

SANBI coordinating foundational information for animals in South Africa

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Joint SANBI Biodiversity Information Management
& Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme

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Outline

- Introduction
- Challenges and rationale (policies)
- Users of the policies
- Purpose of the policies
- Uses of the policies
 - Compilation and quality control
 - Updating and curation
 - Dissemination



Introduction

- Foundational data include
 - Checklist (what is it?)
 - Species pages (how does it look like?)
 - Occurrence records (where does it occur?)



Challenges



- Different classification systems used e.g; Encyclopaedia of Life, other taxon specialist lists (BirdLife, FishBase etc.) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Intellectual property for using information
- Updates (frequency and who does it?)
- Minimum standards e.g. when do we consider a species page ready for publishing?
- What content and how much detail to include?

Users of Policies



- Taxon specialists or specialist groups
- Beneficiaries of funded projects
 - FBIP (e.g. those produced through the Seakeys and Biogaps project)
- SANBI's Zoological Systematics staff

Purpose of the policies



- To set the rules and standards
- Guide and / inform the process
 - for compiling and updating the checklist and species pages.

Policies focus areas



- Compilation and quality control
- Intellectual property
- Updating and/or curation
- Dissemination

Compilation and quality control



- What content do we include?
- Minimum standards and quality control
- Source of information (peer-reviewed journals, books? indigenous knowledge? expert consultations? combination?)
- Acknowledgements and references

Intellectual Property



- Contributors
- Different sequence in list of authors (experts vs. junior scientists)
- Reference original literature or compiler?

Updating and Curation

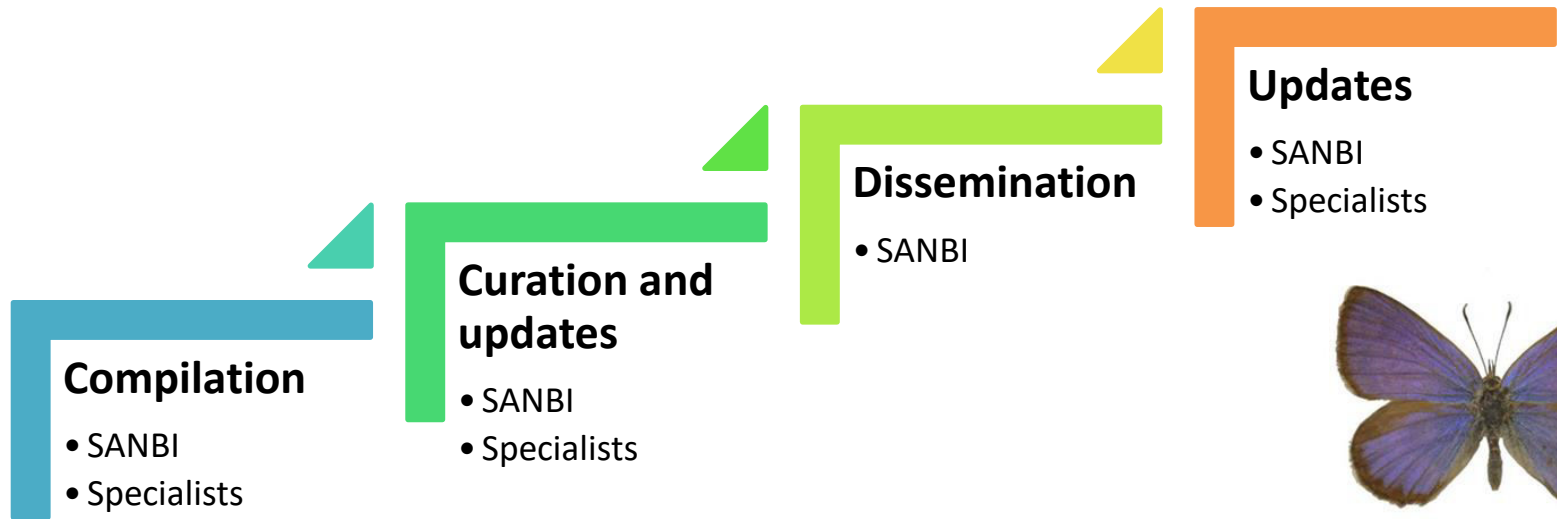


- Under which conditions do we accept an update
 - e.g. in case of a major taxonomic classification change
- The frequency of publishing the updated information on National Biodiversity Information System (NBIS)

Dissemination



- Checklist (Specify - limited)
- Species pages (NBIS - open)
- Feedback link (users and the compilers)



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