretariat update and questions	Tim + all
14:30 -- 15:00	Ongoing regional projects	Tsuyoshi, Yu-Huang
15:00 – 15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:30 – 16:30	Task group on accelerating discovery of undigitized NHCs	Tsuyoshi
16:30 - 17:30	GBIF Asia and IPBES	Tim, Gautam
18:00	DINNER	

Wednesday, 29th June

Part 2: FORWARD LOOK		
08:30 – 09:30	GBIF Strategic Plan and Work Programme 2017-2021	Tim
09:30 – 10:00	Asia regional strategy: introduction	Tsuyoshi
10:00 – 10:30	BIFA phase 2: introduction	Tim, Tsuyoshi
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00 – 12:30	Moderated discussion: Asia regional strategy and BIFA phase 2	All
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30 – 15:00	Continuation of moderated discussion on regional strategy and BIFA 2	All
15:00 – 15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:30 – 17:30	Report outcome of moderated discussion, draft proposal for BIFA 2 based on regional strategic priorities	Tsuyoshi, Tim, all
18:00	DINNER	

Thursday 30th June

Part 3: PRACTICAL NEXT STEPS		
08:30 – 08:45	Election of regional representative and deputy	Tim (moderator)
08:45 – 10:00	Plans for BIFA project-generated data; discussion of Biodiversity Informatics Curriculum workshop	Yu-Huang
10:00 – 10:30	COFFEE BREAK	
10:30 – 12:00	GBIF Asia and its contribution to the revised Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) process	Sheila
12:00 – 12:30	Meeting report and wrap-up, venue for next meeting	Tsuyoshi
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 17:30	FIELD TRIP (OPTIONAL)	
18:00	DINNER	

ATTENDANCE SHEET
7TH Global Biodiversity Information Facility Asia Regional Nodes Meeting
 Hotel Kimberly, Tagaytay City
 29 June - 01 July 2016

	Name	Position	Contact No. / E-mail Address	Country	Office/Organization
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3	Gautam Talukdar			India	
4	Tim Hirsch		thirsch@gbif.org	GBIF Secretariat	
5	Sheila Vergara	Director		Philippines	ACB
7	Nakul Chettri			ICIMOD	
9	Mai Hong Quan			Vietnam	
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21	Vjorn Christian Grimaldo	EMS I		Philippines	BMB-CMD
22	Jennelyn Asegurado	EMS II		Philippines	BMB-NPD
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24	Lilibeth Cabebe	-		Philippines	ACB