European Vegetation Archive
Data Request Form

To obtain data from the European Vegetation Archive (EVA), please first enquire the EVA database administrator Ilona Knollová (ikuzel@sci.muni.cz) whether the data meeting your needs are available. If they are, please fill in the form below and submit it to Ilona or another member of the EVA Coordinating Board.

- Applicant's name:

  Gabriele Midolo

- Applicant's institutional address:

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  University Campus Bohunice, building A32, Kamenice 753/5, Brno, Czech Republic

- Applicant's e-mail:

  gmidolo@sci.muni.cz

- Project title:

  Trait-disturbance relationships in the European vegetation

- Brief description of the aims and methods of the study:

  We aim to combine disturbance indicator values and plant functional trait data to explore trait-disturbance relationships. We hypothesize that disturbance selects species and plant communities with more acquisitive leaves, lower height, lighter seeds, and an annual life cycle. We will test trait-disturbance relationships I) at the individual species level, using more than 3,000 European vascular plant species and their corresponding disturbance indicator values; and II) at the community level, by calculating community weighted means of trait values in the herbaceous vegetation of grasslands and forest plots obtained from the European Vegetation Archive. To our knowledge, our study will represents the first attempt to define trait-disturbance relationships at the European scale.

- Will someone else be involved in data editing or analysis in addition to the applicant?

  Irena Axmanová, Milan Chytrý and potentially some other members of the Vegetation Science Group at Masaryk University.

- Estimated time of delivery of results (e.g., manuscript submission):

  Within 2022

- Geographic area needed (e.g., countries or range of geographic coordinates):

  Europe (excluding Anatolia, Cyprus and Macaronesia).

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- Do you need plots to be georeferenced? If so, what is the minimum accuracy of plot location (in metres or kilometres) needed for your project?

  > Plots need to be georeferenced and have minimum accuracy (coordinate uncertainty) of 5000 meters. However, we also want to include plots with missing coordinate uncertainty.

- Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):

  > All

- Other data selection criteria:

  > We will use the same dataset as used for the preparation of the article Midolo et al. (submitted) "Disturbance indicator values for European plants". That article was prepared based on the data obtained from EVA project 123 FeedBaCks after informing data contributors about a side project of FeedBaCks on disturbance indicator values. As the work with disturbance indicators was not specifically mentioned in proposal 123, we apply for the use of the same data within the current proposal.

- Envisaged publications:

  > One publication of a scientific article in an international journal concerning plant functional ecology and macroecology.

- Data deposition. Some journals require data used for the analysis to be stored in a public repository to ensure the repeatability of the analysis. According to EVA Rules, you are not allowed to store the original vegetation-plot data obtained from EVA. However, if you plan to publish in such a journal, you may deposit a reduced EVA-derived dataset that (1) would make it possible to repeat the analysis published in the paper and (2) does not contain any information not used in the analysis. For example, such a dataset can contain only a subset of species (e.g., only angiosperms or only neophytes), or replace species names with codes, or replace species cover values with presences/absences, or remove all the header data, or replace the exact plot coordinates by coarse grid-cell coordinates etc. If you plan to deposit reduced information from vegetation plots, please describe here what might be deposited. If the project developed so that you needed to deposit more information than specified here, you would need to ask specific permission from the Custodians of the EVA databases used in your analysis before the dataset is deposited.

  > We will not store the original relevé data. Only minimum information or derived data that will not make it possible to reconstruct the original relevé data can be stored if the target journal requires it.

- Plant trait data from the TRY consortium. If you plan to combine your analysis of vegetation-plot data with plant trait data, you can also request for a dataset of 18 gap-filled traits for a large number of plant taxa prepared by the TRY consortium. These traits include Leaf area, Specific leaf area, Leaf fresh mass, Leaf dry matter content, Leaf C, Leaf N, Leaf P, Leaf N per area, Leaf N:P ratio, Leaf delta15N, Seed mass, Seed length, Seed number per reproductive unit, Dispersal unit length, Plant height, Stem specific density, Stem conduit density, and Conduit element length. This dataset can be provided to you from the EVA manager together with the vegetation-plot data. If you use this dataset, you must inform about your project the TRY data contributors who might be potentially interested and invite them as potential co-authors, assuming they will make an intellectual contribution to your paper. The list of the TRY data contributors will be sent to you together with the gap-filled trait dataset.

  > No.

- Specification of the co-authorship arrangements in publications based on the requested data. Note that the EVA Rules recommend that co-authorship is offered to a representative of each database providing data that are particularly important for the project (e.g., a relatively large proportion of the final dataset used in the analyses or data from unique vegetation types or under-represented geographic areas). This database representative should be an expert in the topic of the project (not necessarily the custodian or deputy custodian), and this person should contribute to the project more than just by providing the existing data, e.g. by intellectual contribution to the concept of the paper, preparation of new data, or helping with data analysis, interpretation of the results or writing parts of the paper (see the IAVS Code of Professional Ethics: http://iavs.org/Governance/Code-of-Professional-Ethics.aspx). The project leader should enable active participation by regularly informing potential co-authors about the progress of the project from its early stage. The project leader should also make final co-authorship arrangements based on the real input of the individual contributors.

> One representative of each EVA database (custodian or a person delegated by the custodian) will be considered as a co-author provided the custodian expresses interest in this project by filling in the EVA online form and the database provides > 2% of the final number of plots or fewer data from biogeographically important regions that are not represented in other databases. Co-authors will be asked to provide intellectual input in the interpretation of the results and commenting on the manuscript. All the other data contributors (custodians) of EVA will be acknowledged in the resulting publication.

- Eligibility of the applicant to receive EVA data. Specify to which EVA database the applicant has contributed; if the applicant is not the custodian or deputy custodian of an EVA database, give a name of a custodian or deputy custodian who supports this data request.

> This data request is supported by Milan Chytrý, the Custodian of the Czech National Phytosociological Database (EU-CZ-001).

- I agree with the terms of EVA Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 26 May 2012 (http://euroveg.org/download/eva-rules.pdf).
- In any result obtained based on this data, I will cite the EVA report paper (Chytrý et al. 2016; https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12191). In addition, I will cite individual source databases used in my project (if possible, in the list of References; if not possible, at least as a list of databases in the electronic supplementary material).
- If I ask for the plant trait data from TRY, I agree to invite to my project the TRY data contributors following the list received from the EVA database manager.

Brno (Czech Republic)

April 4, 2022

Gabriele Midolo