

# MfN – Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity, Berlin

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## About the Institution


The [Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity](#), Berlin is a research museum within the [Leibniz Association](#). It is one of the most significant research museums worldwide focusing on biodiversity, evolution and geo-sciences. The [zoological](#), [paleontological](#) and [mineralogical](#) collections of the Museum are directly linked to [Research](#) and comprise more than 30 million items. In addition, the Museum has an [Animal Sounds Archive](#) containing approximately 120,000 animal sound recordings and a DNA Bank. The [Library](#) of the MfN is one of the most important reference libraries in zoology in the German-speaking world. Research at the Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity is organised in four Science Programmes ("Forschungsbereiche"): Evolution and Geoprocesses, Collection Development and Biodiversity Discovery, Digital World and Information Science, Public Engagement with Science.



### About the Data Center

MfN has a strong interest in collection and observational data, taxonomic data, and trait data. MfN curates the following data regularly:

1. MfN collection related data, such as collection specimen data, DNA (DNA collection - exceeding MfN physical collection), collection metadata, and media representations of MfN collection specimens including additional metadata
2. Research project related data (MfN involvement, leadership or partnership, national or international), such as observational data (e.g. ATBI)



[Contact MfN at NFDI4Biodiversity](#)

## Data Center Profile

Name	MfN – Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity, Berlin
URL	<a href="https://www.museumfuernaturkunde.berlin/en">https://www.museumfuernaturkunde.berlin/en</a>

Description	The GFBio Data Center MfN is administered and managed by the newly evolving Science Programme "Digital World and Information Science" at the MfN. The central data management system for the zoological and paleontological collections is <a href="#">Specify</a> (see also <a href="#">here</a> ). MfN represents Germany in the <a href="#">DINA-Consortium</a> aiming at building an open and modular collection data infrastructure on top of <a href="#">Specify6</a> for the needs of European institutions. Other data domains, e.g. mineralogical data, bibliographic data, and historical archive data, are managed by independent database instances. MfN's scientific multimedia files are managed internally using the commercial Digital Asset Management System <a href="#">Cumulus</a> (Canto) and <a href="#">EasyDB</a> (Programmfabrik) for 3D media. Important developments in the area of biodiversity informatics supported by MfN are ABCD 3.0, the ABCD extension <a href="#">EFG</a> for paleontological and mineralogical collection data and its presentation layer, the <a href="#">GeoCASE portal</a> , as well as the BioCASE Monitor Service (BMS), a tool for monitoring data provision and quality checks of individual ABCD(EFG) mappings.			
	<b>Scientific data curation services (incl. taxonomic services)</b>			
	The taxonomic and scientific expertise at MfN is that of its employed and associated scientists. <a href="#">Research</a> is, to a large extent, based on our zoological, paleontological and mineralogical <a href="#">collections</a> .			
	MfN curates the following data: (1) MfN collection related data, such as collection specimen data, DNA (DNA collection - exceeding MfN physical collection), collection metadata, and media representations of MfN collection specimens including additional metadata; (2) project related data (MfN involvement, leadership or partnership, national or international), such as observational data (e.g. ATBI).			
	MfN is an <a href="#">active provider</a> of scientific data and media to international (scientific) platforms and networks, such as Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF, <a href="#">www.gbif.org</a> ), Europeana ( <a href="#">www.europeana.eu</a> ), GeoCASE ( <a href="#">www.geocase.eu</a> ), DNA Bank Network ( <a href="#">www.dnabank-network.org</a> ) / Global Genome Biodiversity Network (GGBN, <a href="#">www.dnabank-network.org</a> ), and BHL-Europe ( <a href="#">www.bhl-europe.eu</a> ).			
	MfN is also providing a number of <a href="#">Data Services</a> to the community:			
	<a href="#">Fauna Europaea</a> : MfN is currently hosting Fauna Europaea ( <a href="#">www.fauna-eu.org</a> ), an information system and taxonomic service for all species currently known in Europe.			
	<a href="#">GBIF</a> : MfN is responsible for the <a href="#">GBIF-D</a> nodes "Insekten" and "Fossilien" and thus part of the German contribution to <a href="#">GBIF International</a> . This task entails hosting, mobilization and provision of biodiversity data to GBIF for other German (entomological and paleontological) collections.			
	<a href="#">GeoCASE</a> : MfN is hosting and maintaining the Geosciences Collection Access Service (GeoCASE, <a href="#">www.geocase.eu</a> ), a service based on the ABCD extension <a href="#">EFG</a> for the retrieval of collection data related to geo-scientific collection throughout Europe.			
	<a href="#">GloBIS</a> : MfN is hosting, maintaining and managing the Global Butterfly Information System (GloBIS, <a href="#">www.globis.insects-online.de</a> ), a taxonomic backbone for the butterfly families Papilionidae (Swallowtails) and Pieridae (Whites).			
<a href="#">ATBI+M</a> : MfN is hosting and maintaining the site All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories + Monitoring in the Mercantour and Alpi Maritime natural parks ( <a href="#">www.atbi.eu/mercantour-maritime</a> ), a database on all observed species occurring in a defined area including information on the collection event, abundance and biology. The data originates from the <a href="#">EDIT project</a> .				
<a href="#">anymals+plants</a> : MfN collaborated in the development of the Smartphone App <a href="#">anymals+plants</a> ( <a href="#">www.anymals.org</a> ), which allows users to document species occurrences/ observations and also provides the user generated data to GBIF.				
<a href="#">Open Drawer Portal</a> : MfN will host, maintain and manage an international (insect) drawer portal ( <a href="#">eos.naturkundemuseum-berlin.de</a> ), which enables scientific and non-scientific users for cross-institutional searching digital representations and metadata of collection objects stored in drawers (mainly insects).				
Data domains (scope)	MfN has a strong interest in collection and observational data, taxonomic data, and trait data.			
Target group				
Service Description	Data archiving for research projects is focusing on:			
	<b>Type 1</b>	Occurrence data and associated media originating from zoological, environmental and paleontological studies.		
	<b>Type 2</b>	A data type driven focus (independent from scientific domain) will be on archiving multi-media objects, traits, taxonomic and observation data, e.g. originating from Citizen Science initiatives (MfN - <a href="#">extended profile</a> ).		
	<b>IT services</b>			
	<a href="#">Data submission and accession</a>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• an instance of a <a href="#">ODK Aggregate Server</a> (see more information <a href="#">www.opendatakit.org</a>)</li><li>• collection object interface for stable URIs (dereferencing to landing pages with content negotiation)</li><li>• TBD: Specify Workbench</li></ul>			
	<a href="#">Data integration and management</a>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bulk import scripts for Specify 6</li><li>• imageJ macro for multiple QR code detection</li><li>• ODK Collect forms for collection management via QR codes</li></ul>			
	<a href="#">Data backup and archiving</a>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Backup and archiving facilities for data and multimedia files.</li></ul>				
<a href="#">Data publication</a>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BioCASE Provider Software (BPS version 3.5, <a href="#">MfN Data Access Point</a>) using ABCD(EFG) for data provision to <a href="#">GeoCASE</a>, <a href="#">BioCASE</a>, <a href="#">GBIF</a>, and Europeana ( <a href="#">GloBis</a>, <a href="#">TSA</a>, <a href="#">MfN</a>)</li><li>• Data provider for <a href="#">BHL-Europe</a> through <a href="#">BHL-Europe ingest tool</a></li><li>• Management and programming of the <a href="#">Biowikifarm</a> in close collaboration with BGBM, SNSB and PLAZI supporting a number of <a href="#">projects and initiatives</a></li><li>• <a href="#">BioCASE Monitor Service</a> (BMS) a service for monitoring of data provision (using the BioCASE Provider Software) and quality checks on the mapping. The service is currently in use by <a href="#">OpenUp!</a> and <a href="#">GBIF-D</a></li></ul>				
<b>User services</b>				
German representative in the DINA Consortium; specify workshop organisation (in Germany)				
Service Levels	Data Set x	Data Package x	Data management x	Research Objects x
Data Formats				
Data Submission Formats	Data	Pre-structured, delimited plain-text files (CSV) and spreadsheet files (Microsoft Excel, Open Document Spreadsheet); SQL dump files; Binary files (e.g. images, audio, volume data); All submissions preferably in open formats Example templates for data submission can be found in the GFBio collection of recommended <a href="#">data submission templates</a>		
	Metadata	EML, ABCD, DarwinCore		
Data Accessibility	Public access points	<a href="#">GFBio</a> , <a href="#">BioCASE Data Access Services at the MfN</a> , Institutional landing pages of citable stable URIs, <a href="#">BioCASE</a> , <a href="#">GBIF</a> , <a href="#">BiNHum</a> , <a href="#">GeoCASE</a> , <a href="#">Europeana</a>		

	<b>Standardised exchange formats</b>	XML-files in ABCD, DarwinCore, EML standard
	<b>Data formats</b>	Text, CSV, XML
	<b>Long-term availability</b>	Unlimited (minimum guaranteed time period of 15 years)
<b>Data Publication Services</b>	<b>Data Citation</b>	Yes (DOI and citation for each individual data set)
	<b>DOI</b>	DOIs are issued for each data set
<b>Archiving (RAW-data ingest, data, media)</b>		
<b>Licenses / Terms of Use</b>	<b>Metadata</b>	
	<b>Data</b>	
<b>Documentation</b>		
<b>Computing center, external service provider</b>  name of the associated computing center(s), (commercial) service provider(s) and services provided		
<b>Backup</b>	regularly for the main databases	

## Your contact persons at MfN

### Data curator

- [Giuditta Parolini](#)

### Technical contact

- [Falko Glöckler](#), [Giuditta Parolini](#)

### NFDI contact persons

- [Christian Bölling](#), [Falko Glöckler](#), [Giuditta Parolini](#), [Mareike Petersen](#)



**Do you have questions, feedback or need help?**

[Contact our Helpdesk](#) for direct support.

