



IABIN was officially mandated at the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in December 1996. Since 2004, The World Bank has been the implementing agency for IABIN. Other than country membership in the IABIN Council, there is no formalized definition of “membership” in IABIN.



Searching for biological records?
Want to contribute biological data?

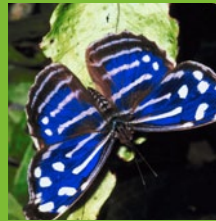


iabin

Inter-American Biodiversity
Information Network

www.iabin.net

For more information about IABIN or its Coordinating Institution, the U.S. Geological Survey, please use the contact information listed below.



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IABIN is a forum that fosters technical collaboration and coordination among countries of the Americas in the collection, sharing, and use of biodiversity information relevant to decision-making on natural resources management, conservation, and education to promote sustainable development in the region.

IABIN goals:

- Build up an infrastructure for biodiversity information exchange
- Strengthen technical capacity to exchange biodiversity information and expertise across political, linguistic, and institutional boundaries
- Provide access to biodiversity information that is useful to decision-makers to improve biodiversity conservation
- Enhance capacity to store, use, and distribute scientifically sound and updated biodiversity information
- Produce or adapt information products for decision makers (tools for decision-making) so they formulate effective environmental management policies and promote sustainable development in the region



The IABIN Catalog Search (<http://iabin-catalog.nbio.gov>) provides access to several thousand records in the areas of specimens, species, pollinators, ecosystems, protected areas, and invasive species in the Americas.



Basic features of the system include:

- Multi-lingual search interface (English, Spanish, Portuguese)
- Customizable display and sort options
- Categorization of search results by document type, geography, and IABIN theme
- Access to IABIN Thematic Network Data Portals
 - Ecosystems Thematic Network
 - Invasive Species Thematic Network (I3n)
 - Pollinators Thematic Network
 - Protected Areas Thematic Network
 - Species & Specimen Thematic Network
- Multi-lingual online help



Interested in contributing data to IABIN?

Data can be made available through the IABIN Catalog using a number of methods and processes, with the route primarily depending on the data provider and the type of data to be shared. All IABIN Thematic Networks provide access to their data holdings via various advanced search interfaces. The IABIN Catalog serves as the “gateway” or “integrator” of IABIN content to allow users easy discovery and access.

Currently, IABIN can incorporate data and information into the IABIN Catalog through the following approaches:

- Simple harvesting
 - Based on schema defined by the data provider and IABIN
 - Full-text indexing of content from the data provider
- Creating metadata or cataloging of records through various standards
 - Dublin Core Standard for web sites, images, map-services
 - Federal Geographic Data Committee Biological Profile for datasets

For further details on each of these approaches, go to <http://www.iabin.net/>