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"

C5.151 Sustainability review. A review of the commitments already made and the further commitments necessary to ensure the sustainability of the references index

Due date of component: Month 58
Actual submission date: Month 59

Start date of project: 01/03/2006   Duration: 5 years

Organisation name of lead contractor for this component: 30 MFN

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)	

C5.151 Sustainability review. A review of the commitments already made and the further commitments necessary to ensure the sustainability of the references index

The EDIT ViTaL Activity – Work Package 5 Activity 3 – aimed at building an index of deduplicated references of library catalogues from natural history institution libraries. This index – called *Global References Index to Biodiversity* short *GRIB* (http://grib.gbv.de/) is designed to serve scientists in their search for relevant biodiversity related literature and librarians in their task to digitise legacy literature to make it available free and open online.

After the transfer of the ViTaL activity from the Natural History Museum London (NHM) to the MFN in the beginning of 2010, a cooperation between EDIT Activity 5.3 and BHL-Europe WP2 has been established. This has been done on the basis of shared goals, expressed by the result of the evaluation of the then developed system and the DoW of BHL-Europe.

EDIT 5th JPA:

- Task 5.3.3 Development of the index of references. Agreement with institutional libraries on their contribution. Incorporating EDIT institution subscription data as supplied by participating EDIT partner libraries.
- Task 5.3.7 Interface development. Implementation of the ViTaL user and machine interfaces.

BHL-Europe DoW:

- As part of WP2, a database will be created in cooperation with the ViTaL development team to include the results of all analyses. This will ensure an agreed priority list of biodiversity content to be provided by European libraries.

The *GRIB* was built by the Head office of the common library network GBV[1] (VZG[2]) from beginning 2009 until February 2010. After the ending of the EDIT project period – from March 1, 2011 on – the GRIB will be further developed and maintained by the VZG in cooperation with the MFN through the BHL-Europe project.

The GRIB will be governed by the BHL-Europe's WP2 at the MFN. The ViTaL activity leader will be employed by RMCA (The Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren/Belgium) for BHL-Europe from March 2011 on to ensure a sustainable GRIB development until April 2012. A help desk will be setup and the GRIB will be further managed as a digitisation management tool for BHL-Europe. RMCA is well experienced in help desk activities for other projects like the SYNTHESYS (Synthesis of Systematic Resources) project. RMCA is also responsible for setting up a help desk for the OpenUp! (Opening up the Natural History Heritage for Europeana) project dealing with making available natural history collections objects to Europeana.

The BHL-Europe project is running through April 2012. Further arrangements have been made with the VZG to continue the established service. MfN and VZG as the leading partners of the GRIB development agreed on a cooperation on the GRIB until February 2020. This includes hosting and maintenance of the GRIB by the VZG as well as import of data from EDIT, BHL-Europe and BHL institutions, as described in Component 5.150[3]. Also free and open access to the data via standard interfaces (WWW, Z39.50, SRU, internal XML, and OAI) is guaranteed

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[1] GBV homepage: http://www.gbv.de/vgm/
[2] VZG homepage: http://www.gbv.de/vgm/info/biblio/01VZG/index?lang=en
[3] C5.150 Design of mechanism to update bibliographic data from the libraries into the references index.

during that time. The governance structure after the end of the BHL-Europe project needs to be decided, which is part of the sustainability plan of BHL-Europe (to be delivered in April 2012).