Matrosov Institute for System Dynamics and Control Theory of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
Siberian Institute of Plant Physiology and Biochemistry of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
V.B. Sochava Institute of Geography of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
Institute of Mathematical Problems of Biology RAS – the Branch of the Keldysh Institute of Applied Mathematics of the Russian Academy of Sciences

with the support of GBIF: the Global Biodiversity Information Facility

will arrange an
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
“INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN THE RESEARCH OF BIODIVERSITY”

Respected colleagues,
We are pleased to invite you to participate in the International Conference “Information Technologies in the Research of Biodiversity” [http://bit.icc.ru], which will take place on September 11–14, 2018 (followed by the master class on data publishing skills on September 15–19) in Irkutsk, Russia at Matrosov Institute for System Dynamics and Control Theory of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences. Integration of modern information technologies and classical methods of biodiversity research enables reaching new levels of knowledge acquisition. New demands on researchers require coordination, standardization and unification of data and methods.

The conference includes plenary and sectional reports, round tables, and master classes on the publication of biodiversity data for use in basic and applied research to provide you with principles for working with existing biodiversity information systems.

Those interested in participating can register electronically via [http://bit.icc.ru].

**Goals**

1. Coordination of research interactions to digitize, standardize and publish data on biodiversity in Russia and other countries, as well as promoting and spreading modern international principles, resources and tools for working with biological data.
2. Consideration of modern principles for creating and integrating local and regional information system projects for biodiversity research in Russia and other countries.
3. Creation of infrastructures for implementing technological and information support to organizations seeking to exchange data and data analysis methods.
4. Development of specialized software for handling biodiversity research tasks.
5. Networking and exchange of experience, advanced technologies and trends in the field of distributed databases and data processing.
Conference sections

2. Information and analytical systems on biodiversity. Virtual natural history collections.
4. Theoretical fundamentals and organization technologies of the information and telecommunications infrastructures. Standards for describing digital data, processing services, etc.
5. Methods, models, software systems and Web services for the analysis of biodiversity data.
6. Application of remote methods in vegetation mapping and biodiversity research.

The working languages of the conference are Russian and English. Participants will be given 20 minutes for a report in the plenary session and 15 minutes for a sectional session report. Poster session will be 2 hours long.

Important dates

January 20, 2018 – beginning of electronic registration.
March 1, 2018 – second information letter with information on preparation of extended abstracts, hotels and registration fee.
May 1, 2018 – electronic registration closed and abstracts accepted.
August 30, 2018 – conference program online, arrival info.
September 11–14, 2018 – conference dates.
September 15–19, 2018 – optional workshop on data publishing.

Documents for visas issuing can be sent upon request as soon as registration is completed and registration fee is paid.

Programme committee

Chairman of the Programme Committee:
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Acceptance of registrations and abstracts
Deadline for participants to register and submit abstracts is May 1, 2018, via http://bit.icc.ru. Abstracts should be submitted in English. The second information letter will contain guidance on preparation of proceedings, accommodation and the registration fee. The organizers plan to publish conference proceedings in a separate collection indexed in the RSCI database, with extended materials also published in scientific journals focused on:
- Computing technologies http://www.ict.nsc.ru/jct/
- Mathematical biology and bioinformatics http://www.matbio.org/

Organizing Committee - contact information
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Site of the conference: http://bit.icc.ru

We hope to see you at the Conference!
The Organizing Committee requests your help in distributing this letter to other interested colleagues.