



4D4Life one year on – passing the review

Firstly, huge congratulations to all project partners on passing the European Commission Year 1 review. Considering the scope and scale of our project, the number of partners and simultaneous tasks underway this is an excellent achievement and a positive start upon which we can build. Many thanks to everyone for all your hard work. The Review was on 24 June in Brussels, and the evaluation report received 12 September 2010.

And now the hard work! Year 2 in 4D4Life (May 2010 – April 2011)

With a successful end to Year 1 of the project we have now moved forward into Year 2 where new areas of work have begun. This new work includes the development and testing of Batch 1, Batch 2 and Batch 3 of the new services. In October the development of Batch 1 will begin and Batch 2 will follow in the first part of 2011. It also includes nearly all of the pilot projects by GSDs in Work Package 3. Most of these activities planned should be finished in time to report on them at the 4D4Life Third Project Meeting in Prague (28 March – 1 April 2011). As well as the new services work there will also be the test of the new e-2 electronic architecture software and eventually the start of a production version in the early part of 2011.



New Services: 4D4Life WP2, WP5, WP6

We are now writing detailed descriptions for services in Batch 1 which we start developing in October 2010. Items under Batch 1 include;

- i) Creating external links to the IUCN Red List Conservation Status, CITES, Global Invasive Species Program and ARKive (images)
- ii) Download Services
- iii) Show points of attachment for GSD sections in the taxonomic hierarchy
- iv) Show number of child taxa present in parent node in the taxonomic hierarchy
- v) Transparency and explanation of the Catalogue of Life – this will be done through a new website
- vi) Species tally on the website. This will include estimated numbers for incomplete and missing groups

Batch 2 will follow with an array of new web services for Taxa and Names.



Banners on tour

Two banners have been produced to aid the publicity drive of the Catalogue of Life and supporting projects 4D4Life and i4Life. Both of these first appeared at the 4th Global Botanical Gardens Congress in Dublin 13 – 18 June. Yuri Roskov from the Reading Secretariat gave a talk about the "The Catalogue of Life and new electronic services in 4D4Life" on 17 June.



Peter Schalk (Chair of the Directors) speaking in front of the banners at the Sp2000 AGM
Photo: Viktor Didziulis, Species 2000 Secretariat

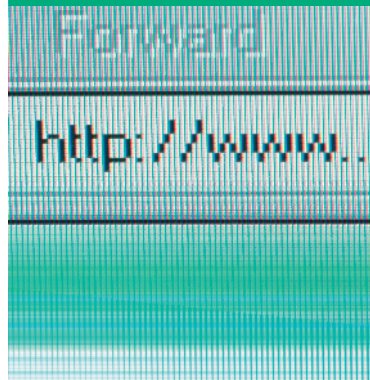
4D4Life e-bulletin

Catalogue of Life Around the Year: 4D4Life Catalogue of Life Production Service

In July, Catalogue of Life Around the Year was launched. This new edition aims to provide updates of the Catalogue around the year, with 2 – 3 more editions planned for 2010. It will make the Catalogue more dynamic. See www.catalogueoflife.org/col for more information.



Catalogue of Life Services



Have you seen our current Catalogue of Life services?

Go to: www.catalogueoflife/services/

- i) Catalogue of Life 2nd October
- ii) Annual Checklist 2010 (interface v 1.5 and download)
- iii) Annual Checklist 2010 (interface v 1.0 and download)
- iv) Dynamic Checklist (prototype)
- v) Web service of streamlined electronic access (XML, PHP) to the Annual Checklist for scientists and software developers
- vi) Web service of streamlined electronic access to the Dynamic Checklist for scientists and software developers (prototype)
- vii) Previous versions of the 2000 – 2009 Annual Checklist online access, downloads and web-services



Pinus ponderosa
Photo: Aljos Farjon



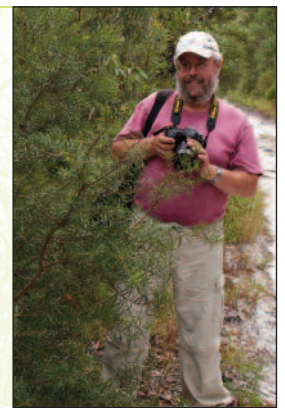
Picea likiangensis
Photo: Aljos Farjon

4D4Life Work Package 3 – Pilot Projects Adding common names to the Conifer Database

Aljos Farjon, the Conifer Database custodian reports...

At the 2nd 4D4Life Project Meeting in Faro in March 2010, the adding of common names to all species in the Conifer database was agreed as a pilot project to enhance the uniformity in this much-used sector of the Catalogue. This was a significant project, aimed to enhance both the database itself and the Catalogue of Life.

There are 615 species of conifers, distributed across all continents except Antarctica. There are very few countries where no native conifers are known, and probably none without any conifers at all. Common names exist in many languages and it is likely that people who are not trained as botanists will know these, rather than the 'Latin' names. A search of the literature found 4242 names in 20 commonly used languages, plus a scattering of languages for only a few species. For instance, the North American pine *Pinus strobus* is 北美乔松 (bei mei qiao song) in Chinese, Kanadai selyemfenyő in Hungarian, borovice vejmutovka in Czech, and has 4 French, 4 Spanish, 3 English and 3 German names, among other languages. For Japanese conifers, we have Japanese names in two scripts: for *Juniperus taxifolia* for example, 沖縄這杜松 (kanji) and オキナワハイネズ (katakana), both transcribed as Okinawa-hainezu. There are also many conifer names in Russian, one of the longest of which is головчатый тис ланцетнолистный (golovchatyj tis lancetnolistnyj) for *Cephalotaxus lanceolata*.



Conifer expert Aljos Farjon
in the field
Photo: G. Garruthers



4D4Life e-bulletin

The new i4Life project held its first Consortium meeting at the European Commission in Brussels on 2nd September. The i4Life partners met to discuss the kick off date for the project and the plans for the first year. We will now dedicate part of the E-Bulletin to quarterly i4Life updates.



Common names in the news

The value and importance of common names was further highlighted recently when Natural England - the advisory body to the UK government on the natural environment - ran a competition to give a common name to 10 endangered UK species. The competition aimed to familiarise the public with the species that we are in danger of losing.

The ten new common names are:

- **Skeetle** (*Stenus longitarsis*): A beetle that escapes predators using natural "jet skis"
- **Sea piglet** (*Arrhis phylonyx*): A deep-sea "pseudo shrimp"
- **Queen's executioner** (*Megapenthes lugens*): A distinctive "clicking" beetle found only in Windsor Great Park
- **Blue pepper-pot beetle** (*Cryptocephalus punctiger*): A rare leaf beetle whose larvae live in willow leaves
- **Scabious cuckoo bee** (*Nomada armata*): A "cuckoo bee" that lays its eggs in the nests of other bees
- **Kaleidoscope jellyfish** (*Haliclystus auricula*): A beautiful stalked jellyfish
- **St John's jellyfish** (*Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis*): A tiny 1cm jellyfish, in the shape of a Maltese cross
- **Witches' whiskers lichen** (*Usnea florida*): A lichen with medicinal properties
- **Pixie gowns lichen** (*Peltigera venosa*): A lichen that turns green when wet
- **Mab's lantern** (*Philorhizus quadrisignatus*): A very rare four spotted ground beetle



From this list the following so far can be found in the Catalogue of Life; Scabious cuckoo bee, Kaleidoscope jellyfish, St John's Jelly fish, Witches whiskers lichen, Pixie gowns lichen.

Diary dates

5 – 6 October 2010

CETAF28 General Meeting
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels

18 – 29 October 2010

COP 10 - Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan
Side Meeting for the Catalogue of Life and the launch of the i4Life Project

4 – 5 November 2010

European Commissions Framework 8 E-Concertation Meeting
CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

8 – 10 November 2010

4D4Life Management Committee, Design Team and Services Team Meetings
Cardiff University, Wales

21 – 27 February 2011

Biosystematics Berlin 2011
Seminaris Campus Hotel, Berlin

28 March – 1 April 2011

4D4Life Third Project Meeting and Global Catalogue of Life Team
Prague, Czech Republic

4D4Life at the Acarology Congress

Frank Bisby attended the XIII International Congress of Acarology (Recife: 23- 27 August) and with Gilberto Moraes ran a Species 2000 Workshop on Global Species Databases and taxonomic coverage of the Acari in the Catalogue of Life.



Catalogue of Life Workshop at the Acarology Congress. Photo: Fotos Filmagem Publik, Recife



Scabious cuckoo bee
Nomada armata
(See CoL/ITIS Bees)
Photo: entomart.ins



Kaleidoscope jellyfish
Haliclystus auricula
(See CoL/JURMO)
Photo: Donna McCoy/
mccoyphoto.com

4D4Life e-bulletin



4D4Life – the project workers

Thank you!

Here we would like to say a big thank you to the following who are moving on from the project and have contributed over the past year.

Belinda Hawkins, Research Officer,

Botanical Gardens Conservation International

Belinda has worked in the WP 2 Team on the publicity and outreach work of 4D4Life. She has lent her experience and wisdom in providing us with a new project leaflet, banners and being the producer and editor of this quarterly E-Bulletin. She also provided invaluable input into the services work of Work Package 2. Belinda is moving on to do a PhD and we wish her great success in her new venture.

Núria Torrescasana Aloy, Senior Developer, ETI

Núria led the programming work on new software in Work Package 6. She helped write and create the Annual Checklist interface and has contributed in various project meetings with both the Design and Services Team. We thank Núria for all her excellent hard work and wish her well in her new job.

Hardik Raja, Research Assistant, Cardiff University

Hardik was part of the team at Cardiff University working on the new software design. He worked on the preliminary ideas of for the e2 infrastructure and also attended and contributed to both Design and Services Team meetings. Hardik has now returned to India and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

And Welcome!

We also have new staff to welcome aboard the 4D4Life Team.

Ayco Holleman, Senior Developer, ETI

We welcome Ayco to the team. Ayco has replaced Núria at ETI where he works on software development in the work of Work Package 6. This includes work on the new services planned for development during the year. Ayco had his first project meeting at the Design Team meeting in July at Cardiff University.

Francisco Quevado Fernandez, Research Assistant, Cardiff University

Francisco replaces Hardik at Cardiff University to assist Work Package 7 work alongside Jonathon Giddy. We welcome Francisco to the project.

4D4Life E-Bulletin Editor

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Global Partners of i4Life

Welcome

We will do a larger focus on the i4Life project in the next Bulletin but we would like to introduce the new partners in its project:

David Remsen (Project Officer) of GBIF, Guy Cochrane (Group Leader of the European Nucleotide Archive) of EBI, Thomas Orrell (Deputy Director) of (ITIS), David Schindel (Executive Secretary) CBOL, Cynthia Parr (Director of the Species Pages Group) of (EOL), The Smithsonian Institute, Pedro Crous (Director CBS) and Vincent Robert (Bioinformatics Group Leader) of KNAW, Wieslaw Bogdanowicz (Director of the Institute) of MIZPAS, Walter G. Berendsohn (Director of the Department of Biodiversity Informatics and Laboratories) of BGBM and LifeWatch, and Jim Ragle (Manager Species Information) of IUCN Species Program.

Spotlight on a contributing global species database

The **Salticid Database** is a research oriented relational database of jumping spiders (Salticidae, Araneae), a compendium of knowledge of over 5,600 species of jumping spiders in over 1,900 publications, and in 58 collections. At the XVIII International Congress of Arachnology, held in Poland in July 2010, Salticid database custodian Jerzy Prószyński was awarded the prestigious Pierre Bonnet Award. The Award is conferred to a single winner, once every three years. The award was given primarily for extensive efforts to make data and drawings of salticid spiders available through both paper and internet-based catalogues.



Jumping spider
Plexippoides gestroi
Photo: Barbara Knoflach-Thaler



Jerzy Prószyński and his award
Photo: Marek Zabka

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