

Introduction:

Biodiversity comprehends the totality and variability of organisms, their morphology and genetics, life history and habitats, and geographical ranges. Biodiversity is usually used to refer to biological diversity at three levels: genetics, species, and ecology. The loss of biodiversity has a lot of concerns and it considers a major issue of our life. The loss of biodiversity has a great impact on our needs for water (aqua), food, fuel, and animal feed. Therefore, it becomes a necessity to recognize the acceleration loss of Biodiversity, which results in a set of initiatives, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)¹, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity (IPB)², etc. These initiatives require scientific research into primary biological, chemical, and physical processes to develop predictive models and inform strategic decisions. To achieve these goals, reliable and constant biodiversity data should be made available in a consistence way. Biodiversity is an outstanding domain that deals with heterogeneous datasets and concepts generated from a large number of disciplines in order to build up a coherent picture of the extend a path of life on the earth. To deal with these heterogeneous datasets, a set of data management techniques should be applied. In general, data management can be defined as the development and execution of architectures, polices, particulars, and procedures that properly manage the full data lifecycle needs of an enterprise.

The BioDialog Project:

The BioDialog Project is an Intercultural Dialog through Biodiversity Informatics. It is under the DAAD “Hochschudialog mit der islamichen Welt” program. The project will be carried out by four different institutes from three different countries focusing on the discussion of methods and techniques that are used in managing biodiversity data.

The German partner will be the Heinz-Nixdorf Professur für verteilte Information systems at Jena University, Germany headed by Prof. Dr. Birgitta König-Ries. The group provides biodiversity informatics expertise in a number of national collaborative projects including the DFG Research Centre “German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)”, and CRC AquaDiva. The group also has

experience in teaching biodiversity informatics and related topics (e.g. management of research data) on the undergraduate and graduate level. Computer science and engineering departments from three different universities (Assiut University and Ain Shams University, Egypt and Tunisia) will be the other partners of the project. The project attempts to exploit knowledge and expertise from the König-Ries group, specifically in biodiversity informatics and to foster an intercultural dialog on biodiversity and biodiversity informatics.

Assiut University (main partner) is represented by the Faculty of Computers & Information and other faculties will be participating in the future as the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering. Ain Shams University will be represented by the Faculty of Computers & Information other faculties will be participating as the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering. Tunisia is represented by the Higher Institute of Computer Science and Multimedia, Sfax University.

The BioDialog Project:

- Scientific exchange, founded on regional expertise which allows understanding biodiversity and biodiversity informatics practices in their specific local context.
- Establish the new biodiversity informatics subject at the partner universities and to include it in teaching for both under and postgraduate students.
- Contribute the development of a knowledge-based society.

Objectives of Assiut Workshop:

- Awareness of biodiversity in Egypt and all over the world.
- Awareness of biodiversity informatics.
- Scientific exchange of expertise and young researchers.
- Discussions of what we reached until this moment.

The Project Workshop Invitation

DAAD  **Hochschuldialog mit der islamischen Welt** **BioDialog**   

Under the Auspices of
Prof. Dr. Ahmed Abdo Geies
Acting Assiut University President
Faculty of Computers & Information,
Assiut University inviting you to attend

The International WORKSHOP on BIODIALOG

Under the DAAD framework
“Hochschuldialog mit der islamischen Welt”
November 24- 26, 2015

In cooperation with Fredrich- Schiller University, Germany,
Ain Shams University, Egypt, Sfax University, Tunisia

Project Director Prof. Birgitta König-Ries Faculty Dean Fredrich- Schiller University	Project Coordinator Dr. Alsayed Algergawy Fredrich- Schiller University	Workshop Director Prof. Adel AbuAlmagd Faculty Dean Assiut University	Workshop Coordinator Dr. Taysir Hassan Vice Dean for Post Graduate & Research Assiut University PI (Main Partner)
Dr. Ibrahim Fathy MIS Director, High Supreme Coucil AinShams University PI		Dr. Bassam Bouaziz Sfax University PI	