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:

  Emma Shih Mendez[1,2]

- Applicant's institutional address:

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- Applicant's e-mail:

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- Project title:

  GRACE – GRAssland Communities Experiment

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

  ReSurveyEurope data

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

  In the PhD project "Analyzing vegetation changes in Europe using resurvey studies", we aim to use ReSurveyEurope to address one key question: How does governance of protected areas affect long-term vegetation trends in Europe? This study will complement ongoing research on protected areas by offering an understanding of the effectiveness of different levels of protection from the perspective of fine-scale species composition.

  We are in exchange with Marta Sperandii who is working on a previously submitted project on the role of protected areas and vegetation change (https://euroveg.org/requests/EVA-data-request-form-ReSurvey-2022-11-14-Sperandi.pdf). We have clarified the differences between both planned studies of protected areas. In this proposed study, we will work on all the different effects of all types of protected areas, and we will work on all species and all habitat types; whereas Marta plans to work on Natura 2000 sites, typical species and non-forest habitats. Thus, both projects are complementary. During the planned work, we and Marta Sperandii will remain in regular contact and collaborate on specific workflows.

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

  Yes, members of the GRACE project.

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

  2027

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

  All plots

- 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 should be georeferenced; no filter by minimum accuracy is needed.

- Vegetation types needed (syntaxa):

  All

- Other data selection criteria:

- Envisaged publications:

  As part of the doctoral project, we plan to publish two papers in international journals.
  - The first paper will study how governance type affects the effectiveness of protected areas. By overlapping the ReSurveyEurope database with the open-source World Database of Protected Areas (WDPA), each ReSurveyEurope plot will be assigned a protection status (yes/no). Other variables will come from the metadata of the databases, such as the protection type (IUCN categories), expert system (EUNIS level 1 habitat types), and protection length.
  - The second paper will address temporal vegetation changes in Europe through a lens of socio-ecology. We will try to understand the impact of humans on the temporal vegetation changes in and out of protected areas in Europe.

- 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.

  In case of data requirements from journal we will follow EVA rules and the suggested precautions listed here: 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. We will deposit a dataset containing only a subset of species, 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. For any other data usage, we will secure consent from all data contributors before depositing any specific reduced dataset.

- 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 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.

  Any representative from the ReSurveyEurope database who has contributed more than 1% of plot observations to the final dataset analyzed will be considered a project partner, and will be invited to contribute to the papers resulting from this project, depending on their specific expertise and willingness to actively participate in the studies. Those representatives who provide substantial intellectual input in the analyses, interpretation, and the manuscript preparation will be offered co-authorship. All data contributors will be acknowledged in the resulting publications.

- 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.

  Franz Essl, member of the ReSurveyEurope Board, supports this data request.

- 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.

Vienna (Austria) [24.10.2025]

Emma Shih Mendez