

Japan Biodiversity Information Initiative (JBIF)'s Efforts to Collect and Publish Biodiversity Information from Japan

Showtaro Kakizoe[‡], Aino T Ota[‡], Tsuyoshi Hosoya[§], Utsugi Jinbo[‡]

[‡] Center for Collections, National Museum of Nature and Science, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan

[§] Department of Botany, National Museum of Nature and Science, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan

| Department of Zoology, National Museum of Nature and Science, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan

Corresponding author: Showtaro Kakizoe (showtarok@gmail.com)

Abstract

The Japan Biodiversity Information Initiative ([JBIF](#)) was originally established in 2007 as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility ([GBIF](#)) Japan National Node to aggregate biodiversity data in Japan and conduct publications through GBIF. JBIF was later renamed after Japan became a GBIF observer, but activities including data publication through GBIF have continued to the present. JBIF operates with the support of the National BioResource Project ([NBRP](#)) by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology ([MEXT](#)), with collaboration from three institutions: the National Institute of Genetics ([NIG](#)), the National Institute for Environmental Studies ([NIES](#)), and the National Museum of Nature and Science ([NMNS](#)). The NBRP is a project that focuses on the collection, preservation, provision, and enhancement of bioresources.

JBIF collects both observation and specimen data and publishes them through GBIF. For domestic data use, a search system for data published by JBIF is available on the JBIF website. Moreover, NMNS managed a museum network called the Science Museum Net ([S-Net](#)), and bilingual (Japanese and English) specimen data collected by S-Net is also available via the S-Net portal site. We are working to promote the biodiversity informatics field in Japan through a translation of the GBIF resources, including the website, important documents such as the [GBIF Science Review](#), as well as organize workshops and conferences, primarily targeting students, researchers, museum curators, and local government officials, to facilitate the sharing of information and exchange of opinions on biodiversity information.

To date, Japan has published 564 datasets and over 12 million occurrences to GBIF, making it the third-largest contributor of data to GBIF in Asia, following India and Taiwan. Moreover, regarding specimen-based occurrence data, Japan is the largest contributor in Asia.

In this presentation, we will introduce JBIF's initiatives and future activities.

Keywords

GBIF, S-Net, Asia, museum, project management

Presenting author

Showtaro Kakizoe, Aino Ota

Presented at

TDWG 2023

Funding program

National BioResource Project (NBRP)

Conflicts of interest

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.