

## MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT

*Guidelines on how to complete the activity report are included in italics.*

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### 1. Project overview

*Please insert text in the table*

<b>Project title</b>	International Living Atlases workshop: how to improve data use with Atlas of Living Australia modules.	
<b>Project ID</b>	CESP2018-004	
<b>Project period</b>	<b>Start date (dd/mm/yy):</b> 01/08/2018	<b>End date (dd/mm/yy):</b> 31/07/2019
<b>Project lead</b>		
<b>Name of the main contact person</b>	Dr Anne-Sophie Archambeau	
<b>Name of institution</b>	Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN – UMS Patri-Nat)	
<b>GBIF Participant represented</b>	GBIF France	

<b>Role(s) in this project</b>	Project Lead	
<b>Project partner(s)</b>		
<b>Name and institution of the representative</b>	<b>GBIF Participant represented (if applicable)</b>	<b>Role(s) in the project</b>
Anders Telenius	GBIF Sweden	Co-coordinators
Cristina Villaverde	GBIF Spain	Co-coordinators
David Martin	Atlas of Living Australia	Co-coordinators
Anne Bruneau	Canadensys	Co-coordinators
Rui Figueira	GBIF Portugal	Participant
Anabela Plos	GBIF Argentina	Participant
Leisy Amaya Montano	GBIF Chile	Participant
Jean Coss GANGLO	GBIF Benin	Participant
Pierre Radji	GBIF Togo	Participant
Andrea Ferreira Portela Nunes	GBIF Brazil	Co-coordinators
Dag Endresen	GBIF Norway	Co-coordinators
Chihjen Ko	TaiBif	Participant
James Macklin	CBIF Canada	Co-coordinators
Jo Judge	NBN	Participant

## 2. Executive summary

*Provide a brief explanation of the context and the approach taken up to the mid-term of the project, as well as a summary of the main conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations for the remaining project period.*

Thanks to the Atlas of Living Australia and their powerful and adjustable platform, more and more institutions and nodes were able to install and configure basic and advanced module as data portals. For six years, we have managed to prove that the community around this platform was needed and this project will help to move from a group of nodes applying to single project calls to a more reliable community such as Linux or Apache foundation.

During the symposium organized for the SPNHC+TDWG 2018, we started a discussion that has led us to the creation of this new structure that it is now funded by the GBIF Secretariat and the LA participants. We also discussed about the creation of a technical and administrative coordinator (one position divided in two parts).

For all these reasons, we decided to divide the upcoming workshop into two parts: 3 days and half will be focused on technical components of the Living Atlases such as the spacial portal, configuring the regions tool, ALA4R, managing the Atlas's taxonomy, etc. The remaining day and a half will help us to discuss and move forward in the development and implementation of a Living Atlases Community of Practice (CoP) following the scope agreed in the Kilkenny Accord.

At the same time, we have been working on the development of the two video tutorials for the end-users of the Living Atlases. The storyboard of the first one has been validated and the company is working on the first key visual proposal. We expect to show this video during the workshop that will take place in April 2019 or at least the key visual. We also have the script of the second video ready.

We have 25 participants registered for the workshop from all around the world. We have 3 new GBIF nodes: Togo, Norway and Chile. Three new institutions: Danube University Krems from Austria, Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas (CONAP) from Guatemala and Vermont Center for Ecostudies from USA. All these facts prove that we need a more structured community.

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### 3. Introduction to the project and its objectives

1. *Provide a summary of the overall project to help readers understand its objectives, including, for example:*
  - *The project's main objective(s) and expected impact*
  - *How the deliverables will contribute to the main objective(s)*
  - *The targeted capacity needs as outlined in the project proposal*
2. *Explain to readers what they will find in this report. It should include:*
  - *A description of how the evaluation has been carried out (e.g. consultation or surveys with project partners and participants). Please refer to section 3.6 "Monitoring and evaluation" in your original project proposal.*
  - *A description of how the project partners will use the evaluation results.*

To highlight their data publishers, more and more GBIF nodes or associate parties decided to implement a national data portal. Since 2013, The Atlas of Living Australia gives access to a really powerful adjustable platform. A technical community around this toolset has been created in 2013 and increased over the years.

One of the main objectives of this project is the organization of the next Living Atlases workshop, that will be held at the Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle in Paris in April 2019. Adding to this, we will write tutorials based on exercises made during the workshops and the notes taken by the developers. Everything will be available to the public.

The other main objective is to strengthen the connexion of GBIF-mediated data by improving the exploitation of national data portals. To achieve this, we are creating videos explaining how to use different modules such as the spatial portal or the collectory. All these resources will be translated in different languages (French, Spanish, Portuguese). Additionally we will make an effort to encourage other nodes to translate videos in their own languages .

In parallel of these activities, we organized a symposium during SPNHC+TDWG conference composed of 2 sessions. The first part was a live demonstration of data portals outside Atlas of Living Australia. The second part was a discussion about the future of the Living Atlases community. This was the basis of the Kilkenny Accord that was agreed during the 25th Meeting of the GBIF Governing Board. We are currently in the process to fill two positions (technical and administrative roles).

In order to be sure that we will answer the participant needs, we will dedicate one spot for questions during the workshop. We asked the participants to give us the subject that they want to work on during the third day (link to the survey - see annex for the result).

We will also share an evaluation form among participants at the end of the workshop to provide feedbacks that will help us to organize the next workshop.

#### 4. Project deliverables - status update by mid-term

*Provide updates on the status of each of the planned deliverables by the mid-term, listing the related activities connected to these and explanatory notes. In the event of identifying a deliverable as “delayed”, please provide detailed explanatory notes and planned actions to address this issue. Please provide links to any documents or webpages in the “Sources of verification” column. Add as many rows as needed.*

Deliverable	Related activity	Status: Completed / on track / delayed	Explanatory notes	Sources of verification
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<p>Two videos about:</p> <p>a) How to search, refine and download data</p> <p>b) How to use regions/spatial module</p>	<p>Elaborating video scripts, online meetings with design company, document to show what we want to show in each part of the video, revising story board of first video, choosing speakers, online consultation with partners during all process</p>	<p>on track</p>		<p><a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19P55UCn0gZ1vdRTEMAPWHLh1SmLzoHnq">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19P55UCn0gZ1vdRTEMAPWHLh1SmLzoHnq</a></p>
<p>Online exercises to help end-users with atlas modules.</p>	<p>Identify and collect exercises already produced by partners</p>	<p>on track</p>		<p>We plan to reuse and refine exercises already produced by partners to minimize duplication of efforts</p>
<p>Translation in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.</p>	<p>It is all in English by now.</p>	<p>on track</p>		<p>We will translate videos in the final steps of the process</p>
<p>Original video files available so other nodes can add their own languages.</p>		<p>on track</p>		<p>We will share the original video in the final steps of the process</p>
<p>Launch of at least 3 spatial portals and “explore your region” modules.</p>	<p>GBIF.ES launched its regions module in 2018</p>	<p>on track</p>		<p>The main subject of the workshop will be the spatial portal and the region module. This list will increase after it.</p>
<p>Improvement of current running data portals by upgrading tools.</p>	<p>GBIF.Es has updated all its infrastructure. GBIF France has</p>	<p>on track</p>		<p>we will have an estimation during the workshop.</p>

	updated his collectory.			
Launch of at least 2 data portals using ALA technology.	GBIF Togo will launch its data portal by the end of the project. Vermont Center for Ecostudies.	on track		We will find the real number when we will do the evaluation during the workshop.
Improvement of the documentation and exercises made for the workshop	The documentation has been translated in French	on track		We will give access to the finalized exercises after the workshop.  The documentation translated in French is available here : <a href="https://github.com/AtlasOfLivingAustralia/Documentation-en-francais/wiki">https://github.com/AtlasOfLivingAustralia/Documentation-en-francais/wiki</a>

## 5. Project calendar - status update by mid-term

The calendar should be completed the same way as in section 3.7 of your Full Project Proposal, but should also clearly indicate any expected changes (e.g. use of colour-coding to indicate expected changes). Please provide justifications for any expected changes in the notes column.

Activity	2018					2019							Notes
	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	
Skype calls for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the workshop planning and organization,</li> <li>the documentation review</li> <li>checking progress of each participant</li> </ul>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Workshop during SPNHC - TDWG conference in Dunedin, New Zealand	X												We had two sessions with around 20 participants each. The second session was dedicated to discussion and helped us to move on in the creation of

															the Living Atlases community.
International Living Atlases workshop in Paris, France									X						The workshop will take place from April 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> at the National Museum of Natural History of Paris.
Creation and review of materials for the workshop (exercises, virtual machine images, etc.)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Deadline for mid-term reporting							X								
Publishing materials of the workshop									X	X	X				
Release of tutorials and exercises to help atlas users										X	X	X			
Measure the impact of the workshop													X		
Deadline for final reporting													X		

## 6. Project communications

*Describe how the results of your project are being, and will be shared with the project stakeholders and broader GBIF community.*

*Please also review the project webpage available from <https://www.gbif.org/programme/82219/capacity-enhancement-support-programme#projects> and provide any additional documents, events, news items or links that you would like to add to your page.*

GBIF France put in place the workshop official website (<http://livingatlases.mnhn.fr/>) where participants will be able to find the agenda, the participant list and the form to register.

We shared an online survey in order to evaluate the needs and expectations of the participants in terms of documentation

We worked on the development of the two videos. We already have the storyboard of the first video, that, we plan show it during the workshop and we also have a confirmed version of the script for second video. Once we have the video tutorials ready we plan to share them with the LA and GBIF communities via mailing lists, slack, GitHub, social networks and webpages of project partners.

The exercises made during the workshop will be available after it. We will give access to the tutorials done during past workshops to help future users to install and configure it.

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## 7. Mid-term evaluation findings and recommendations for the remaining project implementation period

*This section is to summarize and document the mid-term evaluation of the project's progress and any changes to the project plans based on the findings of this mid-term evaluation.*

*This section of the report should also cover, for example:*

- *Areas of success/best practices/lessons learnt from this first stage of project implementation, which can be built on during the remainder of the project period.*
- *Any feedback on the project's relevance from the partners and stakeholders.*
- *Comments on the project implementation, its efficiency and effectiveness.*
- *The management arrangements for the project, including support from the GBIF Secretariat.*
- *Any reflection on the mid-term evaluation itself that could help inform the project's final evaluation and final report.*

*Please also use this section as an opportunity to identify the main lessons from the project experience that could be applied in other contexts, including any best practice that others in the GBIF community could apply. In addition, outline any recommendations for the GBIF Secretariat or the community to reinforce the initial success of the project.*

Regarding the action type "Support for regional events", the organization of the workshop is being straightforward and smooth. We find easier to reach the potential participants of the workshop due to the previous capacity activities organized around the LA. Actually, we think that having 25 participants from all continents it is a good indicator of the project success. We have held several online meetings to coordinate the workshop logistics that were enough to arrange efficiently all participants' trips. GBIF Brazil has funded flight fares for 21 participants. We stayed in the budget of 15000€. Thanks to this partnership, we managed to invite institutions without financial capacities. We manage to book the hotel rooms for the GBIF participants in advance and we are below the estimated budget. We are a bit late preparing and sharing the agenda but we do not see much problem in this.



On the other hand, the documentation action type of the project is being a bit more challenging as it is a new activity for the project partners but the process is also going really well. We are happy working with the design company that fully understands the scope of the project and the goals of the videos. And despite of a slow start of the project, project partners are now being active in the process of elaborating and deciding all aspects of the videos: script, design, revising storyboards, choosing speakers, etc. We think we will manage to have the videos released by the planned dates found in the calendar.

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## 8. Annex 1 – Additional sources of verification

*Please use this section to provide any additional sources of verification, for example links to relevant digital documents, news/newsletters, brochures, copies of agreements with data holding institutions, workshop related documents, pictures, etc.*

- Kilkeny Accord  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/14tyjEPaDplo9B\\_8wvHDKbfMRLO81FviTsVQt9IT111o/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14tyjEPaDplo9B_8wvHDKbfMRLO81FviTsVQt9IT111o/edit)
- Interim Management Committee for Living Atlases. Terms of Reference
- Folder in Google Drive with all video related documents  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19P55UCn0gZ1vdRTEMAPWHLh1SmLzoHng>