Malawi
This report provides a series of summary charts, statistics and other details about the mobilization and use of open-access species data through the GBIF network, relating to users and participating institutions in Malawi. These metrics show status at the time of report generation, unless otherwise noted. Taken together, the elements of this report can help guide and measure progress toward the information needs for biodiversity research, as well as for national commitments on biodiversity and sustainable development.

▶ Access and usage

Researchers from Malawi contributed to:
- 1 peer-reviewed articles citing GBIF use during 2023 and a total of
- 5 articles since 2008

▶ Data availability in Malawi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Occurrences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>269,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantae</td>
<td>95,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fungi</td>
<td>3,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protozoa</td>
<td>1,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacteria</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virus</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromista</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaea</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

▶ Data mobilization

Institutions from Malawi published:
- 21,945 new occurrence records during 2023
out of a total of
- 355,993,458 occurrence records added globally to GBIF.org

Number of records published by institutions in Malawi, categorized by kingdom
Access and usage

Data downloads on GBIF.org from users in Malawi

Users from Malawi made 117 download requests representing 0.0% of all downloads during 2023.

Monthly downloads requested by users in Malawi

Recent peer-reviewed articles using GBIF-mediated data by co-authors based in Malawi

The GBIF Secretariat maintains and reports on an ongoing literature tracking programme, giving priority to substantive uses of GBIF-mediated data in peer-reviewed literature while identifying the countries or areas of the authors’ institutional affiliations. The citations below represent the five most recent journal articles with at least one co-author from Malawi.

Those interested in assisting the Secretariat in identifying additional peer-reviewed uses of GBIF-mediated data may forward relevant citations to comms@gbif.org.


Kindt, Lillesen, van Breugel et al. (2014) Correspondence in forest species composition between the Vegetation Map of Africa and higher resolution maps for seven African countries. Applied Vegetation Science. https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12055


See all research from this country or area gbif.org/country/MW/publications/from
Data availability

Total data available for selected taxonomic groups in Malawi

- **Mammals**
  - 11,438 occurrences

- **Birds**
  - 177,835 occurrences

- **Bony fish**
  - 15,949 occurrences

- **Amphibians**
  - 4,522 occurrences

- **Insects**
  - 49,727 occurrences

- **Reptiles**
  - 4,606 occurrences

- **Molluscs**
  - 2,470 occurrences

- **Arachnids**
  - 648 occurrences

- **Flowering plants**
  - 90,659 occurrences

- **Ferns**
  - 2,193 occurrences

- **Mosses**
  - 900 occurrences

- **Sac fungi**
  - 1,640 occurrences

- **Basidiomycota**
  - 1,380 occurrences

Mammals = Class **Mammalia**

Birds = Class **Aves**


Amphibians = Class **Amphibia**

Insects = Class **Insecta**

Reptiles = Class **Testudines, Sphenodon, Squamata & Crocodylia**

Molluscs = Phylum **Mollusca**

Arachnids = Class **Arachnida**

Flowering plants = Phylum **Magnoliophyta**

Gymnosperms = Superclass **Gymnospermae**

Mosses = Phylum **Bryophyta**

Sac fungi = Phylum **Ascomycota**

Basidiomycota = Phylum **Basidiomycota**

**WHY MIGHT THE AMOUNT OF MOBILIZED DATA DECREASE?**

Datasets are sometimes removed by publishers, but more often decreases in the number of records are due to the removal of duplicate records and datasets.

**SPECIES COUNTS** represent the number of binomial scientific names for which GBIF has received data records, organized as far as possible using synonyms recorded in key databases like the Catalogue of Life.
Most recent datasets from publishers in Malawi

msc_biodiversityinformatics_studentprojectdata. *Published by Malawi University of Science and Technology*
https://doi.org/10.15468/8w2uje

mw_threatened_birds. *Published by Malawi University of Science and Technology*
https://doi.org/10.15468/xsk9vh

Mchinji Forest Reserve Sampling Event Data. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
https://doi.org/10.15468/2qh2na

Some Malawi Lycaenidae Butterflies Data Records. *Published by The Department of Museums and Monuments*
https://doi.org/10.15468/f22fhy

Economic Plants of Malawi. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
https://doi.org/10.15468/dk46ed

Endemic and Economically Useful Plant Species of Malawi. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
https://doi.org/10.15468/bemw7c

See all datasets from this country or area: gbif.org/dataset/search?publishing_country=MW

Newest publishers from Malawi

Malawi University of Science and Technology
The Department of Museums and Monuments
National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi
Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi
Malawi Plant Genetic Resources Centre (MPGRC)

See all publishers from this country or area gbif.org/publisher/search?country=MW

Number of occurrence records downloaded via GBIF.org published by institutions in Malawi
Data mobilization
Data sharing with country or area of origin by national institutions in Malawi

The chart above shows the number of records shared over time by publishers within Malawi, with separate colours for records about species occurring within undefined and those occurring elsewhere.

Top data contributors about biodiversity in Malawi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country or area</th>
<th>No. of occurrences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>138,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>62,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>60,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>25,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>16,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>14,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>International organization or unknown country</td>
<td>8,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>6,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>3,946</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Ranking of countries or areas contributing data about Malawi

See all contributing countries and areas or datasets: gbif.org/country/MW/about

Top datasets contributing data about Malawi

- EOD – eBird Observation Dataset. 107,422 occurrences in Malawi. (Last updated 20 Aug 2023)
- iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. 20,330 occurrences in Malawi. (Last updated 2 Jan 2024)
- Southern African Bird Atlas Project 2. 15,586 occurrences in Malawi. (Last updated 9 Dec 2023)
- Natural History Museum (London) Collection Specimens. 13,319 occurrences in Malawi. (Last updated 19 Dec 2023)
Malawi participates in the following projects coordinated by GBIF

Mobilizing endemic and economically useful species data for policy and protection
*Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2020–2021*
Technical training for data managers at key institutions to ensure the availability of data for target species
[https://www.gbif.org/project/2du1KSeBHxIczF9krfPZvp](https://www.gbif.org/project/2du1KSeBHxIczF9krfPZvp)

GBIF Malawi advocacy action
Through this project, Malawi will conduct a desk and online survey to identify training and infrastructure needs at organizational and individual level on data management for biodiversity management.
[https://www.gbif.org/project/82210](https://www.gbif.org/project/82210)

Status and spatial diversity of Sorghum wild species in Malawi
*BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019*
This project aims at halting genetic erosion and safeguard the species for present and future use and specifically, to (i) establish the distribution of *S. versicolor* Anderson, *S. halepense* (L.) Pers, *S. sudanense* (Piper) Stapf and *S. arundinaceum* (Desv.) Stapf. in Malawi; (ii) establish the spatial diversity of these crop wild relatives; (iii) assess the state of vulnerability of the species; and (iv) propose conservation plan to safeguard the threatened species.
[https://www.gbif.org/project/3Ibgi31EzKqKqcO8MqMUmS](https://www.gbif.org/project/3Ibgi31EzKqKqcO8MqMUmS)

Strengthening Malawi’s Biodiversity Information Facility
*BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019*
The objective is to develop and manage a comprehensive national biodiversity database using BRAHMS, through training of NHBG technical staff and its local partners; including Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) which is a central user of biodiversity information, particularly at policy level.
This project will strengthen the biodiversity information infrastructure of Malawi.
[https://www.gbif.org/project/6vsEqjdu6IUGaqKK8Wyme](https://www.gbif.org/project/6vsEqjdu6IUGaqKK8Wyme)