



# ArgentiNat.org

## Biodiversity



### Objectives

**Overall goal:** Learn more about the life cycles, distribution and population dynamics of all species existing in Argentina.

### Specific goals:

- Promote the culture of biodiversity observation, recording and dissemination.
- Boost the National Biodiversity Database (BNDB, in Spanish).

### Description of citizen participation

Anyone who is interested in the project may participate using the platform or mobile app to:

- Share observations and contribute to the creation of species lists.
- Take part in the identification of their own observations, as well as of other users', together with natural science specialists and enthusiasts.
- Find an interesting project or start their own.
- Plan a massive event where participants try to find as many species as possible.

This platform makes it possible to share recorded observations with other naturalists, and to engage in dialogue with specialists (researchers or enthusiasts).

### Type of citizen science project

**Collaborative project:** Citizens participate in data collection and analysis.

### Participating parties.

Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina (Argentine Wildlife Foundation) and iNaturalist.

**Status.** In progress.

**Time frame.** 11/13/2019 – N/A

**Frequency of project execution.** Uninterruptedly.

**Participation period.** N/A

**Scope of the initiative.** International (two or more countries).

**Geographic scope.** Global, focused on Argentina.

**Project development members.** It has been developed with the collaboration of both scientists and participants without formal training.

**Number of participants.** Over 1001.

### Action/s involving citizen participation

- Data collection.
- Data analysis.
- Phenomenon monitoring.

### Technological device/tool required.

- Cell phone.
- Photographic camera.
- Sound recorders.
- Lenses, etc.

**Recruitment methods.** Through social media, social events, and buy-in from users and other institutional stakeholders

**Replicability.** ArgentiNat is the national node of iNaturalist. Projects may be replicated under different conditions within the platform (for instance, a birding project implemented in the province of San Luis can be replicated to create another one for La Pampa). The national web portal helps and boosts other projects at an international level, e.g., those in Chile or Uruguay.

**Scalability.** By the end of 2020, as compared with the previous year, the community had grown by 75%; the quantity of shared observations had risen by 64%; the new species recorded had gone up by 15%, and the number of participants performing identification tasks had increased by 13%.

**Open access to data.** Most observations create open data, which are shared with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). The coordinates of certain taxa are hidden to prevent risks. Researchers may request to be entrusted with such data. Openly-licensed images are generated, which may be used by them and other persons.

**Feedback.** Two annual events are held at which final results are shared. Recently, recognition was granted to users selected by the community and to those who made the greatest contributions.

**Linkage with state agency/government.** Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences (MACN, in Spanish) – National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET, in Spanish)

**Institutional funds.** National Geographic, with human resources provided by Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina.

**Awards/distinctions.** –

**Comments.** ArgentiNat is the iNaturalist node for Argentina, the largest citizen science global network with over one million active users worldwide. Although they are not different projects, ArgentiNat is aimed at the local public and customized for local institutions and participants. iNaturalist was developed by the California Academy of Sciences and is supported by National Geographic.

### Knowledge areas/disciplines (OECD)

NATURAL SCIENCES / Biological sciences

### Project leaders.

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### Contact information.

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