

PROJECT PORTRAIT

Biodiversity Database
#180 (2014)

What is this project about?

Conservation Archive of South African Biodiversity (CASABIO) is a NGO dedicated to the conservation of the earth's plant species. CASABIO encourages people to take pictures of organisms and their locality, send them to the organization to be documented and stored on a publicly accessible online repository.

A student, Chad Petersen, approached the UCT Knowledge Co-op about facilitating a partnership with CASABIO who needed assistance with coding and programming for their biodiversity database.

Chad Petersen and In'Aam Soeker of the Honours Outreach & Community Involvement Programme (HOCIP) based in UCT's Information Systems department readily took on this challenge.

The process

Because Chad already had an affiliation with CASABIO, this eased the facilitation of the partnership with the Co-op. Chad and In'Aam met with David Evans, one of the founders of CASABIO, to discuss his vision for the database and how they can assist.

The two students assisted in the progress of the database, and although the students did not have sufficient time to complete the project, there is a foundation for future students to continue the process.

Each UCT student dedicated over 10 hours to the project up to **September 2014**.



Preserving our Biodiversity

To **reference** this Project Portrait, cite UCT Knowledge Co-op as the author.

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The Knowledge Co-op at the University of Cape Town

The UCT Knowledge Co-op aims to make it easier for community partners to access UCT's skills, resources and professional expertise. It helps initiate joint projects that benefit both the community partner and the university. The Co-op links community groups with appropriately qualified staff and students at UCT, and supports both partners throughout the project – from initial planning to final product.

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