



Convention on Migratory Species signs a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

Bonn, 30 October 2008

GBIF and the Convention on Migratory Species agreed to work together to develop and share biodiversity data on migratory species. The purpose of the signed Memorandum of Cooperation is to facilitate the access to the Global Registry on Migratory Species, **GROMS** database (<http://www.groms.de/>) by GBIF as well as to GBIF primary data by the CMS constituency. GROMS contains scientific information on migratory species, their ranges and maps of migration routes, seasonal distribution and populations.

By means of this collaboration GROMS data and polygons will be integrated with the GBIF data portal; CMS in turn will connect its data to GBIF-mediated primary biodiversity data and associated web services, such as tools for mapping geo-referenced point data.

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (www.gbif.org) is an inter-governmental initiative mandated to establish of a global biodiversity informatics infrastructure to enable free and open access to primary biodiversity data via the Internet to underpin sustainable development. Priorities include mobilising biodiversity data, developing protocols and standards to ensure scientific integrity and inter-operability, building an informatics architecture to allow the interlinking of diverse data types from disparate sources, promoting capacity building and catalysing development of analytical tools for improved decision-making. To date, GBIF provides on-line access to more than 147 million biodiversity data records from around the world (Source: GBIF Data Portal, October 2008). GBIF relies on collaborative partnerships to accomplish most of its goals.

The MoC was signed by Mr Robert Hepworth, CMS Executive Secretary and GBIF'S Executive Director, Dr. Nicholas King.

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