INVITATION

Be.DiSSCo-FED
Networking event
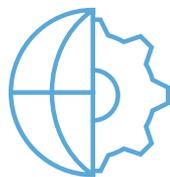
December 20th 2024

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

29 rue Vautier - 1000 Brussels, Belgium

belspo

DiSSCO BELGIUM

ESFRI FED

natural sciences .be

AFRICA museum

.be Biodiversity.be

Meise Botanic Garden

CETAF

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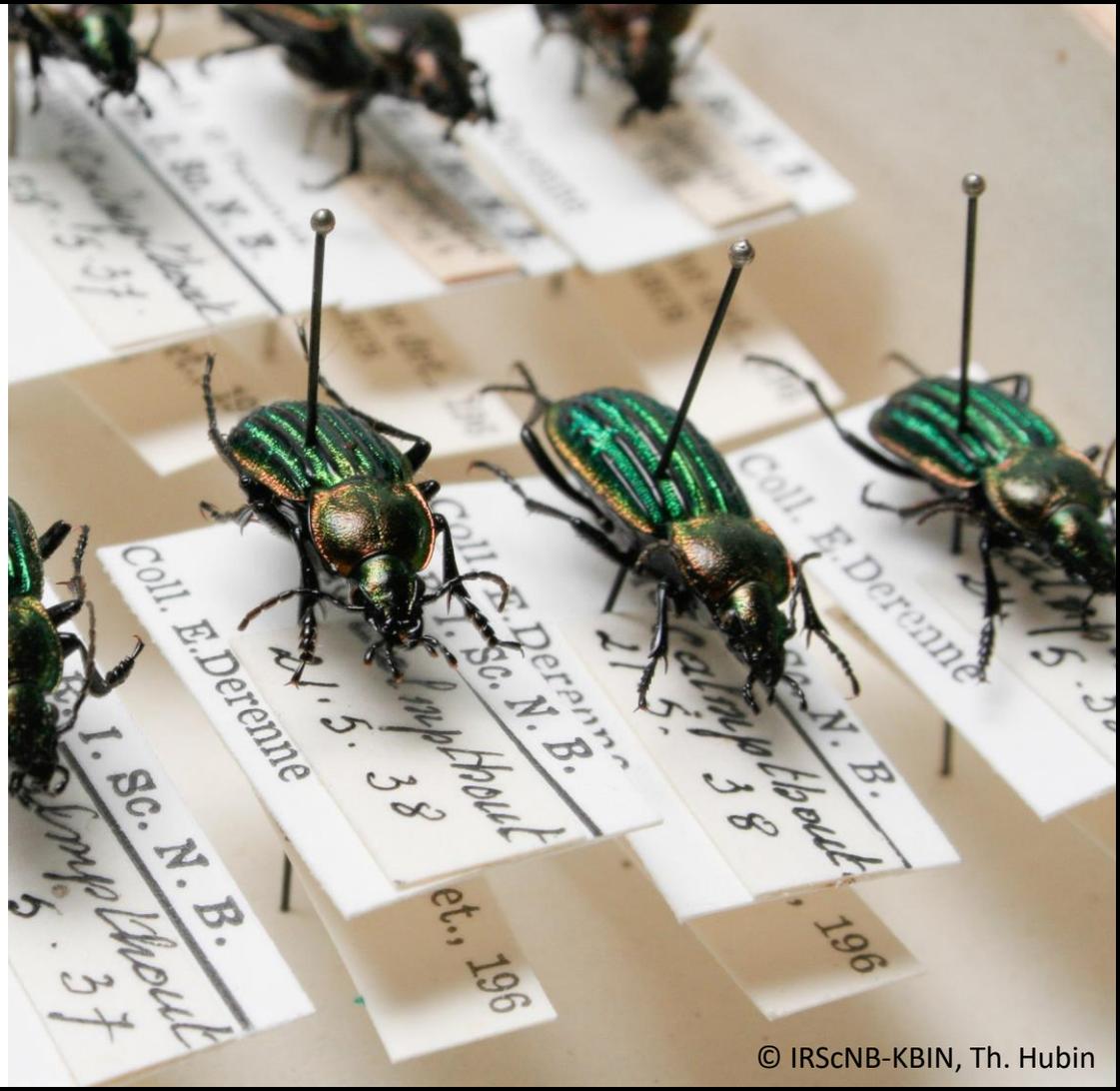
Context

Be.DiSSCo-FED is the federal contribution to the establishment of a strong Belgian node in the pan-european DiSSCo research infrastructure. It brings together directly or indirectly all the current Belgian partners of DiSSCo. It focuses on:

- *Governance:* Federation of the Institutions and their collections as a DiSSCo National Node.

- *Services:* Development and use of the *Specialization Tool* and the *Collection Registry* to identify and valorize collection and institutions assets.

- *Capacity Building:* Train researchers on collection management tools and specimen digitization techniques. Engage citizen scientists in the expansion and the documentation of natural history collections*.*

Objective of the event

Provide insights and updates on DiSSCo Research Infrastructure & DiSSCo Belgium, give the floor to digitized collections managers and users, learn how to contribute and how to benefit from the infrastructure.
Registration link: REGISTER HERE

Agenda

09:30 – 11:30: Morning session for Be.DiSSCo-Fed partners
12:00 – 13:00: Registration and welcome lunch
13:00 – 14:05: Session 1/ DiSSCo from EU to Belgium
14:05 – 14:35: Session 2/ Panel Discussion
Coffee Break
15:00 – 15:30: Session 3/ From institutions to EU
16:00 – 17:30: Session 4/ Networking Coffee with Hands-on session
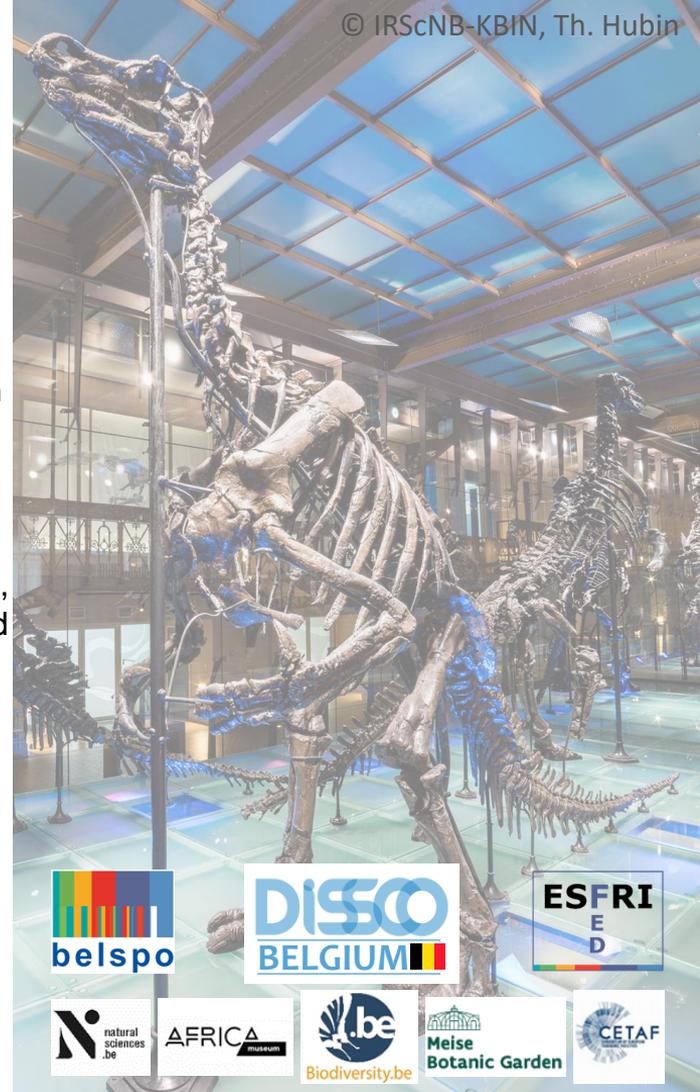
Session 1/ DiSSCo from EU to Belgium

13:00: **Welcome** by Patrick Semal, Head of Heritage Service, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences & Laurent Ghys, BELSPO

13:15: **DiSSCo RI update** by Dimitris Koureas, DiSSCo Executive Director, Naturalis (NL)

13:30: **DiSSCo Belgian National Node** by Serge Scory, RBINS

13:45: **DiSSCo Flanders update** by Maarten Trekels, Meise BG **& DiSSCo Wallonie-Bruxelles update** by Patricia Mergen, Meise BG /Africamuseum

Session 2/ Panel Discussion

14:05 **–** 14:35: **Digitization methods: Developers and Users feedback**

Moderators Gaël Lymer & Carole Paleco, RBINS
Panellists
• Larissa Smirnova, Africamuseum
• Christophe Mallet, RBINS
• André Heughebaert, Belgian Biodiversity Platform
• Ann Bogaerts, Meise BG
• Aurore Mathys, RBINS/Africamuseum

Coffee break (25 min, back at 15:00)
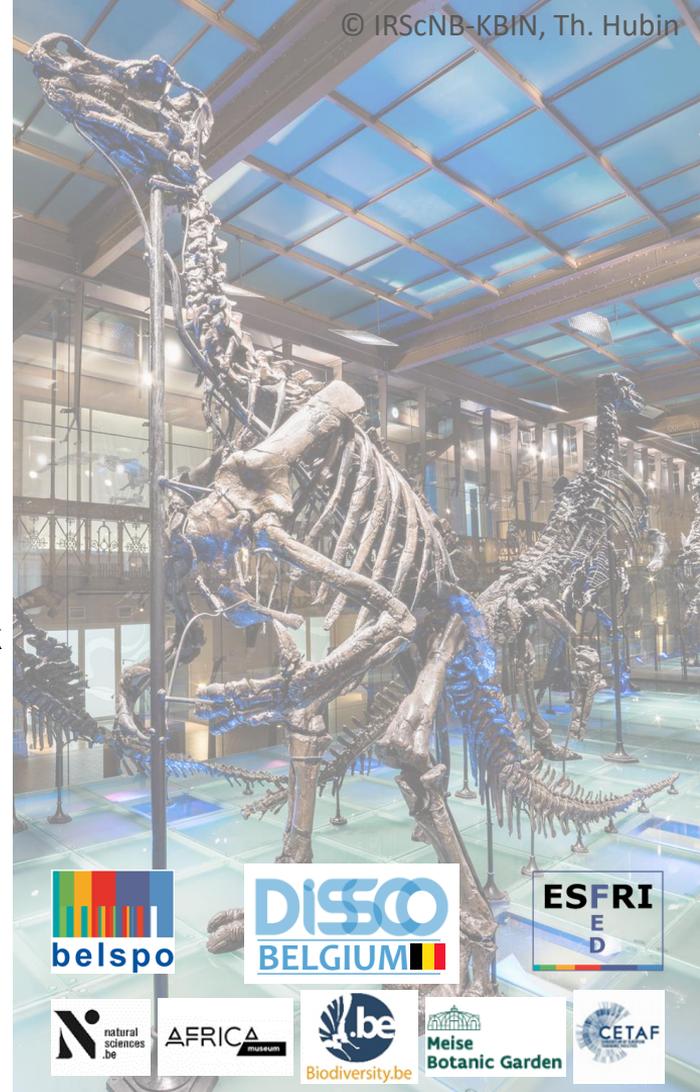
Session 3/ From institutions to EU

15:00: **Collection Registry & Specialization Tool** by Laura Tilley, CETAF

15:15: **Update on EC Research Infrastructures policy** by Agnès Robin, Research Infrastructures Policy, European Commission, DG R&I.

15:30: Q&A

15:40: Conclusions of the day

Session 4/ Networking Coffee with Hands-on session

16:00 -17:30:**Tools & Low-cost digitization methods demonstrations**

- Digitization of botanic collections, Laurent Gohy (ULiège)

- Digitization at container-level, Eliot Feschner (RBINS)

- AI applied to drawer-level imaging, Grégoire Noël (ULiège)

- 2D+ digitization of specimens, Jonathan Brecko (RBINS & Africamuseum)

- 3D digitization of specimens, Yann Pollet (RBINS), Aurore Mathys (RBINS & Africamuseum) and Arnaud Henrard (Africamuseum)

- Digitization of microscopic slides, Camille Locatelli (RBINS)

- Crowdsourcing with Doedat, Larissa Smirnova (Africamuseum) & Ann Bogaerts (Meise BG)