

Invitation to the international meeting of the Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN) in Chile



Are you interested in plant ecology, community ecology, mountains, global change research, biodiversity patterns, microclimate effects on vegetation, trait-based ecology, macroecology, distribution modelling and/or invasion ecology?

The Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN) is inviting one interested PhD candidate, postdoc or researcher to its upcoming Steering Committee meeting from 20 to 25 November 2022 in Malalcahuello, Chile. The candidate is expected to propose and lead an analysis with the global MIREN road survey database which is described in Haider, Lembrechts et al. 2022 and in Fig. 1 and 2 below. For more details on the database and how it was collected, [see that paper](#).

What we offer

- A paid one-week visit to Malalcahuello, Chile from 20 to 25 November 2022, where we are hosting the biannual Steering Committee meeting of the global Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN; www.mountaininvasions.org).
- An unparalleled database of species distributions along mountain roads from over 20 regions worldwide, of which 14 have multiple time steps (up to 15 years, in steps of 5 years).
- Joint development of a research question, support for database use and high-level scientific discussion throughout the project.
- Leading and writing a paper as first author, with support from multiple experts in the field of mountain invasions and mountain biodiversity. Guidelines for co-authorship are published in the MIREN data-sharing agreement (<https://www.mountaininvasions.org/miren-road-survey>)

Requirements

- The applicant is a PhD candidate, postdoc or researcher who commits to leading the analysis of the data and writing of the resulting manuscript.
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills.
- Very good command of written and spoken English.
- The applicant submits (i) a 500 word summary of the project idea, (ii) a schedule until the anticipated submission of the manuscript to an international, peer-reviewed journal, and (iii) a short letter of support from the current supervisor to miren.contact@gmail.com, as well as a two-page CV highlighting relevant experience and listing key publications.
- The applicant can make himself available for the full period of 20 to 25 November 2022 (arrival/departure the day before/after) to join the MIREN Steering Committee meeting in Chile and has sufficient time to prioritize analyses and writing in the following months.

Selection criteria

- Applications are due on July 31st, 2022 and have to be submitted to the MIREN coordinators (miren.contact@gmail.com).
- The MIREN Steering Committee (SC) will select one candidate out of the submitted proposals.
- The SC keeps the right to select no candidate if none of the candidates fulfils all requirements, or for any other reason.
- The decision on the selection will be communicated by August 20th, 2022.

Please note that MIREN cannot offer employment or any kind of grant/fellowship.
For questions, please contact the MIREN coordinators (miren.contact@gmail.com).

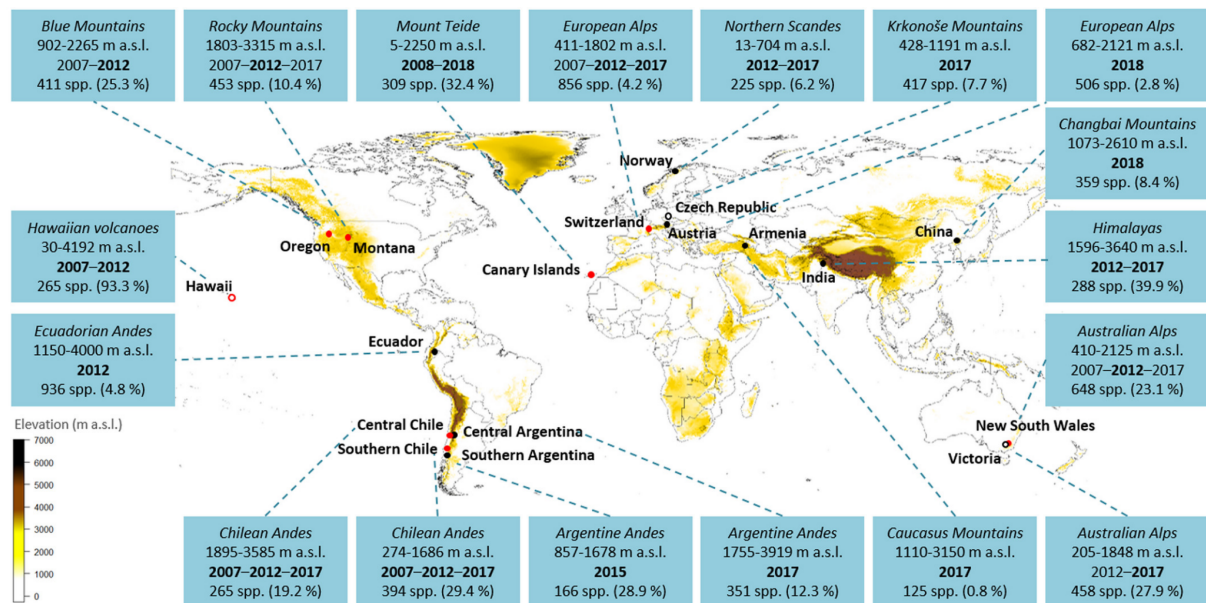


Fig. 1: Regions worldwide participating in the vegetation survey along mountain roads according to the standardized protocol of the Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN). Red symbols indicate the founding regions from the first survey in 2007. In regions with unfilled symbols, only roadside plots, but not intermediate and interior plots in natural vegetation were sampled. For each region, the name of the mountain range, the sampled elevation gradient and the year(s) of sampling are given. Years in bold indicate that both native and non-native species were recorded, while in years with normal font only non-native species were recorded. Note that some regions did not follow the 5-year sampling frequency. In the last row, the total number of species and in parentheses the proportion of non-native species are summarized. Figure source: Haider, Lembrechts et al. (2022) Think globally, measure locally: The MIREN standardized protocol for monitoring plant species distributions along elevation gradients. *Ecology and Evolution* 12, e8590.

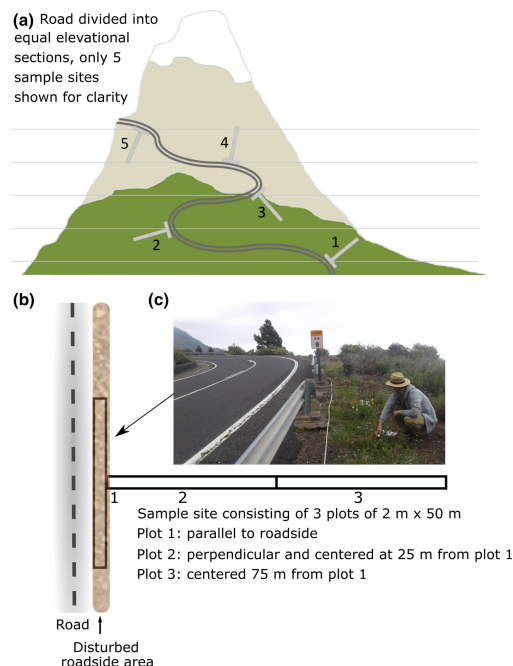


Figure 2: Layout of the MIREN survey design as used along the mountain gradients in Fig. 1. (a) Equal elevational distribution of 20 sample sites along a mountain road, of which three are selected in each region; (b) Each sample site consists of 3 plots of 2 m x 50 m, plot 1—parallel to the roadside (starting at the first occurrence of roadside vegetation), plot 2—centered 25 m from the roadside plot, plot 3—centered 75 m from the roadside plot; (c) exemplary photograph of monitoring a mountain roadside in Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain, depicting a survey of plot 1. Figure source: Haider, Lembrechts et al. (2022) Think globally, measure locally: The MIREN standardized protocol for monitoring plant species distributions along elevation gradients. *Ecology and Evolution* 12, e8590.