



**iDiv**

German Centre for  
Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)  
Halle-Jena-Leipzig

## ***Usability and user experience of BEXIS 2***

*An account of data upload sprint in iDiv*

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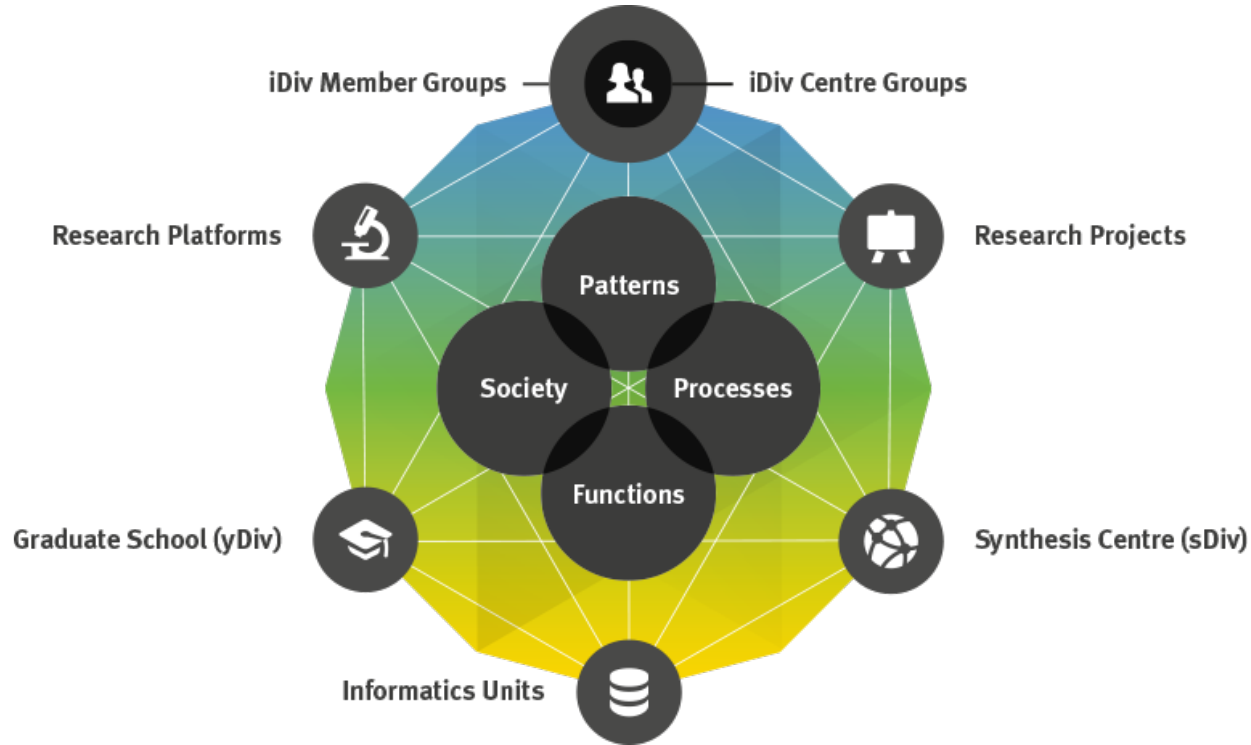


User and Developer Conference  
9th June 2016

# Outline

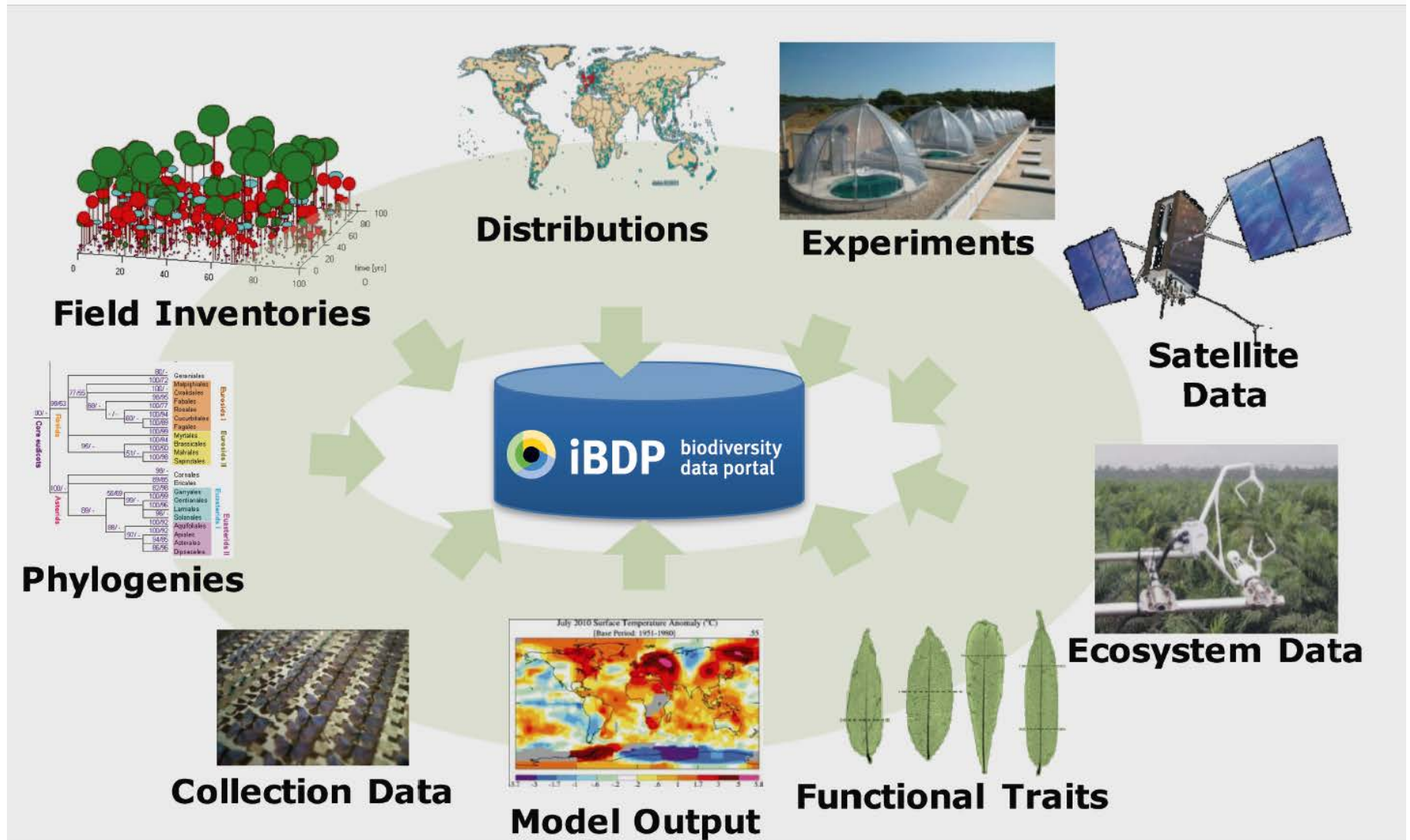
- About iDiv
- Sprint Data Upload Sessions
- Usability and User Experience
- Feedback

# About iDiv



- To promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in biodiversity science
- > 200 researchers
- Conducts research in four main areas of biodiversity science –
  - patterns, processes, functions and social relevance

# Data Diversity in iDiv



# iDiv Biodiversity Data Portal

<https://idata.idiv.de>

**iBDP biodiversity data portal**

iBDP Home | Data Policy | Feedback | Contact | About BDU | Help | Metadata

## Welcome to iDiv's Biodiversity Data Portal (iBDP)

iDiv represents a large scale collaborative biodiversity science research initiative whose central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory. It is widely agreed upon that data preservation and sharing is essential to further biodiversity research in general and to reach these aims in particular. To support this, many funding agencies – including DFG – have strong expectations with respect to data management and reuse.

Within iDiv, the Biodiversity Informatics Unit (BDU) is providing iDiv's Biodiversity Data Portal (iBDP), an infrastructure for data management. The main aim of the portal is to help iDiv's researchers and scientists to organise, store, access, visualise, share and publish their data.

To access data and data management tools, go to the Sign-in link located in the menu bar. Once registered, you can access the data management tools under *Support & Helpdesk* link. If you find any issues with the portal, please contact us at [bdu@idiv.de](mailto:bdu@idiv.de).

The portal is an ongoing development project. We are working on performance optimisation, bug fixes and new features. We will update you again as we work to deliver new updates. Thank you for your patience.

If you require any further information, please contact us at [bdu@idiv.de](mailto:bdu@idiv.de).

Dashboard | Search | Plan+ | Collect+ | Log In | Resources+ | Help+ | Settings

iBDP 2.8.1 - Search

**FACETS**

- Owner Na...(110)**
  - Nico Eisenha...(36)
  - Aletta Bonn (20)
  - Henrique Per...(14)
  - Christine Rö...(13)
  - Nicole van Dam (7)
  - more
- Contact Na...(57)**
  - Jonathan Ch...(49)
  - Olga Ferlian (15)
  - Roland Krae...(15)
  - Nicole van D...(12)
  - Matthias Schr...(8)
  - more
- Taxonomic...(11)**
  - Fagaceae (3)
  - more

**Search Results**

All [Search]

Displaying items 1 - 10 of 217

ID	Title	Owner Name	Dataset Description
129	Data on social networks in a citizen science pro...	Aletta Bonn	Dataset provides information about network rel...
195	Digital Orthophotos (DOP, with NIR channel) o...	Aletta Bonn	Dataset includes 105 original orthophotos (2x2 ...
106	Effects of habitat fragmentation on Amazonian ...	Og Francisco Fonseca de Souza	NA
120	Long-term effects of forest fragmentation on A...	Heraldo L Vasconcelos	ABSTRACTAim To analyse the effects of fores...
171	Plant functional traits along altitudinal gradients	Christine Römermann	for 32 herbaceous species, selected plant funct...
227	Soil carbon stocks in a Central Amazon terra fir...	Laboratório de Manejo Florestal (LMF), Institut...	This data set contains analysis of soil carbon st...
138	Temperature distribution in respiration devices ...	Nico Eisenhauer	The research group of Experimental Interaction...
242	MyDiv_treeinventory_00_header	Nico Eisenhauer	MyDiv tree inventory header data
80	Influence of forest fragmentation on amphibian ...	Denis Vallan	NA
190	Administrative units within the City of Leipzig (fr...	Aletta Bonn	Shapefiles with different levels of administrativ...

Displaying items 1 - 10 of 217

# Sprint Data Upload Sessions

- Target of uploading 500 datasets to iBDP
- Duration 6 weeks
  - 1hr slot, 2 times a week full day
- Doodle was used booking slots
  - >20 users booked the slot
  - Walk-in option was also available
- Dataset uploaded
  - Total 217 records
  - Metadata- 60 records
  - Primary data- 157 records (12 structured + 145 unstructured)

# Usability and User Experience- Metadata

- Metadata entry form not dynamic
  - customisation of form not possible
- Functionality to easily copy metadata not available
- Long text not visible in metadata fields
- Takes time to load the view page

# Usability and User Experience- Dataset

- Uploading (>1000 rows) structured datasets takes time
- .xlsx file format not supported for unstructured datasets
- Difficulty in understanding functionality and concepts
  - PLAN, COLLECT, DASHBOARD...
  - Data Structure and Datasets
  - Variable and Attributes
- Data structure and data units reuse complicated
- Cannot have similar names for structured and unstructured datasets
  - what should be the structure naming criteria?



# Usability and User Experience- Requirements

- User could not manage rights for their own dataset
  - could not delete dataset
  - assign access right to datasets
- Indexing of dataset is manual
- Linking different datasets from same project not possible
- Attachment to structured dataset not possible. Ex- Images, Publications
- Email notification system
  - Dataset download
  - Registration
  - Dataset upload
  - Dataset update

# Feedback

- Metadata and Data structure management tools need substantial improvement
- Use of simple and user-understandable concepts and terms
- Workflows easy to understand and less complicated
- Scope to increase the performance of the application
- Development progress does not match with demand and supply
- It is nice to have simple system and not over burden the user with expectations to understand foreign concepts.
- Need to provide a system as per users requirement and not as per what we think is required.

**Thank you**

**Questions?**