To obtain data from the European Vegetation Archive (EVA), please first make an enquiry to 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 Milan Chytrý (chytry@sci.muni.cz) or another member of the EVA Coordinating Board.

• Applicant’s name:
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  Borja Jiménez-Alfaro (2)

• Applicant’s institutional address:
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• Applicant’s e-mail:
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  (2) borja@sci.muni.cz

• Project title:
  Alpine grasslands in European mountains – comparison, delimitation and variability

• Brief description of aims and methods of the study:
  **Main questions:** What is the variation in species composition of alpine siliceous and calcareous grasslands in Europe? Which syntaxa can be distinguished at the level of alliance and what are the mains drivers of their variability? Are we able to characterize these communities by environmental conditions?
  **Location:** European mountain ranges – Carpathians, Sudetes, Alps, Pyrenees, Apennines, Cantabrian range, Balkan mountains, etc.
  **Methods:** On the basis of national/regional data sets as well as our own data, we will conduct supranational analyses for the main types of high-altitude European grasslands. Relevés recorded on plot sizes from 4 to 100 m² will be included. We will search for the main gradients in species variability; revised syntaxa (alliances) will be characterized by diagnostic, constant and dominant species, and their geographical distribution, climatic and ecological characteristics. Numerical classification and semi-supervised methods will be used for the delimitation of groups that will be described on the basis of environmental characteristics such as type of bedrock, altitude, inclination, amount of precipitation and radiation.

• Will someone else be involved in data editing or analysis in addition to the applicant?
  Mihai Puscas, "A. Borza" Botanical Garden Babes-Bolyai University, Romania
  Vladimir Kricsfalussy, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
  Jonathan Lenoir, Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France
  Jean-Paul Theurillat, Centre alpien de Phytogéographie, France
  Xavier Font, Universidad de Barcelona, Spain
Estimated time of delivery of results (e.g. manuscript submission):

- A manuscript on alpine siliceous grasslands to be submitted in 2015
- A manuscript on alpine calcareous grasslands to be submitted in 2016
- A manuscript comparing diversity patterns in the European mountain ranges using the data from the two previous manuscripts to be submitted in 2017

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

- European mountains

Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):

- Phytosociological classes: Juncetea trifidi, Carici rupestris-Kobresietea bellardii and Elyno-Seslerietea

Other data selection criteria:

- A selection of relevés not assigned to syntaxa by using target species will be required.
  The list of the target species will be provided after a preliminary check of the data.

Envisaged publications:

- First two manuscripts on vegetation journals, the third manuscript on a biogeography journal.

Specification of the co-authorship arrangements in publications based on the requested data (e.g. the extent of possible involvement of the original data providers, or of EVA data managers if extra work for this project is needed from them):

- EVA data providers and eventual contributors on data analyses and data management will be invited as co-authors.

We agree with the terms of EVA Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 26 May 2012 (http://euroveg.org/download/eva-rules.pdf).

December 15, 2014

Jozef Šibík
Borja Jiménez-Alfaro