



Project no. 018340

Project acronym: EDIT

Project title: Toward the European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy

Instrument: Network of Excellence

Thematic Priority: Sub-Priority 1.1.6.3: “Global Change and Ecosystems”

C8.5.8 Report on EDIT concerted launch of the IYB within the EDIT institutions

(long version)

Due date of component: Month 48

Actual submission date: Month 48

Start date of project: 01/03/2006

Duration: 5 years

Organisation name of lead contractor for this component: 13-RBINS

Revision [FINAL]

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level (“X” in the relevant box)		
PU	Public	x
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
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The Celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity within EDIT

Long version of the component C.8.5.8

Dr. Kristina Articus-Lepage
EDIT-PA Officer
WP8 RBINS



Biodiversity is life- Biodiversity is our life!

The Celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity within EDIT



The International Year of Biodiversity, declared by the United Nations, takes place in 2010 and is the opportunity for taxonomic facilities to raise awareness of biodiversity and to inform about ongoing biodiversity research.

The EDIT institutions celebrate the IYB and present a rich agenda of diverse and innovative events. The outreach activities target in general a national audience. The concerted IYB communication of the EDIT institutions is achieved by the application of the CBD's communication guidelines, logo and slogan (www.cbd.int/2010/welcome/) by all EDIT partners. The concerted promotion of public events is made via the online event calendar BYSE, which has been created by EDIT in collaboration with Countdown 2010 (www.countdown2010.net/byse).

The EDIT activities for 2010 include educative outreach activities, temporary, permanent and touring exhibitions on biodiversity, new galleries and glasshouses, workshops, festivals, art installations, campaigns, special websites, scientific meetings, species lists, special publications and audiovisual material, expeditions, the national coordination of the IYB and official launch events for the IYB. This report gives an overview of the highlights planned for 2010. Several programme and event flyers can be downloaded from the EDIT website, see link location under annex.

Several EDIT institutions had an official launch event for the IYB, which are presented in chronological order in this document. The EDIT launch events were often the main launches for the IYB within their country. The EDIT institutions play thus a key role in raising awareness of biodiversity towards the general public, media and policy makers. The launch events had a high level government representation and received an important national media coverage. The EDIT institutions were represented at each others launch events, demonstrating a well functioning network.

The EDIT IYB Launch Events

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences : 366 Actions for Biodiversity

Date: 17 November, 2009

Place: Brussels, Belgium

No of guests: 150

Information: www.biodiv2010.be, www.igivelifetomyplanet.be



RBINS launched the IYB with a press conference, followed by a reception for colleagues and collaborators from museums, botanical gardens, and associations. The Minister of Science Policy was represented by Mr Didier Hellin. During the reception, the RBINS staff presented the institution's 2010 programme in information booths. Among the activities are a travelling school exhibition on urban biodiversity, a biodiversity trail game in the city of Brussels, and a popular event on the topic pollination. A new gallery on urban biodiversity will be opened and the Belgian Species List will be launched in 2010. The main communication tool is the campaign "I give life to my planet" which is supported by a booklet of 366 daily gestures to enhance biodiversity.

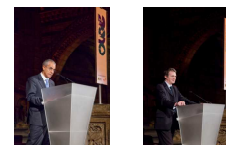
Natural History Museum, London: The IYB-UK Partnership for 2010

Date: 25 November, 2009

Place: London, UK

No of guests: 250

Information: www.biodiversityislife.net , www.biodiversityislife.net/?q=node/234



The UK formed a partnership for the IYB, including charities, trusts, schools, universities and colleges, and businesses across the UK (with over 400 members). The IYB-UK partnership is co-

ordinated by the Natural History Museum, London and the launch event, an evening reception for media and representatives of the partnership, took place at the Natural History Museum in London. Key speakers were Ahmed Djoghlaif, the Executive Secretary of the CBD, and Huw Irranca-Davies, the UK government Minister for Marine and Natural Environment.

Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris: For Life!

Date: 3 December, 2009

Place: Paris, France

No of guests: 150

Information: www.mnhn.fr/museum/front/medias/commPresse/22275_Museum_Plaquette2010.pdf



During a press conference Mr Galey, the general director of the MNHN presented the 2010 programme of the museum. Among the guests were representatives of several French museums of sciences, French research institutes and the French ministries. Among the diverse activities for 2010 the museum inaugurates the new children's gallery on biodiversity and the renovated green houses and presents the temporary biodiversity exhibition «Dans l'ombre des dinosaures».

Museum für Naturkunde Berlin: CBD official launch

Date: 11 January, 2010

Place: Berlin, Germany

No of guests: 300

Information: www.bmu.de/pressemitteilungen/aktuelle_pressemitteilungen/pm/print/45510.php



Germany holds the actual presidency of the CBD and the official IYB launch took place in the MfN Berlin. This high-level event gathered many international guests. Key speakers were Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Minister for environment Mr Röttgen, and the Executive Director of the UNEP Mr Steiner. In connection to the launch, the exhibition „Without Diversity in Nature, No Diversity in Business“ developed in collaboration with the Business and Biodiversity Initiative, was opened. The museum informed about its ongoing international collaborations, e.g. DIVERSITAS, EDIT, GBIF, BIOTA, the Berlin Consortium for Genomics in Biodiversity Research, BHL-Europe, and Wild Wonders of Europe.

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh : The Scottish Biodiversity Festival

Date: 12 January, 2010

Place: Edinburgh, Scotland

No of guests: 300

Information: www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3_B1Yntys0



The IYB was launched in Scotland at the RBGE by the Environment Minister Roseana Cunningham. The RBGE's Spring Biodiversity Programme involves over 70 special biodiversity events in partnership with 28 organisations. The Scottish Biodiversity Festival with RBGE and the John Hope Gateway as major provider of topical biodiversity information is supported by the Scottish Government's Science Engagement Grant scheme. Features on the launch event appeared in the Scotsman Magazine and the Sunday Post and highlights of the event itself are available in a Scottish Government video on youtube (link above).

NCB Naturalis: Hidden Treasures

Date: 28 January, 2010

Place: Leiden, The Netherlands

No of guests: 800

Information: www.hiddentreasures2010.nl <http://2010.biodiversiteit.nl/> www.ncbnaturalis.nl/nl/

This event was the launch of the new Dutch biodiversity center NCB Naturalis and the national IYB launch by the Dutch “coalition for biodiversity”. The NCB Naturalis includes EDIT partners Naturalis, UVA, and NHN. The coalition for biodiversity comprises various stakeholders, among them all Dutch EDIT partners. The event started with a symposium (160 participants) with key speaker Richard Lane, Director of Science NHML, and a workshop regarding the topics: collections & global change, integration of research & education, the open museum, bar coding, and how to engage the public. The symposium was followed by the official launch broadcasted by the Dutch TV. Key speaker were Gerda Verburg (Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality), and Ronald Plasterk (Minister of Education, Culture and Science). During the reception (800 guests) the guests were invited to visit the collection tower of Naturalis.

Hungarian Natural History Museum : Insects as representatives of Biodiversity

Date: 11 & 19 March, 2010

Place: Budapest, Hungary

No of guests: 250

Information: www.nhmus.hu/modules.php?name=KozmuvelodesAkt&op=programok

HNHM opened the new temporary exhibition about insects called “Hexapod Empire” and launched at the same time the IYB within a press conference. Among the guests were Mrs Agnes Holport, the Senior Adviser of the Ministry of Education and Culture and representatives of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Societas Entomologica Hungariae, the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Budapest authorities, and of other Hungarian museums.

The IYB highlights within the EDIT institutions

All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories www.atbi.eu/gemer www.atbi.eu/mercantour-maritime

EDIT coordinates the ATBI in the national parks Mercantour/Alpi Maritime (Italy and France) and Gemer Area (Slovakia). The parks will participate in the Geo Action Day, a one day inventory involving scientists and the general public. This event will be documented by the Geo magazine in a special edition. www.geo.de/GEO/natur/oekologie/tag_der_artenvielfalt

Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Utrecht, The Netherlands www.cbs.knaw.nl

The CBS presents its research about the biodiversity of fungi with a stand and exposition during the International Mycological Congress IMC9 in August 2010.

Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Spain www.csic.es

The CSIC researchers will give public lectures and supervise hands on activities about biodiversity in several Spanish cities. The scientific collections will be presented during a simultaneous Day of Open Doors (20 May) and the CSIC conducts a survey on the social perception on biodiversity. In alliance with the Fundación Biodiversidad, a web page (www.2010biodiversidad.es) was produced in order to collect information regarding the events organized in Spain during IYB. A free exhibition is available to be downloaded.

CSIC Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales Madrid, Spain www.mncn.csic.es

The MNCN in Madrid launches its special biodiversity activities and new website on the 22nd of May. The exhibitions "Biodiversity, carnivores and human societies" and "La mirada salvaje" about endangered Spanish species will be opened and a series of workshops and round tables on biodiversity take place throughout the year. An exhibition about Biodiversity based on collection specimens of the Museum will be inaugurated at the end of the year, see the museums programme flyer.

CSIC Real Jardín Botánico Madrid, Spain www.rjb.csic.es

The RJB shows the botany photo exhibition "Flora Humilis" in collaboration with Prae (www.praecyl.es). This exhibition is accompanied by a series of lectures and workshops, and with a special springtime menu inspired by the exhibition, see pdf flyer CSIC RJB 1&2. Two new biodiversity paths are installed: "Biodiversity in danger: threatened plants of the Iberian Peninsula" and "Biodiversity through the microscope". The garden proposes also a biodiversity summer camp for school children and a "scientific marathon", where researchers present their research. On the Biodiversity Day a new website will be launched showing 6000 drawings by José Celestino Mutis about the biodiversity in Columbia.

Freie Universität Berlin Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum, Berlin, Germany

<http://www.bgbm.org/> FUB-BGBM celebrates the IYB together with its 100th anniversary. The exhibition "Humboldts grüne Erben" (Humboldt's Green Heirs) presents the biodiversity research of the institute during time with its impact on the society. A special path in the garden leads the visitors to the plants discovered by Humboldt. The exhibition is accompanied by workshops and lectures. <http://www.bgbm.org/BGBM/museum/expo/2010/default.htm> See programme flyer FUB-BGBM.



Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary www.nhmus.hu

The HNHM presents the exhibition "Empire Hexapod" and carries out biodiversity education throughout the year.

Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique www.inra.fr/

INRA presents an exhibitions for the general public on biodiversity, food and agriculture during the ‘Salon International de l’Agriculture’ www.salon-agriculture.com

Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Cracow, Poland

<http://info.botany.pl/Institute> The IBPAN celebrates the finalisation of the 11 volumes series “Biodiversity in Poland” with a scientific symposium in autumn 2010. The botanical museum shows temporary exhibitions about the plants in Poland and the publication of “The Lexicon of Bible Plants” is foreseen for 2010.

Institute of Botany, Slovakian Academy of Sciences Bratislava, Slovakia www.ibot.sav.sk

The IBSAS presents its biodiversity research during the Researcher’s Night 2010 in September 2010.

Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg, Russia

www.binran.ru/botmus/english/english.htm The BINRAS shows in springtime exhibitions on the biodiversity of Russian orchids and lichens.

Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland

www.miz.waw.pl/ The MIZPAN presents an exhibition about the diversity of predators entitled “Innocent Killers”.

Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany www.naturkundemuseum-berlin.de

The MfN Berlin presents several temporary exhibitions, as e.g. “Wildlife Photographer of the Year” and “Deep See”. Special IYB activities include a series of biodiversity films and lectures (flyer MfN programme) and the “Aktionstag Biodiversität”. The latter is a German wide initiative by the DNFS (www.dnfs.de) enabling the public to meet scientists in the museums, see the DNFS flyer.

**Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris, France www.mnhn.fr**

The MNHN opens a new children’s gallery on biodiversity, explaining the nature of cities, rivers and tropical forests. The green houses will open after several years of renovation. This event will be celebrated by an inauguration and several exhibitions and events on biodiversity. The museum shows several temporary exhibitions on biodiversity as for example «Dans l'ombre des dinosaures» explaining changes in biodiversity through time. The entire programme can be seen in the MNHN flyer.

Nationaal Herbarium Nederland, Leiden & Wageningen, The Netherlands

www.nhn.leidenuniv.nl The NHN is part of the NCB Naturalis (see above) and works closely together with the Hortus Botanicus Leiden for the 2010 programme.

Hortus Botanicus Leiden, The Netherlands www.hortus.leidenuniv.nl

The garden has several exhibitions about the diversity of plants, as e.g. carnivorous plants, amaryllis and orchids, see programme flyer of the Hortus Botanicus Leiden 1&2. One of the highlights is the International Orchid Show which gathers orchids from all over the world.

Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis, Leiden, The Netherlands www.naturalis.nl

Naturalis is offering a large variety of biodiversity outreach events, e.g. the biodiversity walks in form of a City Safari in Leiden, a Biodiversity Film Festival, and the outdoor photo exhibition by Wim van Egmond www.wimvanegmond.com. A symposium on Dutch biodiversity will take place in October. Find the entire programme on www.naturalis.nl/biodiversiteitjaar and the Naturalis IYB poster in the appendix.

National Botanic Garden of Belgium, Meise, Belgium www.br.fgov.be

The NBGB launches a new visitor trail about African biodiversity in its newly renovated green house. Wildlife photographer Tom Linster shows his biodiversity images in the castle of the National Botanic Garden. NBGB participates in the Congo expedition together with RMCA and RBINS, see further information under RMCA. www.br.fgov.be/PUBLIC/GENERAL/event3.php

Natural History Museum of Denmark- University of Copenhagen, Denmark

<http://botanik.snm.ku.dk/> <http://zoologi.snm.ku.dk/>

The NHM and BG present the exhibition “Climate Change: The Threat to Life and A New Energy Future” developed in collaboration with several NHMs in connection with the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009. Biodiversity issues are addressed in the educative programme for schools. http://www.amnh.org/traveling/pdfs/AMNH_ClimateChange_Brochure.pdf

Natural History Museum, London UK www.nhm.ac.uk

The IYB-UK secretariat is based at the Museum and oversaw the design, launch and continuing development of the website for the UK partnership www.biodiversityislife.net which features UK news, editorial and a searchable database of all partner activities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Natural History Museum, London’s own website www.nhm.ac.uk is also carrying information specific to the NHM’s own IYB activities including the daily fact file, Species of the Day, for the 365 days of the year. The Museum’s own programme carries IYB branding and exhibition content throughout 2010 has been carefully developed to draw out the biodiversity messages in such exhibitions as The Deep, Butterfly Explorers, Amazonia and Wild Planet, and the Nature Live programme is featuring biodiversity issues and information throughout 2010. This year will also see the launch of the Angela Marmont Centre, situated within the Museum’s new Darwin Centre, where visitors will be able to access over 10,000 drawers of plants and animals collected in the UK. Scientists from the Identification and Advisory Service will also be on hand to help amateur naturalists. The Centre will respond to people’s concerns about threats to UK biodiversity by taking a lead in the national citizen science debate.

IYB-UK are working with the CBD, TEEB, UK Government and other bodies on the dissemination of key reports including the CBD - GBO-3 launch in May, and the TEEB D3 report for Business launch in July.

IYB-UK have been working with multiple business and government partners to co-ordinate a major event, the Global Business and Biodiversity Conference, bringing together business leaders and key stakeholders to discuss biodiversity issues at the Excel Centre on 13 and 14 July

www.businessofbiodiversity.co.uk/ In February the Museum hosted the launch, supported by Sir David Attenborough, of the ARKive Most Wanted initiative, where the charity is seeking by the end of 2010 to have collected images for over 17,000 of the world’s most endangered species. The Museum jointly with the Linnean Society is presenting a meeting "Sequencing the Red and the Dead" at the Linnean Society in June which seeks to highlight the possibilities offered by the application of new sequencing technologies to gain genomic information from endangered and extinct organisms.; and a follow-on workshop at NHML also in June "Unlocking and developing collections for genomic research". The Fourth Riverfly Conference will be held at the Museum on 23 September 2010.

The Museum will celebrate 22 May, International Day for Biological Diversity, with a special festival at the London site.

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium www.naturalsciences.be

RBINS opens a new gallery on urban biodiversity and presents a series of innovative activities for the IYB as the biogeosafari trail game and the campaign “I give life to my planet”, engaging citizens into concrete actions for biodiversity. The Bee Party highlights the importance of pollinators. A touring exhibitions on the biodiversity of Brussels will be seen in the schools of Brussels. The Belgian Species List will be launched on the Biodiversity Day www.especies.be/ www.species.be See RBINS press releases and event flyers



for further information. www.biodiv2010.be, www.igivelifetomyplanet.be

Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Scotland, UK www.rbge.org.uk

The RBGE's Spring Biodiversity Programme involves over 70 special biodiversity events planned in partnership with 28 organisations in Scotland between January and April. The entire programme is in the appendix and the garden activities can also be found on www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on/iyb. Films, workshops and lectures are presented on the topics “Edible Biodiversity”, “Biodiversity in the Garden”, “Hidden Biodiversity”, “Biodiversity in the Sky”, “Mountain Biodiversity”, “Forest Biodiversity” and “Protecting Biodiversity”. These events are carried out in collaboration with the Scottish Crop Research Institute, the British Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society, the Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens, the National Trust for Scotland, the University of Edinburgh, the Botanical Society of Scotland, the Moredun Research Institute and the Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health, the University of Aberdeen, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Bat Conservation Trust, the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, the Edinburgh & Midlothian Beekeepers' Association, the Butterfly Conservation Scotland, the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, the John Muir Trust, the National Museums Scotland, the Forest Research Scotland, the Forestry Commission Scotland and the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK www.kew.org

The RBGK has created a new website about biodiversity, which will have new content throughout the year: www.kew.org/biodiversity The 2010 overview press release lists all events of the 'Biodiversity Year at Kew' <http://www.kew.org/press/2010.pdf>.

The RBGK highlights the role of plants and their pollinators in underpinning biodiversity with various events. The Princess of Wales Conservatory will be transformed into a haven for pollinators, in the new Children's landscape children can explore flowers and learn about pollination. Further the photo exhibition “Wild Kew” by Heather Angle and the sound installation “Whispering in the Leaves” by Chris Watson will be presented, more information on http://www.kew.org/press/summer_10.html

RBGK and the British Museum expose the rich and unique biodiversity of the Cape region of South Africa in form of a landscape in front of the British Museum, including real plant specimens but also cultural elements as African sculptures http://www.kew.org/press/south_african_landscape.html

The school project “The Great Plant Hunt” by RBGK has special biodiversity activities and conducts during the GPH Week in May a large scale phenology survey. www.greatplanthunt.org/biodiversity

Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium www.africamuseum.be

The RMCA conducts an expedition to the Congo with the participation of RBINS, NBGB and the University of Kisangani. Media coverage is ensured by the Belgian and international TV's, radios and written press. The exhibition “Congo River” presents the biodiversity of the Congo river and is based on the collections and research of the RMCA <http://www.congo2010.be/>

The competition «Biodiversité et Environnement pour une Meilleure Vie» (Biodiversity and Environment for a better life) held at RMCA, promotes research on sustainability and north south collaboration of early career scientists. The prize is awarded by the ministry of development www.devcoprize.africamuseum.be/fr/presenta.htm



Society for Management of Electronic Biodiversity Data www.smebd.eu

For IYB SMEBD aims to complete the first inventory of all described marine species, the "World Register of Marine Species" at www.marinespecies.org. Further, the publication of the first portal to all European species, land, freshwater and marine plants and animals is planned as part of the EDIT & MarBEF initiated project PESI (Pan-European Species directories Infrastructure (www.eu-nomen.eu)).

Species 2000, Reading, UK www.catalogueoflife.org

Species 2000 launches a special edition of the “Catalogue of Life 2010” in May 2010 with the support of the CBD.

**Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, Germany** www.naturkundemuseum-bw.de

SMNS launched the competition "Stuttgarts Superforscher gesucht" (Super Scientist wanted), where pupils between 12-16 are invited to present their research projects. SMNS participated in the German wide “Aktionstag Biodiversität” by the DNFS (www.dnfs.de) enabling the public to assist to research in the museums. Further information about the SMNS programme in the flyer.

**Universiteit Van Amsterdam and Zoological Museum, The Netherlands** www.uva.nl

The UVA is part of the NCB Naturalis (see Launch events). The zoological museum of the UVA presents for IYB the exhibition “Wilderness in Europe”.

www.artis.nl/main.php?pagina=paginas/a/activiteiten_evenementen

Univerzita Komenskeho V Bratislave, Slovakia www.uniba.sk, <http://zoology.fns.uniba.sk>

The Geo Action Day in the Gemer National Park will be conducted by CUB in collaboration with MfN.

Annex

The annex contains 19 information flyers of the EDIT institutions illustrating the diversity of events to take place during the IYB. The files can be downloaded from the EDIT Webpage:

<http://www.e-taxonomy.eu/node/784>

Abbreviations

ATBI All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories; BG Botanic Garden; BHL Biodiversity Heritage Library; BIOTA Biodiversity Monitoring Transect Analysis; BYSE Biodiversity Year Schedule of Events; CBD Convention on Biological Diversity; COP Conference of the Parties; D3 Deliverable 3; DNFS Deutsche Naturwissenschaftliche Forschungssammlungen; GBIF Global Biodiversity Information Facility; GBO-3 Global Biodiversity Outlook 3; GPH Great Plant Hunt; IMC International Mycological Congress; IYB International Year of Biodiversity; NCB Nederlands Centrum voor Biodiversiteit; NHM Natural History Museum; Prae PRopuestas Ambientales y Educativas; PA Public Awareness; TEEB The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, TV Television; UK United Kingdom; UN United Nations; UNEP United Nation Environmental Programme