

# EDIT

European  
Distributed  
Institute of  
Taxonomy

# Taxonomy for Nature Conservation

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L2L: From Lisbon to Leipzig  
Leipzig, 10 May 2007

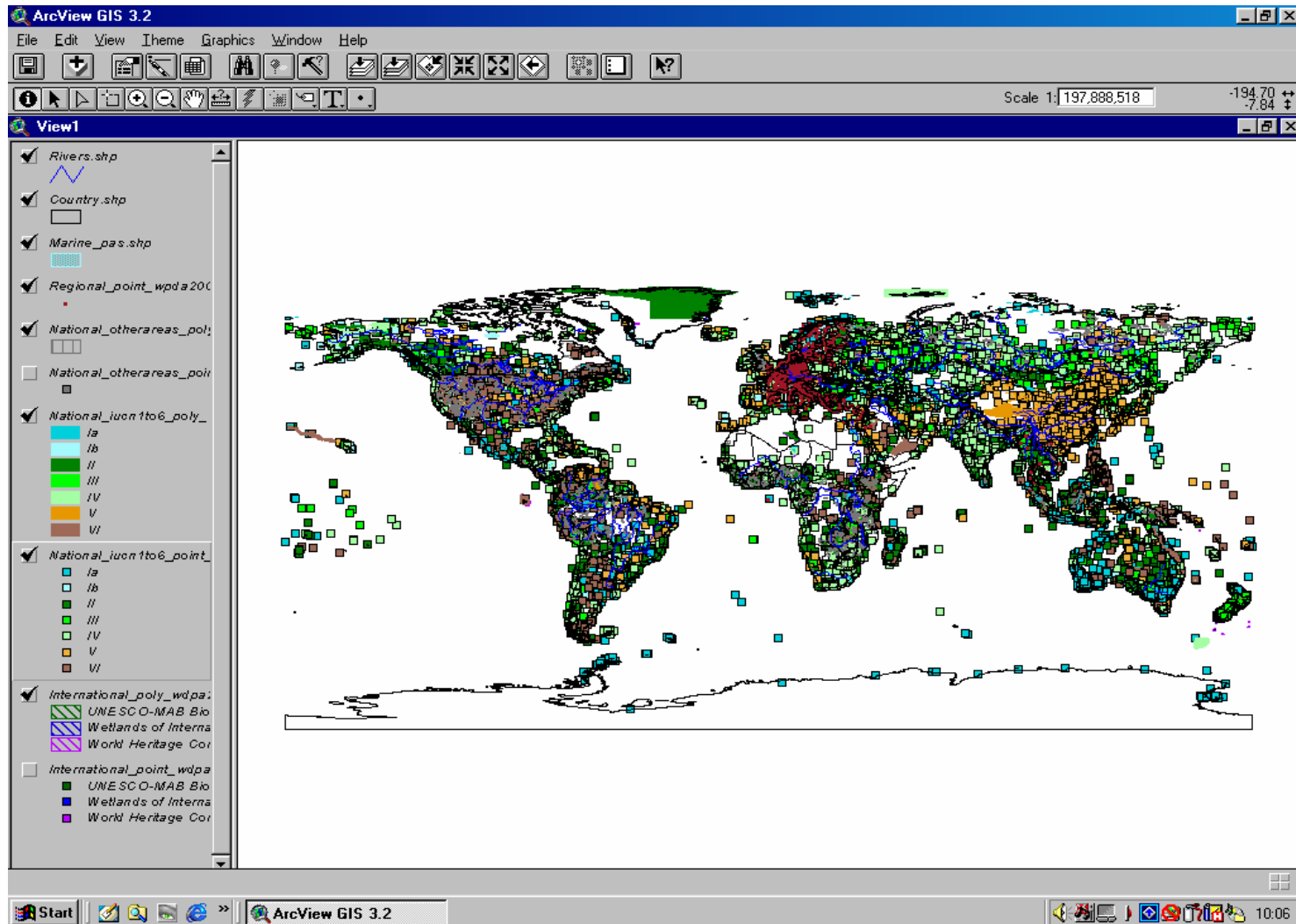


# The challenge: biodiversity loss

- **Mammals:** [IUCN „red lists“]
    - (1990): threatened + endangered: 647 spp.
    - (2003): threatened (CR, EN, VU): 1130 spp.  
(= 23% of all mammal species known)!
  - **Reptiles:**
    - (1990): threatened + endangered: 207 spp.
    - (2003): threatened (CR, EN, VU): 293 spp.
  - **increases from: 2000 - 2003**
    - plants: 5,611 : 6,774 spp.
    - vertebrates: 3,507 : 3,524 spp.
    - invertebrates: 1,928 : 1,959 spp.
- n.b.: **insects** (= 900,000 spp.): only 0.02% of all insect species could yet be evaluated!!

# Biodiversity Conservation: Protected Areas

## IUCN / WCMC - World Database of Protected Areas



# The Challenge

No/few **inventory** data available yet for most **protected areas** ...

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://sea.unep-wcmc.org/wdpa/sitedetails.cfm?siteid=854&level=nat>. The page displays information for the Białowieża National Park, including a map, legend, and various details sections. The 'Species details' section is highlighted with a red box and contains the text: "No details are currently available for any species. If you know of a species which exists in this protected area please complete the comment form." Other sections include 'Information Sources', 'Map', 'Udvardy's Realms, provinces and biomes details', 'Historical details', 'Management', 'Source', and 'Related site details'.

Species  
details:

**„No details are currently available for any species. If you know of a species which exists in this protected area please complete the comment form.“**



## COP6 (2002): The Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI)

**established to address :**

- “ the problems of insufficient knowledge of all components of biological diversity (including their classification, description, value and function) and lack of taxonomic capacity, to overcome what has been termed “the **taxonomic impediment**”
- “ the lack of **taxonomic information**”
- “ the need to **build taxonomic capacity** [...] including reference materials, databases, and taxonomic expertise [...]”

# *The challenge for taxonomy*

- **shortage** of (taxonomic) **information** on biodiversity: biodiversity crisis = information crisis?!!
- the „***taxonomic impediment***“: CBD: **GTI**
- a **disconnect** between **conservation** and (taxonomic) **research, e.g.**,
  - no **complete** biodiversity **inventory** available yet for **any protected area** in the World ?!!

# Introducing EDIT

## *Towards The European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy (EDIT)*

- a « network of excellence » supported by the European Commission (FP6)
- funded for 5 years (2006/07 – 2010/11)
- coordinated by the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (Simon Tillier)

With the objectives to

- reduce fragmentation and transform taxonomy into an integrated science
- integrate (European) taxonomic institutions and capacities towards a trans-national entity
- create a virtual centre of excellence to reduce the taxonomic impediment, both for biodiversity research and conservation

# Who is EDIT (1)

## 18 EU institutions:

Muséum national d'Histoire  
naturelle, Paris

Natural History Museum of Denmark

Consejo Superior de  
Investigaciones Científicas,  
Madrid

University of Amsterdam

National Herbarium Netherlands

Natural History Museum  
Naturalis,,Leiden

Centraalbureau  
Schimmelcultures, Utrecht

Free University Berlin – Botanical  
Garden and Botanical  
Museum

Natural History Museum, London

Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew

Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde,  
Stuttgart

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural  
Sciences, Bruxelles

Royal Museum for Central Africa,  
Tervuren

National Botanic Garden of Belgium  
Museum and Institute of Zoology and  
Institute of Botany, Polish  
Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Hungarian Museum of Natural  
History, Budapest

Comenius University, Bratislava  
Institute of Botany, Slovakian  
Academy of Sciences, Bratislava

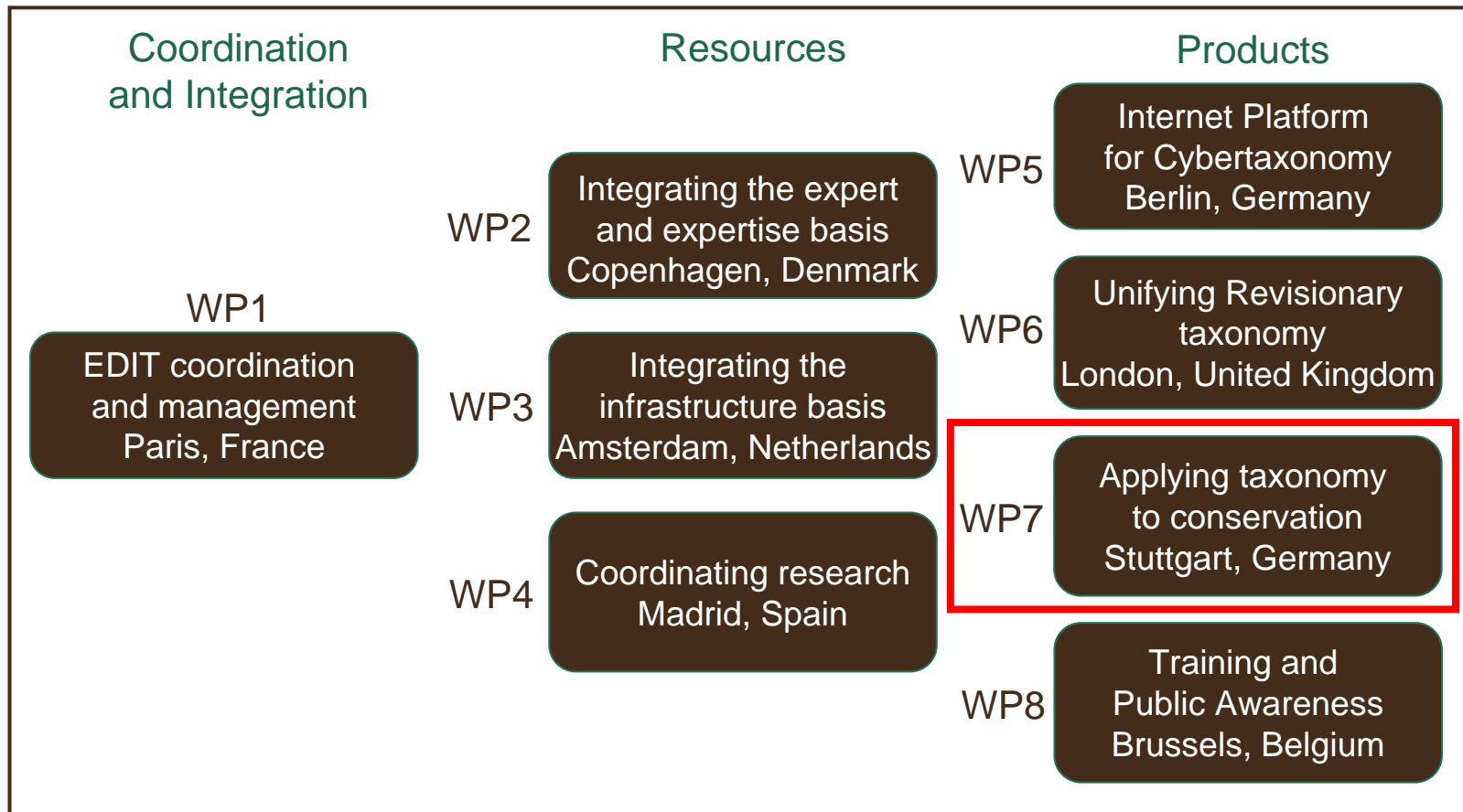
Institut National de la Recherche  
Agronomique, Montpellier

# Who is EDIT (2)

- 18 EU institutions [B, DK, ES, F, D, GB, HG, NL, SLO, PL]
- 2 network organizations:
  - Species 2000
  - Society for the Management of European Biodiversity Data (SMEBD)
- 2 North American institutions:
  - US National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution
  - Missouri Botanical Gardens
- 2 Russian institutions:
  - Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences
  - Komarov Botanical Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences

# EDIT operational structure

- EDIT consists of 8 Work Packages (WP's)



# EDIT WP7 objectives

Strengthening the input of **scientific taxonomic expertise** in Europe for biodiversity conservation programs and policies, especially for **inventories, assessments, and monitoring** of biodiversity;

Furthering development and promotion of **standards, techniques and methodologies** for cost efficient biodiversity assessments including a new approach for an

"All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory & Monitoring" (ATBI+M) program;

Establishing a *European* expert *task force* for undertaking and supporting biodiversity inventories, assessments, and monitoring activities;

# WP7 (ATBI+M) approach

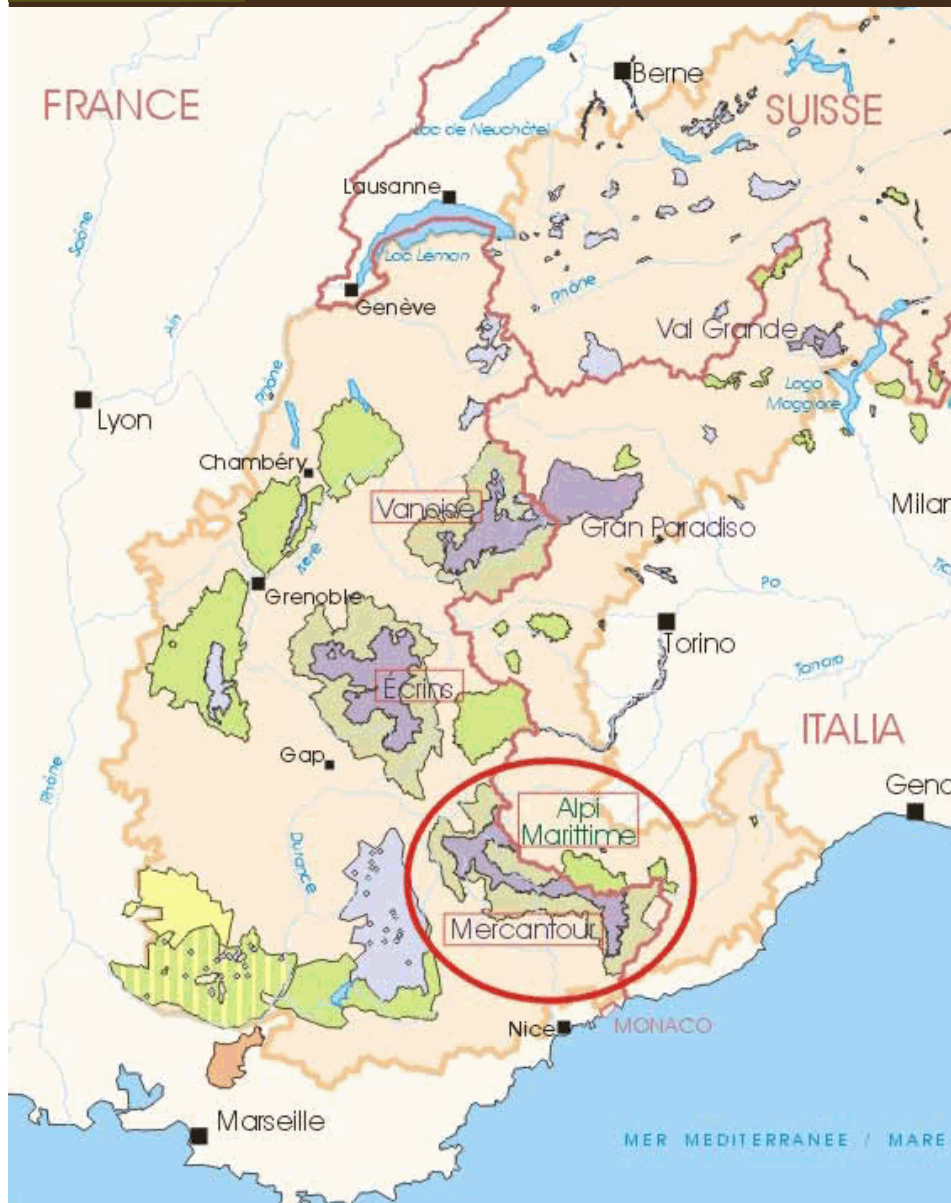
## EDIT WP7:

- establishes EDIT ATBI+M **pilot sites** for areas of conservation concern in and outside Europe in need/want of inventory data
- organizes and supports **teams** of taxonomic experts for **field work** to update/complete inventories and undertake monitoring at pilot sites
- tests and develops new **standards, protocols, and tools** for efficient field recording techniques (geo-referencing, field-based ID techniques, **GUIDs** for records & specimens, etc.)
- delivers **primary occurrence data** as digital records (compatible with BioCASE/DiGIR/TAPIR protocols) hosted in openly accessible web-based information systems (**GBIF: [www.gbif.net](http://www.gbif.net)**) for future use

**EDIT**

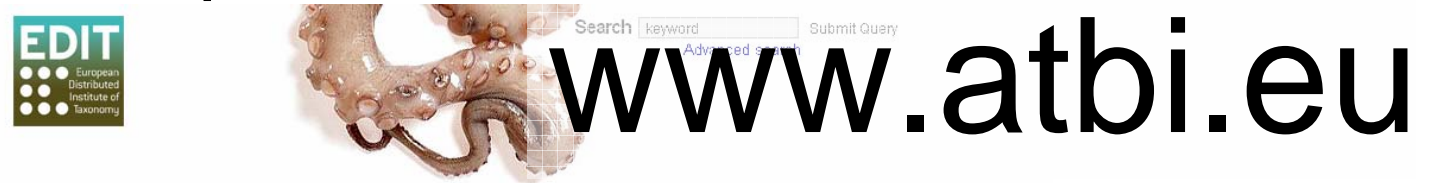
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# 1st EDIT WP7 ATBI+M pilot site: Mercantour / Alpi Maritimi NPs



# Learn more about EDIT-WP7 + ATBI+M pilot sites

- Participate in pilot site forum!



EDIT Home  
 WP7 Home  
 About WP7  
 Participate!  
 Workshop 2007 **new**  
 Definitions  
 Links  
 Contacts  
 ATBI Forum  
 ATBI+M proposals:  
 Within Europe

Administrator: Merijn M. Bos

Forum Fieldreports WP7 Home

**Last update:** Report Workshop 2007, March 14-16

Welcome,  
 Workpackage (WP) 7 of the 'European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy' (EDIT) organises 'All Taxa Biodiversity Inventories' (ATBIs).  
 In EDIT's ATBIs, scientists from up to 27 mainly EU-based, scientific institutions cooperate to work on a 'baseline biodiversity assessment'... ->[read more](#).

We look very much forward to details of your ATBI+M interests... ->[read more](#)

Download the feedback forms on most recent [EU site](#)-, [marine site](#)- and [extra-EU site](#)-proposals, fill them in and send them to [us](#).  
 Soon, we will also provide an updated overview of proposed ATBI sites.

**Latest news:**  
**09-04-07**  
 The "**workshop 2007**" section is updated with a brief report, photogallery, final programme and handouts of most of the talks held. A detailed report will follow soon, meanwhile discussions continue on the [forum](#).

**08-03-07**  
 - The programme for the upcoming workshop is updated with speakers, times, and dates ->[read more](#) or [download](#) the programme as pdf.  
 - We have a fully functional [ATBI forum](#) and we invite all researchers to register. Registered users have the possibility of uploading files and images along with texts.  
 Besides being a platform for discussions and information, the forum allows registered users to quickly and easily drop in short field reports, which then automatically appear on the EDIT-WP7 website in a 'Field reports' section.

**09-02-07**  
 A tentative programme for the upcoming workshops is available ->[read more](#).  
[Download](#) the second circular with details about the workshop.

# EDIT

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# Thank you!

EDIT: <http://www.e-taxonomy.eu>

EDIT WP7: <http://wp7.e-taxonomy.eu>

German GTI NFP: [www.gti-kontaktstelle.de](http://www.gti-kontaktstelle.de)



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