CONSERVATOIRE BOTANIQUE NATIONAL ALPIN

EVALUFLORE

Toward a better evaluation of threatened, common, or poorly known species, as well as species recorded in the Habitats Directive. Optimization of data acquisition protocols for better flora conservation concerning the French Alpine Massif.

PROJECT'S CONTEXT

More than twenty years of systematic inventories have been necessary to obtain a good knowledge of the distribution of plants in the French Alps. These inventories enable a better understanding of the floristic wealth and assessing the degree of threat (via the red lists of the Rhône-Alpes and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur regions) that most of these species incur. They enable as well to assess the conservation status for species concerned by the Habitats Directive.

Nevertheless, nearly 10% of the species that are present in the Alps are still poorly known, especially in difficult groups. Finally, the situation of common species whose a large number of taxa is assessed near threatened, deserve to be taken into account.

Whether to be useful or regulatory required, the assessments of threat levels and the states of conservation should be regularly updated (every 10 years for Red lists of threatened species and every 6 years for the conservation status of species from the Habitats Directive).

A complete update is hardly feasible on such time steps and for so many taxa (about 650 in both regions) with the current inventory protocol.

In addition, most often only the presence of a taxon is documented, whereas quantitative or semi-quantitative data would improve the quality of the assessments.

For species with high priority conservation and some of the species belonging to the Directive, monitoring protocols have been developed by the Alpes-Ain Network for the Conservation of Flora. However, for most of threatened species that are mainly present in the Alps, and given the large number of species and sites concerned, neither the inventory protocol nor the already developed monitoring protocols will be suitable.

PROJET's GOALS

The National Alpine Botanical Conservatories (CBNA) and National Mediterranean Botanical Conservatories (CBNMED) have recognized expertise in the collection, management and data analysis of vascular flora.
Within the framework of the EVALUFLORE project, CBNA and CBNMED aim to :

- devise and test new protocols on sample groups of taxa, that enable a regular actualization of the essentially Alpine species recorded on at least one of the two regional Red lists of threatened species or the Habitat Directive (annexes II and IV and especially for less rare species);
- significantly improve knowledge and identify threat levels for a wide range of poorly known species;
- develop and test a sampling protocol for non-threatened species, particularly targeting those considered near-threatened.

A perfect complementarity will be ensured with the RESEAU-FLORE project implemented during the same period, of which the CBNA is also the leader. All the collected data will feed the regional structures belonging to the nature and landscape information system (PIFH in Rhône-Alpes and SILENE in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur).

The project will be implemented within 3 years from 2016 to 2019

PARTNERS

Many partners will be associated with the project's work, in particular the University of Grenoble's Laboratory of Alpine Ecology, the Center for Functional and Evolutionary Ecology at the University of Montpellier, The Mediterranean National Botanical Conservatory, the Alpes-Ain conservation network and all the scientific associations concerned with flora in the Alpine territory.

More broadly all the biodiversity stakeholder of the Alpine territory will be kept apprised of the projects results.

FUNDING

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