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**Call for Expression of Interest (EoI)**

**to participate in the TETTRIs-Next Consortium**

HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-03

**Strengthening taxonomic approaches for biodiversity (Area A)**

*Please download this template and fill in the text for each of the following sections (1-8).* ***The maximum length for this proposal is two (2) A4 pages****. You can delete all introductory text guidelines to save space.*For questions, you may contact us at: [tettris\_next\_core@cetaf.simplelists.com](mailto:tettris_next_core@cetaf.simplelists.com).

1. **Name of the organisation and country of establishment** - National Natural History Collections, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
2. **PIC number -** 999975038

*The PIC number of the organisation from the European Commission Participant Portal.*

1. **Names, contact details and experience of the individual(s) to be involved in the proposal development***Only content-wise (add/delete rows as needed)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Name* | *Position* | *Contact Email* | *Experience* |
| *Prof. Gila Kahila Bar-Gal* | *Head of NNHC, HUJ,*  *CETAF representative.*  *Academic curator of the wildlife Cryobank* | [*gila.kahila@mail.huji.ac.il*](mailto:gila.kahila@mail.huji.ac.il) | *Teaching courses*  *and workshops on taxonomy, biogeography and conservation biology. Engaged and head of the advisory board of the National israeli biodiversity curation center to advance research, accesibility and conservation of biodiversity.* |
| *Dr. Efrat Gavish-Regev* | *Scientific manager of Arachnida and NNHC,*  *HUJ coordinator.* | *efrat.gavish-regev@mail.huji.ac.il* | *Teaching courses*  *and workshops on taxonomy*  *and monitoring, Engaged in National monitoring schemes and Citizen Science projects* |
| *Dr. Eyal Ben-Hur* | *Scientific manager of Herbarium and NNHC,*  *HUJ digitization and database manager.* | *eyal.ben-hur@mail.huji.ac.il* | *Manager of the* [*BioGIS*](https://biogis.huji.ac.il/) *project* |

1. **Content Contributions**
   1. Which **tasks or activities** within Work Packages (WPs) is your organisation prepared to lead and/or contribute to? *Please list all the activities you would like to contribute to. Are there any other relevant activities you would like to propose?.*
   2. Which are the expected **outcomes** you foresee producing by developing those tasks and activities? *Please indicate the outcomes linked to the activities listed above in 4.a).*
   3. Which is the **impact and the innovation** you intend to produce with the development of those activities and the achievement of the expected outcomes?*Please highlight the innovative dimensions of your activities and the way those activities will impact. Table 1 (4 a-c)*

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| *Contribution to WPs #* | *Contribution suggested (4a)* | *Expected Outcomes (4b)* | *Impact & Innovation (4c)* |
| *WP2 -* *Expertise & services* | *Dr. Eyal Ben-Hur is the NNHC, HUJ digitization and database manager*  *Manager of the Israel Biodiversity Information System ([BioGIS](https://biogis.huji.ac.il/)), and hosting the Israeli GBIF IPT.*  *Aims to further strengthen the interconnection between parallel biodiversity systems, and taxonomic authorities to Israel's biodiversity data* | *1) Develop more sophisticated methods for seamlessly curating the taxonomic backbone through a well-defined, automated pipeline*  *2) Comprehensive data aggregation: consolidate observational and collection data spanning all taxonomic groups*  *3) Offer a user-friendly interface that facilitates data exploration, analysis, and export in common formats* | *1) Elevating the quality, interoperability, and reliability of biodiversity data.*  *2) Providing intuitive tools that enable policymakers, researchers, and citizen scientists to interact with a unified dataset effortlessly* |
| *WP5 - Training & Education* | *Prof. Kahila Bar-Gal is teaching molecular methods used for phylogeny (including ancient DNA), and Dr. Gavish-Regev is teaching Biological Systematics from theory to practice.*  *They wish to build a course to enhance taxonomists capacities and contribute to integrative, well established taxonomy practice.* | *1) Develop a* ***practical*** *course for* ***Integrative Taxonomy*** *aimed at taxonomist, developing their toolkit to enhance the integration of molecular methods in species descriptions, revisions and hypothesis testing for species limits.*  *2) Training taxonomists in molecular methods, to increase their impact, and obtain more robust classifications.* | *1) Direct capacity -building for integrative taxonomy.*  *2) Practical hands-on course to encourage taxonomists to add molecular tools to their research.*  *3) This course could be thought as part of DEST and CETAF.* |
| *WP8 - Validation in the field* | *Protocols establishment in field DNA sequencing using MinION nanopore sequencer for high resolution identification species, and connect it to current taxonomy and tissue sampling for collections* | *1) Creating "Atlas" of genomic data from field monitoring to enhance species identification and biodiversity discovery.*  *2)Protocol for reliable field identification and monitoring.*  *3) Protocols for tissue collection.* | *1) First stage is to establish an "Atlas" for comparisons - this stage will enhance taxonomic work.*  *2) The use of these methods under an accepted protocol will enhance the identification of cryptic species in general, and in particular the field identification of arthropods.* |

1. **Resources committed**
   1. Briefly justify (e.g. through participation in other current or previous projects, dedicated departments and research groups) the level of **expertise and experience** of your organisation in relation to the work you indicated above you can undertake

*An active relatively new member of CETAF, the NNHC-HUJI has participated in international projects such as DiSSCo, Synthesis, and Mobilise (COST action). The university’s natural history collections represent a unique collection of the southern Levant, a continental corridor between Africa, Asia, and Europe (a biodiversity hotspot), together with experts and experience in research and databases to greatly contribute to TETTRIs Next. The NNHC has a long history of running national projects at any given time. Hence, we believe that we meet the checklist requirements to participate and contribute to TETTRI’s next.*

* 1. What is the level of expected **in-kind contribution** to the project expected from your organisation?

*Manpower and infrastructure - The time invested by our experts in the project.*

* 1. List the individuals who will be **involved in the project** and briefly explain their expertise in relation to the content of the bid and their participation in other EU projects.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Name* | *Activity* | *Potential Role* | *Linked Expertise* |
| *Dr. Eyal Ben-Hur* | *Managing biodiversity information systems* | *Contribute to WP2, establishing a pipeline for taxonomic curation* | *Manager of the Israel Biodiversity Information System ([BioGIS](https://biogis.huji.ac.il/)), develops and implements digitization methods in NNHC, HUJ* |
| *Prof. Gila Kahila Bar-Gal* | *Systematics, Integrative Taxonomy, Conservation genetics, Education* | *Contribute to tasks in WP5, and WP8 establish an Integrative Taxonomy Course and protocols for monitoring DNA and field identification.* | *Director of the NNHC-HUJI, Curator of the wildlife Cryobank, Integrates molecular methods in species descriptions and population genetics.* |
| *Dr. Efrat Gavish-Regev* | *Systematics, Integrative Taxonomy, Citizen Science, Monitoring, Education* | *Contribute to tasks in WP5, and WP8 establish an Integrative Taxonomy Course and protocols for monitoring DNA and field identification.* | *Collection manager of Arachnida, experienced in National Monitoring Schemes, Integrates molecular methods in species descriptions and revisions.* |
| *Dr. Boaz Shacham* | *Taxonomy, Citizen Science, Monitoring, Education* | *Contribute to tasks in WP5, and WP8.* | *Collection manager of Amphibia and Reptilia* |
| *Dr. Netta Shamir-Weller* | *Biodiversity, Monitoring, Education* | *Contribute to tasks in WP5, and WP8.* | *Postdoc.* |
| *Mss. Malca Boni* | *Database manager and software developer* | *Contribute to WP2, implement scripted algorithms.* | *Programmer.* |

1. **Is there any other organization, outside the CETAF community, that you consider relevant and complementary to the activities you may develop under one or several WPs, or in any other WP? NO?.**

*Yes. In Israel: the Israel Nature and Park Authority, The Ministry of Environment, The Ministry of Agriculture, and The Jewish National Fund. In Europe: Research institutes and other stakeholders are interested in the Mediterranean biodiversity in Europe.*

1. **Does your organisation intend to participate in other proposals towards this same Topic? If yes, which one, and in what capacity?**

Most probably no. But, as an academic institute, every researcher can apply.