



Learning  
through  
Landscapes

# Practitioner Guidance for Data Input



Now you have completed surveys in your schools grounds, you will need to input the data you have collected. This document will help you do this with your students and answer any questions that may arise during the process

The website for inputting the data collected can be found here:  
[www.rshiny.nbis.se/shiny-server-apps/natural-nations/](http://www.rshiny.nbis.se/shiny-server-apps/natural-nations/)

## General data input advice

- It is important to complete all surveys that you plan to do before entering the data. You can choose to only do a subset of the surveys, but the data entry should be done in a single attempt.
- If you completed the accessible surveys, you do not need to input the data. The focus of these surveys is much more on learning rather than producing accurate data, and as these surveys were adapted from the original versions, they will not fit the data entry format.
- While the data can be entered without the students, we would recommend allowing the students to have a chance to enter the data themselves, so they can see the survey process all the way through and take ownership of it. This also allows them to see that the surveys they personally completed were an important contribution to a university research project investigating the ecology of school grounds across Europe.
- We would highly recommend the practitioner having a practice with all the website functions before inputting the data with the students. Nothing is saved permanently until you download and submit the data.
- You could allow small groups of children to take it in turns, each group inputting the class data for one of the surveys so that everyone gets an opportunity.
- By selecting the 'Show data' functions, you can see the data submitted by other schools.

## Funders and partner organisations



## School information

- Select your country and language from the dropdown list and enter the name of your school.
- Enter the latitude and longitude of your school by right clicking on approximately the centre of your school grounds on Google Maps.
- The map will show you other schools participating in the project. Once you submit your data, your school will be listed for other participants to locate.

## Habitat and School Grounds (S1)

- In this section, you will need to enter the data collected during the habitat survey. If you did not work out the size of your school grounds before doing the survey, you can do this now (please refer to the Practitioner Guidance document).
- You will need to select the types of habitats you found in your school grounds, but you do not need to enter the m<sup>2</sup> of each one, this is just to calculate the dominant habitat in your school grounds.
- You will then need to enter the tree and shrub data and the three most common species with numbers. If your most common species were unknown, you can put 'Unknown (7)' instead of a species.
- If when completing this survey you have split the students into groups, and have multiple copies of the same survey, only one set of data should be entered. If time allows a learning opportunity, a mean of the data collections can be calculated. Alternatively, you can just select the most accurate survey. This means that in the 'How many participants are in your survey group' section, you should enter the total number of pupils.

## Birds (S2)

- For this survey, you can practice surveying but the first actual survey completed should be one you submit the data for. This will give more comparable data than doing several surveys over several days and then choosing the best one.
- If when completing this survey, you have split the students into groups and have multiple copies of the same survey, you should add all the data together to enter as one. This means if group A recorded 8 blue tits, and group B recorded 3, and group C recorded 7, you would enter 18 blue tits in total. However, try and position the groups so that the same bird is not counted more than once. If this is not possible, enter the mean number of birds sighted (from the example above, this would mean entering 6 blue tits).
- In the 'How many participants are in your survey group' section, you should enter the total number of pupils who completed the survey.

## Pollinators and Flowering Plants (S3)

- For this survey, you will need to only input data for one 5x5m square. Therefore, if you carried out the survey in multiple places (due to dividing the class into groups or surveying different habitats for comparison), you will need to select the square which contained the most representative habitat in your school grounds.
- If you completed the survey in the same square more than once, only enter data for the first actual survey completed (not a practice).

## Minibeasts and Leaves (S4)

- For this survey, you need only input data for 1x1m squares, ideally those within the same 5x5m grid square used for S3 Pollinator and Flowering Plants survey.
- If you completed multiple 5x5m grid square surveys, select the one most representative of the habitat in your school grounds.
- You can then input data for as many 1x1m squares within that 5x5m grid square.

## Submitting the data

- Don't forget to submit your data at the end! You will need to download your data and then email it to [natural\\_nations@cec.lu.se](mailto:natural_nations@cec.lu.se)