BGIS – REVAMPED AND RELOADED

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13th National Biodiversity Planning Forum
7–10 June 2016
The Wilderness Hotel, Wilderness, Western Cape
BGIS: The Road Ahead

WHAT HAVE WE ACCOMPLISHED SINCE THEN?
NEW SITE

• New site launch on 18 April (http://bgis.sanbi.org)
• New design and improved functionality
PROBLEM STATEMENT

Previous site based on Silverlight Viewer.
Migrated to HTML5
ENHANCED ACCESS

- WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE USER?
- No additional plug-ins required!
- Available on mobile devices!
- Available on all internet platforms!
OLD VS NEW

- Slight differences in icon placement, design and number of tabs available.
- Upload x, y coordinates and shapefiles – makes it harder for users to orientate themselves.
A new design that closely resembles the Biodiversity Advisor (http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/) and SANBI (http://www.sanbi.org/) websites.

Rotating banners and navigation tabs on top.
Newsflash isn’t highly visible. One sentence leading to a link.

Latest news – linked to the SANBI website.
• Did not migrate users’ details to the new site.
• To download dataset – log in as a registered user.
• 838 registered users since (18 April 2016)
Search for spatial biodiversity information for South Africa

Enter keywords, geographical location, themes, etc.
EASY SEARCH

Don’t know how to use the tool?
Click on button!
Tips will appear.

Enter keywords, themes, etc.

Notes:
- Multiple search terms can be supplied. (They don't have to be in the right order to form a sentence.)
- Search results are ranked - the more supplied words found in the result, the better ranking of the result.
- Include the BGIS entity types (i.e. projects, spatial dataset, map viewers, LUDS or document) as search terms to improve the ranking for those entity types.
- By default each search term are postfixed with the wildcard "*".
- A search term can be prefixed with the leading wildcard "*".
- The "*" wildcard can be placed in the middle of a search term to represent any number of characters.
- The "?" wildcard can be placed in the middle of a search term to represent a single character. (Any number of "?"s can be used)
The projects section of the BGIS site provides easy access to a variety of spatial biodiversity planning projects. Here users can read about the available projects, download related spatial information and reports and gain access to the interactive online maps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Available Information</th>
<th>Province</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Biodiversity Sector Plans</td>
<td>Aims &amp; objective of Biodiversity Sector Plan</td>
<td>Spatial Datasets (14), Map Viewers (0), Documents (11)</td>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries (filtered from 43 total entries)
(a) Access is a fundamental issue in the exchange of data. Information becomes valuable when it is accessible to the user. All base data set custodians will capture metadata for their data holdings. This will provide

(f) Any base data set(s) that is disclosed or made available to users must include the metadata component.

(g) Base data set custodians should ensure that their metadata is available to the public by establishing a node at the Department’s Electronic Metadata Catalogue, or by making their records available to the Department for inclusion in the Catalogue.

Gert Conradie – web developer
Each dataset on BGIS has an associated metadata

.pdf version & metadata catalogue

[http://metadata.sanbi.org/]
BGIS by numbers

838 registered users since launch.

Registered Users

25-Apr-16 | 02-May-16 | 09-May-16 | 16-May-16 | 23-May-16 | 30-May-16 | 06-Jun-16
### BGIS by numbers

**Total number of zipped folders downloaded since launch is 9330.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Downloads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2012 Vegetation Map of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland</td>
<td>795</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>DEA National Landcover (TIFF)</td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NFEPA wetlands</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2009 Vegetation Map of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Biomes of Southern Africa</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gauteng C-Plan 3.3 Terrestrial CBAs and ESAs</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>NFEPA rivers</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>NPAES formal protected areas</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>National List of Threatened Ecosystems</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Archived MBCP Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BGIS by numbers

- Search conducted on Google Scholar on 17 May 2016
- 275 results/records citing BGIS as a resource
- 11 of those articles written in 2016
BGIS Training

- 20 April 2016 at University of Cape Town – invaluable feedback
- 14 June 2016 at Eskom’s premises
- July 2016 at University of KwaZulu-Natal
- Possibly Eastern Cape?
Last year’s recommendations

• Project titles obscure. A search functionality suggested.
• List of source data on BGIS home page. Map showing where various conservation plans overlap? Map or infographic should contain notes explaining to users what the preferred data layer is for each region.
• Send registered users an email every time updates are added to the website. Send emails directly from the BGIS website?
• Kerry Maree asked if BGIS willing to take over the Fynbos Forum mailing list to advertise jobs in the conservation sector.
• G Pence to forward BGIS an email regarding an environmental project/website that UCT plans to start.
- Google Analytics statistics for a month

Sessions
6,487

Users
3,721

Pageviews
43,917

Pages / Session
6.77

Avg. Session Duration
00:06:30

Bounce Rate
39.20%

% New Sessions
46.45%

Returning Visitor

New Visitor

SANBI
Biodiversity for Life
South African National Biodiversity Institute