



**GBIF**

Global Biodiversity  
Information Facility



# National and Regional Coordination Roles within GBIF

*Donald Hobern, GBIF Executive Secretary*

# GBIF: ORIGINS AND PRINCIPLES

Established in 2001

Response to OECD recommendation

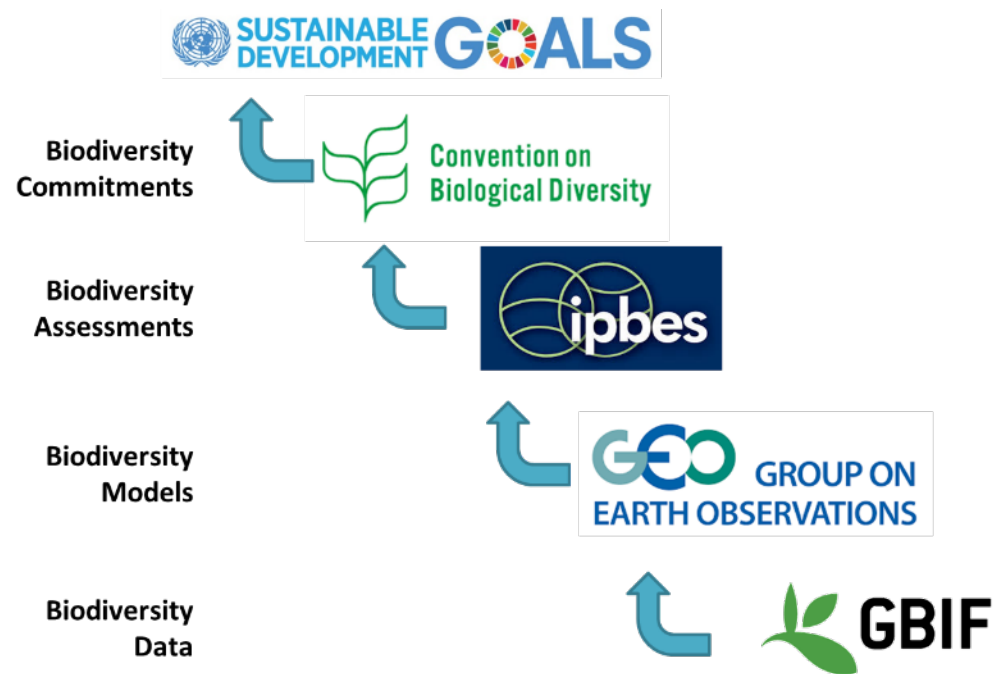
Open to all countries

Voluntary memorandum of understanding (MoU)

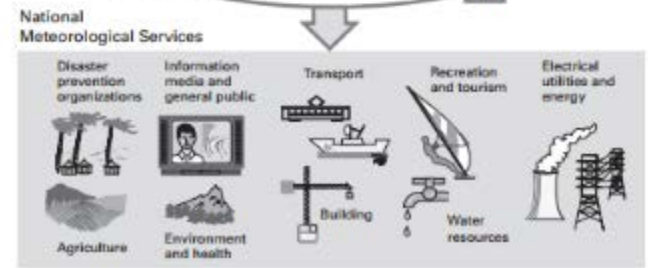
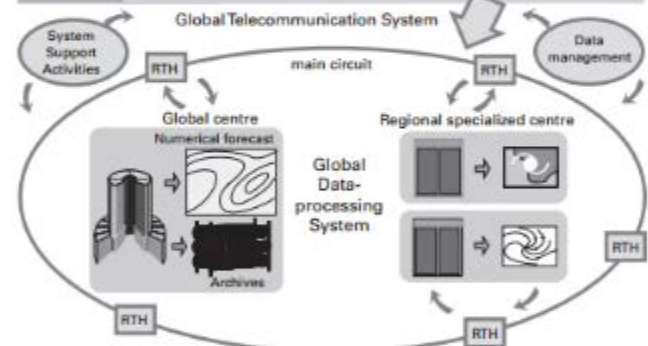
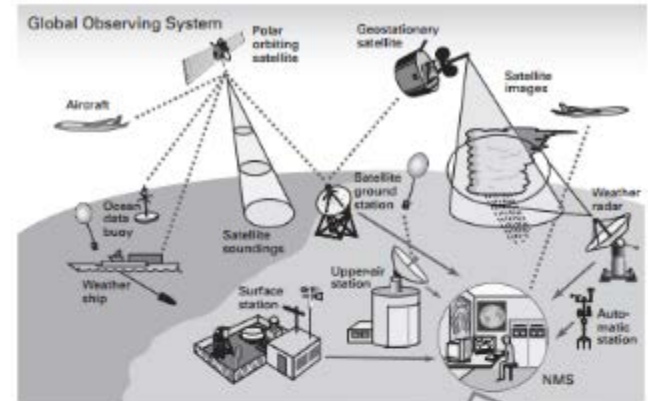
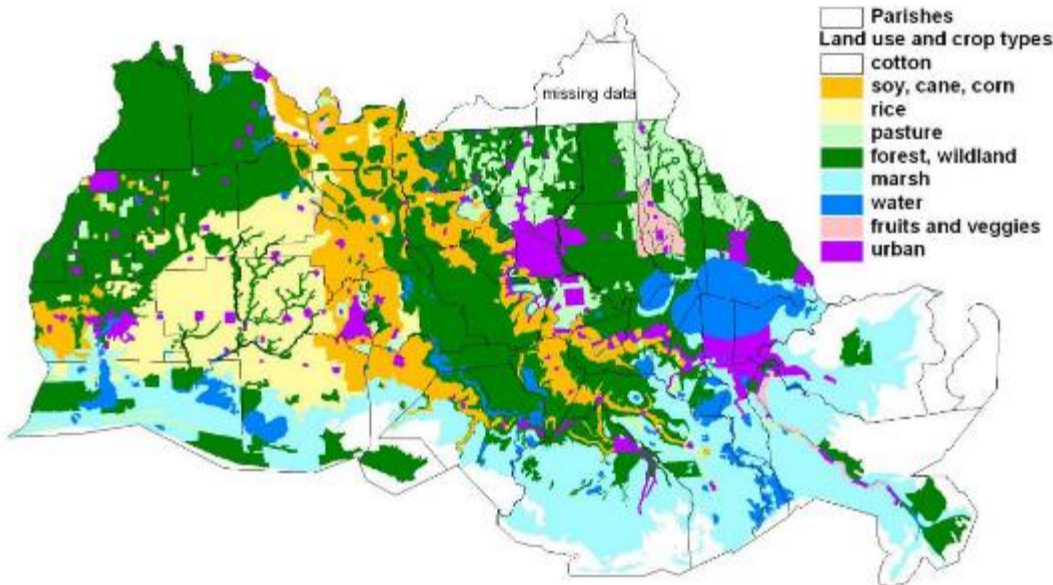


Vision - a world in which:

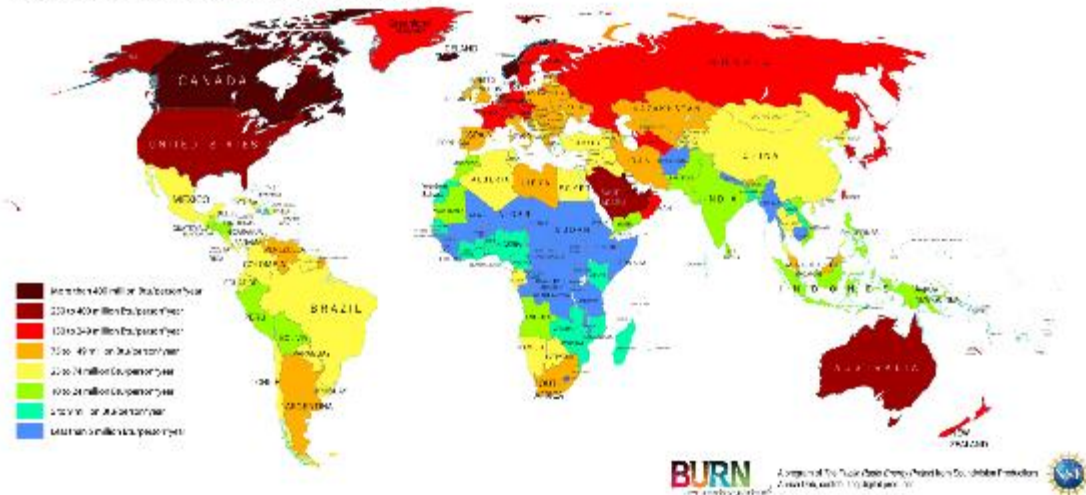
Biodiversity information is freely and universally available for science, society and a sustainable future



# BIG DATA SUPPORTING SOCIETY



Energy Consumption Per Person, by country, 2009.



# OPPORTUNITY TO THINK BIG

## COMMENT

**CHANGEMAKER** Sally Hockby reflects on two years of blogging at the *NH* p.208

**ORIGAMI** Zoological travelogue tracks rare species worldwide p.209

**WHY?** Calls to root out racism in journals, conferences and experiments p.205

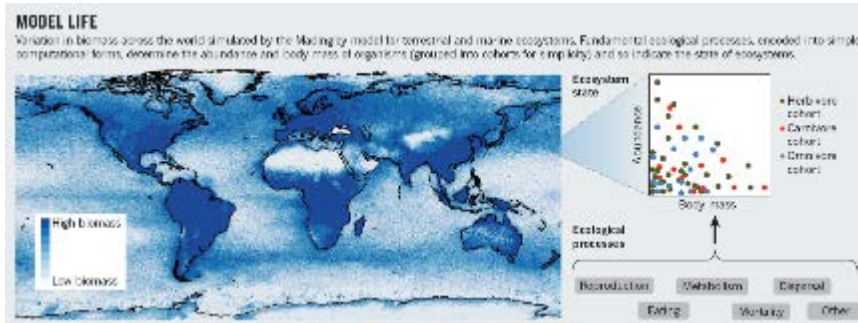
**RETRAY** Rita Levi-Montalcini, nerve growth factor pioneer and science advocate p.206



A hyena surveys a flock of flamingos in South Africa.

## Time to model all life on Earth

To help transform our understanding of the biosphere, ecologists — like climate scientists — should simulate whole ecosystems, argue **Drew Purves** and colleagues.



# BIODIVERSITY DATA AND USERS



## Users

Biosecurity, land-use, climate change, crop development, resource management, materials, forensics, taxonomy, ...

Information Sharing For  
Common Reuse

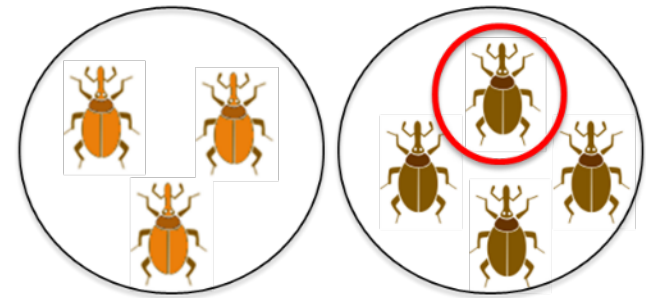
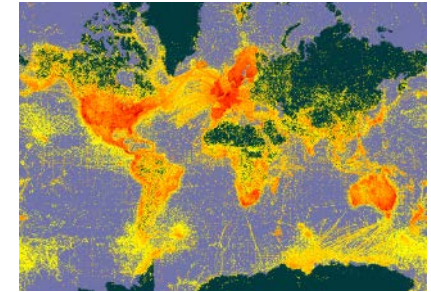
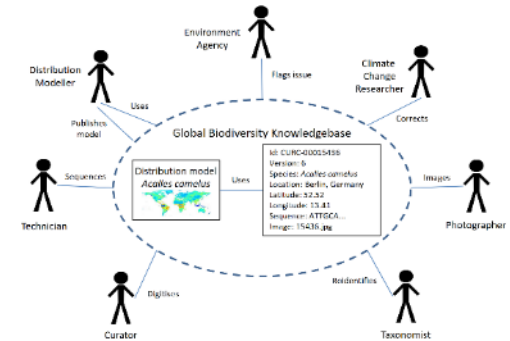
## Data

Collections, field observations, literature, molecular, images, remote sensing, genomics, expert knowledge, ...

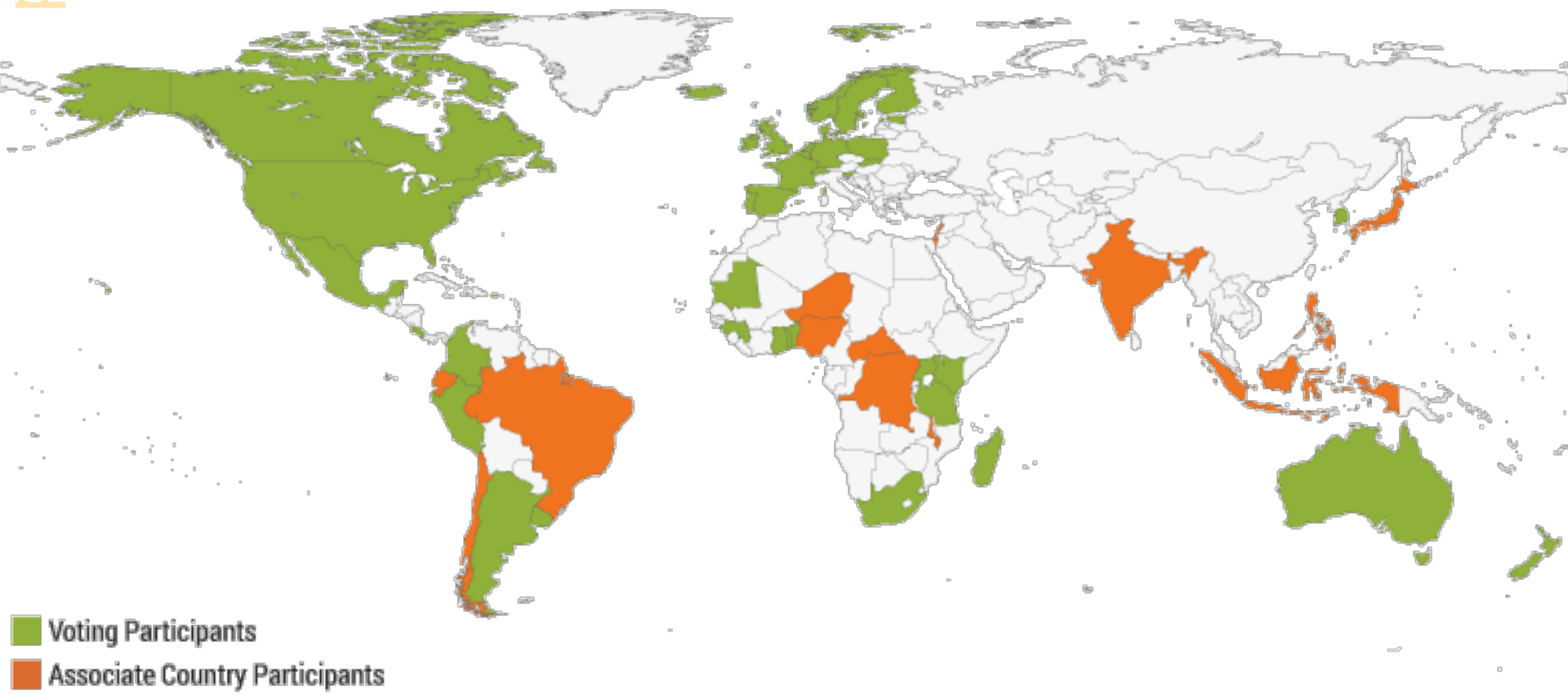


# GBIF'S ROLE

1. Remove obstacles to collaboration in sharing and use of biodiversity data
2. Organise evidence of recorded occurrence of any species in time and space
3. Support development of a global virtual natural history collection



# GBIF: NATIONAL PARTICIPANTS



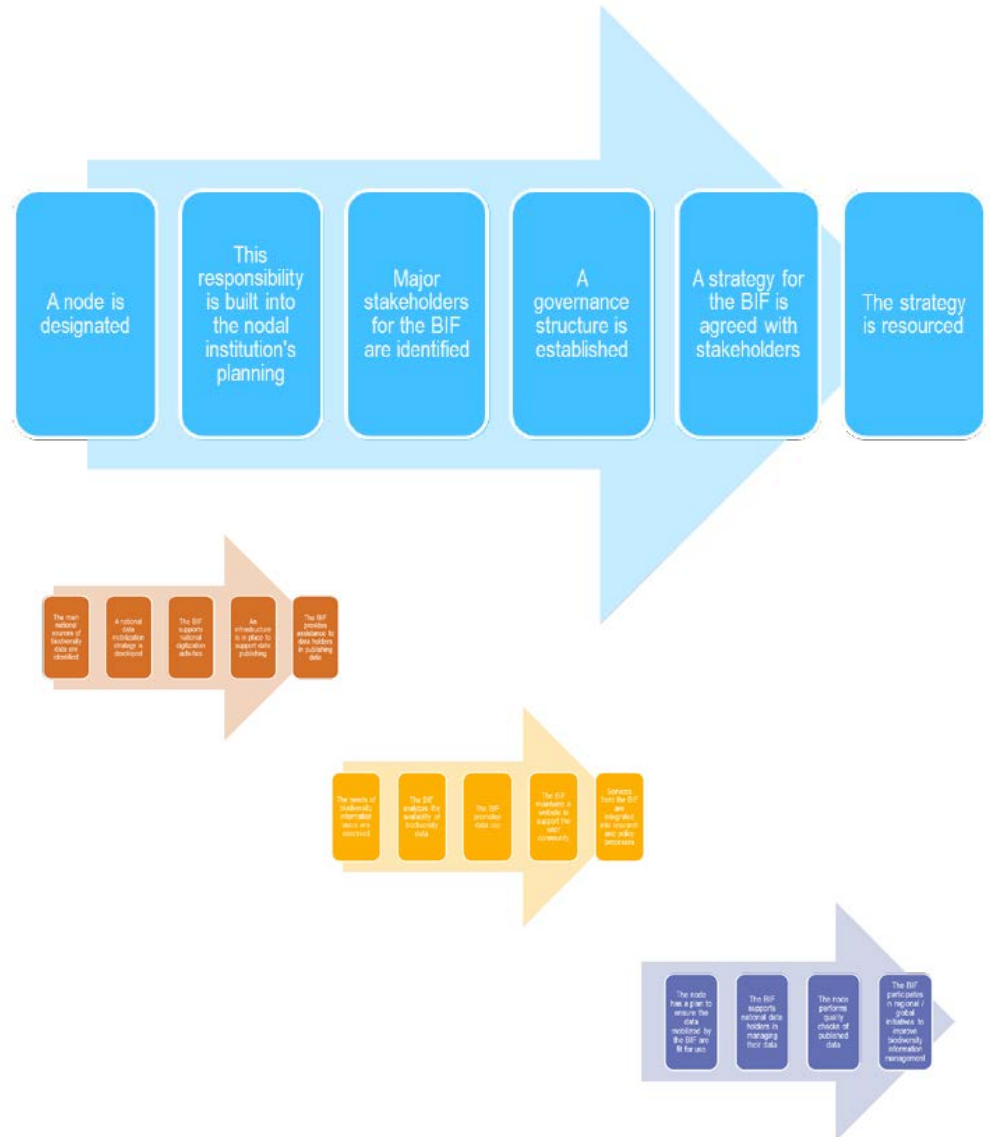
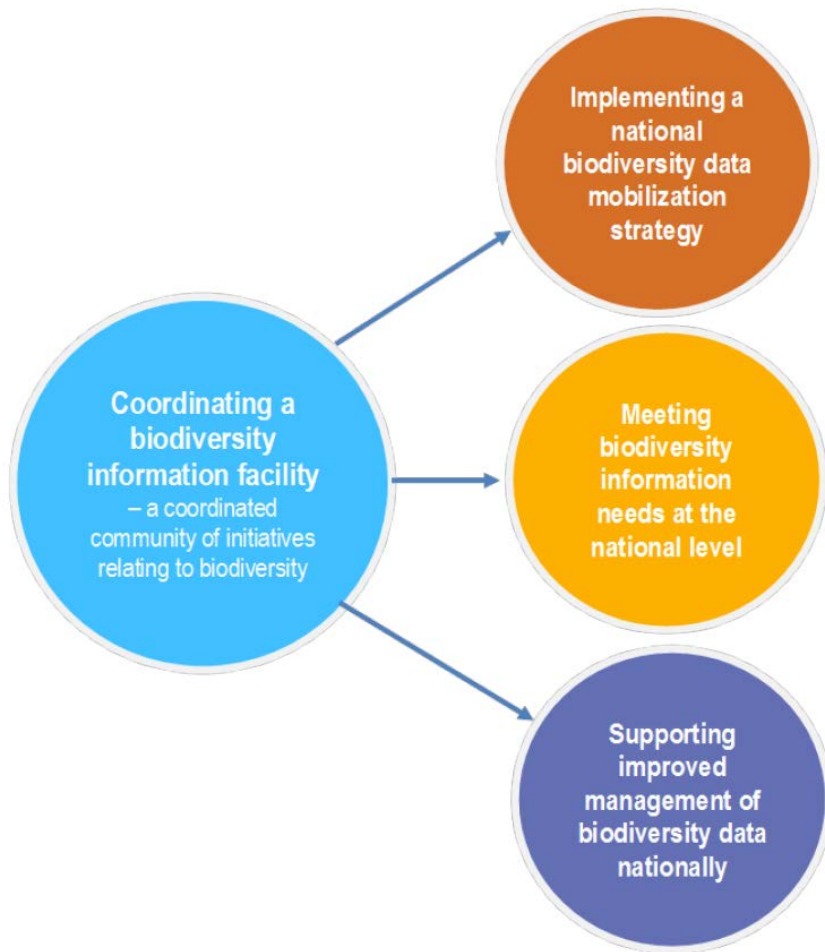
# GBIF NORTH AMERICA PARTICIPANTS

## Participants

Participant	Membership	Member Since	Dataset	Record	Publisher
Biodiversity Heritage Library	Other associate participant	2014	0	0	0
<b>Canada</b>	Voting participant	2001	<b>127</b>	<b>5,030,866</b>	<b>25</b>
Canadensys	Other associate participant	2014	12	98,654	5
Consortium for the Barcode of Life	Other associate participant	2005	0	0	0
Discover Life	Other associate participant	2008	0	0	0
Encyclopedia of Life	Other associate participant	2008	5	0	1
Integrated Taxonomic Information System	Other associate participant	2001	0	0	0
International Barcode of Life Consortium	Other associate participant	2011	0	0	0
Natural Science Collections Alliance	Other associate participant	2004	0	0	0
NatureServe	Other associate participant	2001	1	929,139	1
Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections	Other associate participant	2007	0	0	0
Taxonomic Databases Working Group	Other associate participant	2002	1	0	1
<b>United States</b>	Voting participant	2001	<b>441</b>	<b>340,060,685</b>	<b>169</b>
VertNet	Other associate participant	2013	1	4,400	1
iDigBio	Other associate participant	2017	0	0	0



# SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR NATIONAL NODES



# SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR COLLECTIONS





# POSSIBLE FOCI FOR GBIF NORTH AMERICA

1. Develop continental scale vision – and support mechanisms – for coordinated biodiversity information management
2. Identify data priorities and monitor progress towards their delivery
3. Take leadership in developing a model for delivering a global virtual natural history collection



Thank you

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