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Images: Carola Radke / MfN & Hwaja Götz / MfN

Dear all,

nowadays digital representations of collection objects are important to make the assets of natural history collections visible in both, the scientific community and broader public.

In the biological discipline the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) provides a global search portal in order to allow finding data on collection objects (and observation data). GBIF includes fossils, but no rocks and minerals, because its scope on biodiversity requires biological component. In order to allow also searching for other geoscientific objects than fossils the Geoscientific Collection Access Service (GeoCAsE) was developed some years ago.

Since the third-party funding for GeoCAsE ran out we would like to sustain the maintenance according the community's demands. Furthermore, the portal is facing the quick technological changes of the world wide web, so improvement and further developments are necessary. These should focus on the user's requirements.

For this reason we would like to ask you some questions about your geoscientific collection data, your focus on data publication and cross-institutional search.

We would appreciate if you could take approx. 10 minutes of your time to participate in our survey.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact [Falko Glöckler](#).

Thanks for your time!

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The fields highlighted with a **red asterix (*)** are mandatory.

Your institution

Your department

Country

Your position

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The fields highlighted with a **red asterisk (*)** are mandatory.

Which types of collection objects does your institution / department curate?

- fossils
- minerals
- rocks
- meteorites
- cultural artifacts (anthropology)
- other objects

Which data standard(s) do you use?

e.g. data (exchange) schemas like ABCD-EFG; software with official data model; controlled vocabulary, thesauri, ontologies; internal (quality) standards and data models, etc.

Do you publish (meta)data of your collection(s) in a data portal?

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The fields highlighted with a red asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Collection data portals allow searching for objects across institutions. Please estimate the value of cross-institutional searches on geoscientific object (meta)data.

	useless	low	medium	high	essential
Value for my institution / department	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value for my daily work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value for the international scientific community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value for the public / citizen science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

For which reasons would you publish your (meta)data on geoscientific collection objects?

- scientific reputation
- higher accessibility of collection data
- higher visibility of the collections
- increase value of the collection
- international comparison
- local / national / international policy
- linking data
- just nice-to-have
- because all others do
- other reasons

For which reasons would you exclude (meta)data of a particular object or dataset from publication through a data portal?

- security
- inexplicable accession
- potential misapplication / malpractice
- decreased value of the collection
- international competition
- local / national / international policy
- bad data quality
- more work to do
- because all others do
- other reasons

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What is the ***minimum*** functionality a data portal needs to cover for your work?

e.g. What information on the collection objects need to be shown at a minimum? What would you need for using the search results in your individual workflows?

Which ***optional*** functionalities could data portal provide for adding value to your work?

e.g. Which additional data sources and / or social media channels should be linked? Which features would add additional value to your work?

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Do you know the Geoscientific Collection Access Service (GeoCASE)?

<http://geocase.eu>

Would you like to provide data to the GeoCASE data portal?

Would you be willing to support the progress of improving the GeoCASE portal with your particular expertise?

Would you be willing to be a part of the GeoCASE community?

Do you have any further comments, questions or recommendations you would like to share with us?

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The fields highlighted with a **red asterix (*)** are mandatory.

Are we allowed to contact you based on the information you provided in this survey?

Security question *

In order to avoid automated submissions by malware or bots, please enter an number (integer) between fifty-eight and sixty-five.

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