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Dr. Peter H. Schalk (55) is managing director of ETI Bioinformatics. His background is in marine biology (biogeography, pelagic ecosystems). ETI Bioinformatics (www.eti.uva.nl) is a NGO in operational relation with UNESCO that promotes access to, and sharing of, biodiversity information. It develops and implements professional, sustainable information infrastructures that facilitate interoperability, accessibility and efficient dissemination of biodiversity information. Dr Schalk is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Species 2000. He is a Board Member of SBNO, a Netherlands Charity for young scientists (since 1982).