



Belgian National Focal Point to the  
Global Taxonomy Initiative

With the support of  
**THE BELGIAN**  
**DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION** 

# 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](mailto: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:	Do Manh
First name(s):	Cuong
Nationality:	Vietnam
Date of arrival and departure in / from Belgium	19 Nov – 17 Dec 2016
Number of training days:	20
Type of visit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainly training in taxonomy and collection management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainly access to collections <input type="checkbox"/> Other, <i>specify</i>
Location of training:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren <input type="checkbox"/> Botanic Garden of Meise <input type="checkbox"/> Other, <i>specify</i>

## PART II - GENERAL INFORMATION

Describe concisely how you have learned about the Belgian GTI Project	I knew about Belgian GTI from my fellow from Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Mr. Alain Drumont as well as via the website of RBINS.
Describe concisely how you have learned about this specific call for proposals	I learned about the specific call for proposals via website of RBINS
Describe concisely why you needed capacity building in taxonomy and collection management	I am working as a taxonomist in Vietnam, a country with high diversity of insect fauna (fauna and flora in general). I am also a researcher in Vietnam National Museum of Nature, working on Prioninae, Rutelini and Dragonfly. Understand about taxonomy and collection management help me very much to understand more about fauna of my country and it also can help our museum/zoology collection running better.

<p>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</p>	<p>Based on the collection of Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, I accessed many specimens that I had never seen before; this helped me have an overview on Prioninae of Vietnamese fauna. Working directly with my fellow in the RBINS, Mr. Alain Drumont, we have a chance to exchange ideas and opinions of science. I also learned very much from him about taxonomy of Prioninae not only from Vietnam but also related areas. Prioninae in RBINS as well as study loan types materials from Paris, London, America... made my study much easier and helped me very much, the results of my studies will be published in the future.</p> <p>Event with a small group as Prioninae, I learned that after more than 150 years, we have not understood enough about the fauna event in Vietnam (with only about known 50 species, the number of this insect group must be more than that).</p> <p>Understanding the system in RBINS will help me know how to work with our Zoology Collection in Vietnam.</p> <p>Besides, I developed an idea on evolution of Rutelini with their distribution around the world as studying materials of this tribe in the collection of RBINS as studying materials from Africa. The theory is developing and related to my study of dragonfly (accessing the Seylys's collection in RBINS) and botany in the past. Studying collection in RBINS is not only for taxonomy works but also helps to understand very much about biodiversity and conservation in our tropical country.</p> <p>I found that I learned much more than I had expected, GTI time in RBINS helped me opened many directions of studying in the future.</p>
<p>Describe concisely how your gained capacity will help you in your professional duties</p>	<p>The gained capacity helped me know about my directions on my study of Prioninae both taxonomy and biodiversity conservation.</p>
<p>Describe concisely how your gained capacity will be implemented in your institution</p>	<p>Understanding system of collection management helped learned about how to accessing and building our zoology collection and our museum, in Vietnam.</p>
<p>Describe concisely what other support you eventually would need</p>	<p>GTI Programme supported me some insect pins that I need for the collection in Vietnam.</p>
<p>Describe concisely what infrastructural and human resources you and your institution eventually still need to become fully functional</p>	<p>In Vietnam, we lack taxonomists who can understand very well about fauna and flora of the country. Insect fauna in Vietnam is extremely diversity with many unknown species that being slowly described every year. Being a taxonomist, we lacking both information (literature) and good science collection for understand about our rich fauna. In other side, deforesting and reducing of biodiversity are now happening with high rate in Vietnam. Hence supporting taxonomist and train them about collection management are the most important steps of conservation and protecting biodiversity in Vietnam.</p>

<p>Describe concisely how you think the Belgian GTI National Focal Point could further construct capacity for you and your institution</p>	<p>In the last trip, I just accessed a part of group including genera: <i>Hystatoderes</i>, <i>Prionus</i>, <i>Aegolipton</i>. It seems that I have not access enough all other taxa that needed to be studied in detail. And after the trip to Belgium this year, I must change some directions (collecting methodology, study site, collecting time...) for getting more materials of next study. Some taxa as <i>Hystatoderes weissii</i> only known with a single female since it be described should also considering to be add to Threaten species list if we can be sure about its habitat already been destroyed....</p>
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### PART III – TAXON SPECIFIC INFORMATION

What is your taxon of interest	Prioninae, Rutelini, Dragonfly
Describe concisely how you intend to make your taxonomic data available to other colleagues	Our studies will be published on international journals
Describe how your taxonomic work helps improving the status of biodiversity in your country	<p>Understand taxonomic information of the fauna is the first step of all conservation, study biodiversity and ecology works. Fixing status of some taxa that described in the past sometime help our government change the strategies in conservation. The case of <i>Hystatoderes weissi</i> (that was misidentified as <i>H. vitalisi</i>, a more common species) is a very good example about a threaten species should be consider upgraded level of population status if we can find that their habitat has been destroyed: a single record female in more than 100 years and now the species only with a specimen in Paris Museum of Nature History. Insects are normally found with large number of individual but the case of <i>H. weissi</i> is quite rare and unusual.</p>
Describe how your project could help reduce poverty in your country	<p>Our publications on biodiversity of Prioninae (or insects) from Vietnam will be announcement to all nature lovers around the world. Prioninae is a high attractive insect group and our studying will show the rich fauna of the country. The information will help to eco tourist system in Vietnam to be more developed and with profit from insect watchers, local people will again keeping and protecting their habitats in our country. Information of rich biodiversity in Vietnam also help our education system very much and our young generations can understand that we have much more work to do to protect the beauty of the nature in our country. The result of our study is also the reason to building a good insect collection in Vietnam with both education and science purposes.</p>