



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"

C5.094 Report on MoU development to BoD

Due date of component: Month 45

Actual submission date: Month 45

Start date of project: 01/03/2006

Duration: 5 years

Organisation name of lead contractor for this component: 9 FUB-BGBM

Revision: Final

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
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)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

C5.094 Report on MoU development to BoD

The ISTC has decided that a co-ordinated international effort is needed to create an Internet Platform for Cybertaxonomy, i.e. a distributed computing platform that assists taxonomists to do revisionary taxonomy and taxonomic field work efficiently, expediently and via the web.

The objectives of the EDIT MoU are:

- To contribute to the reduction of fragmentation and the transformation of taxonomy into an integrated science
- To strengthen the scientific, technological and information capacities needed for Europe
- To progress toward a trans-national entity by encouraging durable integration of taxonomic institutions
- To promote the spreading of excellence to fulfill the needs of biodiversity and ecosystem research for taxonomy based information.

EDIT initiated a series of MoUs, each identical except for the understandings or agreements stated in Paragraph 4. Four different documents initiated by the ISTC are available up to now. EDIT partners were be invited to sign up to whichever MoU they can

1) Content management system for websites with taxonomic data (DRUPAL)

Signed by 8 institutions

2) Data transfer standard for collection unit data (ABCD)

Signed by 13 institutions

3) Cooperation between the libraries of EDIT partner institutions. (ViTaL)

Signed by 9 institutions

4) MoU names and Classification Services (GNOMA)

Signed by 10 institutions

Table 1: MoUs signed by EDIT institutions

Institution	ABCD	DRUPAL	ViTaL	GNOMA
MNHN	16th June 2008	16th June 2008		September 2009
UKBH				
CSIC				
UvA	3rd June 2008	9th July 2008		22 October 2009
NHN	14th May 2008	14th May 2008	19th May 2009	28 August 2009
NNM	2nd February 2009		6th June 2009	21 September 2009
CBS	19th May 2008			
FUB BGBM	23rd May 2008	23rd May 2008	27th May 2009	
NHML	29th February 2008	29th February 2008	28th May 2009	
RBGK				
SMNS	9th December 2009			
RBINS	24th March 2009	24th March 2009	24th March 2009	09 September 2009
RMCA	13th May 2008	13th May 2008	30 octobre 2009	30 October 2009
NGBG				31 August 2009
MIZPAN				
IBPAN				
HNHM				

Institution	ABCD	DRUPAL	ViTaL	GNOMA
(cont.)				
CUB				
IBSAS	28 August 2009	28 August 2009	28 August 2009	28 August 2009
INRA				
SMEBD				
SP2000				
BINRAS				
ZINRAS				
MO			1st June 2009	
USNM				
RBGE	10th February 2009	10th February 2009	20th May 2009	04 September 2009
MFN	20th February 2009			28 August 2009

MoU Proposals in Discussion

1. Implementing 'mirror services' of open data stores between EDIT member institutions

⇒ Concrete proposals have to be elaborated to advance this action

2.-10. Technical cooperation for maintaining the EDIT Cyberplatform components

(1. CDM-library open source management, 2. Data Portal, 3. ViTaL, 4. Geographic Components, 5. Specimen Explorer, 6. Editor, 7. Descriptive user components, 8. BD-Tracker und 9. Cybergate)

⇒ The ISTC discussed this issue in its Sept. 2009 meeting. Members are willing and interested to cooperate providing that the taxonomists at their institutions are using the Platform components. Cooperation agreements will thus have to wait until the tools have been properly introduced.

11. Shibboleth federation with EDIT institutions

⇒ Has already been discussed in ISTC 2008

⇒ Technical details have to be clarified before an agreement can be developed.