

PROJECT PORTRAIT

ZAP App development
#350 (2016)

What is this project about?

CASABIO - Home of Biodiversity – is a NGO dedicated to the conservation of the earth's species. The organisation's concept is simple: take photos of organisms you see, upload them to the site and give them a locality by using their easy and efficient software. In this way everyone can become involved in collecting data on what is 'out there'.

This year the Co-op worked with the CASABIO and recruited students to help in the implementation of design of the "ZAP App" which helps in identifying plant species.

Martin Ombura of the Honours Outreach & Community Involvement Programme (HOCIP) in UCT's Information Systems department, enthusiastically took on the project of engaging in the implementation of the ZAP App.

The process

The Knowledge Co-op arranged for the student to meet up with David Gwynne-Evans CEO of CASABIO.

Martin consulted with Casabio to develop an Android application that captures images on a mobile device through the use of the camera, record its taxonomy and upload it to the website's database – basically an app that works like Instagram for plants. While he learned about applying coding skills in a real-world context (rather different from academia), Casabio got an almost-ready App to support their work.

He dedicated up to 30 hours to the project up to **July 2016**.



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

Project portraits are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike license:
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/za/deed.en>

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.

knowledgecoop.admin@uct.ac.za

www.knowledgeco-op.uct.ac.za

Tel: 021 – 650 4415

