**ANDORRA**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

No, we are sorry, but for this year is not possible for us to assist to the meeting because these dates we are busy with others research project.

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

Yes: GBIF Andorra

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

The Snow and Mountain Research Center of Andorra (CENMA) takes over the GBIF in Andorra, the Head of Delegation and the Node Manager belong to the staff of CENMA. This year we have still the team and the budget of GBIF-Andorra, but we have not increase our worktime dedicated to the GBIF.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

Presently we are not working on this document. We hope to do it soon.

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

Last March we presented the new National Portal of Andorra based in the Atlas Living Australia, implemented with the total collaboration of GBIF-Spain: [www.gbif.ad](http://www.gbif.ad).

Presently we are working in the improvement of our datasets. We are filling more fields of our datasets and expanding their metadata.

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

As Andorra is a very small country, in the CENMA we have the ability to know all the projects concerning environmental, flora and fauna topics within Andorra. Parts of these work are include onto our GBIF-Andorra datasets.

The weaknesses is related to our limited budget and team dedicated to the GBIF-Andorra.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

This year, with the presentation of the new GBIF-Andorra National Portal, we have explain the main objectives of GBIF to different departments of the Government of Andorra. We hope to increase their implication onto the GBIF and receive more resources for the next few years.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

Yes, except for the last one.

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

The same as the last year: we are working in the project related to the LandCover Cartography, with the objective to study the land cover and land use changes during the last century. This year we also turn on a project about of LandCover Cartography with satellite images. These two projects are of higher interest for Andorra and need a great dedication in working time.

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Last March we presented the new GBIF National Portal from Andorra with the collaboration of the GBIF-Spain. It is based in the technology of the Atlas Living Australia. We are interested in maintain our collaboration with GBIF-Spain in order to improve the portal tools.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

We can only offer our datasets and cartographical knowledge from Andorra.

This year, GBIF-Andorra collaborates jointly with GBIF-Spain to the organization of a conference about biodiversity in Andorra next October. The conference is entitled “Jornadas sobre Información de Biodiversidad y Administraciones Ambientales 2018”.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

We believe that it is important to increase the knowledge about biodiversity software and to improve of the capacities of the GBIF portal.

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

We think it would be very interesting to increase the data information available for the scientific community because in return we can expect more involvement and collaboration from researchers. We have also to increase pictures and taxonomic information of species (both morphological and DNA information, with links to online genetic banks) as they will contribute to a good information concerning the correct taxonomy of a cited species.

We have also to work on the incorporation of new European countries into the GBIF.

**BELGIUM**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

Yes.

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

Yes, Belgium.

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

The Belgian Biodiversity Platform is quite stable with 10 FTEs and a fixed budget secured for the next 3 years. The Belgian GBIF node is one of the Platform activities, with about 3 FTEs. The Platform, a Science Policy Interface funded by the Belgian Science Policy(Belspo) since 2005, is spread over 3 hosting institutes in addition to Belspo. Our team consists of 3 IT experts, 2 Data Officers, 2 Communication Officers and 6 Science Officers and 1 Coordinator, mostly through long term contracts.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

Yes, once, and we are ready to share it.

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

Our main projects currently are:

* [**AntaBIF**](http://www.biodiversity.aq/)(Belspo funded project)  
  Publishing Antarctic biodiversity data
* [**TrIAS**](https://osf.io/7dpgr/) (Belspo funded project)  
  Building an open data-driven framework to support policy on invasive species.
* [**SAFRED**](http://odnature.naturalsciences.be/safred/) (Belspo funded project)  
  Publishing Belgian freshwater biodiversity data
* [**BiodivScen**](http://www.biodiversa.org/1224) (BiodivERsA-Belmount Forum Joint call)   
  Scenarios of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

We also animate three **Communities of Practice** on Ecosystem Services, Invasive Alien Species and Biodiversity & Health/

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

**Strengths**: The Platform is a decentralized structure implemented in two federal institutions and two regional institutions. We do have a stable team of multi- disciplinary scientists and IT experts. We are well known in theScientific/Academic community.

**Weaknesses**: We should increase the involvement of some stakeholders: Environment Ministry, Citizen science initiatives.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

**Opportunities**: Being located at the heart of European Union.

**Threats**: Belgium Policy is under constant evolution driving federal competences to federated entities.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

Yes, at least one.

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

* [**BiodivERsA**](https://www.biodiversa.org/)is a network of national and regional funding organisations promoting pan-European research on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and offering innovative opportunities for the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity
* [**Eklipse**](http://www.eklipse-mechanism.eu/): Developing a mechanism for supporting better decisions on our environment based on the best available knowledge
* **LifeWatch**
* **IPBES**
* **IUCN**

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

[**Bireme**](https://www.gbif.org/project/83336/european-bireme-eu-nodes-in-biodiversity-reporting-mechanisms): Describing EU reporting processes and data flows in five EU countries, investigate how GBIF could facilitate EU reporting and recommend changes to GBIF tools/procedures, if needed.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

We have strong expertise on IAS for which we developed and implement Harmonia+, a first-line risk assessment protocol of potentially invasive alien species. We have strong and stable IT team with good expertise in databases, GIS and web development.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

Exchange of expertise on improving data quality, translations and MOOC...

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

More collaboration around EU legislation such as Birds/Habitats directives, Water Framework directive, Inspire directive, and the new EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive AlienSpecies...This include a stronger involvement in EU reporting data flows and development of regional use-cases of GBIF data with EU policy relevance.

Better communication on a day to day basis, including :

* searchable documents repository
* node staff expertise registry
* chatting platform

**DENMARK**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

* No. Node staff is one person, me, too many things going on in node and at museum, for me to be away from it all.

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

* Yes, Denmark

**If no, please go to question 7.**

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

* Well established but under-staffed. We have existed since the beginning of GBIF and build up a very nice network of providers and users and supporters, IT-infrastructure, portfolio of datasets and projects. But now, we have been gravely reduced in resources and only I, the node manager seem secured. Extremely limited funding of resources for IT-staff and infrastructure. No more networking and dissemination of the developments and usefulness of GBIF and of DanBIF.
* 1 fulltime node manager and data-curator, incl. mobilising data.
* 1 part time project-based person organising the Danish authoritative checklist allearter.dk
* 1-2 ad-hoc project-based IT staff maintaining IPT and servers (and mobilising / normalizing data)

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

* No.

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

* Organising and compiling / curating the Authoritative checklist of species occurring in Denmark ([www.allearter.dk](http://www.allearter.dk)) and now also publishing of the list in chunks of taxon
* groups in GBIF, in progress, see <http://www.gbif.org/dataset/search?publishingCountry=DK&type=CHECKLIST> .
* Collaboration on a national biodiversity portal with Danish Environmental Agency.
* Curation of our datasets in GBIF.
* Mobilisation of datasets in pipeline, including setup of automated publication routine through direct connection to external databases, e.g. see <http://www.gbif.org/dataset/84d26682-f762-11e1-a439-00145eb45e9a>
* Helping data holders and data generators to plan and organize their data to share them in GBIF

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

* S: experience and a good network.
* S: Very good contact with the data owners in Denmark and success in building a national checklist.
* W: Too few people /resources to work beyond the borders of Denmark, i.e. interacting with the European Nodes regions.
* W: Too few people to engage more in helping people use GBIF-data;
* W: Limited ability to plan future work that includes obligations to external partners, because of limited resources.
* W: Lack of human resources to do what we want and should do according to our node mission, vision and strategy.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

* O: Strengthen collaboration on a national biodiversity portal with Danish Environmental Agency.
* T: Continued lack of political support for biodiversity related activities in Denmark = limited funding.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

* Yes, I usually participate and find it very useful.

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

Aarhus University in <https://wiki.neic.no/wiki/Biodiversity>

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

* No.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

* We don’t know specifically what we have to offer, and no extra resources to do it.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

* We don’t know specifically what we expect, but we always feel inspired by the nodes meetings, both regional and global.
* Maybe in the future, collaboration on ALA

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

* We don’t know specifically.

**GERMANY**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

* No. Node staff is one person, me, too many things going on in node and at museum, for me to be away from it all.

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

* Yes, Denmark

**If no, please go to question 7.**

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

* Well established but under-staffed. We have existed since the beginning of GBIF and build up a very nice network of providers and users and supporters, IT-infrastructure, portfolio of datasets and projects. But now, we have been gravely reduced in resources and only I, the node manager seem secured. Extremely limited funding of resources for IT-staff and infrastructure. No more networking and dissemination of the developments and usefulness of GBIF and of DanBIF.
* 1 fulltime node manager and data-curator, incl. mobilising data.
* 1 part time project-based person organising the Danish authoritative checklist allearter.dk
* 1-2 ad-hoc project-based IT staff maintaining IPT and servers (and mobilising / normalizing data)

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

* No.

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

* Organising and compiling / curating the Authoritative checklist of species occurring in Denmark ([www.allearter.dk](http://www.allearter.dk)) and now also publishing of the list in chunks of taxon
* groups in GBIF, in progress, see <http://www.gbif.org/dataset/search?publishingCountry=DK&type=CHECKLIST> .
* Collaboration on a national biodiversity portal with Danish Environmental Agency.
* Curation of our datasets in GBIF.
* Mobilisation of datasets in pipeline, including setup of automated publication routine through direct connection to external databases, e.g. see <http://www.gbif.org/dataset/84d26682-f762-11e1-a439-00145eb45e9a>
* Helping data holders and data generators to plan and organize their data to share them in GBIF

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

* S: experience and a good network.
* S: Very good contact with the data owners in Denmark and success in building a national checklist.
* W: Too few people /resources to work beyond the borders of Denmark, i.e. interacting with the European Nodes regions.
* W: Too few people to engage more in helping people use GBIF-data;
* W: Limited ability to plan future work that includes obligations to external partners, because of limited resources.
* W: Lack of human resources to do what we want and should do according to our node mission, vision and strategy.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

* O: Strengthen collaboration on a national biodiversity portal with Danish Environmental Agency.
* T: Continued lack of political support for biodiversity related activities in Denmark = limited funding.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

* Yes, I usually participate and find it very useful.

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

Aarhus University in <https://wiki.neic.no/wiki/Biodiversity>

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

* No.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

* We don’t know specifically what we have to offer, and no extra resources to do it.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

* We don’t know specifically what we expect, but we always feel inspired by the nodes meetings, both regional and global.
* Maybe in the future, collaboration on ALA

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

* We don’t know specifically.

**LUXEMBURG**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

yes

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant? Yes Musée national d’histoire naturelle, Luxembourg for GBIF Luxembourg.**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

The Natural history’s museum has a facility for natural heritage information which is the national center for biodiversity data and also has the role of GBIF node for Luxembourg

Coordinator: 1d/week (part (max 0.5d/week) of the coordinator’s time goes to GBIF exclusive work such as meetings, and emails and connecting internationally)

Data manager: 2.5 d/week for national facility of natural heritage information and work on data mobilization, management and analysis incl. mapping of data to IPT.

Technical staff: 4 d /week on external contract (~1 d/week for GBIF related work) for national facility of natural heritage information, maintains technical infrastructure, servers including IPT and develops tools for data publication and data quality checks.

Technical infrastructure: Server at Museum for Biocase wrapper and IPT (we migrate to IPT this year), plus webservers for museum’s dataportal data.mnhn.lu with online data entry tool and online data, Recorder central client server database for observation and collection management at the museum

Presence of budget for GBIF travels and maintenaince of technical infrastructure

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

**yes**

Yes we are ready to share our capacity Self-Assessment document. (see attachment)

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

Migration from Biocase wrapper to IPT tool for data connection to GBIF, Implementation of Atlas of Living Luxembourg, data mobilization and integration (ornithology data and local record center), data quality control, online data entry (data.mnhn.lu and inaturalist)

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

**Strengths:** Based and part of natural history museum’s natural heritage facility, which is a permanent structure, the coordinator has a permanent contract at Museum, in contact with digitization projects of largest natural history collections

**Weaknesses:** coordinator has other tasks, can only spend part of his time on GBIF, small team especially the technical and communication skills are missing, difficulty in enlarging team because part of public institution with little flexibility for employing people.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

**Opportunities:** set up national biodiversity platform with other major stakeholders such as ministry of sustainable development and ask for support to increase capacity of team to improve quality of data, mobilization of data, speed, quality and volume of digitization and integration of existing digital ressources and services.

**Threats:**

Insufficient capacity to deal with tasks, insufficient data quality, dissatisfaction of users which may feel discouraged to make use of data.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

Yes whenever possible

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

DISSCO

CETAF

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

GBIF Spain

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

IPT, advice and management tool (thesaurus) for reference lists (taxonomy, locations, …), and for observation and collection data management, online data entry - citizen science.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

Sharing of expertise on use of GBIF related tools and data management issues.

Sharing expertise on improving data quality, publication of data papers, scientific use of data

Sharing expertise and support in implementation of national dataportals

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

Worked well: Collaboration on implementing ALA

Sharing of IPT data related tools

Increase visibility of node work through GBIF portal

Like to see happen: Easy open source toolkit application for implementing national data portals

Environmental data

**NETHERLANDS**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

**Yes**

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

**Yes, the Netherlands**

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

Only paid staff: a Strategic relationships manager and a Programme manager, together 1 fte with some support for ICT and secretariat

We are subsidized on a yearly basis, total budget €550.000,- p.y.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

**Yes, it is available**

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

-To manage and expand a GBIF network in the Netherlands. We are focusing on national history musea, NGO’s with data, universities, institutes.

-To encourage the use of GBIF

-Funding of national and international projects

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

Strengths:

-We have a legal identity (Foundation)

-We operate in a broad national network

-We have new and ambitious staff

-We are becoming more and more known on a national scale

Weaknesses:

-We are understaffed

-We have not a lot of ICT experience (though we have help for this)

-We have limited experience with GBIF

-We are not so much focused on an international development

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

Opportunities: expanding our Dutch network with new partners

Threats:

-The amount of work needed for publishing in GBIF

-There are no good quality indicators in use in the GBIF system

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

**Yes, sometimes, often only afterwards**

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

*There are many small projects.*

*We are involved in:*

*-CoL+*

*-DiSSCo*

*-Publishing holiday records of butterflies from European Countries*

*-Supporting the publication of an European Atlas for Mammals*

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Not much. We have had contact with BHL about future collaboration. And we cooperate with Naturalis Biodiversity Center.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

*-Our Dutch network*

*-Ideas about how to improve quality issues*

-Promotional activities

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

*-Explanation of GBIF history*

*-Explanation of priorities*

*-Learn from each other experiences*

*-Cooperation to influence the use of the GBIF facility*

*-Collaboration for making the agenda for future activities*

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

**-All available biodiversity data is in the GBIF system**

**-To interest non-member countries in using this system**

**-Knowledge of this system by every European biodiversity worker**

**POLAND**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

**Yes, I’m going to be in Tallinn, or rather I would go if I had got a support from the Ministry. So far I have got no decision on that and I cannot say anything for sure.**

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

Yes.

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

It was established a long time ago. The happy period with stable funds ended in 2008 and since that time this is the voluntary action. Our staff could be defined as a node manager (me) and one IT person.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

**Not yet probably, for sure not in this year.**

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

You probably mean active projects that have secured funding. Only recently I learned that the COST action Mobilise, of which I am a secondary proposer got the positive score and is approved for funding.

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

I am sorry to say that nothing has changed since last year so you can look back to my former questionnaires, but OK, let’s do it again quickly. Strengths: good cooperation with a wide local biodiversity network, a wide group of specialists able to supporting potential projects. Weaknesses: (lack of) funding, funding and funding.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

No real opportunities as long as all our project proposals fail. Maybe one promising thing happened lately – the declaration of interest in cooperation from two agencies of environmental protection, which promised to start publishing data to GBIF.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

**Yes. I do whenever I can.**

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

COST action MOBILISE and DiSSCo.

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Anders Telenius gave a remote presentation on his node activities, focusing on BAS project, during a conference I organised for the Polish Biodiversity Information Network (KSIB) in February this year.

The second opportunity was two weeks ago in GBIF data mobilisation workshop in Podgorica, Montenegro, where I participated as a mentor, together with colleagues from Belgium, France, and Norway.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

Probably some skills in data management, cleaning, databases, taxonomy, GIS techniques.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

It would be good to apply together for funding and cooperate on common projects.

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

As above, the strength of GBIF in Europe could and should be better utilised in common initiatives and projects that would generate funds for cooperation and scientific/organisational actions.

**PORTUGAL**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

Yes

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

Yes, GBIF Portugal

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

The protocol between Instituto Superiro de Agronomia of the University of Lisbon (hosting institution of the Node) and Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (funding agency) was established as an extension of the previous one that ended in December 2016. This extension covers the period between 1 jan 2017 and 31 Dec 2018. This protocol has a budget agreed. The terms of the proposed protocol are:

Timeframe: 2017-2018;

Budget includes staff (1 coordinator, 1 staff), informatic infrastructure, training workshops, travels. The Portuguese contribution to GBIF is also included in the budget;

Staff: 2 persons, full time: 1 node manager, 1 project manager.

In 2018, there will be an open call for participation in international scientific networks. The Participation of Portugal in GBIF from 2019 onwards (and funding of the node) will be submitted to this call. But up to now, the call was not open yet. The funding of 2019 will be proposed as an extension of the current protocol.

In 2017, the Node was run with 1 person, paid full time, as Node Manager

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

**Not yet.**

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

* Research Infrastructure PORBIOTA (2014-2019)
* GBIF CESP2016 Agrotraining
* GBIF CESP2017 BIREME
* GBIF CESP2017 International Living Atlases Workshop
* Engaging new publishers, including from the private sector (2016-present)
* Data mobilization and publishing (2016-present)
* Implementation and management of national data portal based on ALA (2014-present)
* Training in Biodiversity Data Publishing and in Specify 6 for biological collections management

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

**Strengths**

* Good institutional support by the funding agency and the host institution.
* Good relationship with main stakeholders.
* Recognition of expertise in biodiversity information management and informatics

**Weakeness**

* Lack of human resources.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

**Opportunities**

* The node is recognised as a key partner in biodiversity information initiatives in Portugal. Also, identified as flagship pilot initiative by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education under the [Open Science](http://www.ciencia-aberta.pt/home) initiative.
* Continuing of implementation of PORBIOTA in 2018, with funds available for human resources and equipment.
* The platform of the GBIF Portugal data portal, based on ALA, will be used by PORBIOTA.
* Recent engagement with the ICNF, the national agency for nature conservation, developed positively in several aspects: data publishing and data use, assessment of EU Directives reporting workflow, data portals. Training workshops already done.

**Threats**

* In-definition in the process of future funding of the node.
* The implementation of PORBIOTA will be time demanding, which might reflect negatively on the time dedicated to the rest of the GBIF community.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

No, due to heavy workload or agenda limitations

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

PORBIOTA implementation

LifeWatch implementation

COST action MOBILISE

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Spain – GBIF CESP2016 – Agrotraining

Belgium, France, Ireland, Netherland, Norway - BIREME project

Several nodes - International Living Atlases Workshop

IPT Data Hosting Service for Angolan institutions

Mentor of BID Mozambique project.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

* Practice in the implementation of ALA in a cloud environment (Openstack).
* Use case on data mobilisation from the private sector
* Training in collections management database (Specify)
* Data publication through GBIF, IPT Data hosting service verified by GBIF, data quality control with OpenRefine;
* template of Service Level Agreement for data hosting in IPT.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

* A time commitment to the European Nodes Workplan by the nodes, with a close follow up of the progress of activities
* Development of the ALA developer community
* Stronger cooperation and common position in the relationship with the main research infrastructures of the field of biodiversity / ecology at the European level

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

* Better lever of networking and cooperation, supported by dedicated funds, for example, from a COST action;
* Raise visibility and influence in other pan-european activities, eg. LifeWatch, EUBON followup, [European Open Science Cloud](http://www.esfri.eu/sites/default/files/u307/10_CMartinez_InfoDay_170117.pdf)
* Help in enlarging GBIF network to new countries

**SPAIN**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

**YES**

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

YES (by now). GBIF Spain

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

**Human Resources:**

Currently, we are five people working at GBIF.ES plus a Node Manager who deals just with administrative matters.

**Technical infrastructure:**

More than 10 servers at IFCA (part of the European Grid Initiative, EGI) to host the Spanish Atlas. We do not pay anything for this service.

Other servers at RJB-CSIC to host the GBIF.ES web page, the e-learning platform, development servers and backups.

Servers to host Natusfera (citizen science platform) hosted at Amazon.

**Financial Resources:**

GBIF Spain is funded by the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness and managed by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) through its Royal Botanic Garden since 2003 where the Node is located.

The budget for the Spanish GBIF Node is 250.000€ per year, 160.000 € must be spent in staff hiring and 90.000 € can be spend in other kind of spending (travels, services, material, etc.). The Node budget is part of the government budget and our contracts’ renewal depends on it.

**Issues:**

Spain does not pay the GBIF membership since 2011. Our HoD promised last year to pay the membership but it didn’t happen yet. So we will become an observer country if we haven’t paid the membership by July 2018 which is quite impossible as the government budget is being currently discussed at the Parliament and it is not likely that it will be approved before June-July as the party in the Government won’t have enough support. It might happen that the government budget for 2018 can be extended to 2019 as it happened in previous years.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

**NO**

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

**Projects running with own funds:**

* Enhance citizen science participation within GBIF.ES by promoting Natusfera (citizen science platform based on iNaturalist) among other activities
* City Nature Challenge
* Collections management software development and users support: Elysia
* Data validation software development and users support: Darwin Test
* Bioinformatics workshops
* Spanish Atlas: new functionalities
  + Store, search and visualize images.
  + Regions module implementation.
  + GBIF Backbone implementation in the ALA data portal
  + Syncing of datasets from the GBIF.ES IPT

**Projects running with external funds:**

* Mentoring with Nodes of Colombia, Chile and Ecuador (CESP Project)
* Usage of the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) and GBIF data portals: how to prepare your data, and reuse them on national and international platforms (Workshops). CESP Project with Canadensys.
* Collaborative learning: Towards the Iberoamerican Network of Citizen Science. CESP Project with the Nodes of Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia and Spain.
* LiquenCity: look for urban lichens and get to know the air quality in your city. Project funded by FECYT (Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness). We will train citizens to register observations of lichens found in Madrid and Barcelona to sensitize the urban population of these two cities about the effects of air pollutants and their impact on health. The observations will be recorded in Natusfera.

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

**Strengths**

* Human resources
* Training programme
* National Data portal
* Users support on data publication and collection management
* Ever growing Spanish publisher community
* Development of Collections management software quite widely used
* Development of Data Validation software
* International collaboration

**Weaknesses**

* Short period contracts

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

**Opportunities**

* Engaging Spanish citizen science groups to share data through GBIF.
* Collaboration with LifeWatch: funds and work flow.
* Closer collaboration with Ministry of Environment and local administrations

**Threats**

* Turning an observer country if the Spanish contribution is not paid by July 2018
* Relation with LifeWatch. They might not count on GBIF.ES.

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

YES

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

1. Regional capacity enhancement to Latin America by establishing Chile’s node. CESP Project. 2017/2018
2. International Living Atlases Workshop. CESP Project. 2017/2018.
3. Course on “Participatory Biodiversity Monitoring: Building Locally, Connecting Globally”. CESP Project. 2017/2018
4. Usage of the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) and GBIF data portals: how to prepare your data, and reuse them on national and international platforms (Workshops). CESP Project 2018/2019.
5. Collaborative learning: Towards the Iberoamerican Network of Citizen Science. CESP Project 2018/2019.
6. International Living Atlases workshop: how to improve data use with Atlas of Living Australia modules. CESP Project 2018/2019.
7. Plinian Core Task Group within TDWG "Interest Group on species Information".
8. Mentors in some of the workshops of the BID programme.
9. LichenCity. Funded by Spanish Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness. 2018/2019.

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Apart from what I already mentioned, we had these other interactions:

* Participation in the Latinamerican GBIF Nodes Meeting presenting the Living Atlases community
* Support from GBIF Australia (Dave Martin) to update the Spanish Atlas
* Support to BID prgramme that it is using the GBIF.ES e-learning platform
* Support to some GBIF providers from Argentina, Peru and Chile to teach them to use Elysia to manage their natural history collections
* Instructor from GBIF Secretariat in our workshop on GBIF data portals
* Instructor from VertNet / University of Buenos Aires in our workshop on GBIF data publication

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

* Free and open source software on natural history collection management ([Elysia](https://www.gbif.es/software/elysia/)) and user support (training, helpdesk, etc.). This software will be soon available in English and Portuguese.
* Free and open source software on data validation ([Darwin Test](https://www.gbif.es/software/darwin-test/)) and users support (training, helpdesk, etc.). Available in Spanish, English and Portuguese
* Citizen science platform ([Natusfera](http://natusfera.gbif.es/)) to record, organize and share living observations (web platform and apps)
* User documentation and user support on data portals based on ALA (http://datos.gbif.es/)
* Use our e-learning platform (http://elearning.gbif.es/)
* Support on workshops’ organization
* Advice and support on data publication, use of IPT, licenses, etc.
* Computer room with 30 PCs for meetings, working groups, workshops, etc.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

Closer communication between the nodes. Get familiar with the strengths of other European Nodes. Support so we do not turn an observer country. Other useful tools to clean data. Advise about LifeWatch cooperation on the national level.

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

**SWITZERLAND**

**Preliminary questions**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

YES

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.** GBIF Switzerland

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

The Swiss Node is well established and recognized. The Federal Office for the Environment has confirmed an ongoing support of the Node’s activities. We are awaiting a new contract for 2019-2022.

Regarding the technical infrastructure, we are using the IT services of the University of Neuchâtel, we moved 2018 into buildings of the University of Neuchâtel.   
Staff: Yves Gonseth (Node manager); Pascal Tschudin (Coordinator), Sofia Wyler (Coordinator SwissBOL), Mahmoud Bouzelboudjen (IT services), François Burri (IT services), scientific committee

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

Not yet (will be done for 2019-2022)

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

GBIF Switzerland acts as aggregator for the Swiss National Biodiversity Data Centers (>10 mio. records) and serves the Swiss Datacenter Nature and Landscape (WSL) for a controlled access by Swiss authorities (Cantons, Confederation) and administrations of protected areas (enforcement).

Important projects are:

- The sharing of all records of the Swiss National Biodiversity Data Centers via GBIF

- The adaptation of the database and data portal to link sequence data, DNA samples and vouchers (Swiss Barcode of Life Initiative)

- The adaptation of the IT infrastructure developed for the National Biodiversity Data Centers to the needs of biocollections and universities, facilitating for Swiss occurrence data the exchange with the corresponding National Data center

- The acquisition of collection metadata and definition of priorities for the scientific revision and data digitization of important collection holdings (national and international level). The program is defined together by GBIF Switzerland, the Swiss Academy of Sciences, the Swiss association of herbaria and natural history museums as well as the Swiss Systematics Society

- Professional data digitization activities in relation with running programs of the Federal Office for the Environment (co-financed by FOEN and museum partners), e.g. saproxylic beetles, wild bees, Syrphidae, endemics

- Data mobilization activities

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

Strengths: Coordination activities, relationships with our partners, contacts with Swiss authorities.

Weaknesses: Communication.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

Opportunity: The support of our data digitization program swisscoll2030 by the Swiss Academy of Sciences and the opportunity to bring the program into the policy 2020-2024 of the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

Coordinator.

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

Data exchange and sharing of species information useful for nature conservation with regional data centers near Switzerland

(Réserves naturelles de France; Région Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, Conservatoire botanique national de Franche-Comté, Besançon; Liechtenstein, Amt für Umwelt & Naturkundliche Sammlung, Triesen; various projects in Northern Italy)  
Data repatriation activities (observado.org, ornitho.ch)

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

No.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

With the publication of the data of Swiss National Biodiversity Data centers a dataset covering a large range of organismal groups.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

A strong commitment to the quality and completeness of captured and shared data. This is a prerequisite for data repatriation.

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

Large scale and regional distribution maps based on reliable occurrence data.

**NATURALIS & SPECIES2000**

**Q0: Are you planning to attend our Regional meeting this year? If not, can you explain why?**

Yes

**Q00: Are you representing a GBIF Participant?**

**If no, please go to question 7.**

Yes

**Part 1: About your Node**

*This part is about the activities at the national or organizational level and the ability to sustain and start new activities.*

**Q1: How established and sustainable is your Node?**

*This refers to the status of human resources (description of current staff, voluntary or paid effort), the technical infrastructure and the financial resources (presence of budget and timeframe), and if there are any issues in relation to turnover or continuity.*

Established and sustainable but very limited human resources and no budget.

**Q2: Did you fill-in the** [**Capacity Self-Assessment for national BIF**](http://www.gbif.org/resource/82277)**?**

*Please let us know if you are ready to share this document. The idea is not compare national nodes/BIF but to have a better regional overview of our capacity needs.*

No (because other associate participant node, not a national BIF)

**Q3: What are the main projects you are working on?**

*Please elaborate on the themes, main stakeholders, time-span, and funding sources of these main projects.*

DiSSCo proposal development (funded by 7 major natural history musea), ICEDIG (EU funded), Catalogue of Life (funded by NLBIF, GBIF, Naturalis), MOBILISE (EU COST), BIREME, EEA/ETC-BD, development of other EU proposals (e.g. Synthesys+).

Stakeholders: CETAF members, universities and research institutes, international bodies like GBIF, EEA, TDWG, RDA.

**Q4: What are the Strengths & Weaknesses of your Node?**

*This question relates to strengths and weaknesses of your node that are under your direct control.*

Strengths: international focus, 2nd vice chair in nodes committee

Weakness: no budget.

**Q5: What are the Opportunities & Threats for your Node?**

*This relates to opportunities you could be using, and threats that are occurring outside your direct control (e.g. competition or opportunity for collaboration with other initiatives, changes in government/organization policies).*

Opportunity: leverage from new ISBI (International Collaboration on Biodiversity Infrastructures) group at Naturalis.

Threat: operating a node gives limited return of investment for Naturalis and SP2000

**Q6: It is somebody of your Node attending GBIF’s Webinars?**

yes

**For observers:**

**Q7: How is your situation regarding the signature of the GBIF MoU?**

*Have discussions started regarding Participation in GBIF? Can you indicate a potential date for the signature of the MOU?*

**Part 2: About Europe as GBIF region**

*This part is about ongoing international collaborations between Nodes & partners, and about the possibility to create new collaborations and agree on the main focus of joint efforts within the region.* **It is for both observers and Participants.**

**Q8: What are the broader projects you are involved in?**

*Please refer to all the international/regional projects you are involved in (also outside the GBIF community).*

DiSSCo proposal development, ICEDIG, Catalogue of Life, MOBILISE, BIREME, Internationalisering in ESFRI context (national project), TDWG, RDA, CETAF ISTC.

**Q9: Did you have concrete collaborations and/or interactions with other GBIF Participant Nodes this year?**

Yes, in the NSG, in the DiSSCo consortium and in the BIREME project.

**Q10: What can you offer to other European Nodes?**

*This question refers to what kind of skills, (technical) knowledge, advice, tools, materials, etc. you could offer to other Nodes?*

Involvement in RDA, TDWG, CETAF, EEA and EU reporting knowledge, overview of EU projects, RIs and their relationships.

**Q11: What do you expect and/or desire from other European Nodes?**

*For example, in terms of international collaborations, knowledge transfer/capacity enhancement, and expansion of GBIF.*

Joint development of strategies to connect node activities with DiSSCo, TDWG, RDA.

**Q12: What should/could we achieve together in Europe ?**

*Please describe what you would like to see happening, and what has been working well in the region so far in your opinion.*

A lot of capacity has been built to share occurrence data. Now it is time to extend to sample-based data and play a supporting role in EU biodiversity status reporting. Extension of responsibilities will strengthen the nodes.