



# European Vegetation Archive Data Request Form



To obtain data from the European Vegetation Archive (EVA), including the ReSurveyEurope Database, please first enquire the EVA database administrator Ilona Knollová (ikuzel@sci.muni.cz) whether the data that meet 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 (or ReSurveyEurope Board if you ask for data from the ReSurveyEurope Database).

- Applicant's name:

Lorenzo Ricci, Michele Di Musciano

- Applicant's institutional address:

Department of Life, Health & Environmental Science, University of L'Aquila, L'Aquila, Italy

- Applicant's e-mail:

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- Project title:

Challenges and achievements of Natura 2000 protected areas in conserving habitat diversity

- Are you asking for core EVA data (non-repeated vegetation surveys) or for ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys)?

We request the complete dataset (both EVA and ReSurveyEurope), but kindly emphasize that we only want sampled data from 1990 onwards.

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

We aim to assess Natura 2000 (N2K) protected areas (PA) network representativeness in conserving habitat diversity. We will compare habitat diversity of N2K PAs against unprotected areas of Europe. To account for the non-random location of PAs in the landscape we will apply matching techniques. This refined approach provides a robust framework for assessing the true representativeness of N2K PAs in conserving habitat diversity.

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

Members of the BIOME Group from the Bologna University and the Department of Botany and Zoology at Masaryk University can be involved.

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

2024/2025

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

European Union countries (EU27)



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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?

Only georeferenced plots (location uncertainty up to 5km).

- Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):

We need all the habitat types: Forests, shrublands, grasslands, wetlands (including bogs and mires), coastal habitats (including saltmarshes), and men made habitats.

- Other data selection criteria:

None

- Envisaged publications:

One or two papers in international journals. If the journal requires the processed dataset deposition in a public repository, we will not deposit the original data. Instead, we would deposit the minimum information necessary for repeating the analysis (see Data deposition).

- **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.

According to journal rules we could deposit a restricted version of the data (e.g. species names are replaced with codes, cover values with presences/absences and coordinates are removed)

- **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 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 by 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



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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 will be invited as a co-author provided (1) s/he expresses an interest in this study by registering in the online EVA form; (2) the database will provide either at least 1% of the plots of total dataset or plots will be from a large area where almost no other plots are available. To be included on the final author list, the invited potential co-authors will need to contribute intellectually beyond the delivery of the data, e.g., by checking the species list and/or commenting on the concept of the analyses, interpretation of the results or the text of the manuscript.

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

Alessandro Chiarucci is the custodian of the Alma Mater Studiorum Vegetation Database AMS-VegBank.

- 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>).
- If I ask for ReSurveyEurope data, I agree with the terms of ReSurveyEurope Data Property and Governance Rules as approved on 6 April 2022 (<http://euroveg.org/download/resurveyeurope-rules.pdf>).
- In any result obtained based on EVA core data (non-repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the EVA report article (Chytrý et al. 2016; <https://doi.org/10.1111/avsc.12191>). In any result obtained based on the ReSurveyEurope data (repeated vegetation surveys), I will cite the ReSurveyEurope report article as soon as it is published. 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.

L'Aquila, 22/01/2024

Lorenzo Ricci