

CroMent

Programme: CESP

Project ID: CESP2023-006

Project page: <https://www.gbif.org/project/CESP2023-006/croment>

Project lead organization: Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Institute for Environment and Nature

GBIF Participant Represented: Croatia

Project implementation period: 31/10/2023 - 30/6/2024

Report approved: 30/4/2024

Declaration: The information provided in this report has been provided by and is the responsibility of the project lead.

Narrative Midterm report

Executive Summary

Within the CroMent project, intensive collaboration between The Belgian Biodiversity Platform (BBPF) and Croatian GBIF node (CroBIF) with noticeable increase in knowledge and capacity of CroBIF for data mobilization. Successful data mobilization workshops were held for the scientific community. During the workshop representatives of the scientific institutions recognized the importance and advantages of open biodiversity data and expressed their willingness to promote mobilization of biodiversity data in their institutions. Several dataset are being prepared for publishing to GBIF, out of which one was published within the scope of this midterm report. Contacts with governmental office in charge of open data policy has been made, following which activities for mobilization of biodiversity data and strengthening of CroBIF were included in the draft of the national Action Plan for Implementation of the Open Data Policy 2024-2025.

Report on Activities

Activity progress summary

Within the CroMent project, intensive collaboration between The Belgian Biodiversity Platform (BBPF) and Croatian GBIF node (CroBIF) was established. Weekly on-line meetings are being held, on which activities for establishing effective GBIF node were discussed and on which BBPF share knowledge and experience in data standardization and mobilization. Detailed program for data mobilization workshops, held from 19. to 23.2.2024., was elaborated and dedicated workshop website was created, containing all presentations and relevant materials (<https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>). Test version of the national IPT was installed, available to the workshop participants for practical part of the workshop. One dataset was prepared and published to GBIF via Belgian IPT. The drafting National data mobilization strategy is in progress. Activities for mobilization of biodiversity data and strengthening of CroBIF were included in the draft of the national Action Plan for Implementation of the Open Data Policy 2024-2025. GBIF Europe and Central Asia (ECA) meeting will be held in May in Zagreb. Currently there is no delay in project activities.

Completed activities

Activity name: 1.1 Learning the data mobilization and publication process

Description: Hands on and technical workshop were held from February 20th to 22nd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. Best practice examples on data cleaning and data management were given, including detailed information on the use of DarwinCore Standard and the use of IPT.

Start Date - End Date: 20/2/2024 - 22/2/2024

Verification Sources: Web site is available on the following link: <https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Activity name: 1.3 GBIF community workshop

Description: GBIF community workshop was held from February 19th and 23rd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. During the workshop information on GBIF network and policy, Living Atlases and open data principle was given. Data mobilization strategy exercise was carried out

the second day.

Start Date - End Date: 19/2/2024 - 23/2/2024

Verification Sources: Web site is available on the following link: <https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Activity name: 1.4 GBIF technical workshop

Description: Hands on and technical workshop were held from February 20th to 22nd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. Best practice examples on data cleaning and data management were given, including detailed information on the use of DarwinCore Standard and the use of IPT.

Start Date - End Date: 20/2/2024 - 22/2/2024

Verification Sources: Web site is available on the following link: <https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Report on Deliverables

Deliverables progress summary

Within the CroMent project, intensive collaboration between The Belgian Biodiversity Platform (BBPF) and Croatian GBIF node (CroBIF) was established. Weekly on-line meetings are being held, on which activities for establishing effective GBIF node were discussed and on which BBPF share knowledge and experience in data standardization and mobilization. Detailed program for data mobilization workshop was elaborated and dedicated workshop website was created, containing all presentations and relevant materials (<https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>). Workshops were held from 19. to 23.2.2024. Within a progress of establishing Living Atlas of Croatia, test version of the national IPT was installed, which was available to the workshop participants for practical part of the workshop. As a result of a workshop, one dataset was prepared and published to GBIF via Belgian IPT. Pre- and post workshop survey were given to participants in order to identify their opinion and knowledge on open data. The survey results and results of the workshop discussion will be used for drafting National data mobilization strategy. Also, a communication was established with the governmental office in charge of open data policy and Croatian Open Data Portal. As a result, activities for mobilization of biodiversity data and strengthening of CroBIF were included in the draft of the national Action Plan for Implementation of the Open Data Policy 2024-2025. As a part of promoting open data principle in the region, CroGBIF accepted to host the GBIF Europe and Central Asia (ECA) meeting in May in Zagreb. During the workshop close collaboration between potential future publishers from the scientific community was established.

By the end of the project at least one other dataset will be published. Currently there is no delay in project activities.

Completed deliverables

Title: GBIF community workshop

Type: Training Workshop

Description: GBIF community workshop was held from February 19th and 23rd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. During the workshop information on GBIF network and policy, Living Atlases and open data principle was given. Data mobilization strategy exercise was carried out the second day.

Sources of verification: Dedicated workshop website was established with all presentations and relevant material for the participants. Web site is available on the following link: <https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Title: Hands on workshop

Type: Training Workshop

Description: Hands on and technical workshop were held from February 20th to 22nd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. Best practice examples on data cleaning and data management were given, including detailed information on the use of DarwinCore Standard and the use of IPT.

Sources of verification: Dedicated workshop website was established with all presentations and relevant material for the participants. Web site is available on the following link: <https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Title: Technical GBIF workshop

Type: Training Workshop

Description: Hands on and technical workshop were held from February 20th to 22nd. There were 25 participants from 16 different institutions. Best practice examples on data cleaning and data management were given, including detailed information on the use of DarwinCore Standard and the use of IPT.

Sources of verification: Dedicated workshop website was established with all presentations and

relevant material for the participants. Web site is available on the following link:
<https://dimevil.github.io/croment/>

Title: Data mobilized

Type: Dataset

Description: One dataset was prepared and published to GBIF via Belgian IPT. Dataset contains more than 3000 records of saproxylic beetles collected through citizen science campaign - Jeste li ih vidjeli?, organized yearly since 2015 by the Institute for Environment and Nature (CroBIF).

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15468/ukuctu>

Title: National Data Mobilisation Strategy

Type: Documentation

Description: Drafting of the National Data Mobilization Strategy is in progress. Activities for mobilization of biodiversity data and strengthening of CroBIF were included in the draft of the national Action Plan for Implementation of the Open Data Policy 2024-2025.

Sources of verification: <https://rdd.gov.hr/politika-otvorenih-podataka/281>

Events

Data mobilization workshop

Dates: 2024-02-19 - 2024-02-23

Organizing institution: Institute for Environment and Nature

Country: Croatia

Number of participants: 25

Comments: Three planned workshops (GBIF community workshop, Hands on workshop and Technical GBIF workshop) were carried out consecutively from 19th to 23rd of February as one data mobilization workshop.

Website or sources of verification: <https://www.biodiversity.be/croment>

Communications and visibility

Relevant stakeholders from the scientific community were identified and invited to participate in the mobilization workshop. Each scientific institution participating in the workshop has nominated its focal point for further communication with CroBIF on mobilization of biodiversity data hosted by the institution. A dedicated mailing list of the focal points will be established. A specific webpages for the Croatian GBIF node is under construction and as soon as this is finished we will disseminate all the GBIF related information there. A website containing all presentations and relevant materials from the mobilization workshop is established.

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation findings

All activities planned for this project period had been carried out without the delay and all expected outputs were fulfilled. Stakeholder engagement was very satisfying and contacts were established with total 16 scientific institutions. According to the pre- and post-workshop surveys, workshops were successful and really resulted in knowledge increase on FAIR and OPEN data principles and use of DarwinCore and IPT for publishing biodiversity data. Most of the participants expressed their willingness to promote mobilization of biodiversity data in their institutions and are willing to publish their data through national IPT to GBIF. Further contacts are needed to establish a formal cooperation with scientific institutions. The only deviation from the project proposal is concerning the financial side. The total amount spent was significantly lower than originally planned, due to the following reasons:
Workshops venue - meeting room was acquired free of charge
Workshops / Consumables or General Purchase - workshop materials were acquired free of charge
Workshops - food & refreshments - not all participants have consumed lunches and refreshments
Workshops / Travel - less participants than planned used airplane and bus because they arrived with their personal vehicle. Also less participants needed accommodation. Also it was planned that lecturers will arrive three times for shorter meetings, but it was arranged that meetings are held in the same week as the workshop. According to the above stated, we do not need any more financing for this project.

