

Unravelling causes and consequences of marine biodiversity changes in African and Mediterranean ecosystems

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What are the objectives of this project?

Study biodiversity changes in Mediterranean and African waters:

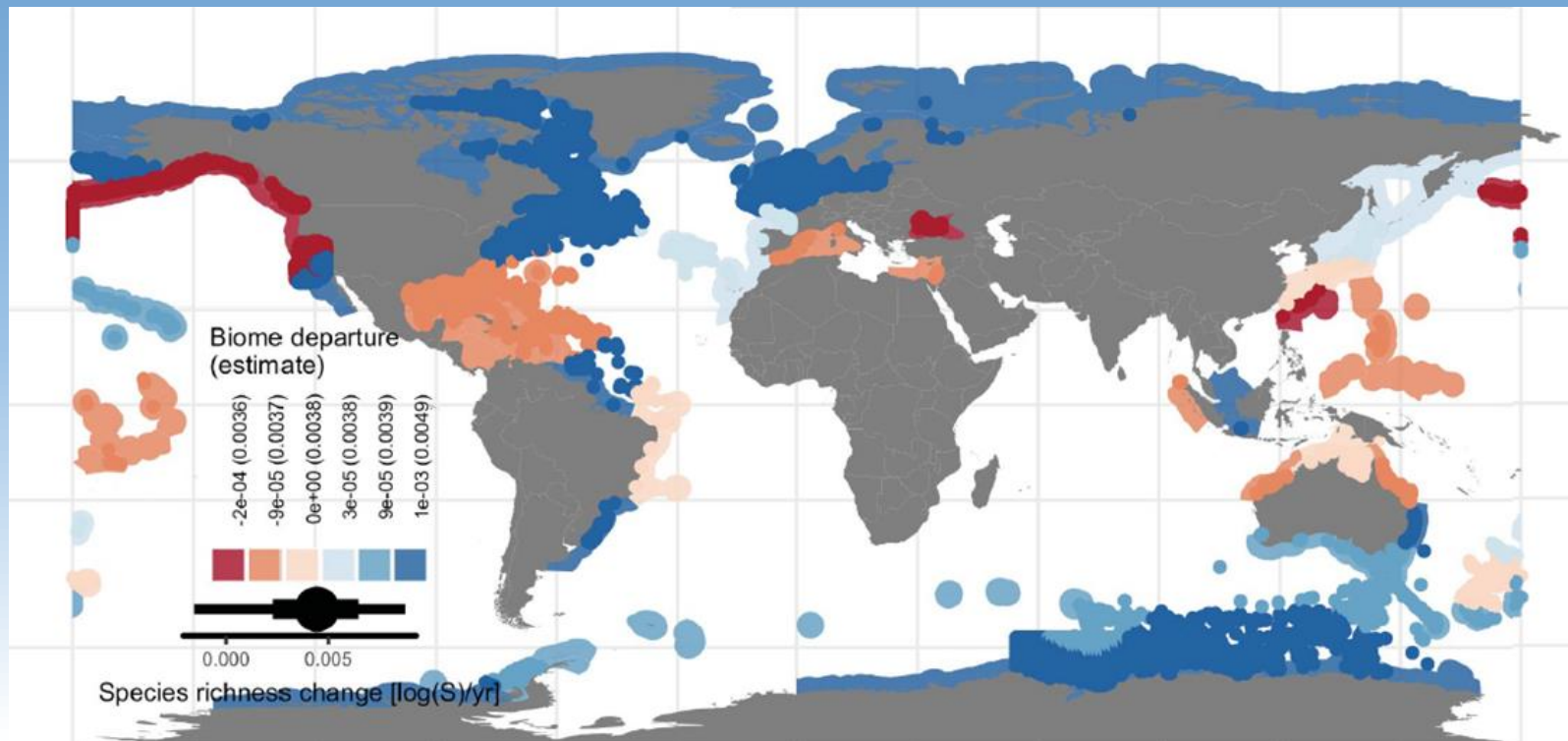
- Characterize and quantify the recent evolution of ecosystems (trends in richness, change in species...)

- Establish biodiversity gradients

- Predict response under different scenarios of environmental change and human pressure

Why this area?

Lack of biological community data compared to other places in standardized databases for diversity measuring (Dornelas et al., 2014; Blowes et al., 2019)



Initial questions

How has taxonomical and functional diversity in ecosystems changed these last years through the study area's different regions?

What is the main process involved, an increase/decrease of the number of species or a turnover (change of identity) of the communities?

What are the reasons of these changes?

How strong is the human impact as a driver of change?

How will this research help TRIATLAS?

The final objectives of this study are in line with some of the TRIATLAS projects ambitions such as:

- Evaluation of current state of the ecosystems focusing on the communities of fishes
- Identify and quantify past changes in ecosystems
- Forecast the response of marine communities to exploitation and environmental change

This project in question aims to fill the gap of ecological data present in Tropical and Southeast Atlantic coasts, allowing for a better understanding of the processes related to spatiotemporal variation of species diversity in the entire Atlantic.