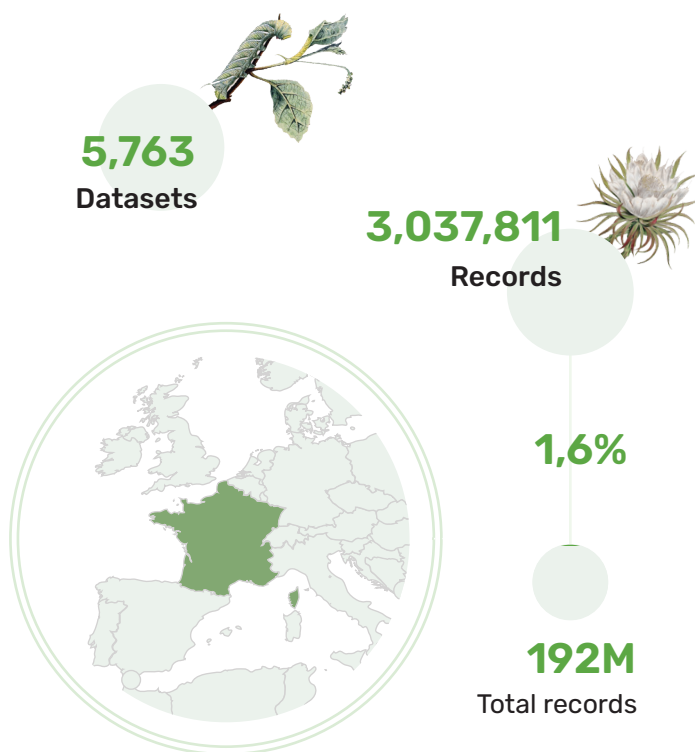


France | DEPOBIO

Data mobilization



Biodiversity data in France

Over the past three centuries, French scientists have succeeded in surveying most of its national territory, from the Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines to the snow-capped Alps and Pyrenees.

But climate change and human activity are changing its biodiversity, and current data is needed to conserve and understand not only how to protect its many endangered species but also how France's farms and vineyards might adapt to warmer summers. Such data also plays a vital part in fulfilling European reporting responsibilities and global commitments to reverse biodiversity loss.

Permitted projects routinely collect high-value data through impact assessments, which could be a tangible and reputational asset for the country's private business. But until recently, these projects rarely shared data.

Helping business share data

In 2018, a law came into force that requires anyone in France conducting an impact assessment to share biodiversity survey data with National Inventory of Natural Heritage (INPN). The law also established **DEPOBIO** (System for Sharing and Exchanging Biodiversity Observations), a framework that helps businesses deposit collecting biodiversity data.



THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN

For Life on Earth

GBF Target 15

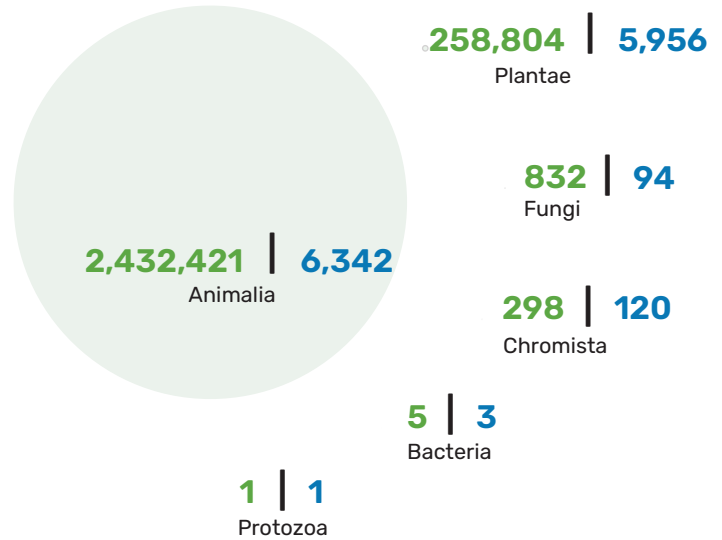
Businesses Assess, Disclose and Reduce Biodiversity-Related Risks and Negative Impacts



Programme success

GBIF France has worked to ensure that the effort invested in DEPOBIO yields returns, shaping the raw records into standardized formats. As a result, data submitted to GBIF by the French private sector has increased fivefold since 2021—nearly all of it from projects collected via the public permitting processes and submitted to DEPOBIO. Many of the records come from impact assessments for renewable energy projects, particularly wind and solar. Unexpected benefits have also emerged, as DEPOBIO has helped improve methods of data collection, with its data having supported the development of a **new standard** for monitoring birds and bats at wind farms.

Taxonomic contributions



records for **12,516** species



Impact

As of March 2024, more than three million records from almost 6,000 datasets have been shared into GBIF from DEPOBIO. While this may comprise a small proportion of available information, the national repository includes records for more than 11,000 species. More importantly, DEPOBIO has increased recent data from 2015 to 2021 by 7 per cent while providing an unexpected boost of a 28 per cent boost in mammal records in France—all of which is now freely and openly available to researchers anywhere in the world.