

November 18th 2020, Minutes from the Taxonomic coordinators meeting via Zoom

Present on call: Marine Dallakyan (SCZHE), Vardan Asatryan (SCZHE), Bardukh Gabrielyan (SCZHE), Mark Kalashyan (SCZHE), Levan Mumladze (ISU), Kosta Kereselidze (ISU), Stefan Otto (ISU), Björn Rulik (ZFMK), Christoph Erhardt (ZFMK), Peter Grobe (ZFMK), Nils Hein (ZFMK, minutes).

Start at 2pm (CET), waiting for a couple of minutes for the partners from the YSU, without any luck.

Opening by Nils with a short introduction why we have this meeting, why the taxonomic backbone is important for CaBOL, and which role the taxonomic coordinators play in the establishment.

Peter: What is the taxonomic backbone? There are several different opinions on this, and also on the meaning of such a taxonomic backbone. Basically the taxonomic backbone is a species list with a taxonomical hierarchy and additional metadata. In order to get this species list we should proceed as pragmatic as possible. We extract the species names from the Georgian Biodiversity Database, provided by Giorgi Chaladze, if applicable the first describer and years is added. The suggested way is as follows, and is included in the Memo as well:

1. Create a flatlist of species/species checklist with contributions from all taxonomic coordinators. The responsibilities are more given more detailed in the Memo.
2. Include those taxon names in the DiversityTaxonNames workbench
 - a. If possible with additional metadata, e.g. habitat information, red list status, distribution, references and records will be included if possible. Information on Older records for the Caucasus are welcome!
3. Subprojects with specific responsibilities will be created
4. Taxon coordinators will get access and responsibility for their specific subproject

The responsibilities for the various groups are assigned to the various taxonomic coordinators. We agree again that the basis will be the Georgian Biodiversity Database which will be supplemented by any source/reference available for the Caucasus. The taxonomic coordinators will support and share information with each other constantly.

A Taxonomic Coordinator group will be implemented in the member section of the webpage. The webpage is supposed to hold the important information.

Nils will provide a template containing the mandatory and “nice to have” information for the species list. Björn already made a suggestion based on the DiversityTaxonNames.

I forgot to mention it, but I suggest the next status meeting to be on **December 16th 2020 at 2pm**. If you have any conflict with this date, just let me know, otherwise I will set up a Zoom meeting in the beginning of next week and circulate the invitation.