The development of a BIM Centre will be pivotal for biodiversity conservation outcomes in the years to come.

Training young scientists and conservationists to acquire a holistic set of biodiversity informatics skills will enhance the way in which data is managed and desired outputs are produced.

A fully operational Centre, providing exciting curricula and post-graduate programmes, has the potential to make South Africa a leader in this developing discipline and drive knowledge-based outcomes for a sustainable future.

High level buy-in from universities, strong champions, partnerships, funding and dedicated leadership is crucial for this endeavour to succeed.