GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Updates on the GBIF Network – Africa nodes meeting

Melianie Raymond, Maheva Bagard Laursen, Sanja Novakovikj | Community & Capacity team, GBIF Secretariat

GBIF Africa regional nodes meeting 2024, Harare, Zimbabwe

What is a GBIF Participant node?

A team designated by a Participant country or organization

to coordinate a network of people and institutions that produce, manage and use biodiversity data
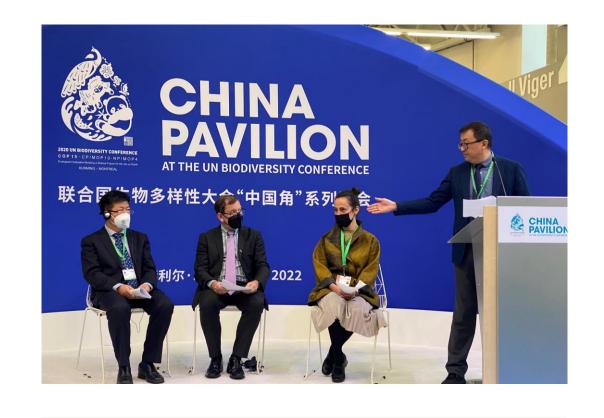
collectively building an infrastructure for delivering biodiversity information
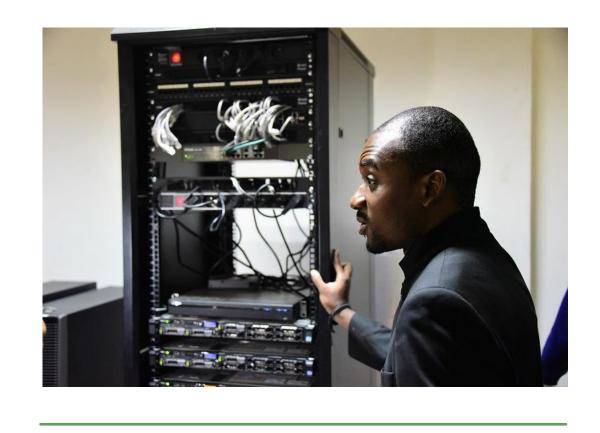
Nodes provide services in four key areas

Support for science and research

Improving biodiversity evidence for scientific research and understanding

Support for policy and decisions

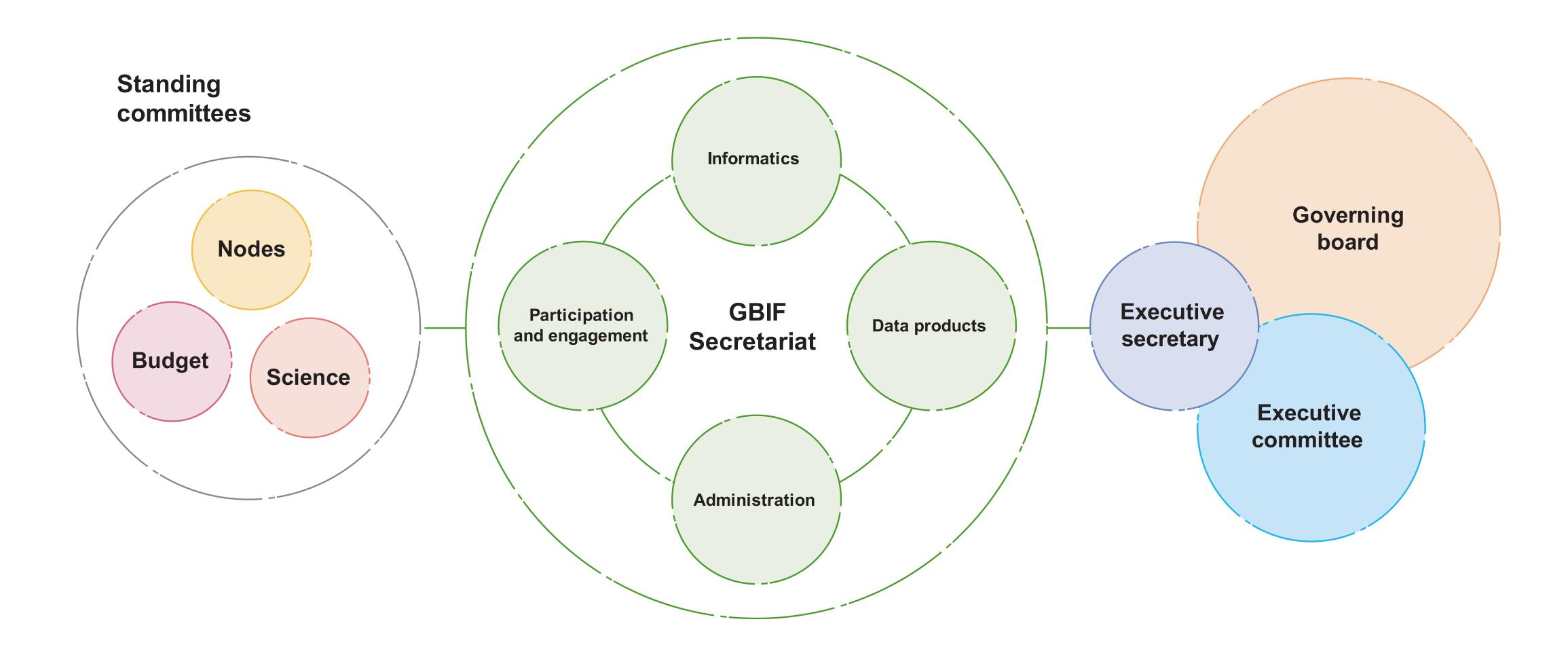*Developing partnerships that benefit policy and society*

Engaging and enabling the community

Developing the GBIF network to meet future needs and challenges

Technical services for biodiversity data management

Maintain and evolve infrastructure to advance biodiversity-related knowledge

Standing committees

Nodes

Budget

Science

GBIF Secretariat

Informatics

Participation and engagement

Data products

Administration

Executive secretary

Governing board

Executive committee

Key planning documents for GBIF and the nodes

GBIF Strategic Framework

2023-2027

GBIF Work Programme

2024

2025

Nodes Implementation Plan

2024

2025 – under development!

Strategic Objectives

- Priorities to guide the global efforts of the nodes

- Framework for discussions at regional nodes meetings

Participant Plans

- Annual opportunity for Participants to include 'indicative tasks' for the next year's work programme

https://docs.gbif.org/nodes-implementation-2024/en/

GBIF

Science & Research 1

Policy & Partnerships 2

2023 – 2027
**GBIF
Priority
Areas**

4 Infrastructure & Data Products

3 Community & Capacity

GBIF

Science & Research

1

2

20**23** – 20**27**

GBIF
Priority
Areas

4

3

GBIF
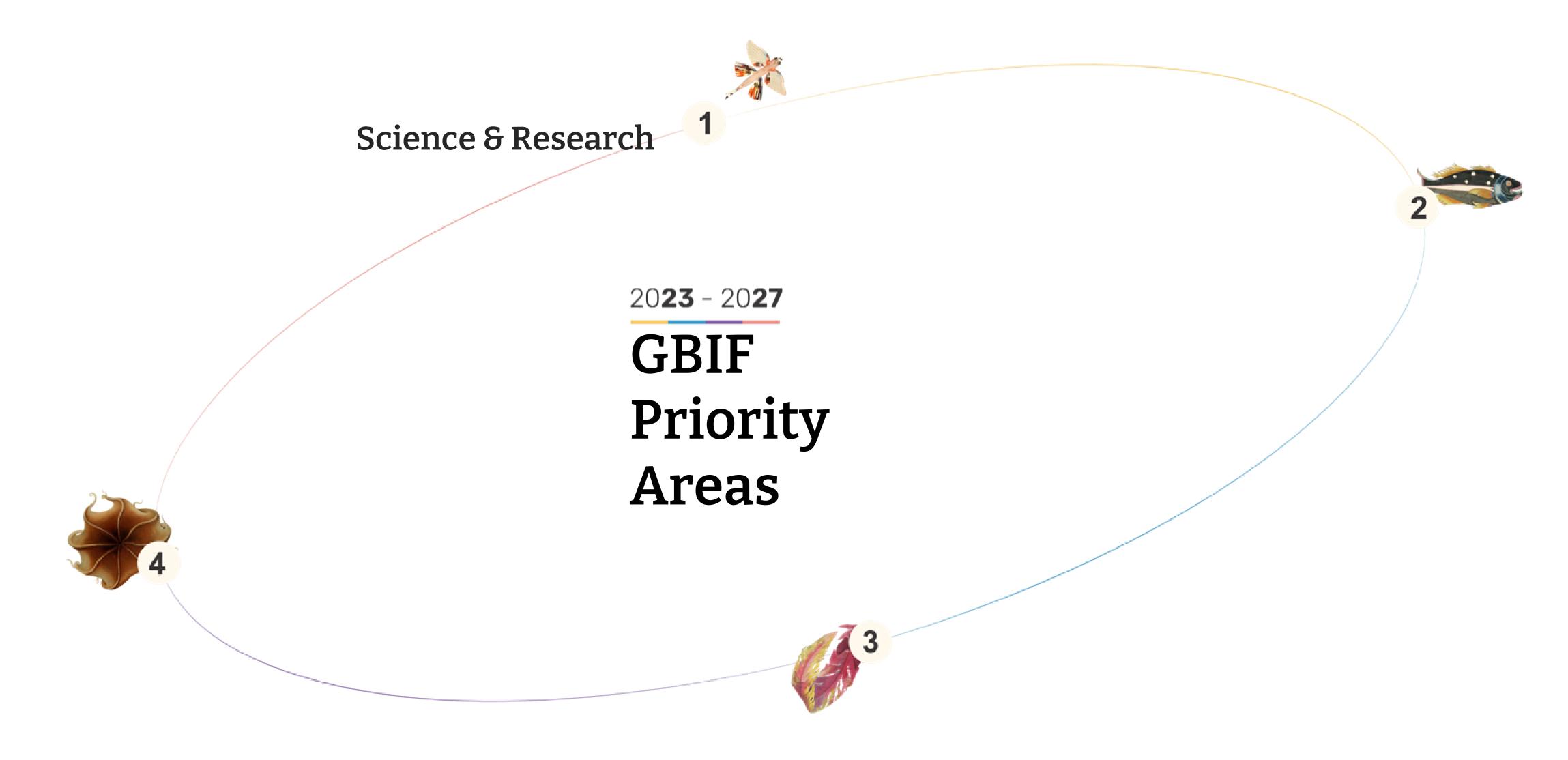
Next session: 5 December 2024

Data Use Club

gbif.org/data-use-club

Ongoing OBIS engagement

- Following the five-year agreement signed in 2020

- Joint GBIF-OBIS meeting in Jan 2024

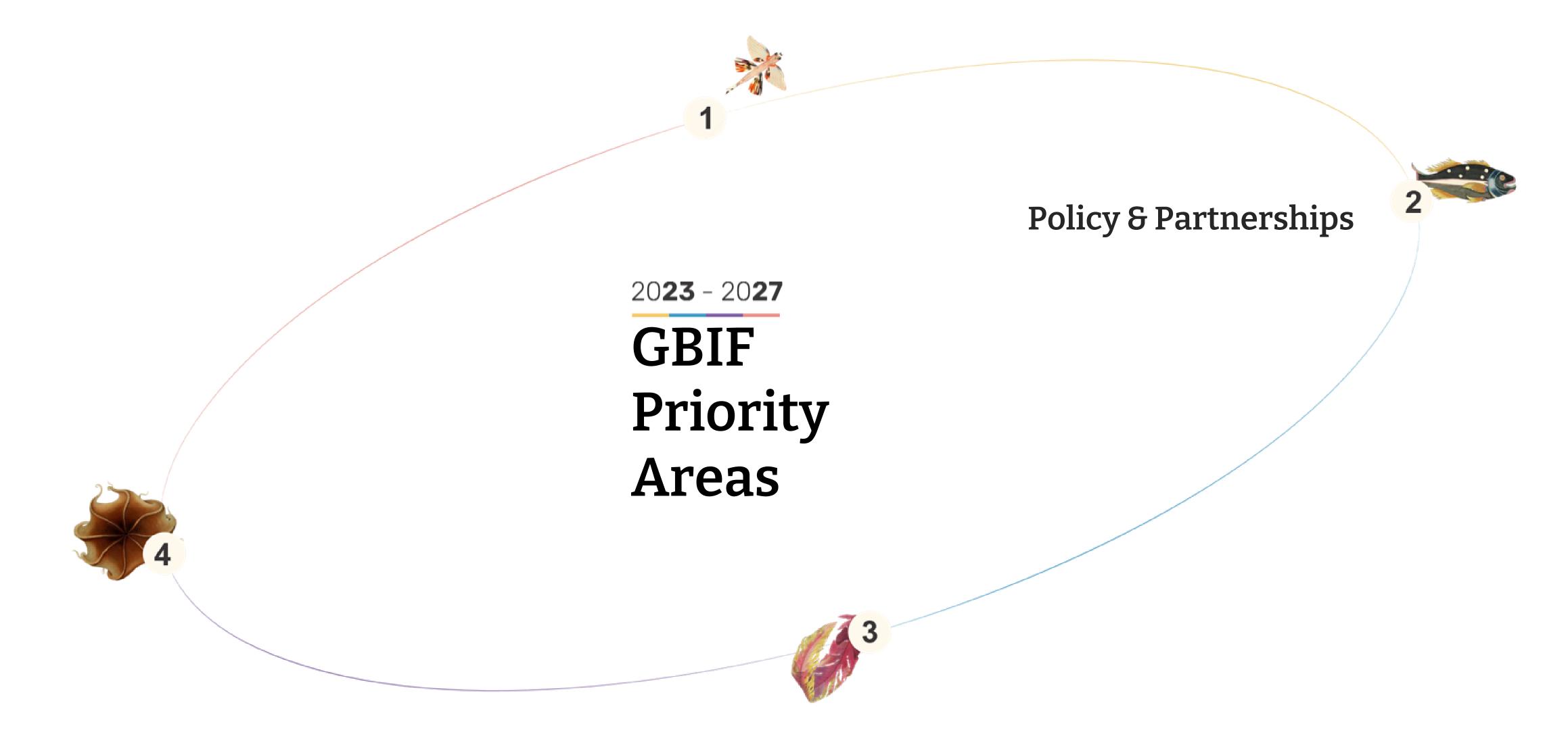- GBIF and OBIS endorsed joint strategy and action plan for marine biodiversity data within UN Ocean decade

GBIF Metabarcoding Data Programme

- Pilot launched with focus on nodes in October 2024

- Opportunity to apply for a hosted installation of the MDT
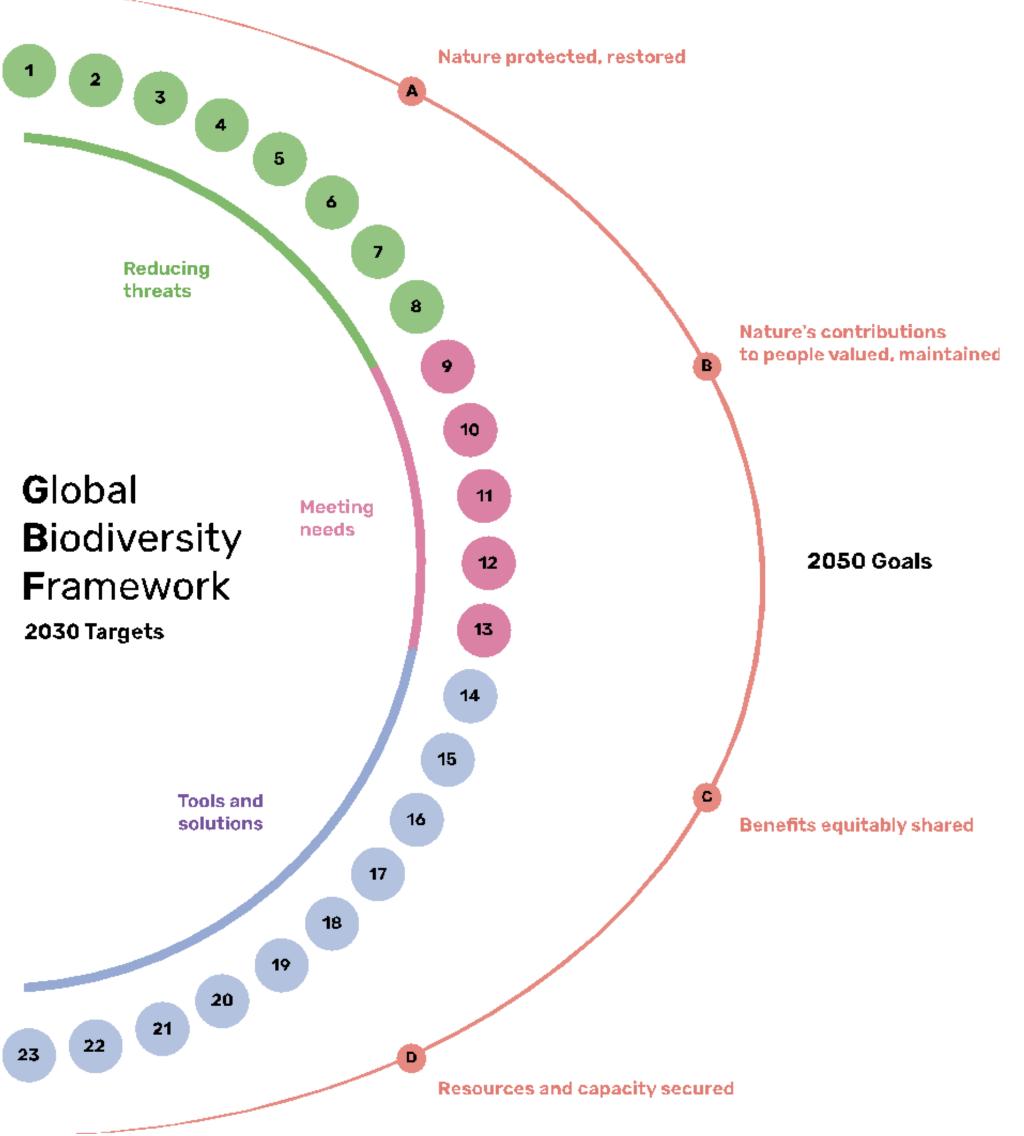
- Community calls

GBIF

2023 – 2027

GBIF
Priority
Areas

Policy & Partnerships

1

2

3

4

The Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF):
Targets to achieve by 2030 Goals for 2050

GBIF's primary data as foundation for implementing and monitoring

https://www.cbd.int/gbf/

THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth

Global Biodiversity Framework
2030 Targets

Reducing threats

Meeting needs

Tools and solutions

Nature protected, restored — A

Nature's contributions to people valued, maintained — B

2050 Goals

Benefits equitably shared — C

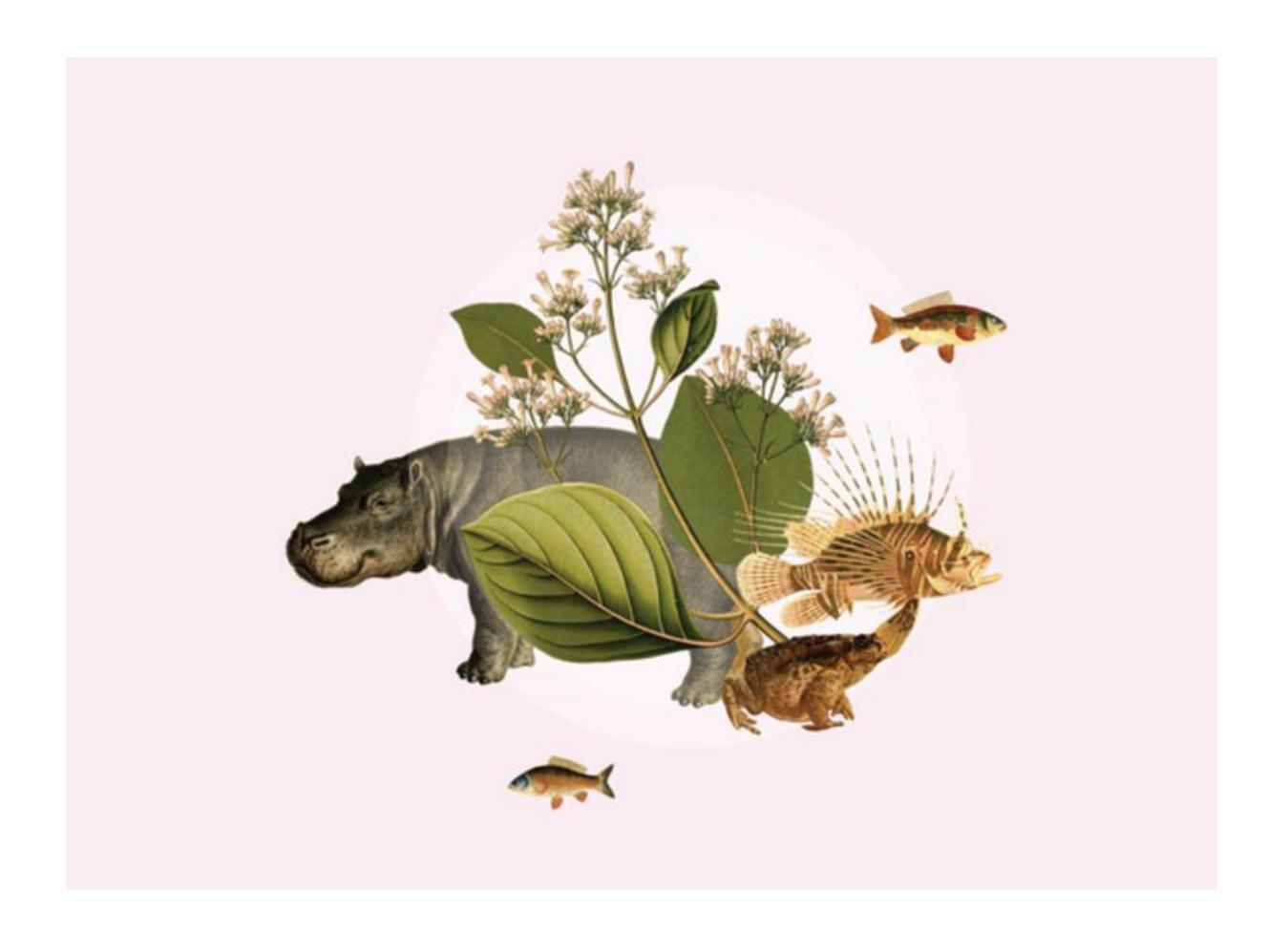Resources and capacity secured — D

Data4Nature

- Co-developed by GBIF and the Agence Française de Développement

- Encourage MDBs to **share data** and **fill data gaps**

- Incorporates data-sharing clauses for projects within **standard contracts and procedures**

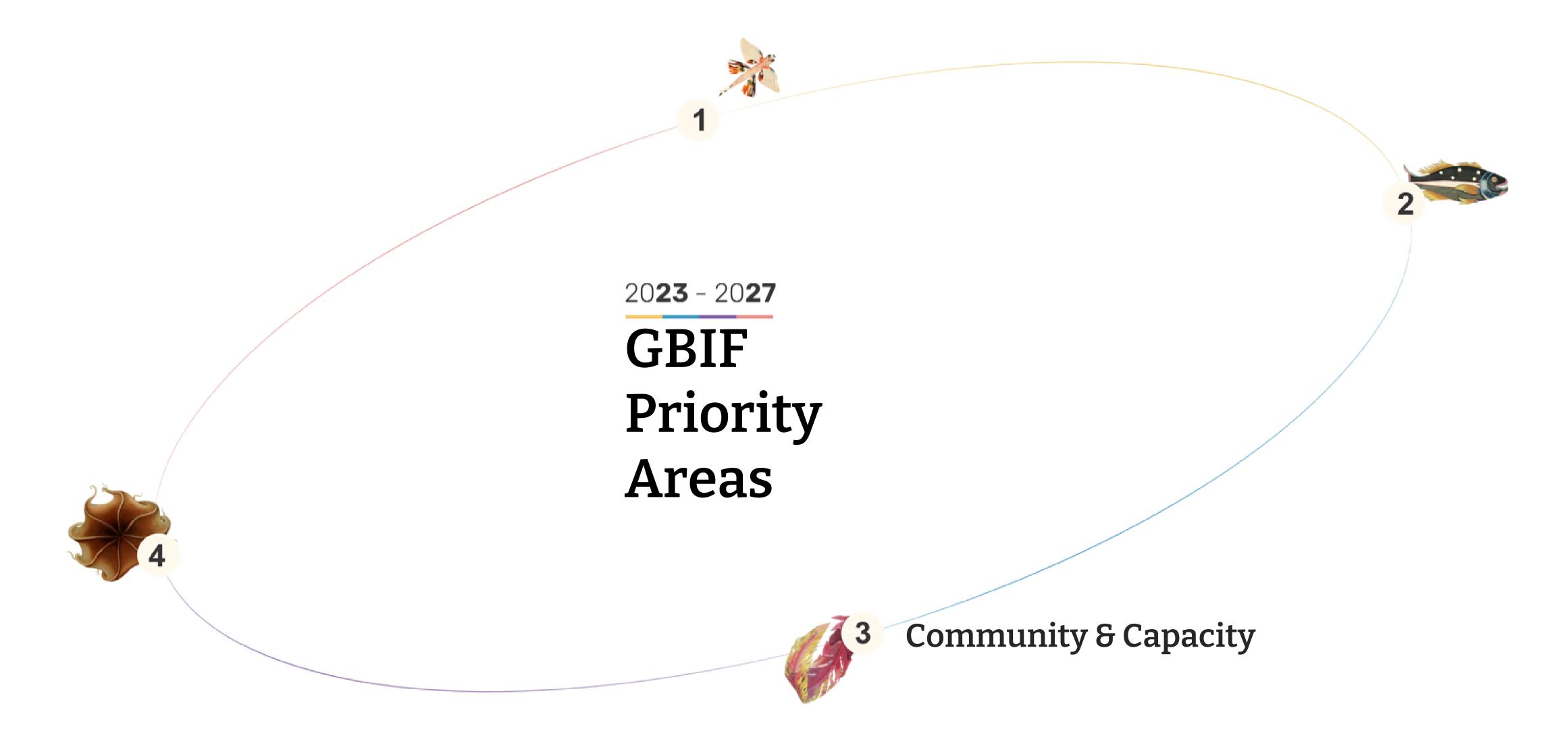- Supports implementation of **IFC PF6**

https://www.gbif.org/data4nature

Task group on Invasive Alien Species

- Initiated in Sept 2024

- 12 members, chaired by Melodie McGeoch

- Recommendations on how GBIF fill critical knowledge and data gaps on IAS

- Guidance in GBIF's support of various international policy fora, including national reporting on Target 6 of the GBF
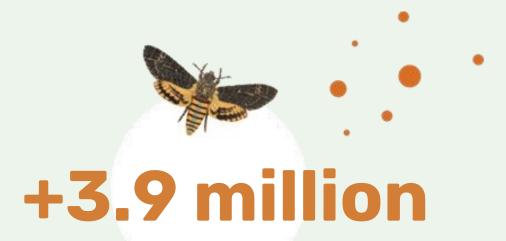
GBIF

2023 – 20**27**
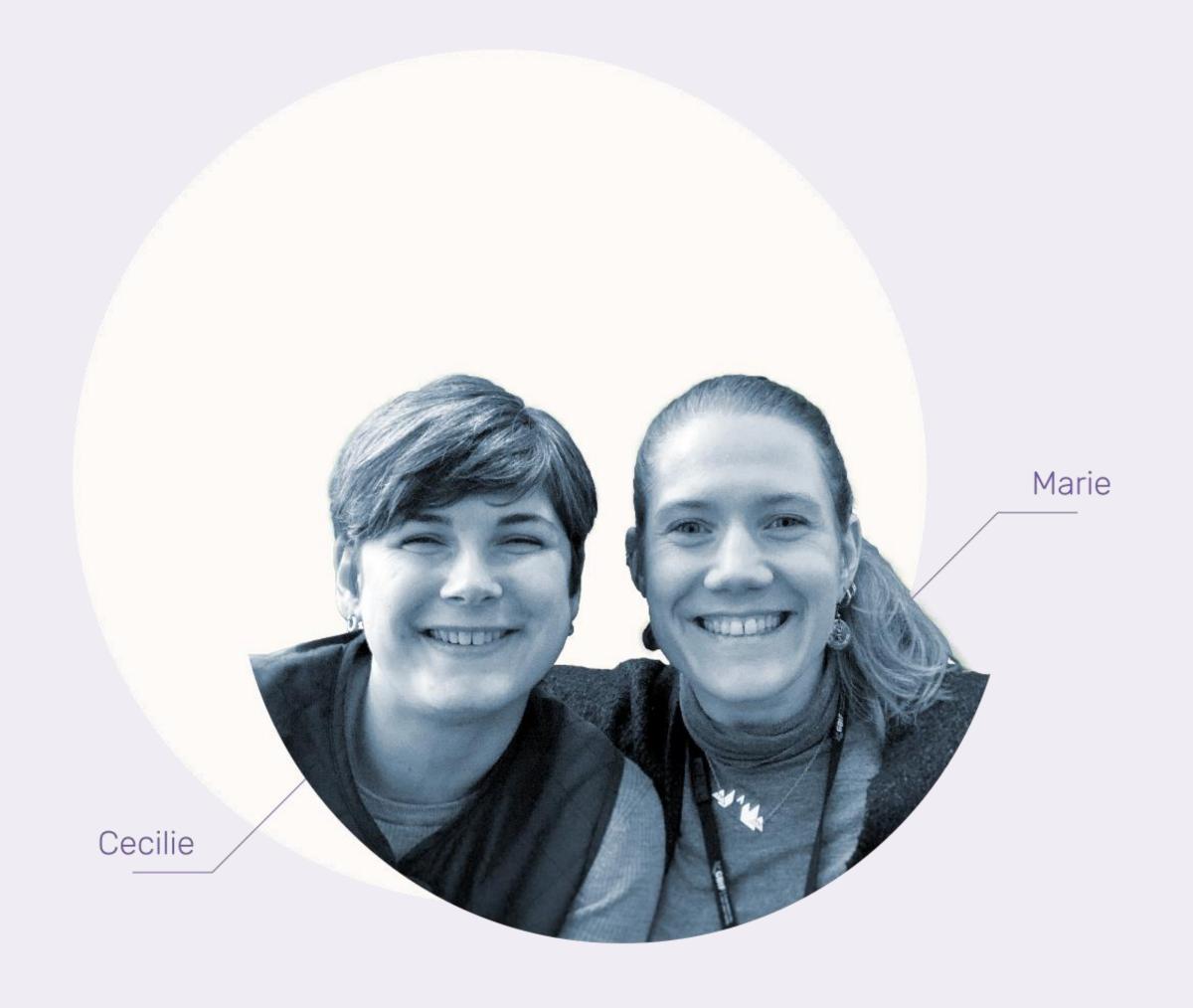
GBIF
Priority
Areas

1

2

3 Community & Capacity

4

BID | Biodiversity Information for Development

+3.9 million
Species occurrence records

Data used in
1,418
Peer-reviewed publications

165
Publishing institutions

Africa

Caribbean

Pacific

GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Funded by the European Union

GBIF

Capacity
Enhancement
Support
Programme

https://bit.ly/c-e-s-p

GBIF

Technical support hours for GBIF nodes

Marie

Cecilie

bit.ly/gbif-phylo

Hosted Portals

gbif.org/hosted-portals

Establishing a GBIF task group for Indigenous Data Governance

- Items included in the draft 2025
  GBIF WP to:

  - Support the task group and an in-
    person event alongside Global Nodes
    Meeting

  - Follow recommendations from the
    task group to explore implementation
    of e.g., Local Contexts labels

- Africa contacts welcome

GBIF volunteers
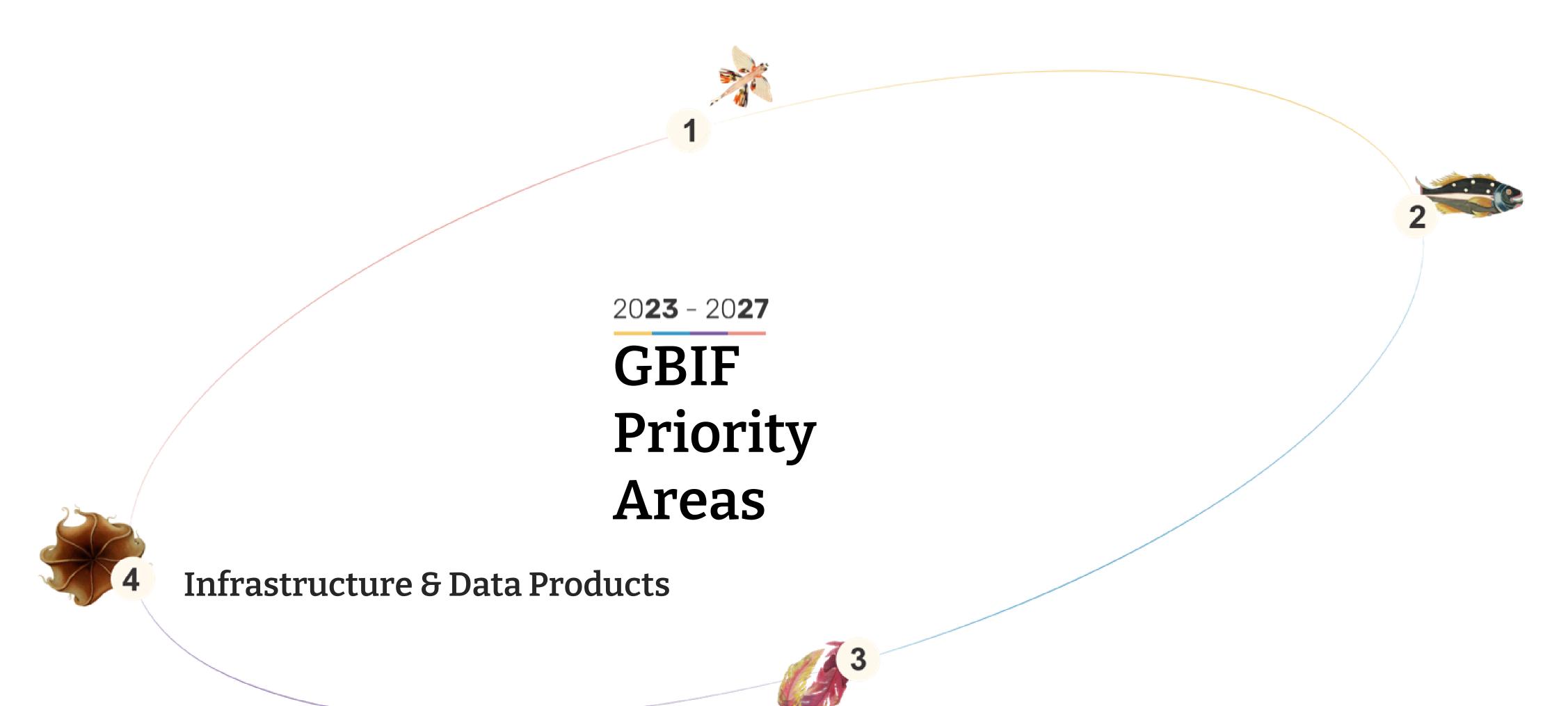
GBIF Node Awards – new call for nominations in 2025

Global Impact Award: NLBIF

Excellence Award: SiB Colombia

GBIF

2023 – 2027

GBIF Priority Areas

4 Infrastructure & Data Products

GBIF

Global Registry of Scientific Collections

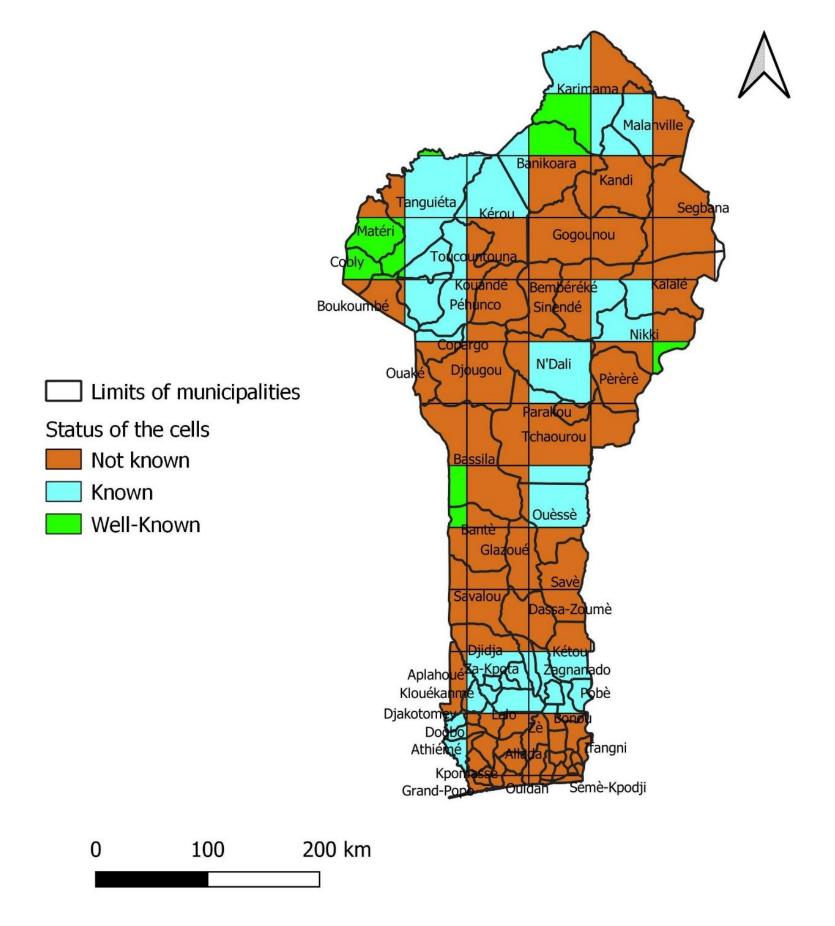gbif.org/scientific-collections

New data
model

gbif.org/new-data-model

Thank you!

Node team and roles

- **GANGLO C. Jean**, coordination of the activities of the team and trainer

- **KOURA Kourouma** in charge of data management, data publishing and training

- **KINGBO Armand**, data publishing and training

- **AÏKPON Gorgias**, data publishing and training

- **KOTIN M. Justine**, data publishing and training

- **APÉLÉTÉ Eben-Ezer**, data publishing and training

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

Limits of municipalities

Status of the cells
- Not known
- Known
- Well-Known

0   100   200 km

Figure 1: Animal data completeness analysis in Benin

Source: Ganglo, in preparation

We are doing our best to strengthen cooperation with national partners; their datasets are being identified and related metadata are already being published: https://doi.org/10.15468/3e7g39 ; https://doi.org/10.15468/dar479; https://doi.org/10.15468/ektptb

The engagement of research communities is mainly through data use in the framework of research works of students in master and Ph. D program. From last year to date, at least ten research works were carried out in the thematic fields of food crops and related pests, forest species and related pests, fishes and related pests etc.

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

We are enlarging national partnership to support national institutions and NGOs to mobilize and publish more data as well as use data to inform decisions on the conservation and sustainable use of the resources of biodiversity

We are working closely with the national focal point of biodiversity (our Head of delegation) to support achievements of international engagements

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

We are still in an exploration phase here and are optimistic about our upcoming successes

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

In the framework of the master and Ph. D program in biodiversity informatics in Benin, more than 60 students from 6 nationalities across Africa (Togo, Niger, Côte-d'Ivoire, Gabon, DRC, and Benin) already achieved their master degrees.

They can be involved in nodes' activities in their respective countries and share their skills

We can also assist nodes managers in data completeness analysis of their countries

First cohort of students

5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

Second cohort of students

In the framework of the master and Ph. D program in biodiversity informatics, more than 60 master graduates from 6 African countries (Togo, Côte-d'Ivoire, Niger, Gabon, DRC, and Benin) already achieved their diplomas.

Node managers can also send in the master program of Benin, their collaborators to achieve their master degree
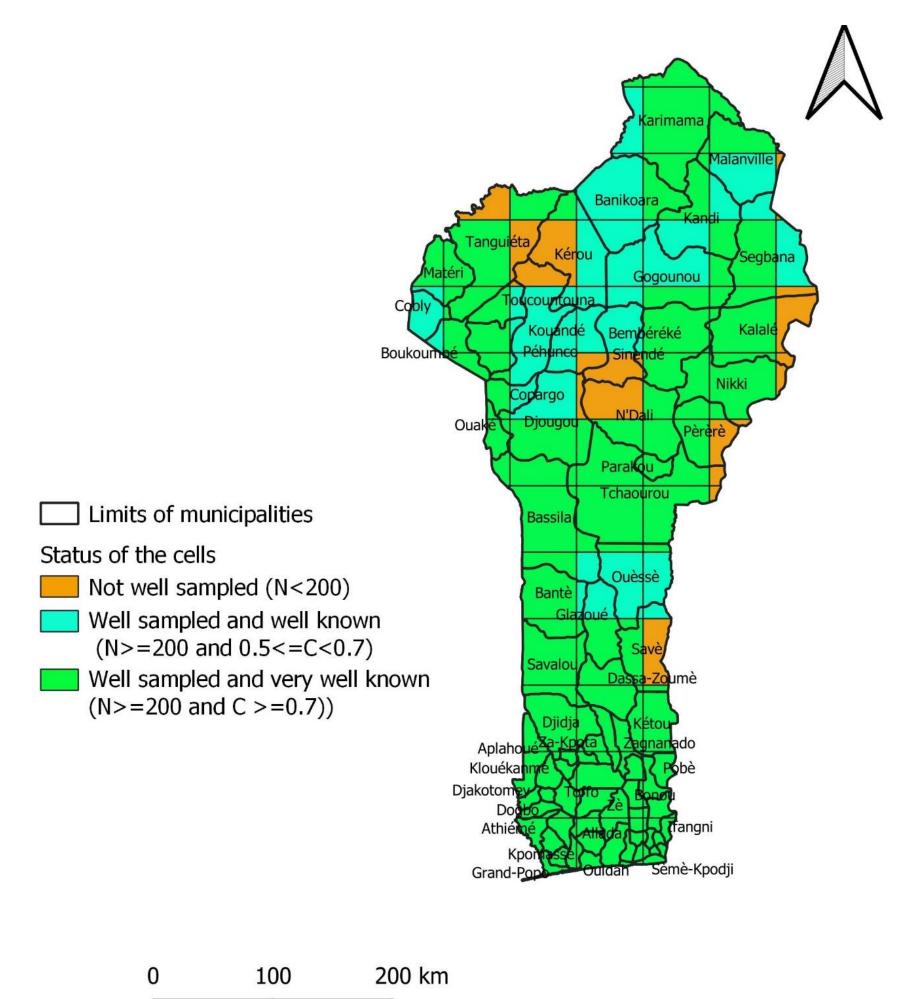
6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- Capacity building in data
  mobilization, data management and
  data publication are frequently
  achieved to support national
  partners in data mobilization and
  data publication

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

Figure 2: Plant data completeness analysis in Benin
Source Ganglo, in press

- We are quite interested in new data models that will support interactions between plants species, animal and plant species etc. Indeed, such interactions are aready considered in the thematic research works of the students in biodiversity informatics

Thank you

[Contact email]

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Benin

GANGLO C. Jean, Node manager

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Node managers from those countries can involve the graduates in their activities and benefit from their skills.

They can also send in the master program of Benin, their collaborators to achieve their master degree

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- Capacity building in data mobilization, data management and data publication are frequently achieved to support national partners

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Figure 2: Plant data completeness analysis in Benin
Source Ganglo, in press

Thank you

[Contact email]

GBIF Cameroon 2024 update

JEAN FRANCOIS MOUSSA, NODE MANAGER

Node team and roles

Node Manager:

Name: Jean François MOUSSA

Phone: +237698684584
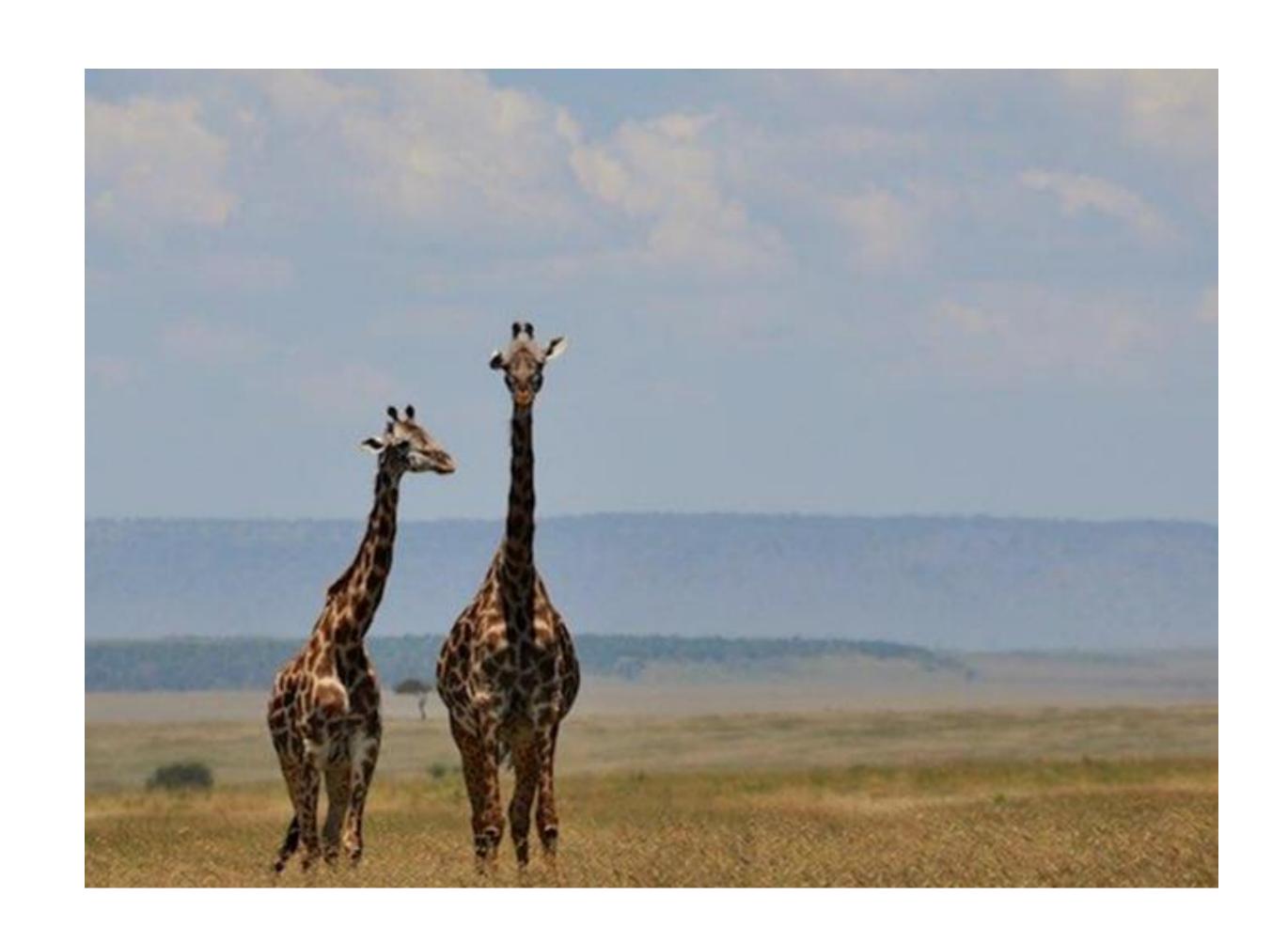
Email: moussjf@yahoo.fr

IT Person:
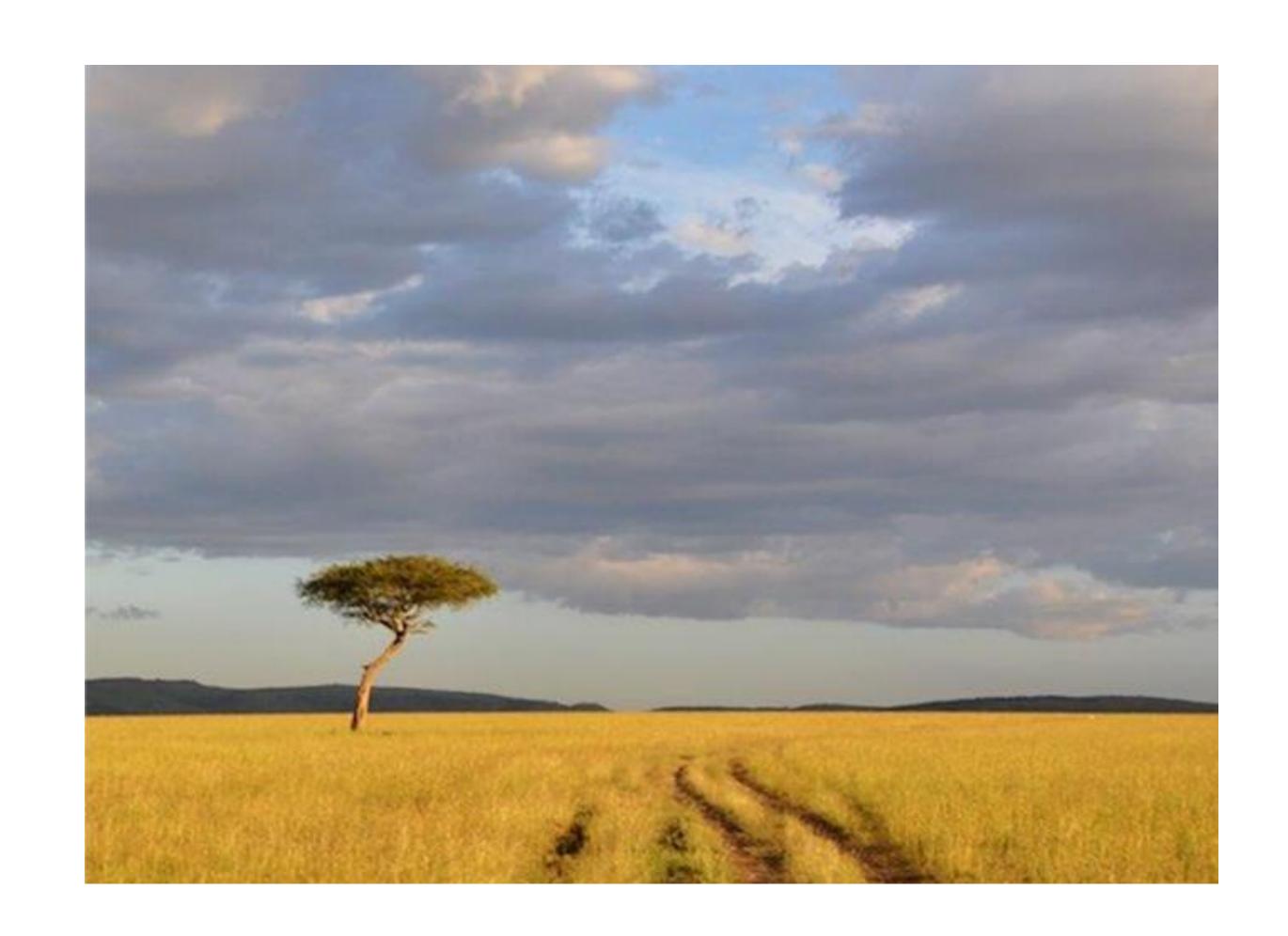
Name: Jean-François MOUSSA

Phone: +237698684584

Email: moussjf@yahoo.fr

Node team and roles

Data Manager:

Name: Jean-François MOUSSA

Phone: +237698684584

Email: moussjf@yahoo.fr

Scientific Outreach and Communication:

Name: Prof Maurice TINDO

Phone: +237699548324

Email: tindodouala@yahoo.com

Node team and roles

Head of Delegation:

Name: Sylvie FANTA

Phone:(+237)697313169/676115001

Email: mfantasylvie@yahoo.com

Node team and roles
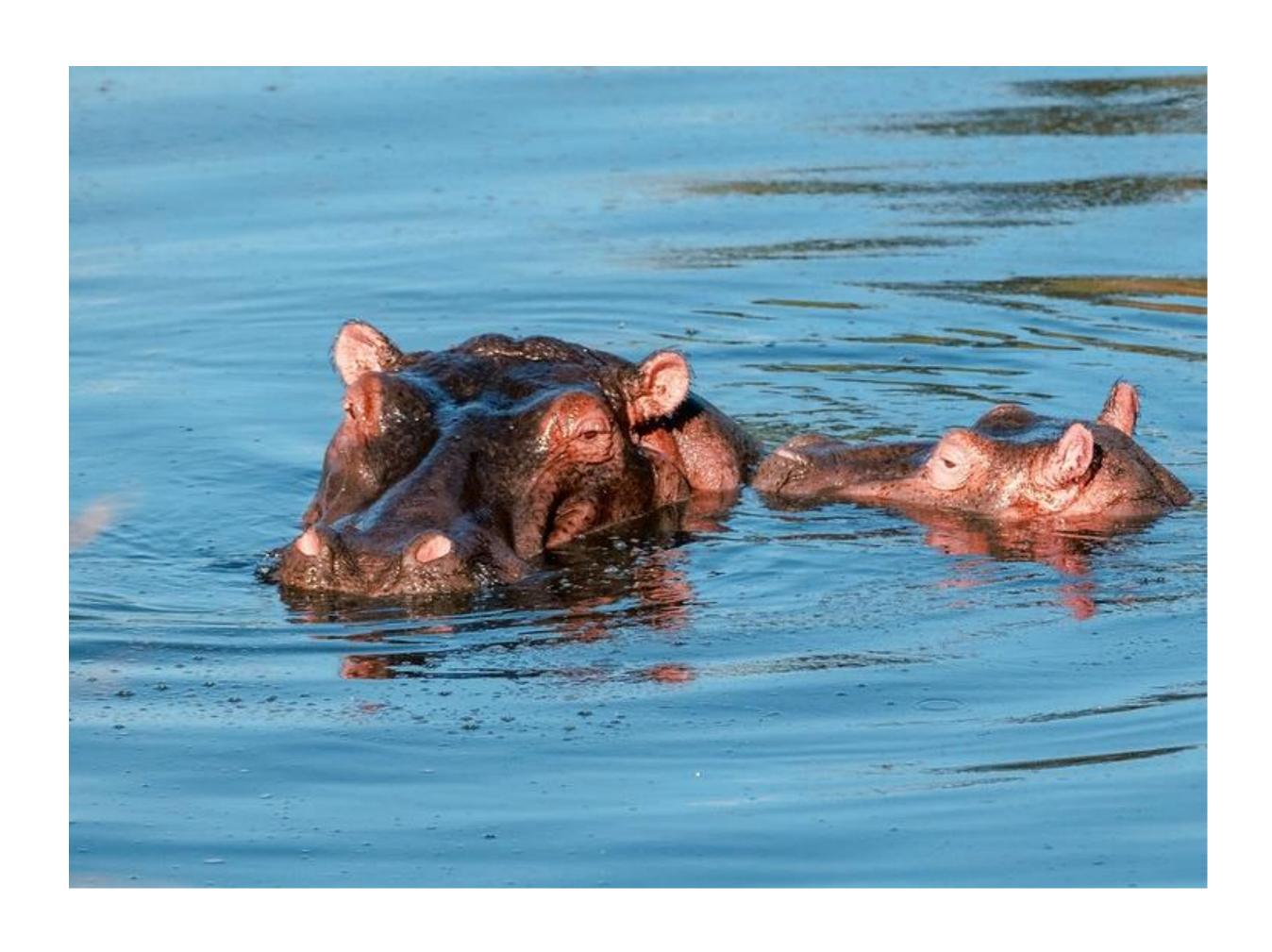
The team is unbalanced in that the Node Manager is called upon to perform three roles. This is due to the lack of financial resources at national level to support operation of the node.

We are continuing our work on the integration of a national budget line for the operation of the node.

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- A national network has been set up, but is struggling to function normally due to a lack of financial resources. Nevertheless, technical support is provided to keep the network running at a minimum.

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

- We are actively involved in revising Cameroon's NBSAP as part of the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (GBF-EAS) project.

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

- This remains a challenge at national level, as the law governing data management is restricted to the fields of cybersecurity, cybercrime and national statistics.

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- We continue to disseminate the best data management practices published by GBIF throughout the national network.

- We support research institutes in processing and standardizing their data.

5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice
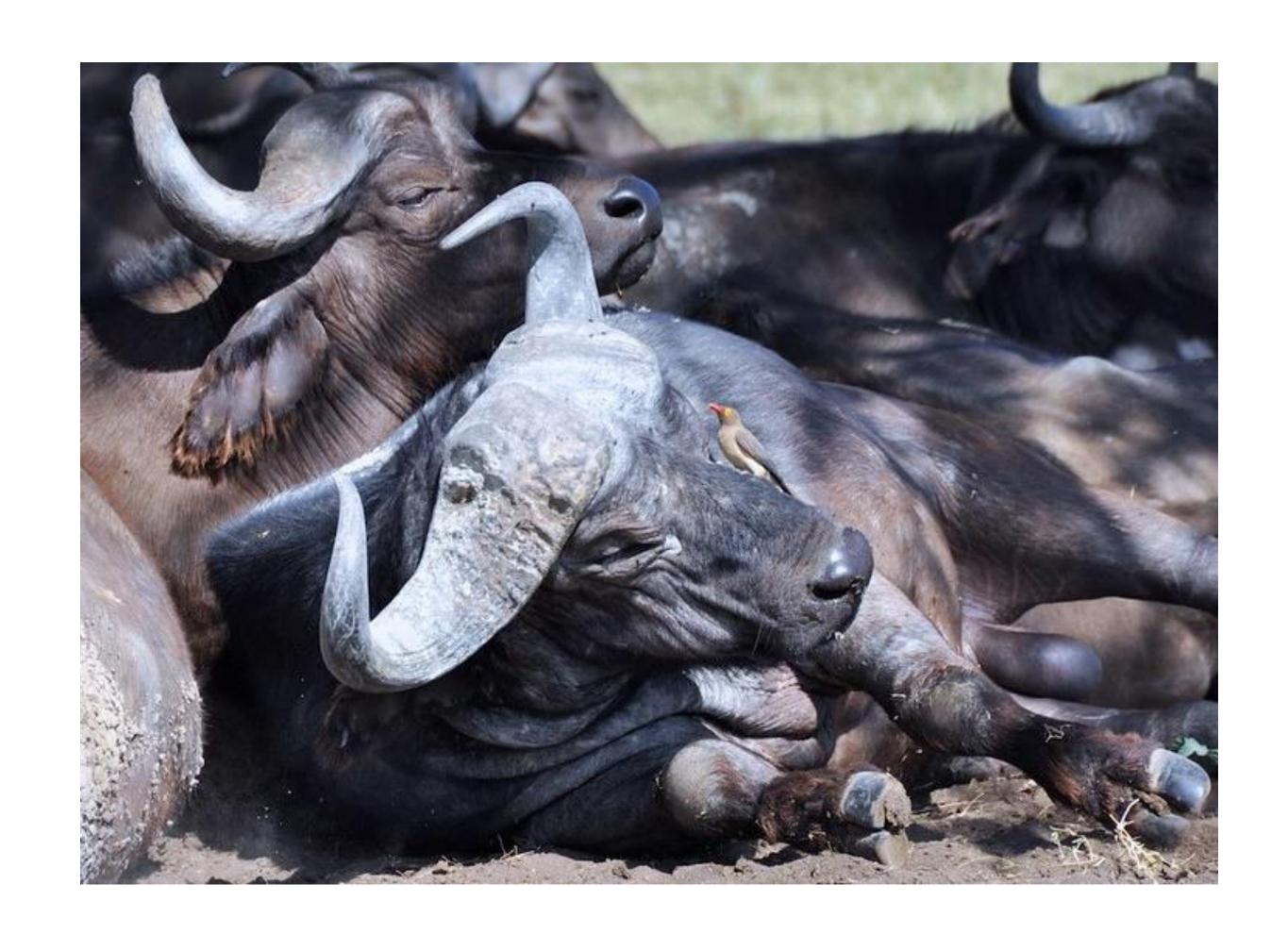

- As part of our cooperation with the Observatoire des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (OFAC), we are planning to set up a capacity-building strategy for certain countries in the sub-region.

- We're going to ask the regional support team to help us fill the skills gaps in certain areas.

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- We plan to identify and mobilise the various collections at national level.

- We have already identified the Millennium Ecological Museum and other institutions with collections.

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- We took part in improving the new data model through a project funded by the GBIF.

- We had attended online training courses on the use of the new data model.

Thank you

[Contact email]

Node team and roles

- Head of Delegation: Ian Little

- Node manager: Lizanne Roxburgh

- Data manager: Erin Adams

DR IAN LITTLE
HEAD OF CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST

DR LIZANNE ROXBURGH
SENIOR MANAGER SCIENCE

ERIN ADAMS
SCIENCE OFFICER

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- In the past, we have completed training on GBIF data mobilization and use in several universities in the region

- We are currently using GBIF data for the South African mammal Red List revision – but data quality is an issue

- We work with our own researchers and partners to publish data, but data sensitivity remains an issue

- We plan to publish additional datasets and to update existing ones on GBIF, uploading directly from our SQL databases

- We are planning BioBlitzes in areas with data gaps, and data will be published to GBIF

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

- No specific plans, apart from ensuring that our data is available to government for national reporting, where relevant

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

- The EWT runs the National Biodiversity and Business Network in South Africa

- We will engage with them in 2025 on Data4Nature

- We sponsored an MSc student, who completed her studies in 2023 on 'Mobilising Biodiversity Data Gathered During Environmental Impact Assessments in South Africa'. This was presented at various national forums and will be published in Science-policy journal soon.

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- Re-engage with the CESP programme in 2025

5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice
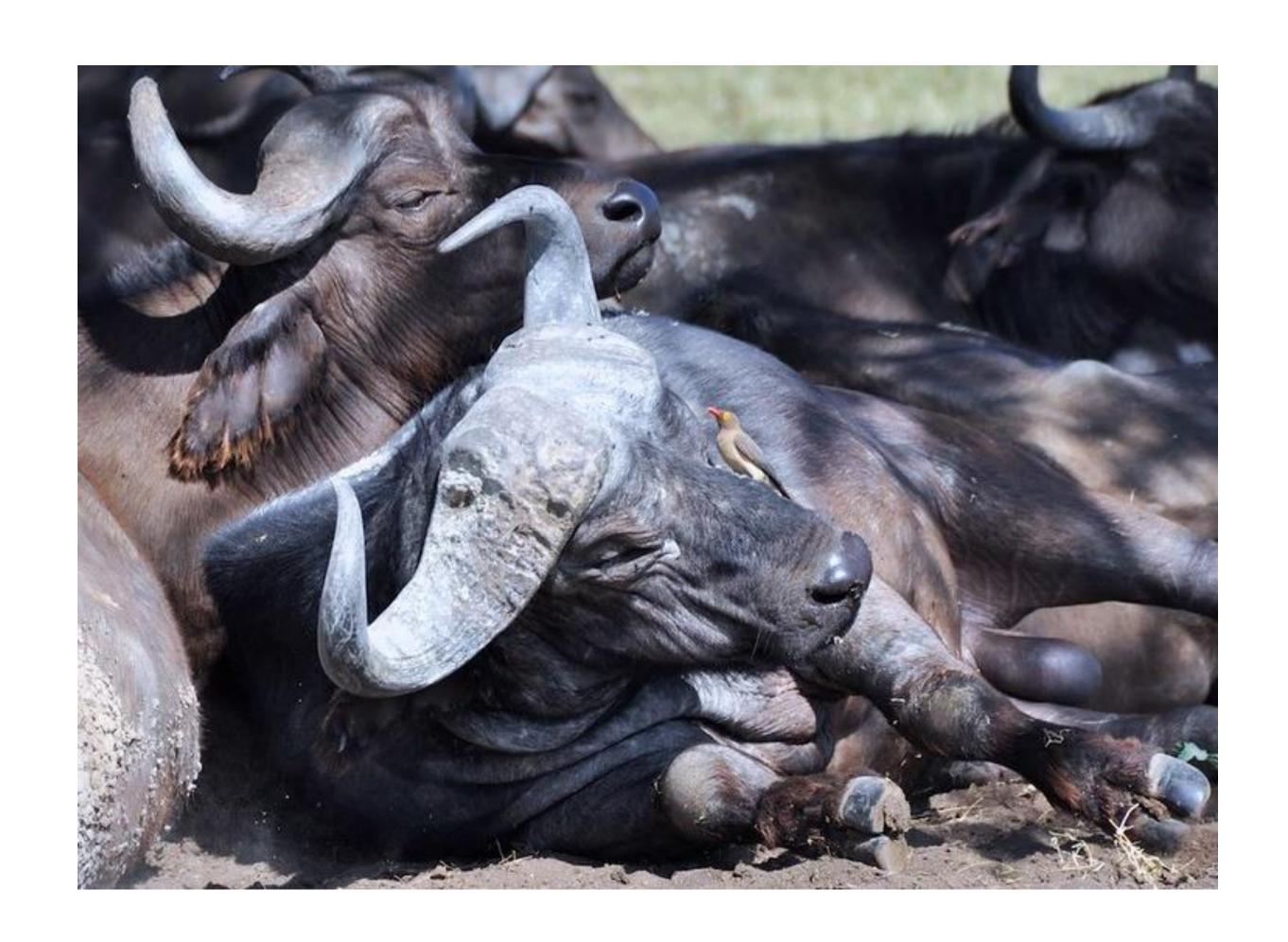
- Re-engage with the BID programme in 2025

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- No contact with the collection community

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

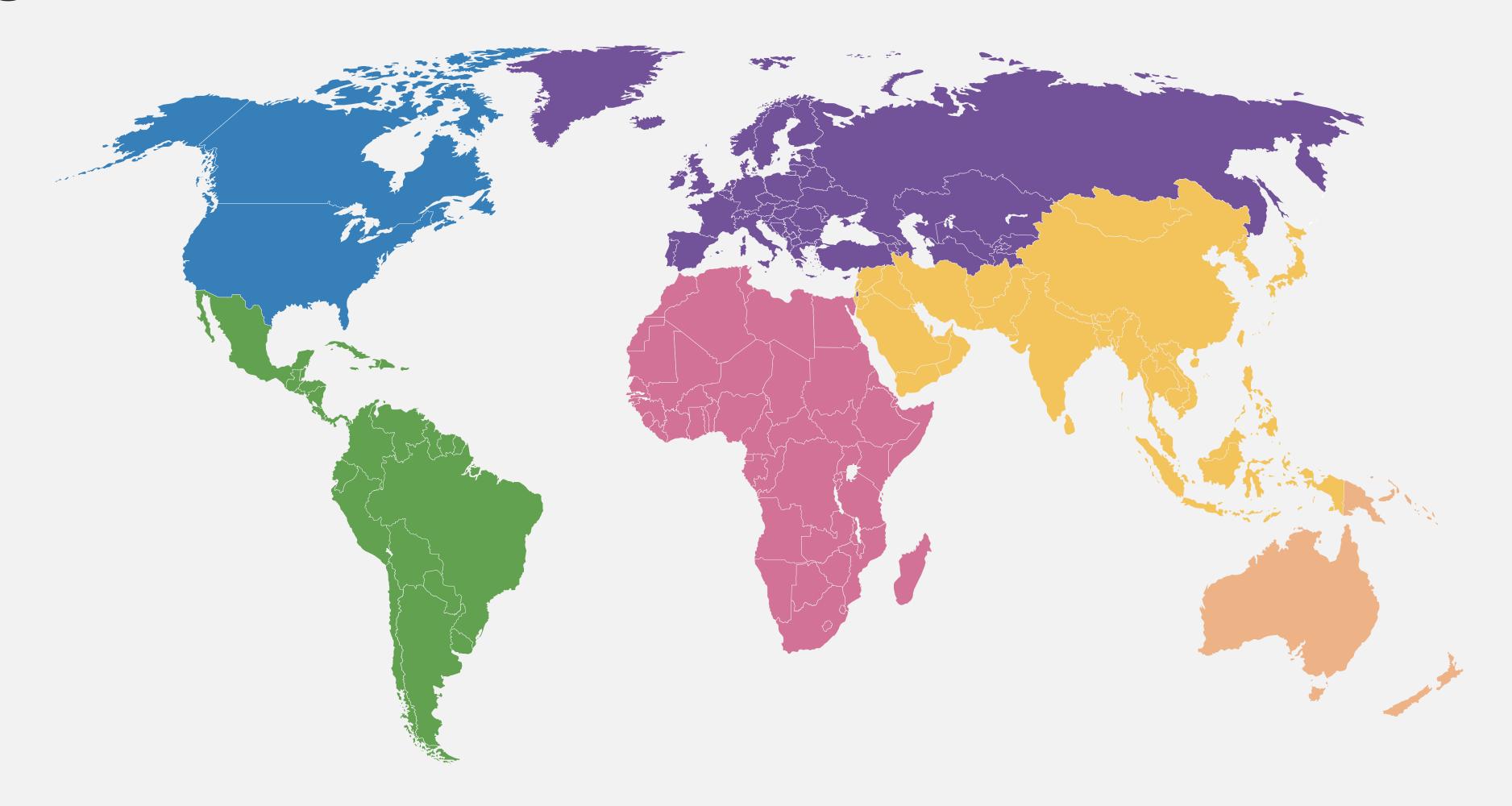- We collect both camera trap and eDNA data and will engage with the new data model

Thank you

lizanner@ewt.org.za

Welcome to the meeting

- Apologies from Jean Paul Kubwimana

- Thank you to our hosts, GBIF Zimbabwe

- Honoured to have GBIF Chair, Liam Lysaght, with us
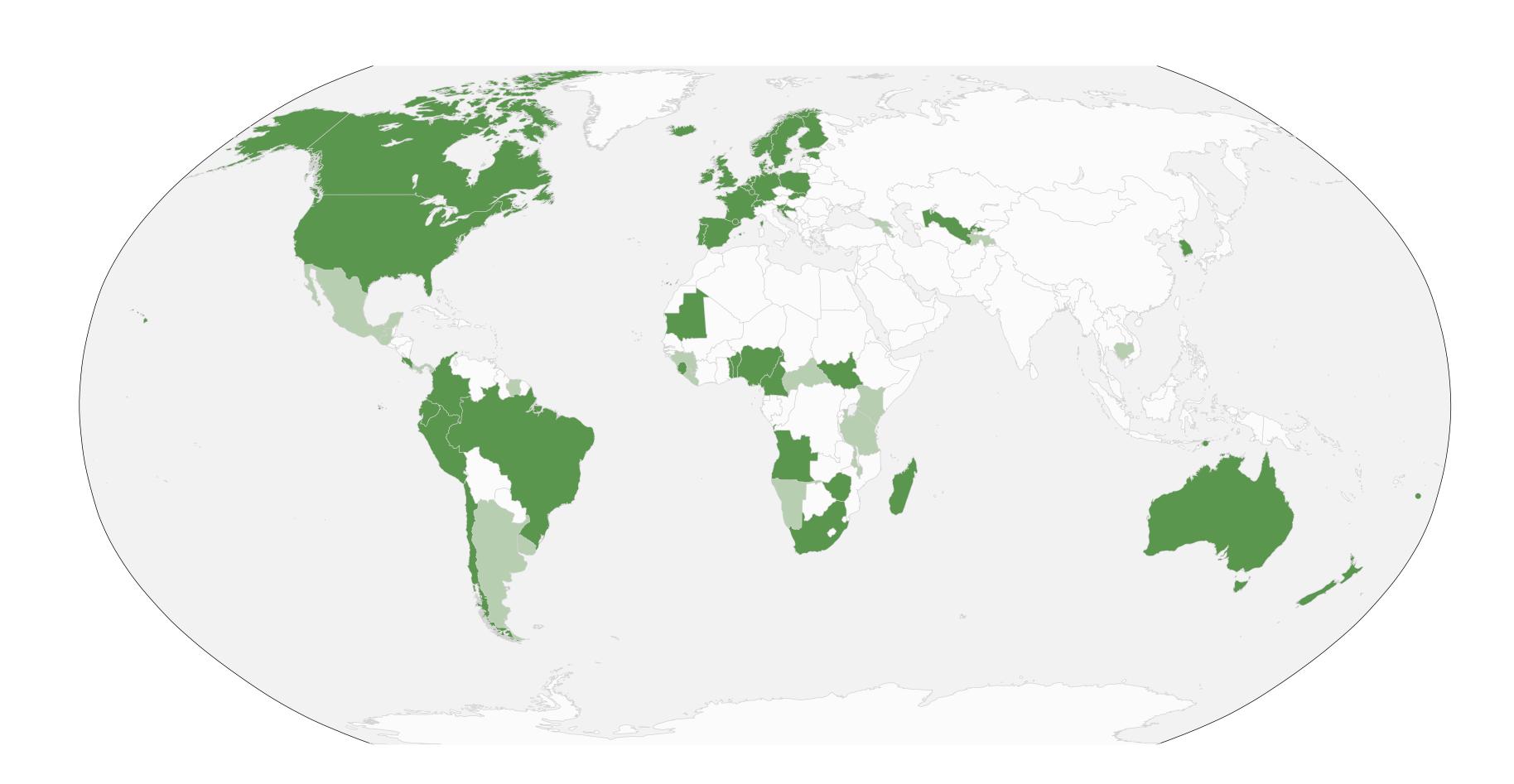

Photo from regional nodes meeting, Lome, Togo, 2022

GBIF regions

Objectives for regional meetings

- **Support regional coordination**

- **Facilitate regional collaboration** by allowing nodes to share updates on their activities, receive peer feedback, and discuss joint project proposals through CESP and other programmes

- **Provide feedback** to the Secretariat and NSG on regional issues and priorities

- **Develop stronger regional engagement** in GBIF by identifying outreach strategies and actions, such as the recruitment of new participant countries and linking with relevant regional organizations and networks
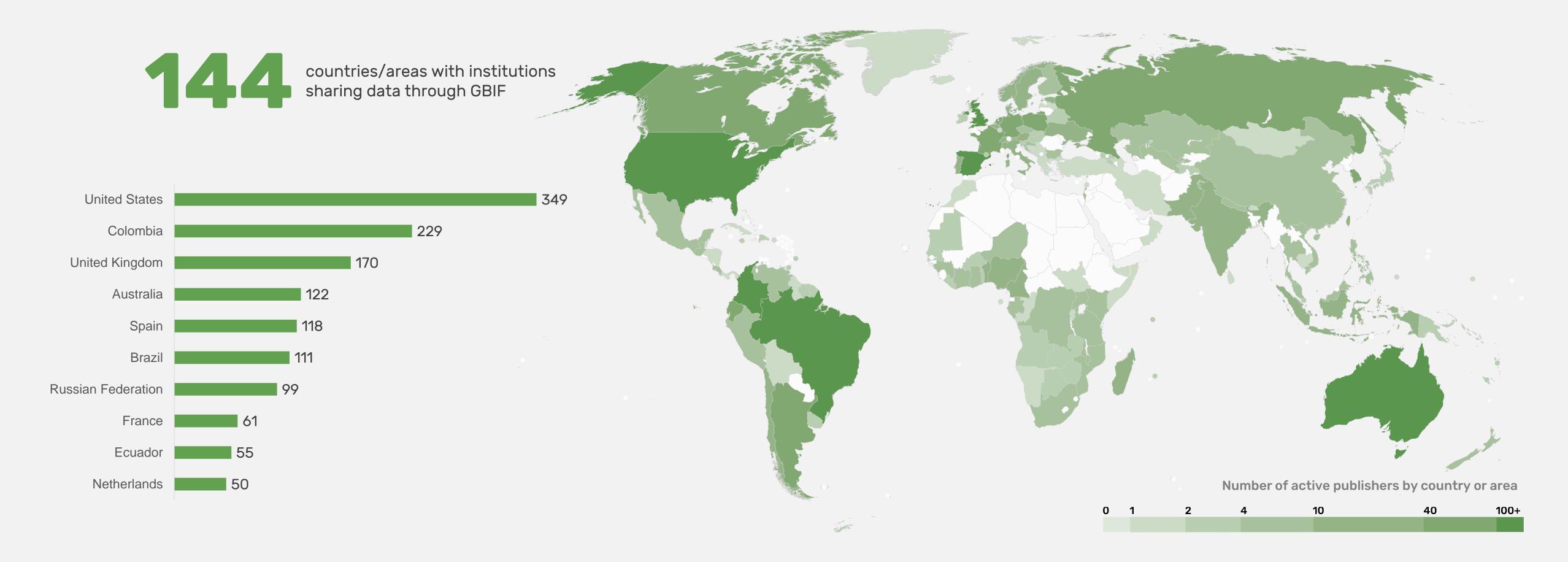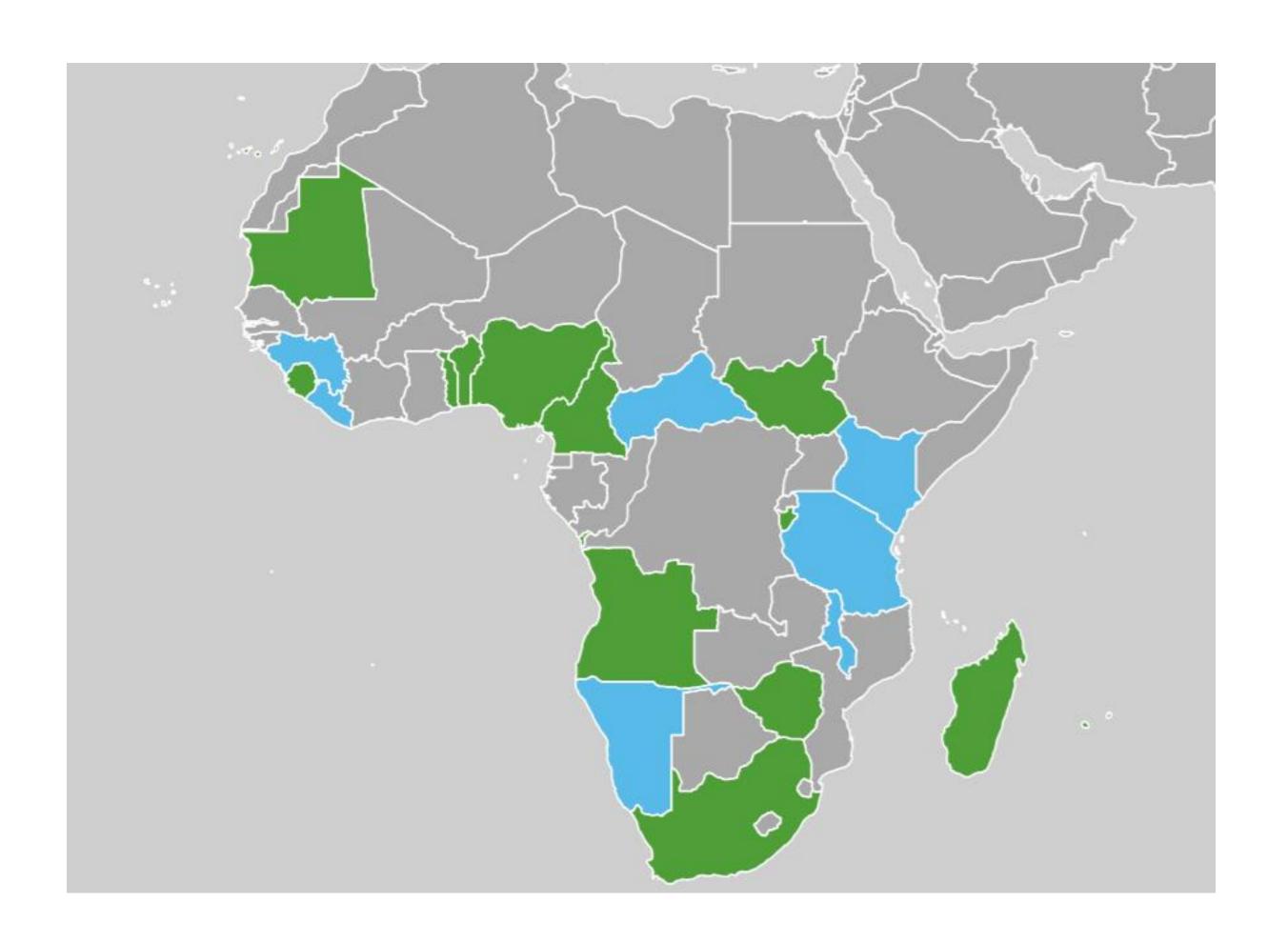
GBIF Participant countries

Voting Participants

Associate Participants

https://www.gbif.org/the-gbif-network

GBIF network of data publishing institutions

144 countries/areas with institutions sharing data through GBIF

Country	Number
United States	349
Colombia	229
United Kingdom	170
Australia	122
Spain	118
Brazil	111
Russian Federation	99
France	61
Ecuador	55
Netherlands	50

Number of active publishers by country or area

0 1 2 4 10 40 100+

https://www.gbif.org/publisher/search

Overview of Participant network in Africa

12 Voting participants
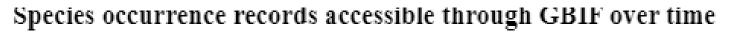
7 Associate country participants
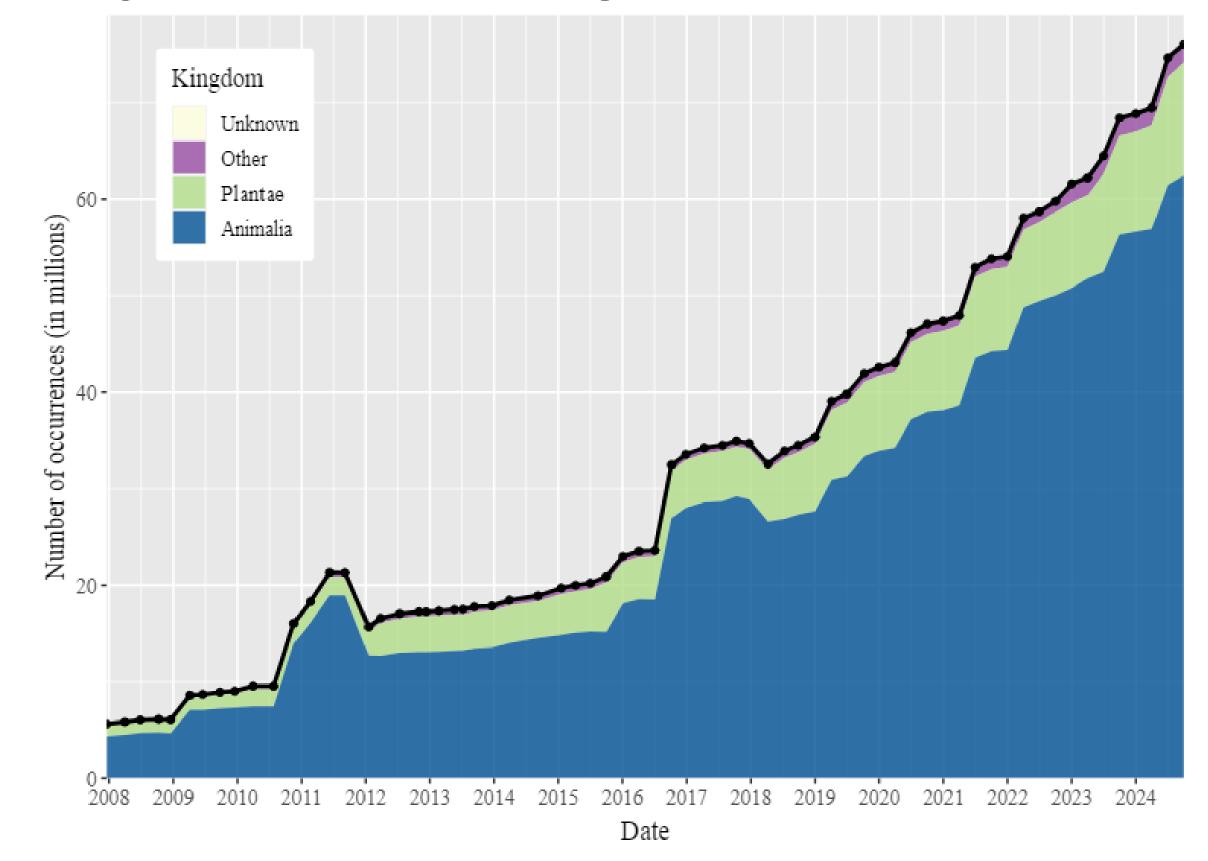
5 Other associate participants

- Discussion on experiences and challenges to become and remain Voting Participant
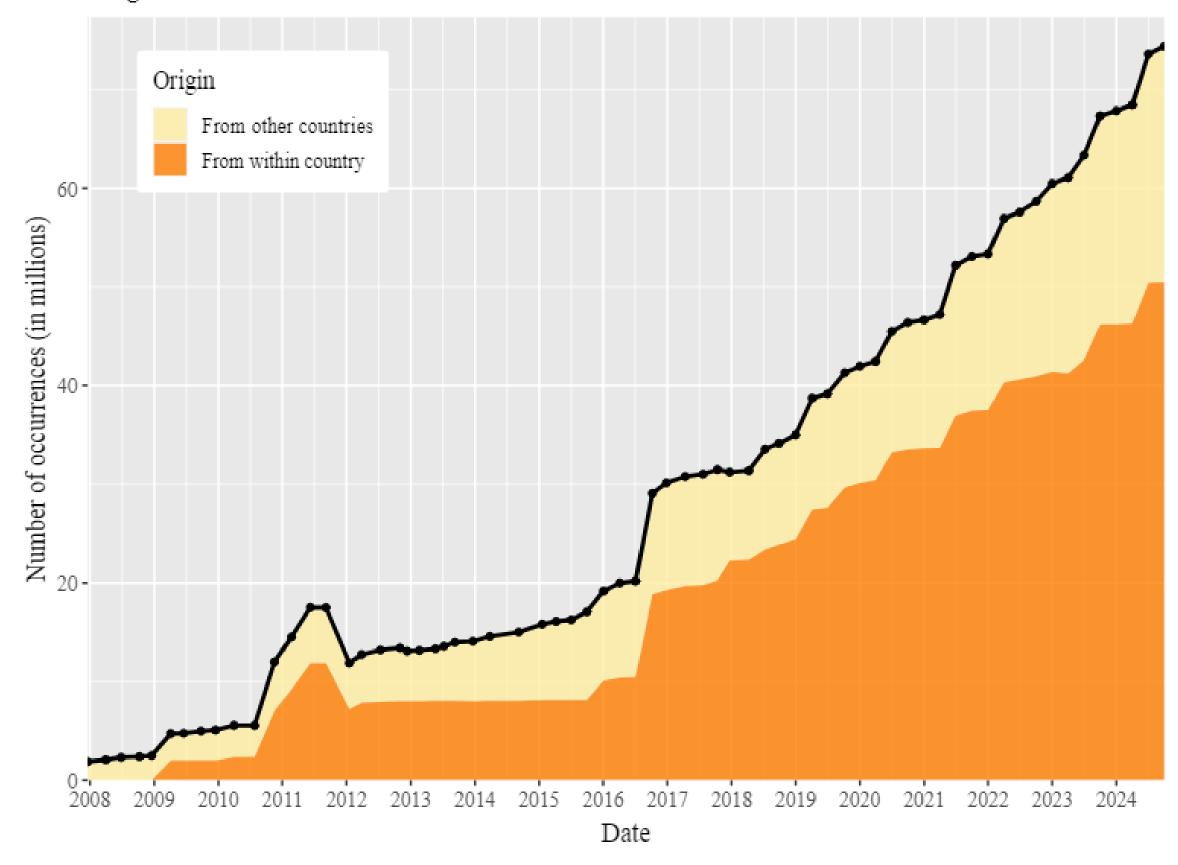
www.gbif.org/the-gbif-network/africa

Regional trends for Africa: Data mobilization

Species occurrence records accessible through GBIF over time
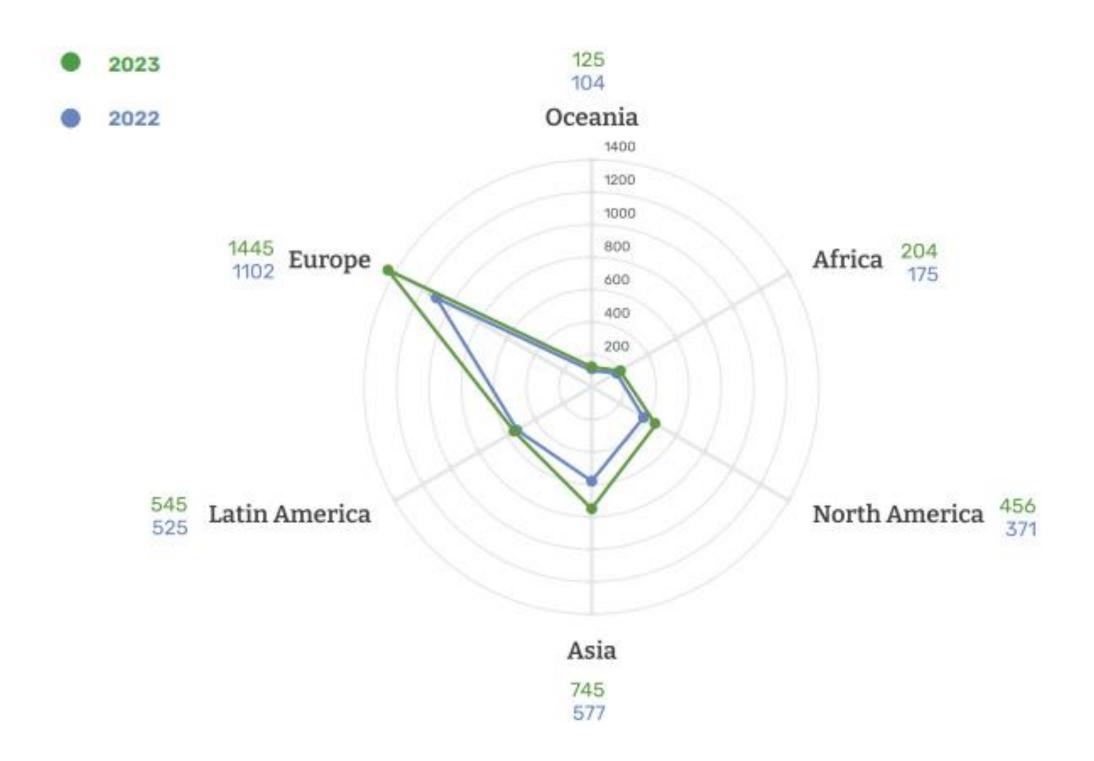
Origin of occurrence records

www.gbif.org/analytics/region/AFRICA

Data use in Africa

Peer-reviewed articles by region

- 2023
- 2022

Oceania	125 / 104
Africa	204 / 175
Europe	1445 / 1102
North America	456 / 371
Latin America	545 / 525
Asia	745 / 577

- General trend is showing an increase in the number of peer-reviewed articles using GBIF-mediated data in all regions

- Africa estimated to reach 235 articles by end 2024 (increased from 204 articles in 2023 and 175 articles in 2022)

Regional opportunities

- The data exist and data needs exist

- Importance of raising the visibility of the GBIF network within countries to encourage institutional participation

- Opportunities to engage with NBSAPs and national CBD reporting

- Opportunities arising from the regional level: CBD regional support centres and EU-funded biodiversity centres of excellence

- BID programme is coming at a good time

GBIF Togo awareness raising

Agenda

- Updates from the GBIF Secretariat: Opportunities for engagement and new directions on the data model – Melianie Raymond and Tim Robertson

- BID Africa regional support team updates - Laban Musinguzi and Tsiky Rabetrano

- Node updates - all

- Africa Coordination Mechanism – Fatima Parker Allie

- Sub-regional discussion groups: Needs, challenges, priorities

- Summary of recommendations from the nodes for the BID programme

Thank you!

Jean Francois Moussa

Node team and roles

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lzzmjr2009@gmail.com

Node Manager
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jimaldino@yahoo.com

Communications
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admury@gmail.com

Citizen Science
+263717083893
pupunege@yahoo.com

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- GBIF Zimbabwe is working with local and international universities in mobilising and using biodiversity data (LINCZ Project).

- Canadian Mennonite University

- National University of Science and Technology

- National Biodiversity Forum: University of Zimbabwe, Marondera University Of Agricultural Science and Technology

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

National Biodiversity Forum

- The Forum tracks and coordinate efforts toward fulfilling **Zimbabwe's commitments under international agreements** like the CBD, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

- By including universities and research institutions, the Forum facilitates the integration of **evidence-based research** into **policy formulation and implementation**.

- It provides a structured avenue to translate scientific findings into actionable policy recommendations, **bridging the gap between knowledge and practice**.

©Forestry Commission

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

- The Business and Finance sectors in Zimbabwe hold significant amounts of biodiversity data:

- Biodiversity Management Programmes (BMP), Biodiversity Surveys, environmental and social impact assessments (ESIA), and Environmental Compliance reports

- Little in-roads in promoting open biodiversity sharing in this sector

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

Metabarcoding Data Programme

*Pilot initiative to strengthen links between the GBIF network and DNA metabarcoding data communities while building node capacity for standardizing the publication of biodiversity data through the **Metabarcoding Data Toolkit***

- GBIF Zimbabwe partcipated in a pilot initiative to publish DNA metabarcoding data.

- Plans to publish more DNA metabarcoding data throught the LINCZ project
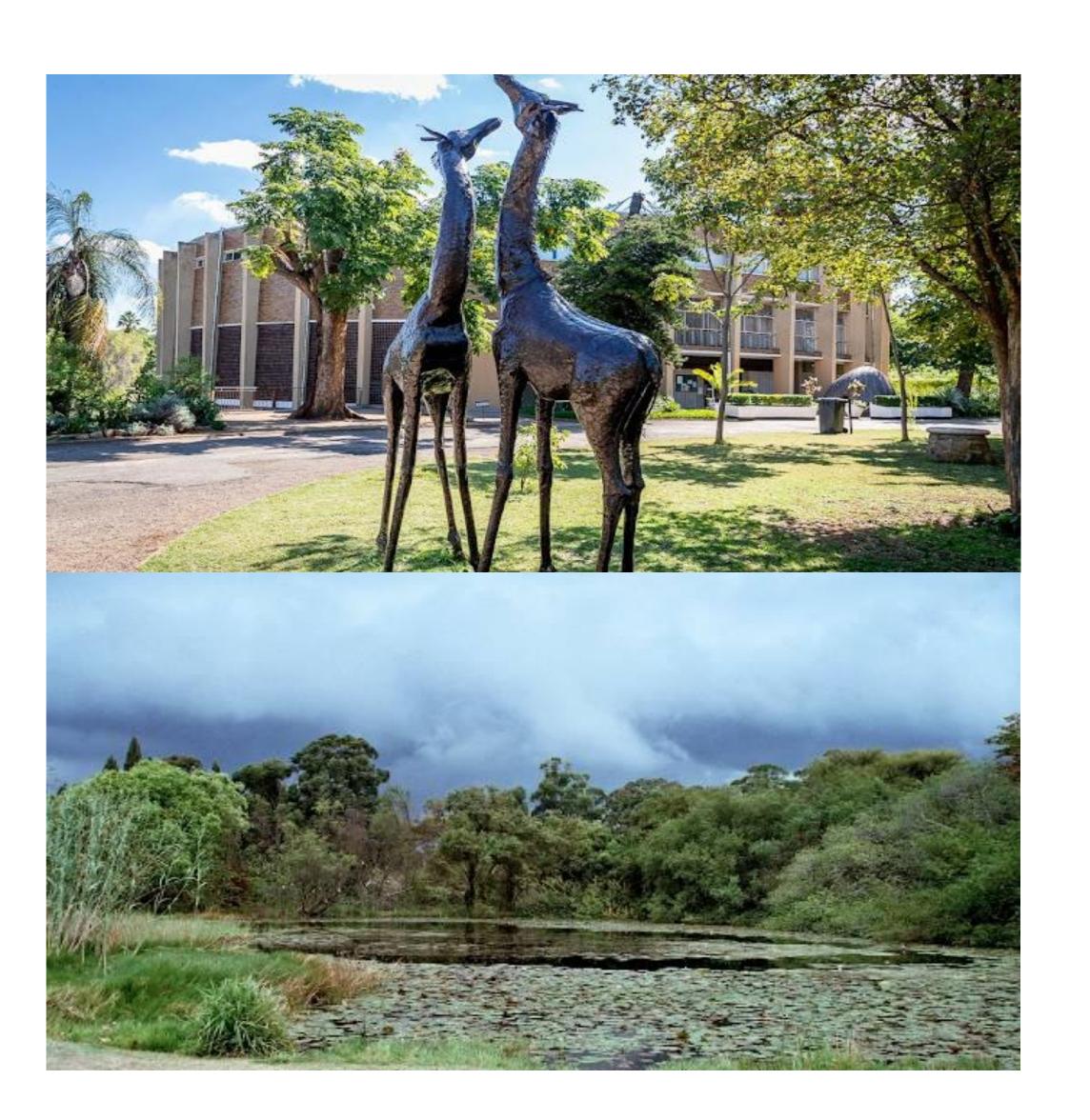
5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- GBIF Zimbabwe works closely with the Natural History Museum and the The National Herbarium and Botanic Garden

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- Mobilise data on bacteria and fungal communities in soils of various ecosystems

- Mobilise DNA mediated data on arthropods in various ecosystems e.g. aquatic invertebrates.

- LINCZ Project

Thank you

jimaldino@yahoo.com

lukejimu66@gmail.com

ljimu@buse.ac.zw
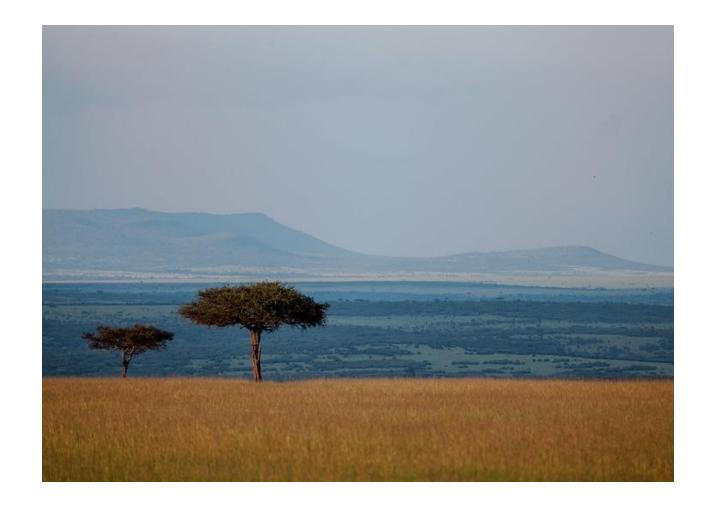
[GBIF Togo] 2024 update

Professor Pierre Raoufou Radji,

Node Manager GBIF TOGO

Node team and roles

- Pr Isabelle Glitho : Additionnal HoD

- Pr Raoufou Pierre Radji Node Manager

- Dr Komla Sodjinou : NM Assistant_ Data manager

- Koudjo Akpene: IT Manager

- Monitoring Team leaded by Gnama ; Minister of Environment, ITRA, NGO, Dpt of Zoology

- **Node Efficiency**

  * undedicated person

  * no budget

  * delay in contribution

  payment

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

Data use https://www.gbif.org/ (from Université de Kara)

- 1. Modelling the impact of climate change on sustainable production and conservation of Cyperus esculentus L. (Tiger nut) in Togo, West Africa

- 2. Impacts climatiques et modélisation des zones à risques de propagation de la maladie de Newcastle (*Paramyxovirus aviaire*) au Togo

- 3. Modélisation de l'impact du changement climatique sur deux pathologies animales au Togo : la cysticercose porcine (*Taenia solium*)

- 4. Climatic impacts and prospective analysis of anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*) in Togo

- 5. Climatic impacts and prospective analysis of the PPR disease (morbillivirus) in Togo

Data mobilization

- Setting up of West and Central Africa Herbarium Platform (6 countries)

- Permanent contact with IFAN Herbarium

- Togo Herbarium Visit by Congo Brazza Herbarium Manager (Dr. Edmond Sylvestre MIABANGANA, November 19, 2024)
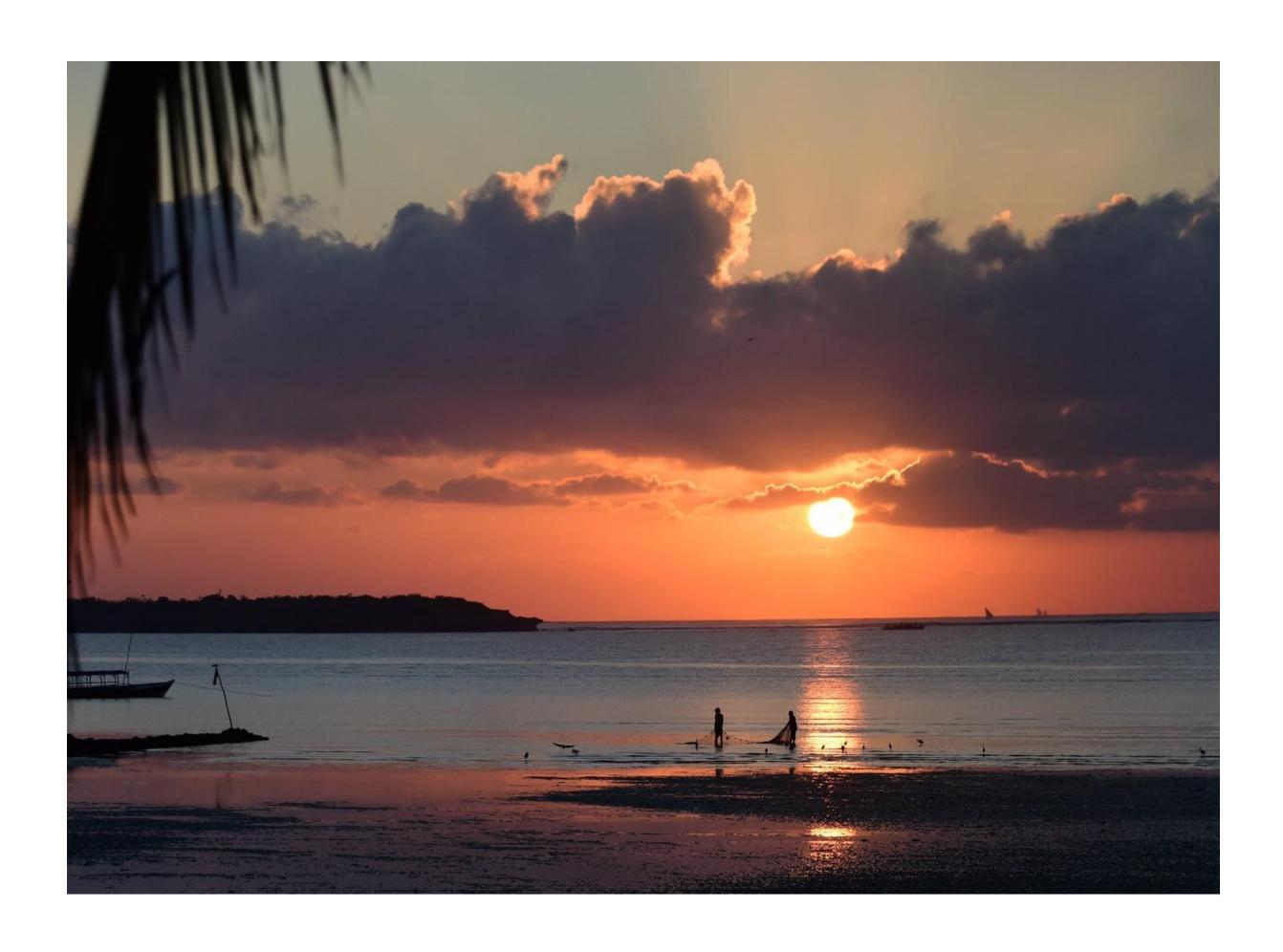
2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface
Developing partnerships that benefit policy and society

- National partnership: Monitoring committee of National Nodes includes: NGOs, Phytotherapists, Research Center, MERF

- Regional partnership: setting up of regional consortium bringing 6 countries

- On going Publication of *" Regional checklist of plants with usages in West and Central Africa" (Pensoft)*

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors
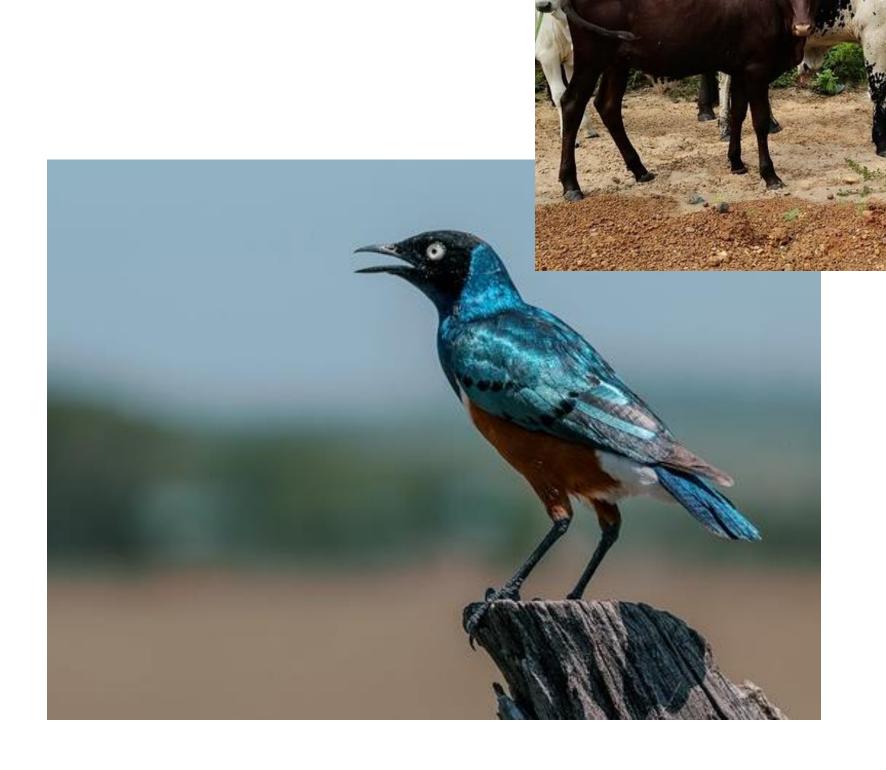
- No contact with business and finance sectors

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills
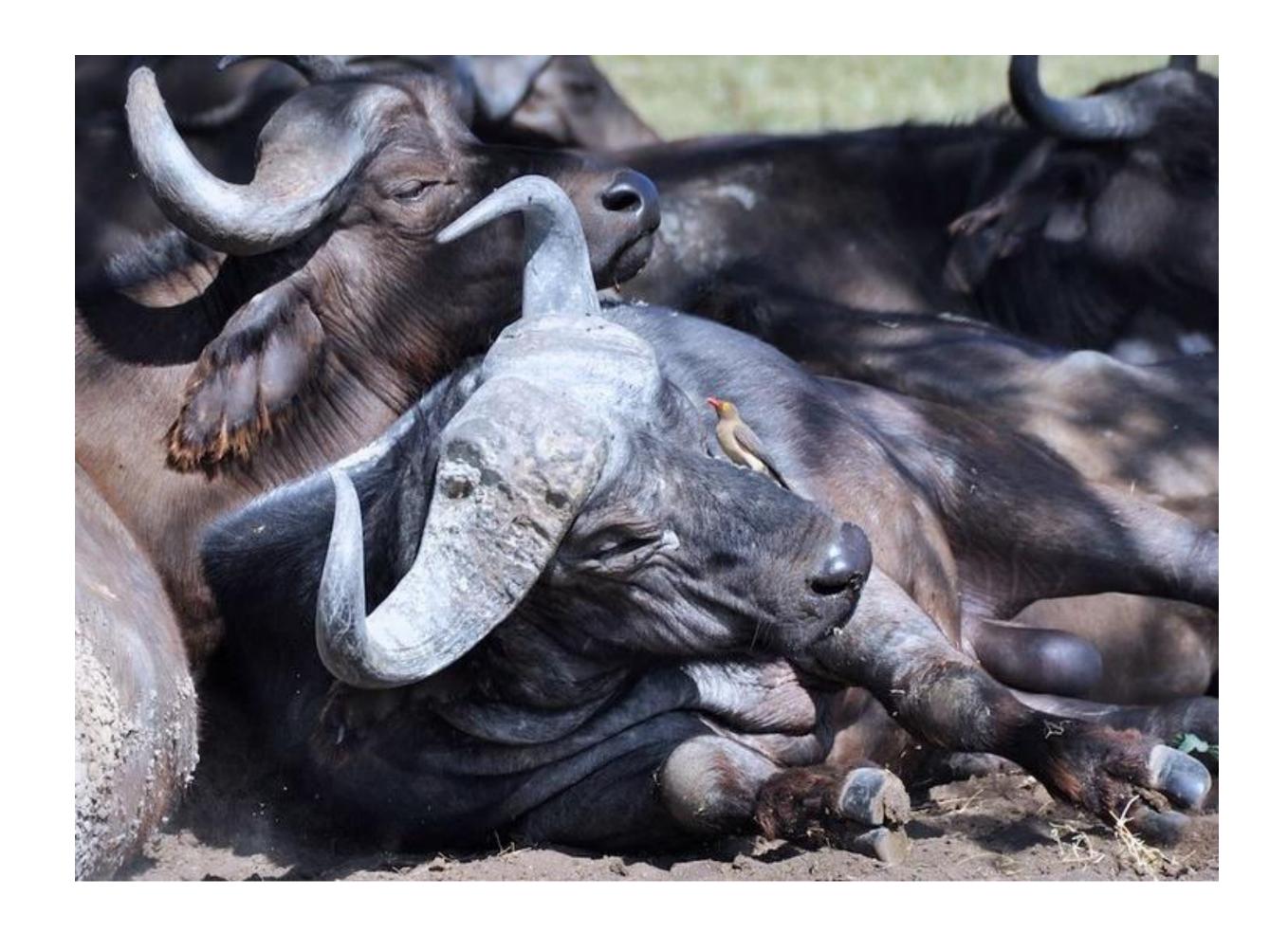# 5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

- Best practices sharing in terms of Herbarium data management
  - Sheets Digitization (Barcode)
  - Botanical nomenclature
  - Taxonomy Harmonization (Cronquist, APG, etc.)

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- Collaboration with

  - Entomology & Zoology collection, _ongoing_

  - _Geology collection just started_

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- Setting up of the regional herbaria's platform of West and Central African (open for all herbaria)
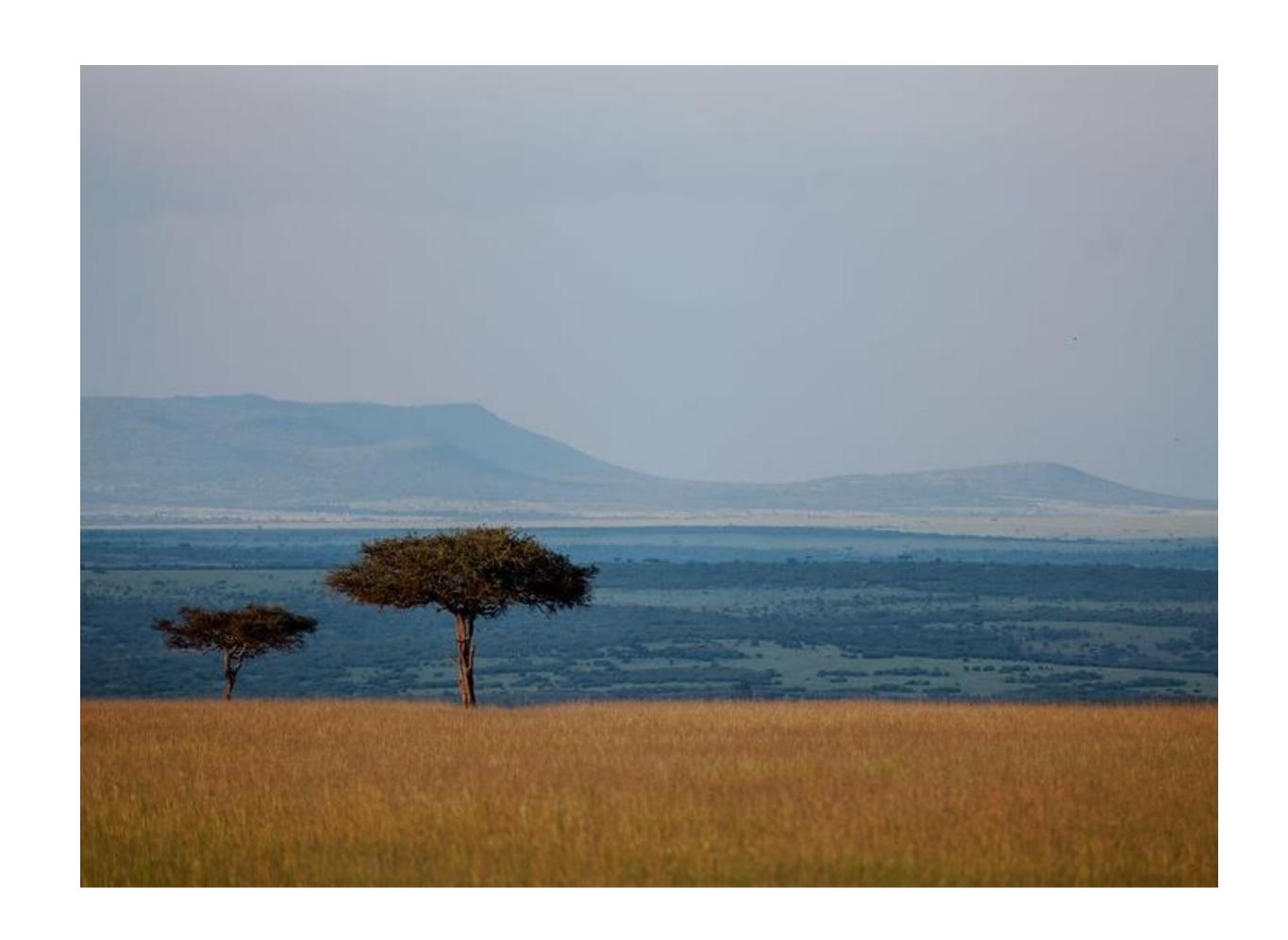
Thank you

[Contact email]
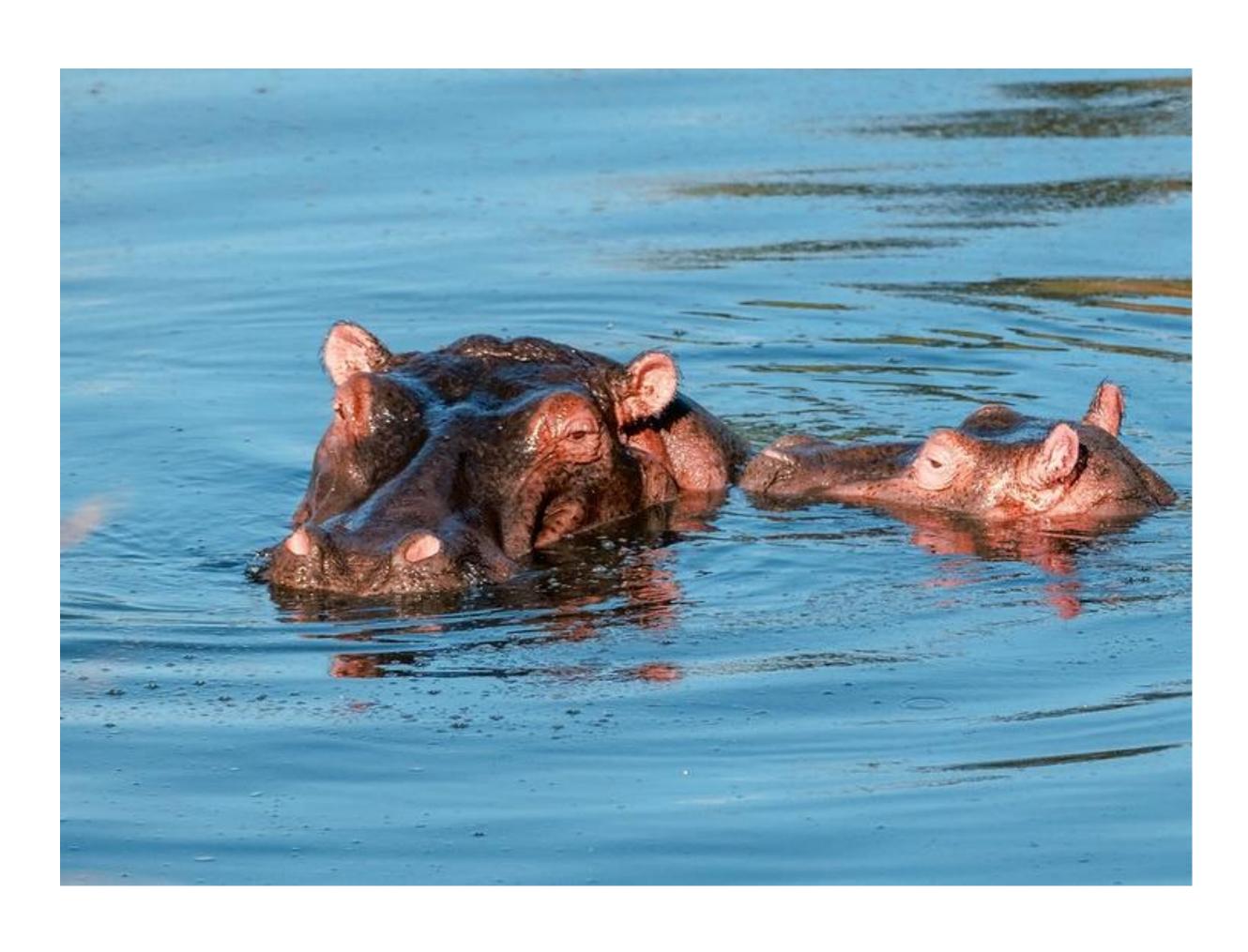
[GUNEA] 2024 update

[Saïdou DOUMBOUYA, Node Manager]

Node team and roles

1. Mr Sidibé Sédibinet: Chef de Délégation

2. Mr Saidou Doumbouya: Node Manager

3. Mlle Fatoumata Camara: Assisatante

4. Mr Mamadou Wéroto: Assistant

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- Instituions Nationales et ONG
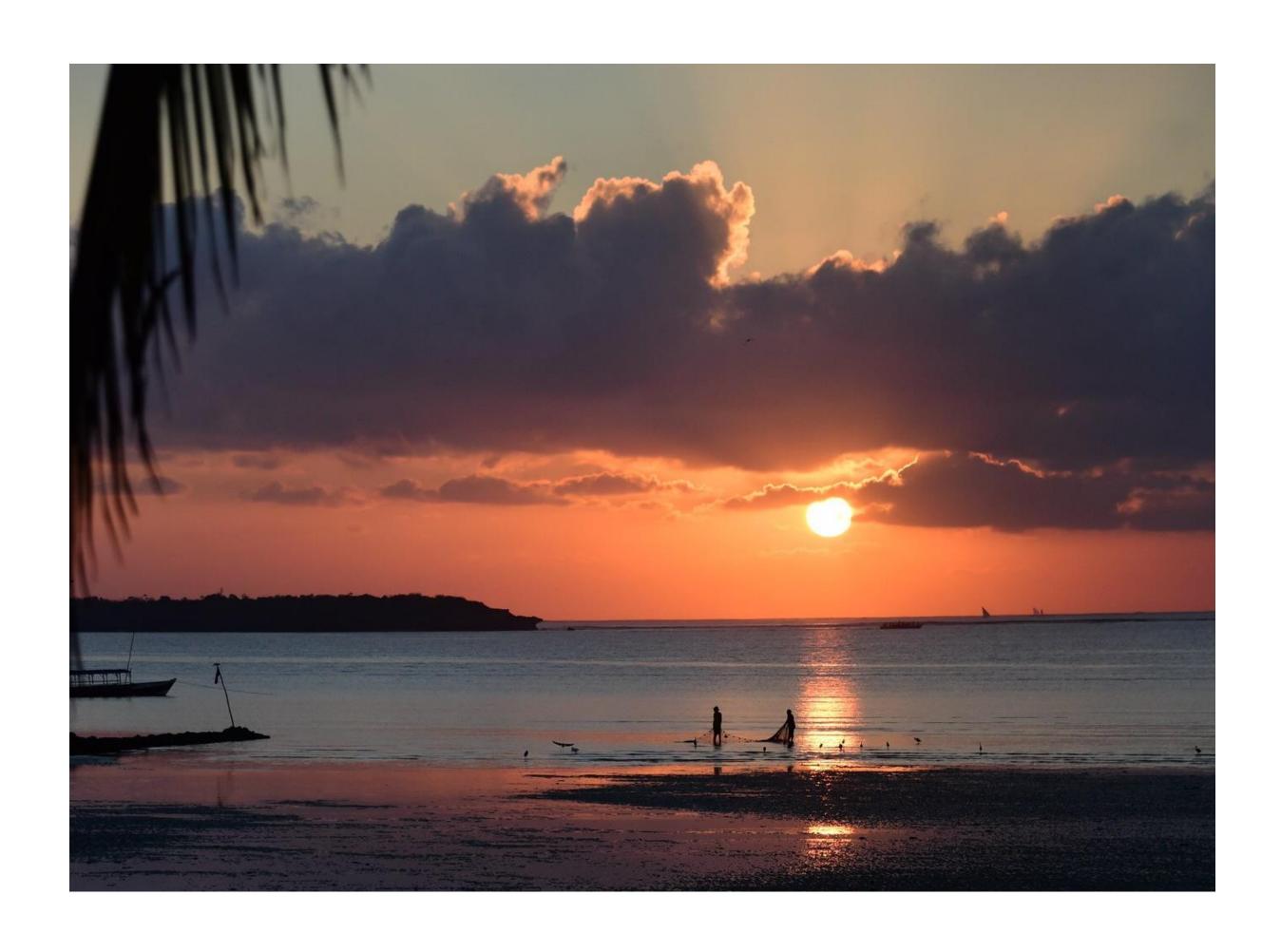
  - HNG

  - GE

  - BIOTO-GUINEE

  - OGPRNF

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

- OGPRFN: PFN de la CBD collabore avec le PFN CHM pour la publication de la SPANB

- Workshop: 1er Atelier du projet CESP 2019-10 "Utiliser l'infrastructure et le réseau du CHM pour renforcer l'acquisition et le partage de données biodiversité

- Projet de renforcement de capacité CHM-GBIF 2019-2020

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

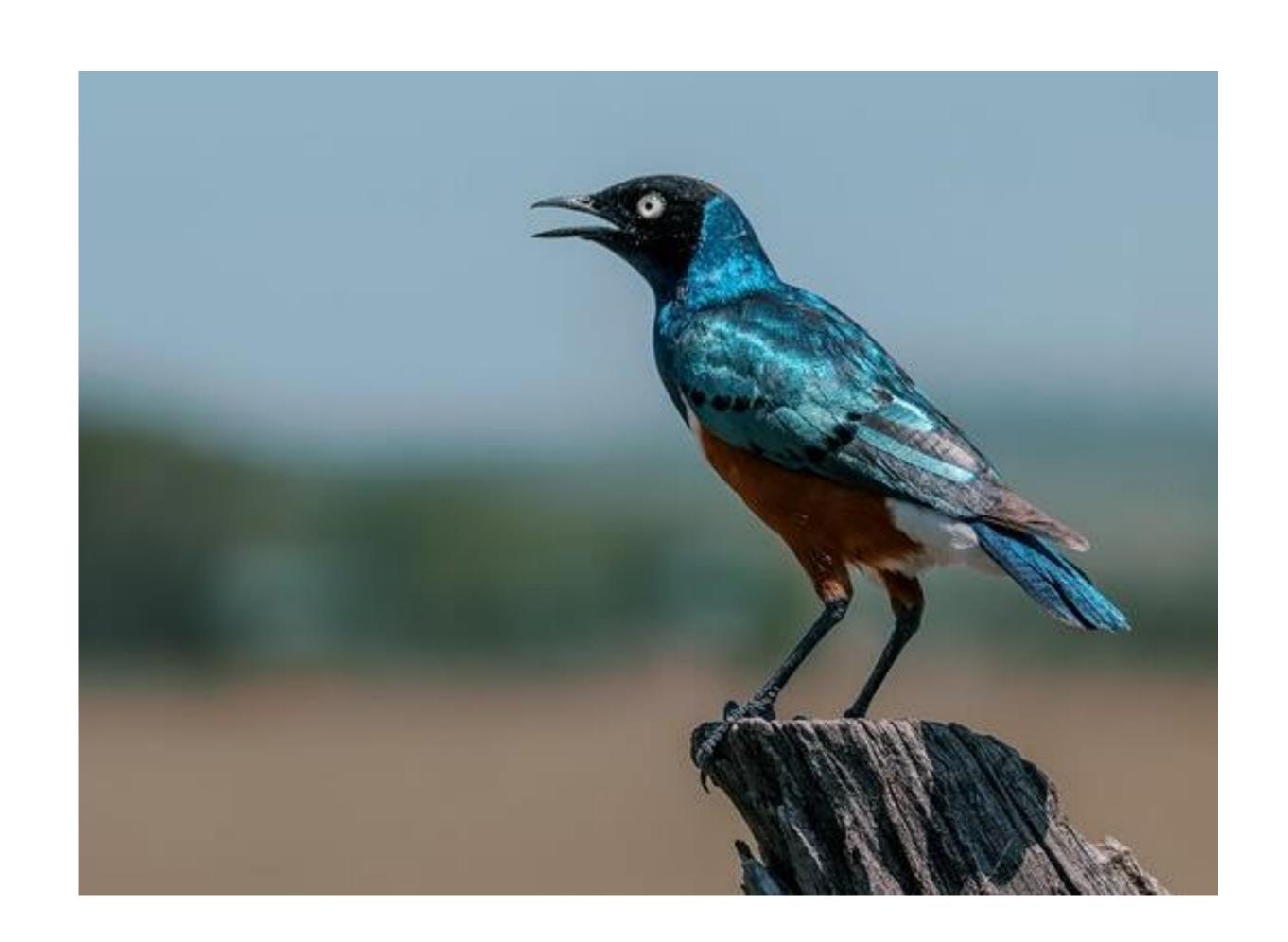- Ceci constitut un véritable chanlage pour notre Node.

- Lever ce défit serait un véritable progret dans le domaine de la Conservation.

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- Le Node:

  - Un informaticien

  - Un chargé de communication

- Renforcement de capacité des partenaires

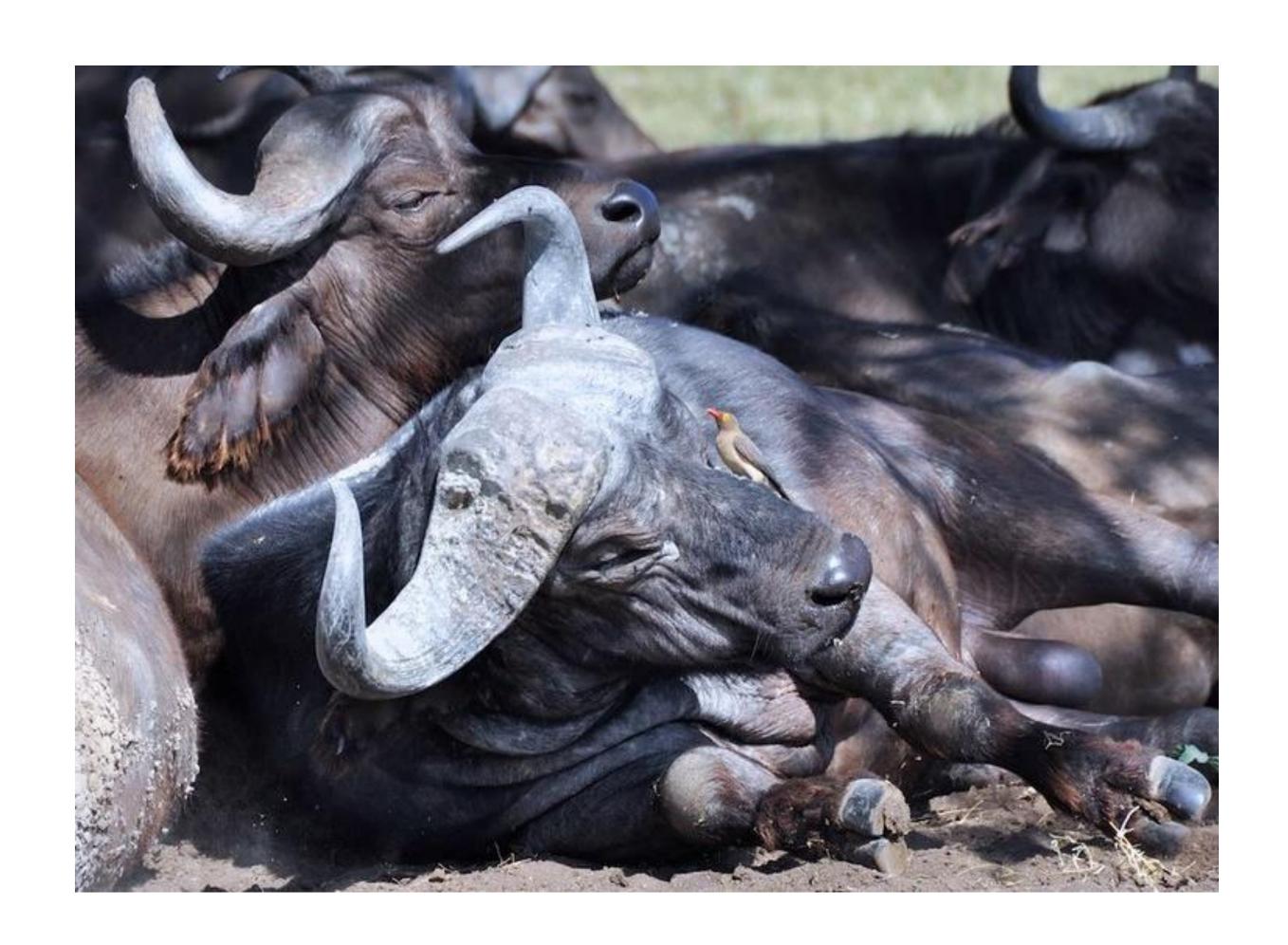# 5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice
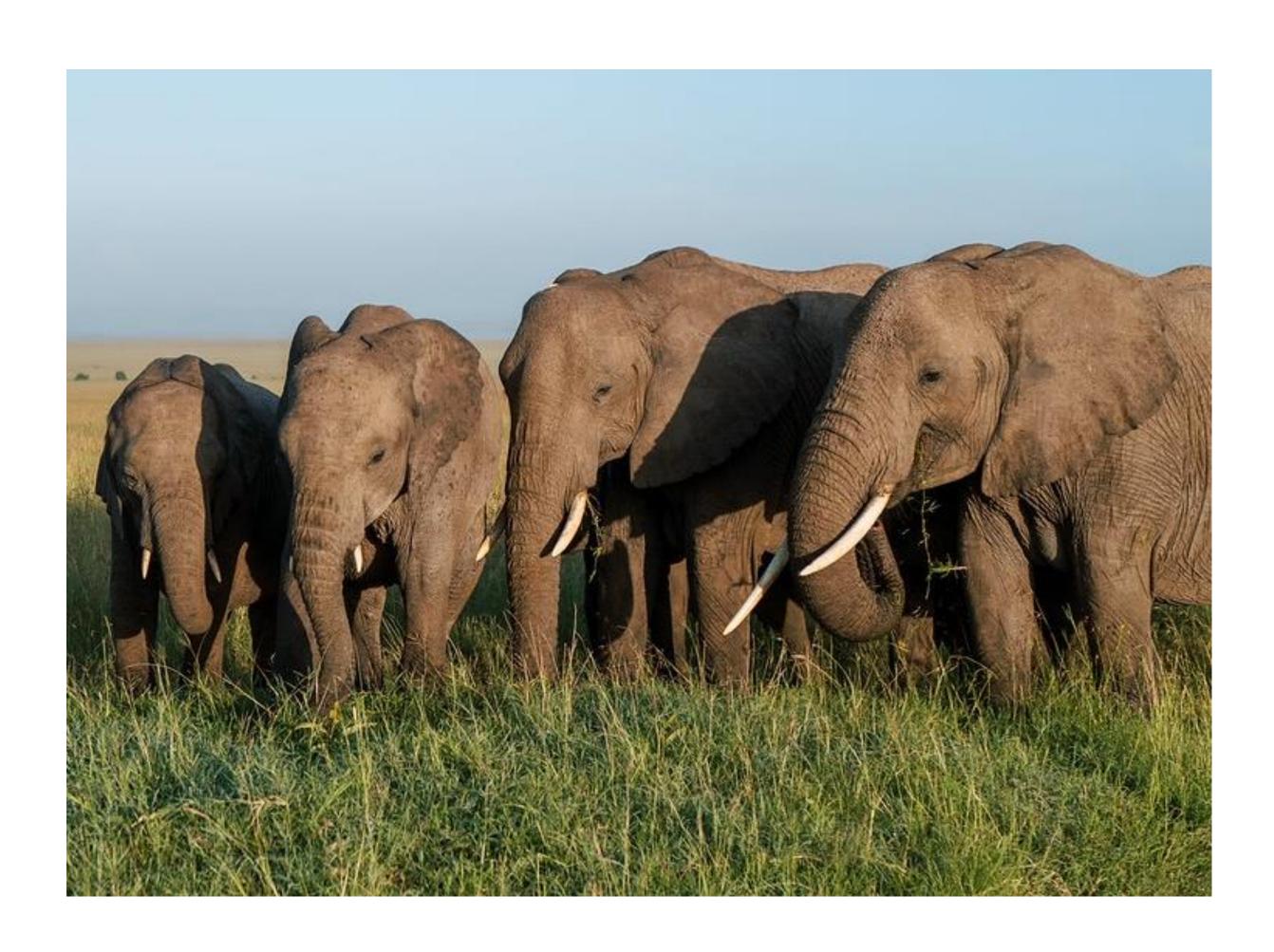

- Pour cet objectif stratégique RAS

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- Pour cet objectif stratégique RAS

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- Pour cet objectif stratégique RAS

Thank you

[Contact email]

Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre & Network (HoA-REC&N) – Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) - 2024 update
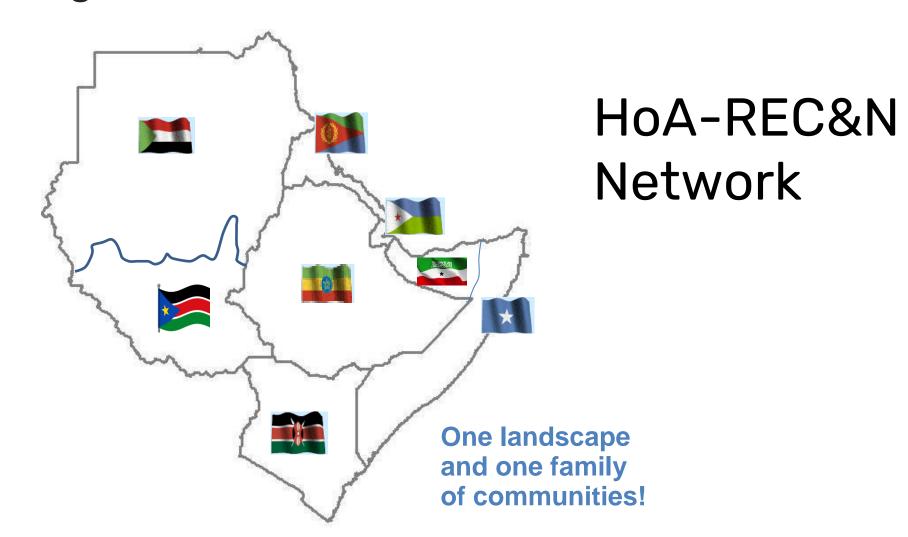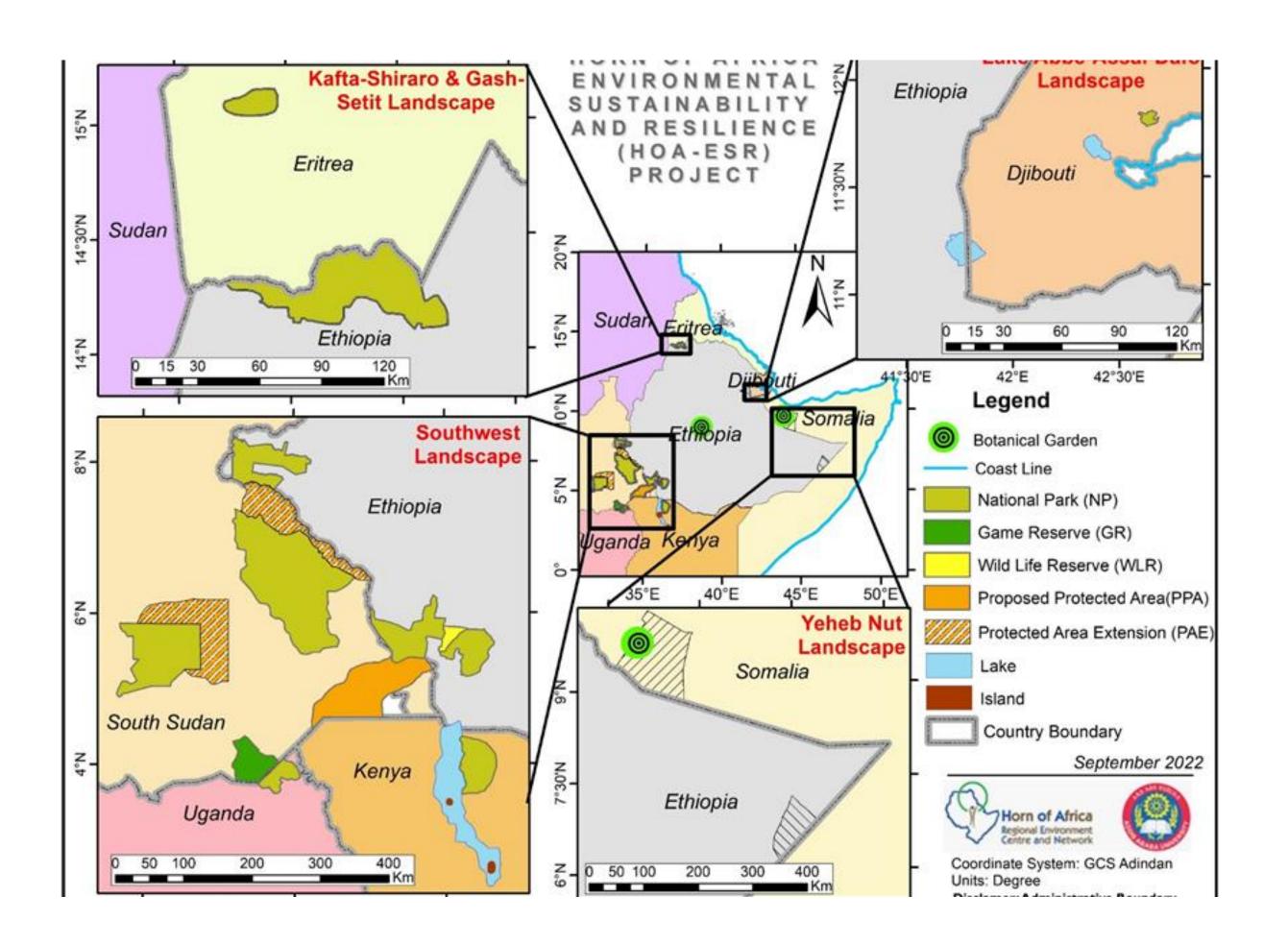
John Ajjugo, Regional Programme

Coordinator and Node Manager

Node team and roles

- Prof. Mekuria Argaw, Executive Director of the HoAR-EC&N - Head of Delegation;

- Mr. John Ajjugo, Regional Program coordinator of the HoA-REC&N - Node Manager
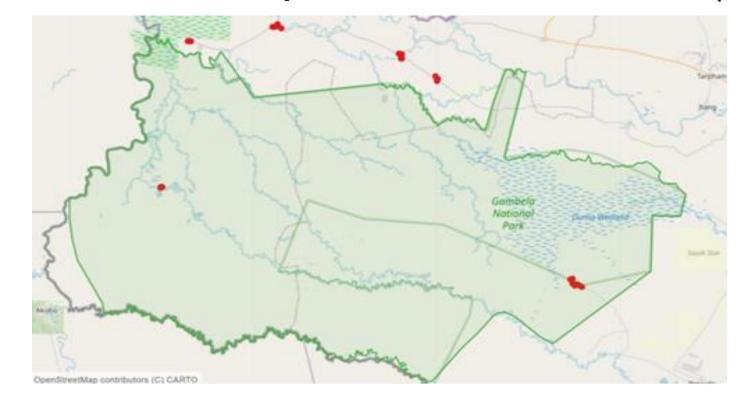
HoA-REC&N Network

One landscape and one family of communities!

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

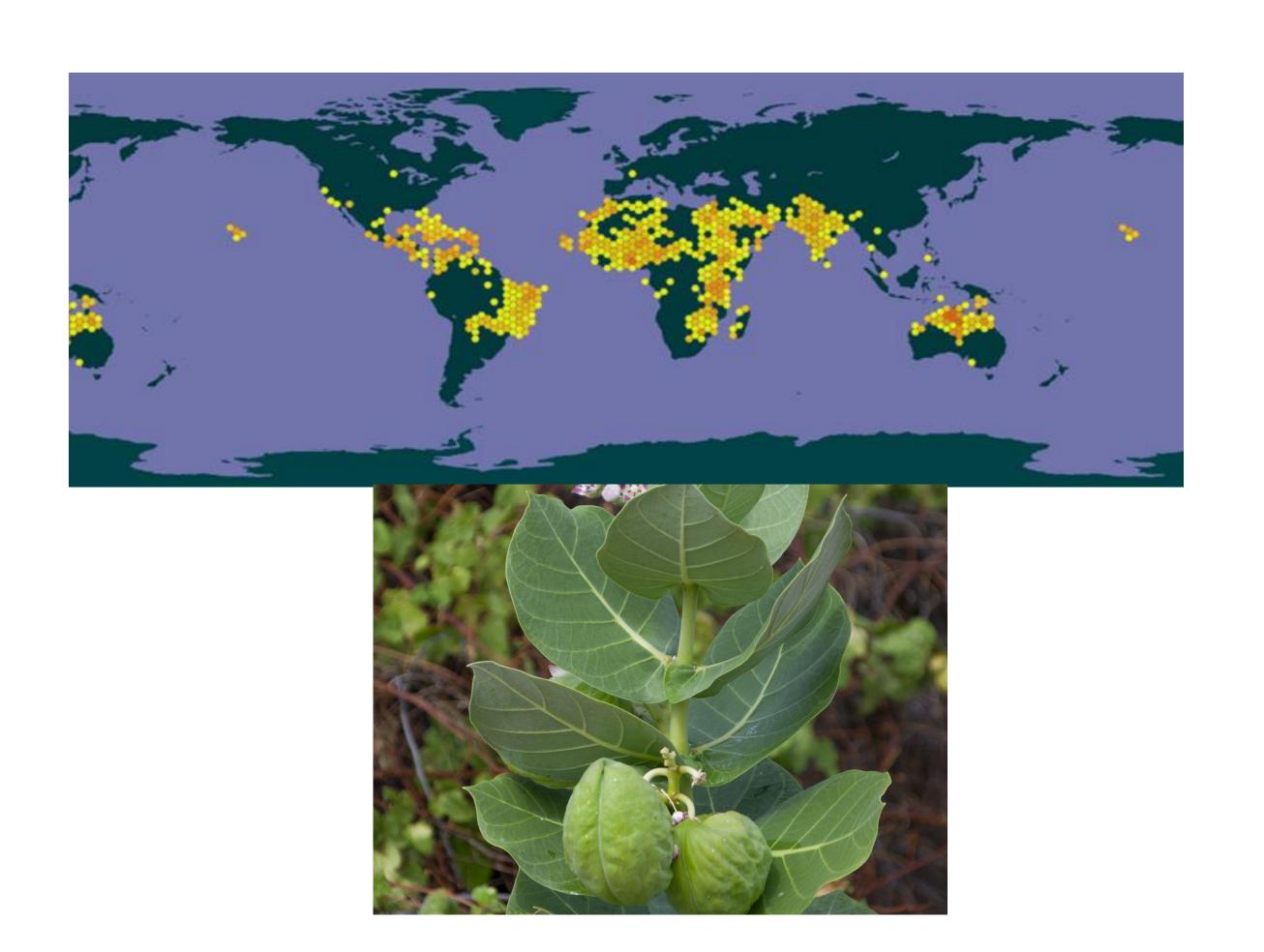Invasive species assessment (Gambella National Park)

Gambella National Park,
- Ethiopia

- Facilitating Gambella University and Ethiopan Wildife Conservation Authority/Research Unit in invasive species assessment and indicators of degrdatation:

  - *Mimosa invisa* (Mart. ex Colla Published in: Herb. Pedem.2: 255 (1834) source: Catalogue of Life

  - Creeping sensitive-plant @ https://www.gbif.org/species/2969353

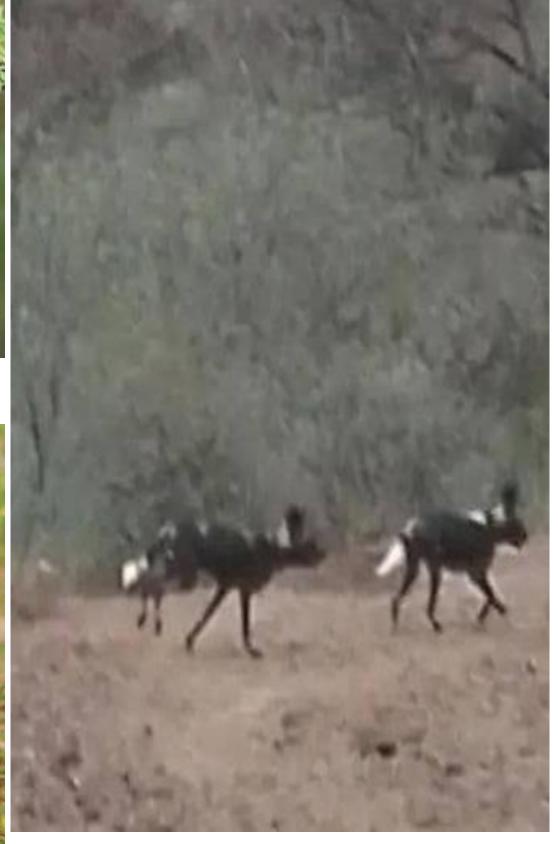# 1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

Calotropis procera (Aiton) Dryand (apple of sodom)
C. procera is a fleshy evergreen shrub about 1.8-5.5 m tall, with a diameter at breast height of 15-20 cm (von Maydell, 1986).

1. Data mobilization and use

Opportunistic data (sightings)

1. White-tailed Swallow

Hirundo megaensis - VULNERABLE.
Restricted-range species
2. Ethiopian Bushcrow
Zavattariornis stresemanni
Endangered List (Endemic species)
3. African wild dog (Lycaon pictus)

Data mobilization and use

Commiphora myrrha

Boswellia species

Data on Non timber forest product through Regional initiatives – Horn of Africa Environmental Sustainability and Resilience (HoA-ESR)
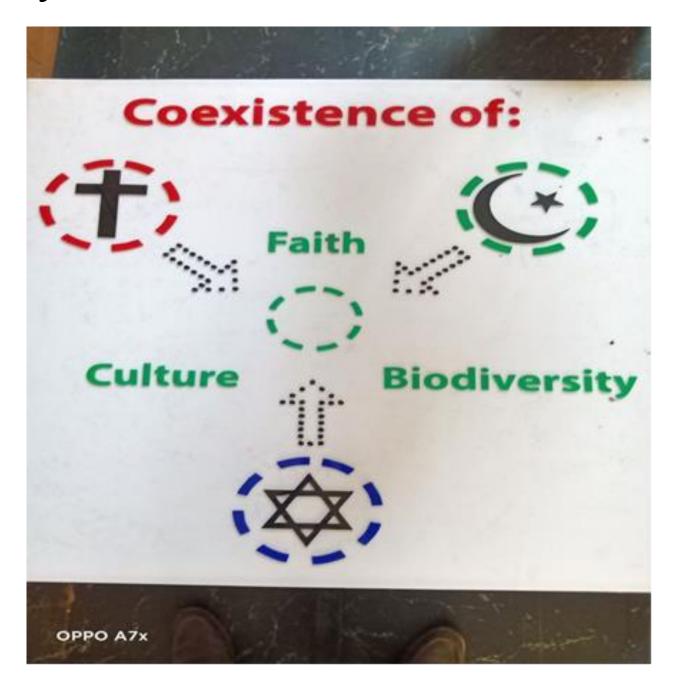
Gum and Resin Tree species

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

Abrahamic Garden project aimed to enhance linkages between culture/religion and biological diversity

5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

Cordeauxia edulis
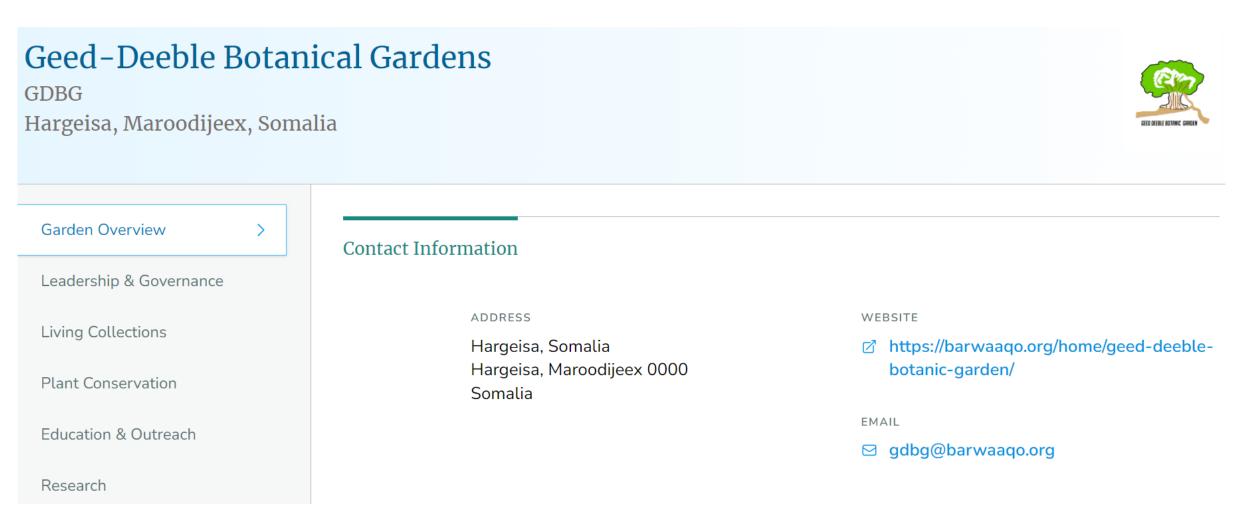
- **HoA-REC&N facilitating role: CABES** Science Policy Practice Interface on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (SPIBES) master's Program capitating qualified early-career scientists, researchers, and facilitators in Science, Policy and Practice (17 Eastern Africa countries)

- 12 Students enrolled at Addis Ababa (10 countries represented: Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda).

- Opportunity expose the students to GBIF platform

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

Geed–Deeble Botanical Gardens
GDBG
Hargeisa, Maroodijeex, Somalia

Garden Overview

Leadership & Governance

Living Collections

Plant Conservation

Education & Outreach

Research

Contact Information

ADDRESS
Hargeisa, Somalia
Hargeisa, Maroodijeex 0000
Somalia

WEBSITE
https://barwaaqo.org/home/geed-deeble-botanic-garden/

EMAIL
gdbg@barwaaqo.org

- Engaging institutions with collections and relevant societies and networks in data mobilization - Geed Deeble Botanic garden (Somaliland), Gullele Botanic Garden/Abrahamic Garden (Ethiopia)

Geed Deeble Botanic garden

Documentations and plant record keeping

S/N	Botanical name	Family name	Local Name	Accession Number	Number of Plants
1	Accacia Tortilis	Leguminosae	Qudhac	2023-2	700
2	Tamarindus indica	Leguminosae	Xamar	2023-3	400
3	Schinus molle	Anacardiaceae	Mirimiri	2023-4	100
4	Ficus sycromus	Moraceae	Daray	2023-5	50
5	Phoenix dactylifera	Arecaceae,	Timir	2023-6	-
6	Acacia albida	Leguminosae	Garbi	2023-7	300
7	Cordeauxia edulis	Fabaceae	Yicib	2022-1	700
8	lysiloma latisiliquum	Fabaceae	Lusiniya	2023-3	120
9	Khaya senegalenses	Meliaceae	Moogane	2023-8	300
10	Ziziphus mauritiana	Rhamnaceae	Gob	2022-7	400
11	lysiloma latisiliquum	Fabaceae	Luzina	2023-8	
12	Pithecellobium dulce	Fabaceae	Dhamal-faranji	2023-9	120
13	-	-	Maluug	2023-10	-
14	Agave sisalana	Asparagaceae	Xigdhaadheer	2023-11	2170
15	Aloe rigens	Aloaceae	Dacar Maroodi	2023-12	100
16	Cynanchum viminale Apocynaceae	Cynanchum viminale Apocynaceae	Xangeeyo	2023-13	2

Horn of Africa
Regional Environment
Centre and Network

Thank you

John Ajjugo - johna@hoarec.org
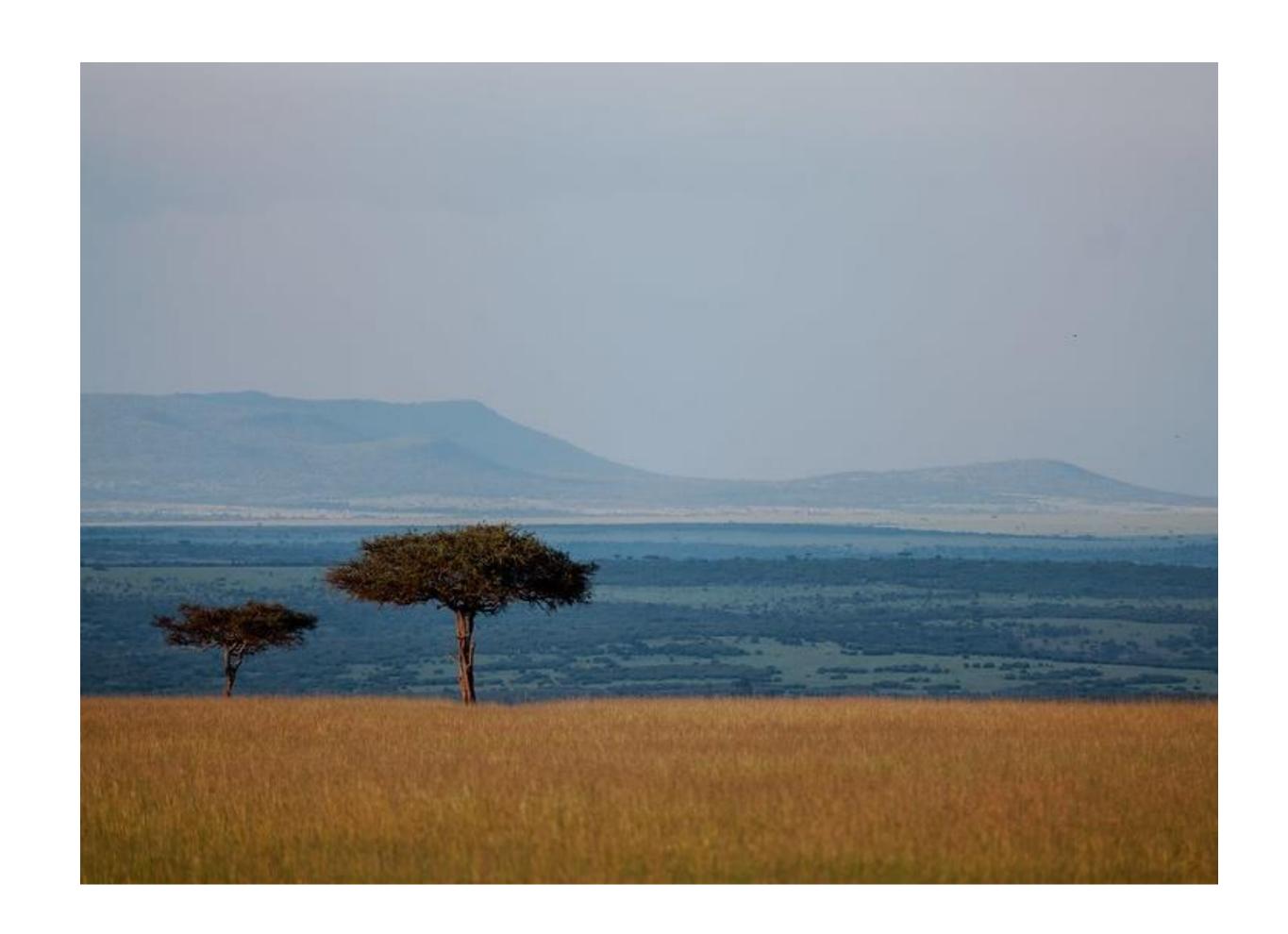
GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility

[Internation Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology] 2024 update
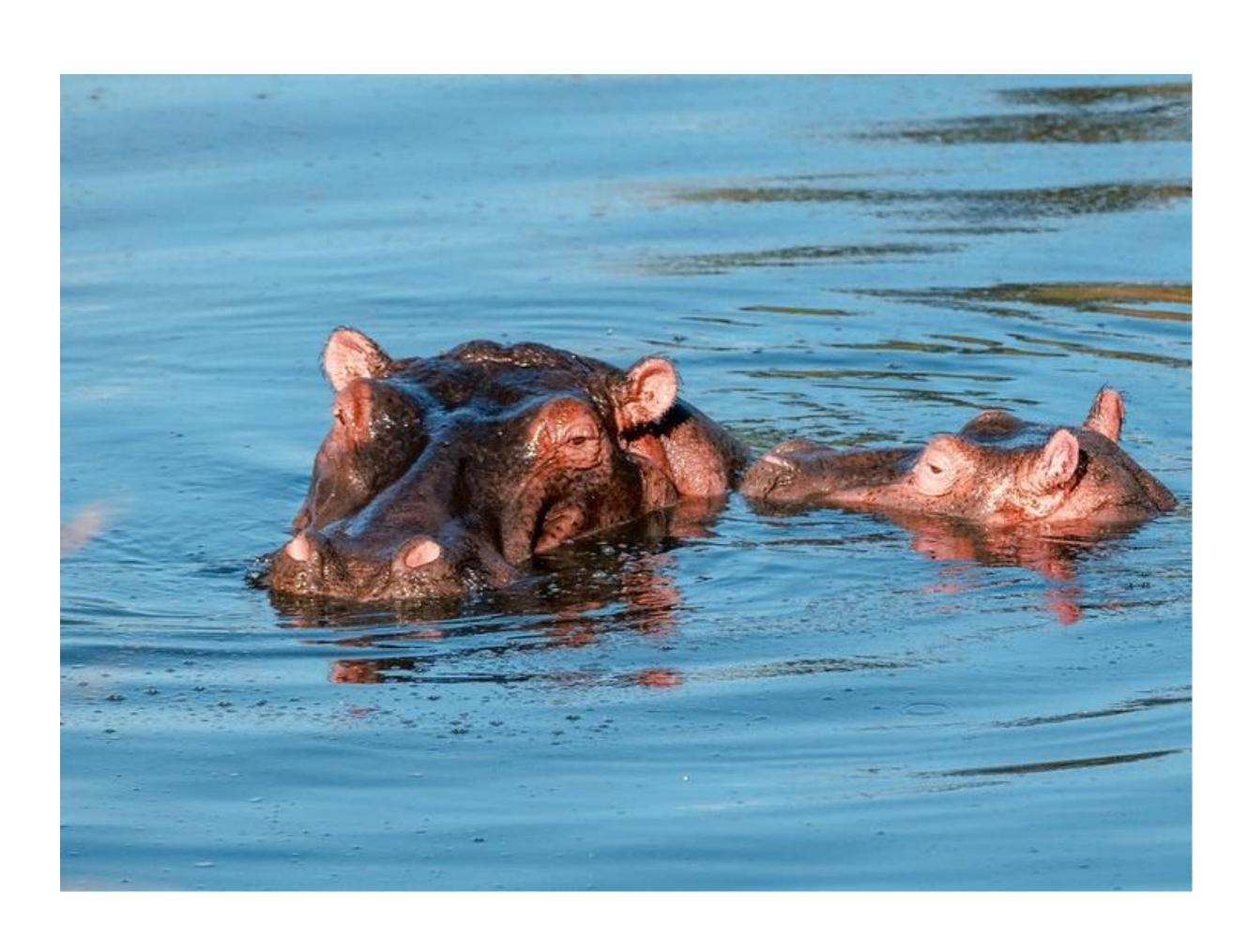
[Dr Kennedy Senagi, Data Manager]

Node team and roles

- Dr. Menale Kassie – Head of Unit

- Wilberforce Wanjala – ICT Support

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- Open science, FAIR principles

- Reproducible science

- Utilizing existing infrastructure for gloablization of data.

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

- Biodiversity assessment of insects;

  South Africa, sandflies, etc.

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors
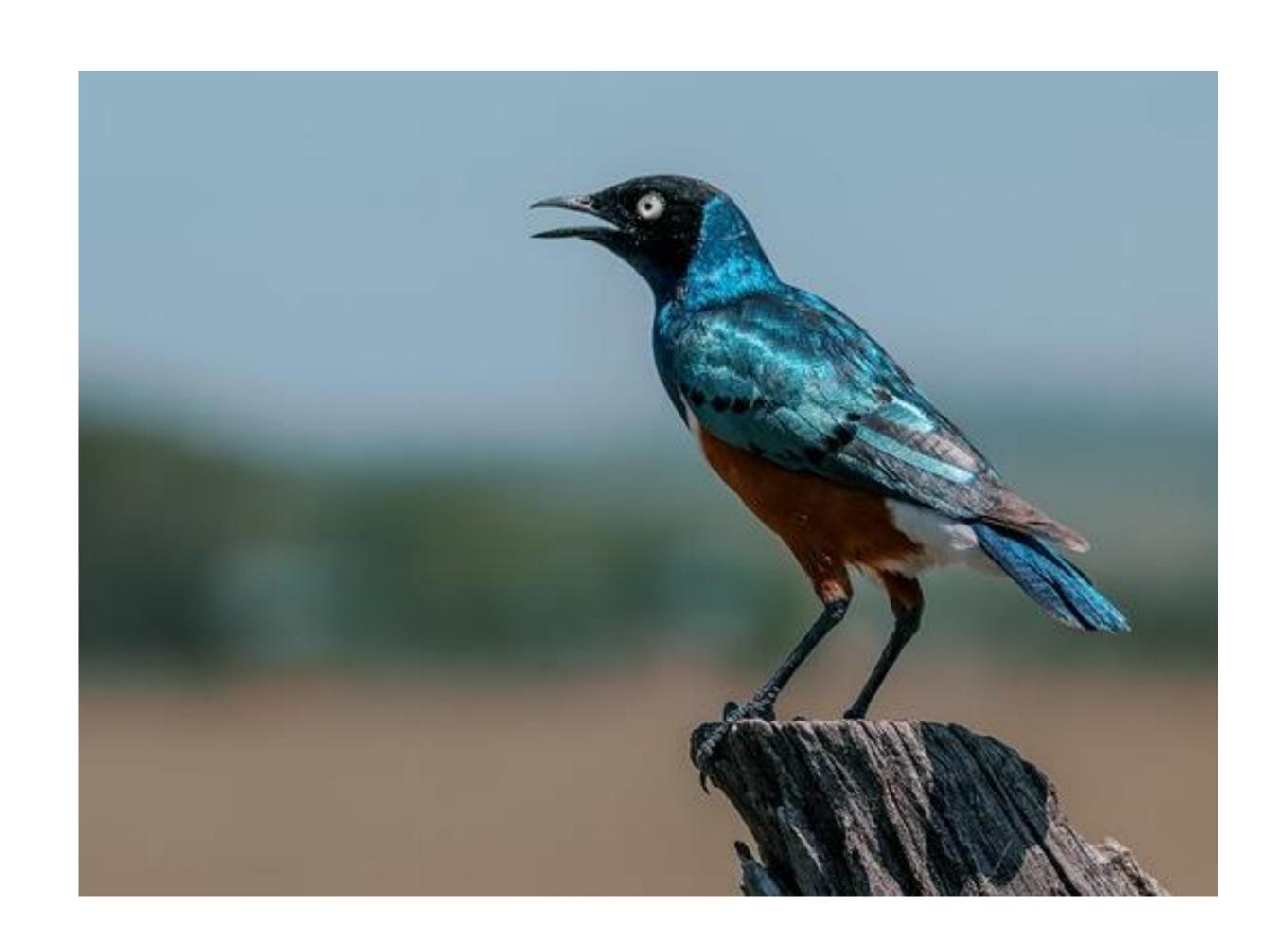

- Publishing data; icipe Data warehouse and GBIF IPT

- Collaboration with Vector Atlas (icipe-Kenya, University of Oxford-UK, Curtin University-Australia); ontologies, DOIs, data sharing/mobilization.
  - Globalization of scientifc work
  - Citations

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- Visibility and globalization

- Improved relationships with patners and other scientists

5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

- Training new graduates

- Software engineer and data scientists

- Senstitize scientists; icipe and other organizations

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- Vector Atlas - data modeling; ontologies

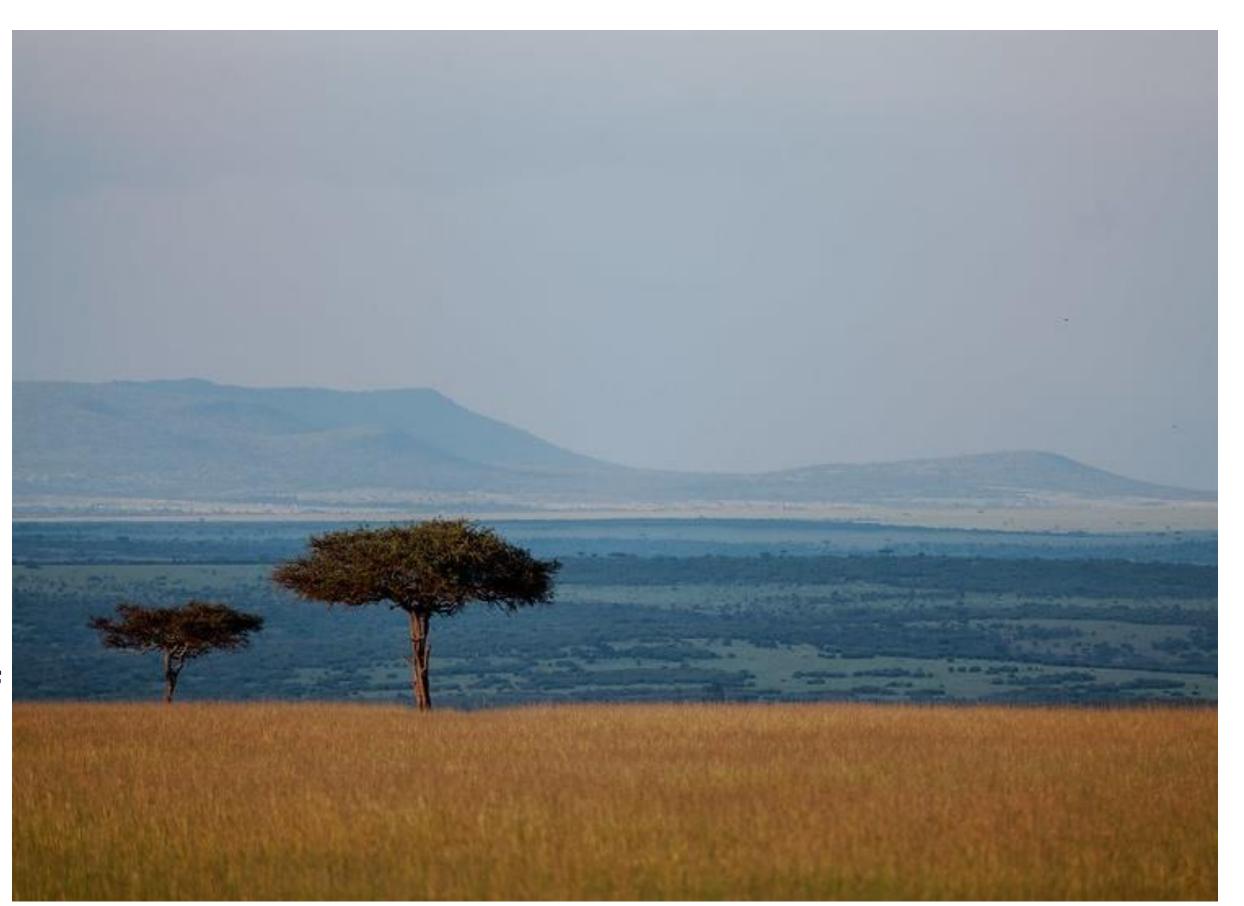# Thank you

[ksenagi@icipe.orgl]

GBIF KENYA 2024 update

[Lawrence Monda | Node Manager Kenya]
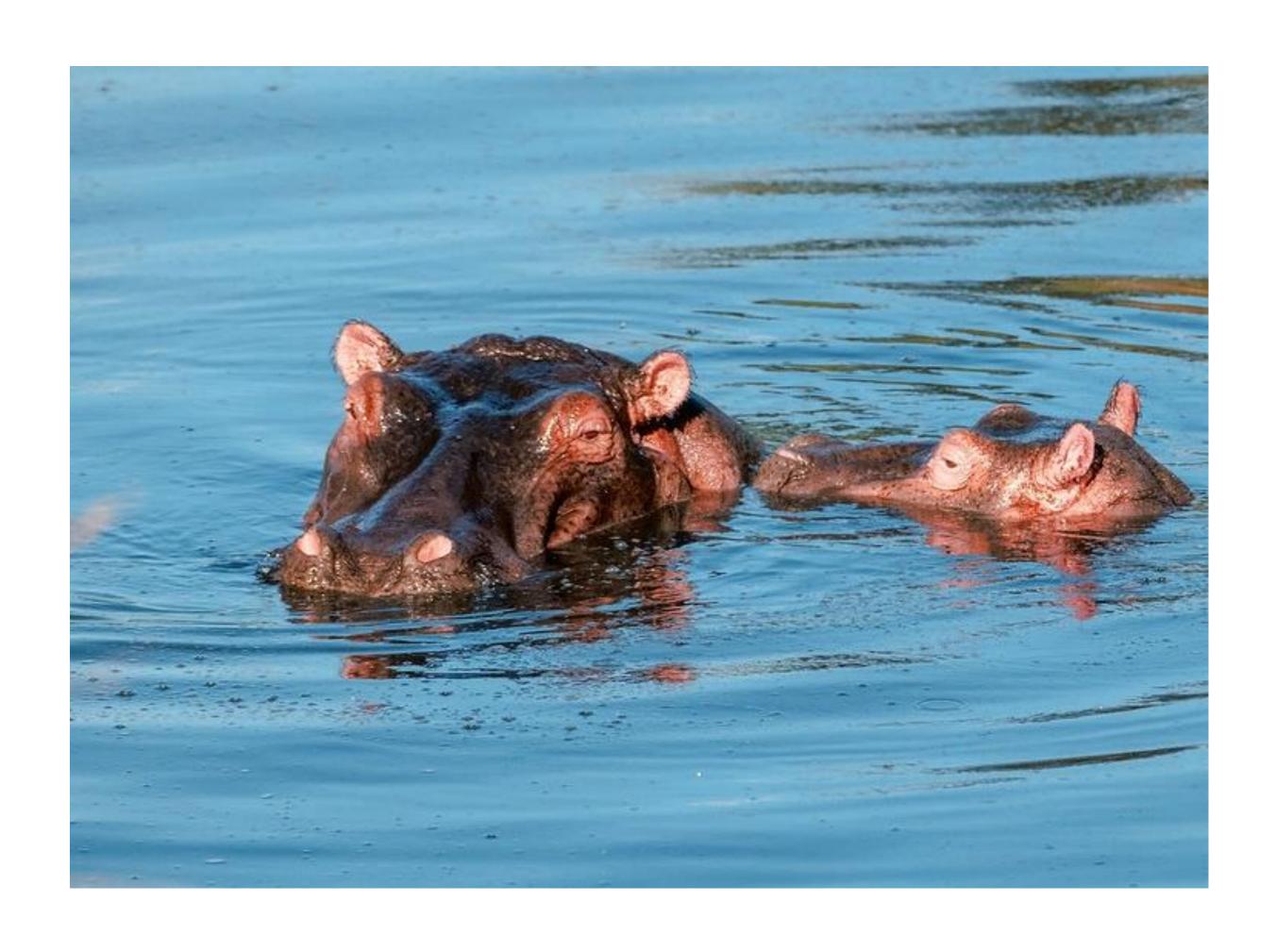
Node team and roles

- **Dr. Geoffrey Mwachala – Head of Delegation**
  gmwachala@museums.or.ke

- **Lawrence Monda –Node Manager**
  Lmonda@museums.or.ke | Lawrence.monda@gmail.com

- **Brenda Nyaboke – Node staff**
  bnyaboke@museums.or.ke | bnyavoke@gmail.com

- **Esther Mwangi – Node staff**
  ewmwangi@museums.or.ke | mwangiwangui25@gmail.com

The node staff manages biodiversity data. Validation and publication of biodiversity datasets. Train researchers on the use of biodiversity from GBIF as well as preparing data for online publishing.

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

- GBIF-Kenya supports the publishing of datasets from projects funded by various funding organizations such as the JRS foundation. Most recent is published datasets from the project "Unlocking Biodiversity Data to Facilitate Designation of Lake Ol Bolossat as a 7th Ramsar Site in Kenya".
- Presentation and awareness during the RCoE ESA at RCMRD, Kenya

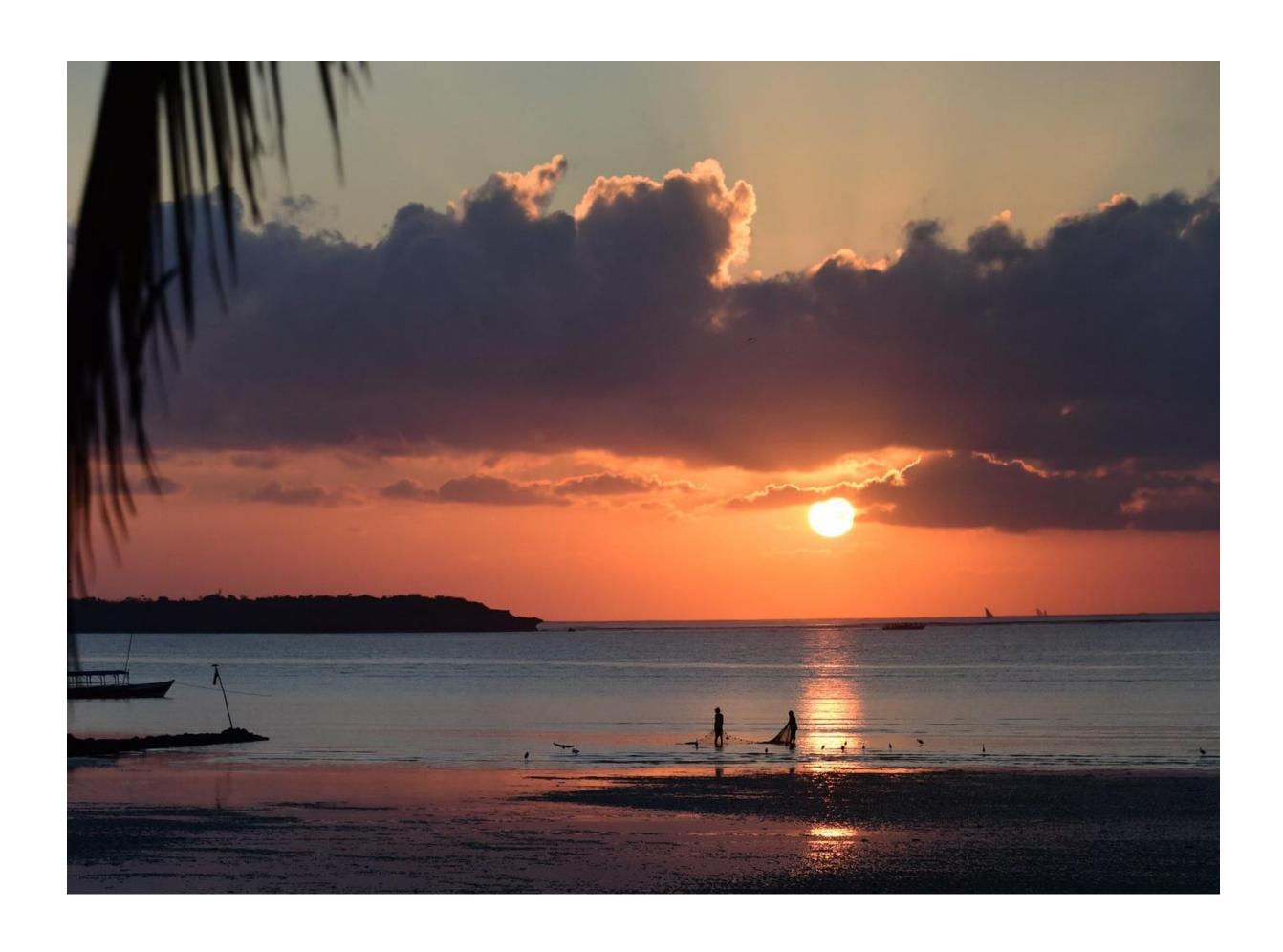# 2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

Provide data for the following obligations

- National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plan (NBSAPs)
  Global Biodiversity Framework (Kunming Montreal biodiversity Framework)

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) -

- Ramsar - Data of Lake Ol Bolossat which is a ramsar site

- CITES- Present Technical country position papers by species specialists

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

Kenya did not conduct any activity under this strategic objective during the reporting period.

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- **Kenya through the CESP project, supported GBIF South Sudan in knowledge and skills sharing.**
- **Kenya has also supported regional countries in publishing biodiversity data on the Kenya IPT instance such as Uganda**
- **The node has also supported local institutions through training and data mobilization awareness.**

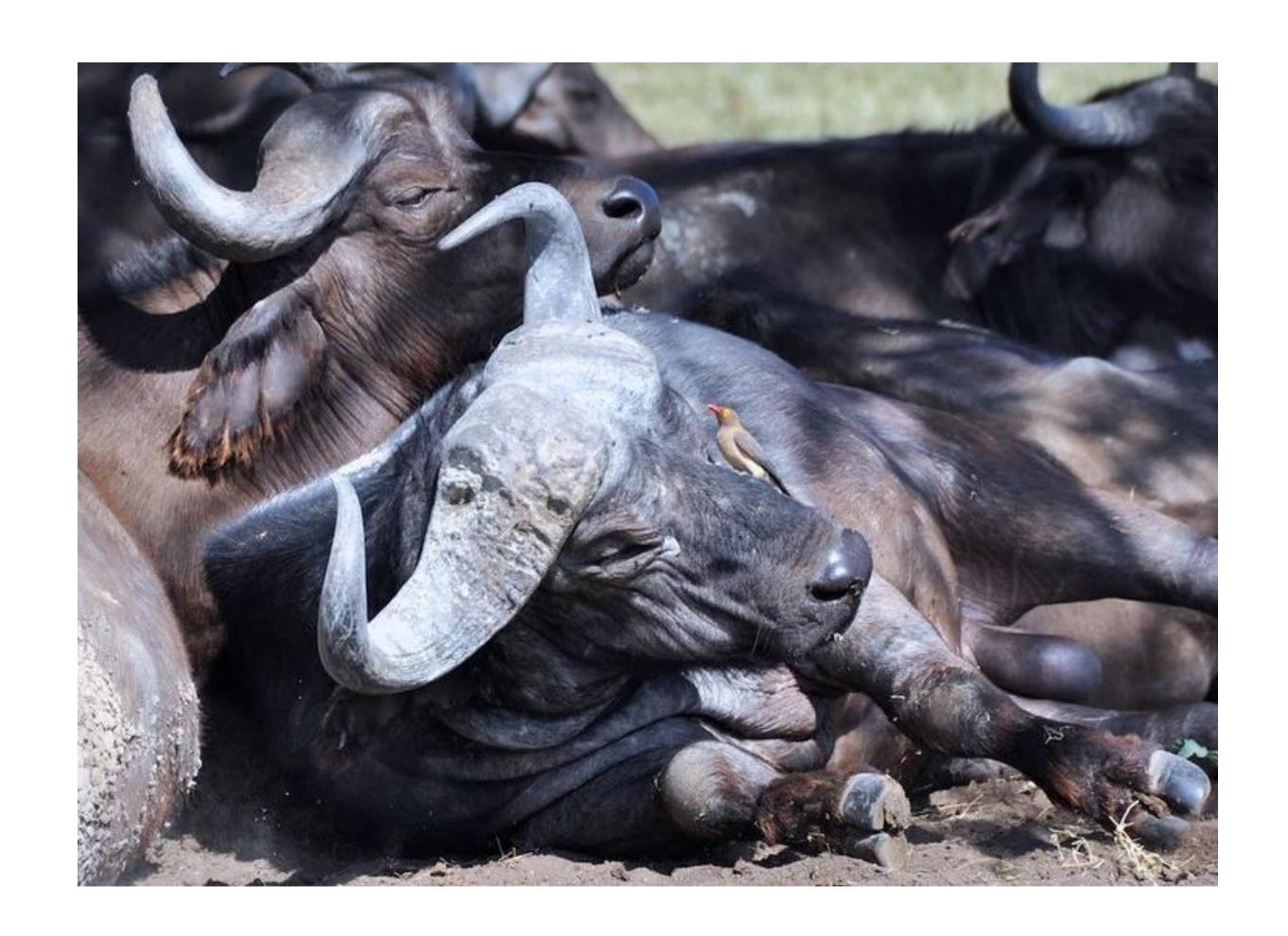# 5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

- **Kenya has supported regional engagements in Uganda by training and publishing biodiversity data on the IPT and preparation of data papers**
- **Support to South Sudan GBIF node**

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

Kenya node contributes to GRSciColl
by updating all datasets published
from the node.

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

Attended Monthly regional support webinar sessions.

Asante

[Lmonda@museums.or.ke]

Node team and roles

Head of Delegation: Shonisani Munzhedzi (SANBI CEO)
Node Manager: Fatima Parker-Allie
Node Staff: BRAHMS: Database Content Manager
Node Postdoctoral Researcher (short term, 1 year)

Division: Foundational Biodiversity Science Division

National GRA Advisory Panel

Do you think that your team is efficient enough? Do you envision an improvement?

No, staff constraint - Nodes team is not efficient;
Data publishing by SANBI - **not** FTE Node staff

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

New strategic Areas - Mass digitization initiative: Innovative technological approaches like mass digitization supporting biodiversity data mobilization, use and job creation.

Graduate Researchers Award:

5 applications were received and reviewed by the Panel. Submission of 2 candidates to the GBIF GRA – SA **candidate receive the 2024 GRA**.

Research

Parker-Allie, F (in Prep) Exploring the use and impact of biodiversity data generated by the South African Biodiversity Science community towards national and global relevance.

Data Mobilisation – Strategic Inputs

Invited to OBIS TAG

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science-policy interface

- Participation on the Research and Innovation Working Group of the G20 in 2024.

- Member of the DSI RIWG Science Committee 2024 (Planning for the SA G20 in 2025).

- Driving the Biodiversity Component with GBIF as a Knowledge Partner, of the RIWG of the G20 for 2025.

- SANBI awarded as a CBD Subregional Support Centre for Technical and Scientific Cooperation – SANBI-GBIF Node has facilitated initial discussions between GBIF Secretariat and SANBI.

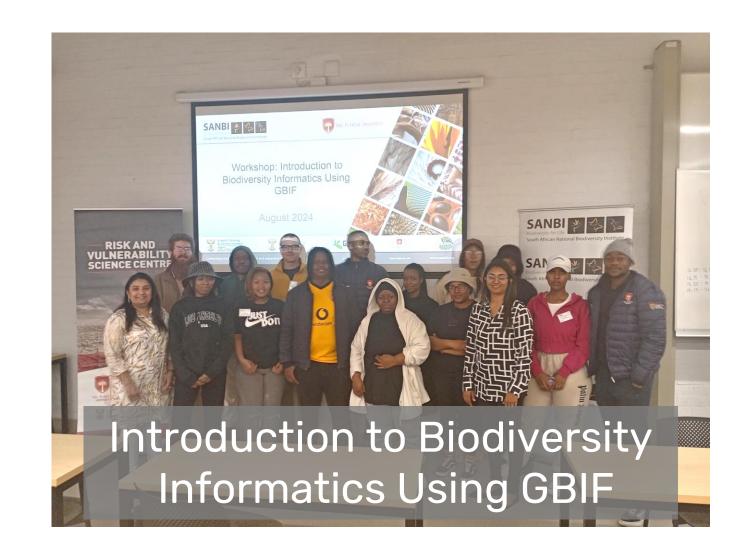# 3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

- Nothing to Report

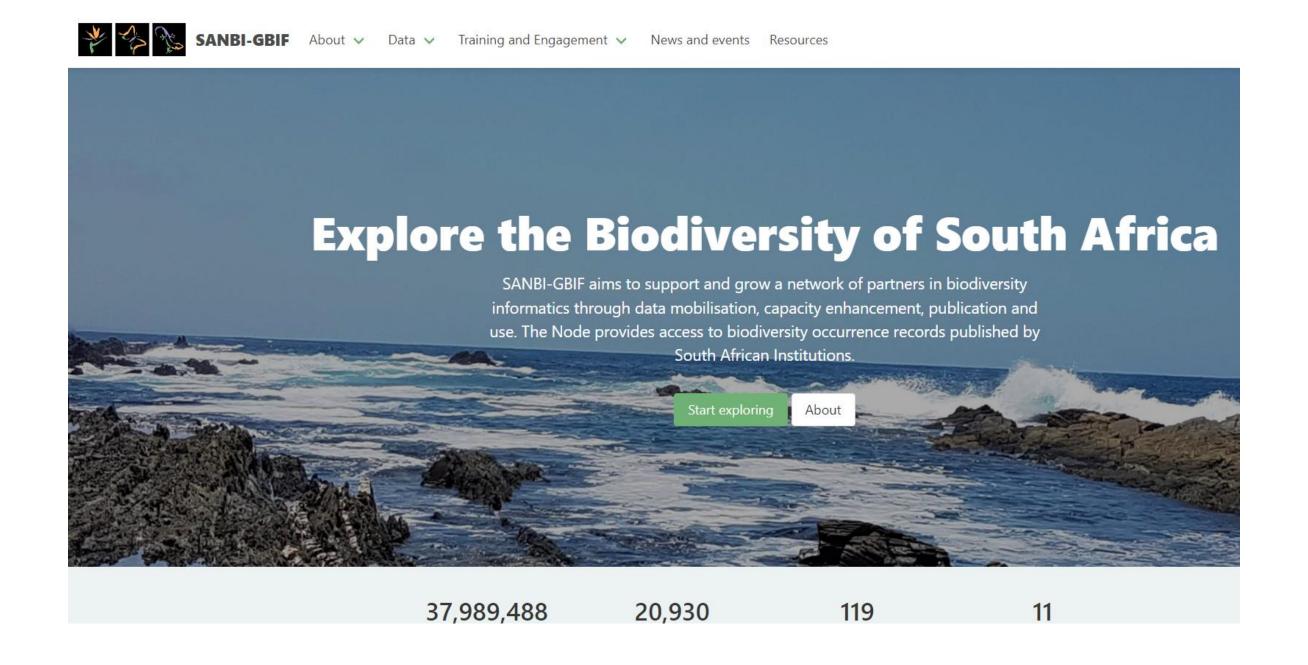# 4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

- First Biodata Advanced Training event **on molecular data publishing** in Africa, was held in **Nov'23**- capacitation of **12 participants** and inclusion of training team from GBIF and GBIF-Norway, University of Free State and SANBI.

- Hosted an **"Introduction to BDI Using GBIF"** Training event at the Sol Plaatje Univeristy, **Aug '24**. Capacitation of about **12 BSc Honours Students**. Provision of certificates of completion.

- Training event looking at **Species Distribution Modelling using Maxent in R** was conducted in collaboration with UCT, from 5-7th March 2024. **Capacitation of 14 national stakeholders** and provision of certificates of completion.

- Two SA 4-month Studentships based at the Natural History Museum University of Oslo from SA to Norway – facilitated through Biodata Advanced.

- Biodata Advanced_ZA Training Workshop on **Data Use with GBIF**, held from the 18th – 22nd Nov'24, with **25 students** capacitated, including both Norwegian and South African Students & 6 teachers.

- Engagements with universities to support and grow Biodiversity Informatics is ongoing. Publication outcome: **Parker-Allie, F.,** Gibbons, MJ., and Harebottle, DM. 2023. A conceptual approach to developing biodiversity informatics as a field of science in South Africa. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, DOI : 10.3389/fevo.2023.1107212.

Introduction to Biodiversity Informatics Using GBIF

Biodata Advanced

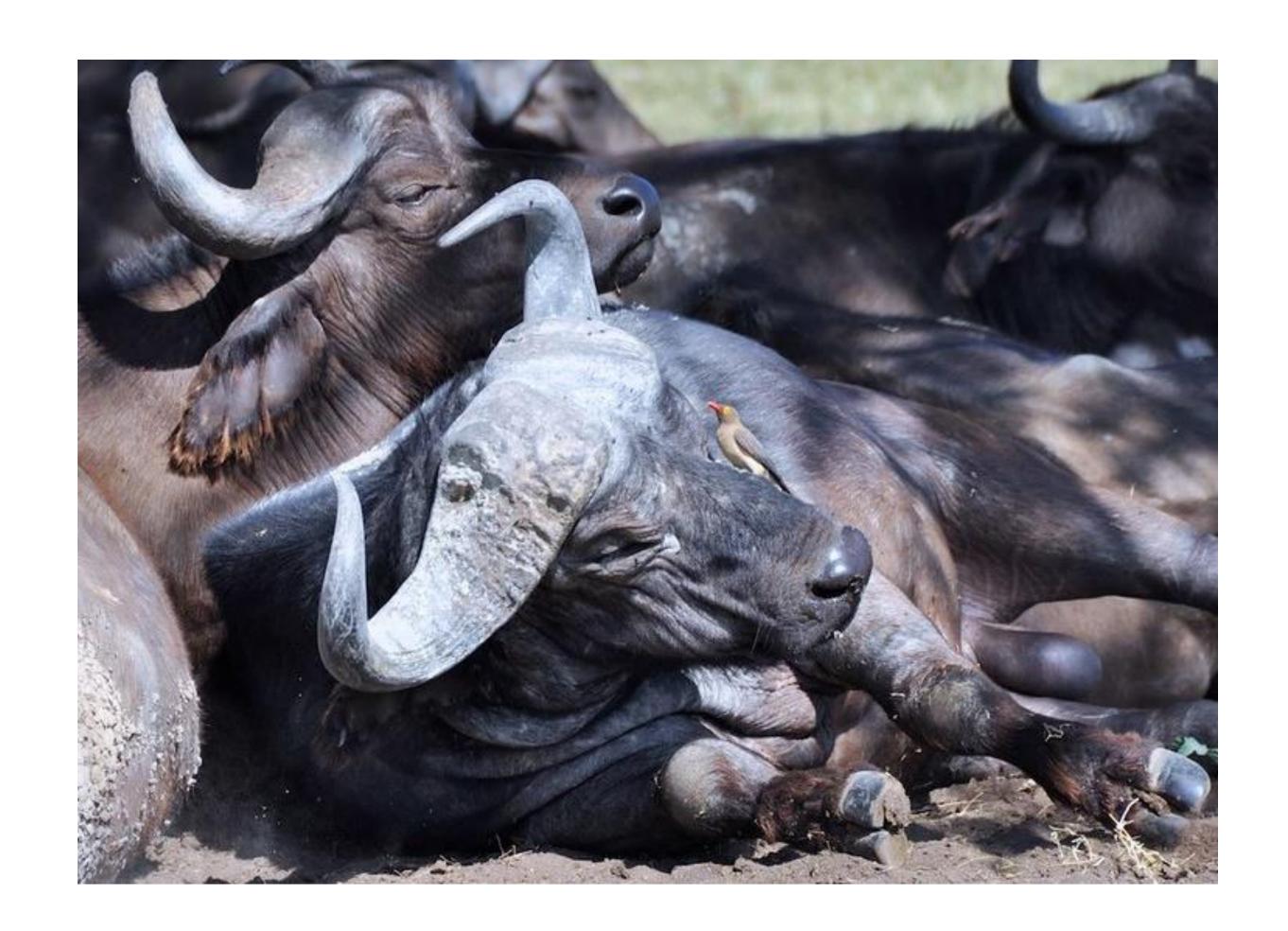# 5. Develop capacity within regional communities of practice

- Member of the SANBI Task Team for conceptualising the Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Centre for implementation of the KM-GBF.

- Invited to Present the **SANBI-GBIF Hosted Portal** to the BID Africa Community.

- Invited to conduct a presentation for the African BioGenome Project Conference, Sep'24: "**How the Global Biodiversity Information Facility can serve the African Bioeconomy**". Interest in sharing DNA derived data as an outcome.

- Support to Sierra Leon in the publication of sample-based data**.**

6. Strengthen support services for collection communities

- As part of the RIWG-G20 efforts - Engagement with **G13 Leadership** to reduce asymmetries between the Global North and the Global South.

- Engagement with the Museum Community, and discussions on Indigenous People and Local Community needs relating to data governance (IPLC).

- Promotion of GrSciColl and the COL

7. Contribute to data model enhancements

- Efforts to expand on DNA derived data publication.

- Testing and use of the DNA publishing tool

Thank you

[Contact email]

United Republic of Tanzania 2024 update

Dr. Hulda Gideon, Node Manager

GBIF Africa Node Managers Committee Meeting
Harare, Zimbabwe, 27th November 2024
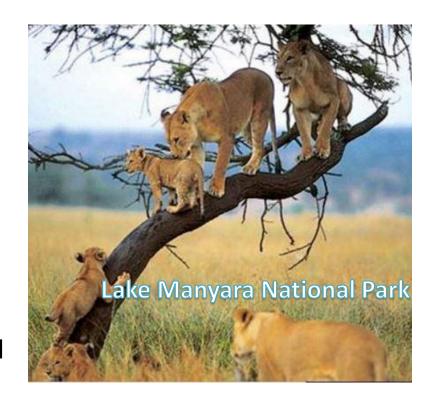
Node team and roles

GBIF Node in Tanzania (TanBIF) is hosted and coordinated by the **Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH)**.

COSTECH is government institution responsible for promoting and coordinating **Science, Technology and Innovation** in Tanzania.

It is the **chief advisor** of the Government on all science and technology matters.

R&D and Higher learning institutions are affiliates of COSTECH

The Commission consists of the **Governing Board, R&D Advisory Committees and the Secretariat**

Lake Manyara National Park

1. Director General, Dr. Amos M. Nungu
2. TanBIF Chair, Prof. P.K Munishi, SUA
3. Node Manager, Dr. Hulda Gideon
4. Life Sciences Manager, Dr. Paulo Ochanga

1. Engaging research communities for data mobilization and use

Kilombero valley

- Capacity building on mobilisation, digitisation and publishing biodiversity data at SUA from 28th to 30th August 2024:
  - Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF);
  - Sokoine University of Agriculture;
  - Open University of Tanzania;
  - Tanzania Forest Services
    - ✓ Uluguru Nature Forest Reserve,
    - ✓ Kilombero Nature Forest Reserve
    - ✓ Uzungwa Scarp Nature Forest Reserve

2. Support national biodiversity commitments and the science- policy interface

National preparations for **CBD (COP 16)**, Cali, Columbia, 21st October to 1^{s} November 2024; a workshop held in Morogoro from 23rd to 26th September 2024.

CABI (formerly Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux) Africa initiative to intensify Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) approach: a participatory and inclusive process, involving people from different sectors and scales in co-production of solutions for management of landscapes in Tanzania, the workshop was held in Dodoma from 8th to 10th October 2024.

Kitulo National Park
God's Garden

3. Promote open biodiversity data approaches within the business and finance sectors

Plenary panel discussion session on **Advancing Open Science for a Knowledge-Driven Society and Sustainable STI Resource Governance in Tanzania** on 4th December 2024**.**
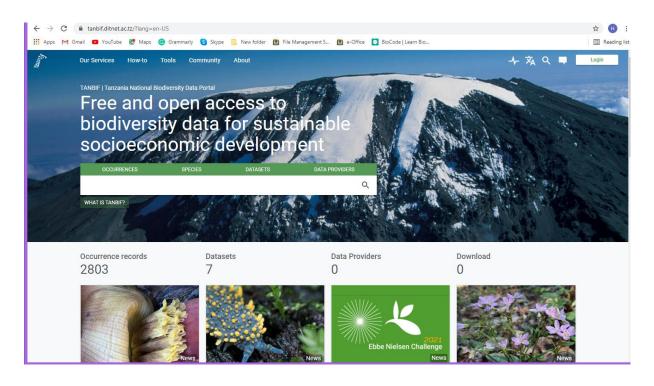
Discussants are from
- **Govt departments**
- **Universities**
- **Research Institutions**
- **Private sector**
- **NGOs**

4. Support node development through knowledge sharing and mobility of skills

TanBIF Portal: the national gateway for biodiversity data and information.

3142 occurrence records of Bryopsida (1), Cycadopsida (1), Liliopsida (120), Magnoliopsida (416) and Polypodiopsida (23)

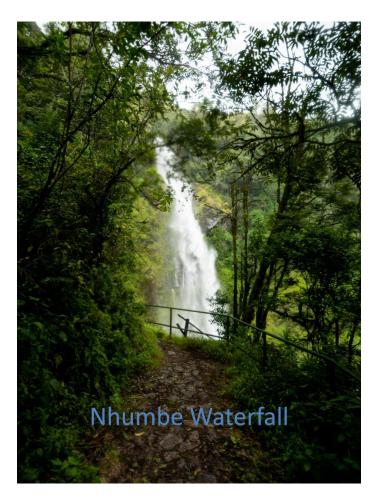**456 Species records** of Acanthaceae family

128 species records of Anisoptera (Dragonflies)

73 species records of Zygoptera (Damselflies)

5. Strengthen support services for collection communities

NORAD-COSTECH **Climate change Programme** launched by the Hon. Minister for Union and Environment 11th October 2023, grantees will be awarded by the President on 2nd December 2024.

LEAWEF (Long-term Europe-Africa **Water, Energy and Food**) Research Programme call issued on 7th October 2024 for to be closing on 14th July 2025.

Nhumbe Waterfall

A concept development to implement **ILM approach** in the following priority areas is in initial stages: 1. River Wami-Ruvu Basin; 2. Pangani River Basin; 3. Maasai Stappe; and Central Miombo Corridor

Thank you