

THE FIRST TAXONOMY RECOGNITION DAY

23rd of May, 2024



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TAXONOMY: THE KEY TO BIODIVERSITY

Taxonomy is the science of identifying, naming and classifying plants, animals and minerals. It is the alphabet of natural history, and the key to unlocking the connections between all life on Earth

THE CHALLENGE

The IPBES Global Assessments found that more than 1 million species are at risk of extinction. Invasive species are one of the five main drivers of biodiversity loss (together with habitat loss, overexploitation, pollution, and climate change). This has consequences for our ecosystems, and the services provided by nature

OUR SOLUTION

Taxonomy Recognition Day exists to emphasise the importance of taxonomy in our daily lives. The day will kick-start talks to deeper integration into industry, education and policy, ensuring the sustainability of this fundamental science

Across Europe, participating institutions will host events on May 23rd, to jointly celebrate Taxonomy Recognition Day by inviting leaders from academia and industry, policymakers and journalists to explore and underline the profound impact of taxonomy in a wide array of disciplines

WHY TAXONOMY MATTERS

PROTECTING AND RESTORING BIODIVERSITY

How would you save something you don't know the name of?
Only 20% of all the species on our planet have been described.
Taxonomy is essential for identifying species and implementing evidence-based policies for conservation and restoration

THE ECONOMY RELIES ON ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Our economy is deeply rooted in ecosystem services. According to the European Central Bank, 72% of eurozone companies and three-quarters of bank loans in the region are directly or indirectly affected by biodiversity loss

CLIMATE CHANGE

Atmospheric gases are controlled by the balance of nature's growth and decay. Some key species have essential functions. Declining biodiversity makes ecosystems less adaptable to climate change which can tip the balance of nature's regulation of the climate

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#NameItToSaveIt

WHY TAXONOMY MATTERS

SOURCING OUR MEDICINE

Much of our medicine comes from natural resources. Without taxonomic work no monitoring of these resources or discovery of new medicines would be achievable

OUR FOOD HAS A NAME

Three-quarters of our food depend on pollinators, yet they are struggling globally. Taxonomic knowledge and taxonomists in the field are fundamental to monitor pollinators and propose solutions to their decline. Understanding of species evolution and interactions is also essential in the development of more resilient crops to - among others - contrast climate change impacts

WE HAVE A PLACE IN THE WEB OF LIFE

Food availability, safe and healthy environments, and resource sustainability are directly dependent on the capacity of humans to live in harmony with nature

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WHAT TAXONOMY NEEDS

OPPORTUNITIES

More career opportunities, clear academic paths, and professional opportunities in both public and private sectors

RECOGNITION

Improved recognition of the benefits of taxonomy by other sectors such as in agriculture, industry, medicine and policy

RESOURCES

Integral approach to taxonomy, including morphological, geographical references, genomics and biochemical data, interactions and ecological information require consistent human resources and stable funding sources, also for digitization and research infrastructures to allow seamless access to information

A COMMON GROUND

A reliable, comprehensive and robust framework for taxonomy to operate globally, at the scale and time needed. The exchange of data and mobilisation of experts allows effective responses to critical challenges

LUOMUS
FINNISH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Naturalis
Biodiversity Center

ecsa
European
Citizens Science
Association

CETAF
CONSORTIUM OF EUROPEAN
TAXONOMIC FACILITIES

Meise
Botanic Garden

N
natural
sciences
.be

REGION
VÄSTRA GÖTALAND

Natural History Museum of Crete
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

MUSEUM
NATURALIS
NATUREBEE

SISTEMA MUSEALE DI ATENE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI FIRENZE

NATURKUNDE MUSEUM STUTTGART

phm
naturhistorisches museum wien

Catalogue of Life

INSTITUTE OF BOTANY CAS

Bo
Botanischer Garten Berlin

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF DENMARK
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG