

**Joint Biodiversity Information Management &
Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme Forum
2016
Programme**

10th - 13th May, Kirstenbosch, Cape Town

**Harmonising biodiversity information generation and sharing
in support of science, policy and decision-making**

Tuesday, 10th May 2016
Colophon Conference Room, CBC Building, SANBI, Cape Town

Day One

Objectives:

1. Understanding the global, regional and national agendas for biodiversity information: what are the major projects / initiatives that have biodiversity information needs?
2. Increasing the understanding of existing regional efforts, ensuring alignment and exploring opportunities to build the Biodiversity Informatics Africa agenda
3. Reconnecting with the National Stakeholders Network and discussing the evolution of programmes, platforms and aspects of data management

Time	Session Title	Presenter
9.00 -9.30	Registration – arrival coffee/tea	
Facilitator: Ms. Kristal Maze		
9.30-10.00	Official Welcome and Introduction by SANBI CEO	Dr. Tanya Abrahamse
10.00-10.30	Opening Address by the Department of Science and Technology	Dr. Yonah Seleti
10.30 - 11.00	Keynote address 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 	Dr. Luthando Dziba
11.00-11.30	Keynote address 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Evolution of the Global Biodiversity Information landscape for improved data fitness and access 	Prof. Bob Scholes (Skype)
11.30-13.00	National Agendas in Support of a Data-Science-Policy Interface <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEA's scientific and evidence needs for policymaking • Biodiversity economy and anticipated data needs • How foundational biodiversity information feeds into Environmental Assessment • National Biodiversity Assessment and data needs <p>Panel Discussion</p>	Mr. Kiruben Naicker Prof. John Donaldson Mr. Jeff Manuel Mr. Andrew Skowno
13.00-14.00	Lunch & Group Photo	

Facilitator: Ms. Carmel Mbizvo		
14.00 – 15.15	<p>Regional Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the Biodiversity Informatics (BI) Africa agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights of the GBIF-Africa network and outcomes of the Africa Rising Conference and the Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) initiative • "Biodiversity and ecosystem services data to support global initiatives: experience from IPBES Southern African Region" <p>Discussion on the regional strategy and priorities for the development of the business case including, the data requirements of the IPBES regional assessment, national and regional contributions and alignments to support the science policy interface</p>	<p>Ms. Fatima Parker-Allie</p> <p>Dr. Benis Egoh</p>
15.15-15.30	Tea/Coffee	
Facilitator: Jeff Manuel		
15.30– 17h00	<p>Biodiversity Information Networks and Platforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global platforms in support of National Agendas (GBIF, IBOL,BHL) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – brief explanation of what these are, – how South Africa contributes and engages, and any – updates from global conferences / strategies <p>Growing the network of Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen science - ISPOT and the data value chain • LepSoc's contribution to foundational biodiversity information • CREW as a citizen science programme to provide foundational biodiversity data for plants 	<p>Ms. Fatima Parker-Allie</p> <p>Prof. Michelle van der Bank</p> <p>Ms. Anne-Lise Fourie</p> <p>Dr. Tony Rebelo</p> <p>Mr. Andrew Morton</p> <p>Mr. Ismail Ebrahim</p>
17.00-18.00	Poster and networking session	Tea Room

Wednesday, 11th May 2016
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Day Two

Objectives:

1. Investigating the FBIP as a funding mechanism to provide foundational biodiversity information to address priority needs.
2. Exploring the details of biodiversity information management
3. Discussing Human Capital Development in biodiversity Informatics

Time	Session Title	Presenter
Facilitator: Michelle Hamer		
8.30-10.30	<p>Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme (FBIP): linking funding priorities with international and national projects and initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBIP funding approach and themes • What are the key elements for successful proposals? • Feedback on panel evaluations – why some proposals win and others lose • Showcase examples of FBIP projects. 	<p>Prof. Michelle Hamer Dr. Lita Pauw</p> <p>Dr. Christina Currie, Prof. Michael Cherry, Prof. Sophie van der Heyden</p>
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee	
Facilitator – Jeff Manuel		
11.00-11.30	<p>Data Management Data standards, data sharing requirements, data sharing agreements, workflows for contributing to biodiversity information systems and platforms – what are these and why do we need them?</p>	Ms. Brenda Daly
11.30-13.00	<p>Data Management and Publishing (break away groups): To develop understanding, identify challenges and make recommendations for improving systems and capacity (1 presenter who will also lead the discussions)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated Publishing Toolkit: Processes and Tools 2. Environmental Metadata Project 3. Biodiversity surveys: specimen and observation data 4. Controlled Vocabulary 	<p>Mr. Fhatani Ranwashe/ Mr. Willem Coetzer</p> <p>Mr. Wim Hugo</p> <p>Prof. Michelle Hamer/ Ms. Carol Poole</p> <p>Dr. Francis Strobbe / Mr. Mutsinda Ramavhunga</p>

13.00-14.00	Lunch	
Parallel sessions		
Facilitator: Fatima Parker-Allie		Open Session
14.00-16.00	<p>Capacity Enhancement</p> <p>Human Capital Development in Biodiversity Information Management</p> <p>5 year strategy for the development of a Centre for BIM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing relevant skills through the development of Curriculum for Biodiversity Information Management • Building robust teams • Improving quality and use of information • Growing an inspired and coordinated network <p>Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA) Invited Speaker - Mr. Botha Kruger</p>	<p>Developing proposals for FBIP projects: an opportunity for networking and establishing collaborations</p>
16.00- 18.00	Garden Tour	
18.00	Dinner at Moyo	

Thursday, 12th May 2016
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Day Three

Objectives:

1. Implementing national systems for biodiversity data management
2. Training sessions for biodiversity data management

Time	Session Title	Presenter
8.15-8.30	Arrival coffee/tea	
Existing data management systems for species data		
	Facilitators: Ms. Rukaya Johaadien / Mr. Willem Coetzer	Facilitator: Ms. Brenda Daly
8.30-9.30	SPECIFY (Animal Data Management System) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPECIFY introduction (overview), the current status and future plans) 	BRAHMS (Plants Data Management System) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are we with BRAHMS, • BRAHMS online
09.30-10.00	Tea/Coffee Break	
10.00-13.00	<p>Capacity Enhancement : Training workshops (3 hours each)</p> <p>(Participants to bring their own laptops for all training sessions)</p> <p>1. Introduction to using Specify This training session will include an overview of Specify and what it can be used for in terms of taxonomic data, specimen data and managing collections; followed by a more in-depth look at using Specify for species pages or species attribute data, including images.</p> <p>2. Data quality control and improvement methods This training session will include a number of sources of data quality problems in specimen / occurrence data including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxonomic – misidentifications and changes in taxonomy; • Inconsistencies in data formatting – ie. spacing, date format, co-ordinate formatting and others • Errors in data capture from specimen labels – incorrect spelling of species names, collectors, locality details etc. • Georeferencing and inaccuracies with this –identifying errors. <p>Furthermore, it will also look at how data quality is checked. How corrections are done and changes tracked, and the resource requirements for quality control and data cleaning with large data.</p>	<p>Mr. Willem Coetzer</p> <p>Ms. Hannelie Snyman, Mr. Alpheus Mothapo and Ms. Michelle Smith</p>

	<p>3. Geo-referencing methods This session will focus on an introduction to Georeferencing, the aspects of georeferencing which include locality types, georeferencing tools, uncertainty in georeferencing, online sources as well as good and bad localities. This training will be a knowledge-based training with the hands on training to be conducted the following day.</p> <p>4. Submitting data to BOLD This session will cover some of the minimum requirements in terms of specimen data and sequence data. This will include, how to submit data, and some of the tools that BOLD offers.</p> <p>5. Camera trap data: managing and archiving these This session will focus on capturing camera trap data into a database and performing analyses with camera trap data. It will also include some discussion on some of the challenges of working with camera trap data.</p>	<p>Mr. Fhatani Ranwashe, Mr. Mutsinda Ramavhunga, Mr. Albe Bosman, Mr. Burgert Muller & Mr. Sherwyn Mack</p> <p>Prof. Michelle van der Bank and Mr. Ronny Kabongo</p> <p>Ms. Zoe Woodgate</p>
13.00-13.15	Key outcomes, reflections, and closure	Mr. Jeff Manuel
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch	

	Facilitator: Dr. Leigh Richards	Facilitator: Prof. Michelle Hamer
14.00-17.00:	Postgraduate Forum	14.00-17.00: Specify Working Group

Friday, 13th May 2016
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Day Four

SANBI-GBIF
Georeferencing Training

SANBI-GBIF will be hosting a Georeferencing training event, to build skills in improving data quality. The training will be presented by SANBI team members Fhatani Ranwashe and Mutsinda Ramavhunga. The training will be co-hosted by Albe Bosman (Iziko Museums), Burgert Muller (National Museum of Bloemfontein) and Sherwyn Mack (Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency). The latter two, have taken forward the train-the-trainers approach, where they have committed to building georeferencing skills in the country after learning from John Wieczorek and his team of experts in previous SANBI-GBIF training offered.

Time	Session Title	Presenters
08.45- 9.00	Arrival coffee/tea	
9.00-16.00	<p>Topics to be covered in the Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to georeferencing • Georeferencing tools • Uncertainty in georeferencing • Online resources overview • Good and bad localities • The Georeferencing calculator • Geolocate and Specify 	Fhatani Ranwashe, Mutsinda Ramavhunga, Burgert Muller, Sherwyn Mack and Albe Bosman

