

September 1, 2008

TO: The World Bank, the IABIN Executive Committee and IABIN Council

IABIN Executive Committee:

Gladys Cotter - (Chairperson) United States of America

Karin Molt - (Vice-Chair) Chile

Ana Aber – Uruguay

Francisco González Salas – Costa Rica Victoria Lichtschein – Argentina Antonio Matamoros – Ecuador Dionne Newell - Iamaica

Dionne Newell - Jamaio Dario Luque – Panama

Beatriz Torres - Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Maarten Kappelle – The Nature Conservancy

FROM: GS/OAS and the IABIN Secretariat

RE: Seventh Semester Report – Period: Jan 01 – June 30th, 2008

Building the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN)

1. Summary and IABIN Project Milestones by Component

The IABIN Project in its fourth year is making tangible progress in most components, building an ambitious but important hemispheric information network. The Secretariat throughout the first semester of this year was partially staffed. All Coordinating Institutions for the five Thematic Networks are finishing the development of the infrastructure and developing tools for digitizing of data and communication portals. The Species-Specimens Thematic Network (S-STN) has over three million records. 47 data digitizing grants have been awarded. The implementation of Component 3 is advancing, with three proposals selected to develop decision-making tools.

The major challenges for the second semester of 2008 will be to (i) carry out the strategic planning necessary to set the vision for IABIN after the GEF Project, (ii) establish the modes for the sustainability of IABIN and find the focus for the fund raising efforts of the newly-hired fundraiser, (iii) continue facilitating the work of the CIs, (iv) increase the number of organizations receiving data creation grants from 47 to 86, (v) continue the implementation of Component #3 "Information Tools for Decision Making", and (vi) solidify partnerships.

IABIN Project Milestones for January-June 2008

- S-STN held the Spanish-language training for the specimens data digitizing tool in February,
 2008 with 18 participants (a counterpart English training will be held in August).
- Ecosystems Thematic Network (ETN) held a training workshop in March, to review a standardized format for exchanging marine ecosystems data.

- o Pollinator Thematic Network (PTN) finished its data digitizing tool and is ready to carry out a pilot training workshop in July, 2008.
- o Protected Areas Thematic Network (PATN) defined the final architecture for its data digitizing tool and will carry out a training workshop in September, 2008.
- o The IABIN Information Technology Technical Working Group (IT TWG) held its third meeting in Knoxville, TN, USA in June.
- o The agreement with CAF for the implementation of the GeoSur Project was signed and work started.
- One training workshop on geospatial metadata was carried out in Colombia in May and another one is planned for July.
- o The RfP for Component 3 was published and ten proposals were received.

2. Component 1 – Interoperability and Access to Data

2.1. IABIN Catalog Service

The following major tasks and deliverables have been accomplished or are near completion related to the IABIN Catalog.

Accomplishments:

Crawling of IABIN relevant test content was performed in the Catalog Test Environment (at SAIC) and the eventual production environment at NBII Denver.

Several revisions were necessary to include as much metadata as possible related to Geographic Location, Resource Type, and IABIN TN properties.

Unique views allowing IABIN users to on-demand sort and view results by Geography, IABIN TN, and Resource Type were created within the Catalog system.

Revisions were performed to remove non-IABIN country folders from the Geographic view

An additional view, Continent, to top-level folders in Geographical view was added.

Multiple Image classifications and views were combined into one view to make it easier on users.

Added Organizations and Publications folders to Content Type view.

Added visual effect to "All Results" folder to make it stand-out from other folders to aid user's differentiation between folders and subfolders.

Translation of Geographical, Resource Type, and IABIN TN folder names into Spanish and Portuguese was completed.

Testing of various system components occurred to ensure Internet Browser compatibility (IE and Firefox primarily) and multi-lingual system components.

Completed online Help/FAQs and incorporated the draft version into the external script and BioBot search input tag. The Help/FAQ files were then translated into Spanish (IABIN Secretariat supported) and Portuguese (I3N supported).

Work began to migrate all developed code to the production environment at NBII Denver.

Developed the capability, based on meeting with the CI and Secretariat, to allow users the ability to "re-query" from the existing search results page to improve user experience.

Additional development and enhancements were performed on the "external url scripts" that would allow IABIN partners to integrate the IABIN Catalog search into their existing web-sites.

Work was performed, by the Coordinating Institution (CI), on the development of a "simple" terminology service for IABIN. Major phrases and/or terms were collected from IABIN sites and (Thematic Networks) TNs to form the basis of this multi-lingual repository. This will greatly aid search and discovery and also help TNs with metadata creation.

Updated milestone completions and for future Year 2 work was developed by SAIC and the CI. The Catalog consultant met with the CI and the IABIN Secretariat to discuss the final deliverables for Year 1 and start initial planning for Year 2.

The latest IABIN Catalog and discussions as to additional methods to integrate IABIN TN content and partner content into the Catalog occurred at the IABIN June Technical Working Group Meeting in Knoxville, TN, USA.

Upcoming Efforts:

The production version of the IABIN Catalog is scheduled for release by the end of July.

IABIN Catalog Indicator Measuring Matrix

Indicator	Responsible	Cumulative	Measurement on	Measurement on		
		since Dec 2006	1st Quarter 2008	2 nd Quarter 2008		
1. Increase of Visits to the portals of :						
Catalog	Mike Frame	0		236		
4. Data and me	4. Data and metadata content increase in the IABIN Catalog and TNs increases:					
Catalog	Mike Frame	0		196,684		
5. Number of p	5. Number of people trained per year on data creation tools, data quality and use of tools					
developed by IABIN TNs						
Catalog	Mike Frame	0		12		

2.2. Thematic Networks (TNs)

2.2.1. General Comments

The goal for the first semester of 2008 for many of IABIN's TNs was (i) to complete the final version of relevant standards needed for information creation and exchange in their network, (ii) create an operational digitization tool for relevant data in their field, (iii) Release for bids at least the first call for proposals for data content grants and (iv) carry out at least one training session in each TN. Most of these goals were achieved as can be seen below.

2.2.2. Review of the Thematic Networks

2.2.2.1 Species and Specimens TN (SSTN)

During the first semester of 2008, the SSTN concentrated on developing version 2.0 of the integrated tool for digitizing specimen and species data as well as on the final version of the data provider connector and the web portal.

Software Development:

- 1. Version 2.0 of the integrating portal for specimens and species was finished and installed.
- 2. Version 1.0 of Ara, the Species Information Harvester and Administrator was finished and is available (which in its version 2.0 will manage specimen information, too)
- 3. Version 2.0 of Ara is in development and will be available in July.

Indicators 1, 4 and 5 of the Project:

Site in Spanish (especies.iabin.net)

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2008	68	125	210	502	211.64 MB
Feb 2008	100	173	233	531	170.12 MB
Mar 2008	187	347	621	1527	279.99 MB
Apr 2008	250	514	980	2585	193.82 MB
May 2008	516	929	1236	2023	435.35 MB
Jun 2008	79	141	217	475	41.17 MB

Site in English (species.iabin.net)

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2008	148	298	354	844	318.60 MB
Feb 2008	213	361	459	765	296.76 MB
Mar 2008	226	381	431	756	163.74 MB
Apr 2008	302	634	861	1728	274.70 MB
May 2008	325	780	1058	1501	271.26 MB
Jun 2008	316	899	1377	2267	280.76 MB

2.2.2.2. Invasive Species TN (I3N)

Activities in the first half of 2008 focused on development of the network in Central America and the Caribbean.

The I3N Country Web System template was installed in Costa Rica, Paraguay, and Ecuador and is being installed in Chile, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Peru in 2008. The *I3N Country Web System* includes a Web template, an intranet system designed for loading data into the *I3N*

Database template, and an administrative system through which authorizations for data providers are assigned and the information is analyzed before its publication on the Internet.

Risk and pathways analyses tools have been completed in Spanish and are being translated into English. They are designed to use I3N data and controlled vocabulary, and can use data from PATN & SSTN. These tools support prevention, early detection and control of invasive species threats, enabling governments to determine management priorities based on I3N data. Results can be used in national IAS strategies, reports and policy development. A users' manual and a powerpoint presentation about the invasive species issue and the tools are also posted on the Web and downloadable.

Collaboration continues with the Global Invasive Species Program (GISP) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to refine a Model for a National Invasive Species Strategy. National strategies on invasive alien species are an important foundation for a country to effectively address biological invasions, and developed in cooperation with TNC South America. The benefits of the strategy to I3N include: highlighted the usefulness of I3N in time for the COP 9 (May 2008) in-depth review on invasive alien species, where GISP presented on results of the tool; provides cofinancing for GEF grant; improves I3N workshop content and interest; provides additional publicity opportunities for I3N.

The Central I3N Web site, which is rich in content and complies with new IABIN web guidelines for Thematic Networks, continues to grow. It provides access to newly-developing I3N country Websites and offers downloads of newly-developed value-added tools to aid in decision support.

I3N IABIN Indicator Measuring Matrix

Indicator	Responsible	Cumulative since Dec 2006	Measurement on 1st Quarter 2008	Measurement on 2nd Quarter 2008
1. Increase of Visi	ts to the portals of :			
13N	C. Fournier	34,046	146 (average 49 visits/month)	185 (average 62 visits/month) [NOTE: starting 1st quarter 2008, we began using Google analytics, which are very accurate in recording visits, instead of hits to our website. These numbers are not comparable with previous software.]
4. Data and metada	ata content increase ir	the IABIN Catalog and	TNs increases:	
I3N	C. Fournier	9,832 est. total.	3,800 (est.)	4,400 (est.)
5. Number of peop TNs	ole trained per year or	data creation tools, dat	a quality and use of t	ools developed by IABIN
I3N	C. Fournier	155	32 (Venezuela)	45 (Panama)

2.2.2.3 Ecosystems TN (ETN)

During the period January-June, 2008, the activities of the ETN have been focused toward the following objectives:

1. Development of a Reference Standard Format Database for Terrestrial, Marine and Fresh water Ecosystems.

Terrestrial Ecosystems

- ❖ The Terrestrial Standard Format was reviewed and modified according to the recommendations made at the Terrestrial Ecosystem Workshop in December, 2007. Representatives from thirteen countries attended the Training session.
- ❖ The revised version of the Terrestrial Standard Format is available through the ETN Portal.
- ❖ The contract with NatureServe has been carried out. The main final products of this contract are the Terrestrial and Marine Standard Formats and the Reference Terrestrial Classification System. The Terrestrial Reference Classification System, with approximately 800 classes, has been entered in the Terrestrial Standard Format through level 4 and is available in the database.
- ❖ The University of Arkansas was chosen to develop the cross-walk software for the terrestrial standard format, however an agreement was not reached between the lawyers at the OAS and the University of Arkansas, and consequently a new call for proposals is being developed.

Marine Ecosystems

❖ The Marine Standard Format was defined, revised according to the recommendations made at the Marine Workshop and the revised version is posted in the ETN Portal.

Fresh water Ecosystems

TNC and NatureServe are contributing \$50,000 to the ETN to develop the Fresh water Ecosystem Standard Format. This work will begin in the third quarter of 2008.

2. Development of the ETN Portal and ETN Architecture.

The ETN Portal has been upgraded and modified to include the revised standard format web forms.

A new version of the ETN portal is being designed and will be on line in the third quarter of 2008. The Portal will be available in Spanish and English.

A system is being set up to establish a catalog system (enter and query metadata) for the ETN. This is being done in coordination with NBII and el Instituto von Humboldt, which has developed interactive software to develop and enter metadata (Cassia).

3. Develop the Infrastructure to provide geospatial Ecosystem data on line.

o Activities for the implementation of the Geospatial Network in South America continued during this semester (see section 5.5 below).

ETN IABIN Indicator Measuring Matrix

Indicator	Responsible	Cumulative	Measurement on	Measurement		
		since Dec 2006	1st Quarter 2008	on 2st Quarter		
				2008		
1. Increase of Visits to the portals of :						
ETN	V. Abreu	4,521	555	1,232		
4. Data and meta	4. Data and metadata content increase in the IABIN Catalog and TNs increases:					
ETN	V. Abreu	917		917		
5. Number of people trained per year on data creation tools, data quality and use of tools						
developed by IABIN TNs						
ETN	V. Abreu	94 people	20 people trained	20 people		
		trained		trained		

2.2.2.4. Pollinators TN (PTN)

The IABIN PTN has continued to hold successful coordination meetings, make progress on the IABIN PTN Portal, and begin to integrate the hemisphere's pollinator data. Below are highlights of various projects the IABIN PTN team has worked on from January 2008 through June, 2008.

Digitization Tool

Two tools are currently under development to provide data to the portal and can be viewed at http://groselha.pcs.usp.br/sowb/. A tool is being developed which will allow PTN grantees to store their data and connect them to the portal. The tool allows input of data defined by the Darwin Core (DwC) schema and the DwC relationship extension for plant-pollinator relationships. The Darwin Core requires five mandatory fields. As data is inputted, it appears in the selection box, as well as the other fields. Version 2 will link taxonomic Latin names with their common name. Each grantee will have access to his/her own database, which will link to our portal using Tapir. Each provider will have control over the data and retain ownership of the information.

The Darwin Core Pollinator Extension is made up of three basic entries: pollinator specimen, plant specimens, and the pollinator specimen and plant specimen interaction. Our team is currently building a simple survey to find how people describe plant pollinator relationships for Darwin Core Extension data entry. Users will be able to click on the PTN logo, which will take users to the IABIN PTN website.

Additionally, there are two tools under consideration for future use to provide data to the portal. As mentioned in the previous report, we have been in contact with the Specify software project team at the University of Kansas to discuss the use of Specify as a tool to contain plant-pollinator relationship data and to provide data to our portal. According to the Specify team the next version of the software (version 6.0) to be released this year will probably accommodate PTN needs since it will handle relationships among taxa. Meanwhile, the PTN team is also evaluating the current version of Specify (Version 5.0) as an alternative. The first Specify program prototype is customized to host pollinator, plant, and relationship data. Users will be able to choose between our tool and Specify.

Collaboration with SSTN to incorporate plant-pollinator relationship data capabilities on the SSTN data entry tool is under discussion.

The PTN Contacts Database can be found at http://143.107.164.125:8080/experts/ (username: user / password: 123). There are currently two levels of entry: not logged in or logged in as an expert where the user will have access to editing. Users will be able to search the Experts Database for names, disciplines, phrases, common names, scientific names, geographic locations, expertise, and more.

The Portal, http://iabinptn.pcs.usp.br/welcome.htm, which already links to the Experts Database, has new customized tool interface improvements. There are currently over 160,000 occurrence records from two data providers. The first version of the tool is complete. A training manual is currently in progress.

Foundation of University of São Paulo Sole Source Justification

In response to a request from the OAS and World Bank, the IABIN PTN coordinating institution, the Coevolution Institute, submitted a Sole Source Justification for the Foundation of University of São Paulo (FUSP) to develop a software informatics infrastructure for acquiring and providing pollinator data and information. Numerous Sole Source Justification drafts were reviewed. We received a no objection notification to contract Foundation of University of São Paulo on a sole sourcing selection basis the end of February 2008. A formal contract between the Coevolution Institute and the Foundation of University of São Paulo has been signed.

PTN IABIN Indicator Measuring Matrix

Indicator	Responsible	Cumulative since Dec 2006	Measurement on 1st Quarter 2008	Measurement on 2 nd		
				Quarter 2008		
1. Increase of Vi	sits to the portals	of:				
PTN	L. Adams	1903 in 2007 + 323 in 2008 (as of June 25) = 2226 Total Visits (not hits)	146 visits (not hits)	177 visits (not hits)		
4. Data and meta	data content incre	ease in the IABIN C	Catalog and TNs increa	ses:		
PTN	L. Adams	0 metadata records				
5. Number of people trained per year on data creation tools, data quality and use of tools						
developed by IA	BIN TNs					
PTN	L. Adams	0				

2.2.2.5. Protected Areas TN (PATN)

Data management, publishing and interoperability issues

WDPA Web based Data Entry Tool

- Launched at COP9, in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May by UNEP-WCMC
- Attribute data structure for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) Version 1.1
 - Launched at March 7 by UNEP-WCMC and adopt as a PATN Data Standard, version 1.1
- Harmonization of Data Standards between RANPA, Brazilian Ministry of Environment, and PATN/WDPA
- PATN Conceptual Data Model V 2.3 (Figure 1)
 - Present at Tennessee IABIN Technical Working Group meeting
- Translation of the user manual of the "Cadastro Nacional de Unidades de Conservação" - the "MMA Tool" - to English and Spanish

PATN IABIN Indicator Measuring Matrix

Indicator	Measurement	Measurement	Measurement on 1st
	on 2 nd Quarter	on 3 rd Quarter	Quarter 2008
	2007	2007	
1. Visits to the IABIN	1,767	1,557	2,271
Catalog and Portals of	(442	(389	(568 visits/month
each IABIN Thematic	visits/month	visits/month	average)
Network increase	average)	average)	
4. Data and metadata	10,852	10,852	10,852
content in the IABIN			
Catalog and TNs			
increases			
5. Number of people	none	none	none
trained per year on			
data creation tools, data			
quality and use of tools			
developed by IABIN			
TNs			

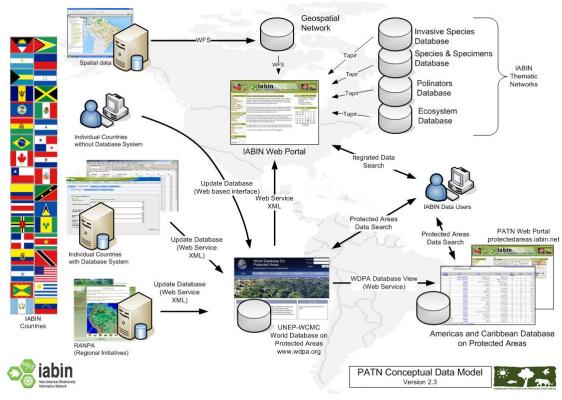


Figure 1 - PATN Conceptual Data Model version 2.3

2.2.2.6 IABIN Technical Working Group

A meeting of the IABIN IT Technical Working Group (TWG) took place at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, June 2-4, 2008

Below is a summary of the major decisions and actions agreed to by all participants in support of the continued development of IABIN. Decisions and actions are broken down by the IABIN Thematic networks and associated components (i.e. Catalog, Geospatial network).

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
Ben Wheeler	IABIN
Boris Ramirez	IABIN Secretariat
Christine Fournier	IABIN I3N
Eduardo Dalcin	IABIN PATN
Jim Erwin	NBII
Lisa Zolly	NBII
Luisa Neira	OAS
Manuel Vargas	IABIN SSTN
Miguel Blanco	IABIN ETN
Mike Frame	IABIN Catalog
Pedro Pizzigatti	IABIN PTN

Tim Robertson	GBIF
Vincent Abreu	IABIN ETN
Vivian Hutchison	NBII

Meeting Objectives:

The objectives discussed during the meeting are described below.

- Status of IABIN TN Tools, Applications
- Current status of GBIF architecture, tools, and services
- Update & integration with IABIN Catalog
- IABIN Terminologies
- IABIN Geo-referencing tools, approaches
- IABIN Metadata Standards training
- Document recommendations & findings

Decisions & Actions:

Protected Areas Thematic Network (PATN):

- IABIN needs to immediately develop a formal agreement with UNEP-WCMC in support of sustainability of PATN.
- IABIN-PATN will establish a Regional Hub/Database View of the UNEP-WCMC World Data Base on Protected Areas (WDPA). This will include all IABIN countries protected area data. (9/30)
- University of SãoPaulo will serve as the host for the IABIN PATN web portal. A formal agreement will be established between the affected parties. (8/1)
- Digitizing grants for PATN will focus on organizing a workshop to develop protected areas data for IABIN participants using the newly released WDPA web-based client software. These are to be released within the next few months, if possible, due to timing of GEF project. (10/31)
- PATN will:
 - 1.) Train on the WCMC tools
 - 2.) Promote Brazilian Ministry-based tools for protected areas data management
 - 3.) Carry out a workshop focused on developing and completing the necessary elements for protected areas layers for all IABIN countries.
 - 4.) PATN should work with WCMC to create a "unique" "Country-specific" view of protected areas content, supplied by the countries, so that this data can also be shown on IABIN Country participants' sites.
 - 5.) Provide to the IABIN Catalog a list of control terms/values, with their necessary translations (Spanish, English, and Portuguese).
 - 6.) PATN will produce WMS layers which includes all protected areas for each country. These layers will be hosted by the IABIN Geospatial Network.

Ecosystems Thematic Network:

ETN will create Dublin Core metadata for all country classification crosswalks so that they can be discovered through the IABIN Catalog and the ETN site. (Prototype: 8/1) ETN will develop Dublin Core based metadata for publications, web-sites, and other relevant on-line and offline (journal articles) resources. (ongoing) ETN will:

- 1.) Host all metadata records for offline resources on the ETN site. These records will be created using a Dublin Core Editor (potentially Reggie (http://metadata.net/dstc/). The IABIN Catalog will then index these records for inclusion into the IABIN Catalog holdings. (8/1; ongoing)
- 2.) All records will be compliant with the IABIN Dublin Core Standard, based on using the in-development IABIN Control Terms, Resource Types, etc.
- 3.) ETN will implement the IABIN Catalog, sub-search script, on its site for accessing ETN provided content to the Catalog. (8/1)
- 4.) Provide to the IABIN Catalog a list of control terms/values, with their necessary translations (Spanish, English, and Portuguese). (8/1)
- 5.) ETN will produce WMS layers which includes all habitat classifications for each country. These layers will be hosted by the IABIN Geospatial Network. (ongoing)

Species & Specimen Thematic Network (SSTN):

SSTN will develop Dublin Core based records for each collection being served through the IABIN Specimen network. 1 record per collection will be developed using the NBII Catalog tool.

SSTN will export all species profile information for indexing by the IABIN Catalog based on a defined standard agreed upon by IABIN SSTN, Catalog, and IABIN Secretariat.

SSTN will upgrade the GBIF developed portal to the latest source code to include the newly developed modeling, tracking, and other features.

SSTN will include all existing GBIF data providers in the IABIN SSTN portal. Providers that are currently not part of GBIF will be provided through the IABIN SSTN with a goal of being provided through GBIF.

SSTN and the IABIN Catalog CI will notify GBIF providers for permission to distribute existing GBIF registered providers through the IABIN SSTN.

A need was expressed for the establishment of an IABIN SSTN Regional hub within the Caribbean. Coordination with the IABIN PATN will occur due to PATN activities in this region.

Pollinators Thematic Network

IABIN will establish a formal agreement with University of São Paulo to support IABIN hosting and infrastructure needs. The IABIN Secretariat will evaluate the possibility of providing the decommissioned IABIN server to University of São Paulo.

PTN will develop Dublin Core based records for each collection being served through the IABIN Specimen network. 1 record per collection will be developed using the NBII Catalog tool.

PTN will upgrade the GBIF developed portal to the latest source code to include the newly developed modeling, tracking, and other features.

PTN will register with IABIN SSTN and GBIF all PTN specimen providers. Coordination with SSTN and GBIF related to harvesting and replication will occur.

Invasive Species (I3N):

I3N should look at incorporating automatic links, potentially through the species ID, to related specimen records contained in GBIF, SSTN, and other networks.

I3N will develop geospatial mapping guidelines for all geospatially relevant invasive species data.

I3N will produce WMS layers which include invasive species occurrences by country. These will be served by the I3N Coordinating Institution (NBII).

I3N will develop additional fields for marine invasive species data.

IABIN Catalog:

It was decided to not include detailed specimen records in the IABIN Catalog, only collection level records will be contained in the Catalog.

The IABIN Catalog will focus on quality metadata with an emphasis on IABIN endorsed content.

All IABIN TNs will identify existing controlled vocabularies and terminologies in current use within their network.

IABIN TN will use the NBII Dublin Core based Catalog tool to create metadata records.

The IABIN Catalog will create IABIN specific Thematic Network accounts (i.e. IABIN-PATN, IABIN-ETN) for the creation, management, and reporting of Dublin Core metadata.

TOR will be developed to hire a consultant to support metadata leadership and creation of metadata for all IABIN Thematic Networks. The TORs will also include support for normalizing all provided IABIN Thematic Network control lists and terminologies.

The IABIN Catalog CI will provide to the consultant the initial list of potential terms, translations, and terminologies provided by the other TN CIs.

The IABIN Catalog CI will provide to the ETN a spreadsheet which describes existing WMS Central America geoservers which require additional metadata to complete their registration. This will include updating as to the GEOSUR project.

The IABIN Catalog will simplify the results breakdown, reduce the number of categories, and fully document/share with the IABIN Technical Working Group the logic used for the categorization.

The IABIN Catalog will provide a site where documentation, code snidbits, and current IABIN Catalog holdings are available to IABIN Technical Working Group members. This will be available through http://my.nbii.gov

IABIN Geospatial Portal:

All IABIN Thematic networks will contribute WMS/WFS to the IABIN Geospatial Network. (ongoing)

Specific software, tools, and resources to support the full implementation of the IABIN Geospatial portal will be investigated by the IABIN Secretariat, OAS, and the World Bank. A supported and fully functioning IABIN Geospatial portal is paramount to IABIN's integration of content across the network. (8/1)

The group recommended that resources be applied and/or redirected to support the necessary resources for the IABIN Geospatial Network.

Global Biodiversity Information Facility:

GBIF will continue to support and enhance the GBIF portal code set. As available support to IABIN Thematic Networks deploying this code will continue as resources are available.

Upgrade of the US GBIF mirror will occur.

GBIF will provide initial support for the establishment of geoservers in IABIN. The University of São Paulo and I3N will work with GBIF for this initial deployment.

GBIF will continue to support the adoption of unique identifiers within biodiversity. These identifiers should be adopted to improve access to taxonomic information.

The GBIF standard web-services (/ws/rest/xxx) are available to all IABIN participants.

A conference call will occur by end of July 2008 for all IT Technical Working Group Members to update each other on the status of these actions (Lead: Catalog CI).

3. Component 2, Data Content Creation

While Component 1 of the IABIN-GEF Project "Building IABIN" will create the network infrastructure to access data and information through the IABIN Catalog Services and five Thematic Networks, Component 2 will improve the availability of critical data and metadata.

The Work Program for Component 2 includes:

Providing Grants to institutions with high quality data to support institutional efforts to make data available through the network

Carrying out training sessions on the use of data creation tools.

Data and metadata quality control.

3.1. Data Digitizing Grants

The implementation of the data digitizing grants sub component started in March 2006, with the publication of the first RfP for I3N. By 30 June, 2008, 14 requests for proposals have been published, under all the TNs except PATN.

Please see http://www.oas.org/dsd/IABIN/Component2.htm for data content grants status by Institution and thematic network.

3.1.1. Specimens

There was US\$260,000 available for specimen data digitizing grants. To December 31, 2007, \$90,000 had been awarded in response to two RfPs, one in 2006, and a second one in June 2007.

In September 2007 a third RfP was published with a deadline of December 14, 2007. Twenty-one proposals were received and after being evaluated by the Evaluation Committee, 18 grants were awarded for a total of \$146,915 for Specimen funds, \$14,450 for Data Quality funds, and \$9,981 for Species funds (see Table 1). This different use of funds responds to the fact that two proposals from Central America included georeferencing of data already digitized and this activity

contributes to the co-financing IABIN promised the JRS Foundation and to the use of funds under Data Quality.

There is approximately \$23,000 available to award at least two other grants, therefore a fourth RfP will be published in August, 2008.

Table 1. Results from Third Request for Proposals for Specimen Data Digitizing Grants. February 2008 (shaded in pink are organizations whose proposals were selected)

Institution/Country	Donation Am	ount US\$ and	Source
	Specimens	Data Quality	Species
Vertebrados de los Parques Nacionales	7,557		
Nor-patagónicos / Argentina			
Aves de los ambientes acuáticos del Parque	5,150		
Nacional Laguna Blanca / Argentina			
Peces de aguas continentales de la			9,981
República Argentina Fundación Oga /			
Argentina			
HERBARIO DEL MUSEO DE CIENCIAS			
NATURALES DE SALTA (MCNS) /			
Argentina			
Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales-	10,000		
CONICET / Argentina			
Especies de valor especial del SIB-APN /	6,360		
Argentina			
Herbario BOTU de UNESP / Brazil	10,000		
EMBRAPA / Brazil	9,900		
PLANTAS MEDICINAIS E AROMÁTICAS			
-UNICAMP / Brazil			
Insectos de UFPE / Brazil	10,000		
Diversidad Biológica Marina y Costera de Colombia – INVEMAR / Colombia			
Aves de Ecuador / Ecuador	10,000		
Diversidad Bosques de Neblina / Ecuador	10,000		
Museo Entomológico de León/ Nicaragua	9,200.		
Herbario Universidad de Panama (Plantas	6,450	8,550	
vasculares) /Panama			
Herbario Universidad de Panama (Plantas	4,100	5,900	
Biofitas y líquenes) / Panama			
Museo de Malacología, Moluscos /Panama	9,058		
Colección Ictiológica MUSM / Peru	10,000		
Observaciones de especies, Univ Agraria La	9,700		
Molina /Peru			
Museo de Historia Natural Univ Ricardo	10,000		
Palma / Peru			

Anfibios y reptiles MUNHINA /Uruguay	9,440		
Totals	\$146,915	\$14,450	\$9,981

3.1.2. Species

There was US\$260,000 available for species data digitizing grants.

The first request for proposals to digitize species data was published on July 13, 2007, with a deadline of September 3, 2007 to receive proposals. Eight proposals arrived (see Table 3) but after being evaluated it became clear that all of them proposed to digitize <u>specimen</u> data, thus the RfP was declared null.

A second RfP was published on 8th November, with deadline of January 13, 2008. The organizations that had sent proposals in response to the first RfP were invited to apply again. The Secretariat received 11 proposals by the deadline, and after being evaluated, seven grants were awarded, for a total of \$64,480 (see Table 2).

Table 2. Results from Second Request for Proposals for Specimen Data Digitizing Grants. February 2008 (shaded in yellow are organizations whose proposals were selected)

Institution/Country	Donation
	Amount US\$
Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria /Argentina	10,000
Administración de Parques Nacionales / Argentina	4,480
Fundación Miguel Lillo / Argentina	10,000
Departamento de Biología, Facultad de Química y Biología,	10,000
Universidad de Santiago de Chile (USACH)	
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE VALPARAÍSO	
/Chile	
Red Nacional de Jardines Botánicos / Colombia	10,000
INVEMAR / Colombia	
ASOCIACIÓN GAIA (AVES)/NICARAGUA	
Asociación Gaia (gastropodos) / Nicaragua	
Museo de Historia Natural, Universidad Ricardo Palma /Peru	10,000
Museo Nacional de Historia Natural y Antropología (MUNHINA) /	10,000
Uruguay	
Total	\$64,480

3.1.3 Ecosystems

There was U\$\$260,000 available for ecosystem data digitizing grants. To December 31, 2007, \$30,000 had been awarded for three grants to digitize terrestrial ecosystems data and \$50,000 for five grants to digitize marine ecosystems data.

A second Request for Proposals to digitize terrestrial ecosystems data was published on 21 January 2008, with a deadline of 22 February 2008. Three proposals were received by the deadline and grants to 2 countries (Nicaragua and Chile) for a total of 5 Grants to fill out the Terrestrial Standard Format. The contracts with the institutions representing these countries were signed or are about to be signed (Dominican Republic). Four of these contracts are in progress and data are being entered into the database

Table 3. Proposals Received in Response to Second Request for Proposals for Terrestrial Ecosystem Data Digitizing Grants. February 2008 (in blue those that were selected)

Project/ Country

Digitization and standardization of data and information on the vegetation floors of Chile

Fundacion Amatea / Andrés Felipe Sarmiento Lombana / Alejandro Castaño, Colombia

Digitization of Vegetation Ecosystems and Formations of Nicaragua. / Francisco Gadea, Nicaragua

 A second RfP for Marine Ecosystems was published in May with a due date of July 1, 2008. Two proposals were received (Costa Rica and Chile) and are in process of evaluation.

There has been no RfP published yet for <u>Fresh Water Ecosystems</u>. At least one RfP is planned for 2008, very likely to be published in December.

Other Related Contracts

- El Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales was chosen to receive a grant to develop a bibliography for ecosystem documents using the Dublin Core standard. The contract with MACN is about to be signed, after negotiations betweens lawyers at the OAS and Conacyt in Argentina, who will administer the Grant.
- A \$20,000 contract is being developed and will be awarded during the third quarter, 2008 to ensure the quality of the data being provided under IABIN Digitalization Grants.

3.1.4 Pollinators

There was \$150,000 available for pollinator data digitizing grants. As of December 31, 2007, \$25,000 had been awarded for three grants. The data digitizing tool is ready and it will be field-tested in July, 2008 at a pilot training workshop (more information under Training). A second RfP is planned to be published at the end of August, 2008.

3.1.5. Invasive Species

There was \$160,000 available for invasive species data digitizing grants. As of December 31, 2007, \$130,000 had been awarded to thirteen organization that sent proposals in response to two RfPs in 2006 and one in 2007.

A fourth RFP was distributed in April of 2008. I3N received four responses and found that only one was eligible for funding. A final RFP will be issued in August of 2008

Three grants were completed in 2008: Paraguay – Asociación Guyra Paraguay, Costa Rica – Asociación para La Conservación y el Estudio de la Biodiversidad, Ecuador – Corporación Centro de Datos para la Conservación.

Special value added by grantees in the first half of 2008: Paraguay created a mapping function for the *Country Web System*.

3.1.6. Protected Areas

There is \$100,000 available for protected area data digitizing grants. To June 2008, no RfP had been published mainly due to the data digitizing tool not being ready. There are only 34 potential data providers for this TN (the governments of the 34 countries who have assigned Focal Points) and these governments only accept as official data those provided by them. An RfP will be published in July 2008.

3.2. Data Providers

Meetings with Data Providers

In the AOP for 2008 there are four Data Providers meetings planned for the second half of 2008: Bolivia, Jamaica, Panama and Peru. The reason to hold the meetings during the second semester was in order to have available the data digitizing tools for SSTN and PTN and the connector in order to give these tools to the potential data providers. These tools are expected to be completed by the end of July, 2008. It is possible, however, that the four meetings will be planned jointly with the Focal Points in those countries in the second semester of 2008 but not carried out until the first semester of 2009.

3.3. Training on the use of Data Digitizing tools

At the Fifth IABIN Council, a methodology to utilize the funds under this sub component was approved for all TNs except I3N, as follows:

Use part of the funds to carry out one or two Training of Trainers workshops in the use of the Data Digitizing tool of each TN. For this, the Focal Points agreed that they would identify one person in their country to be trained as a trainer. This person, in turn, would carry out training workshops at the national level.

The remaining funds will be used to give seed funds to the countries that participated in the Training of Trainers workshop to assist them with the costs of carrying out their national training.

2.3.1. Invasive Species TN

I3N has disbursed Component 2 funds for data content building. Nearly \$120,000 in these funds have been allotted or given to partners in twelve countries.

In 2008, the focus will be on the Caribbean and Central America and these efforts will continue to be supported by TNC. Presently there are three training workshops scheduled and another tentatively planned for 2008. A TNC-funded workshop took place in April in Venezuela. I3N-funded workshops took place in Guatemala in June, will take place in Panama in July, and tentatively in El Salvador in August.

- Indigenous peoples: Leads are encouraged to reach out to indigenous people's organizations. At upcoming trainings in Central America efforts will be made to reach out to indigenous peoples in the region.
 - I3N in the Caribbean: We are planning our outreach to new islands with several activities in 2008.
 - o I3N has been asked to collaborate on invasive species planning in the Caribbean with CABI. The I3N database will be promoted and the I3N Lead for Jamaica is serving as an expert on the project.
 - o I3N Jamaica agreed to act as resource personnel to the Caribbean.

3.3.2. Ecosystems TN

There was \$110,000 available for training on the use of Ecosystems Data Digitizing Tools. According to the new methodology approved by the Council, \$75,000 has been allocated to carry out three training workshops: \$25,000 each for Terrestrial Ecosystems, Marine Ecosystems and Fresh Water Ecosystems.

The <u>Terrestrial Ecosystems Workshop</u> took place on 13-14 December 2007 in Panama with the participation of 18 people from 14 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela) as well as two Secretariat staff. This was a pilot workshop to test the Terrestrial Ecosystems Standard Format. The participants in this workshop were representatives from institutions or organizations that received a seed grant to digitize terrestrial ecosystems data (Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia). Other institutions and organizations that possess terrestrial ecosystems data for other countries or regions and that potentially could apply for a seed grant to digitize terrestrial ecosystems in response to the second request for proposals were also invited.

The Marine Ecosystems Workshop took place on 30-31 March 2008 in Panama. This, too, was a pilot workshop to evaluate the Marine Ecosystems Standard Format to improve it. Twenty-one participants from 15 countries participated. The participants were experts in marine ecosystems and some were representatives from institutions that received a seed grant to digitize marine ecosystems data (Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Dominican Republic and Uruguay).

The <u>Fresh Water Ecosystems Workshop</u> is scheduled for the end of August 2008.

A metadata training session took place in Colombia in coordination with GeoSUR in May, 2008. Twenty people from South America were trained and a second workshop is planned in July.

3.3.3. Species and Specimens

There is \$110,000 available each for training on the use of the Species Data Digitizing Tool and the Specimens Data Digitizing Tool. The monies from both Species and Specimens were pooled together to develop only one tool. Since there were available several tools to digitize specimen data, the Secretariat and the CI for SSTN agreed that it made sense to develop first the part to digitize species data since there was no tool available, and to train first on the tool to digitize species data.

The first training of trainers' workshop on the use of the data digitizing tool for SPECIES, connector for SSTN data providers and the SSTN Web Portal, took place on 25-28 February 2008 at the offices of INBio in San Jose, Costa Rica. There were 17 participants from Spanish-speaking countries plus Brazil (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and representing PTN, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Uruguay and Venezuela and one representative from I3N and another from ETN), plus the IABIN Data Content Manager and Thematic Network Coordinator.

The evaluation of the training for trainers' workshop by the participants provided the following feedback to be implemented in the next workshop:

Summarize the introductory part to half a day.

Utilize the half day saved from above to dedicate it to learning more about the Web Portal

Consider the option of expanding the workshop to five days (this implies a bit more costs).

Improve the training documentation and keep it updated in the web page.

Keep communication with the group of participants to the workshop (it will be done through the SSTN web page)

Try to make automatic more processes of configuration of the tools.

Regarding the training, the participants will have to carry out at the national level, it was recommended the following:

Maintain communication between the IABIN Secretariat and the Focal Points so that, for example, the Focal Points are informed about the results of the workshop and the evaluations, and the information the Data Content Manager collected from the participants regarding approximate dates, possible number of participants, needs the trainers may have in order to carry out the training in their respective countries.

Maintain communication between INBio's technical staff and the workshop participants in order to answer their queries, keep the materials and talks updated and in the web, and facilitate the process of knowledge transfer in their respective countries.

The IABIN Secretariat needs to articulate a simple and efficient schema to allocate the seed funds to the Focal Points in a timely manner, so that the training at the national level can start as soon as possible to allow the participants to share what they learned.

Use the motivation of the group as a means to promote the fulfillment of the commitment to carry out a workshop in their countries.

Building from the results of this workshop, a second workshop, to train on the SPECIMEN part of the data digitizing tool and on the other two tools, is scheduled for 4-8 August, 2008. This workshop will be in English. All English-speaking countries will be invited as well as the countries that did not sent a participant to the first workshop (El Salvador, Honduras, Paraguay and Peru) but they will have to send people who understand and speak English.

3.3.4. Pollinators

There is \$90,000 available for training on the use of the data-digitizing tool for pollinators. The data-digitizing tool that the PTN is developing will be ready in July, thus a pilot training workshop is scheduled for July 21-22, 2008 in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, to go in tandem with the 8th Bee Meeting: Biodiversity and the Maintained Use of Bees (VIII Encontro sobre Abelhas: Biodiversidade e uso sustentado de abelhas - http://www.rge.fmrp.usp.br/abelhudo/). Details of the meeting are below:

Goals of the two day workshop:

Review PTN progress and recommend adjustments

Articulate strategy for content acquisition

Prepare strategy for network sustainability

Demonstrate and review network tools

Prepare curriculum for PTN training

Discuss options for network integration

Tentative Agenda

Monday: July 21, 2008

- Introduction
- Overview of objectives and agenda
- PTN progress
- Demonstration and feedback, and review of network tools
- Develop curriculum and outline for feedback courses

Tuesday: July 22, 2008

- Network integration
- Network sustainability strategy
- Review draft report of workshop
- Conclusions

The IABIN PTN team invited all the Data Content Grantees, and one that applied from the Dominican Republic, to the IABIN PTN Technical Workshop in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil.

The funds for this workshop will not come from Component 2. A second training workshop is scheduled for October 2008 with funds from this component and will be open to all the countries.

3.3.5. Protected Areas

There is \$75,000 available for training on the use of the data-digitizing tool for protected areas. The PATN had its data digitizing tool ready in May 2008.

WDPA Web based Data Entry Tool

- o Launched at COP9, in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May by UNEP-WCMC Attribute data structure for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) Version 1.1
 - o Launched March 7th by UNEP-WCMC and adopt as a PATN Data Standard, version 1.1

Harmonization of Data Standards between RANPA, Brazilian Ministry of Environment and PATN/WDPA

PATN Conceptual Data Model V 2.3 (Figure 1)

o Presented at Tennessee IABIN Technical Working Group meeting Translation of the user manual of the "Cadastro Nacional de Unidades de Conservação" the "MMA Tool" - to English and Spanish

PATN will carry out one workshop to train the countries in the use of this obtain the data. This workshop is scheduled for 22-25 September, 2008 in Curitiba, Brazil.

3.4. Data Quality

Proposals were requested from the Coordinating Institutions of the Thematic Networks to implement the funds earmarked for data quality in the PIP. Part of the activities under this subcomponent focus on reviewing the data from data digitizing grants as well as the data other data providers will contribute to IABIN.

4. Component 3: Information Products for Decision Making

During the IEC meeting in January 2008, it was agreed to use the resources of component 3 for the following:

Decision support tools

Secure the infrastructure and other needs for connectivity and server space for the Network at the Secretariat

Data digitizing grants

Support TN additional work

The first request for Proposals was advertised on March 14, 2008. By April 30th, 2008, the deadline to submit proposals, ten proposals were received (Bolivia 1 – Costa Rica 3 – Jamaica 1 – Nicaragua 1 – Peru 2 – United States 1 and Uruguay 1). The evaluation committee formed by IEC Chair, TNC, IABIN Secretariat and GS/OAS made a short list of four of the 10 proposals:

- Sistema para el modelado de escenarios de acciones de desarrollo o posibles amenazas a la biodiversidad. IABIN funding requested US\$107,298 and co-financing US\$218,100 Submitted by Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad (INBio)
- Sistema para la toma de decisiones con base en categorías de conservación y usos de la biodiversidad. IABIN funding requested US\$77,695 and co-financing US\$133,880. Submitted by Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad
- 3. <u>Internet-Based GIS Ecosystem Assessment and Reporting Tool for Conservation Decision-Making</u>. IABIN funding requested US\$75,000 and co-financing US\$150,000. Submitted by The Nature Conservancy
- 4. Advancing joint roles as Coordinating Institutions for the Inter-American Biodiversity Information network (IABIN) Ecosystems Thematic Network (ETN). IABIN funding requested US\$49,971 and co-financing \$74,927.01. Submitted by NatureServe.

The evaluation committee requested additional clarifications to the short listed Institutions about their respective proposals; the clarifications were submitted by each institution. To date, the GS/OAS has started the process to prepare the grant agreements for #1, 3, & 4, pending approval by the World Bank. Further details, please see http://www.oas.org/dsd/IABIN/Component3.htm

5. Component 4: Sustainability of IABIN

5.1. IABIN Institutional Structure

The IABIN institutional structure is represented by the IABIN Council made up of a Focal Point from each of the 34 member States of the OAS. The IABIN Executive Committee (IEC), which leads IABIN between meetings of the Council, is made up of 8 Countries and 2 NGOs. The IEC completed its 2nd meeting in January 2008. The IABIN Secretariat is hosted in Panama at the City of Knowledge.

5.1.1. Evaluation and Reporting

Periodic phone conferences were conducted with G. Cotter, Chair of the IEC, her staff, the GS/OAS, and the Secretariat for planning, coordination, and monitoring of project progress.

Quarterly review meetings with the World Bank, OAS, IEC Chair and Secretariat were initiated in April 2008, and will continue through the end of the GEF project.

The contract for the independent evaluation at mid term of the IABIN-GEF project was cancelled on May 1, 2008 due to illness of the consultant.

5.1.2. IABIN Financing

The IABIN partner organizations, Coordinating Institutions and grantees funded under the IABIN Content Development Program for Data Creation, all of them submitted their cofinancing contributions; the results shows that IABIN financing from co-financing Institutions and GEF funds increased in comparison with the second semester of 2007 from \$1,440,522 to \$1,638,890 on co-financing (core and non-core) and from \$388,668 to \$506,526 on GEF funding. (See graph and Table 4 below for further details).

Total IABIN Financing

GEF Funding ■ Co-Financing \$2,000,000.00 \$1,500,000.00 \$1,000,000.00 \$500,000.00 Oct04 - Jun05 Jul - Dec 05 Jan - Jun 06 Jul - Dec 06 Jan - Jun 07 Jul - Dec 07 Jan - Jun 08 \$189,084.56 \$145,437.17 \$301.661.53 \$428.096.28 \$397.979.39 \$388.667.85 \$506.525.70 ■ GEF Funding ■ Co-Financing \$1,540,139.51 \$1,922,501.97 \$1,415,747.23 \$1,929,836.00 | \$1,879,674.09 \$1,440,521.87 \$1,638,890.28

The IABIN contributions from co-financing Institutions can be observed through an on-line tracking system at http://165.98.233.199/scp/. Contributions can be retrieved by semester, component, institution, country and thematic network. This system is under working progress.

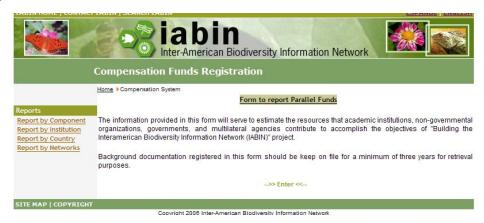


Table 4. Total IABIN Financing (Core and Non-Core Parallel Financing)

IABIN Financing

Period: January - June 2008

	Component 1	Component 2	Componente 3	Component 4	Component 5	Total	
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	\$205,988.25	\$144,825.66	\$0.00	\$76,702.85	\$79,008.94	\$506,525.70	
Co-financing							
Core-Cofinancing							
Coordinating Institutions		<u> </u>					
	0.105.075.00	# 00 000 00	0.15 000 00	#00 F4F 00		\$0.40.000.00	
Catálogo U.S. Geological Survey/National Biological Information Infrastructure	\$135,675.00	\$29,200.00	\$15,000.00	\$69,515.00		\$249,390.00	
REyE Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad	\$128,100.00					\$128,100.00	
RTE - Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute						\$0.00	
I3N U.S. Geological Survey	\$107,550.00	\$215,025.00	\$1,485.00	\$28,075.00		\$352,135.00	
RTP CoEvolution Institute	\$67,721.16					\$67,721.16	
RTAP Fundação O Boticário de Proteção à Natureza	\$28,531.96					\$28,531.96	
Donaciones							
Asociación para la Conservación y el Estudio de la Biodiversidad (Costa Rica)		\$11,500.00				\$11,500.00	
Centro Nacional Patagonico (Argentina)		\$49,795.00				\$49,795.00	
Círculo Herpatológico de Panamá (Panama)		\$10,350.00				\$10,350.00	
Corporacion Centro de Datos para la Conservacion (Ecuador)		\$5,554.00				\$5,554.00	
Fundación Miguel Lillo (Argentina)		\$39,549.00				\$39,549.00	
Horus Institute for Environmental Conservation and Development		\$10,000.00				\$10,000.00	
Instituto Botanico Darwinion (Argentina)		\$32,500.00				\$32,500.00	
Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas-Oficina Técnica de Biodiversidad		\$11,000.00				\$11,000.00	
Red de Accion en Agricultura Alternativa (Bolivia)		\$5,160.00				\$5,160.00	
Rumbol SRL (Argentina)		\$4,129.00				\$4,129.00	
Universidad Maimonides (Argentina)		\$7,000.00				\$7,000.00	
Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Colombia)		\$12,563.00				\$12,563.00	
Universidad Ricardo Palma (Peru)		\$5,290.00				\$5,290.00	
City of Knowledge				\$20,463.04		\$20,463.04	
SG/OEA					\$116,668.46	\$116,668.46	
Total Core-Cofinancing	\$467,578.12	\$448,615.00	\$16,485.00	\$118,053.04	\$116,668.46	\$1,167,399.62	
Non C	ore-Cofina	ncing					
Corporacion Andina de Fomento*				\$7,706.00		\$7,706.00	
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation	\$86,408.66			Ţ.,. II.		\$86,408.66	
Venezuela Ministry of Environment**	, ,	\$500.00				\$500.00	
NatureServe*		\$258,926.00				\$258,926.00	
UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre ***	\$4,295.00	. ,		\$12,705.00		\$57,650.00	
The Nature Conservancy**		\$5,300.00		\$5,000.00		\$10,300.00	
World Bank*			\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	
Total Non Core-Cofinancing	\$90,703.66	\$305,376.00	\$50,000.00	\$25,411.00	\$0.00	\$471,490.66	
Total Co-Financing	\$558,281.78	\$753,991.00	\$66,485.00	\$143,464.04	\$116,668.46	\$1,638,890.28	
Total IABIN Financing	\$764,270.03	\$898,816.66	\$16,485.00	\$220,166.89	\$195,677.40	\$2,145,415.98	

^{*} Non Core-Cofinancing in support of ETN

^{**} Non Core-Cofinancing in support of I3N
*** Non Core-Cofinancing in support of PATN

5.2. Partnership and Communications

5.2.1. 2nd IEC Meeting

The 2nd IABIN Executive Committee Meeting took place on January 29-31, 2008 in Panama. This meeting was attended by the eight IEC Countries, the T&T Focal Point, the Coordinating Institutions of the Thematic Networks and TNC. Several documents were prepared. All these documents are available at the IABIN Webpage.

Members of the IABIN Executive Committee (IEC):

Elected	
2003 (3th EC Meeting)	Victoria Lichtschein
2005 (4th EC Meeting)	Karin Molt (Vice-Chair, April 2005)
2003 (3th EC Meeting)	Francisco González Salas
2003 (3th EC Meeting)	Antonio Matamoros
2007 (5th EC Meeting)	Dionne Newell
2007 (5th EC Meeting)	Dario Luque
2005 (4th EC Meeting)	Ana Aber
2005 (4th EC Meeting)	Gladys Cotter (Chairperson, April 2005)
Elected	
2007 (5th EC Meeting)	Beatriz Torres
2007 (5th EC Meeting)	Maarten Kappelle
	2003 (3th EC Meeting) 2005 (4th EC Meeting) 2003 (3th EC Meeting) 2003 (3th EC Meeting) 2007 (5th EC Meeting) 2007 (5th EC Meeting) 2005 (4th EC Meeting) 2005 (4th EC Meeting) Elected 2007 (5th EC Meeting)

The 2nd IEC meeting held in January 2008 completed the following activities/decisions:

- 1. The IABIN Sustainability Committee, co-chaired by Chile and Trinidad/Tobago, created at the Fifth IABIN Council Meeting, presented a strategy at the 2nd IEC meeting in Panama in January, 2008.
- 2. University of Tennessee was accepted as a mirror for IABIN's websites
- 3. Gladys Cotter and Risha Alleyne volunteered to be on a Feasibility Committee to establish IABIN as an Inter American Committee on Biodiversity Informatics (CIBIO)

Steps for IABIN to be Inter-American Committee for Biodiversity Informatics

- IABIN Focal Points should speak through their Minister to the Ministry of External Relations about the Hemispheric movement to make IABIN an Inter American Committee
- T&T IABIN Focal Point to lobby Ministry of External Relations to encourage an IABIN pre-meeting to draft resolution laying out the steps for IABIN to become Inter American Committee
- This IEC should draft a short resolution to encourage OAS Washington to speak with the OAS Summit Office to get IABIN on the Summit docket.
- 4. No further action was recommended on whether IABIN should charge overheads, fees and/or require Hemispheric approval.

- 5. Sustainability of IABIN: Vision and Future Timeframe of outputs and updates
 - Report from Individual CIs on fundraising Options and activities. June 2008 Responsible: CIs and Consortium members (see Annex 2).
 - By June 2008 Proposals for either grants or joint tools submitted to at least 10 different sources by the Secretariat-- The recommended funding sources are, for the short term:

International and bilateral agencies

Main environmental NGOs

Corporations

Universities and research institutes

(Note: the 10 proposals were not accomplished. A fundraising strategist will be hired in August 2008 to complete these tasks.)

Debt swap for "Knowledge Management" -- Rodrigo Tarté, Academic Director of the City of Knowledge Foundation (CoKF), reports that in June 2008, the Government of Panama officially presented the proposal to the Spanish Government. Formal negotiations have begun between CoKF and the Spanish government, and OAS has prepared a report on what activities are pertinent to IABIN to be funded by the proposed Iberoamerican Fund. Six countries need to endorse the proposal so it will be ready to submit this year for approval of the next Summit of Iberoamerican Presidents to be held in November, 2008. Spain has already opened the debt swap mechanism for such purposes. It is envisaged that the fund will constitute an endowment that would assure the sustainability of the programs that will be defined through the use of the interests generated by it. It is important that the IABIN focal points in each country promote the proposal through the Ministers of Environment, Education, or Science and Technology. Gladys Cotter has written the IABIN Council to encourage IABIN countries that could benefit from the proposal to support it, and to Rodrigo Tarté to officially endorse IABIN's interest in being a beneficiary of the debt swap. (See Annex 1 for the full proposal)

5.2.2. Other Partnership and Communications

During this period partnerships with several institutions were strengthened that help support development of the different Thematic Networks. In addition, a strong collaboration has been forged with the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Andean Development Corporation (CAF), and USGS to advance technical programs and fundraising activities for the development of the network.

The IABIN – Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management in Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean (IWCAM) biodiversity informatics workshop March 10-12, 2008 focused on marine issues for the Caribbean Region. Dionne Newell, IABIN Focal Point for Jamaica and member of the IABIN Executive Committee coordinated the initiative, budgeted at 30k. http://www.oas.org/dsd/Events/english/08.03.10.htm This IABIN sub-project has now been funded with an additional 105k by the Government of Chile and is called: IABIN ReefFix: An ICZM Coral Reef Restoration, Watershed Management and Capacity Building Demonstration Project for the Caribbean. The project works with SIDS to

indicate least cost interventions to restore and effectively manage coastal resources. In this process, ReefFix will use and develop cost-effective techniques that can be replicated throughout the wider Caribbean by applying the ReefFix methodology to three case study sites at a cost of US\$30k/site.

Western Hemispheric Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) WHMSI is building country capacity to conserve and manage migratory wildlife. It improves hemispheric communication on conservation issues of common interest, provides training in priority areas, strengthens the exchange of information needed for informed decision-making, and provides a forum to address emerging issues such as new threats to migratory species, or the connections between wildlife disease and human diseases. http://www.oas.org/dsd/WHMSI/English/Index.htm IABIN was presented to the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative Third Hemispheric Conference in Paraguay in July 2008. The conference convened Western Hemisphere governmental representatives and partner organizations to improve collaboration regarding international conservation of migratory species. Discussions are underway to have migratory species as a 6th IABIN thematic network whereby data between the networks would be interoperable.

Regional Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of High Andean Wetlands entails the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and wetland complexes and other High Andean ecosystems defined as wetlands within the Ramsar Convention classification in Latin America. IABIN gave a keynote speech at the Convención sobre los Humedales (Ramsar, Irán, 1971), V Taller de la Estrategia de Conservación y Uso Sostenible de Humedales Altoandinos, Bogotá, Republica de Colombia 25-27 of June, 2008. The OAS Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) has been working to strengthen efforts at the national level to protect ecosystems and the services they provide. The findings from this dialogue will help the DSD validate its analytical work which will be of importance to the member states as they develop their PES national policies. http://www.oas.org/dsd/Bio-Proj-Sum/CSUHAW.htm Discussions are underway to have migratory species as a 6th IABIN thematic network whereby data between the networks would be interoperable.

IABIN and Payments for Ecological Services. Through the use of a database, the OAS Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) has been analyzing trends in transactions that have occurred in the region. Additionally, the DSD has been analyzing the challenges and contributions of legal and institutional frameworks to the implementation of PES (payments for ecological services) schemes which could become an important value added product for decision making in biodiversity protection. http://www.oas.org/dsd/EnvironmentalServ.htm Discussions are underway to have IABIN house and expand the PES database.

The Andes-Amazon Amazon Protected Areas Network (RANPA) held a workshop to improve interoperability of protected areas information and encourage regional cooperation in border regions on May 12-15, 2008, in Quito, Ecuador.

- Final Agreement on the AAPAD database, with full data, user perspective and analysis of the information.
- Memorandum of Cooperation between the OAS for the Andes-Amazon Protected Areas Database and the IABIN Council signed September 5, 2007.
- Amazon Protected Area Network work plan completed

 Identifying and profiling initiatives with information to continue populating the database.

Two brochures were completed during the semester:

- (i) A general information overview of IABIN advancements
- (ii) Eco-Economics and Management Effectiveness of the Coastal Zone in the Caribbean

Both brochures could be found at:

http://www.iabin.net/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=121&Itemid=24

5.3. Fund Raising

JRS Biodiversity Foundation. The proposal "Enhancing Knowledge for Establishing Ecosystem Conservation Priorities in the Neotropics by Integrating Biodiversity and Geospatial Data" was approved in December 2007 for US\$200K. The first installment was received in February 2008.

World Bank. Two proposals for Internal Competition under the World Bank's Norwegian Trust Fund for Environmentally & Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD, www.worldbank.org/tfessd), were approved. These proposals are:

- 1. Developing Guidelines for Management of Environmental Information in World Bank and IADB projects (US\$40K). The objective of this project is to develop a document and the Web decision-making tree that are intended of server as the main rapid reference for managing environmental information resulting from environmental related projects supported by WB/IDB. This document is a devised as a decision route, in order to guide the readers through the different steps needed to identify which type of information they have or they are going to collect, which options are available for standardizing that information from the beginning, or to verify it according to IABIN standards and procedures and hot to provide it to the IABIN network.
 - The "Instituto Alexander Von Humboldt" from Colombia was selected to carry out this project in coordination with the IABIN Secretariat. This project will carry out to national workshops, one in Nicaragua in early August and another to be determined, to test and disseminate the manual and web decision making tree. Further information can be requested to Boris Ramirez, Thematic Network Coordinator (bramirez@iabin.net)
- 2. Integrating Ecosystem and Species Data into Disease Forecasting Models (200K). The objective of this project is to better understand the relationships between the incidence of vector-borne diseases and biological and environmental variables. The concept will be demonstrated with the specific example of dengue. This will be achieved by integrating natural and modified (rural/urban) ecosystem data, species-level information, and socio-economic data, with epidemiological data using statistical models.

Overall progress with regard to Implementation of this Grant:

Consultants (4) to execute the project have been chosen and hired. Detailed work-plans have been developed.

Variables to be monitored have been defined, as well as the monitoring methodology for socio-economic, entomological, epidemiological and meteorological variables.

The Web information system has been finalized and recorded variables, as well as queries for users have been defined are being input.

Base-maps to be used to visualize variables have been obtained, and a visualization system is being implemented.

A system to allow statistical analysis of variables is being implemented.

The equipment necessary to carry out the monitoring has been purchased. This includes: GPS for georeferencing measurements, computers for recording data, larvae and adult mosquitoes collecting systems, and microscopes for taxonomic identification.

The dengue forecasting methodology has been established, utilizing the maximum entropy technique to predict the distribution of mosquito species. The set up to use the model is in process.

Epidemiological historical records of positive dengue cases have been identified and are being digitized.

Historical meteorological data has been requested from INETER in Managua, from a station at the airport in León.

Staff has been hired to georeference historical epidemiological records.

Training on georeferencing has been planned for March, 2008.

The first larvae and socio-economic monitoring was carried out in March, 2008. There will be four monitoring events to complement regular monitoring events carried out by the Ministry of the Environment. Each monitoring event will last 18 days and will cover 10% of the houses in Leon and surrounding rural areas.

A year long adult mosquito monitoring effort began in March, 2008.

Further information can be requested from Vince Abreu, ETN coordinator (abreu@umich.edu)

Global Environmental Facility (GEF). IABIN was invited by CABI to collaborate on drafting a Request for a Project Preparation Grant (PPG) titled "Mitigating the Threats of Invasive Alien Species in the Insular Caribbean," to be submitted to the GEF for funding. A revised version of the PPG draft was submitted by IABIN to CABI, along with a support letter for this PPG addressed to GEF. IABIN received an email request in June from the Co-Director and Regional Representative for CABI in the Caribbean and Latin America, based in Trinidad and Tobago for IABIN partner support for the CABI Caribbean IAS GEF project.

The Project Preparation Grant (PPG) commenced in May 2008. Before the PPG budget and associated activities were cut back by GEF by more than half, IABIN had committed to providing in kind co-financing for US\$ 30,000. Because IABIN pledged to contribute to the development of this proposal at a level according to the level of support from the PPG, requests for support during PPG are expected to be in the range of US\$ 9,087 (in kind) to cover: databases, specifically I3N (capacity building and planning for strategic roll-out to cover region), risk/pathway analyses, and use of standards. Further information can be requested to Christine Fournier, I3N coordinator (cfournie@usgs.gov)

5.4 IABIN Secretariat Sustainability Actions

During routine follow-up with Eduardo Chacon of ACEBIO, an I3N data content grantee in Costa Rica, to learn about progress made, Mr. Chacon informed the Data Content Manager that, as a result of having implemented the I3N web template, the Ministry of the Environment now seeks their advice in regards to invasive species issues in the country.

The Thematic Network Coordinator recovered all the information from the Secretariat Director's computer regarding the CAF and JRS Foundation projects and, jointly with the Data Content Manager, is organizing it in order to start work on the development of the respective work plans.

The Thematic Networks Coordinator also met with the technical representatives from I3N, ETN and PTN (who were taking part of the Species Training Workshop) and technical people from SSTN to coordinate the implementation of a unique connector for all these TNs. As a result, the TNs Coordinator has communicated with the CIs to explain the steps agreed upon in Costa Rica to achieve the development of a unique connector.

The Thematic Network Coordinator has held communications with Erick van Praag, of CAF, regarding the implementation of the GeoSur Project. The discussion has centered on the planning of two workshops on metadata being delivered by CAF, IABIN and the Geographical Institute of Colombia. CAF will cover the costs of the trainers and materials. IABIN will cover the costs of one representative from the Ministry of the Environment of each South American country.

The process to move the IABIN website, e-mail accounts and servers to the facilities of the University of Tennessee is under implementation. On March 30, 2008, the TNs Coordinator traveled to Oak Ridge, TN to meet with the Coordinator of the IABIN Catalog and with staff of the University of Tennessee to further the implementation of the Catalog.

The TNs Coordinator is having ongoing conversations with Institute von Humboldt to assist them with the development of the Guidelines for Biodiversity Projects, being implemented with funds from the World Bank.

The TNs Coordinator, jointly with ETN and PATN, arranged a meeting with the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment in Brasilia in April 2008. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the mechanism by which the Brazilian government will share its geospatial data with IABIN.

The TNs Coordinator has continued the Secretariat's support to City of Knowledge for the development and implementation of the International Center for Sustainable Development (CIDES).

5.5 Additional sustainability activities -- by Thematic Network

SSTN

Participation in events

- 1. The SSTN Coordinator participated in the IABIN Executive Committee meeting in Panama, January 29-31.
- 2. Manuel Vargas participated in the IABIN TWG meeting, June 2-4, in Knoxville, TN, USA.

3. The SSTN Coordinator participated in the "Cyberinfrastructure for International, Collaborative, Biodiversity and Ecological Informatics" Workshops May 31-June 13 in Costa Rica, and gave three presentations, including one on the SSTN.

I3N

I3N funded the I3N database developer to attend the SSTN training held in February in Costa Rica.



The I3N lead for Argentina attended the COP-9 in Bonn, Germany in May where he presented on I3N and IABIN.

I3N Uruguay published a chapter in a book which mentions I3N: Brugnoli, E., Muniz, P., Venturini, N. & L. Burone. 2007. Environmental Perturbation and Coastal Benthic Biodiversity in Uruguay. In I.C. Willis. Ed. Progress in Environmental Research. Nova Publishers. P. 75-126. I3N was represented at two conferences in the first half of 2008: At the International Union of Forest Research Organizations Alien Invasive Species and International Trade workshop in Shepherdstown, West Virginia in May 2007, the US Lead led a workshop; At the Preventing Biological Invasions: Best Practices in Pre-Import Risk Screening for Species of Live Animals in International Trade (Notre Dame,

US, 9-11 April), NBII supported the participation of the I3N-Argentina Lead at this workshop discussing invasive species risk assessment tools.

The I3N community was kept informed via the web site and the I3N listserv with regular postings and announcements.

Countries' additional products and initiatives: All countries that participate in I3N make their datasets available to the public via the web site. In addition, some countries choose to provide reports, publications, presentations, photographs and other materials of interest to invasive species specialists. Please click on

http://i3n.iabin.net/participants/country_contributions.html to access any of these country resources.

Eight countries now have their own standardized I3N Web sites based on the I3N Country Web system, and more are under development (click on country name to see country home page):

<u>Argentina</u> | <u>Brazil</u> | <u>Colombia</u> | <u>Costa Rica</u> | <u>Ecuador</u> | <u>Jamaica</u> | <u>Paraguay</u> | <u>Uruguay</u>

Project Management

In August 2007, the I3N Manager left the project for a job in another government agency. In the interim, the I3N-US lead managed I3N. Another manager was hired for the position in October 2007, but left the position in March, at which time a new coordinator was hired and is in training for the position.

Each country that actively participates in I3N has one or more organizations, represented by individuals, leading its efforts. These individuals, called I3N Leads or Co-Leads, coordinate

I3N activities among the I3N Coordinating Institution, their country's IABIN Focal Point (see description below), and data providers. Current active members (18) are (click on country name to see I3N lead information: Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, USA, Uruguay.

I3N work with other TNs, IABIN IT TWG, and Catalog Coordinator:

- SSTN: the I3N database developer attended tool training in early 2008.
- ETN: I3N Coordinator organizes GEOSS invasive species mapping task (working indirectly with ETN).
- o PTN: CI representatives are also members of I3N CI.
- o PATN: I3N risk analysis tool includes PATN data.
- o Catalog: I3N IT Lead is also actively co-leading the IABIN Catalog.
- o IABIN IT TWG: I3N IT Lead is also actively co-leading the the IABIN IT TWG.

PATN

Event Participation

Panama

- o Second IABIN Executive Committee (IEC) Meeting, Panama City, January 29-31; Jamaica
 - o GEF-IWCAM And IABIN Indicators Mechanism Workshop, Ocho Rios, March 10–12;

Brazil

o Ministry of Environmental Meeting, Brasília, April 17-18;

Ecuador

Third workshop of the Andes-Amazon Protected Areas Network, Quito, May 12
 -15

USA

o IABIN Technical Working Group meeting, Knoxville, June 2–4.

Networking

Development of the Concept Note and Terms of Reference for the development of the Caribbean Protected Areas Database Initiative – CPADI, together with UNEP-WCMC and in relationship with Caribbean Countries, at Jamaica Meeting;

Association of the Ministry of the Environment of Brazil in order to offer IABIN Countries an Open Source Protected Areas Information System, compatible with the PATN and WDPA standards;

Promote between the RAMPA and Caribbean countries representatives the PATN Data content bid at the events of Jamaica and Quito;

PTN

Midterm Review in Panama

Michael Ruggiero, PTN Co-coordinator, attended the IABIN Executive Committee meeting in Panama in January and gave a well received PowerPoint presentation on the IABIN Pollinator Thematic Network. He reviewed PTN development, the composition and coordination of the

network, plans for sustainability, concrete outputs (questionnaire, workshop, invitations, etc) and achievements (i.e. portals), and announced the Technical Workshop plans in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil in July 2008.

ETN

Fundraising

Develop the Infrastructure to provide geospatial Ecosystem data on line.

Activities for the implementation of the Geospatial Network in South America continued during this semester. This work is being done with coordination and funding from the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF). A contract between CAF and the City of Knowledge, representing IABIN was signed this semester to provide IABIN with \$50,000 to carry out these activities. The first payment has been received. The contract extends from March 2008 to March 2009.

Activities carried out by the ETN under the GeoSur project:

- o Implementation Plans to establish geoservers and provide country data have been received from most countries and are in process of implementation. The following institutions have submitted their plans:
- ✓ Chile: Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente (CONAMA)
- ✓ Ecuador: Ministerio del Medio Ambiente
- ✓ Perú: Consejo Nacional del Ambiente
- ✓ Uruguay: Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente
- ✓ Paraguay: Secretaría del Ambiente
- ✓ Argentina: El Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
- ✓ Panamá: Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM).
- Technical assistance to 4 South American countries has been provided in order for them to establish geoservers. This activity will continue during the next semester.

The project coordinator and Boris Ramirez met with the IABIN Focal Point in Brazil (Braulio Diaz) and personnel from the Ministry of Environment (MMA) in Brasilia. Discussions concerning the MMA participation in IABIN concentrated on three areas:

- 1. Protected Areas Thematic Network
- 2. The Geospatial Network
- 3. The Ecosystems Thematic Network.

The MMA has developed a GeoPortal (I3GEO) that will satisfy IABIN's needs. This will be an alternative to the GeoPortal being developed under GeoSUR. This is being negotiated with MMA.

Use of ecosystem data in the area of urban ecosystems and health:

Funds were obtained by the World Bank's Trust Fund for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD) to carry out the project entitled "Integrating Ecosystem and Species Data into Disease Forecasting Models". The amount awarded is \$200,000 for two years. The implementation of this project in Nicaragua continued during this semester.

The preparation of a sustainability plan for the ETN began in conjunction with TNC and NatureServe.

The first meeting with NatureServe's President, Mary Klein took place in Washington, DC in May, 2008. Discussions were carried out on the future structure of IABIN and how NatureServe could take responsibility for the ETN Network. A representative of the World Bank, Keiko Ashida, was present at the meeting.

Based on the discussions at NatureServe a draft document was prepared by the ETN Coordinator that outlines the structure of IABIN in the post-GEF era.

The ETN Project coordinator participated in IABIN's Mid-term review in Panamá City, January 28-Feb 1, 2008.

The ETN Project coordinator participated in the IABIN Workshop, focused on Caribbean countries that took place in Jamaica, March 10-14, 2008. The ETN Coordinator presented the Ecosystem Thematic Network with emphasis on the Marine Standard Format.

6. Component 5: Project Administration

In the AOP for 2008 completed in November, 2007, IABIN forecasted to disburse \$1,090,276.00 for the period of January through June of 2008. Actual disbursement of GEF funds was \$506,525.70 representing 46% of the aforementioned targets.

2008 Disbursement compared with Semester Operating Plan

The breakdown of disbursement by components, show that the most affected is Component 2 since only 26.48% of the GEF funds established for the first semester of 2008 were disbursed; the performance of the other components is as follows:

- (i) *Component 1* was 72.64%. All the coordinating institutions are implementing most of their activities on schedule as programmed in their respective operating plans;
- (ii) Component 2 was 26.48%, due to

- a. During the first semester of 2008, the GS/OAS negotiated the technical aspects of the proposals with the IABIN Secretariat and the respective Coordinating Institution, in order to later negotiate with the grantees not only the technical aspects but also the terms and conditions of GS/OAS administrative and legal procedures. As a consequence it took between two and three months to process each grant agreement with every institution, as well as, the first disbursement. As set in the grant agreements, most of the institutions require approximately 40% of the grant amount to be disbursed upon signature while the remaining balance is paid upon submission of satisfactory performance on their deliverables. Therefore it is expected that the largest portion of the funds to be disbursed to the 27 new grants awarded between the 2007 and the first semester of 2008 will be given in the second semester of 2008;
- b. the delay on advertising the call for proposals for the Data Content Grants for Protected Areas
- (ii) Component 4 was 52.26% due to:
 - a. the mid-term consultancy was cancelled
 - b. delay to carry out the events: (i) to launch SSTN portal and conduct a donor conference, (ii) the IABIN Vision meeting (programmed for October or November 2008) and (iii) Fundraising for IABIN sustainability
- (iii) Component 5 was 125.53%

Table 5 details the execution level for the period January through June 2008:

	January - June 2008					
COMPONENTS	Planned	Actual	Unspent balance for semester	Variance: Actual vs Planned		
Total 01 Interoperability and Access to Data	\$246,890	\$179,349.91	\$67,540	72.64%		
Total 02 Data Content Creation	\$623,044	\$164,960.00	\$458,084	26.48%		
Total 03 Products for Decision Making	\$0	\$0.00	\$0			
Total 04 Sustainability of IABIN	\$159,228	\$83,206.85	\$76,021	52.26%		
Total 05 Project Administration	\$62,938	\$79,008.94	-\$16,071	125.53%		
Grand Total	\$1,092,100	\$506,525.70	\$585,575	46.38%		

Table 6 shows that from the project inception through June 2008, the GEF has disbursed to the GS/OAS 39% of the total IABIN funds. During the period of July through December 2008, GEF is expected to disburse to the GS/OAS approximately \$1,254,000 which represents 21% of the total funding of the IABIN project, leaving 40% of the IABIN project funding to be executed in 2009. Please see revised 2008 AOP for the period of January – December 2008 (attachment No. 1)

Table 6. Funds available by IABIN Components

COMPONENTS	PAD:	Cumulative Actual (Nov04-Jun08)		Revised 2008 AOP July-December 2008		Available Funding Jan-Dec 2009	
	Life of Project (Oct 04-Dec09)	Actual	%	Forecast	%	Remaining	%
Total 01 Interoperability and Access to Data	\$1,725,000	\$974,922	57%	\$297,219	17%	\$452,860	26%
Total 02 Data Content Creation	\$2,460,000	\$514,376	21%	\$755,200	31%	\$1,190,424	48%
Total 03 Products for Decision Making	\$500,000	\$0	0%	\$92,908	19%	\$407,092	81%
Total 04 Sustainability of IABIN	\$915,000	\$581,247	64%	\$74,595	8%	\$259,158	28%
Total 05 Project Administration	\$400,000	\$286,908	72%	\$34,010	9%	\$79,082	20%
Grand Total	\$6,000,000	\$2,357,452	39%	\$1,253,931	21%	\$2,388,616	40%