



The Case for International Sharing of Scientific Data: A Focus on Developing Countries

An International Symposium

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Vanderlei Perez Canhos is the president director of the Reference Center on Environmental Information (CRIA) a non-governmental not-for-profit organization devoted to making biodiversity data freely and openly available via the Internet. Dr. Canhos has a B.S and a M.s. from the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) and a Ph.D. degree from Oregon State University (OSU). His early scientific research was focused on microbial systematics at the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP). In the 1990's his work was focused on microbial collection management at the Tropical Culture Collection(CCT), and biodiversity databases at the Tropical Database(BDT).

During the last 10 years his work on the development of strategies and policies for the consolidation of biological collections and biodiversity databases in Brazil and Latin America. He contributed to the design and implementation of the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN), the Virtual Institute of Biodiversity (Biota-Fapesp Program), and in the implementation of the Brazilian Network of Biological Resource Centers. As a consultant to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) he contributed to the development of the Best Practices Guidelines for the Operation and Management of Biological Resources Centers. He was the project leader of the species-Link network (<http://splink.cria.org.br/>) and openModeler (<http://openmodeler.sourceforge.net/>) a computational environment for ecological niche modeling. speciesLink currently integrates more than 4 million records from biological collections (botanical and zoological specimens and microbial strain data of samples collected in Brazil).

His current work includes the assessment of initiatives worldwide to improve data release and analysis. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Species2000 (Catalogue of Life), the Board of Directors of ETI Bioinformatics (University of Amsterdam) and of the Advisory Board of Global Research Data Infrastructures (GRDI 2020).