**Tim Coulson**

**Editor-in-Chief, Ecology Letters**

Dear Prof. Coulson:

Please find our manuscript entitled “Interaction network structure maximizes community-level plant reproduction success via niche complementarity”, to be considered for publication as a Letter in *Ecology Letters.*

Declines in pollinator diversity and abundance have been reported across different regions, with implications for the reproductive success of plant species. However, research has focused primarily on pairwise plant-pollinator interactions, largely overlooking community-level dynamics. Yet species do not interact in isolation, they are embedded within larger networks whose structure can affect pollinator functional roles and, ultimately, the pollination services they deliver to plants. Here, we present one of the first efforts linking pollinator visitation to plant reproduction from a community-wide perspective using a well-replicated dataset encompassing 16 well-resolved networks and data on reproductive success for 19 plant species from Mediterranean shrub ecosystems.

We find that, for prediction purposes, information on simple visitation metrics is sufficient. Contrastingly, a mechanisitic understanding of the pathways through which differences in pollinator diversity translate into changes in reproductive success, requires additional information on community structure, particularly that reflecting niche complementarity between pollinators.

In summary, we believe that our study addresses one of the core questions facing ecology today, and combines a high theoretical and applied interest. We therefore hope that it will be of interest to the broad readership of *Ecology Letters*.

The attached work has not been published or accepted for publication elsewhere, and is not under consideration for publication, in any other journal or book. Its submission for publication has been approved by all relevant authors and institutions, and all persons entitled to authorship have been so named. All authors have seen and agreed to the submitted version of the manuscript.

Sincerely,



Ainhoa Magrach, on behalf of all coauthors.