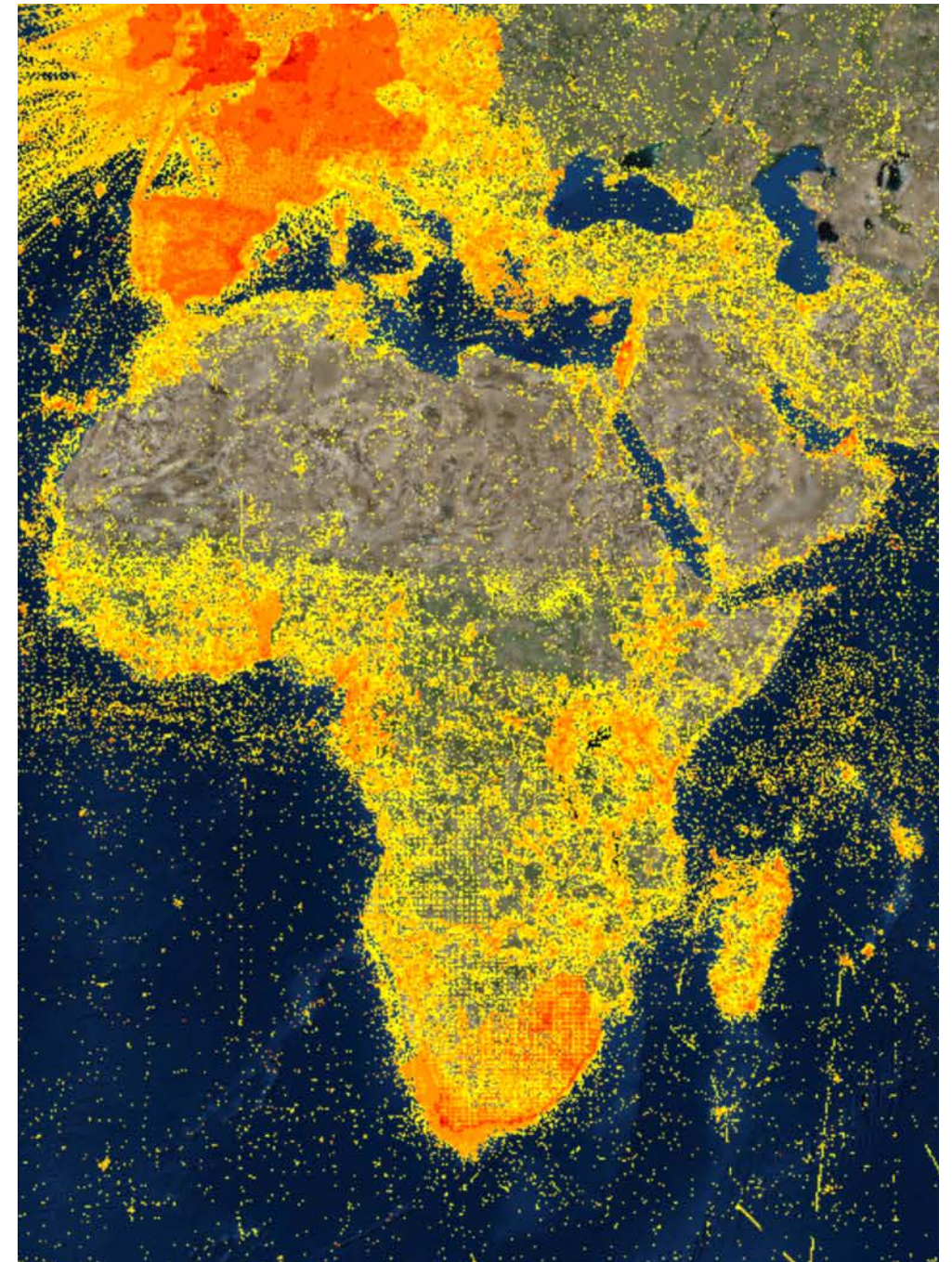


# Monitoring ABS: From Permit Systems to Machine Learning

Paul Oldham  
One World Analytics &  
Manchester Institute of Innovation Research &  
ABS Initiative



GBIF Occurrence Records  
for Species in Africa

# The Capacity to Know

- How to improve knowledge about research and innovation?
- How to attract international research collaborations & investments?
- How to ensure that countries & communities benefit from R & D involving biodiversity & TK under the Nagoya Protocol?

# Approaches

- Link national research permit systems together to make ABS easier & enable monitoring
- Use large scale digital methods to enable monitoring.

# Permit Systems

- Take existing permit systems:
  - create and link up IT systems
- Bahamas - multiple systems
- Kenya - multiple systems
- India - monitoring module



# The Nagoya Protocol: A Model Online Research Permit and Monitoring System

This is the project site for a model Online Research Permit and Monitoring System to support national implementation of the [Nagoya Protocol](#).

The idea behind the model is to assist Parties to the [Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization](#) of the [United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity](#) with implementing the Nagoya Protocol.

The model focuses on the creation of an online permit and monitoring system to make it easier for governments to administer research permit applications involving genetic resources and traditional knowledge and to monitor compliance under the Nagoya Protocol as well as making it easier to prepare national reports.

## Download in Word and PDF

You can download Word versions of the sections in a .zip file [here](#). For pdf versions go [here](#).

You will also need to view the schematics which demonstrate the basic functions of the system. You can view them online from the Schematics menu or download them in [powerpoint](#), [keynote](#) or [pdf](#). The schematics are meant to be viewed as a slide show in presentation mode.

The draft workplan can be downloaded as headings to assist with project planning [here](#).

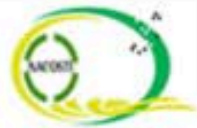
## Who Developed This?

The original model was written by Dr. Paul Oldham as part of work with Hartmut Meyer and Olivier Rukundo on implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the Bahamas. The updated version is a joint work in progress and much better for it.

## Financial Support

The model was developed with the support of [The Bahamas Environment, Science & Technology Commission \(BEST\)](#) of the Government of the Bahamas under the UNEP/GEF project "Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in the Bahamas" as set out in *Oldham, P (2015) Concepts for an Electronic Monitoring Tool. UNEP/GEF project "Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in the Bahamas"*. The present paper was written with the additional support of the multi-donor [ABS Capacity Development Initiative](#) hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (GIZ) in collaboration with the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) and the German Development Cooperation (GIZ).





Research Information Management System

[Home](#)[Applications Guidelines](#)[Accredited Institutions](#)[Contact Us](#) ▾

RIMS

NACOSTI Research Information Management System

[Read More](#)

## NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION (NACOSTI)

The RIMS Research Information Management System was developed by the Kenyan government to expedite permit application process for researchers at the same time improving the efficiency and transparency of the entire research permit application process.

**GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE APPLICATIONS OF RESEARCH PERMIT**






# RIMS

NACOSTI Research Information Management System

## SIGN IN

NACOSTI is collecting your ORCID iD so we can link your ORCID iD with RIMS. When you click the "Authorize" button, we will ask you to share your iD using an authenticated process: [either by registering for an ORCID iD](#) or, if you already have one, by signing into your ORCID account, then granting us permission to get your ORCID iD. We do this to ensure that you are correctly identified and securely connecting your ORCID iD. Learn more about [What's so special about signing in.](#)

If you already have an ORCID account, you can use it with RIMS.

**Login with your ORCID** 

Login 

Not an ORCID user yet? Create an account, it is free and takes a few seconds. **We require basic profile information to be able to fill in your profile**

SignUp 



ORCID uses cookies to improve your experience and to help us understand how you use our websites. [Learn more about how we use cookies.](#)

Dismiss



Sign into ORCID or [Register now](#)



Personal account



Institutional account

Sign in with your ORCID account

Email or ORCID iD

poldham@mac.com

ORCID password

\*\*\*\*\*

Sign Into ORCID

**Forgotten your password? [Reset it here](#)**

Sign in with a social media account [?](#)



NACOSTI RIMS :: Registration

research-portal.nacosti.go.ke/Signup/profile/

Hi Paul, Please complete your Registration

ID/Passport Number \*

ID/Passport Number

Title \*

Choose option

First Name \*

Paul

Middle Name

Middle Name

Last Name \*

Oldham

Gender \*

Male

Citizenship \*

Choose option

Email \*

Email

Mobile Phone Number \*

Mobile

Attach Your ID/Passport  
(.pdf only)

Choose file

No file chosen

Attach Passport Photo (.jpg|.jpeg|.png)  
Max Width: 450px , Max Height: 450px

Choose file

No file chosen

Next →



## Paul Oldham

### ORCID iD

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1013-4390>

Print view

### Websites

[Github site](#)

[One World Analytics website](#)

[Mendeley profile](#)

### Country

United Kingdom

### Keywords

Social Anthropology, Science and Technology Studies, Biological Diversity, Biodiversity, Intellectual Property, Patents, Access and Benefit Sharing, Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge, Nagoya Protocol

### Other IDs

[Scopus Author ID: 26533255500](#)

### Employment (4)

Sort

#### One World Analytics: Lancaster, Lancashire, GB

2013-04-01 to present | Director  
Employment

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

#### United Nations University: Tokyo, JP

2016-01-01 to 2019-02-01 | Senior Visiting Research Fellow (Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability)  
Employment

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

#### Lancaster University: Lancaster, Lancashire, GB

2004-01-01 to 2013-02-01 | Research Fellow, Senior Research Associate, Research Associate (ESRC Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics)  
Employment

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

#### University of London Institute of Latin American Studies: London, London, GB

1996-09-01 to 1999-09-01 | Lecturer  
Employment

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

Help

## ▼ Works (39 of 39)

⇅ Sort

## The Scientific and Patent Landscape for Marine Genetic Resources in Southeast Asia

2019-04-03 | report



Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

## Synthetic Biology - Mapping the Patent Landscape

2018-11-30 | other

DOI: [10.1101/483826](https://doi.org/10.1101/483826)

Source: Crossref

★ Preferred source

## Synthetic Biology Patent Datasets

2018 | other

DOI: [10.17605/OSF.IO/73FMU](https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/73FMU)

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

## An Online Research Permit and Monitoring System to Support Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol

2016-05 | online-resource

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.57420>

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source

## A Review of UK Patent Activity for Genetic Resources and associated Traditional Knowledge

2016-01 | report

DOI: [10.13140/RG.2.1.1682.9849](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.1682.9849)

Source: Paul Oldham

★ Preferred source



NACOSTI :: Research Permit A | x +

research-portal.nacosti.go.ke/ApplicationForm.html#step-1

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

My Profile Log Out

Home Research Permits My Permits

Research Information Management System

Step 1 Introduction Step 2 Project Details Step 3 Additional Details Step 4 Personal References Step 5 Document Uploads Step 6 Payment Step 7 Finish

Have you applied for a permit to conduct research in Kenya before? \*

NO

Name of University/organization

University of Manchester

Affiliating Institution :

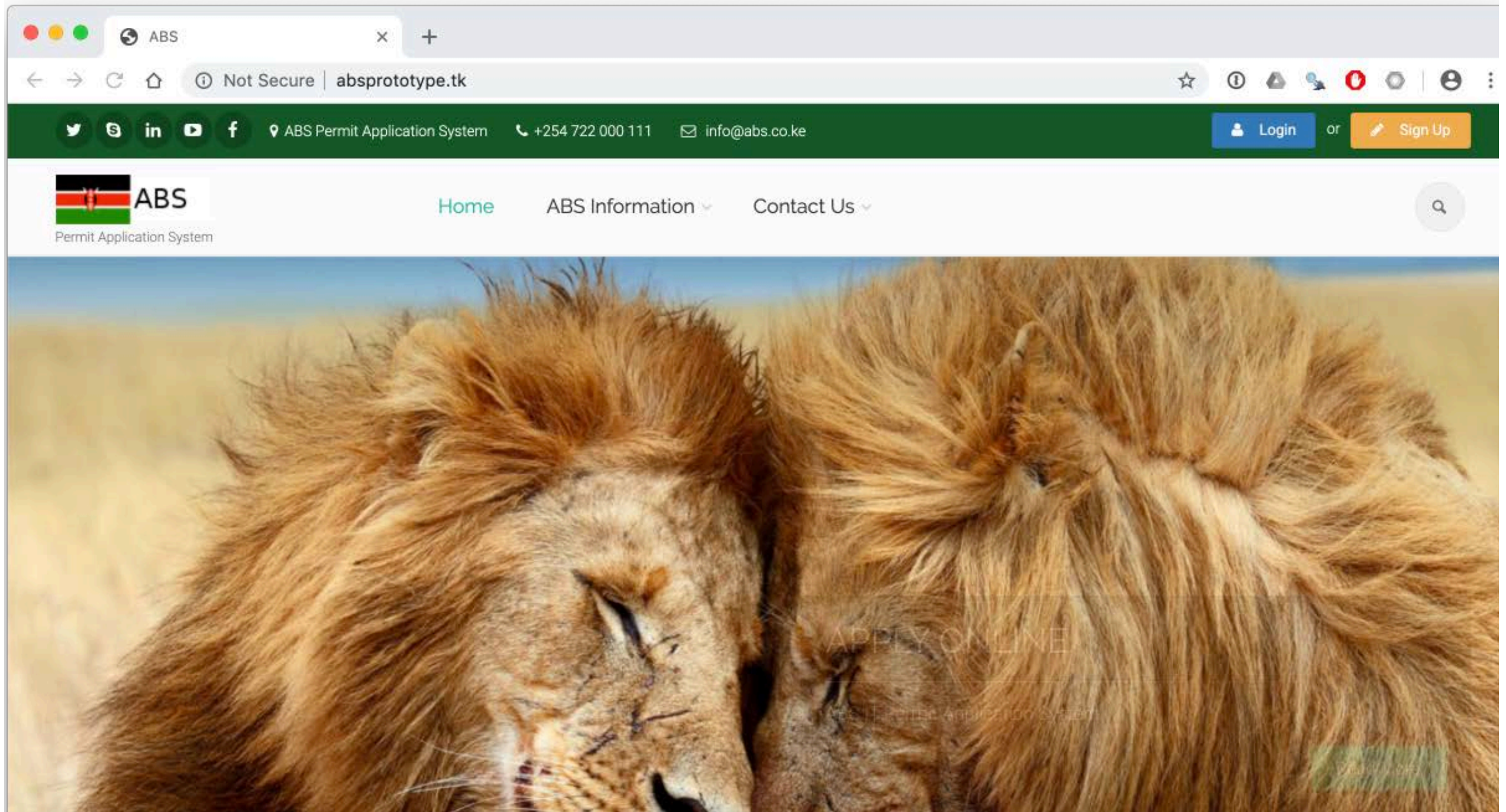
University of Nairobi

Source(s) of Finance: Amount (USD)

Research Council of Somewhere 20000

Filling out standard questions. Only ask a question once and use tidy data principles.





## ABS IT PERMIT APPLICATION SYSTEM.

The ABS Online permit application system was developed by the Kenyan government to expedite permit application process for researchers at the same time improving the efficiency and transparency of the entire permit application process. The ABS Online permit application system also enforces and monitors the MAT that the permit applicant

An ABS portal links to the system. Code for the prototype can be adapted to serve the needs of others.



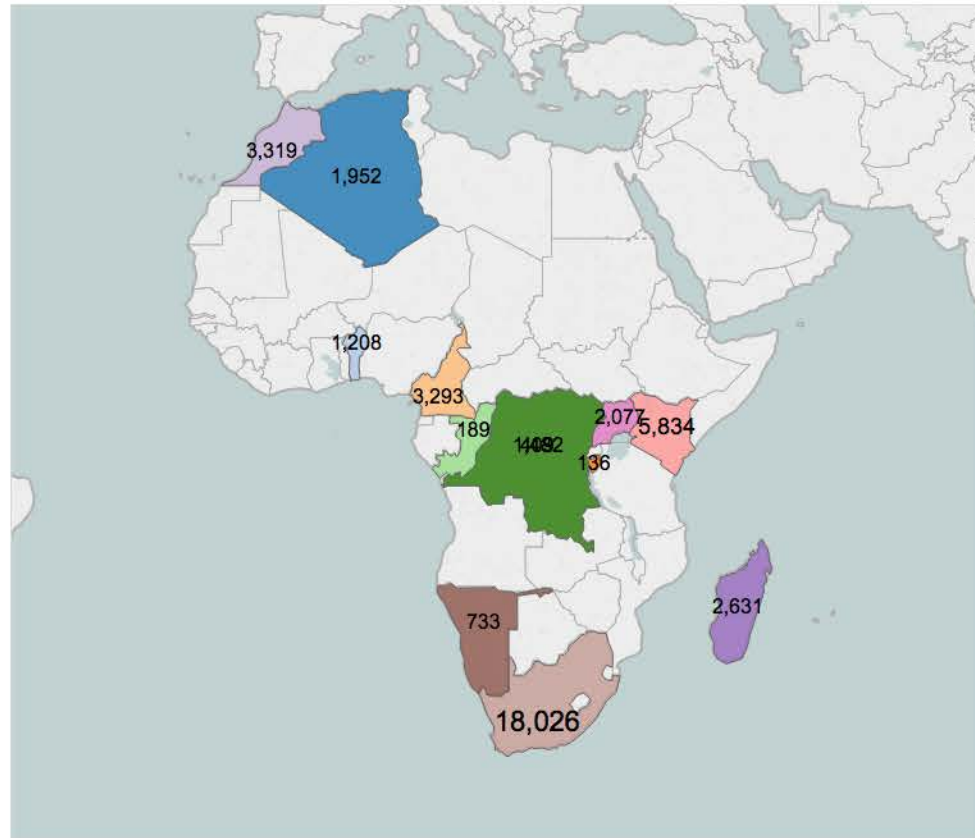
# Monitoring

Addressing Issues of Scale:

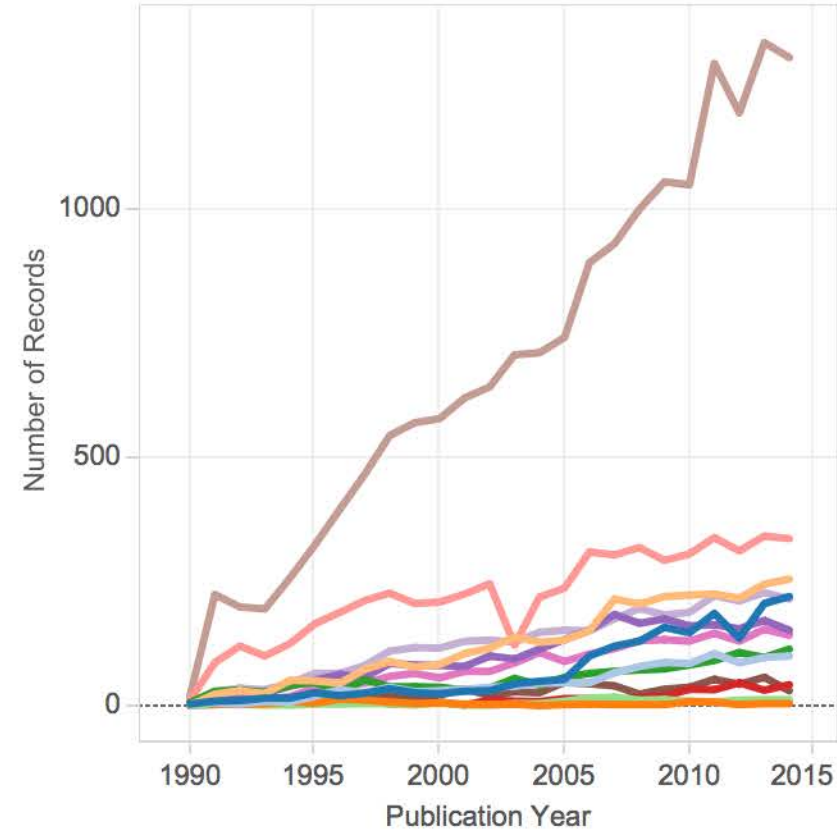
- 1 billion GBIF taxonomic occurrence records
- 211 million scientific publications
- 110+ million patent documents
- The internet (hundreds of millions)

# Research Landscape for Genetic Resources & Traditional Knowledge in Africa

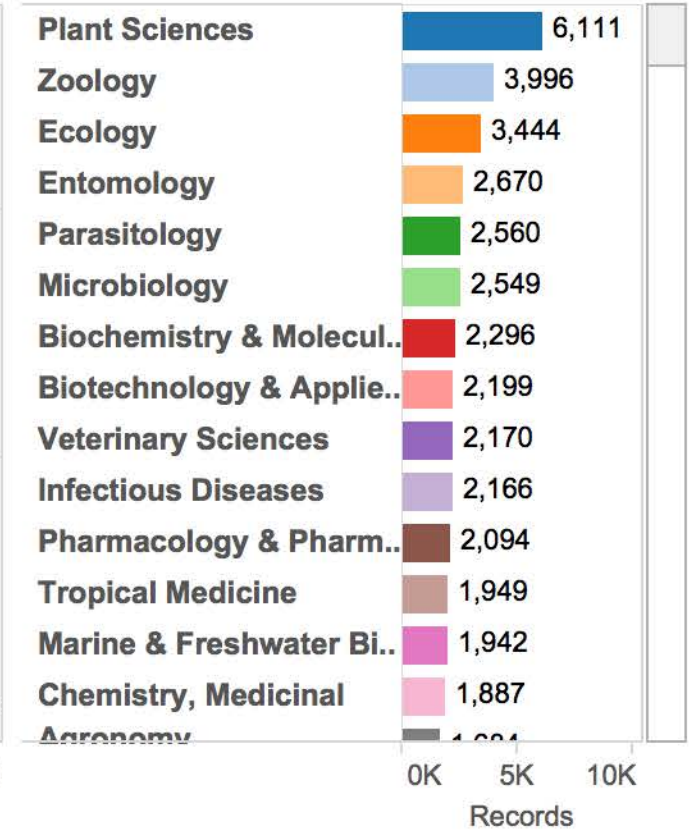
landscape countries



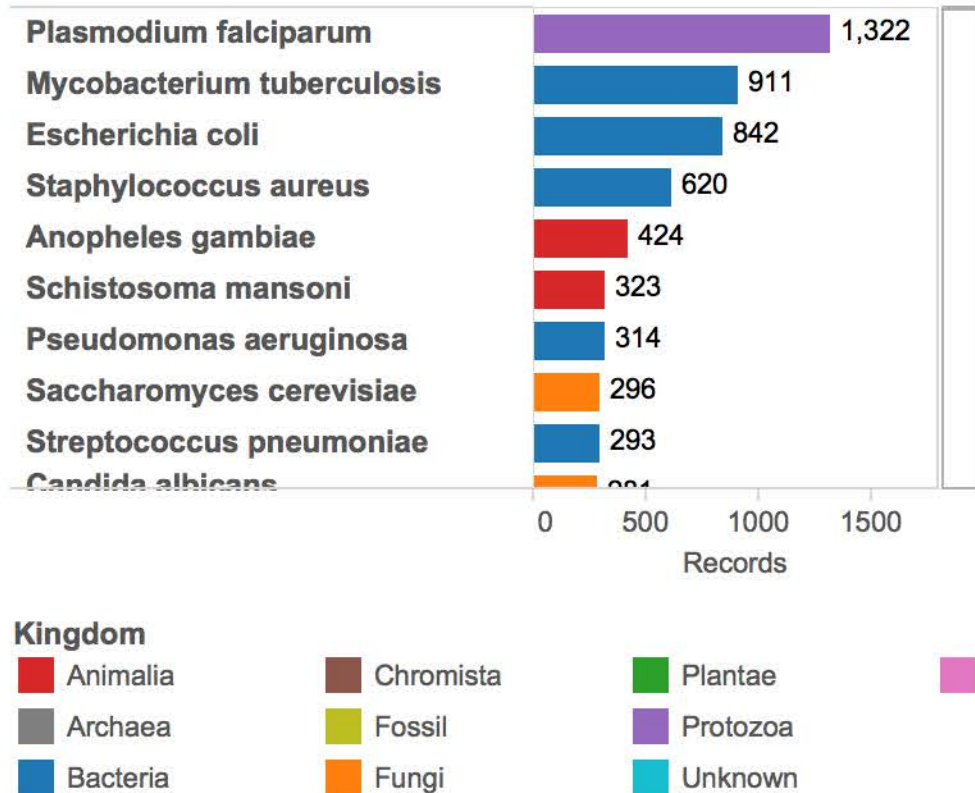
country trends



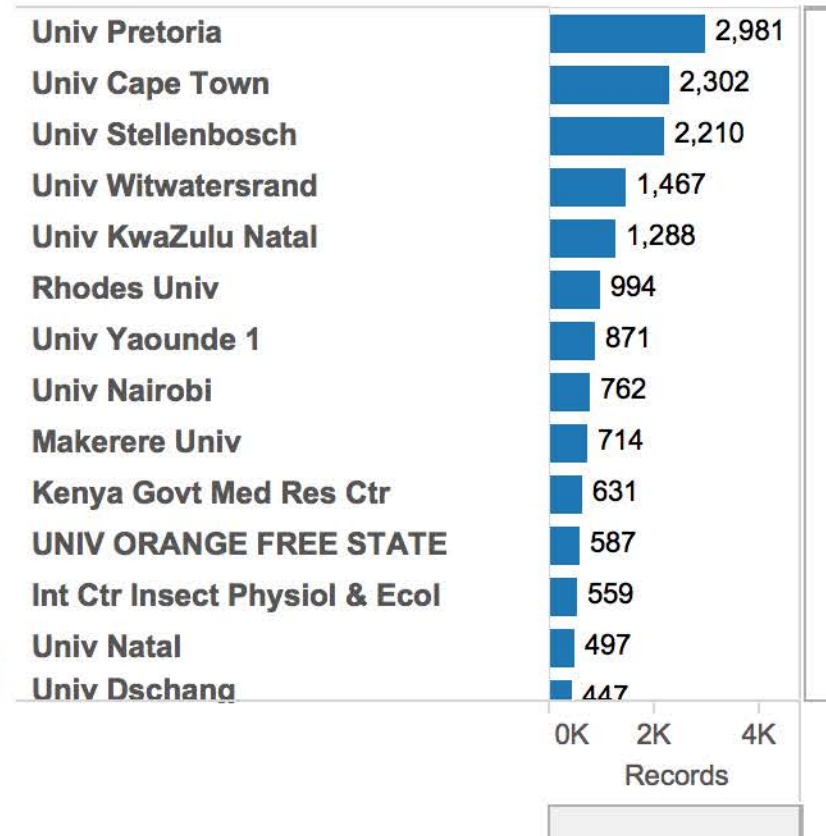
subject areas



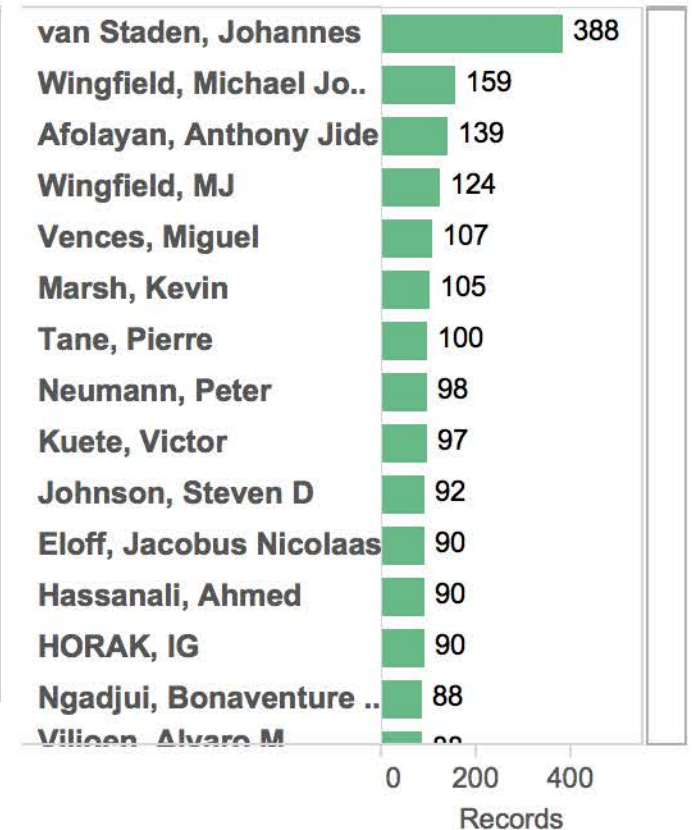
species



organisations



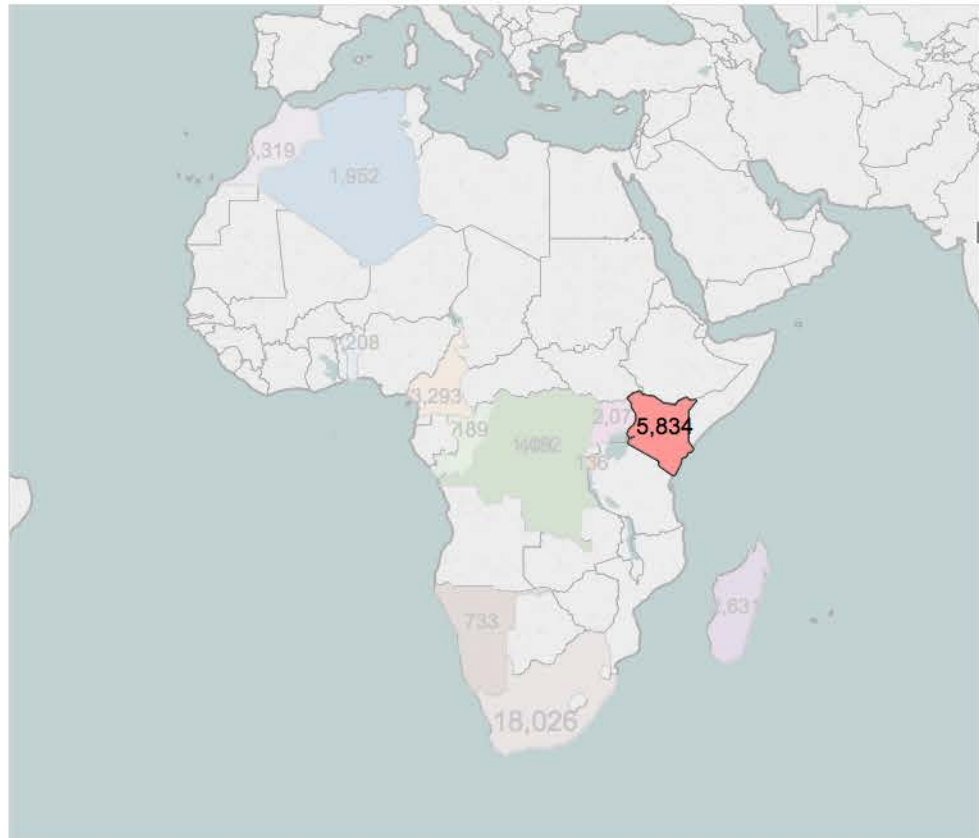
authors



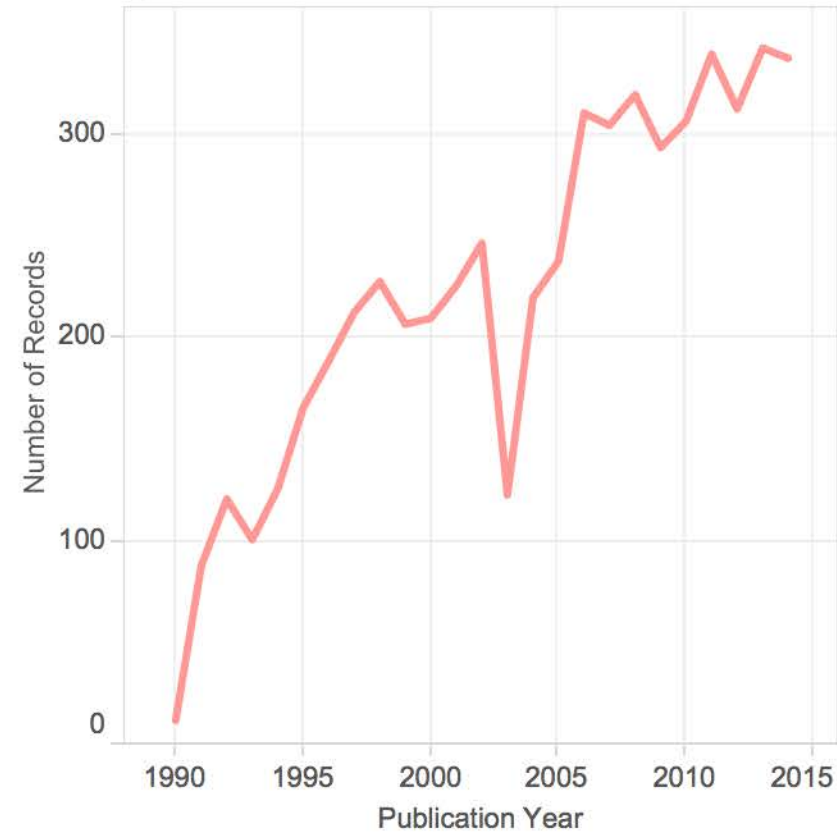


# Research Landscape for Genetic Resources & Traditional Knowledge in Kenya

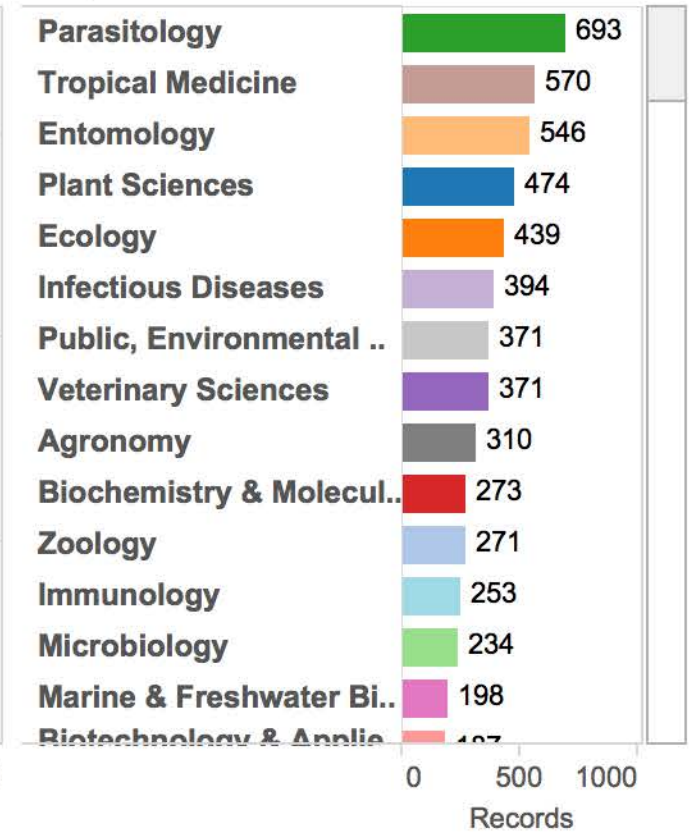
landscape countries



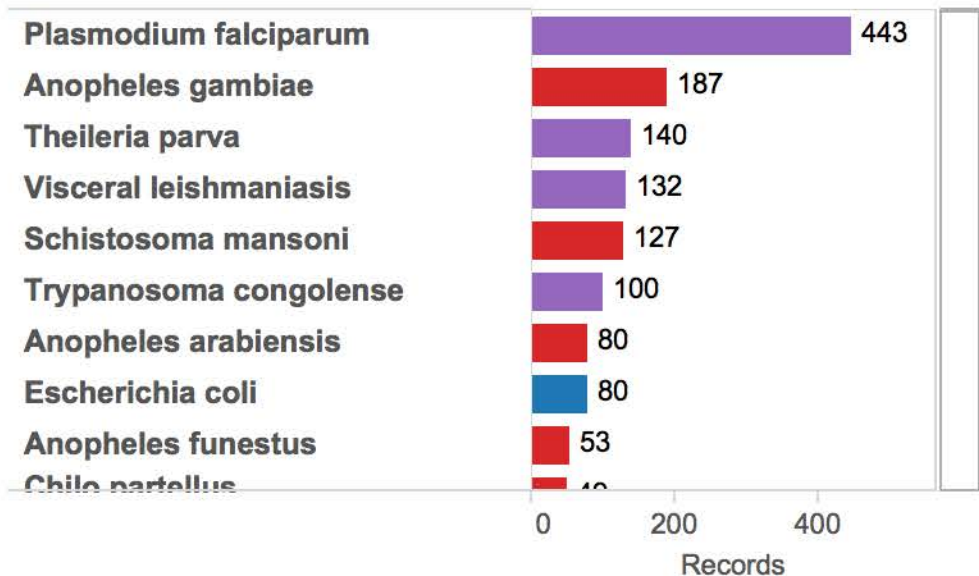
country trends



subject areas



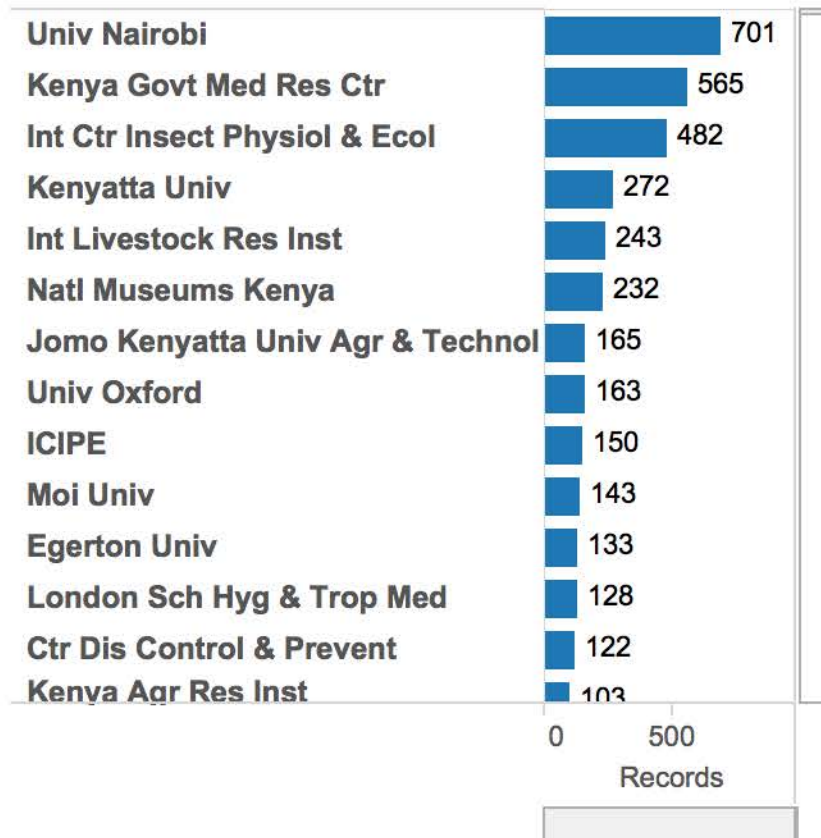
species



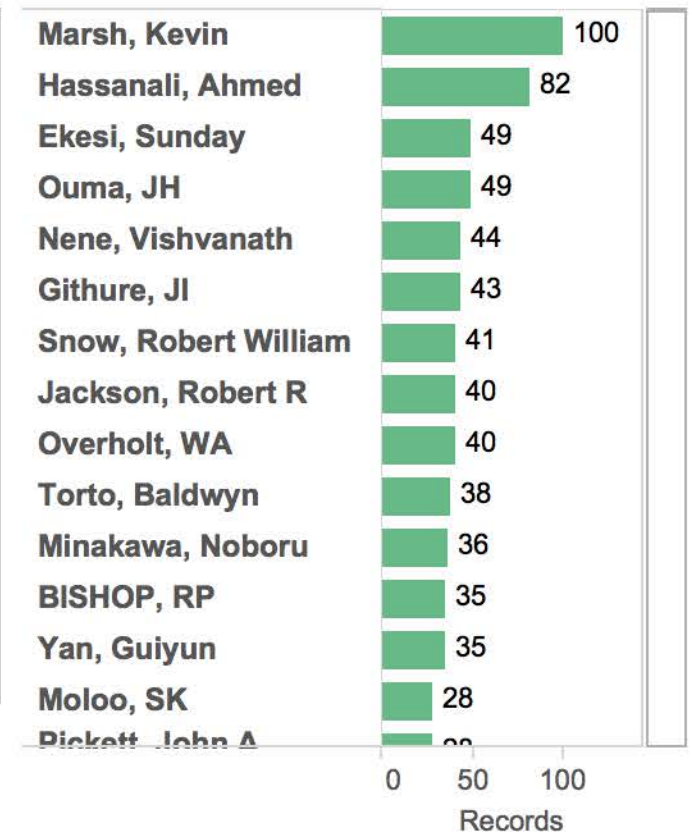
Kingdom



organisations

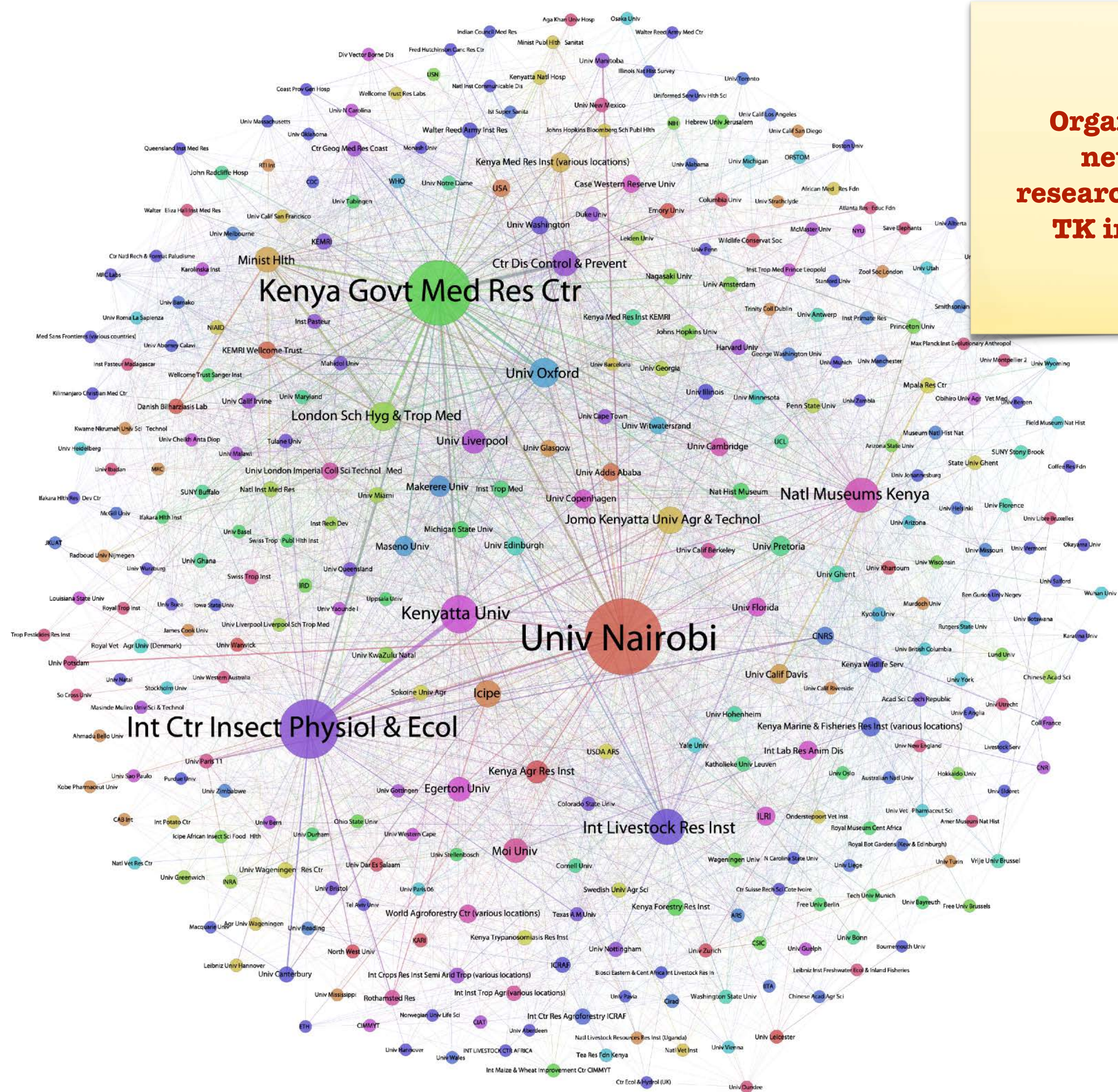


authors



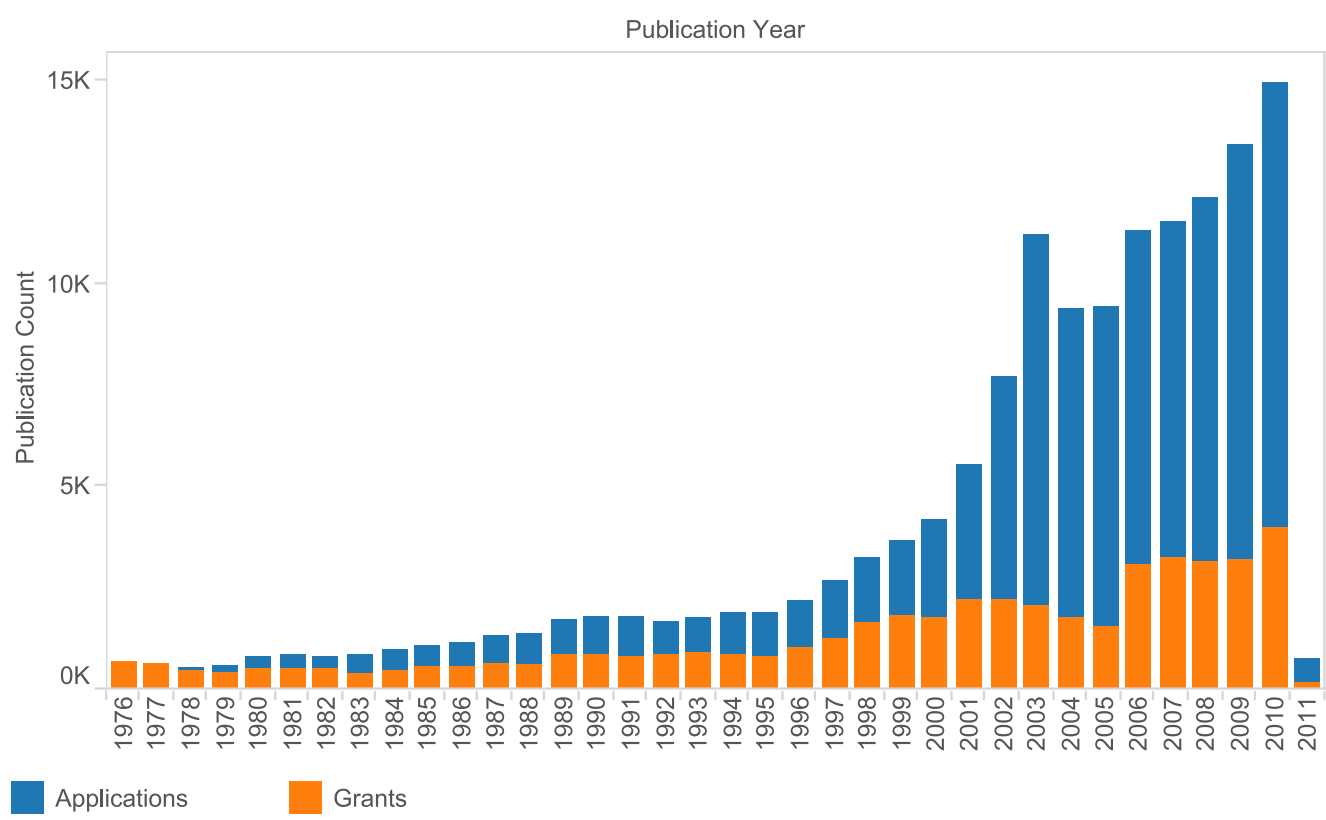


**Organisation  
network  
researching GR &  
TK in Kenya**

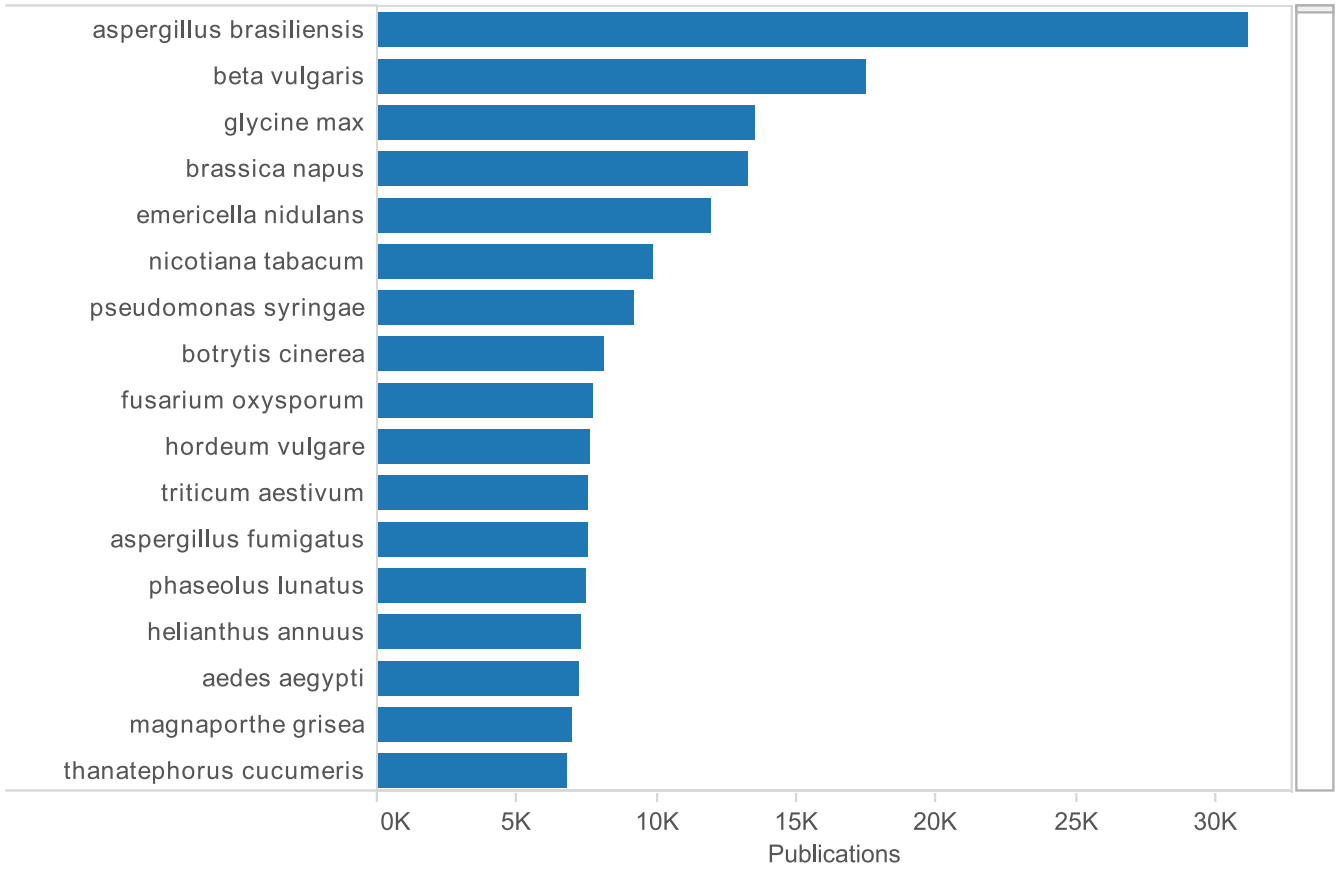




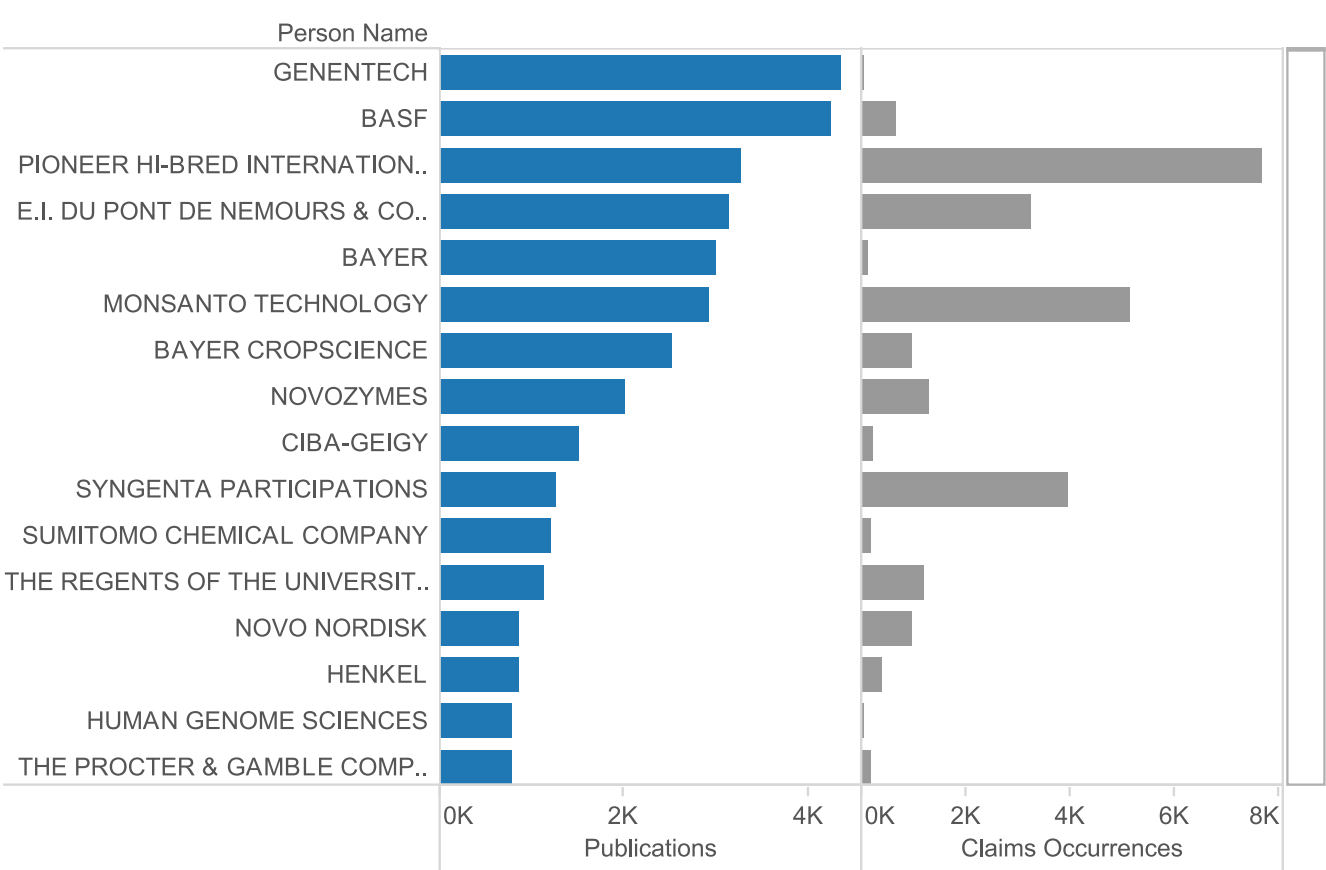
Global Trends



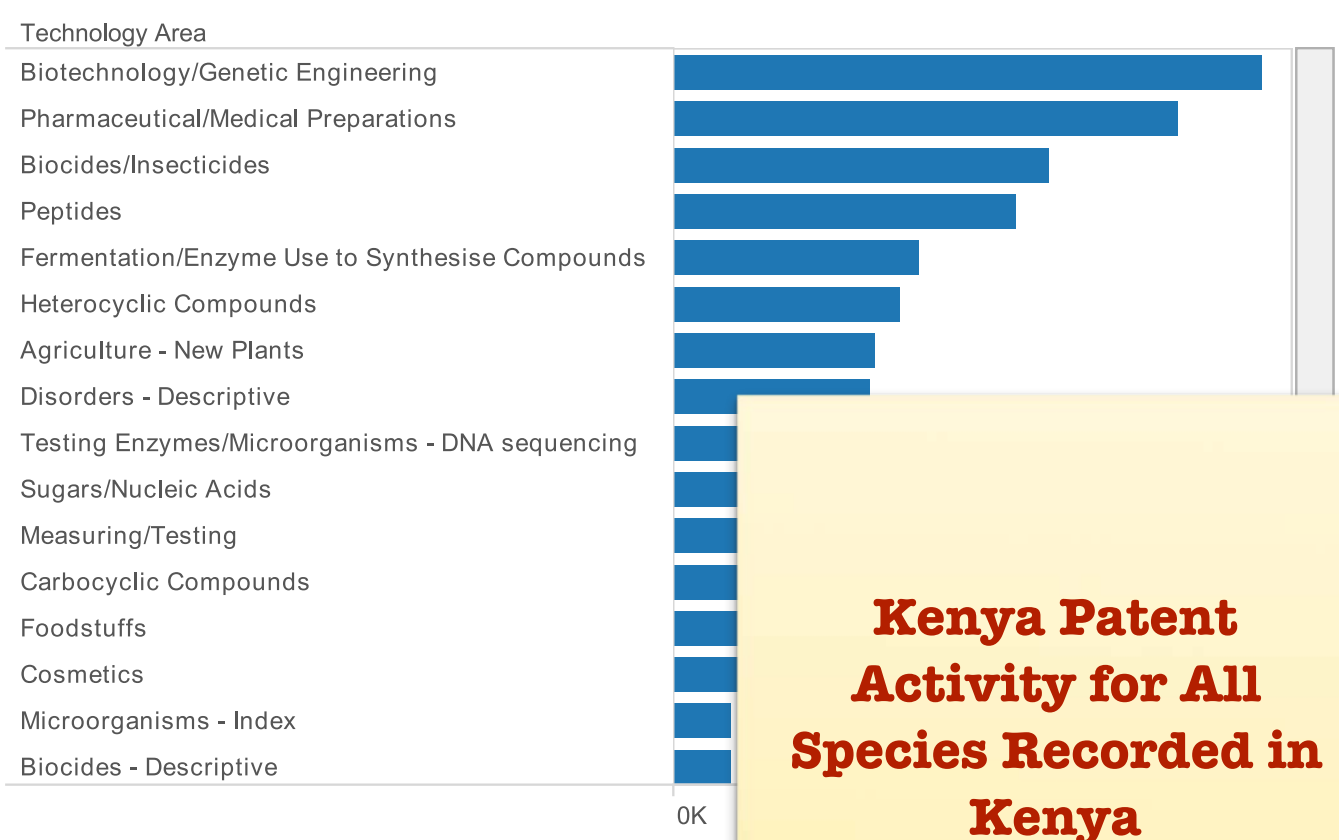
Global Species



Assignees



Global Technology Areas



**Kenya Patent Activity for All Species Recorded in Kenya**

This is hard and time consuming to do:

How to automate at scale?

Use machine learning to train a mathematical model to recognise patterns and predict what they are (e.g. is this a dog or a cat)

We are using spaCy from Explosion AI in Germany. spaCy is free, open source and transparent



# Step 1: Classification

Is this document about  
biodiversity (YES/NO)

prodigy

PROJECT INFO

DATASET

SESSION

LANGUAGE

VIEW ID

bioclass\_en

default

en

classification

PROGRESS

THIS SESSION

TOTAL

19

4,640

9%

HISTORY

© 2019 Explosion AI (Prodigy v1.8.3)

BIO

Interactions between striga Hermonthica (fel.) benth (scrophulariaceae) and stemborer chilo partellus (swinhoe) (lepidoptera : pyralidae) on Maize plant (Zea mays L.)

SCORE: 0.09

✓

✗

⊘

↶

Prodigy from Explosion AI in Germany is a tool for annotating data to train machine learning models. Here we want to create a general classification model to identify documents that are biological. The more examples used to train models the better. Here we use a few thousand.



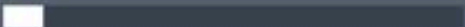


### PROJECT INFO

DATASET	bioclass_en
SESSION	default
LANGUAGE	en
VIEW ID	classification

### PROGRESS

THIS SESSION	26
TOTAL	4,647

 9%

### HISTORY

Herbs such as tongkat ali (eury...	✓
Use of trichoderma and bacillu...	✓
The pharmacokinetics of furaz...	✓
For best results smaller quanti...	✓
Extracts and compounds from ...	✓
Relative dental maturity and a...	✓
Interactions between striga H...	✓

BIO

The North Korean Conundrum and the Deficiencies of  
Western-Rational Social Theory

SCORE: 0.60



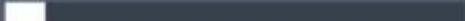


### PROJECT INFO

DATASET	bioclass_en
SESSION	default
LANGUAGE	en
VIEW ID	classification

### PROGRESS

THIS SESSION	21
TOTAL	4,642

 9%

### HISTORY

Relative dental maturity and a...	✓
Interactions between striga H...	✓

BIO

Extracts and compounds from agapanthus africanus and  
their use as biological plant protecting agents

SCORE: 0.10





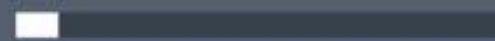


### PROJECT INFO

DATASET	bioclass_en
SESSION	default
LANGUAGE	en
VIEW ID	classification

### PROGRESS

THIS SESSION	28
TOTAL	4,649

 9%

### HISTORY

The invention provides an indu...	✓
The North Korean Conundrum...	✗
Herbs such as tongkat ali (eury...	✓
Use of trichoderma and bacillu...	✓
The pharmacokinetics of furaz...	✓
For best results smaller quanti...	✓
Extracts and compounds from ...	✓

BIO

A Perceptual Study of Relative Effectiveness of Tools and Techniques Used in Sales Promotion

SCORE: 0.98



#	LOSS	F-SCORE	ACCURACY
01	0.811	0.832	0.783
02	0.439	0.908	0.885
03	0.234	0.922	0.904
04	0.122	0.930	0.914
05	0.112	0.932	0.918
06	0.100	0.935	0.921
07	0.091	0.937	0.923
08	0.083	0.934	0.921
09	0.063	0.940	0.927
10	0.089	0.928	0.913

accept	accept	505
accept	reject	36
reject	reject	325
reject	accept	29

Correct	830
Incorrect	65

Baseline	0.60
Precision	0.93
Recall	0.95
F-score	0.94
Accuracy	0.93

## Train a Model

Here we use 3713 80% of the annotations we just made to train the model and we then test the results on an evaluation set with 978 (20%) examples the model has not seen. This gives us scores on how good the model is with unseen data (beware of over fitting - where a model becomes great at predicting data it has seen but rubbish with unseen data!)

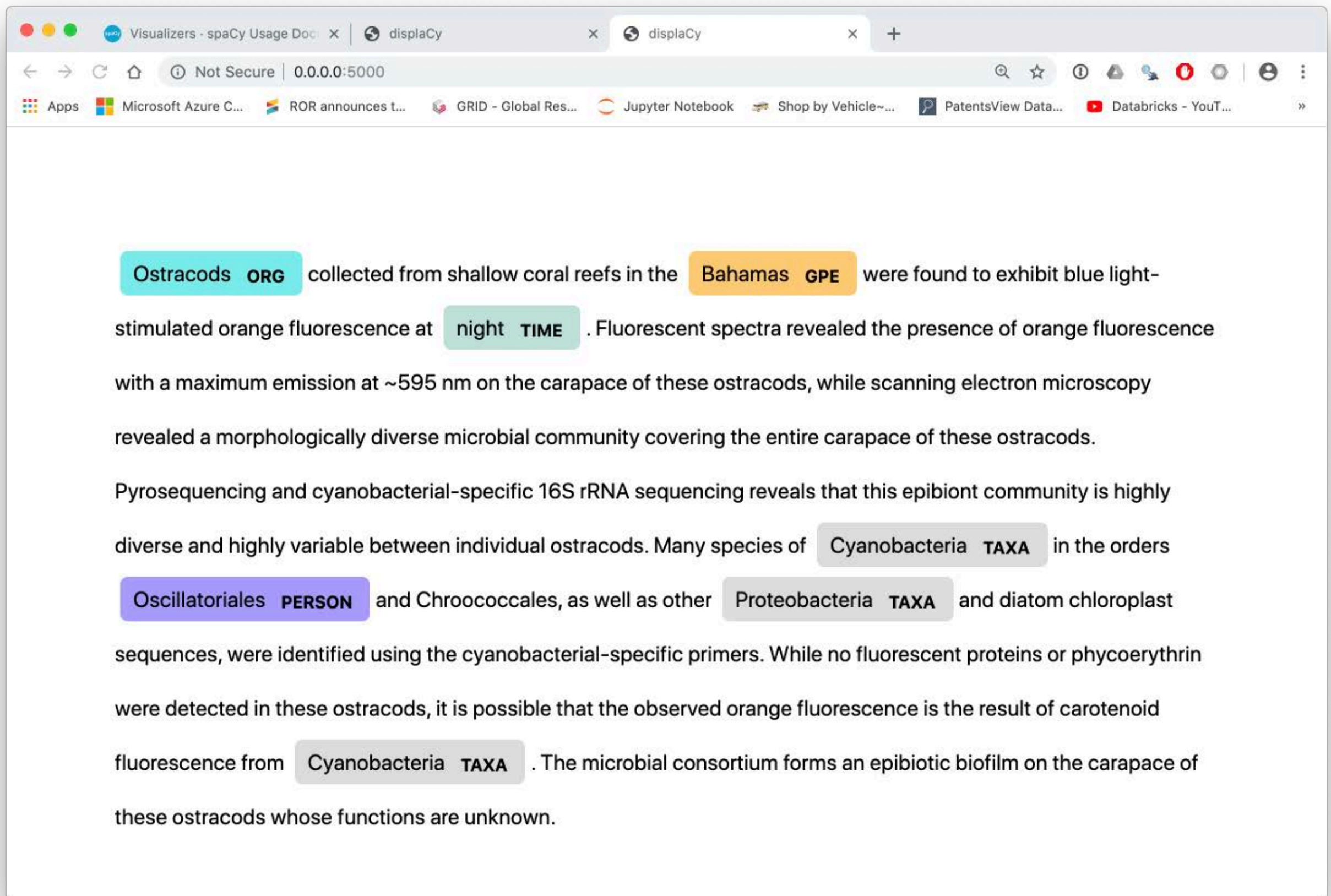
## Step 2: Name Entity Recognition

> Show me species, place,  
country, person, organisation or  
TK related terms in a document

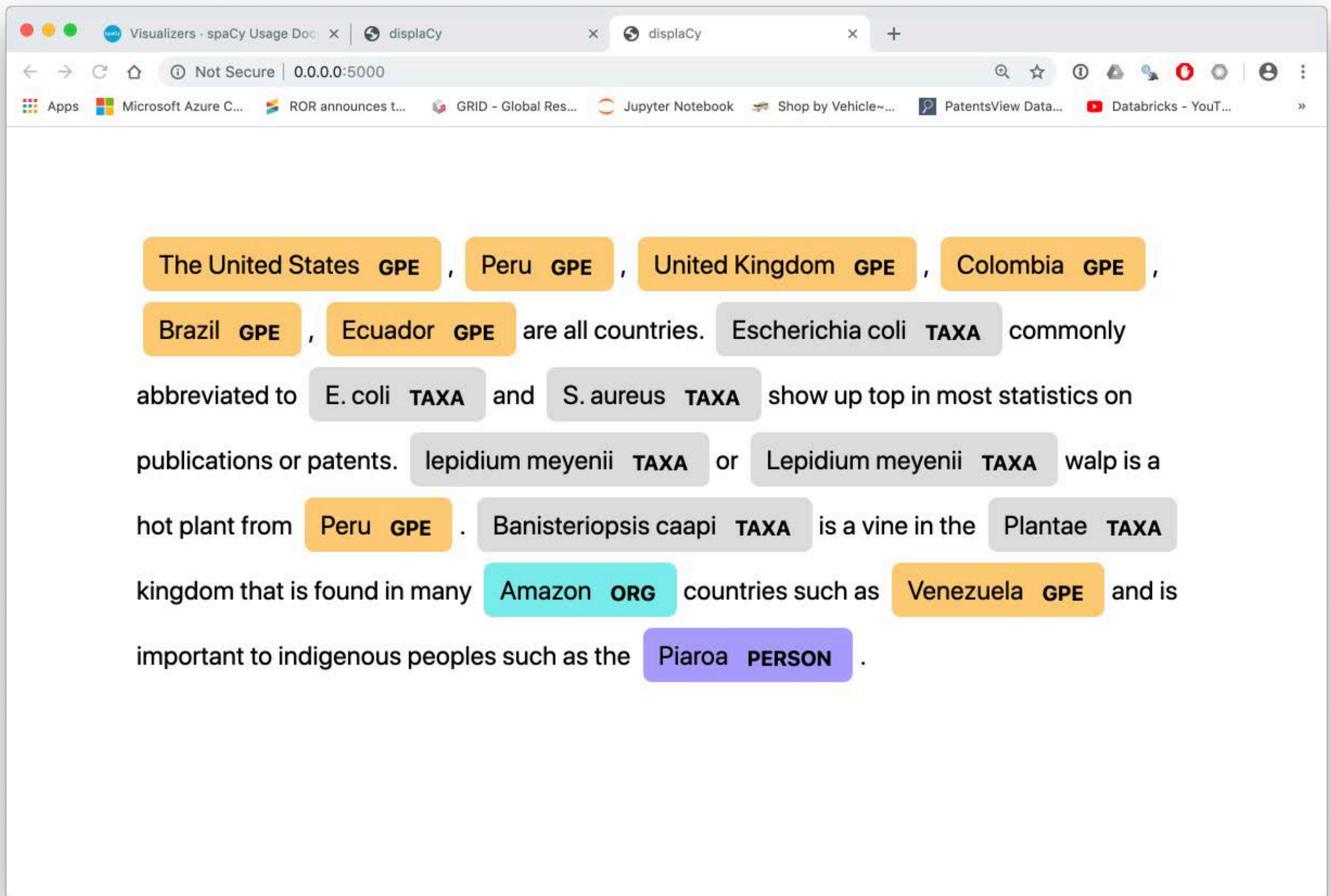


Ostracods collected from shallow coral reefs in the Bahamas were found to exhibit blue light-stimulated orange fluorescence at night. Fluorescent spectra revealed the presence of orange fluorescence with a maximum emission at ~595 nm on the carapace of these ostracods, while scanning electron microscopy revealed a morphologically diverse microbial community covering the entire carapace of these ostracods. Pyrosequencing and cyanobacterial-specific 16S rRNA sequencing reveals that this epibiont community is highly diverse and highly variable between individual ostracods. Many species of Cyanobacteria in the orders Oscillatoriales and Chroococcales, as well as other Proteobacteria and diatom chloroplast sequences, were identified using the cyanobacterial-specific primers. While no fluorescent proteins or phycoerythrin were detected in these ostracods, it is possible that the observed orange fluorescence is the result of carotenoid fluorescence from Cyanobacteria. The microbial consortium forms an epibiotic biofilm on the carapace of these ostracods whose functions are unknown.

This is hard to read. We need to find a way to mark the interesting bits.



The model is identifying some of the entities but is getting some of the labels wrong - because the base model has not been trained on this type of data. I have added the Taxa category to the model but can you see where more work is needed to pick up biodiversity related terms?



This example is better and picks up abbreviated species names and does well on country names. But it thinks Amazon is an organisation and that the Piaroa are a person. This highlights a need to train up the named entity recogniser but will work well once trained.

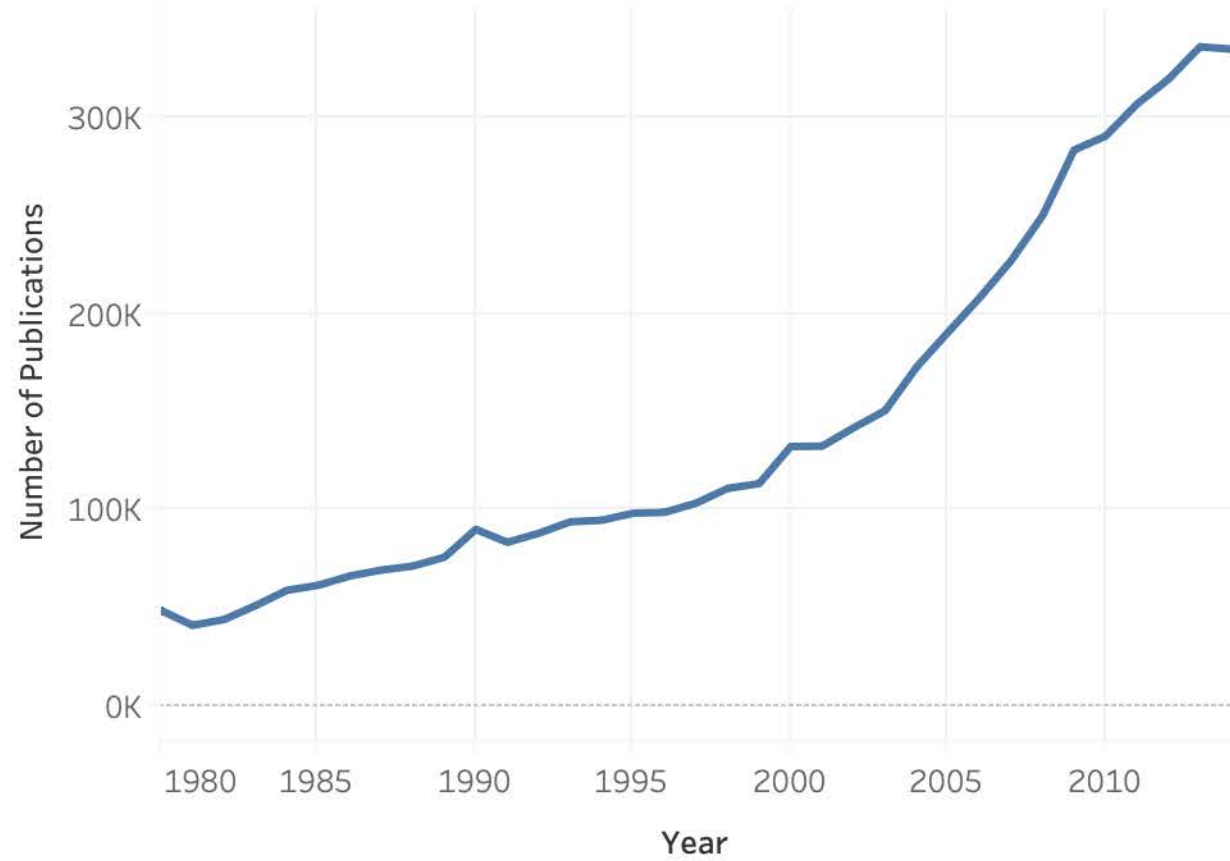


# Step 3: Scale Up

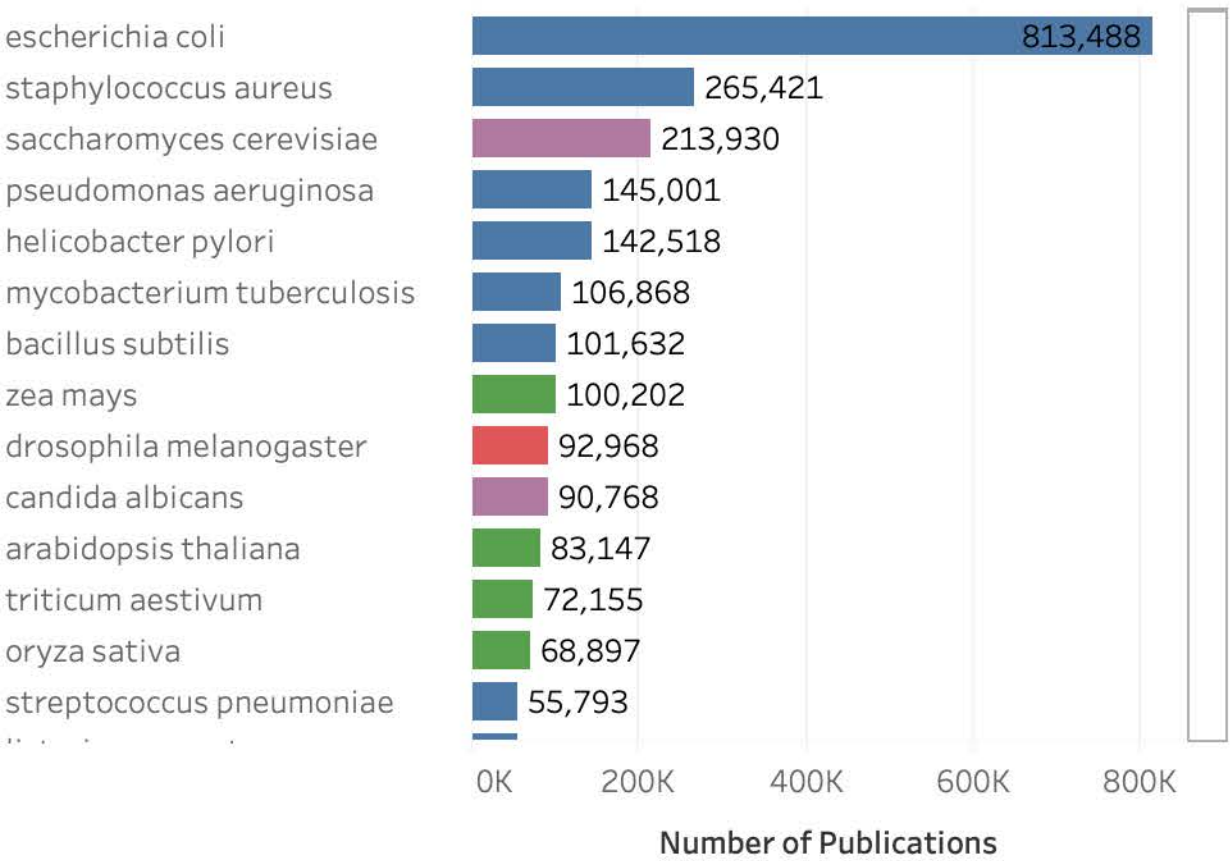
Apply to 211 million publications

Here a simpler dictionary approach was used to text mine 166 million publications from Microsoft Academic Graph. It allows us to visualise trends and actors and to draw maps. This is very much a first draft leading to the 2020 COP in China. This data is now being used to train models to work at scale.

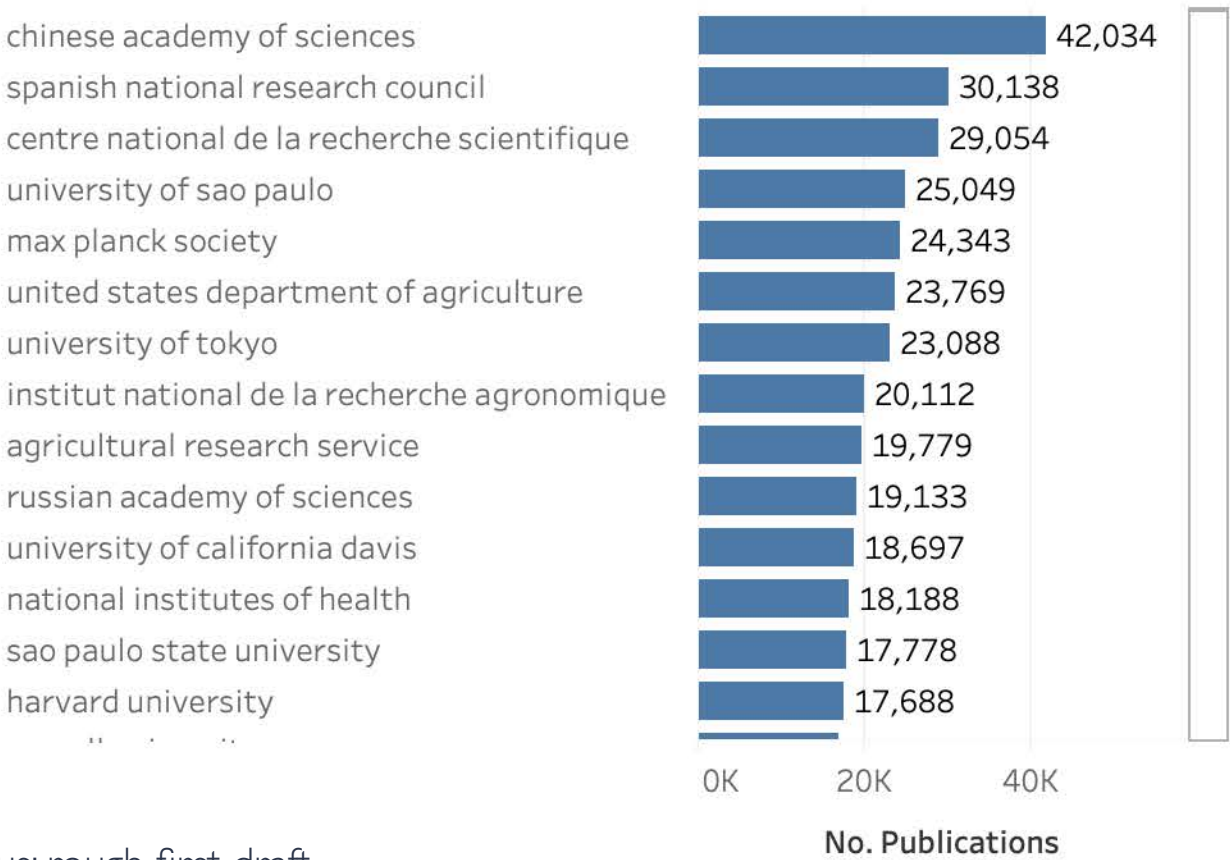
Trends



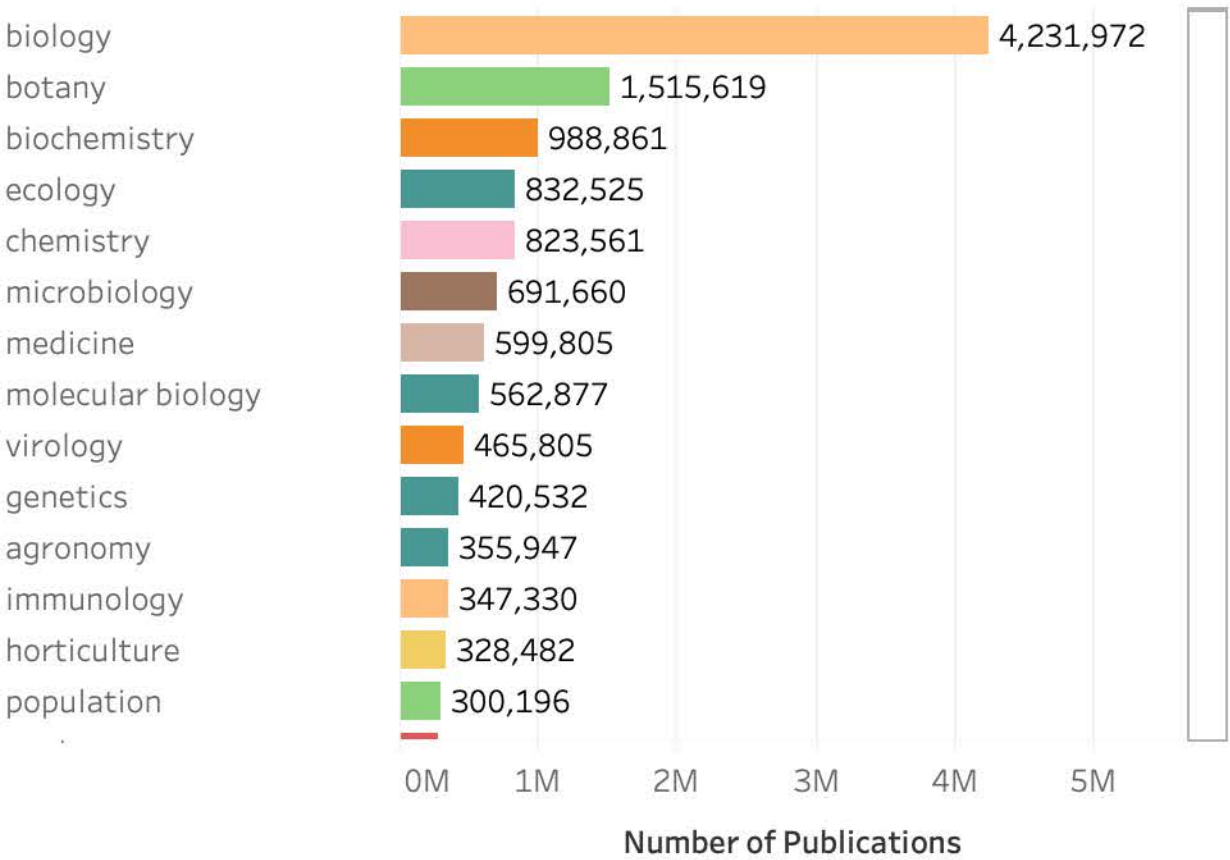
Species



Organisations

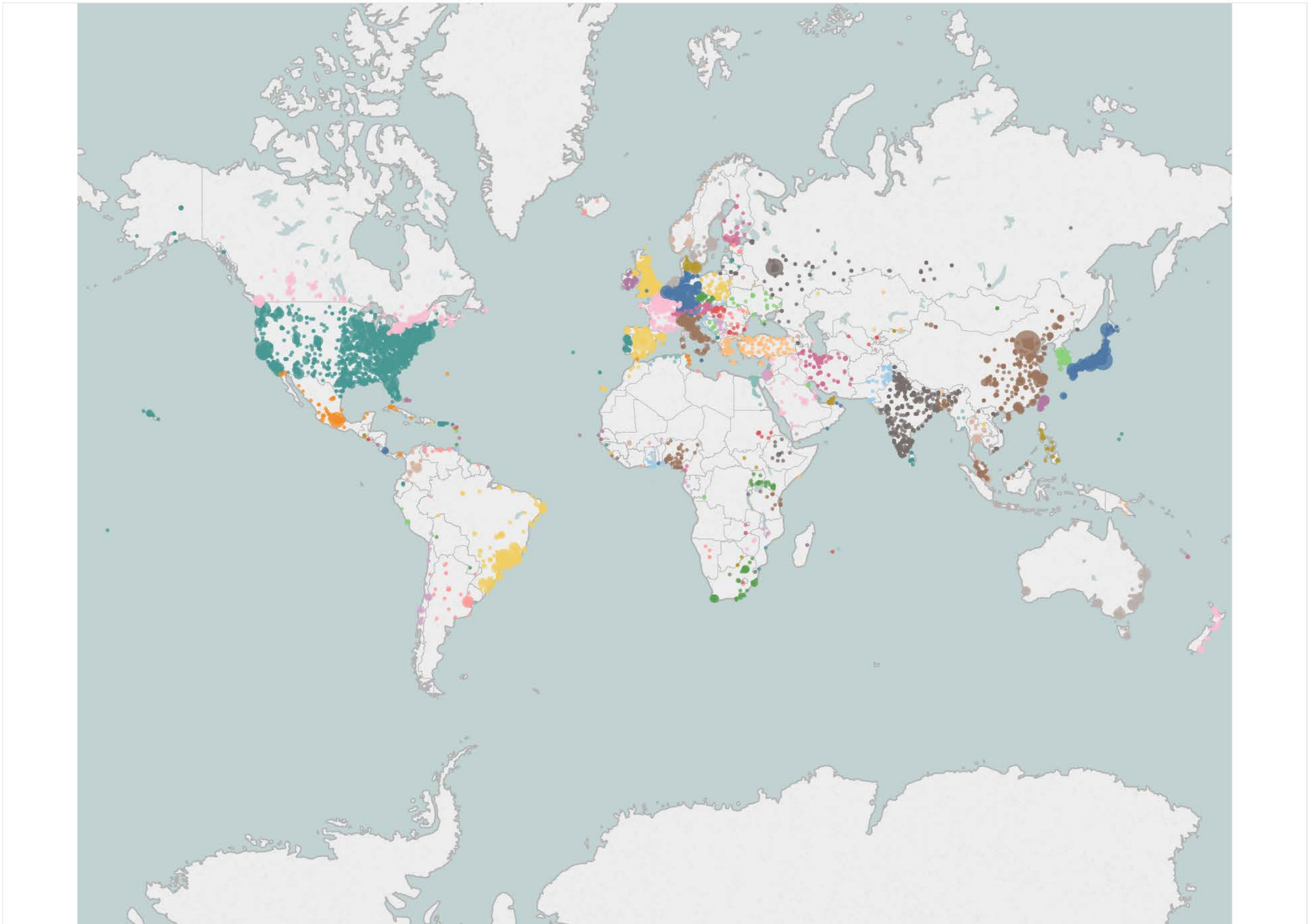


Fields of Study



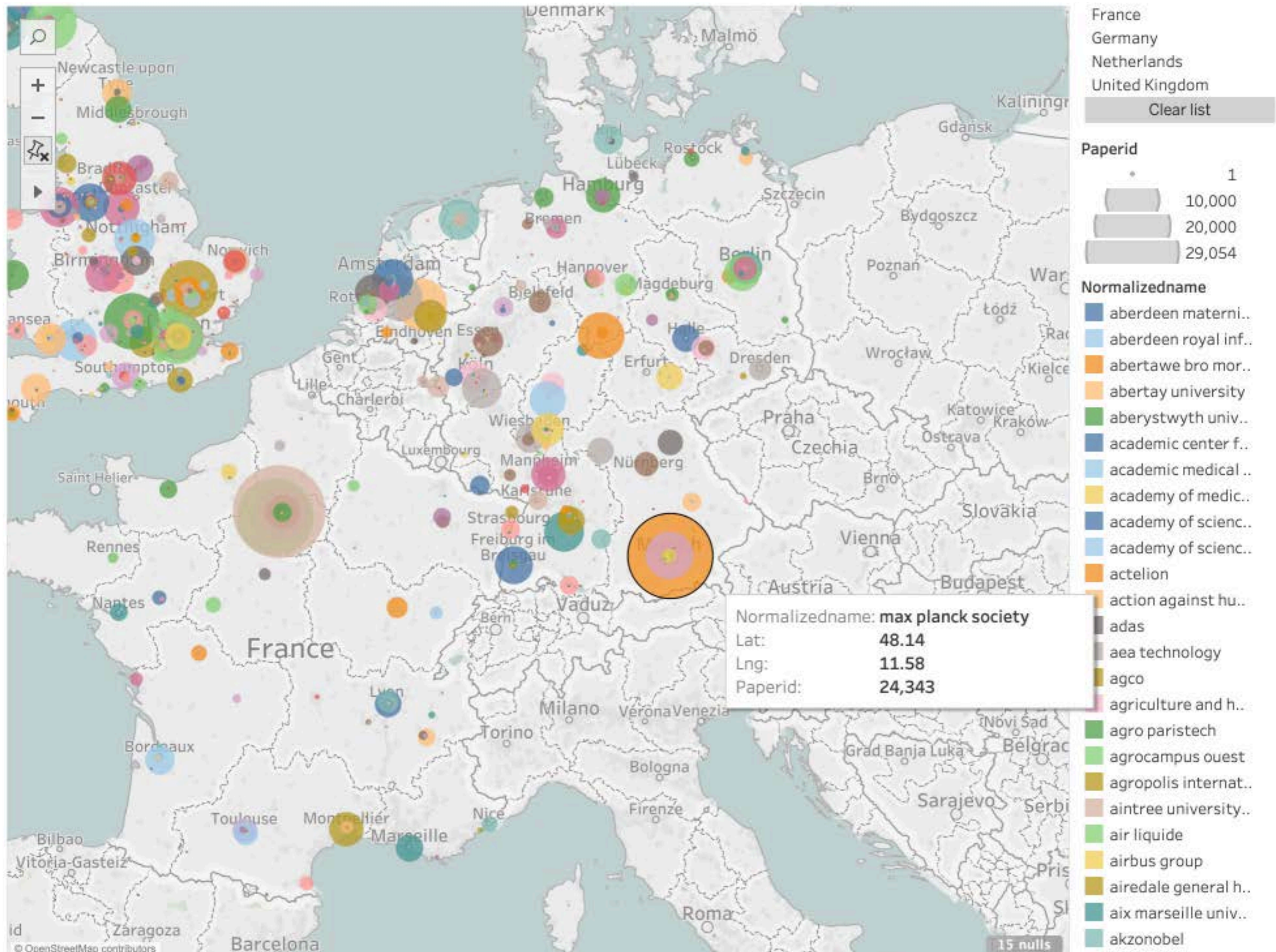


## Biodiversity Related Research Worldwide (First Draft)



Binomial species names appearing in publication metadata. Source: Microsoft Academic Graph 1800 - 2017.

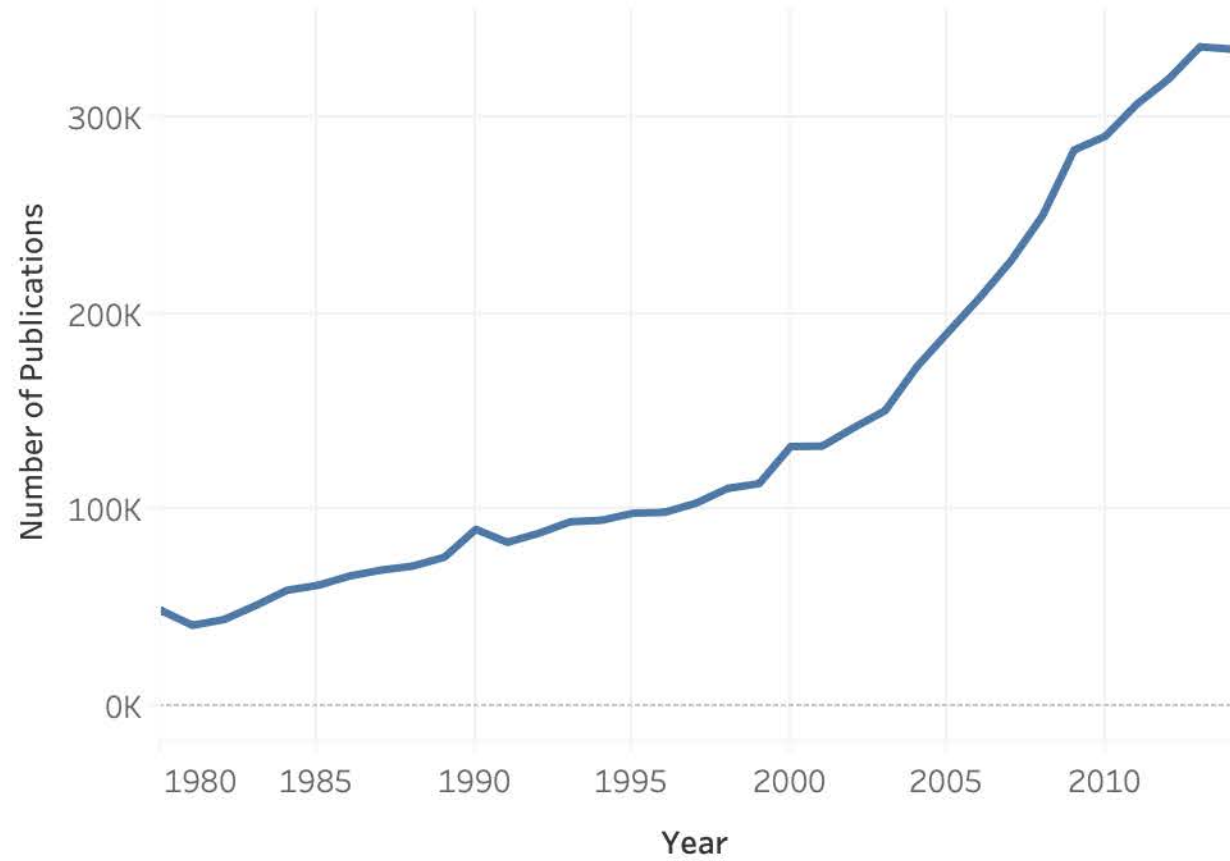




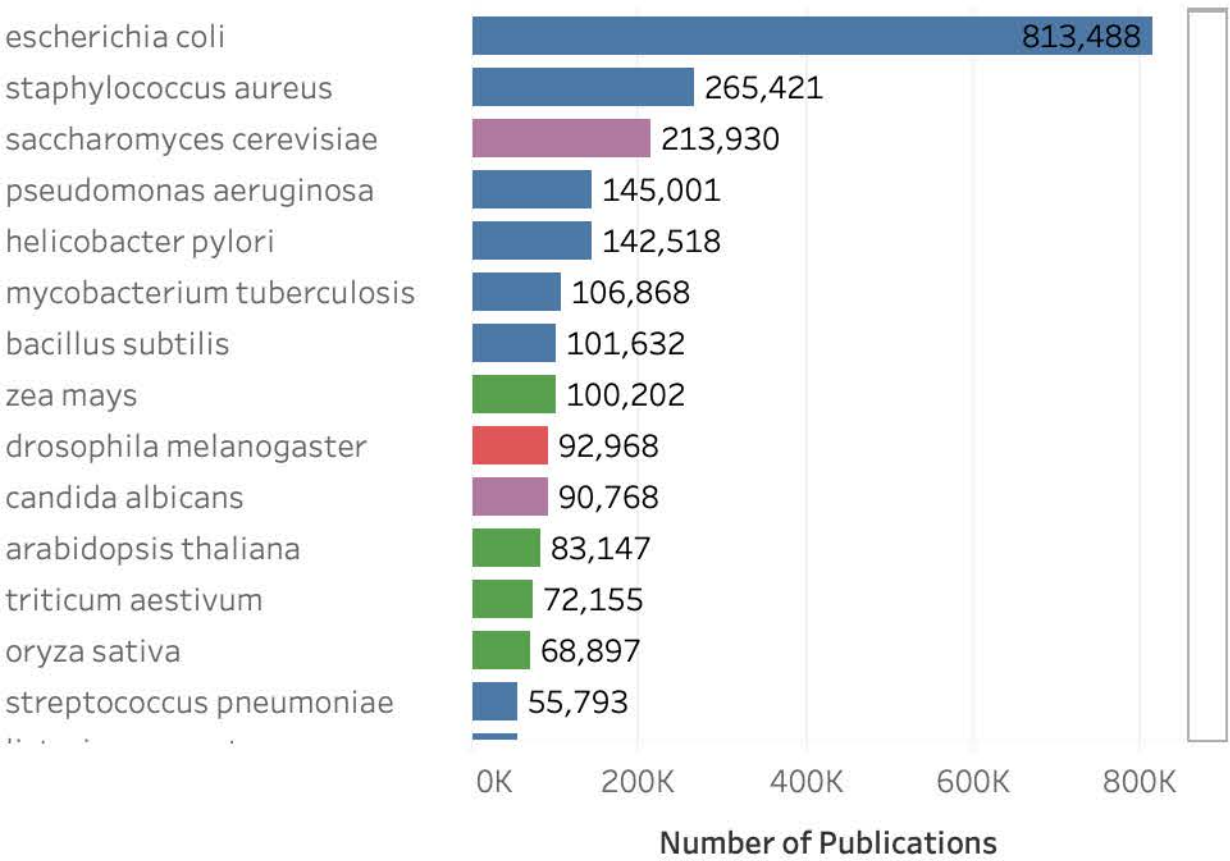
Using the open access [GRID dataset](#) we can map organisations around the world publishing on species.



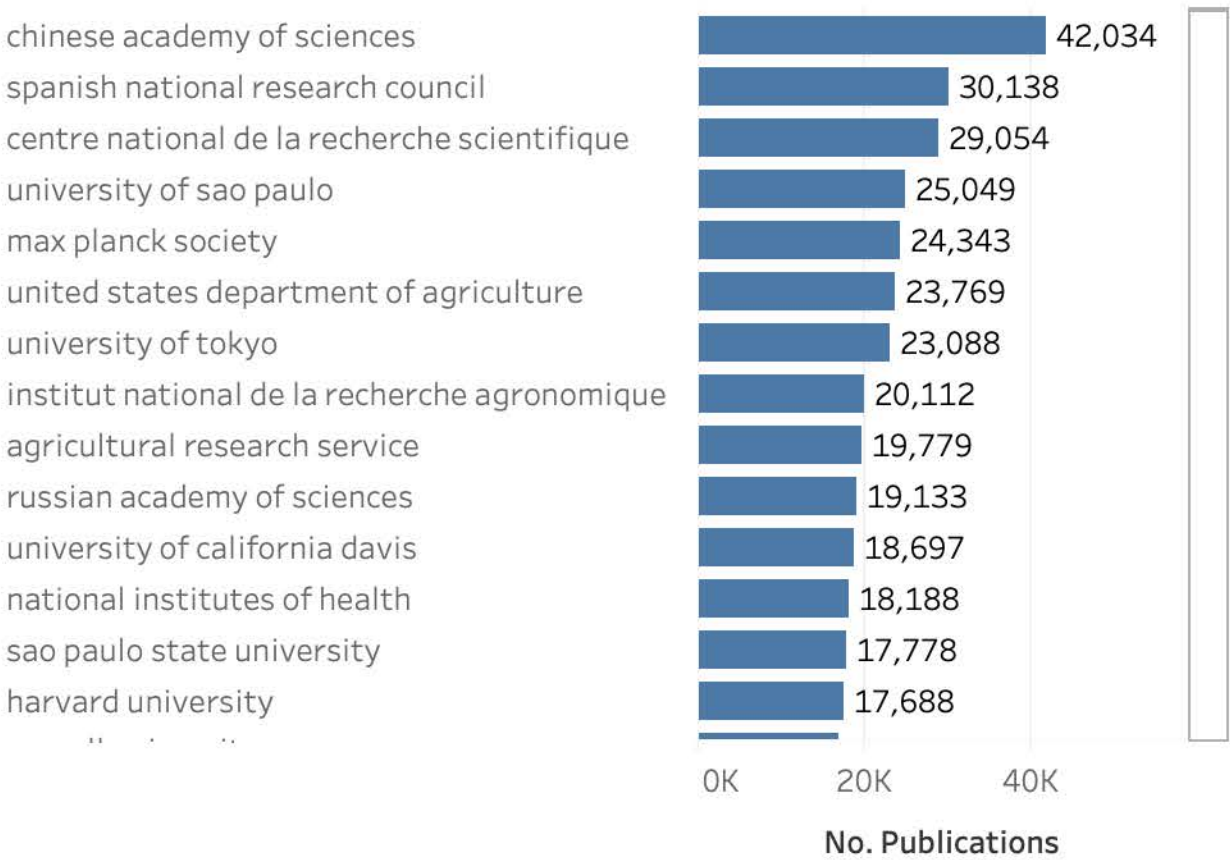
Trends



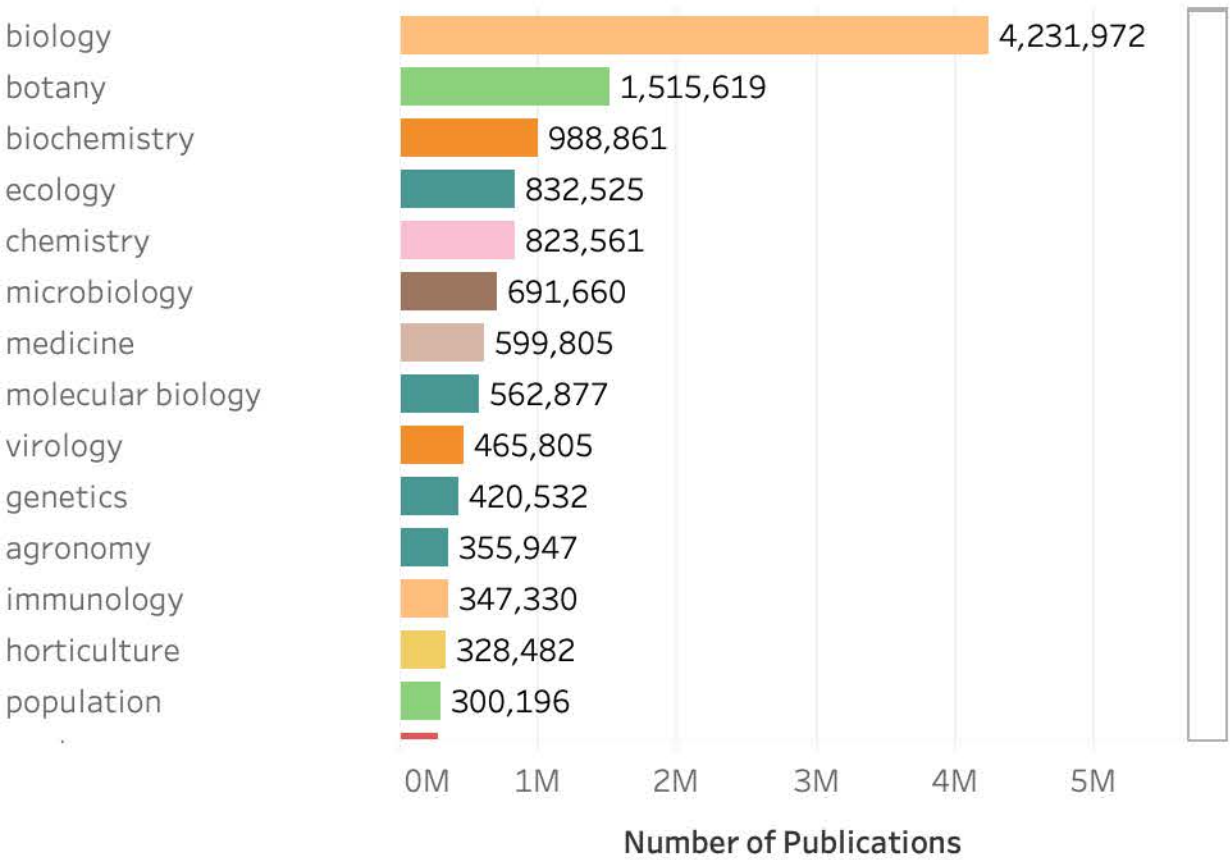
Species



Organisations



Fields of Study



# Closing

Monitoring under the Nagoya Protocol allows us to do more than focus on compliance. It also allows us to improve our knowledge and understanding of biodiversity research and innovation on a global scale. That is a goal worth pursuing in thinking about the post-2020 vision to address the biodiversity and climate crisis.

# Credits

- GBIF & Global Names Index
- Microsoft Academic Graph & Open Academic Graph
- Explosion AI for spaCy and Prodigy.