

of each photographer. This made updating the collage more difficult because changes often required a complete overhaul to the collage, particularly when one photograph needed to be replaced with another with markedly different dimensions. Also, our users became interested in using the photographs for their own projects and the collage made it more difficult to determine the ownership for each photograph.

In future versions we plan to continue to make careful changes to support our users. An area of interest to TDWG members will be data downloads. Supplying data formatted according to the applicable TDWG standards make obvious sense to us, but our users have not yet requested data in these formats.

Support is acknowledged from: Department of Environment and Conservation

19.34. EDIT mapViewer: a Geographic Web Application for Taxonomists

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Geographic information is almost always an important part of biological data. An easy-to-use web-application able to manage georeferenced data is currently being developed within the EDIT project (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy), providing taxonomists with a tool for their daily work: uploading data, querying, choosing symbols to represent data points, and creating maps by adding remote or local geographic data.

Although 72dpi resolution, suitable for viewing on a computer screen is now available, providing a higher resolution (printing quality) image from the maps is a priority in the project. We also expect to be able to harvest and display GBIF data and provide spatial analysis tools that allow users to assess whether or not the inventory is complete enough for use: Do I have enough data? Which spatial units may not yet be thoroughly surveyed?

EDIT mapViewer: http://edit.csic.es/edit_geo/prototype/edit.html

Support is acknowledged from: EDIT

19.35. e-Biosphere 09: International Conference on Biodiversity Informatics

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Biodiversity Informatics (BI) has experienced extraordinary growth as an international enterprise over the past decade. Data standards, databases, and networks of interoperating people, data, and software tools have appeared, grown, and become integrated to varying degrees. Information resources have grown faster than their user communities, but important applications of and appreciation for these resources are growing rapidly.

The Encyclopedia of Life (EOL; www.eol.org), the Consortium for the Barcode of Life (CBOL; www.barcoding.si.edu), and approximately ten other international initiatives in biodiversity informatics will be sponsoring “e-Biosphere 09: The International Conference on Biodiversity Informatics” in London on 1-5 June 2009 (see Conference website, www.e-biosphere09.org). The goal of the conference will be to highlight the progress made by BI over the past decade, and to begin the process of developing a more comprehensive, integrative roadmap for BI’s future directions. The first three days will be an open International Conference at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, during which the accomplishments, applications, challenges, and future directions of BI will be discussed. Two sessions during the International Conference have been set aside as free time, during which conference participants can visit demonstrations, poster presentations, and commercial exhibits