



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"

## **C8.3.2.4 Final evaluation report on the pilot Expert-in-training programme**

Due date of component: Month 58

Actual submission date: Month 58

Start date of project: 01/03/2006

Duration: 5 years

Organisation name of lead contractor for this component: 13-RBINS

Revision [Final]

| <b>Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)</b> |   |   |
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| <b>Dissemination Level</b>   |   |   |
| <b>PU</b>  | Public  | x |
| <b>PP</b>  | Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)        |   |
| <b>RE</b>  | Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services) |   |
| <b>CO</b>  | Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)  |   |

## **PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS**

The Expert-in-training programme is a training component of the Distributed European School of Taxonomy (DEST). This training programme allows students and early career researchers from European institutions to benefit from on-the-job training in EDIT institutions and other partner institutions. Training takes place individually or in small groups. Depending on the training subject, the training period lasts from one to 4 weeks. EDIT covers the costs of travel, accommodation, provides a per diem to contribute towards living costs and training-related costs.

Within EDIT's framework, two Expert-in-training programmes were organised. In the 2008-2009 programme, the traineeships were offered to trainees affiliated by their study or research to an EDIT partner institution and for training in an EDIT partner institution different from the applicant's EDIT institution. The 2009-2010 programme included also training offers from non-EDIT partners and granting was not only restricted to applicants of EDIT institution but also offered to trainees of European institutions/universities. Seventy one applications were received and within the anticipated EDIT budget (36.000 EUR), 26 applicants were granted (full funding), equivalent to 56 weeks of training.

More detailed information can be found in the component reporting C8.3.2.3 Evaluation report on the pilot Expert-in-training program (calls 1 & 2).

[http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/sites/default/files/WP8-C8.3.2.3%20Evaluation\\_report\\_expert-in-training\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.taxonomytraining.eu/sites/default/files/WP8-C8.3.2.3%20Evaluation_report_expert-in-training_FINAL.pdf)

## **PERSPECTIVES BEYOND EDIT**

The DEST was evaluated as being a successful EDIT product and the EDIT Board of Directors (7<sup>th</sup> BoD, June 2010, Paris) recommended a continuation of its activities and the integration of EDIT into CETAF.

Several EDIT partners are interested to sustain the DEST training activities. BE-TAF, and in particular RBINS, is willing to maintain the training activities. Moreover, other partners (non-EDIT) involved in the present training activities have a strong interest to continue their investment in delivering training courses beyond the EDIT project.

A Memorandum of Understanding on training cooperation in DEST is being signed by interested partners, providing evidence of a continued coordinated international effort to sustain the taxonomic training programmes of DEST during and beyond termination of the EDIT contract.

Participation conditions will be different beyond EDIT. In 2010 the Modern Taxonomy programme was launched. Unlike the Expert-in-training programme, the participation is on a self-financed basis. A subscription fee is asked. EDIT awards a limited number of grants to help defray subscription fee, travel and subsistence costs (partial funding). Courses are open to trainees from all over the world. The operational mechanism of the Expert-in-training programme after the end of the EDIT contract will be the same as the one applied for the Modern Taxonomy programme, which was a test case for sustainability of training activities after EDIT. Depending on available funding, student grants may be awarded.

**TENTATIVE EXPERT-IN-TRAINING PROGRAMME 2011-2012**

There is a considerable interest from training providers to continue their cooperation in the programme. Moreover, regularly trainees request information on upcoming courses. Discussion is ongoing with the training providers to establish the following programme for 2011-2012.

| <b>DEST - Tentative Expert-in-training programme 2011-2012</b>  |  |
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| Tropical Plant Identification Course  | Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew   |
| Vegetation Survey Training Course   | Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew   |
| Training program in taxonomy of higher plants   | University of Bayreuth   |
| Advanced Biosystematics, Phylogenetics and Biogeography   | National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden branch                          |
| Advanced Biosystematics, Phylogenetics and Biogeography   | National Herbarium Netherlands, Wageningen branch                      |
| Palynology  | National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden branch                          |
| Wood biology training   | Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren                              |
| Training program in non-marine diatoms from the (sub-) Antarctic Region   | National Botanic Garden of Belgium                                     |
| Bryology & Mycology   | National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden branch                          |
| Culture collection management & fungal taxonomy   | Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS) /Fungal Biodiversity Centre |
| Practical aspects of taxonomy   | Ghent University   |
| Cybertaxonomy and biodiversity information with special emphasis on collection management and geospatial related data                         | Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren                              |
| Taxonomy of freshwater macroinvertebrate bioindicator species.  | Ecological Consultancy Services Ltd. (EcoServe), Dublin                |
| Training programme in Crustacean systematics with specialisation in Cyclopidae (Copepoda)   | Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences            |
| Systematics of freshwater subterranean Malacostraca: Morphology, molecular systematics, and web-taxonomy                                      | University of Ljubljana  |
| Identification of Afrotropical spiders (Araneae)  | Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren                              |
| Entomological research in protected areas   | Museo di Storia Naturale - Università di Firenze                       |
| Training program in Entomology with specialization in Hymenoptera Symphyta with emphasis on collection management and geospatial related data | Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Ferrara                             |
| Taxonomy of European biting midges (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae)   | University of Gdańsk   |
| 1) Forensic entomology and Taxonomy of Calliphoridae<br>2) Molecular taxonomy of Neotropical flies of families Syrphidae & Calliphoridae      | Finnish Museum of Natural History-<br>University of Helsinki           |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Training programme in Entomology with specialisation in Dolichopodidae (Diptera) of Southeast Asia   | Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences                 |
| Morphological and molecular identification of African fruit flies (Diptera, Tephritidae)   | Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren                   |
| On the job training in family level identification of a hyperdiverse insect group: The Beetles (Coleoptera)  | Natural History Museum, London                              |
| Training programme in palaeoentomology with specialisation in planthoppers (Insecta: Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha).  | Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences |
| Training programme in Entomology with specialization in fossil insects: implications for phylogeny, biogeography, and palaeoecology  | Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris                 |
| Elasmobranch teeth enameloid microstructure as a taxonomic criterion   | Natural History Museum of Denmark                           |
| How can eco-ethological peculiarities together with classical morphological taxonomy be helpful in defining uniqueness of island populations: the case of Mediterranean <i>Podarcis</i> Lacertid lizards | Museo di Storia Naturale - Università di Firenze            |
| Morphological approaches to the evolutionary developmental biology of vertebrates  | Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin                               |
| Southeast asian primates taxonomy in Dubois collections  | Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis                 |