



REPORT

Taxonomic training & access to collections in Belgium

NOTICE

The present questionnaire must arrive with the Belgian National Focal Point to the Global Taxonomy Initiative within one month of the official closure of the capacity building visits. Electronic submission on the general e-mail address of the Belgian GTI NFP (cbd-gti@naturalsciences.be) is strongly encouraged. If electronic submission should however be impossible, paper copies may be sent by fax or ordinary mail. The Belgian GTI NFP will acknowledge receipt of all project reports.

If grantees have **relevant pictures** to illustrate their capacity building visit, these may be annexed to the report. The Belgian National Focal Point might use some of these pictures in one of its reporting activities, but only after the copyright holder has given his permission.

Contact and further information

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PART I – CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Family name:	NSENGIMANA
First name(s):	Venuste
Nationality:	Rwandese
Date of arrival and departure in / from Belgium	01/09/2017 – 28/10/2017
Number of training days:	28 days
Type of visit	Mainly training in taxonomy and collection management
Location of training:	Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels

PART II - GENERAL INFORMATION

Describe concisely how you have learned about the Belgian GTI Project	I learned about the Belgian GTI Project through internet, when I was searching the taxonomy of ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)
Describe concisely how you have learned about this specific call for proposals	I learned about the call through internet and information sharing from the Centre of Excellence in Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management based in the University of Rwanda
Describe concisely why you needed capacity building in taxonomy and collection management	Currently there is a need for biodiversity conservation, but it is really hard to conserve without enough information biodiversity to be conserved. Taxonomy solves this challenge and contribute to the understanding of biodiversity for a better and improved conservation. Collection management reinforce taxonomy as they serve as reference.
Describe concisely what support (e.g. training, access to collections,...) you have received and how this training can be related to taxonomy and /or collection management	I have got a support in the taxonomy of ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). Some species specimens from Rwanda have been identified based on dichotomous keys, and verified by comparing results to conserved specimens in collection.
Describe concisely how your gained capacity will help you in your professional duties	Gained capacity will help me in entomological research, especially taxonomy of ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), and the training of other researchers in the domain of the taxonomy of insects related to my area of research.
Describe concisely how your gained capacity will be implemented in your institution	Gained capacity will be implemented through research, publication, seminars and workshops in the centre of excellence for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management and for the staff of the University of Rwanda
Describe concisely what other support you eventually would need	I need to do the digitalization of identified specimens and genetic identification in order to have reference samples in Belgium museum of natural resources, in Rwanda and to confirm the origin of identified specimens
Describe concisely what infrastructural and human resources you and your institution eventually still need to become fully functional	I and my institution we need a well skilled person (Dr. Wouter) to train us in taxonomy of insects, especially ants. We need some materials such as binoculars to be used in identification. I, particularly need another training for a deep identification of ants, digitization and genetic identification

<p>Describe concisely how you think the Belgian GTI National Focal Point could further construct capacity for you and your institution</p>	<p>I shall be grateful if the Belgian GTI National Focal Point could give me another chance to come to Belgium to complete the digitization and genetic identification. I also wish that a partnership between the University of Rwanda through the Centre of Excellence in Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources management and the Belgian GTI National Focal Point might be established.</p>
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PART III – TAXON SPECIFIC INFORMATION

What is your taxon of interest	My taxon of interest is ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)
Describe concisely how you intend to make your taxonomic data available to other colleagues	My taxonomic data shall be available to other colleagues through publication, seminar and workshops. A copy shall be maintained in the Royal Belgian Museum of Natural Sciences and in the Centre of Excellence for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management, University of Rwanda.
Describe how your taxonomic work helps improving the status of biodiversity in your country	Taxonomy will indicate ant species with special consideration for conservation due to their status such as abundance and composition. It will also provide basic understanding about the components of ant biodiversity which is necessary for effective <u>decision-making about conservation due to their ecological</u>
Describe how your project could help reduce poverty in your country	The project will contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services provided by terrestrial ecosystems, which are the foundation and essence of all animals and plants. Maintaining terrestrial ants shall improve soil quality and hence agricultural productivity. This results in food availability and monetary income generation. Maintaining terrestrial ants will also improve water quality and air which are essential for human health