OpenUp!: Opening up the Natural History Heritage for Europeana

European natural history collections manage and give access to over 1.5 bn objects from the world's biodiversity heritage, covering most of the species described worldwide. These are reference objects for all the common and famous species in the world, incl. those of high economic importance and even those that have already gone extinct. Many have great cultural value as they were collected during historic expeditions and scientific endeavours by well known epochal explorers or scientists like Darwin, Linnaeus, Humboldt, or Stanley. EUROPEANA will make these treasures for the first time available to the general public, in addition to providing scientists and policy makers with a substantial information source needed in the understanding and protection of global biodiversity. Although being clearly within the scope of EUROPEANA as part of the scientific and cultural heritage, multimedia objects from the natural history domain are still dramatically underrepresented. This project aims at closing this gap. It will initially make available over 1 M high quality images, movies, animal sound files, and natural history artwork from 23 institutions in 12 European countries. Access will be based on the established technical infrastructure of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). Once the pathway from museums and GBIF to Europeana has been created, it will provide a steadily stream of additional objects that have entered the network. The project will address the following objectives: • Mapping between Community and EUROPEANA data standards • Adding data providers for multimedia content • Enrichment of metadata towards compliance with EUROPEANA standards • Incorporation of multilingual metadata, in particular common names of organisms • A single access point to distributed natural history multimedia content for EUROPEANA • A sustainability plan for network maintenance • Development of a consistent copyright strategy for participating data providers

Project ID card

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Contact information

SCHRÖDER Heike
Koenigin-Luise-Str. 6-8
14195 Berlin
GERMANY
Tel. +49 30 83850179
Fax. +49 30 83850186
E-mail: **h.schroeder@bgbm.org**

Participants

Coordinator: FREIE UNIVERSITAET BERLIN, GERMANY

Participating partners:

Organisation	Country
FREIE UNIVERSITAET BERLIN	GERMANY
NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM	AUSTRIA
Land Oberösterreich	AUSTRIA
AIT ANGEWANDTE INFORMATIONSTECHNIKFORSCHUNGSGESELLSCHAFT MBH	AUSTRIA
NATIONALE PLANTENTUIN VAN BELGIE	BELGIUM
MUSEE ROYAL DE L'AFRIQUE CENTRALE	BELGIUM
INSTITUT ROYAL DES SCIENCES NATURELLES DE BELGIQUE	BELGIUM
NARODNI MUZEUM-NATIONAL MUSEUM NM	CZECH REPUBLIC
Københavns Universitet	DENMARK
Global Biodiversity Information Facility	DENMARK
HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO	FINLAND
MUSEUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE	FRANCE
ZOOLOGISCHES FORSCHUNGSMUSEUM ALEXANDER KOENIG	GERMANY

MUSEUM FUR NATURKUNDE - LEIBNIZ-INSTITUT FUR EVOLUTIONS- UND BIODIVERSITATSFORSCHUNG AN DER HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITAT ZU BERLIN	GERMANY
SOCIETY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC BIODIVERSITY DATA LIMITED	IRELAND
TARTU ULIKOOL	REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
BOTANICKY USTAV SLOVENSKEJ AKADEMIE VIED	SLOVAK REPUBLIC
STICHTING NEDERLANDS CENTRUM VOOR BIODIVERSITEIT NATURALIS	THE NETHERLANDS
STICHTING EXPERTISECENTRUM VOOR TAXONOMISCHE IDENTIFICATIES	THE NETHERLANDS
Species 2000	UNITED KINGDOM
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW	UNITED KINGDOM
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH	UNITED KINGDOM
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM	UNITED KINGDOM

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