



## GMBA NEWS - DECEMBER 2017

Dear Members,

It is already time to wish you happy holidays and a good start in 2018. Throughout the year 2017 we have reached out to you and invited you to share with us and the global mountain biodiversity community at large relevant news and information. We very much hope that you will keep contributing actively to our efforts to create a momentum about and for mountain biodiversity and sustainable development in mountains. At the GMBA project office we engage ourselves to address the wishes expressed in response to our online survey the best we can, and to strengthen our efforts to support you, facilitate your work, and catalyse progress towards an improved understanding and sustainable management of mountain biodiversity.

### GMBA NEWS

#### **New GMBA publication “Opportunities for research on mountain biodiversity under global change”**

In this new publication in Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, we concisely review current knowledge and knowledge gaps on mountain biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human well-being under global change. We argue that our ability to understand, predict, and sustainably manage mountain biodiversity and to support human well-being requires concerted research efforts in natural and social sciences and comparative analyses of biological and social–ecological systems within and across mountain ranges. Specific examples illustrate how the Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment will continue to support these efforts in the future. It is available for unrestricted [download](#) until 20.01.2017. Past that, please contact us!

#### **New on the GMBA website**

Since early December, we are publishing highlights on the landing page of our website. Have a look at them and send us yours! They have been weekly so far but we very much hope that your numerous updates will contribute to increasing their frequency. Add a mountain biodiversity picture with the necessary legend and/or copyright information and we will also happily use it for our homepage.

---

### NEWS FROM THE [GMBA WORKING GROUPS](#) AND [PROJECTS](#)

#### [Promoting long-term ecological research in mountains](#)

In late September GMBA participated to the workshop ‘Long-Term Research in Mountain Areas’ organized by University Centre & Alpine Research Centre Obergurgl, the University of Applied Sciences & Arts of Western Switzerland (hepia Geneva), and the LTSER platform Tyrolaen Alps. Besides presenting GMBA to the participants, this was an occasion to connect with the community and to collect ideas and needs, and start planning novel activities.

#### [Species distribution modelling and remote sensing](#)

This working group will be holding a workshop in Zurich, February 2018, in collaboration with the [Global Land Programme](#), [BioDISCOVERY](#), and the [GlobDiversity](#) project. Additional information about this workshop, including the detailed program, will be available online early January. Please check the Highlights on our landing page for an update.

#### [Endemism and species richness in mountains](#)

Some members of this working group are working assiduously on a first theoretical publication on endemism and species richness patterns. The field is broad though and there are considerably more ideas to pursue. We are looking forward to supporting more work in that field.

#### [Biodiversity-related opportunities for sustainable mountain development](#)

The project “Toward biodiversity-related opportunities for sustainable development: a global social-ecological mountain comparison” is about to start. Early 2018 we will be reaching out to you with a survey to collect

information and knowledge on the status and trends in mountain biodiversity, ecosystems, and human wellbeing. We thank you in advance for your participation.

### [Natural Assets Knowledge Action Network](#)

GMBA participated together with the [Global Land Programme](#) and [Future Earth](#) to a Natural Assets Knowledge Action Network session at the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference of the [Programme on Ecosystem Change and Society](#), held in Oaxaca Mexico, in November. It also is actively working on the output of the [workshop](#) held in Bern in September.

---

## NETWORK NEWS

### **Six sDiv call for working groups, individual post-docs, and sabbaticals**

The 6<sup>th</sup> sDiv calls for working groups, postdocs and sabbaticals is now open. The synthesis projects foster integrative and synthetic research collaborations among international scientists, iDiv core and member groups by analysing and synthesising existing knowledge, data, theories and hypotheses to produce new insights on biodiversity patterns, processes, and functions and on biodiversity and society. [Read more...](#)

### **Mountain Research and Development: call for papers – Adaptation to Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Mountains**

Mountains and mountain communities are critically affected by climate change. Mountain Research and Development (MRD) is looking for papers that assess novel adaptation practices and present well-researched insights into implications of climate change relevant to adaptation. Synthesis papers comparing case studies are of particular interest, as MRD aims to contribute to the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report as well as to inform development policies. Extended abstracts are due by 19 January 2018, full papers by 15 August 2018. [Read more...](#)

### **Recent publications from our network members**

- Alexander J et al (2017). Lags in the response of mountain plant communities to climate change. *Global Change Biology* (DOI 10.1111/gcb.13976)
  - Sandoya S, Pauchard A, and Cavieres L (2017). Natives and non-natives plants show different responses to elevation and disturbance on the tropical high Andes of Ecuador. *Ecology and Evolution* (DOI 10.1002/ece3.3270)
  - Graae B et al (2017). Stay or go – how topographic complexity influences alpine plant population and community responses to climate change. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* (DOI 10.1016/j.ppees.2017.09.008)
  - Lessard-Therrien M, Humber J-Y, and Arlettaz R (2017). Experiment-based recommendations for biodiversity-friendly management of mountain hay meadows. *Applied Vegetation Science* 20: 352-362 (DOI 10.1111/avsc.12309)
  - Lessard-Therrien M et al (2018). Impacts of management intensification on ground-dwelling beetles and spiders in semi-natural mountain grasslands. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 251: 59-66 (DOI 10.1016/j.agee.2017.08.025)
  - Mazzei A and Brandmayr P (2017). *Agonum tulliae* sp. n. from the Sila National Park (Calabria, southern Italy) (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Platynini). *Entomology* 49(6677): 48-53 (DOI 10.4081/year.2017.6677)
- 

## FOR THE AGENDA

- [Mountain 2018 conference](#)