

Project Update: March 2023

ACTIVITIES DEVELOPMENT

Potential distribution models

We have already finished the potential distribution models for 1270 plant species, and we are ready to submit the first article which is titled "Climate change effects on plant richness of Neotropical Seasonally Dry Forests". In general, we found that the regions with the highest plant richness are Mexico and Caatinga. Also, for future scenarios, we found that climate change will promote a decrease in alpha and beta taxonomic diversity, with changes in species range size, biotic homogenisation in a non-dispersal scenario (where species can't move), and biotic heterogenisation in a dispersal scenario (where species do move).

Fieldtrips

During the latest months, the field trip was to Santa Maria Tecomavaca, Oaxaca, which is one of the main places in Mexico with endangered dry forest due to the shift in the use of land to agriculture and livestock. There, we measured functional traits of the endemic species, and we performed a workshop with students at the local elementary school. The workshop was about the importance of the dry forest in their region to help them recognise their forest. The activities consisted of drawing their forest perspective, field activity to identify the main characteristics of tree species through photos taken by themselves.







