

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

INTERNAL INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT

Project: BHL-Europe



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Internal Interim Progress Report

1 Purpose

To report on a quarterly base the status of work for each member of the consortium. This report will not duplicate the content of the official progress and annual reports requested by the EC every 6 and 12 months, respectively.

2 Follow-ups from previous reports

For further information on past activities we refer to [Progress Reports](#)¹ D1.1, D 1.2, D 1.4, D1.6, and D1.8.

3 Activities

General Remark

The following activities reported here are taken from the status report of the following partners:

MfN, NHM, AIT, ATOS, FUB-BGBM, UGOE, NHMW, LANDOE, HNHM, NBGB, RBINS, MNHN, CSIC, RBGE, EDLF, BHLUS (MOBOT, SIL), RMCA, UH-Viikki, NMP.

Not submitted reports:

NAT, MIZPAS, UCPH, UBER, MSN, BnF, Sp2000.

No work:

Wiley

This time, only about half of our partners submitted a report in time. The timely production of the reports needs to improve in the next reporting period. This is particularly important as the next report is the last one and our deadlines towards the end of the project are very tight. Furthermore, the quality of some of the status reports has to improve in terms of submission of narrative reports rather than only keyword or bullet points. It would also be helpful if partners would assign their tasks to the task (numbers) described in the Description of Work (DoW).

WP1

1.1.1 - Resource planning, monitoring and controlling

The project coordination, project partners, and BHL-Europe associates followed the project progress on the BHL Wiki. They used the information provided for planning tasks and meetings as well as for the preparation of their reports.

Recruitment of new BHL-Europe employees

Jana Hoffmann (MfN), the project assistant of BHL-Europe, left the project end of November 2011. The handing over of the duties and responsibilities and the adjustment to the new project assistant, *Annemarie Scholz*, started mid of November to enable a smooth continuation of the project administration at the beginning of December.

¹ https://bhl.wikispaces.com/BHLE_WP1_reports_Progressreports

Tine Mallaerts' (RBINS) contract was not renewed. *Nicolas Van Audenhove* will be the new BHL-Europe Communication Officer at RBINS.

1.1.2 – Liaison between the Commission, consortium partners, EUROPEANA, BHL, and external experts; effective communication with the consortium members, Work Package leaders, the Commission, and interested parties; coordination of meetings and progress reviews.

1.1.2 - PMG conference calls

PMG calls were held regularly in the reporting period, except a few weeks were PMG met personally or several PMG members were not available. The minutes from most PMG calls are provided on the BHL Wiki².

1.1.2 – Content Provider and Technical Meeting

The final content provider and technical meeting in the lifetime of the BHL-Europe project was held from 29 November to 2 December at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels. 49 participants from 24 partners attended the meeting. The meeting was also attended by two of our new non-consortium content providers (Frankfurt, Rennes). We started the meeting as usual with a PMG meeting to finalise the meeting agenda and to review and update the risk and issue log. In the extended PMG meeting, we reviewed the development progress to get a common understanding of the development status in context of our development goals.

The 30 November was dedicated to a full day plenary meeting. After a short BHL-Europe progress update, we got a short progress update on Global BHL (Chris Freeland) and Europeana (Lizzy Komen). The first really important agenda item of the day was the presentation and discussion of the data sharing approach to allow Europeana and Global BHL to access the BHL-Europe content. In this context, we discussed the Europeana Data Exchange Agreement and eventually signed the document to ensure we deliver data to Europeana continuously.

The afternoon was dedicated to an update on the technical components of the projects to prepare for the workshop session the following day. As we invited IMPACT and Natural Europe representatives to Brussels, we had the chance to learn about these two projects in the afternoon as well. Clemens Neudecker gave an overview of the IMPACT project to prepare for the OCR workshop the following day. Nikos Manouselis gave an introduction and overview of the Natural Europe projects, which is funded under the ICT PSP programme of the EC.

During the OCR workshop on 1 December, Clemens Neudecker gave a detailed description and demonstration of the toolkit developed within the IMPACT project that will also be used for the experiments with the BHL dataset (see below). For the first time, we got a visual impression about the tools available to support the improvement of OCR.

During the Pre-Ingest session, we had a very lively discussion between the content providers and the development team to answer a lot of open questions. The delay of the Pre-Ingest process and the changes of the Pre-Ingest tool caused a lot of questions that needed to be answered. The Portal Review followed this session to run through all portal features and present the status and the next steps of the development process. This process was also the basis for the development blitz on 2 December. A closer report about the technical demonstrations on this meeting comes under the WP3 part of this report.

On 2 December, we also held the meeting of the CWG. A closer report of this can be found under the documentations of WP5.

1.1.3 – Production and consolidation of periodic external reports; including costs statements; internal quality assurance

² https://bhl.wikispaces.com/BHL-E_PMG_calls

1.1.3 - Production of reports and internal quality assurance

In this reporting period, the activity reports were collected from the consortium partners and sent out for approval by the Work Package leaders.

WP2

2.1 - IT Development

2.1.3 - Final and enhanced Web-database for content management and collection analysis

Ongoing communications with Boris Jacob and the VZG took place during the reporting period to ensure that the GRIB is up and running and all available catalogues are imported and deduplicated as soon as possible.

Although the technical issues with the underlying infrastructure of the GRIB have been solved, the re-import of the BHL-Europe partner library catalogues into the GRIB could not be done within this reporting period. An update on the progress was given to the consortium at the BHL-Europe Content Provider and Technical Meeting in November/December 2011. Integration of GRIB functionality into the BHL-Europe portal has been discussed with the NHM. The re-import and the testing of the data have been postponed to the first quarter of 2012. BHL-Europe and the GRIB have been shown at the TDWG 2011 Annual Conference in October in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, during the Sherborn Symposium in October in London, UK, and at the Life & Literature Conference in November in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

2.2. - Analysis of domain content

2.2.3 - Identifying responsibilities for content contribution

During this reporting period, one interesting IPR issue came up from one of our content providers: Modern serials sometimes have commercial advertisement in the printed version of an issue. These advertisements are not part of the scientific content but probably still part of the digitisation process and in this case would be available in BHL-Europe as well. Legal advice has been requested from our former WP4 leader at NHM how to handle this type of content. After extensive communications, we decided to follow the rules already given in the IPR Best Practice Guide³:

- Where the material has an insubstantial amount of third party content, it will be considered that no further action to clear this is required and that the notice and take-down procedure will suffice.
- Where a substantial proportion of work includes embedded third party content, the item will not be scanned or supplied to the project.

2.3 - Management of the content acquisition process

2.3.1 - MoU for new content providers

BHL-Europe finalised the work on the MoU for the project in autumn 2009. While working with Europeana and more globally, it has been noticed that the current MoU needs to be adapted. Therefore, two additional appendices have been drafted by the project coordinator, distributed to

³ <http://www.bhl-europe.eu/de/publikationen/dokumente/ipr-working-documents>

our content providers, and discussed during the content provider and review meeting in November/December 2011 in Brussels. One appendix is related to the new Europeana Exchange agreement, and the other one is related to the Global BHL content and data sharing. Content providers have been asked to sign both appendices until 15th of February in order to be able to give the content in time to Europeana and Global BHL. Content providers who will not sign the additional appendices will be excluded from data transfer to Europeana as well as Global BHL.

2.3.2 - Management of current content providers

The management of the current content providers is an ongoing task within WP2. So, a lot of time has been invested during the reporting time for communications with our current content providers and the WP3 team (NHM, NHMW) to coordinate the upload of content and feedback for content providers. Each content provider is different and has its own needs, and therefore, communication with each of our content provider was and still is necessary.

One particular part which is worth mentioning was the elaboration of how to transfer content from BnF to BHL-Europe. After two unsuccessful trials with the FTPS connection (due to the large amount of content), we decided to transfer the content via hard disks to the BHL-Europe server in London.

Further work has also been done with our new partner GfBS (Gesellschaft für Biologische Systematik). An introduction to at the time available file submission guidelines and training on how to upload the content has been given to Jana Hoffmann, who is the main contact for GfBS.

Also, communications with UGOE were necessary in order to start the upload of their content to our BHL-Europe server. UGOE has a large amount of data which cannot be transferred via the available FTPS connection. To date of writing, communications regarding a solution is an ongoing process and several opportunities of an efficient data transfer are under discussion.

More up-to-date information about the content management can be found on the BHL Wiki page⁴. Here, the current status is documented to allow our partners as well as the technical team to inform themselves at any time in order to make the content management process more visible, facilitate communications and future planning of their own tasks.

However, the management of the content upload was very difficult during this time due to laborious communications and changes in responsibilities for the Pre-Ingest tool and thus changes of the upload rules. It is hoped that communications will become more efficiently and effectively after the Pre-Ingest tool is up and running.

2.3.2 - File Submission Guidelines

During this reporting period, the coordination and preparation of the new file submission guidelines for our content providers has been done additionally within WP2 in collaboration with WP3. After the decision in fall 2011 to develop a new version of the Pre-Ingest tool, the former published file submission guidelines were outdated and new rules were necessary for providing content to BHL-Europe in order to find a more standardised way for content upload also after the end of the project and thus ensure sustainability of the project. All open questions from content providers (e.g., NBGB, HNHM, and RMCA) and already available information have been gathered during the content provider and technical review meeting in Brussels in December 2011. A detailed draft has been sent out shortly after the meeting for review and answering of open questions. After several revisions, the first final version of the new file submission guidelines has been sent out to the content providers end of January.

The finalised version of the guidelines will be integrated in the best practice guide and completes this deliverable.

⁴ [https://bhl.wikispaces.com/Content+ Management](https://bhl.wikispaces.com/Content+Management)

2.3.2 – Assist partners in implementation and evaluation of scanning operations; discuss and distribution of data standards and specifications; attracting new content providers

Analysis and preparation of (meta)data for Pre-Ingest

This chapter gives an overview over work done during this reporting period regarding analysis and preparation of scanned material and the corresponding metadata. It is separated in paragraphs by partners to facilitate reading.

CSIC

CSIC revised and uploaded the whole collection of the Spanish entomological journal *EOS* consisting of circa 30,000 digitised pages.

MNHN

MNHN finished to upload about 232,000 pages on the server of BHL-Europe in the end of November. They provided three file formats (JPEG, PDF with OCR, and TIFF).

Title	Years available	Pages
<i>Adansonia</i>	1961-1980	11,370
<i>Annales du Muséum national d'histoire naturelle</i>	1802-1813	11,500
<i>Archives du Muséum d'histoire naturelle</i>	1839-1858	5,600
<i>Archives du Muséum d'histoire naturelle séries 6 et 7</i>	1926-1969	7,870
<i>Bulletin de la Société botanique de France</i>	1854-1935	64,000
<i>Bulletin de la Société des naturalistes parisiens</i>	1904-1932	1,200
<i>Bulletin de la Société philomathique à ses correspondans</i>	1791-1797	5,800
<i>Bulletin du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle</i>	1895-1907	6,187
<i>Bulletin du Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle</i>	1907-1970	44,911
<i>Bulletin du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle. Section A, Zoologie.</i>	1979-1996	16,756
<i>Bulletin du Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle. Supplément</i>	1972-1978	799
<i>Bulletin du Muséum national d'Histoire Naturelle. Zoologie</i>	1971-1978	11,804
<i>Mémoires du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle</i>	1815-1832	10,200
<i>Mémoires du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle</i>	1935-1951	11,562
<i>Notulae systematicae</i>	1909-1960	5,204
<i>Nouvelles annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle</i>	1832-1835	2,100
<i>Nouvelles archives du Muséum d'histoire naturelle</i>	1865-1914	15,683
Total		232,546

For the digitisation of content, MNHN is working together with a service provider who also takes care of indexing the digitised content. The service provider finished their work in the end of December, as it was expected. MNHN supplied a big effort for the follow-up and the control of the operations. Currently they are continuing to control the quality of the data: quality of the digitisation, and quality of the indexation. As MNHN has no automatic tools, and has only a small team, the quality control is made manually, which is rather slow, difficult to set up, and not always reliable.

During this reporting period, the MNHN also continued its work on the selection of the content likely to be relevant. This work has been carried out at the library by the collaboration between the collection policy service and the digitisation service, and by taking into account of suggestions or projects of some researchers. Cecile Cecconi has been recruited to work on content selected to be digitised in 2012. She worked from 1st October to 31 December in the content analysis (IP state, bibliographic description, and physical preparation of the books before being digitised by our vendor). In December, a new recruitment to pursue the operations is foreseen.

Entered jointly to the BHL-Europe Consortium in 2009, the MNHN and the BnF keep on collaborating for content selection, technical requirements, digitisation policy, and dissemination of the digitised contents. In this regard, the MNHN was invited in several seminars and/or meetings organised by the BnF: Presentation of the Europeana Foundation with its Executive Officer and its new President who is also the President of the BnF; feedback on technical questions and others with French partners of Europeana 14-18 project, etc.

NBGB

NBGB continued their work on image quality control and the metadata checking. They also continued to search content for BHL-Europe and got the rights to digitise *Muscillanea Bryologica*. NBGB takes care of regular backups of all images scanned by the three Belgian institutions.

RBINS

RBINS continued with discussion of potential content.

RBGE

All the content that RBGE agreed to supply to BHL-Europe has been uploaded to Pre-Ingest stage. When the redeveloped Pre-Ingest tool is available for testing, Pre-Ingest issues will be re-assessed. Because of changes in portal development plan, planned portal testing for this present period was put back to the next reporting period.

LANDOE

LANDOE finished their digitisation project for the year 2011. With this additional material, they generated enough content to fulfil their contract concerning the number of pages with BHL-Europe. In 2012, they will continue to digitise books.

HNHM

Bulk digitalisation of the majority of HNHM journals (where the HNHM is the publisher and co-publisher together with scientific societies) were carried out earlier financed by a national funded project. However, that work ended up with pdfs without any further dissemination and creation of metadata. Therefore, the compilation and key-in of the bibliographic journal article level metadata sets (xml format) has to be completed within the frame of BHL-Europe. Previously, this data input was carried out by Zsuzsanna Forgács whose contract ended by the end of July 2011. Eszter Deákné Lazányi-Bacsó was contracted from October 2011 to take over this job. The splitting of scanned journal volumes to article level was also continued. The following journals' metadata, quality assurance and database conversation were completed:

- *Parasitologica Hungarica*
- *Acta zoologica hungarica*

These titles will be uploaded to BHL-Europe server by the end of January. Continuous update of recent journals volumes' metadata is also in progress. Thus, HNHM can submit recent content for Europeana.

In order to solve the missing (not yet digitised) volumes, an application was prepared and submitted to the National Cultural Fund. If this application will be successful, the coverage of digitalisation will then reach 100% for those titles since metadata preparation was done in the meantime.

UGOE

In collaboration with NATURALIS (Tom Gilissen), a list of important historic zoological books to be scanned by NATURALIS digital library was compiled.

RMCA

RMCA is continuously working on selecting literature to be scanned, coordinating the scanning process and updating our local scan list, shared by the three Belgian BHL-Europe partners RMCA, NBGB, and RBINS (see http://193.190.223.46/wiki_ext/index.php/BHL).

From October to December, more than 12,000 additional pages of biodiversity literature from the zoological department were digitised in the framework of other projects and in-house activities. All files are quality checked and renamed on page level. Also, metadata processing is one of their important tasks in preparation of the content for the ingestion. This includes the input of new data, the enriching of the catalogue with additional information, and the extraction of metadata from the LIBIS library system.

Together with their publishing service, the team of RMCA is working on preparing 12 issues of the *Journal of African Zoology* (JAZ) for the ingest of BHL-Europe. This includes the preparation of metadata files, data control on article level, and copyright clearance procedure for authors. 50 % of JAZ authors have already signed the BHL-Europe agreement. They also received 6 agreements for old publications of the RMCA Annals. The other important issue was a determination of the RMCA's institutional copyrights policy. Several in-house meetings on policy on IPR and Open Access took place leading in the signing of the new appendices of the BHL-Europe MoU.

For the BHL-Europe Content Provider and Technical Meeting at RBINS (29/11-02/12/2011), they have held the preparatory work (checking of our data, metadata and items uploaded to Europeana) and prepared a list of questions about Pre-Ingest process, bibliographic metadata and mapping tool.

UH-Viikki

During this reporting period, UH-Viikki added metadata of digitised items to the library catalogue Helka. The digitised volumes of the series *Luonnon ystävä* were checked after they were received from the digitisation provider. Negotiations were started with two learned societies for the inclusion of their journals into BHL-Europe and Europeana:

- 1) BirdLife Finland is the publisher of the open access journal *Ornis Fennica* which has been digitised during the last year starting from the first volume published in 1924.
- 2) The Society of Dendrology publishes the journal *Sorbifolia*.

Both societies have expressed interest in contributing their journals to BHL-Europe, and new licence agreements are hopefully signed in the coming weeks with these two societies.

Tiina Onttonen also gave a presentation on BHL-Europe in a library staff meeting in Viikki. The Finnish project team participated in the Europeana seminar organised by the National Digital Library project. The main theme of this seminar was the new Europeana Data Exchange Agreement. Helsinki University Library signed two appendices to the Memorandum of Understanding related to Europeana and Internet archive.

MfN

After MfN purchased a scanner in spring 2011, the museum was occupied with employing a scan operator to actually start scanning content also for BHL-Europe. In addition, internal communications are necessary in order to establish the workflow of scanning, entering of metadata and finally uploading data to BHL-Europe. Communications are currently in progress.

2.3.2 Best Practice guidelines and standards

One task within WP2 is assisting partners in implementation and evaluation of scanning operations and to deliver the final version of the Best Practice Guidelines and Standards. This delivery aims to give a standardised guideline for Europe. The approved best practice guidelines

and standards shall be understandable for every person working with it. They shall guide new and current contributors in a simple and clear way through a digitisation workflow from the either print or digital version of an item to the digitised representation of that item in the BHL-Europe portal. The guide will describe the minimum required standard for BHL-Europe and, where possible, specifying the ideal standard.

Our partners from Belgium (RMCA, NBGB, and RBINS) worked together on a workflow example within their institutions for the guidelines.

During this reporting period, the main task was to communicate with the project team to ensure the delivery of the required information to finalise the guidelines. Two main chapters were not finished and delayed the internal finalisation deadline of the BPG:

- GRIB
- Pre-Ingest

Therefore, the document will be finalised during the next reporting period. It is planned to insert all available information until mid of February 2012. Due to the mentioned delay, there is currently also a risk of not being able to finish the additional proposed versions Midi and Mini. How to proceed with work on the Midi and Mini versions will be decided after the full version, Spee, has been finalised. To date of writing, the GRIB part has been finalised, however the Pre-Ingest part is still missing, as it is depending on the development and final release of the tool. More detailed information on the Best Practice Guidelines and Standards can be found on the BHL Wiki page⁵.

2.3.2 Expansion of the content provider network

Attracting new partners until the end of the project is another task within WP2. However, during this working period, work within this task was very difficult as BHL-Europe was not able to show visible results to prospective content providers. Furthermore, communications with prospective content providers requires a lot of time and preparation in order to answer various occurred questions, for instance questions regarding IPR, metadata, OCR, or MoU.

2.3.3 Coordinate with Europeana

Coordination with Europeana took place with Lizzy Komen and the Europeana ingest team to ensure an ongoing access to BHL-Europe material through Europeana. During this reporting time, the new European Data Exchange Agreement was a main topic.

2.3.3 - CCPA Annual General Meeting 2011 and the proposal for change to the CCPA

On 6 December 2011, the Europeana CCPA gathered in the WTC in Rotterdam for the Annual General Meeting and the 2nd Plenary meeting of the CCPA. The main goals of the meeting were to look backward and review the CCPA work in 2011 and to look forward and plan the next steps for the CCPA. All five CCPA working groups presented the results and clearly illustrated the large amount of excellent work that was done in 2011. The presentations are available online⁶.

Having learned from the CCPA operations in the past year, the CCPA Officers and the Europeana Office discussed how to make the CCPA more efficient, more transparent and more useful for the entire Europeana community. After a first draft of the future strategy and working plan in September 2011, the feedback on this from the wider CCPA was collected via a survey. The CCPA Officers evaluated the survey and refined the draft to further clarify the strategy, the relation to Europeana Office and the modus operandi of the CCPA. This was presented at the AGM and voted on to get a mandate from the community to move forward.

Based on the survey outcomes, it is accepted that the name be changed from CCPA to Europeana Network. It was identified that the name CCPA does not fully reflect the scope of the work and is also not reflecting the collaborative nature of the Europeana community. It is now

⁵ https://bhl.wikispaces.com/BHLE_WP2_BPG

⁶ <http://pro.europeana.eu/web/quest/presentations>

possible to extend the network beyond the content providers and aggregators, although it needs to be ensured that the view and positions of the content providers and aggregators is reflected with the new *modus operandi*. The following mission statement was also accepted from the community: The Europeana Network is united by a common cultural mission to 'work together to improve access to Europe's Cultural Heritage in balanced and sustainable ways'.

The Europeana Network is collaborating to support the development of the Europeana strategy. It brings together the voices of the community, brings them to the Europeana Board and Executives through the Europeana Network Officers, and lobbies for the community's interests. The Officers will collaborate with the Europeana Office to set a framework of challenges which are structured around and respond to requirements in the Europeana Business Plan. They will, at least twice annually, solicit the views and opinions of the Europeana Network about the strategic development of Europeana and contribute these views to the discussions of the Europeana Board. They will also provide a mechanism for mediating dispute and achieving consensus on critical strategic challenges. This concept was supported by a majority during the voting at the AGM in Rotterdam.

The *modus operandi* is based on task-and-finish groups or taskforces that meet and work mainly virtually, using the Europeana Network LinkedIn space. An annual work cycle is foreseen to initiate and drive these groups. The Europeana Office will consult the Europeana Network on the content of the following year's Business Plan. The Europeana Network will respond, and the resulting amended plan will be presented to the Europeana Board for comment and approval. The Europeana Network Officers will then agree a set of strategic questions relating to requirements set out in the Europeana Business Plan. The Europeana Office will further undertake (virtual) surveys to identify key opportunities and concerns from the Europeana Network. It is very important that the Europeana Network members are active to raise questions and topics they would like Europeana to facilitate in workshops. The Officers will articulate the results to the Europeana Board.

In order to structure the work, some of the task forces will be curated by Europeana Office members, while others will be led by the wider Europeana Network community. The Europeana Office will call for taskforces that relate largely to being able to execute the four tracks of the Strategic Plan: Aggregate, Facilitate, Distribute, and Engage.

The taskforces will be therefore structurally split into 2 types, those managed by a Europeana Office member and those managed by a Europeana Network member. For the latter they will facilitate the work of the group, and will operate according to a 'job description' for the function. If physical meetings of task-and-finish groups are necessary, costs will be met by the Europeana Foundation to a maximum of 8 taskforces and 2 physical meetings per year.

Individual Europeana Network members are encouraged to initiate taskforces, where there is a clear agenda, momentum or enthusiasm. These community-led discussions can be submitted for review by the Europeana Network Officers and, if appropriate, may be recommended for adoption as a curated group. Europeana Network members self-appoint to these taskforces.

This *modus operandi* was supported by a majority during the voting at the AGM in Rotterdam. Full presentations shown at the AGM, with further detail on the proposal for change, are available online⁷.

In conclusion, we are no longer talking about the CCPA but the Europeana Network. We are also no longer talking about the five working groups, which were rather static. We will collaborate in our LinkedIn group where all Europeana Network members can interact and discuss aspects of

⁷ <http://pro.europeana.eu/web/quest/presentations>

importance for Europeana, bring up concerns, and create taskforces to solve specific problems or questions or provide recommendations for certain areas of the Europeana business plan.

The Europeana Network Officers will help the community and support this work to make sure that the voice of the community will be heard by the Europeana Foundation Board.

Organisational and administrative tasks & Meetings

Writing of Reports

The Status Report, the Interim Report July-Sept and the Progress Report April-Sept 2011 has been compiled for WP2 including risk and issues that might affect WP2.

Approval of Activity Reports

Activity Reports of WP2 reported work by our partners has been approved and sent to WP1.

Conference calls

Participation in various conference calls (PMG, open PMG, Technical Calls) was necessary for the WP2 leader.

Content Provider and Technical Review Meeting

The Content Provider and Technical Review Meeting has been prepared, attended and post processed in November/December 2011. Main task during this meeting was to represent the interests of our content providers.

WP3

3.1.1 - Management of the technical development team

For the reporting period October-December 2011, the technical development team has mainly focused on the development and the implementation phase of the final BHL-Europe system. Therefore, in preparation for the technical review meeting held in Brussels, the development team continued to work intensively on the development of the Portal alongside integration and testing of the BHL-Europe Core Features.

The Tech Group continue to hold intensive technical meetings through various forums (conference calls, Skype, TMB meetings, and Technical Workshops) in order to review and progress ongoing development work within WP3/WP2.

Developers technical Workshops

As well as regular Skype meetings, which take place with the Tech Group on a fortnightly basis, it was identified that at this stage of the project lifecycle more frequent meetings would be beneficial for the development team in order to discuss/plan ongoing work, arrange development blitz sessions, as well as resolve technical issues and bottlenecks.

So far, these development workshops have proved to be very productive and the team have been able to make rapid progress with the development process over the past couple of months. Moreover, as it has not been possible for the development team to meet in person, virtual workshops have been held via Skype.

Two workshops took place in this period, one physical workshop during 03-04 November in Prague, and one virtual workshop during 12-13 December. Additional developer workshop sessions were held during the Technical Review Meeting in Brussels.

**BHL-Europe Content Provider and Technical Review Meeting
(29 November - 02 December 2011 Brussels, Belgium)**

Since the technical demonstrations at previous review meetings were based on pilot/demonstration services, a progress session was delivered to attendees to show the BHL-Europe component model, and to clarify the actual development state during the last few months. Further demonstrations of the current Portal and Pre-Ingest tool were also delivered.

Several workshops were organised to give the users an opportunity to test and evaluate all Core features that had been implemented, and to respond to previous feedback from Portal review sessions that had been held with our user representatives. Portal review sessions also took place which concentrated on development priorities and features for the next release scheduled for January 2012.

3.1.5 - Development and adaption of specific tools; Implementation and adaption of TaxonFinder and name recognition tools; improvement and implementation of OCR techniques.**Pre-Ingest Tool Update**

It was previously reported that a decision had been made to further develop the Pre-Ingest tool. This is mainly as a result of user feedback received after testing the tool, which highlighted the fact that some modification would be required in order to provide a best practice approach for users to upload their data.

Towards the end of October 2011, 2 new human resources joined the Tech Group in order to assist with the re-build of the tool: Andreas Mehrrath, who has been employed as a sub-contractor (NHMW) and is the main developer responsible for the technical build of the PI Tool, and secondly Michael Malicky (LANDOE) who has come on board as the Content Ingest Manager.

The Pre-Ingest tool was completely rewritten in order to provide a PHP based solution. To clearly identify the tasks of the Pre-Ingest tool, the workflow was documented and a specification of the tool has been started.

In addition, the File Submission Guidelines were rewritten to conform to the requirements of the Pre-Ingest tool. Many content provider questions have been solved by clearly specifying the upload requirements.

Integration of Pre-Ingest to archival storage: Atos modified the ingest process to the new Pre-Ingest component.

A first version of the tool has since been deployed and tested by the development team. The current status of the Pre-Ingest tool will be demonstrated during one of the sessions planned for the forthcoming BHL-Europe Portal & Ingest Review Meeting in Helsinki.

Collaboration on OCR improvements (IMPACT) – Ground Truthing

After the ground-truth pre-production in the last reporting period, we have worked on the ground truthing itself in this period. Altogether 10 batches of page images were OCRed and re-typed by a service provider (Swift). The XML-files were sent to the BHL-Europe QA team for quality check. Henning Scholz was working as the manager of the test team and liaison between the test team, the IMPACT team and the service provider. Annemarie Scholz, Michaela Hierschläger, and Francisco Welter-Schultes did most of the text checking. Errors were reported back to IMPACT and Swift for improvements. An error rate of 0.05 was chosen based on previous experiences of IMPACT. If the error rate was higher, the batch was rejected, reworked and sent again for quality checks. With an error rate of 0.05 the batch was accepted for final processing by IMPACT. After final acceptance, the batch is ready for the experiments with the IMPACT toolkit to evaluate the

potential improvement of OCR quality. Even after the end of the IMPACT project, we continue the collaboration with the new competence centre for digitisation.

3.4.1 - Work with the EUROPEANA to create multiple language access to the BHL Portal.

AIT, in continuation with their work with EUROPEANA, has recently carried out analysis of the newly published EDM (Europeana Data Model) publication for BHL Europe.

3.4.3 - Apply the model to the key European languages (English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Danish, Dutch, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, and Swedish), enabling access to the BHL Portal throughout Europe.

Further Development of the Portal System

Over the past couple of months, our developers have made continuous improvements to the BHL-Europe system as well as implementing new features for the Portal. Many of these tasks consist of configuration changes and maintenance of the overall performance of the system. This involved the following:

- Installing and configuring the Apache solr server. This server is responsible for indexing the whole content stored in the BHL-Europe system and thus is the technological base for making the content accessible from the Portal via search and browse functionalities.
- Finalisation of the connection of the Portal to the solr search index which is now updated by a special component of the Fedora system, called gsearch. By this means the index is updated every time when new documents have been ingested or when existing documents have been updated.
- Creating new and maintaining existing automated deployment jobs in the continuous integration server. This system is dedicated to build, install, and test any changes which have been applied by developers to the whole BHL-E system.
- Configuring the transformation process which is responsible for converting the data objects stored in the archival storage of the Fedora system into the special document format which can be indexed by the central search index, lucene.
- Bug Fixes, code refactoring and documentation: our team of developers at Atos have been busy correcting any bugs that were found by the testing team and reported in GitHub. As well as refactoring the Book Viewer to make it more configurable and easier to maintain. The version of Islandora has been upgraded to 11.2.
- Finally, all components have been documented on the wiki which shows good software development practice.

Implementation of BHL-Europe features in preparation of January 2012 Milestone Release

During this period the development team have mainly focused on the Portal development and its integrated functionality in order to ensure that we have in place appropriate core feature functionality on a stable testing platform.

Development has focused on the integration of Simple and Advanced search within the BHL-Europe theme, followed by Browse, Bibliography, and the Content Viewer to bring the components to a testable state. Integration of the Content Viewer with the theme is planned to be completed for the January milestone.

The search module for the Portal was further enhanced by NHMW. The search amplification modules (VIAF, CoL, PESI, etc.) were integrated into the search workflow in order to provide more accurate results. In addition, the search module was also extended to support Drupal-Block support which was required for simple search integration. The ZDB (Zeitschriftendatenbank) was integrated in order to further amplify the search based on normalised journal titles. This also allows one to search for journal entries using acronyms only.

There has also been further development to major parts of the search facility of the Portal which includes: Implementing and configuring the auto-suggestion functionality of the simple search; Solving problems with searching for terms containing wild-cards and umlauts as well as with diacritic characters in general; Implementing the search result page in which the results are ordered by their relevance for the search terms entered, just like in the result lists of Google and other search providers; Fixing problems which occurred in the interaction of the faceted search and the solr/lucene search engine.

Portal Testing: The 2nd Testing Phase was scheduled for Tuesday 17th January which enabled our testing group to review the current version of the Portal with its updated functionalities and reported back to the QA team with their feedback and finding e.g. issues, bugs etc.

GitHub Issue Tracker: Further to the Public Core Review meeting which took place in The Hague, Netherlands, the Core has been revised further in terms of feature descriptions aligned with our user requirements. Jana Hoffmann has since completed the revisions, and the latest version of the document has been uploaded on the Wiki.

The Issue Tracker has also been updated with all features scheduled for the remaining life cycle of the project. To date all Critical Features have been implemented.

Evaluation of solutions for asynchronous offline processing

Atos evaluated several solutions for asynchronous offline processing within the BHL-Europe system. The solutions evaluated were Apache ServiceMix, Spring Batch, and Spring Integration. A prototype of Spring Integration and Spring Batch has been completed.

Shared Development Environment Update

The Integration host configuration with Jenkins deployment from GitHub was completed, although changes will continue. During the Prague workshop, the test environment was brought into line with the configuration requirements as documented on the BHL Wiki⁸.

WP4

Work package four was closed in April 2011.

WP5

Dissemination of the BHL-Europe project was effective, although we were slowed down in delays in technical part of the project. A number of partners were active in approaching various target users through official conferences and publications. Depending on the audience, the presentations or posters were adapted accordingly. We also prepared two types of calendars, which were distributed to all partner in order to increase visibility of the project. The project management group sent the relevant expert(s) from the consortium depending upon the topic of the conference, in order to adequately represent the project. During November–December we finished the second part of the Biodiversity Library Exhibition (BLE) providing information about expeditions. This dissemination tool is ideal for reaching a broader public. We presented it during the Farmers Markets in Prague before Christmas.

⁸ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/Environments>

All these activities and tools were prepared for massive dissemination activities of the BHL-Europe portal after the Core Release in February-March. The Facebook and Twitter users are growing in number. The weblog site becomes lively thanks to Nicolas Van Audenhove from RBINS. Pre-prepared texts about spices will help us with BLE and BHL-Europe dissemination in social media.

The BHL-Europe Newsletter was published quarterly. So far, number 10 is prepared to appear in the beginning of February 2012.

During November, three important meetings took place. As a BHL-Europe coordinator, MfN participated in "Sherborn to the 21st century and beyond" (London, UK, 28 October 2011), and "Digital Strategies for Heritage" (DISH) (Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 6-9 December 2011). The conference Life and Literature (Chicago, USA) was visited by representatives from MfN, NHM and NMP, who presented our major dissemination tools.

During the Brussels project meeting in November 29 - December 2, we planned actions for dissemination including press release (in 12 languages), preparation of a booklet, increasing traffic via social media (particularly the blog), and preparation of a final meeting including attractive message for mass media.

5.1 - CWG meetings

During the Project meeting in Brussels (Belgium), a CWG meeting was held to prepare the final dissemination activities of the BHL-Europe project. Furthermore, the timeline for dissemination activities related to the portal launch was discussed and agreed upon. A preliminary agenda for the CWG meeting in Helsinki was discussed. One important item on the agenda of this session was also the review of the social media activities. Nicolas Van Audenhove from RBINS joined the project just before the meeting and now takes over the responsibility for the social media channels of BHL-Europe. For further information, please refer to the minutes of this CWG-meeting on the BHL Wiki⁹.

5.2.1 - BHL-Europe Website - <http://www.bhl-europe.eu/>

During December 2011 and January 2012, we increased the number of languages to 11. Portuguese was newly introduced. Texts in Italian were improved. Four other languages (Hungarian, Dutch, Swedish, and Danish) are in preparation. We regularly update the project website, particularly with new events and news.

5.3.1 - Work with promotion material

Calendars

BHL-Europe produced two types of BHL-Europe calendars. The small one is in the colours of the BHL-Europe corporate design with short texts about the BHL-Europe project. The larger calendar depicts figures from old biodiversity literature with a description and bibliographic reference. These calendars were sent to all members of the consortium and EU Commission for dissemination purposes.

⁹ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/file/view/Dissemination+workshop+WP5+Minutes+from+Brussels.doc>



Christmas card and animation

A second e-Christmas card, as well as an internet animation, was produced. Both the card and animation were sent to the consortium and other contacts at the end of December 2011.



BLE - Virtual exhibition

The new topic of the [BLE](#)¹⁰ – virtual exhibition was presented by Jiří Frank during the project meeting in Brussels. The topic ‘expeditions’ includes 17 expeditions including Darwin, Scott, Amundsen, and Livingstone. The first topic in the BLE was the spices cards.

5.3.2 - BHL-Europe Newsletter

Newsletter #9 was produced in November 2011. Two larger articles about the usage of BHL-Europe were put into this newsletter edition: *The Biodiversity Heritage Library - only for taxonomists? A short analysis of the reasons*, and *Source analysis: literature needed in biodiversity research in relation to literature digitised - A study based on European non-marine molluscs as a model group*. Furthermore, there will be reports from conferences in Chicago, Berlin, Hamburg, Rotterdam, and Sherborn. The newsletter was revised and approved by the project coordinator, RBGE did the English editing. The work on the Newsletter #10 is in progress.

5.3.3 - Ensure proper press release; maintain the press review; distribution of articles for various types of print and online media.

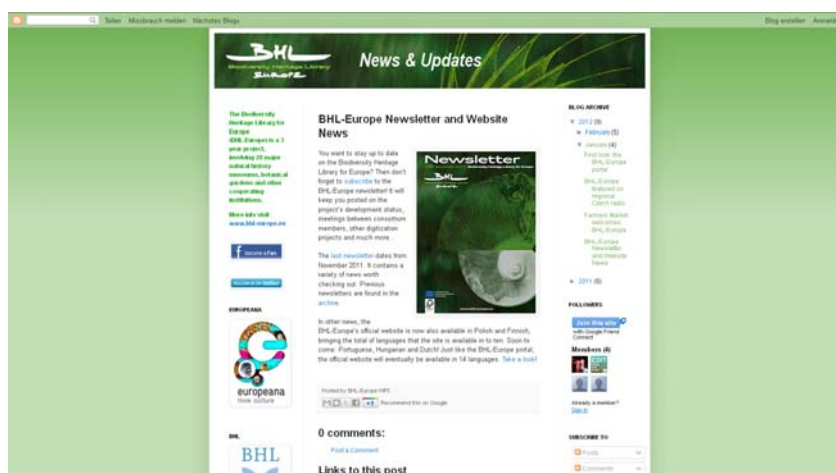
BHL-Europe to increase social media use

Social media have become key tools in information dissemination for a plethora of institutions and consortiums. Up until now, BHL-Europe has been active on its own weblog, Twitter, and Facebook. In December 2011, Nicolas Van Audenhove (RBINS) joined WP 5 to revitalise these channels and help increase BHL-Europe’s social media use. The main dissemination channel will be the weblog, as it is most flexible in terms of look and content. As the project’s development is almost completed, we expect social media to play a major part in dissemination of its launch.

5.4.1. - Facebook, Twitter, and Blog

At the end of January 2012, we had 154 ‘likers’ of the [BHL-Europe Facebook page](#)¹¹ and 138 [Twitter](#)¹² followers. The [BHL-Europe Blog](#)¹³ had 953 all time hits, of which 348 were from January 2012. 36 hits occurred between February 1 and February 2 2012. This means the number of visitors rose remarkably in January and February thanks to the effort of Nicolas Van Audenhove (RBINS). Additionally, he prepared a number of articles about BHL-Europe in cooperation with NMP, e.g., First look: the BHL-Europe portal, BHL-Europe featured on regional Czech radio, Farmers Market welcomes BHL-Europe, and BHL-Europe and its Developers

Examples of BHL-Europe Blog



¹⁰ <http://www.biodiversityexhibition.com/>

¹¹ <http://www.facebook.com/pages/BHL-Europe/151086001600041>

¹² <http://twitter.com/BHLEurope>

¹³ <http://bhleurope.blogspot.com/>



A list of publications on BHL-Europe written by BHL-Europe partners can be found on the [BHL-Europe website](#)¹⁴ or the [BHLWiki](#)¹⁵.

5.4.2 - Maintain and update database of conferences and public events relevant for BHL Europe.

Tine Mallaerts and Nicolas Van Audenhove (both RBINS) compiled the list of events from all the status reports, and also the activities from the other partners for WP5. See further information on the BHL Wiki¹⁶.

5.4.4 - Organise public events and talks.

Farmers Markets welcome BHL-Europe

The Farmers markets in Prague (Czech Republic) were held several days before Christmas. Given that the farmers markets attract thousands of people (especially before holiday seasons), an opportunity arose to present the BHL-Europe project!



But what does BHL-Europe have to do with a farmers market? The answer lies in the Biodiversity Library Exhibition – a virtual exhibition of the content found in the Biodiversity Heritage Library for Europe. The first such exhibition focuses on spices, and their representation in old biodiversity literature. That is why BHL-Europe organised a “Get to know the spice”-event during the farmers

¹⁴ <http://www.bhl-europe.eu/de/publikationen/veroeffentlichungen>

¹⁵ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/BHL-Europe-publications>

¹⁶ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/dissemination+of+project+by+partners>

markets. Children and families were treated to a degustation, as well as to a variety of games and puzzles.

The BHL-Europe virtual exhibition BLE will officially be launched in February, but visitors to the Farmers markets already got a good taste of what's coming!

In January we focused on work on a third topic of BLE – Illustrations.

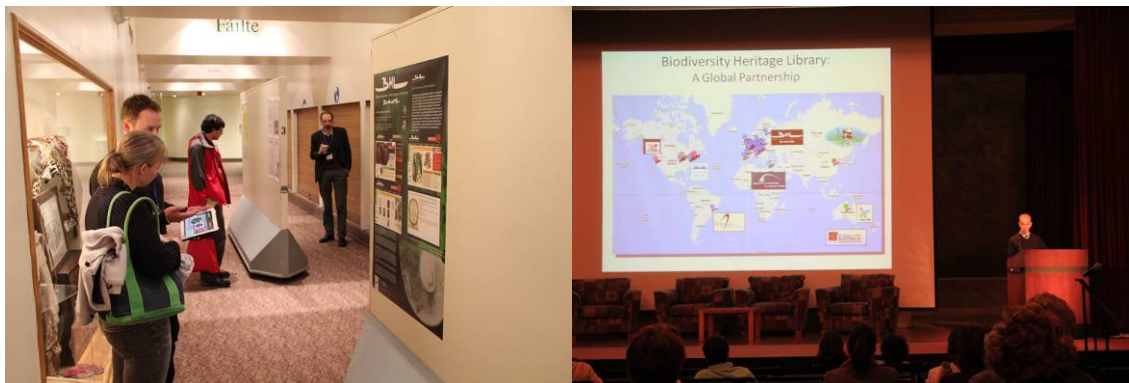
BHL-Europe featured on regional Czech radio

On 6 January 2012, the BHL-Europe project was mentioned in the talk show “Our Guest” on the regional Czech radio station Český Rozhlas Plzeň. This station covers one quarter of the Czech Republic and is also broadcast online.

5.4.5 - Represent BHL-Europe at conferences and special events.

BHL in Chicago: Life and Literature, Global BHL meeting and BHL staff meeting

The BHL community came together in Chicago for four days of meetings and the Life and Literature conference. BHL-Europe team from NHM, MfN, and NMP presented the project on three posters.



The Global BHL Planning Meeting on 13 November 2011 started with a progress report of all regional nodes of BHL present in the meeting: BHL-US/UK, BHL-Europe, BHL-China, BHL-Australia, and BHL-SciELO. After a vision discussion of what Global BHL should be, we revised the Global BHL Principles document and agreed on the setup of a Global BHL Coordinating Committee. All details including the revised principles document are available on the BHL Wiki¹⁷.

The Life and Literature conference¹⁸ was organised to set the agenda for biodiversity literature digitising and its networked environment for the next four to five years. In four panel session from 14-15 November 2011, 18 international experts gave their view on the topic. A series of posters were presented as well to contribute additional aspects. BHL-Europe prepared four posters for the conference. Breakout sessions on day 2 were designed to elaborate further on the four areas for future developments of BHL: content & connections, new collaborations, technology advancements, and educational outreach. The education track was very successful for BHL-Europe, as the Biodiversity Library Exhibition developed by NMP was identified as an excellent example of education tools. Therefore, it was concluded during the breakout session to maintain and expand the BLE in the future.

¹⁷ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/Second-Global-BHL-Planning-Meeting>

¹⁸ <http://www.lifeandliterature.org/>

BHL-Europe outcomes were also on the agenda for the staff meeting on 16 November¹⁹. Boris Jacob presented the current status of the GRIB, and Jiří Frank presented the original dissemination tool BLE. The most important aspect of the meeting, however, was the discussion on the content ingest procedure into the BHL-US portal. Currently, seven workflows are established to get content into BHL, but the ingest process through Internet Archive is favoured. That process is described in more detail on the public Wiki²⁰. During the meeting, we also got a demonstration of the Macaw tool developed by SIL²¹. Macaw was developed to collect arbitrary page-level metadata and manage the scanned pages before being send on to other systems, such as the Biodiversity Heritage Library and the Internet Archive. Based on this information, we can now start and prepare our ingest process to make BHL-Europe content accessible to Global BHL.

5.4.5 - Dissemination activities of partners

Several partners participated in various institutional or project meetings and conferences to represent BHL-Europe. The list of events can also be found on the [BHLWiki](#)²².

AIT:

AIT distributed promotion material and information on BHL Europe at the annual conference “Digitale Bibliothek” at the Graz University (24.-25.11.2011, Graz, Austria).

CSIC:

On 13 October 2011, the CSIC officially opened the exhibition ‘Nombrando Especies’ (‘Naming Species’) that includes a dedicated BHL-Europe stand with a short video that explains to a general public how digital bibliography helps the work on Biodiversity. The exhibition will stay in the MNCN until middle of 2012 and then will tour several science museums and institutions in Spain. Additionally, the BHL-Europe video was converted to flash and YouTube formats.

MfN:

Digital Strategies for Heritage (DISH), 6-9 December 2011, Rotterdam

The DISH conference²³ took place from 7-8 December 2011 in the WTC in Rotterdam, with pre- and post conference events on the 6 and 9 December. This conference brought together several hundred people from across the cultural heritage sector. In 55 sessions, a broad range of topics was covered in presentations, workshops, debates and case studies. All topics were structured in four themes: business for heritage, co-creation and crowd sourcing, institutional change, and building a new public space. BHL-Europe was significantly involved in two sessions under the business for heritage strand. Henning Scholz and Boris Jacob collaborated with Hildelies Balk and Lieke Ploeger (IMPACT) and Patricia Alkhoven (CATCHplus) on the joint workshop ‘After the brainstorm – innovative ways to sustain project results’. Sixteen participants joined the workshop and we got interesting and valuable feedback for the business development of the three projects.

It is obvious that the vision statement of a partner organisation is very different from the vision of a project. This is an interesting challenge if projects need to be sustained by organisations participating in the project. It is also obvious from the discussion in the workshop that Europeana is an important driver of business models in the digital heritage world. Digitisation and aggregation projects share the vision of Europeana and Europeana also have a strong influence on the revenue models implemented by projects. During the discussions it became clear that BHL-Europe is in a comparatively comfortable situation compared with other projects. The networking in the biodiversity domain is well developed, which makes it relatively easy to unite the

¹⁹ <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/BHL+staff+fall+meeting+2011>

²⁰ <https://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/Upload>

²¹ <http://macaw.joelrichard.com/>

²² <https://bhl.wikispaces.com/dissemination+of+project+by+partners>

²³ <http://www.dish2011.nl/>

institutions under the same vision, which also helps to identify funding options. However, project funding is just one option to sustain projects results. Permanent but dedicated staff members need to support the project staff to establish a continuous operational service.

In another session, Boris Jacob presented the collaborative nature of the BHL projects on a global scale in the business of partnerships session. The workshop and presentation and also the discussion with other participants in breaks and over dinner brought up new ideas for projects or helped shaping existing ideas for projects that should help to support the further development of BHL-Europe. DISH 2011 was a really good opportunity to get in touch with colleagues from the cultural heritage sector to think about strategies for the cultural sector in the digital world. It also was a good opportunity to promote the ideas of BHL-Europe. The strong vision of BHL, which applies to the entire “biodiversity” community as well, was acknowledged to be very important to sustain project results and generate funding successfully. This we need to further develop and promote to increase the perception of the natural history domain as part of the cultural heritage sector. It is not sufficient to just be connected with other natural history museums; we must be linked (and remain connected) with other sectors to play an important role in the larger network of cultural heritage institutions for the further strategic development of the digital world.

Anchoring Biodiversity Information: From Sherborn to the 21st century and beyond

Charles Davies Sherborn (1861-1942) was an English zoologist and provided the bibliographic foundation for zoological nomenclature with his magnum opus *Index Animalium*, an extremely important multivolume work of 9,200 pages which appeared in 11 volumes between 1902 and 1933. He spent 43 years of his life indexing nearly all nomenclaturally relevant zoological works published between 1758 and 1850 and extracted 440,000 taxonomic names for species and genera, of which 300,000 had been new. Since he missed only relatively few works and had a very low individual error rate (missing only 1-2 % of the new names in a work), many zoological disciplines continue relying on the *Index Animalium* as an important source for references. No work has equalled it since.

The symposium celebrated Sherborn's life and legacy on 28 October 2011 at the NHM London. It was organised by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), the Linnean Society of London and the Society for the History of Natural History, and supported by BHL-Europe as well. An international panel of experts on bibliography and biodiversity informatics linked the past with an active debate on the future of this important field of research. The audience in the Natural History Museum listened to lectures held by Neal Evenhuis, Gordon McOuat, Edward Dickinson, Chris Thompson, Suzanne Pilsk, Nigel Robinson, Chris Lyal, Henning Scholz, David Remsen, Daphne Fautin, Chris Freeland, Sandra Knapp, Lyubomir Penev, Rod Page, and Richard Pyle. All presentations are available online:

The talks were completed by a good number of poster presentations. BHL-Europe had three posters. In addition, Francisco Welter-Schultes presented the Ezoolo-Project (AnimalBase), one important content provider of BHL-Europe.

NHMW:

Several of the technologies and concepts which have been utilised within BHL-Europe were presented at the TDWG Conference in New Orleans. Both posters and presentations of the submissions are available on the BHL Wiki.

RBGE

RBGE helped with the English editing of BHL-Europe Newsletter No. 9 and the promotional flyer for BLE. In November, RBGE Press Office staff was provided with further information on Global BHL, including BHL, BHL-Europe, and BHL-Australia in preparation for the soft portal release, and the increase in promotional activities by partners that this will cause. It is proposed to

demonstrate BLE Spices to the public at an event in late winter 2012 to be hosted in the RBGE John Hope Gateway, and planning towards this event has been started.

RBINS:

Tine Mallaerts made practical arrangements for the hiring of an extra staff member (Nicolas Van Audenhove) who attended the BHL-Europe Brussels meeting. Both Tine and Nicolas participated in the CWG-meeting, where the possible dissemination channels (flyer, blog, Twitter, Facebook, events) were discussed. Specific social media content ideas (e.g. Spice of the Week, development news, and BLE-content) were approved.

A social media plan has been devised. Until the BHL-Europe portal is up and running, social media dissemination will focus on development news, geared towards people interested in and working on the project, mainly via Twitter and the blog. In December, the blog was revitalised by means of two posts on the Digital Preservation Summit in Hamburg and the Sherborn Symposium in London (written by Francisco Welter-Schultes, and edited/re-written for the blog by Nicolas). The decision was made to always make clear the link between the event and BHL-Europe. During a meeting at the RMCA in Tervuren on 16 December 2011, social media was officially handed over by Boris Jacob. The RMCA pr-team was also present to brainstorm on social media concepts. A Skype call with Grace and Bianca from the BHL-US team was set up on 23 December 2011 to discuss social media alignment.

RMCA:

The monthly analysis of the BHL-Europe Twitter account²⁴ has been done and discussions took place with the social media experts from BHL-US. At the end of the reporting period, the social media activities of the RMCA for BHL-Europe have been handed over to the new appointed responsible (Nicolas Van Audenhove) at RBINS.

UGOE:

Francisco Welter-Schultes participated at the Digital Preservation Summit (19-20 October 2011) in Hamburg and wrote a report for the BHL-Europe Newsletter. He also participated at the Sherborn Meeting in London (28 October 2011) and presented a poster on Sherborn's impact on zoological nomenclature. He also wrote a report about that for the BHL-Europe Newsletter. Additionally, he wrote an article for the BHL-Europe Newsletter on the digitised content at BHL, in which he analysed which kind of literature and how many of the needed titles are present, and which ones are still missing. He also contributed a text for the BHL Blog. In another article for the BHL-Europe Newsletter, he analysed the question why and to which extent BHL-Europe is primarily a source for taxonomists and to a much lower extent for the broad public, one of the outstanding results of the BHL/BHL-Europe survey in 2010. The main result was that the broad public is much less interested than taxonomists in literature published more than 100 years ago, and that for addressing a broader public more recent literature would have to be presented. This is currently not possible due to copyright restrictions. His conclusion was that more efforts from EU side are necessary to overcome legal copyright restrictions for bio scientific publications in Europe.

5.5 - Plan and organise user evaluation activities

An important functionality testing was organised by Jiří Frank in period of two weeks in January. The testing included eight internal testers from five partner institutions. The portal functionalities were evaluated using GitHub. All the recorded bugs were recorded and improved.

To date of writing, external user testing is in preparation phase. The user testing groups are prepared, and several groups are selected (done in Edinburgh, Prague or Berlin); a final decision will be taken during the Helsinki project meeting, as well as the fixation of the timeline.

²⁴ <http://twitter.com/#!/bhleurope>

List of Events & Meetings

Below is a list of contractual meetings and workshops of members of the BHL-Europe consortium to discuss and work on various aspects of the project.

Name	Location	Start Date	End Date
BHL-Europe Technical Workshop	Prague, Czech Republic	2/11/2011	5/11/2011
BHL-Europe Content Provider and Technical Meeting	Brussels, Belgium	29/11/2011	2/12/2011

Below is a list of conferences and events attended by members of the BHL-Europe consortium in order to disseminate the project to the various audiences or to collect important information for the progress of the project.

Partner	Title	Start date	End date	Location	Level of dissemination
RMCA	Info-day technology enhanced learning for ICT Call 8	5/10/2011	5/10/2011	Luxembourg	Talk
RMCA	Meeting with EU National Contact point of the Walloon region specialised in SME participation to EU projects	11/10/2011	11/10/2011	Tervuren, Belgium	Presentation
BGBM, RMCA	TDWG 2011 Annual Conference	15/10/2011	21/10/2011	New Orleans, USA	Talk, Posters
MfN, NHM, UGOE	Anchoring Biodiversity Information: From Sherborn to the 21 st century and beyond	28/10/2011	28/10/2011	London, UK	Presentation, Talk, Poster
RMCA	Meeting with RMCA educational services	7/11/2011	7/11/2011	Tervuren, Belgium	Presentation
RMCA	Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union Name of event: Biodiversity and Security	9/11/2011	9/11/2011	Brussels, Belgium	Talk
MfN, RMCA	Global BHL meeting	13/11/2011	13/11/2011	Chicago, USA	Talk, Discussion
MfN, RMCA	Life and Literature	14/11/2011	15/11/2011	Chicago, USA	Posters
RMCA	Info-day digital preservation and access to cultural information for ICT Call 9	15/11/2011	15/11/2011	Luxembourg	Presentation, talk

RMCA	JRS African Biodiversity Literature Digitization Workshop	16.11.2011	16.11.2011	Chicago, USA	Discussion
RMCA	Food and Agriculture	21/11/2011	21/11/2011	Tervuren, Belgium	Talk
AIT	Digitale Bibliothek	24/11/2011	25/11/2011	Graz, Austria	Flyer
RMCA	CCPA Annual General Meeting	6/12/2011	6/12/2011	Rotterdam, The Netherlands	Talk
MfN, RMCA	Digital Strategies for Heritage - DISH	7/12/2011	8/12/2011	Rotterdam, The Netherlands	Workshop, Talk
RMCA	Natural Europe Review Meeting	9/12/2011	9/12/2011	/	Discussion
RMCA	EUBON project preparation meeting	20/12/2011	21/12/2011	Berlin, Germany	Talk

4 Deliverables

These deliverables were submitted in M30 (December):

D1.8	Progress report	M30	M30, December 11
D3.8	Sustainability policy for continuation of BHL Europe services e.g. hosting, future development, helpdesk provision for service users/content providers, etc.	M30	M30, December 11

5 Schedule status/problems/issues/deviations

Risk & issues

The most important risk we are facing is related to the delay with the content ingest. Everybody is working hard and we have the right people with the right skillset to complete the work. However, it is a very complex process. Currently (mid February 2012), the Pre-Ingest tool is working and we are producing the ingest packages we need. However, the ingest process takes time to process all content available on our servers. Therefore, the risk and issues described in D1.8 last fall still need to be considered and we are working on the mitigation of these risks very hard.

6 Work planned

The work planned for the next phase is explained in more detail in Annex 1 (DoW).

7 Products to be completed in the next phase

35	D5.9 Second user evaluation report
36	D1.9 Business plan for long-term sustainability
37	D1.10 Implementation of results of BHL-Europe in other projects
38	D1.11 Progress Report 6 and Final Report including Financial Statement
39	D1.12 Final Report
40	D2.8 Content analysis and management status report 3 (metadata, page numbers, content providers)
41	D2.9 Delivery of the final revised best practice guidelines and standards
42	D3.9 Live BHL-Europe system, with distributed storage and management and appropriate tools for the continued development of services and ingress of multilingual content
43	D5.10 BHL-Europe multimedia presentation, final version
44	D5.11 Illustrated book on best practice guidelines and standards for the public