

## BID project kick-off webinar: Latin America and the Caribbean region

BID coordination team | GBIF Secretariat



**GBIF**—the Global Biodiversity Information Facility—  
is an **international network** and **data**  
**infrastructure** aimed at **providing anyone,**  
**anywhere, open access** to data about all types of  
**life on Earth.**



# Vision

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A world in which the best possible biodiversity data underpins research, policy and decisions.



# Mission

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To mobilize the data, skills and technologies needed to make comprehensive biodiversity information freely available for science and decisions addressing biodiversity loss and sustainable development



Datasets ●  
**120,855**

● Hosted portals  
**58**

Country  
Participants ●  
**69**

● Peer-review papers  
using data  
**14,213**

Organizational  
Participants ●  
**42**

● Average records  
downloaded per month (2025)  
**297 billion**

Publishers ●  
**2,644**

● Species  
occurrence records  
**3,649,139,772**



# The BID programme



Funded by  
the European Union

- First launched in 2015
- Focus regions: sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific

# Developing capacities to increase data accessibility

Nurturing robust community of practice within data mobilization and use

# Increased access to knowledge

Mobilization of biodiversity data for research and decision-making



# Objectives and key activities



## Mobilization of biodiversity data

- Call for data mobilization project proposals
- Open hosted data publishing infrastructure

## Biodiversity data use in research and decisions

- Regional meetings
- Promotion of results to international science-policy initiatives

## Robust communities of practice

- Regional support teams
- Training events and open training materials

# Result of the call for proposals in Latin America and the Caribbean

- 17 projects led by institutions in 11 countries in LAC:
  - 9 institutional projects
  - 8 multi-institutional projects
- Over 100 Institutions in 25 countries involved



# Support for project implementation



Funded by  
the European Union



# GBIF National Nodes



- GBIF national nodes support the coordination of national GBIF-related activities and the development of a national network of data publishers and users
- Nodes can provide guidance and best practices for activities related to:
  - Biodiversity data mobilization
  - Capacity development
  - Engagement actions at the institutional/national level

# BID coordination team at GBIF Secretariat



[BID@gbif.org](mailto: BID@gbif.org)

# Regional Support Team



Anabela Plos



Leonardo Buitrago

# BID Caribbean Projects

## Supporting activities

**Leonardo Buitrago**

*Master's Degree in Biology – National University of Colombia  
Consultant in Biodiversity Informatics*

**Anabela Plos**

*PhD Biology – University of La Plata*

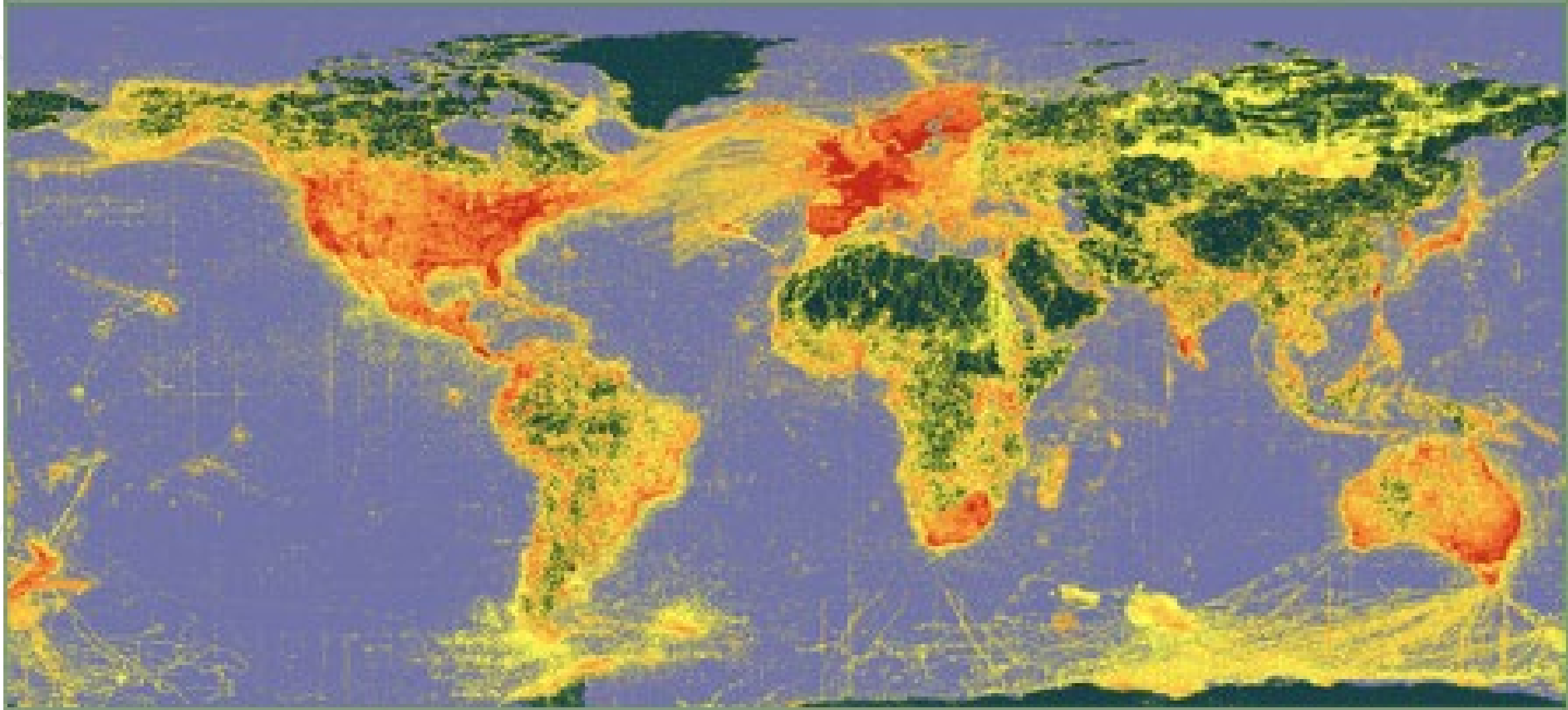
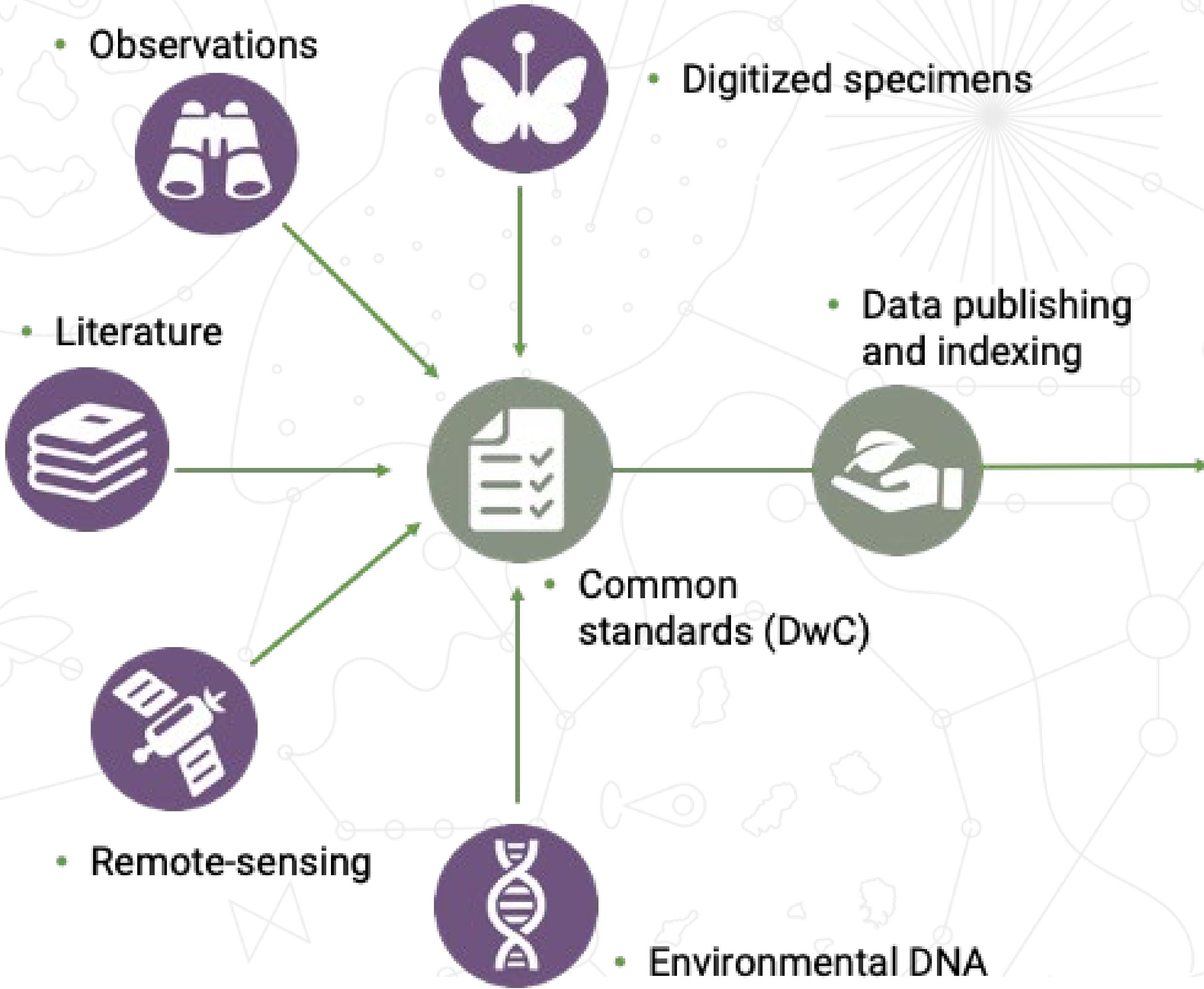
**GBIF Regional Support Team - Latin America and the Caribbean & the Pacific**



*This programme is funded by  
the European Union*

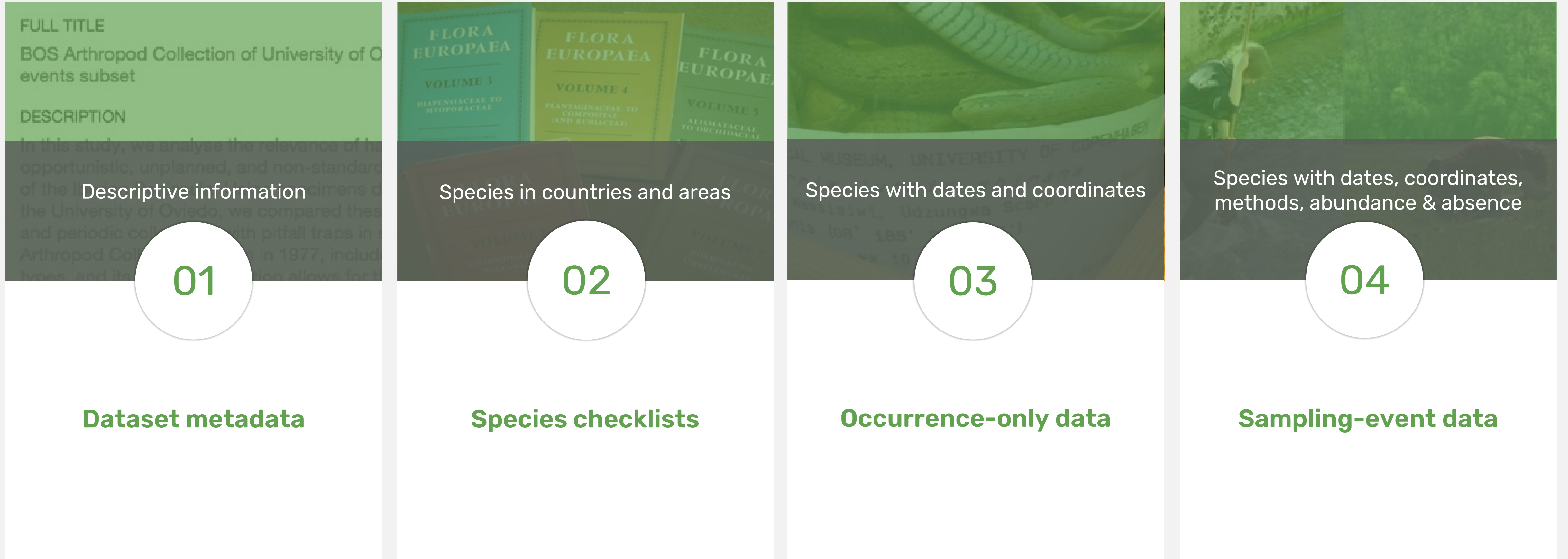


# GBIF - an open biodiversity data platform

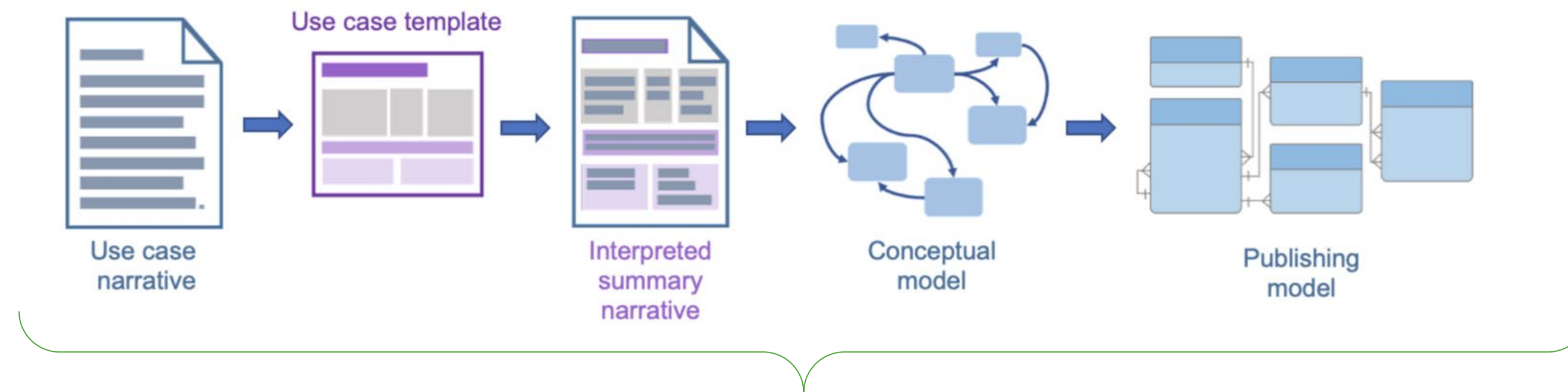


• Data discovery and use

# Data richness levels supported by GBIF



# The New **GBIF** Data Model



<p><small>Diversifying the data model</small></p> <p><b>Exploring interactions data on plant pollination</b></p> <p><small>Webinar</small></p> <p>Evento</p>	<p><small>Diversifying the data model</small></p> <p><b>Exploring eDNA data</b></p> <p><small>Webinar</small></p> <p>Evento</p>	<p><small>Diversifying the data model</small></p> <p><b>Exploring camera-trap data</b></p> <p><small>Webinar</small></p> <p>Evento</p>	<p><small>Diversifying the data model</small></p> <p><b>Exploring collection management systems</b></p> <p><small>Webinar</small></p> <p>Evento</p>
<p><b>New data model: Exploring interactions data on plant pollination</b></p> <p>📅 20 de septiembre de 2023</p> <p>🕒 15:00 - 16:00 CEST</p>	<p><b>New data model: Exploring eDNA data</b></p> <p>📅 8 de junio de 2023</p> <p>🕒 15:00 - 17:00 CEST</p>	<p><b>Exploring camera-trap data</b></p> <p>📅 9 de noviembre de 2022</p> <p>🕒 15:00 - 17:00 CET</p>	<p><b>Exploring Collection Management Systems— Webinar 2: Diversifying the data model</b></p> <p>📅 7 de julio de 2022</p> <p>🕒 15:00 - 16:30 CEST</p>



<https://bit.ly/NewDataModel>



# Supporting Activities



# 1. Technical & Data Quality Support

- Organizations endorsement
- Data standards - Darwin Core mapping
- Controlled vocabularies
- Data quality assessments (taxonomic, geographic)
- IPT publication workflow
- Metadata structuring
- Dataset completeness



## 2. Strategic Guidance & Project implementation



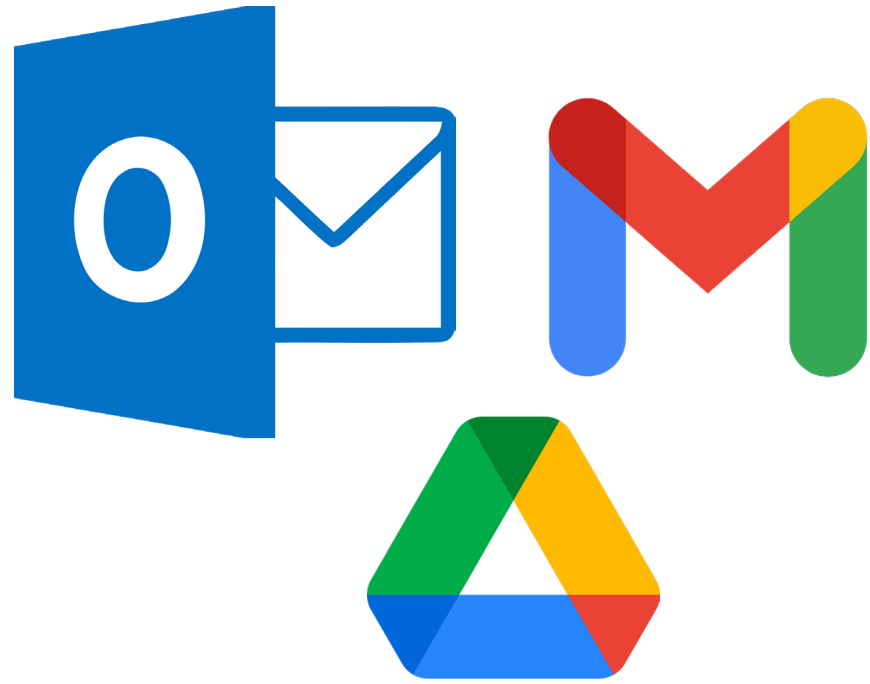
- **Data mobilization roadmap**
- **Stakeholders engagement**
- **Publication sequencing strategies**
- **Infrastructure recommendations**
- **Timeline alignment with BID deliverables**
- **Consistency checks: datasets vs contract**

### 3. Capacity Strengthening & Community Engagement

- Supporting virtual and in-person workshops
- Coordination with Nodes and GBIF Secretariat
- Interoperability with other biodiversity systems and platforms
- Strengthening institutional autonomy



# Communication channels



**Formal Communication**  
High Impact Questions  
Important Docs

- Meeting scheduling
- Sharing important files or documents
- Questions that could have a high impact in the project



**Fast Communication**  
Quick Q&A  
Light docs/files

- Technical questions that could be answered relatively fast
- Sharing transition files or draft documents for a quick review



**Meetings**  
Discussions

- Virtual meetings
- Something that could be resolved faster through a call

# Capacity enhancement



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# Capacity enhancement workshop

- Save the date
- Workshop in Uruguay
- Nominate representative
- Earn the certification
- Disseminate the knowledge

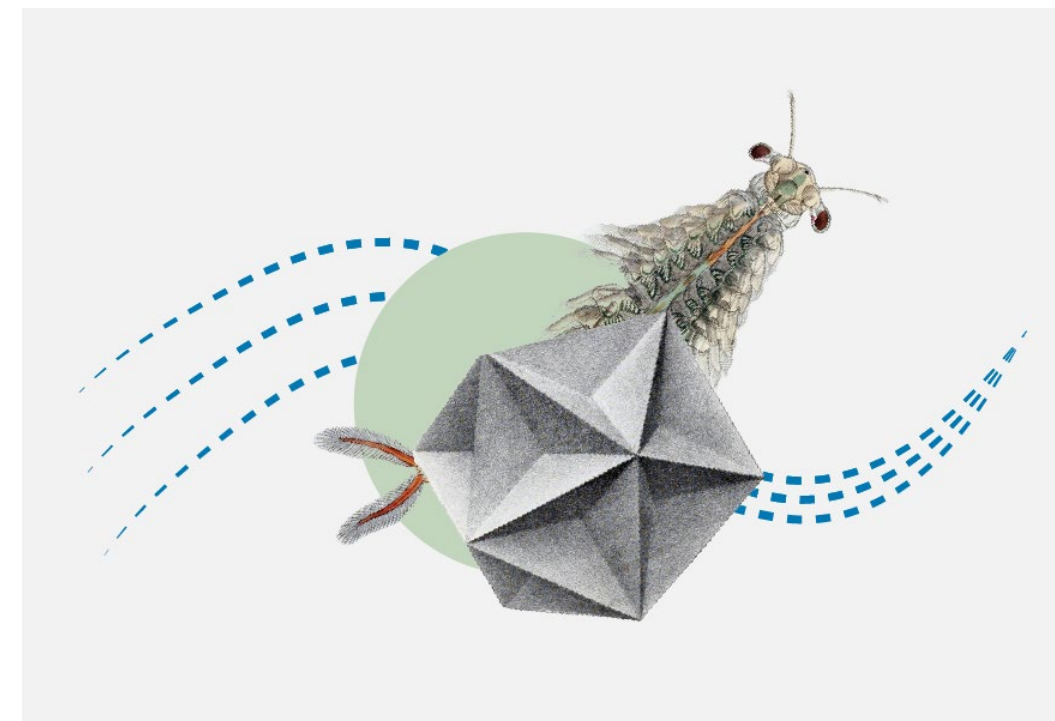


# Biodiversity Data Mobilization Course



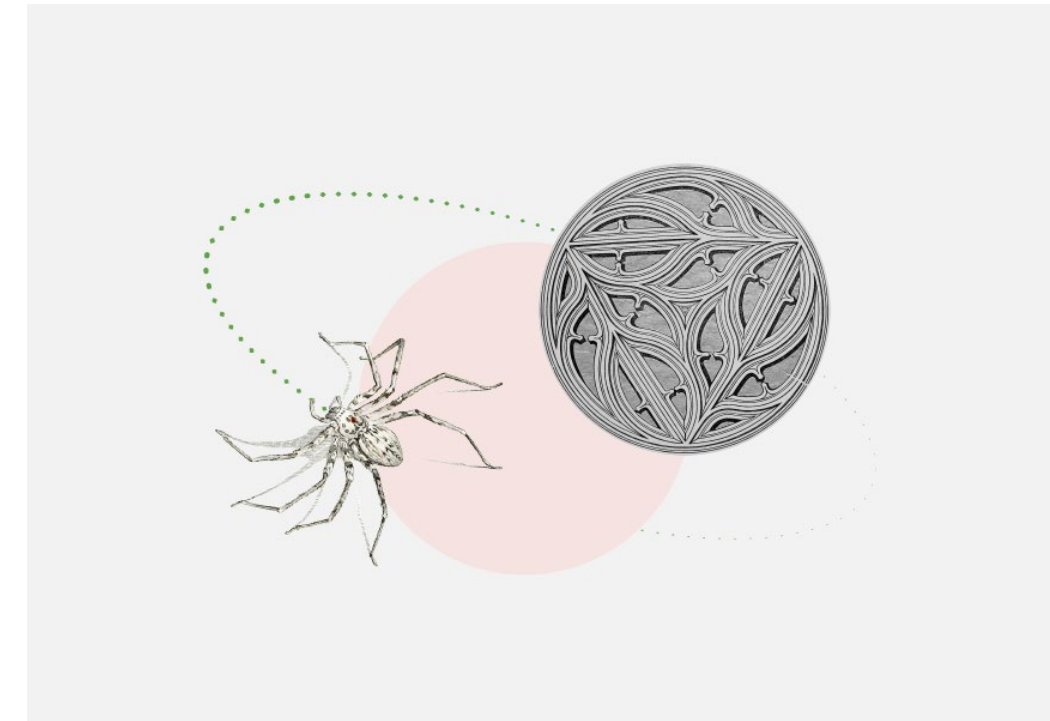
## Introduction to GBIF

- Week 1
- Prerequisite
- Approx 4 hours



## Foundations

- Week 2
- Prerequisite
- Approx 4 hours



## Workshop

- Week 3 (3 days)
- Approx 16.5 hours



## Exercise submission

- Weeks 4-6
- Grading will follow

## Assessment

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Exercises submitted from  
two use cases in English

Exercises scored against  
the course rubric



## Certification

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Overall score 2.5 - 2.9  
earns BASIC badge

Overall score 3.0-4.0  
earns ADVANCED badge

# Training and learning resources

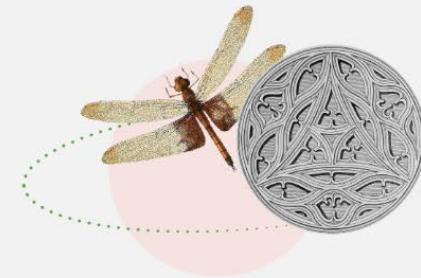


*Phyllodesmium poindimiei* (Risbec, 1928) Observed in Australia by Kelly-Anne Masterman (licensed under CC BY-NC)

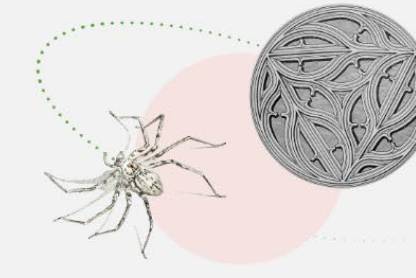
[training.gbif.org](https://training.gbif.org)

## GBIF Training Courses

The GBIF Secretariat, in collaboration with our community of trainers and mentors, develops curricula on biodiversity data mobilization and use. These courses are available online for self-paced use or can be adapted for onsite or virtual workshops. Contact us at [training@gbif.org](mailto:training@gbif.org) with questions.



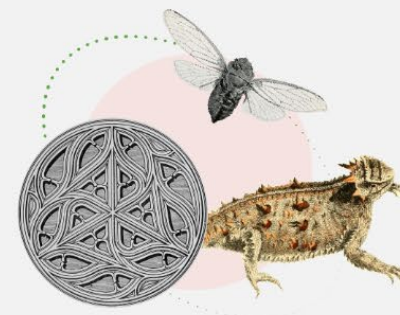
Introduction to GBIF



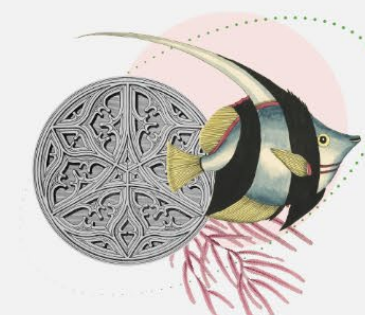
Biodiversity data mobilization



Biodiversity data mobilization project planning



Introduction to using GBIF-mediated data





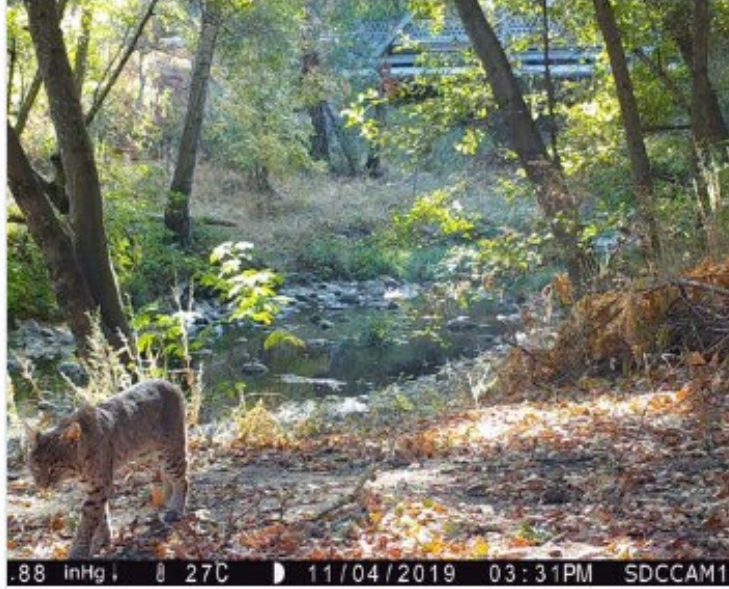



Nodes development



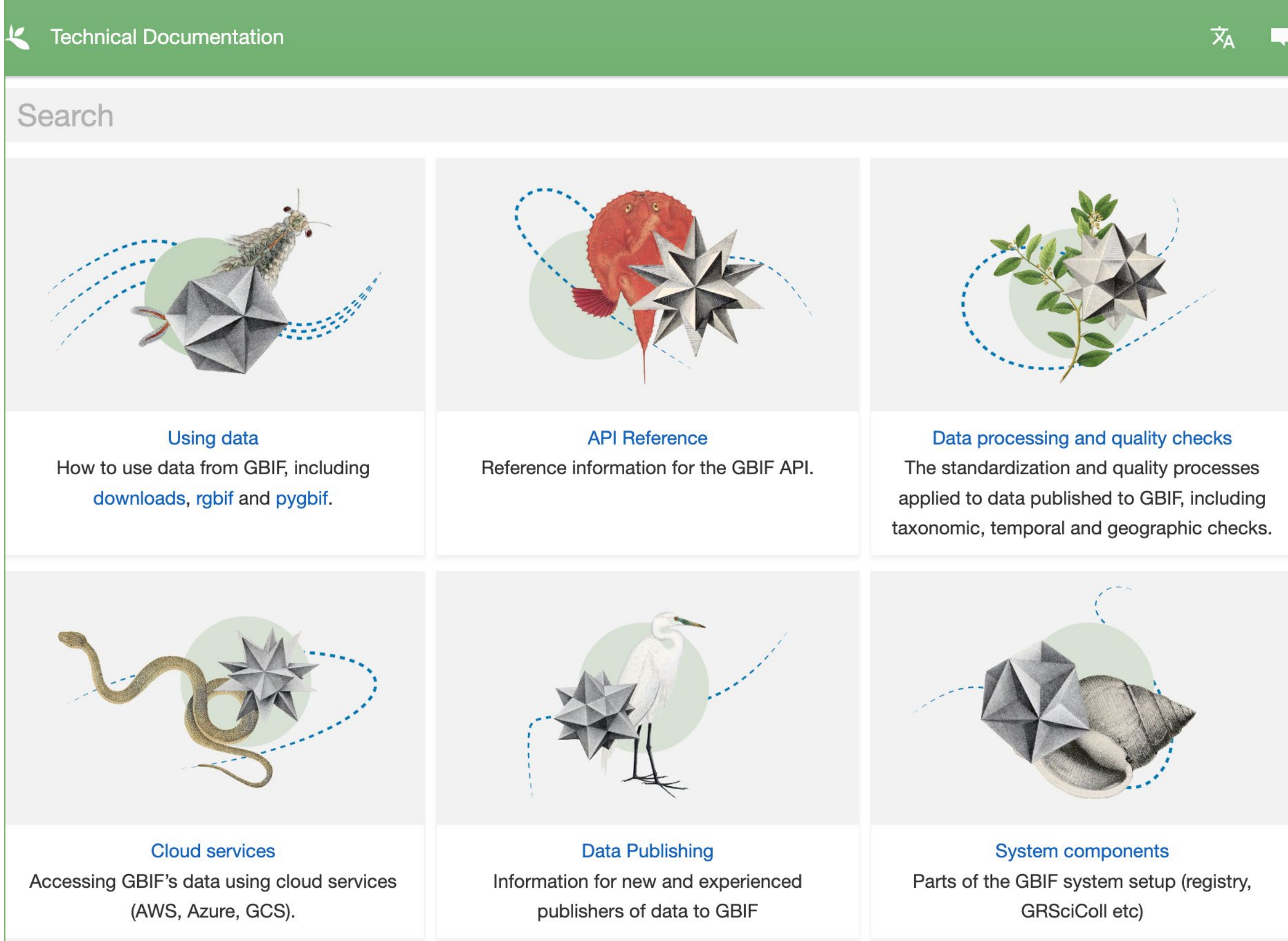
Formal engagement and establishing Participant nodes



# Guides and documentation

 <p>Generalizing Sensitive Species Occurrence Data</p>	 <p>Georeferencing Best Practices</p>	 <p>Georeferencing Calculator Manual</p>
 <p>Georeferencing Quick Reference Guide</p>	 <p>Guide to cleaning biodiversity data with OpenRefine (available in Spanish only)</p>	 <p>Guidance for private companies to become data publishers through GBIF</p>

<https://www.gbif.org/guides>



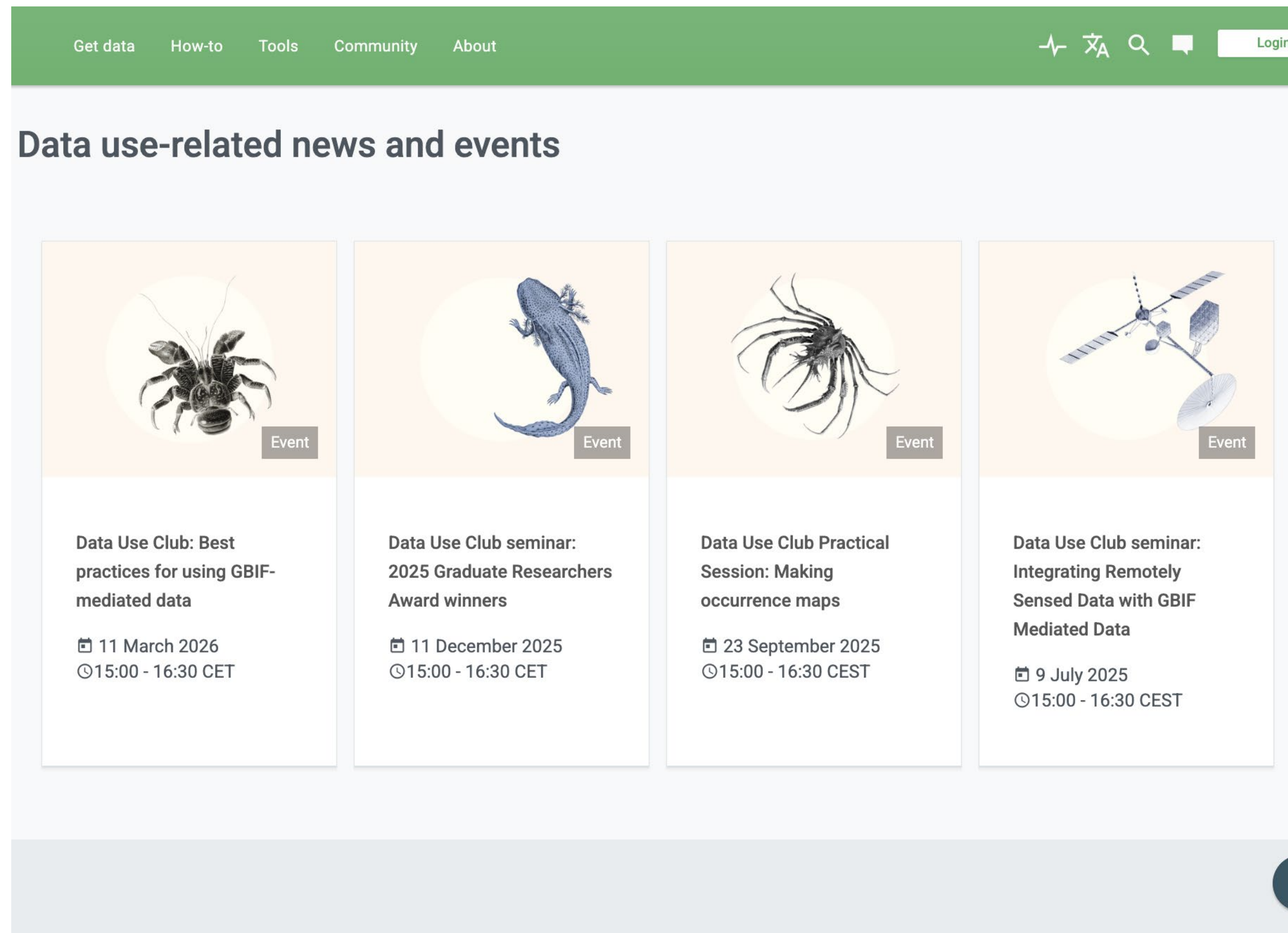
The screenshot shows the 'Technical Documentation' page with a green header and a search bar. Below the search bar are six cards, each with an illustration and a title:

- Using data**: How to use data from GBIF, including downloads, `rgbif` and `pygbif`.
- API Reference**: Reference information for the GBIF API.
- Data processing and quality checks**: The standardization and quality processes applied to data published to GBIF, including taxonomic, temporal and geographic checks.
- Cloud services**: Accessing GBIF's data using cloud services (AWS, Azure, GCS).
- Data Publishing**: Information for new and experienced publishers of data to GBIF.
- System components**: Parts of the GBIF system setup (registry, GRSciColl etc).

<https://techdocs.gbif.org/>



# Data Use Club



The screenshot shows the Data Use Club website with a green navigation bar containing links for 'Get data', 'How-to', 'Tools', 'Community', and 'About'. On the right side of the navigation bar are icons for a home page, a search icon, a magnifying glass, a speech bubble, and a 'Login' button. Below the navigation bar is a section titled 'Data use-related news and events' which displays four event cards. Each card features an illustration (a bee, a salamander, a spider, and a satellite) and provides the event title, date, and time.

Event Title	Date	Time
Data Use Club: Best practices for using GBIF-mediated data	11 March 2026	15:00 - 16:30 CET
Data Use Club seminar: 2025 Graduate Researchers Award winners	11 December 2025	15:00 - 16:30 CET
Data Use Club Practical Session: Making occurrence maps	23 September 2025	15:00 - 16:30 CEST
Data Use Club seminar: Integrating Remotely Sensed Data with GBIF Mediated Data	9 July 2025	15:00 - 16:30 CEST

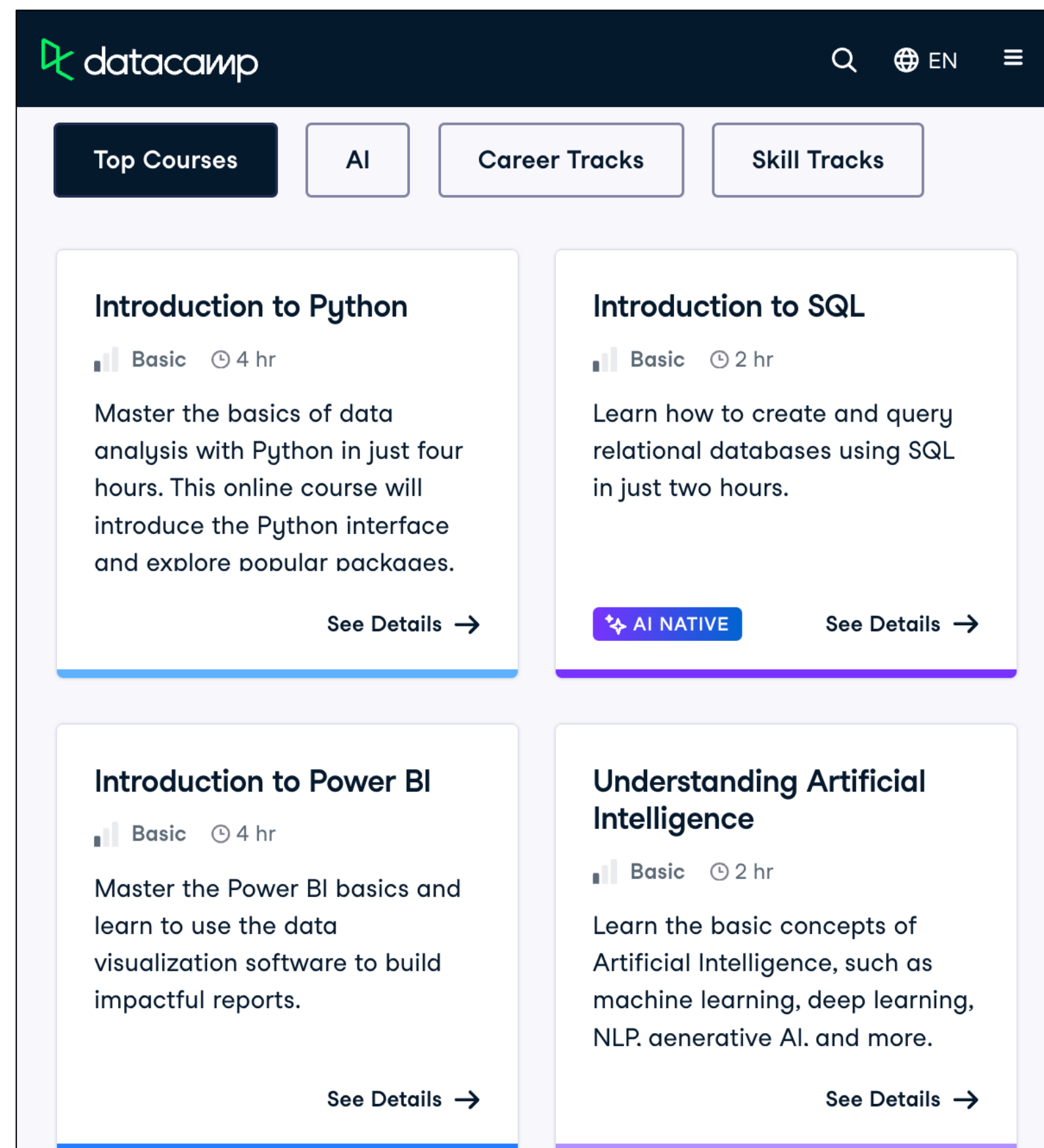
Training seminars

Practical sessions

Skills building and data literacy

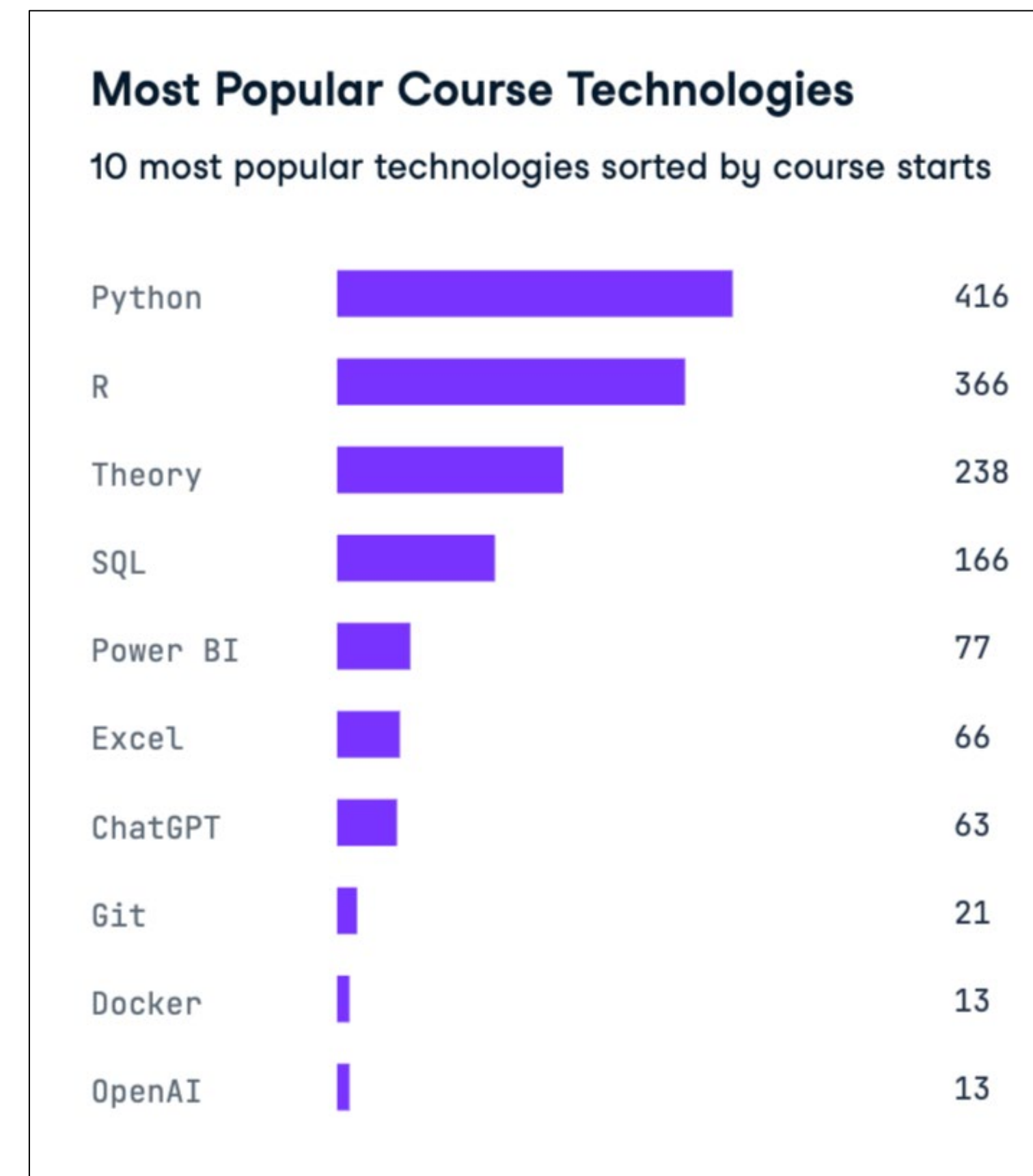


# DataCamp Donates



The screenshot shows the DataCamp website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the DataCamp logo, a search icon, a language selector set to 'EN', and a menu icon. Below the navigation bar, there are four tabs: 'Top Courses' (selected), 'AI', 'Career Tracks', and 'Skill Tracks'. The main content area displays four course cards in a 2x2 grid:

- Introduction to Python**: Basic, 4 hr. Description: Master the basics of data analysis with Python in just four hours. This online course will introduce the Python interface and explore popular packages. Button: See Details →
- Introduction to SQL**: Basic, 2 hr. Description: Learn how to create and query relational databases using SQL in just two hours. Button: AI NATIVE, See Details →
- Introduction to Power BI**: Basic, 4 hr. Description: Master the Power BI basics and learn to use the data visualization software to build impactful reports. Button: See Details →
- Understanding Artificial Intelligence**: Basic, 2 hr. Description: Learn the basic concepts of Artificial Intelligence, such as machine learning, deep learning, NLP, generative AI, and more. Button: See Details →



# Communication and visibility



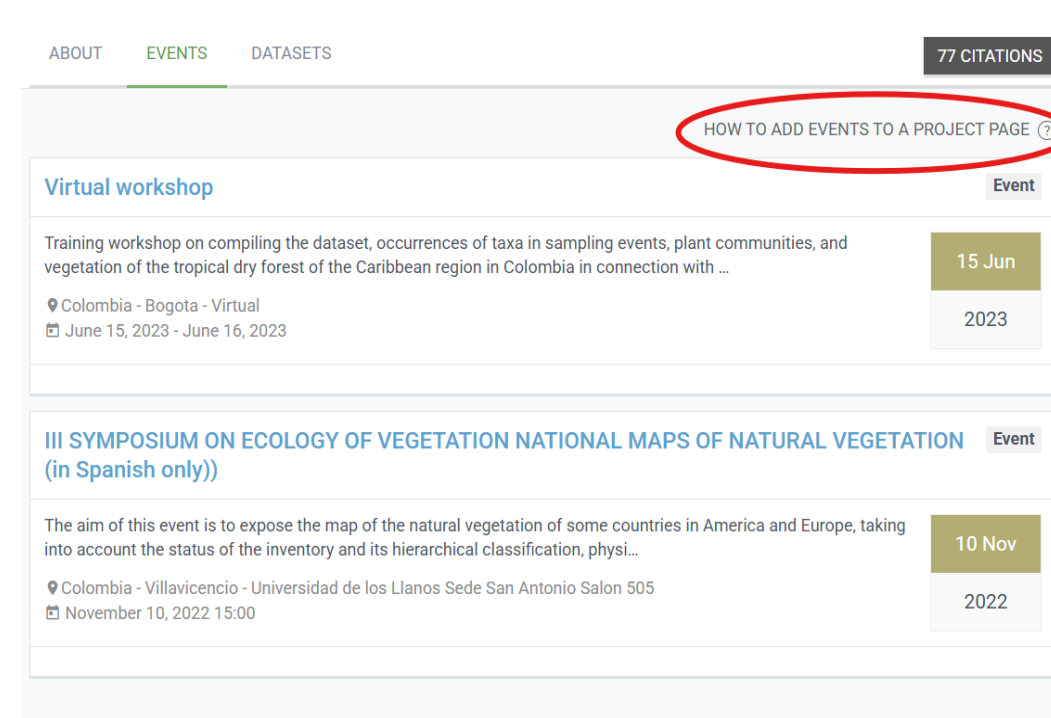
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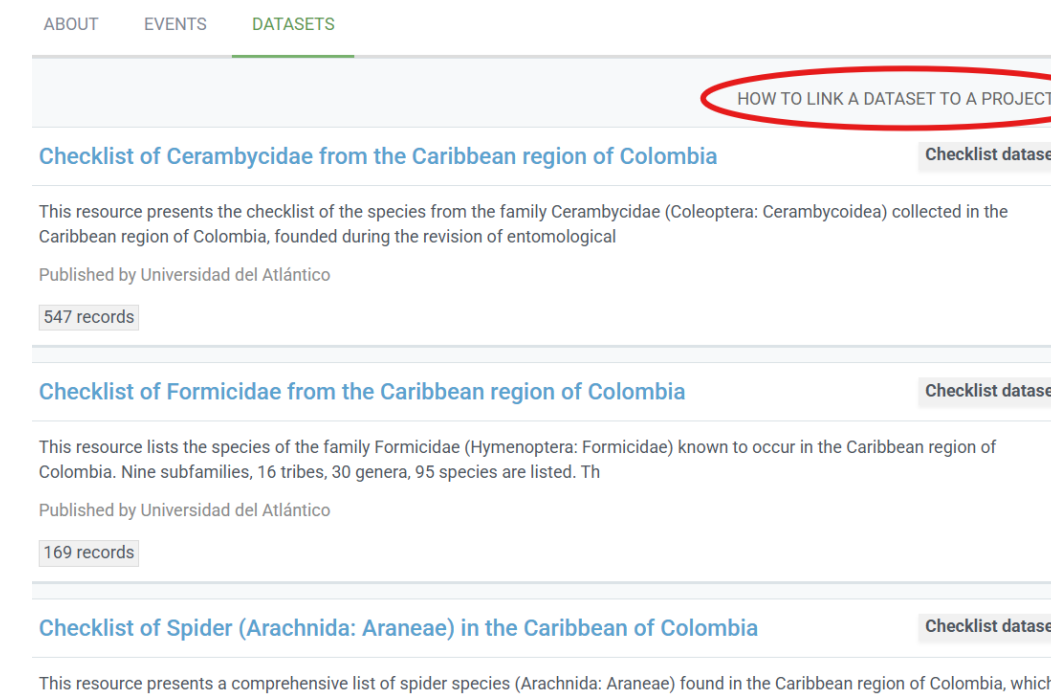
# Project page



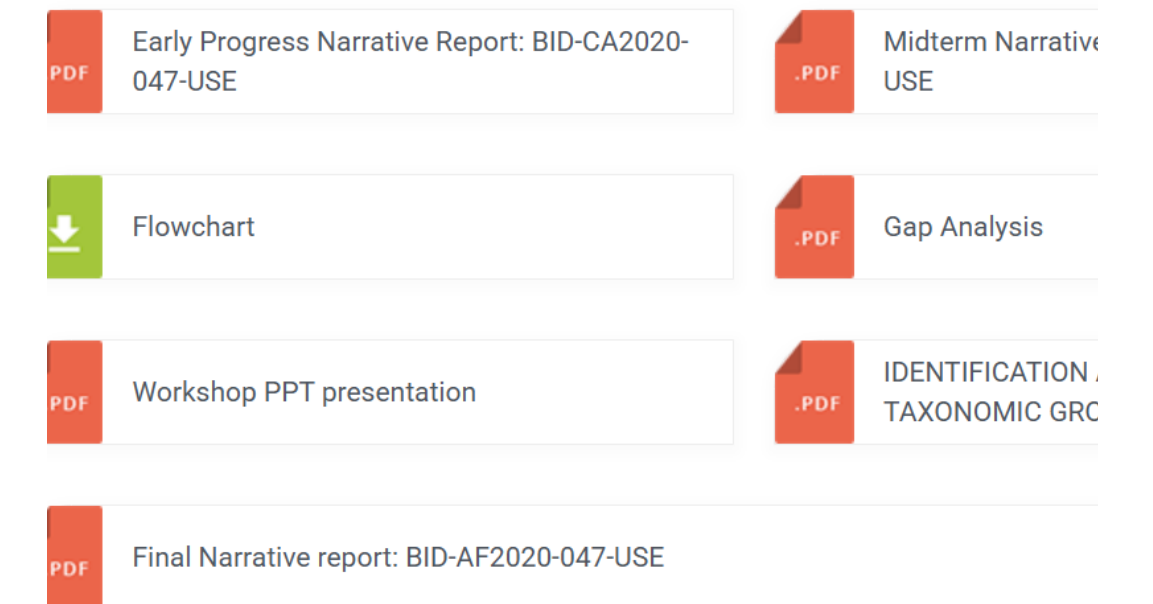
Short description of your project



Events and workshops organized by the projects



Datasets published by the project



News, relevant articles, photos ....

# Communication requirements



Turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*) [observed](#) in Magallanes y Antártica Chilena, Chile by Fabien Terrade ([CC BY-NC 4.0](#))

<https://www.gbif.org/article/4VrIT3i4ZCJPOY8dX9JcQo/bid-communications-guidelines>

BID project communications should acknowledge:

- The funding of the European Union
- GBIF and the BID programme

Social media: Please tag

- LinkedIn: [@gbif](#) and [@european-union](#)
- Facebook: [@gbifnews](#) and [EuropeanCommission](#)
- Mastodon: [@biodiversity.social/@gbif](#)
- Bluesky: [@gbif.org](#) and [@ec.europa.eu](#).

# Reporting requirements and milestones



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# General considerations

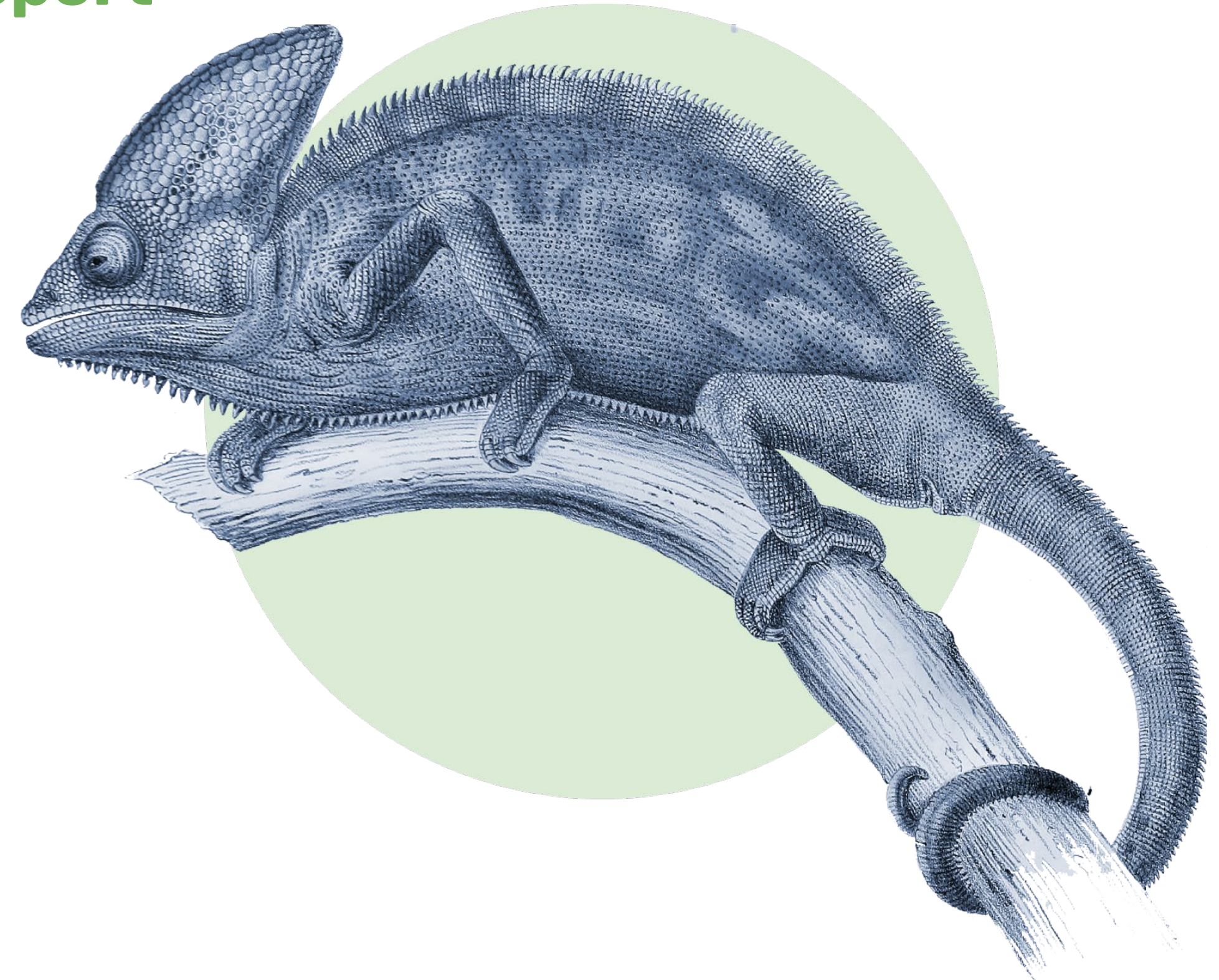
- Deadlines
- Milestones
- Reporting



# Mandatory milestones

## Mandatory milestones attached to the midterm report

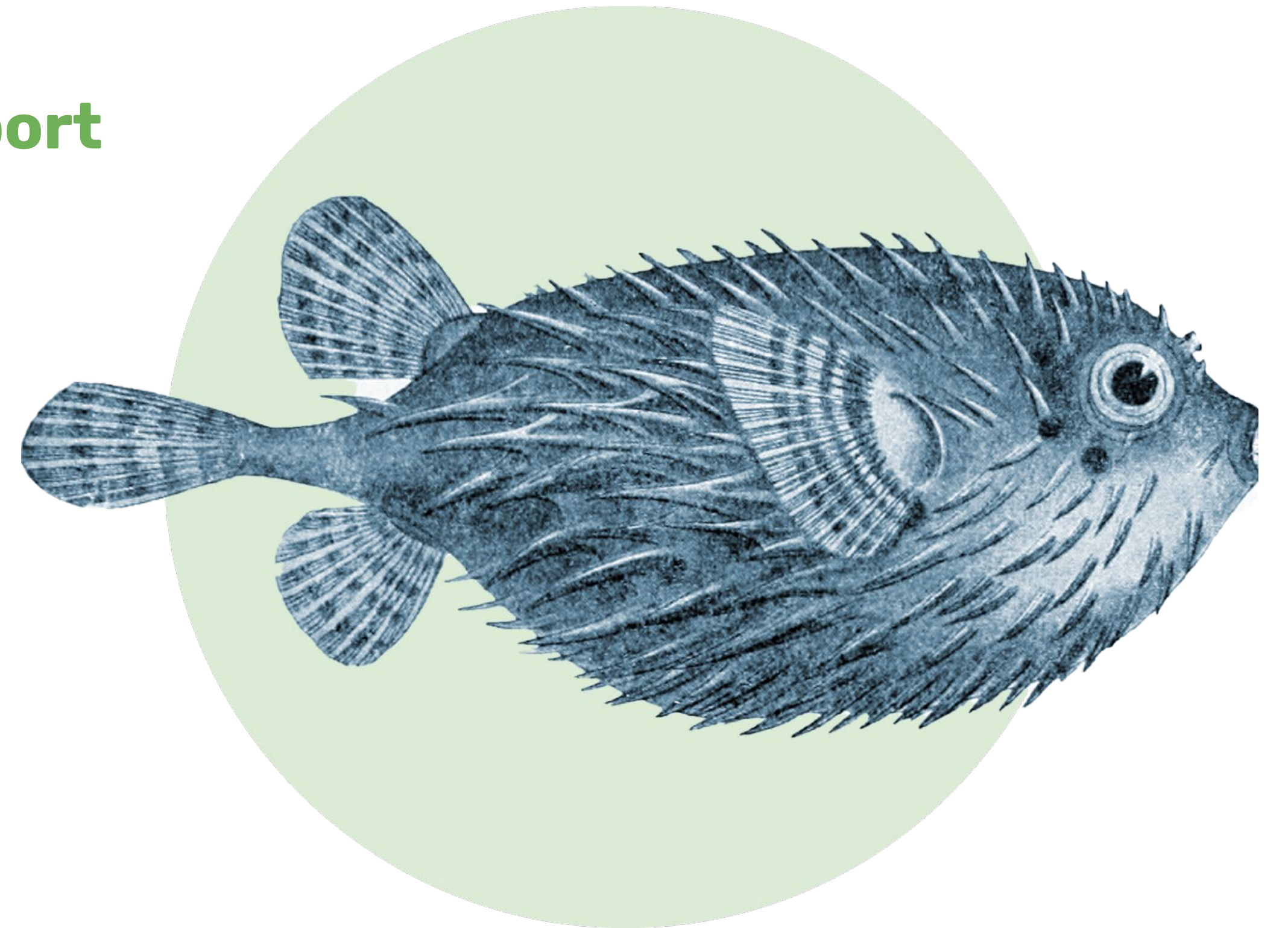
- 1. Publishing of at least one data set**
- 2. Certification of the BID capacity enchantment workshop**



# Mandatory milestones

## Mandatory milestones attached to the final report

- 1. Completion of all activities**
- 2. Production of all deliverables.**



# Mandatory indicators

The project will use the **mandatory capacity development indicators** below to assess its impact:

## **Mandatory Binary indicators (Yes/No):**

Data mobilized contribute to relevant goals and targets of GBF

Data mobilized support policy-relevant information products

## **Mandatory Quantitative indicators:**

Number of institutions represented in events organized by the project

Number of people trained by the project

Number of replication workshops organized by the project

Number of georeferenced species occurrence records published by the project



# Reporting

- Reports available in the GBIF Grants portal
- Payment schedule



# Reports

During the project implementation period, you will be required to submit **two reports**:

- **Midterm** narrative and financial progress reports
- **Final** narrative and financial reports



# Reports

The reports will become available in the GBIF Grants portal at least **30 days before the reporting deadline**. You will receive an email from the GBIF Secretariat, informing you that the reports are available for your convenience.



# Schedule of payments

The GBIF Secretariat agrees to make **three (3) payments:**

1. The first instalment, equivalent to **60% of the total**, will be disbursed after the countersignature of the Grant Agreement.
2. The second instalment, equivalent to **30% of the total**, will be disbursed after
  - approval by the GBIF Secretariat of the **midterm narrative and financial reports,**and
  - that the financial report shows that at least **80% of the sum** of the previous instalment has been spent.
3. The third and final instalment, equivalent to up to **10% of the total**, will be disbursed after approval by the GBIF Secretariat of the final narrative and financial reports.



# Checklist of key recommendations

- ✓ Consider milestones and reporting deadlines when planning the project activities
- ✓ Last instalment must be pre-financed
- ✓ Reach out as soon as possible if in doubt or experiencing challenges
- ✓ Important contacts:

[bid@gbif.org](mailto:bid@gbif.org) or [lac\\_support@gbif.org](mailto:lac_support@gbif.org)



# Thank you!



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