

## April 2021 update on the progress of translatE project

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We have been busy wrapping up our paper on non-English-language literature testing conservation interventions, and consequently this is the first update of the year showing you the progress of our project. We hope this year is as fruitfull as the last one for our project and for you all as well.

### 1. Searches for non-English-language literature on the effectiveness of conservation interventions

This component of translatE aims to identify non-English-language papers that tested the effectiveness of conservation interventions, using the same selection criteria used by the [Conservation Evidence](#) project, and compare scientific knowledge published in different languages.

We are glad to announce that we have finally completed the analysis and writing the paper for this component. Huge thanks to all [collaborators](#) who contributed to make this happen and provided helpful feedback on the manuscript. We will submit the manuscript soon, hoping to have some good news.

Now that we have nearly completed the paper, we are also planning to analyse each language's outcome in more detail, which we hope will lead to producing some more papers using the dataset. We are looking for collaborators who can lead this for each language – please contact us if you are interested.

### 2. Use of English-language and non-English-language references in domestic reports on biodiversity and its conservation

The translatE project also aims to understand language barriers to the application of English-language knowledge on biodiversity conservation. This second component tries to understand how decision-makers perceive language as a barrier to the use of science in their conservation decision making, by investigating the use of literature in different languages in domestic reports on biodiversity conservation.

We have already received lists of domestic reports in **33 countries** and answers to the questionnaire in **20 countries** out of the 40 countries covered (see Table 1), so in the near future should be able to start investigating more about the processes underlying these patterns. We would like to thank not only those colaborators who helped us get the information but also report authors/editors who took the time to respond to our

questionnaire. Much appreciated! Table 1 below shows the progress in this component so far.

Table 1. List of countries/regions covered and their progress so far.

Region	Country/region	Language	Task: Listing reports	Task: Questionnaire
Latin America	Argentina	Spanish	Done	Shared
Latin America	Paraguay	Spanish	Done	Completed
Latin America	Brazil	Portuguese	Done	Completed
Latin America	Chile	Spanish	Done	Completed
Latin America	Mexico	Spanish	Done	Completed
Latin America	Costa Rica	Spanish	Done	Shared
Latin America	Guatemala	Spanish	Done	Completed
Latin America	Bolivia	Spanish	Done	
Latin America	Colombia	Spanish	Accepted	
E Asia	Mongolia	Mongol	Accepted	
E Asia	China	Simplified Chinese	Done	Completed
E Asia	Japan	Japanese	Done	Completed
E Asia	South Korea	Korean	Done	Shared
E Asia	Taiwan	Traditional Chinese	Done	Completed
W Asia	Lebanon	French/Arabic	Done	Shared
W Asia	Turkey	Turkish	Accepted	
SE Asia	Indonesia	Indonesian	Accepted	
SE Asia	VietNam	Vietnamese	Done	Shared
W Europe	Germany	German	Done	Completed
W Europe	Switzerland	German	Done	Completed
W Europe	France	French	Done	Shared
S Europe	Italy	Italian	Done	Shared
S Europe	Spain	Spanish	Done	Shared
S Europe	Greece	Greek	Done	Completed
N Europe	Norway	Norwegian	Done	Completed
N Europe	Sweden	Swedish	Accepted	
N Europe	Finland	Finish	Done	Completed
E Europe	Romania	Romanian	Done	Completed
E Europe	Ukraine	Ukrainian	Done	Completed
E Europe	Hungary	Hungarian	Done	Completed
E Europe	Poland	Polish	Done	Shared
E Europe	Czech Republic	Czech	Done	Completed
E Europe	Slovakia	Slovak	Done	Completed
E Europe	Albania	Albanian	Done	
E Europe	Montenegro	Montenegrin	Asked	
E Europe	Estonia	Estonian	Asked	
E Europe	Belarus	Belarus	Done	Shared

E Europe	Lithuania	Lithuanian	Asked	
E Europe	Serbia	Serbian	Asked	
Russia	Russia	Russian	Done	Completed
Africa	Mozambique	Portuguese	Done	Completed
Africa	Cote d'Ivoire	French	Accepted	
Africa	Burundi	French	Accepted	
Africa	Senegal	French	Done	Shared

We have been expanding our network of collaborators across the globe; however, **Africa and Western Asia, and South-East Asia** are regions that are still fairly underrepresented with only four, two and two countries covered, respectively. If you know of people working on conservation in any non-English-speaking countries in these regions, please share our [website](#) or reach out for further details ([t.amano@uq.edu.au](mailto:t.amano@uq.edu.au) / [v.berdejoespino@uq.edu.au](mailto:v.berdejoespino@uq.edu.au)).

### 3. Other news

**New paper “Culturally diverse expert teams have yet to bring comprehensive linguistic diversity to intergovernmental ecosystem assessments” published in One Earth.**

This paper is based on a fruitful collaboration with IPBES fellows, led by Abigail Lynch at the USGS. We looked at how linguistic diversity is represented in eight IPBES assessment reports and found that references cited were predominantly in English and comments from Anglophone reviewers were also overrepresented in those reports. Read the paper [here](#).



**New correspondence article “Monolingual searches can limit and bias results in global literature reviews” published in Nature Ecology & Evolution.**

This is an article collaboratively written with Martin Nuñez, and in response to a perspective article published in the same journal reviewing problems with literature reviews. We argued the importance of incorporating non-English-language literature in global literature reviews. Read the paper [here](#).

**Presentations available in Youtube.**

Tatsuya’s talk “The translatE project: our aims and progress so far in overcoming language barriers in conservation science” in January 2021 at the Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science, the University of Queensland, is now available online [here](#).

Tatsuya’s talk “Is non-English language literature important in Science?” at the 2020 annual meeting of the Association for Interdisciplinary Meta-Research and Open Science (AIMOS2020) is also available online [here](#).

**List of academic journals committed to tackling language barriers.**

Publishing in English is hard for many but some English-language journals do a great job in reducing language barriers. We have recently started a [list of academic journals](#) committed to tackling language barriers to acknowledge their efforts and inform non-native English speakers.

We have already 26 journals listed here – all have a great initiative/scheme for seriously addressing this issue for non-native English speakers. Please do have a look at the list and if you know any other examples, please add information on the list or widely circulate this list to anyone who might be interested, thanks!

**We are glad to keep working with you trying to break language barriers for conservation sciences and more widely for science in general. We can’t say thank you enough to you all!**