

## LinBi project kick-off in February 2019 in Berlin

The EU-funded Linking Biodiversity and Culture Information project – LinBi for short – began its work at the beginning of February with a kick-off meeting in Berlin. LinBi focuses upon Europe's biodiversity content, which reflects the enormous variety of life on earth. This variety is depicted in books, illustrations, photographs, sound recordings and video, and is usually described by scientific terms. These terms are understood by experts but often pose a barrier to use by non-experts. This leads to low discoverability of the content, and to reduced exploitation and re-use.

To help overcome this barrier, LinBi will enable the general public to access research material without having specialist knowledge. How will LinBi do this? The project will create an enrichment platform to link information objects using existing and new high-level vocabularies, enabling the connection of Europe's biodiversity material with other related content. All data will subsequently be processed by the OpenUp! Natural History Aggregator for delivery to Europeana.

By introducing existing research material to new users including students, nature enthusiasts, broadcasters, politicians, industry, SMEs and education providers, LinBi takes an important step in providing access to biodiversity content for new user communities.

LinBi partners are Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (RBB, Germany), Angewandte Informationstechnik Forschungsgesellschaft (AIT, Austria), Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC, Spain), Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (NHM, Austria) and Plantentuin Meise (APM, Belgium).

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