

# eDNA survey

This short questionnaire is aimed at users of environmental DNA (eDNA) for biodiversity research and/or application.

Our objective is to survey the community's opinion and assess the current development needs in the field of eDNA. The collected data will be used in a future publication and made freely available.

This survey is completely anonymous and voluntary. No personal data will be collected.

Thank you for your time,  
eDNA group, Altermatt Lab

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\* Indicates required question

## 1. 1a. Country of research institute \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ Akrotiri
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Andorra
- ☐ Angola
- ☐ Anguilla
- ☐ Antarctica
- ☐ Antigua and Barbuda
- ☐ Argentina
- ☐ Armenia
- ☐ Aruba
- ☐ Ashmore and Cartier Islands
- ☐ Australia
- ☐ Austria
- ☐ Azerbaijan

- ☐ Bahamas, The
- ☐ Bahrain
- ☐ Bangladesh
- ☐ Barbados
- ☐ Bassas da India
- ☐ Belarus
- ☐ Belgium
- ☐ Belize
- ☐ Benin
- ☐ Bermuda
- ☐ Bhutan
- ☐ Bolivia
- ☐ Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ☐ Botswana
- ☐ Bouvet Island
- ☐ Brazil
- ☐ British Indian Ocean Territory
- ☐ British Virgin Islands
- ☐ Brunei
- ☐ Bulgaria
- ☐ Burkina Faso
- ☐ Burma
- ☐ Burundi
- ☐ Cambodia
- ☐ Cameroon
- ☐ Canada
- ☐ Cape Verde
- ☐ Cayman Islands
- ☐ Central African Republic
- ☐ Chad
- ☐ Chile
- ☐ China

- ☐ Christmas Island
- ☐ Clipperton Island
- ☐ Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- ☐ Colombia
- ☐ Comoros
- ☐ Congo, Democratic Republic of the
- ☐ Congo, Republic of the
- ☐ Cook Islands
- ☐ Coral Sea Islands
- ☐ Costa Rica
- ☐ Cote d'Ivoire
- ☐ Croatia
- ☐ Cuba
- ☐ Cyprus
- ☐ Czech Republic
- ☐ Denmark
- ☐ Dhekelia
- ☐ Djibouti
- ☐ Dominica
- ☐ Dominican Republic
- ☐ Ecuador
- ☐ Egypt
- ☐ El Salvador
- ☐ Equatorial Guinea
- ☐ Eritrea
- ☐ Estonia
- ☐ Ethiopia
- ☐ Europa Island
- ☐ Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)
- ☐ Faroe Islands
- ☐ Fiji
- ☐ Finland

- ☐ France
- ☐ French Guiana
- ☐ French Polynesia
- ☐ French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- ☐ Gabon
- ☐ Gambia, The
- ☐ Gaza Strip
- ☐ Georgia
- ☐ Germany
- ☐ Ghana
- ☐ Gibraltar
- ☐ Glorioso Islands
- ☐ Greece
- ☐ Greenland
- ☐ Grenada
- ☐ Guadeloupe
- ☐ Guam
- ☐ Guatemala
- ☐ Guernsey
- ☐ Guinea
- ☐ Guinea-Bissau
- ☐ Guyana
- ☐ Haiti
- ☐ Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- ☐ Holy See (Vatican City)
- ☐ Honduras
- ☐ Hong Kong
- ☐ Hungary
- ☐ Iceland
- ☐ India
- ☐ Indonesia
- ☐ Iran

- ☐ Iraq
- ☐ Ireland
- ☐ Isle of Man
- ☐ Israel
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ Jamaica
- ☐ Jan Mayen
- ☐ Japan
- ☐ Jersey
- ☐ Jordan
- ☐ Juan de Nova Island
- ☐ Kazakhstan
- ☐ Kenya
- ☐ Kiribati
- ☐ Korea, North
- ☐ Korea, South
- ☐ Kuwait
- ☐ Kyrgyzstan
- ☐ Laos
- ☐ Latvia
- ☐ Lebanon
- ☐ Lesotho
- ☐ Liberia
- ☐ Libya
- ☐ Liechtenstein
- ☐ Lithuania
- ☐ Luxembourg
- ☐ Macau
- ☐ Macedonia
- ☐ Madagascar
- ☐ Malawi
- ☐ Malaysia

- ☐ Maldives
- ☐ Mali
- ☐ Malta
- ☐ Marshall Islands
- ☐ Martinique
- ☐ Mauritania
- ☐ Mauritius
- ☐ Mayotte
- ☐ Mexico
- ☐ Micronesia, Federated States of
- ☐ Moldova
- ☐ Monaco
- ☐ Mongolia
- ☐ Montserrat
- ☐ Morocco
- ☐ Mozambique
- ☐ Namibia
- ☐ Nauru
- ☐ Navassa Island
- ☐ Nepal
- ☐ Netherlands
- ☐ Netherlands Antilles
- ☐ New Caledonia
- ☐ New Zealand
- ☐ Nicaragua
- ☐ Niger
- ☐ Nigeria
- ☐ Niue
- ☐ Norfolk Island
- ☐ Northern Mariana Islands
- ☐ Norway
- ☐ Oman

- ☐ Pakistan
- ☐ Palau
- ☐ Panama
- ☐ Papua New Guinea
- ☐ Paracel Islands
- ☐ Paraguay
- ☐ Peru
- ☐ Philippines
- ☐ Pitcairn Islands
- ☐ Poland
- ☐ Portugal
- ☐ Puerto Rico
- ☐ Qatar
- ☐ Reunion
- ☐ Romania
- ☐ Russia
- ☐ Rwanda
- ☐ Saint Helena
- ☐ Saint Kitts and Nevis
- ☐ Saint Lucia
- ☐ Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- ☐ Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- ☐ Samoa
- ☐ San Marino
- ☐ Sao Tome and Principe
- ☐ Saudi Arabia
- ☐ Senegal
- ☐ Serbia and Montenegro
- ☐ Seychelles
- ☐ Sierra Leone
- ☐ Singapore
- ☐ Slovakia

- ☐ Slovenia
- ☐ Solomon Islands
- ☐ Somalia
- ☐ South Africa
- ☐ South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- ☐ Spain
- ☐ Spratly Islands
- ☐ Sri Lanka
- ☐ Sudan
- ☐ Suriname
- ☐ Svalbard
- ☐ Swaziland
- ☐ Sweden
- ☐ Switzerland
- ☐ Syria
- ☐ Taiwan
- ☐ Tajikistan
- ☐ Tanzania
- ☐ Thailand
- ☐ Timor-Leste
- ☐ Togo
- ☐ Tokelau
- ☐ Tonga
- ☐ Trinidad and Tobago
- ☐ Tromelin Island
- ☐ Tunisia
- ☐ Turkey
- ☐ Turkmenistan
- ☐ Turks and Caicos Islands
- ☐ Tuvalu
- ☐ Uganda
- ☐ Ukraine



- ☐ United Arab Emirates
- ☐ United Kingdom
- ☐ United States
- ☐ Uruguay
- ☐ Uzbekistan
- ☐ Vanuatu
- ☐ Venezuela
- ☐ Vietnam
- ☐ Virgin Islands
- ☐ Wake Island
- ☐ Wallis and Futuna
- ☐ West Bank
- ☐ Western Sahara
- ☐ Yemen
- ☐ Zambia
- ☐ Zimbabwe

2. 1b. Which best describes your affiliation with eDNA? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ researcher (academic)      *Skip to question 4*
- ☐ service provider (commercial sector)      *Skip to question 6*
- ☐ end-user (governmental organisation or similar)      *Skip to question 6*

## 3. 1c. How long have you worked with eDNA? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ < 2 years

☐ 2-5 years

☐ > 5 years

As a researcher....

## 4. 2a. At which career stage are you? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Master/Undergraduate

☐ Doctoral student

☐ Technician

☐ Post-Doc/Senior Researcher

☐ Group leader/Professor

## 5. 2b. How do you work with eDNA data/samples? (select all that apply) \*

*Check all that apply.*

☐ Sampling (e.g., fieldwork, collection of environmental samples, preservation)

☐ Sample processing (e.g., DNA extraction, PCR, sequencing, library preparation)

☐ Bioinformatics (e.g., sequence filtering, taxonomic assignment)

☐ Data Analysis (e.g., presence/absence or community assessment)

☐ Data Interpretation (e.g., modelling, assessment of ecological status)

☐ End-user implementing of results (e.g., conservation, policy)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*Skip to question 8*

As a service provider or end-user...

6. 2a. Which area would you consider best describes your work? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Commercial sector
- ☐ Government worker
- ☐ Non-governmental worker
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. 2b. How do you use/work with eDNA data/samples? (select all that apply) \*

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Sampling (e.g., fieldwork, collection of environmental samples, preservation)
- ☐ Sample processing (e.g., DNA extraction, PCR, library preparation)
- ☐ Bioinformatics (e.g., sequence filtering, taxonomic assignment)
- ☐ Data Analysis (e.g., presence/absence or community assessment)
- ☐ Data Interpretation (e.g., modelling, assessment of ecological status)
- ☐ End-user implementing of results (e.g., conservation, policy)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*Skip to question 8*

**Your opinion**

Here we would like to find out what are the main areas you work on and get your expert opinion on the areas which you consider most developed or in need of progress.

8. 3a. With regards to eDNA, where is your main area of expertise? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Freshwater ecosystems
- ☐ Marine ecosystems
- ☐ Terrestrial ecosystems

## 9. 3b. What type of eDNA samples do you work with?

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Soil
- ☐ Sediment
- ☐ Air
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Biofilm

## 10. 3c. With regards to eDNA, what type of organism(s) do you study (multiple choices allowed)

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Vertebrates
- ☐ Invertebrates
- ☐ Plants/Macroalgae
- ☐ Micro-eukaryotes
- ☐ Prokaryotes

## 11. 3d. In the next 5-10 years, how much development is needed in the following areas on a scale from 1 to 5 (1 - little development needed, 5 - extensive development needed)

*Mark only one oval per row.*

	1 - little development needed	2	3	4	5 - extensive development needed	No idea
<b>Sampling methodology (in the field)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Primer development (metabarcoding)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Primer development (single-species)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<b>Reference database quality/completion</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Quantification of eDNA concentration and assessment of species abundance (single species)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Quantification of eDNA concentration and assessment of species abundance (metabarcoding)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Biomonitoring</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Understanding behaviour of eDNA (decay, shedding, transport)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Ability to interpret results</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Translation to practice</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. 3e. Where did you hear about this survey? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Email
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. 3f. Do you have any other comments?

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