

Title of the Workshop

Data Mobilization Workshop: Data Capturing, Cleaning, Quality, sharing

Background

The workshop was held at the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe on 26 – 27 May 2021, on data Mobilization. This workshop was to train participants that were drawn from partners that will be involved in the 2021 to 2023 GBIF funded data mobilization BID project in their respective institutions. The aim of the workshop was to train participants on how to mobilize data for biodiversity with the same standards as required for the museum national collections.

Training

On day one which was the 26th of May, the following training schedule as shown in the photograph below:

Dr Moira J. Fitzpatrick gave a brief background to GBIF and the BID projects. Ms Kudzai Mafuwe and Miss Dorothy Madamba presented on different topic and also availed practical sessions under different training topics as detailed in the attached program. The practical sessions were to ensure the participants had grasped the concepts that had been presented to them.

Participants came from institutional and stake holder partners, who included the National University of Science and Technology, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, African Lion and Environmental Research Trust, Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe. Ms Kudzai Mafuwe (GBIF Mentor) and Miss Dorothy Madamba (GBIF Project Trainee) were the trainers during the course of the workshop.

Objectives

- The workshop was to train participants on how to mobilize data which is of quality that meets the required standards in the Data Requirements needed by GBIF.
- To enable participants to check taxonomic and geography verifications.
- Clean data using excel and Open Refine
- To standardize data

Methods

- The trainers used power point
- Use of GBIF on line websites during practical demonstrations
- Each participant had printed handouts for Excel and Open refine
- Trainers attended to questions and also helped those who needed help with some issues with either the practical or verbal presentations.

Activities

Participation of all participants was called for in doing the practical exercises on Taxonomy checks in catalogue of Life, Geo-referencing using Geolocate, cleaning of data using Open refine and also excel.

Results

The participants appreciated what they learnt during the workshop reflected in their response to the Training Evaluation form.

Conclusion

The data mobilization workshop presented participants with knowledge on how to mobilize data in a standardized format for use by stakeholders and other researchers including their own researches too.