Workflow – the heart of successful digitization programs:

One of the most significant challenges facing the digitisation effort of biological collections is the design and implementation of complex workflows, which can vary significantly across different taxonomic types and sizes of collections and which need to adapt to collection management logistics unique to each institution.

Much work has been done with developing workflows and protocols at the museum and collections level, but few of these workflows have been documented or made available to the larger collections community.

iDigBio, is establishing an online repository for sharing existing customized workflows from as many collection types and institutions as possible. Here we offer the beginnings of the repository and encourage those in the community to both discuss the workflows, and to contribute to this resource by adding new workflows and updating existing workflows.

Efficient and effective workflows are at the heart of any successful biological collections digitisation. Through unified efforts we envisage involving the creation of a publicly available, sustainable and comprehensive national and international collections information resource of digitisation workflows and protocols.