



Why Native plants matter?

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EcoplantMed International Conference 14, 15, 16 October 2015

Native species

Exotic species

Non Indigenous Species (NIS)

Alien species

Introduced species

Naturalised species

Invasive species

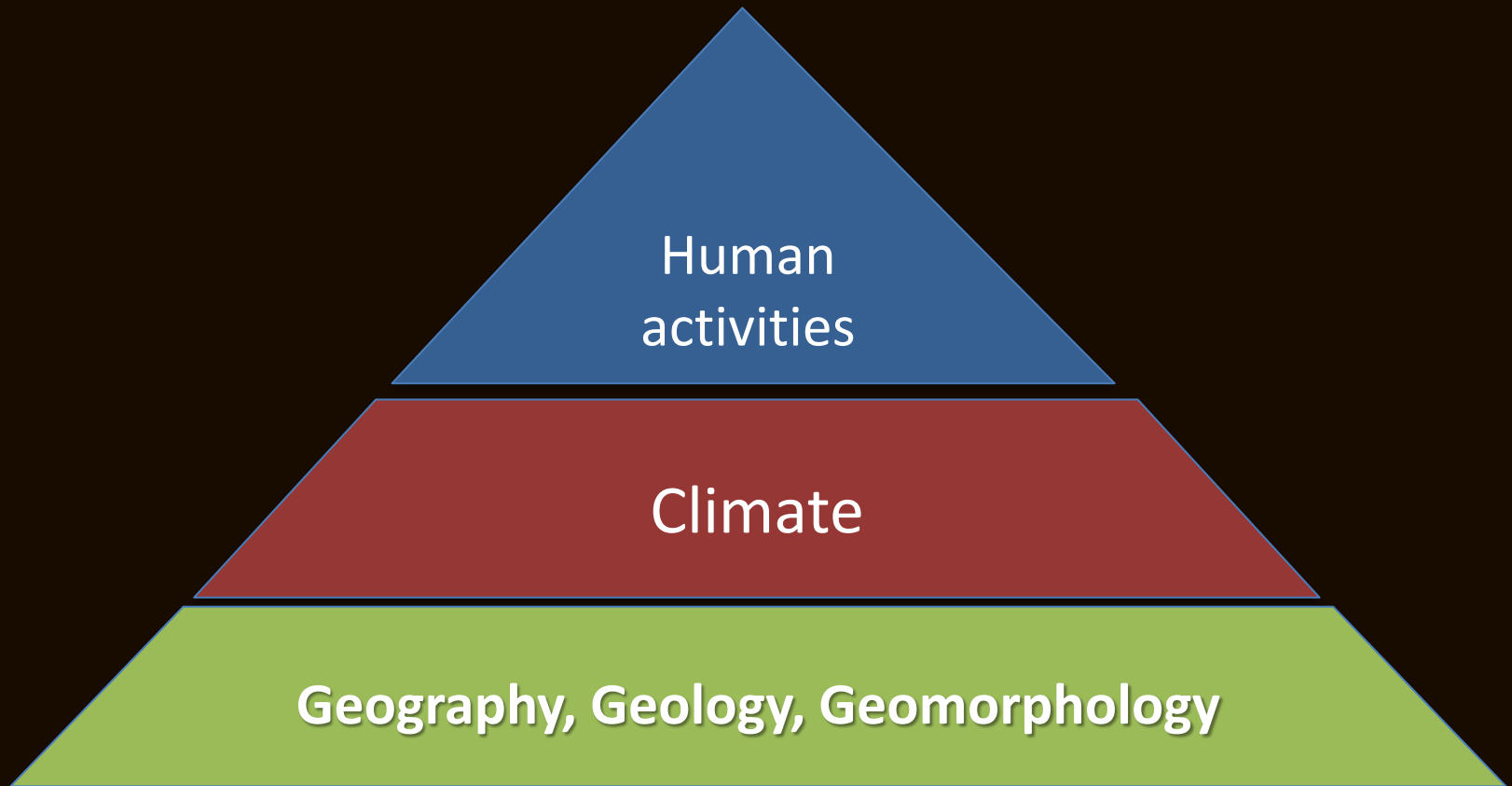
Native species : those species understood as indigenous, occurring in natural associations in habitats that existed prior to significant human impacts and alterations of the landscape.

Plant distribution around the Mediterranean

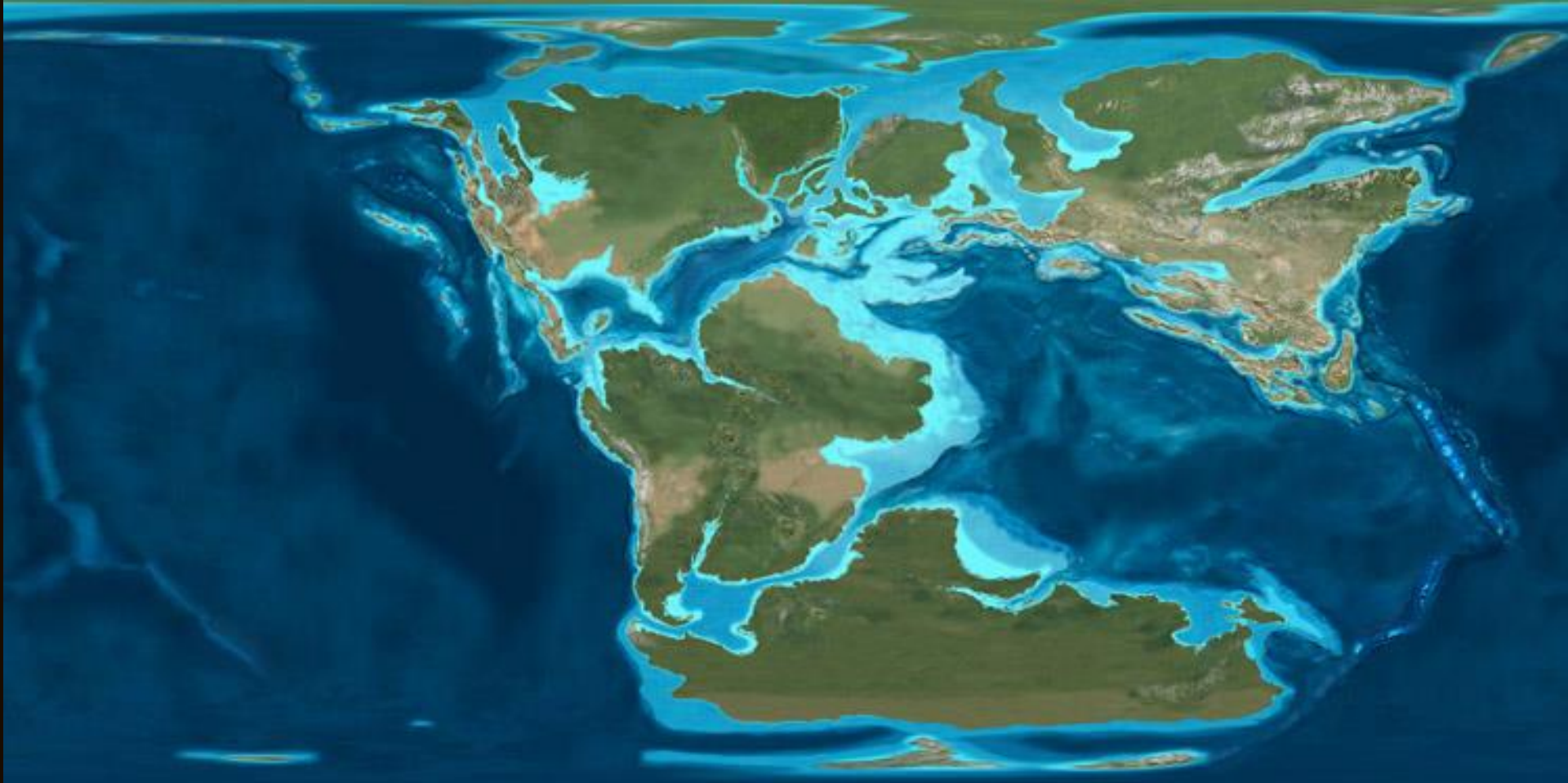


**A meeting of continents:
a complex geological history**

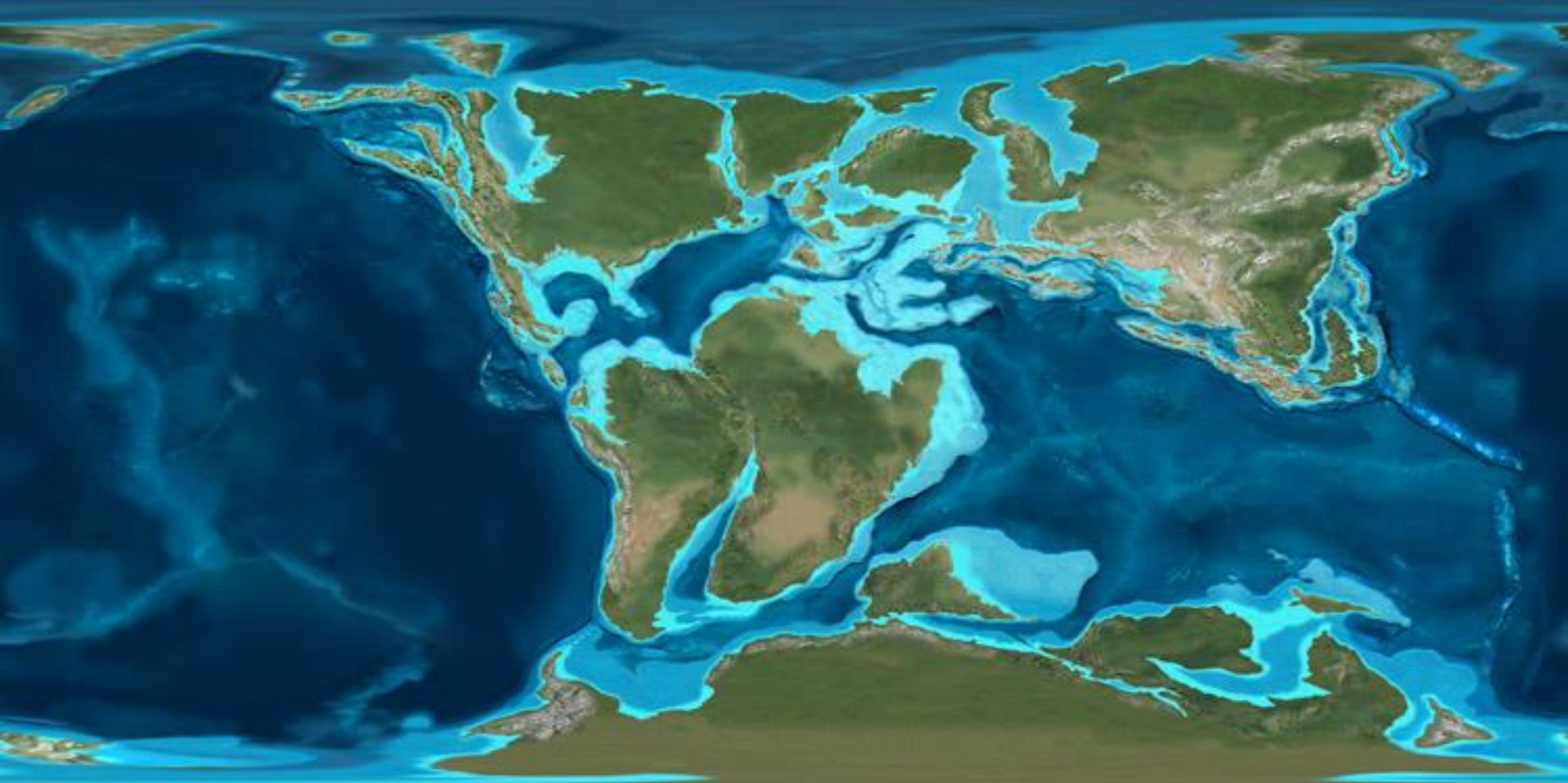
Plant distribution is affected by :



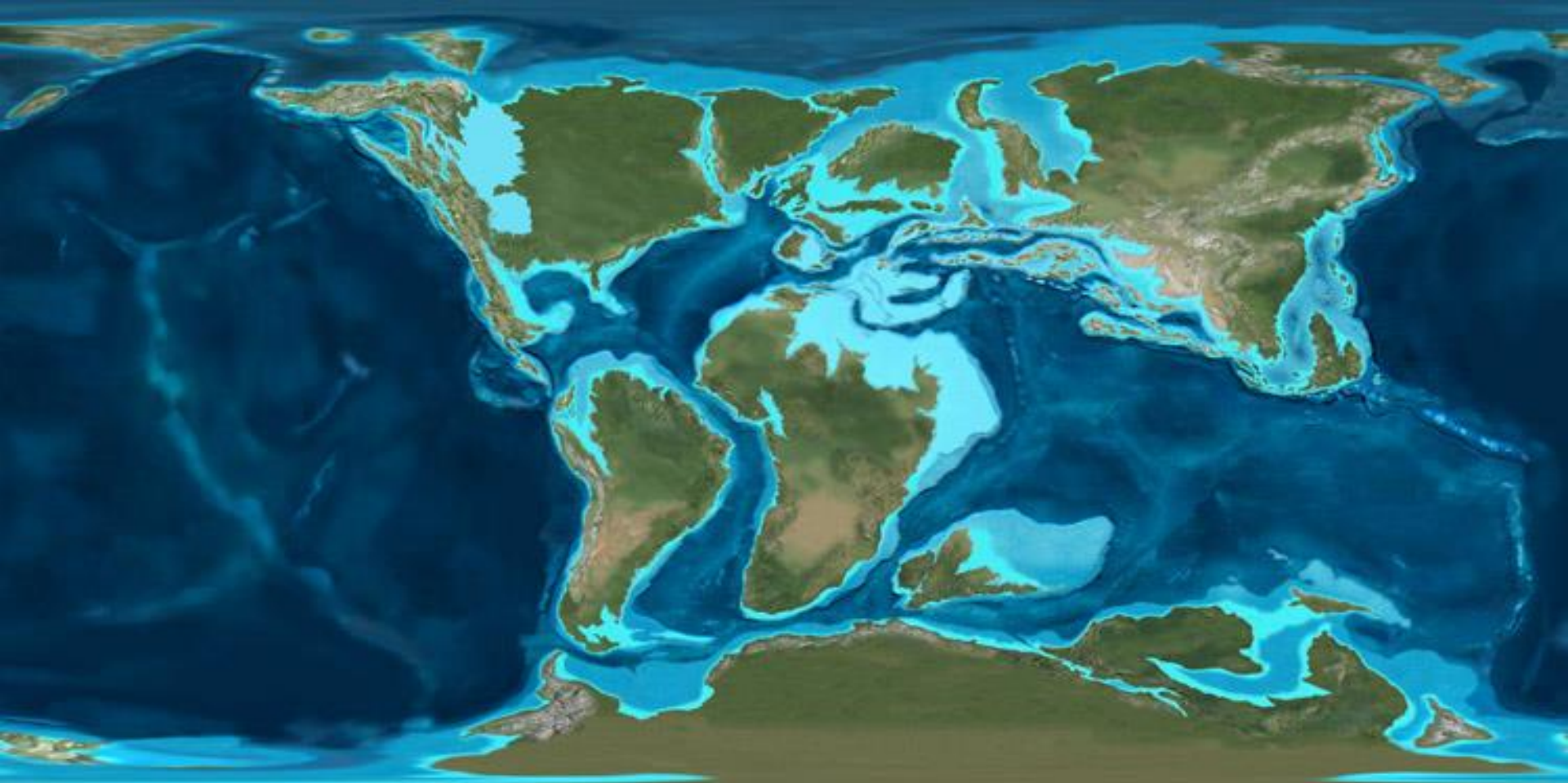
Tectonic activity and **edaphic** variation have created a template for plant evolution, which has been further modulated by **climate** and then more recently by **human activities**.



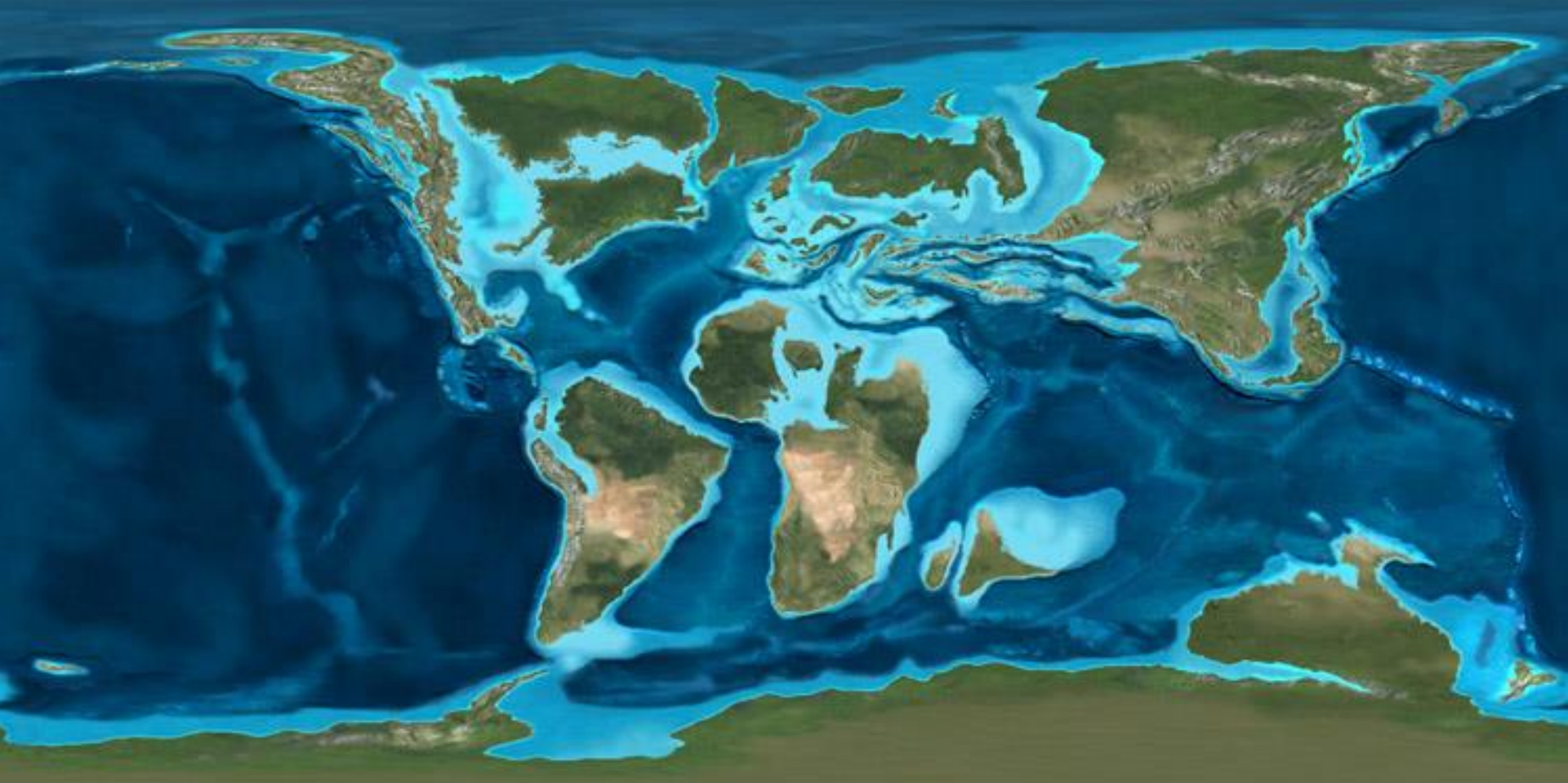
Late Jurassic (-154 Ma)



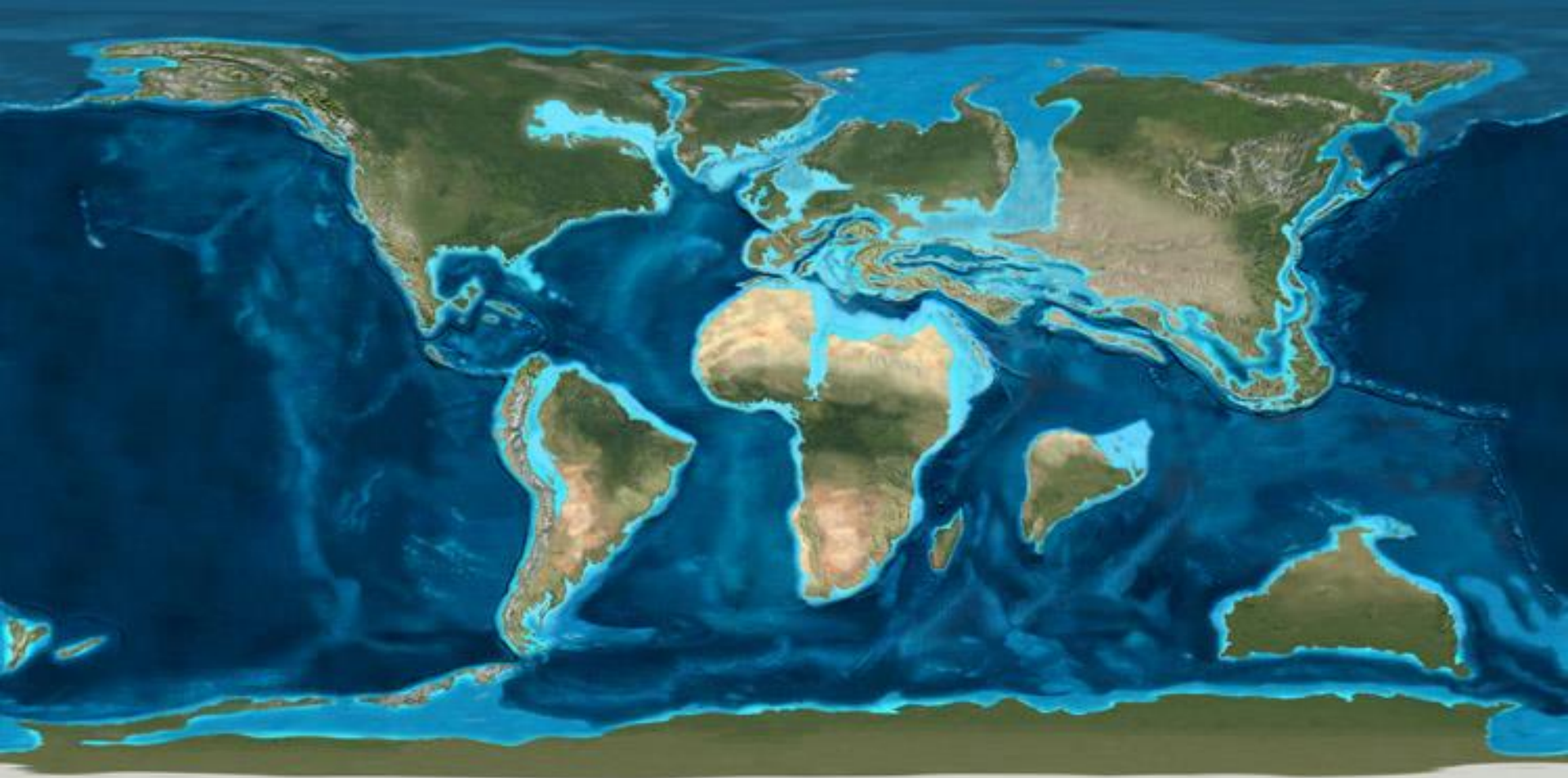
Early Cretaceous (-135 Ma)



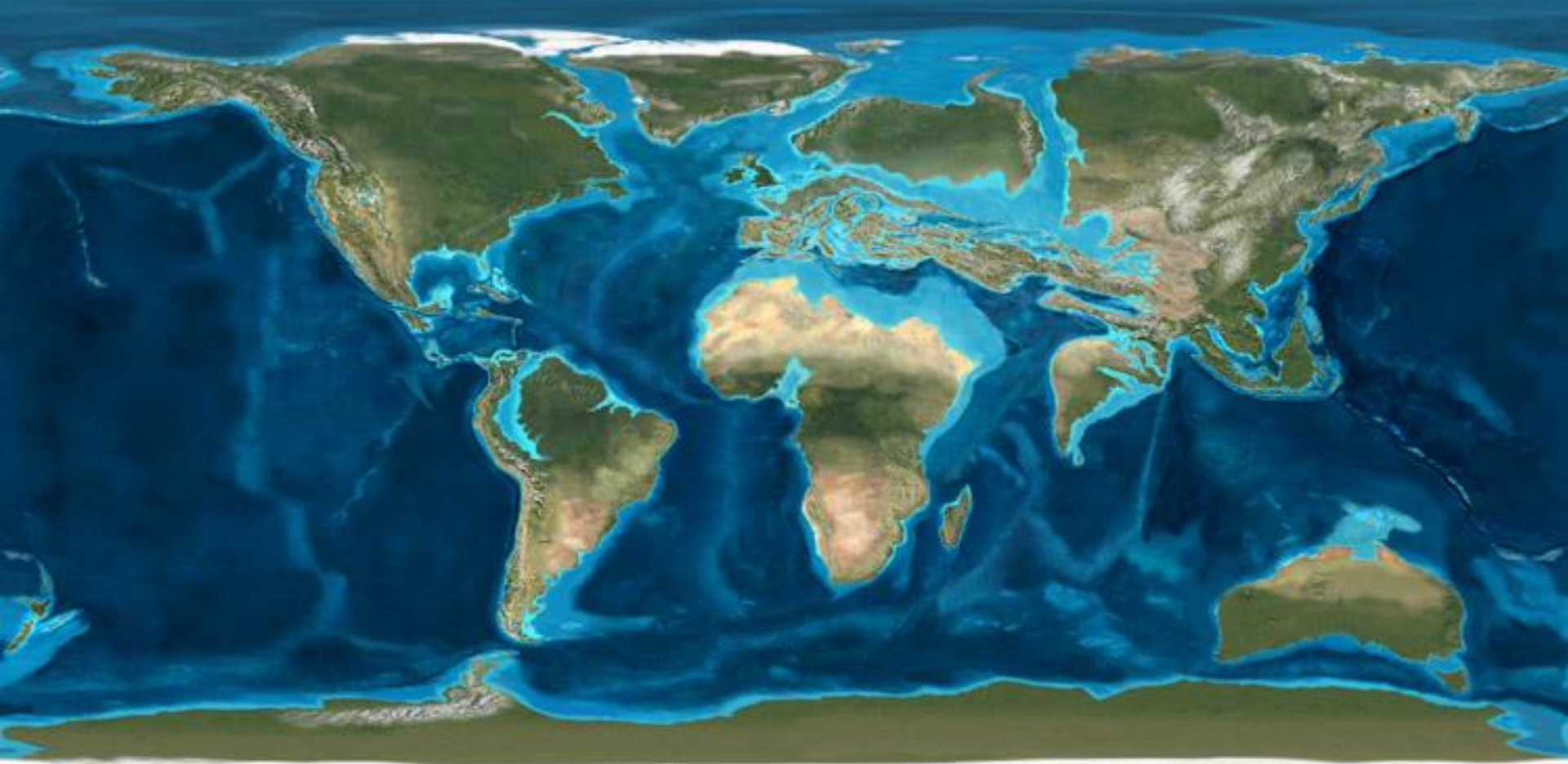
Mid Cretaceous (- 96 Ma)



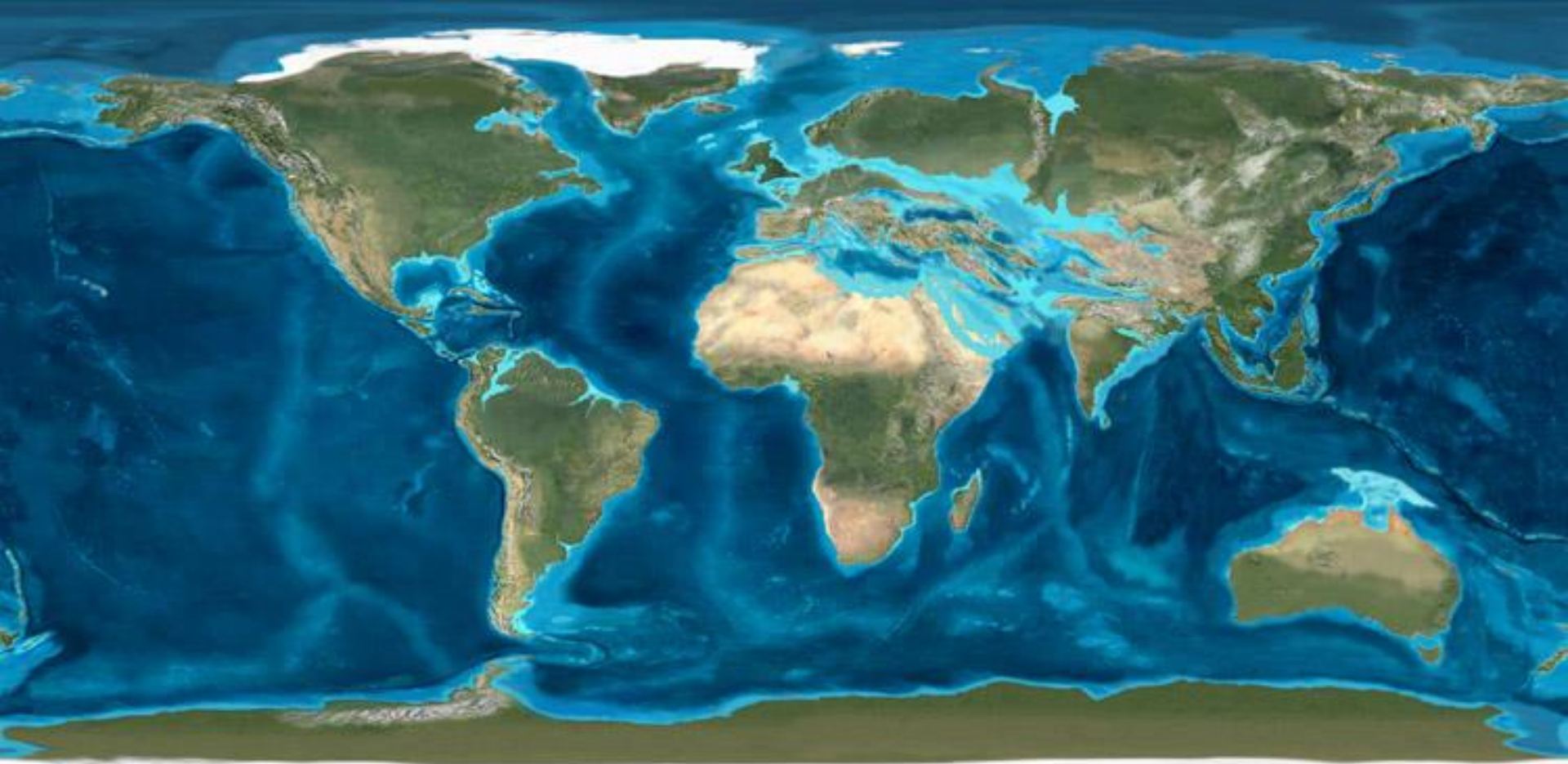
Late Cretaceous (-96 -72 Ma)



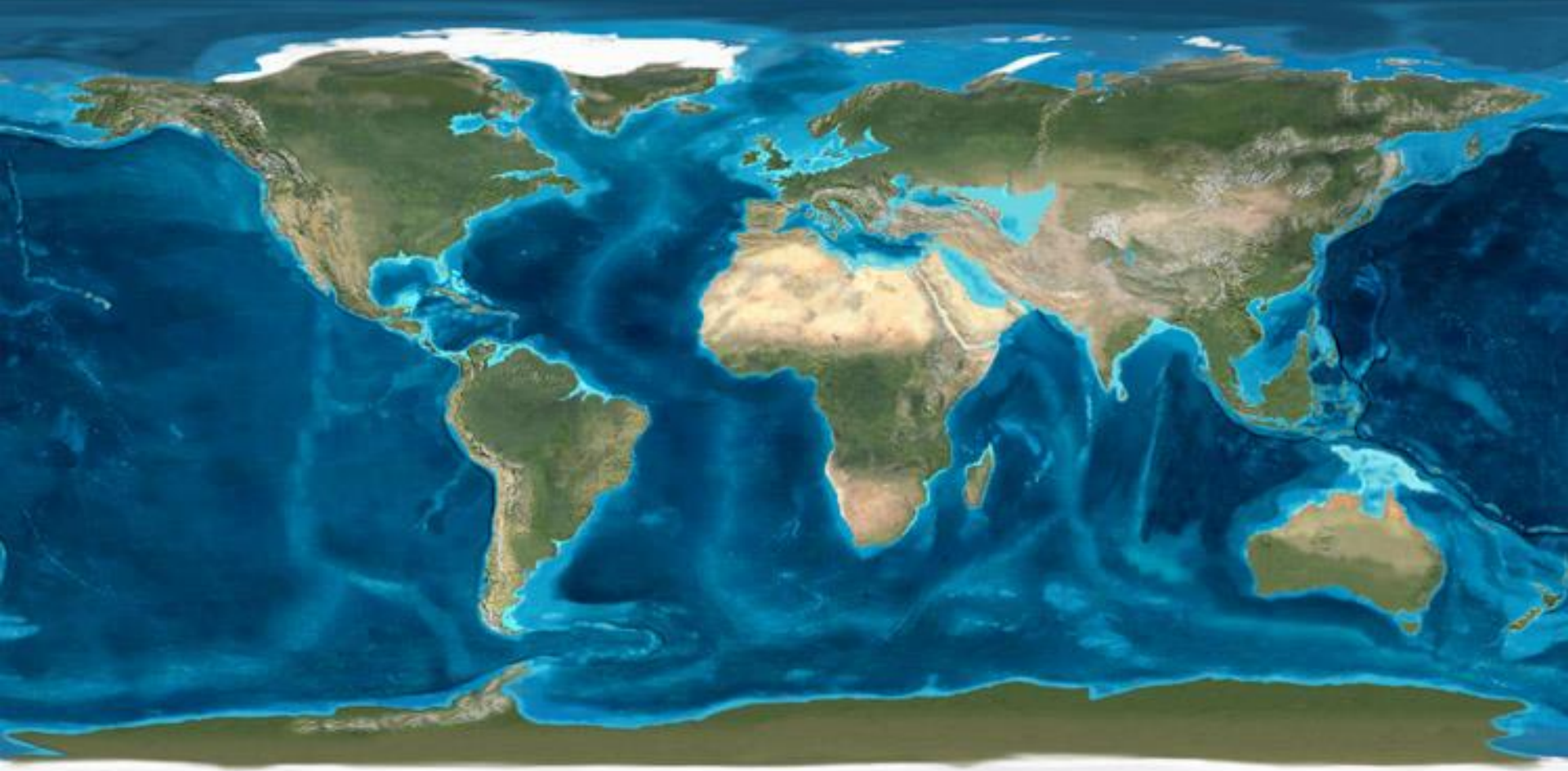
Cretaceous – Tertiary (-65 Ma)



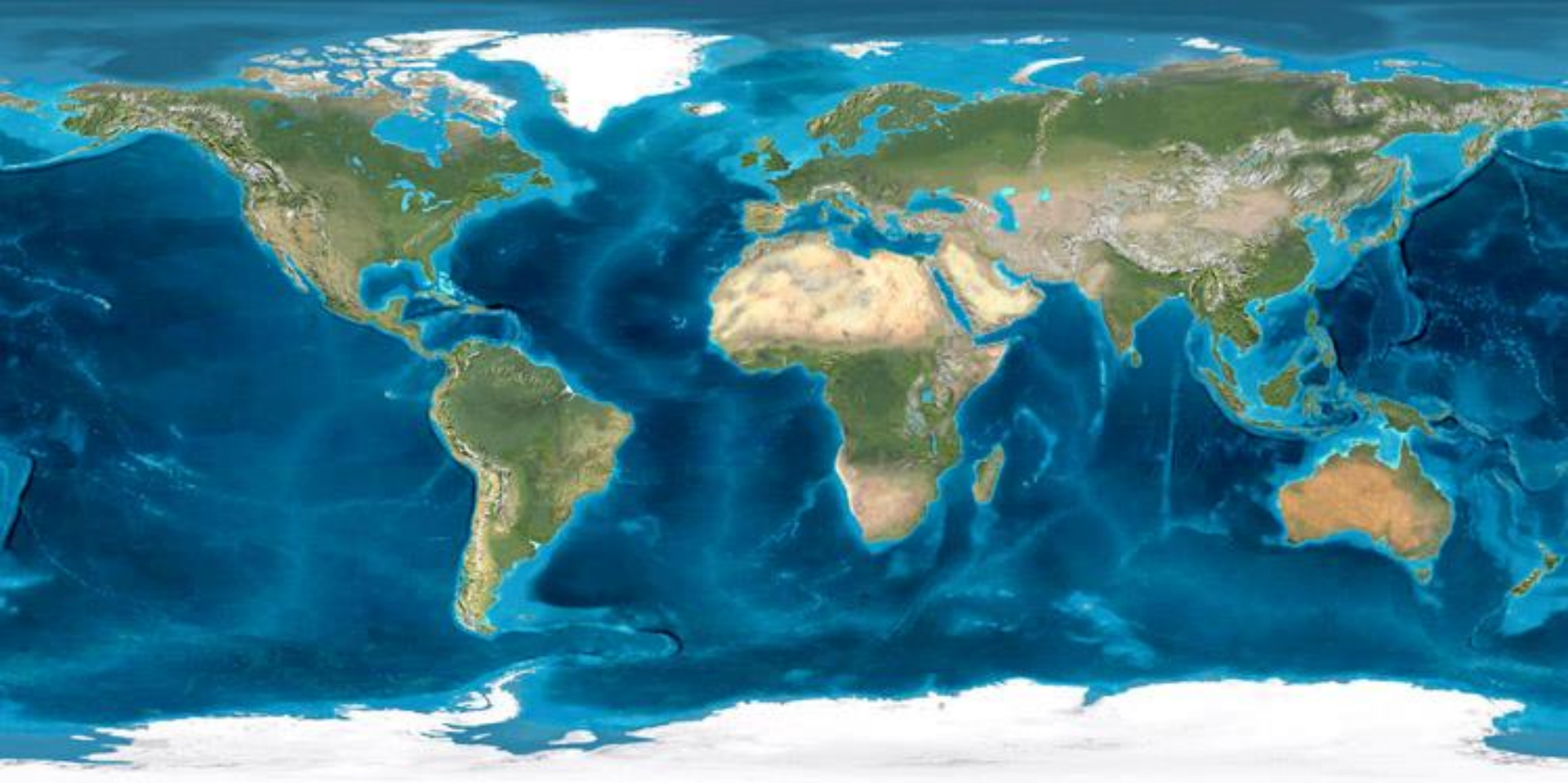
Eocene (-53 Ma – 34 Ma)



Oligocene (-34 – 23.5 Ma)



Miocene (-23.5 -5.3 Ma)



Pliocène (-5.3 – 1.8 Ma)

Fossile - Libanon

Gastéropodes fossiles (Crétacé – Liban)



Paléotempérature évaluée à 30°C

(KOLODNY and RAAB 1988).

Milieu du **Crétacé**,
Cénomanién
(95 Ma)



Ctenothrissa sp. (Crétacé - Liban)



www.fossilmall.com



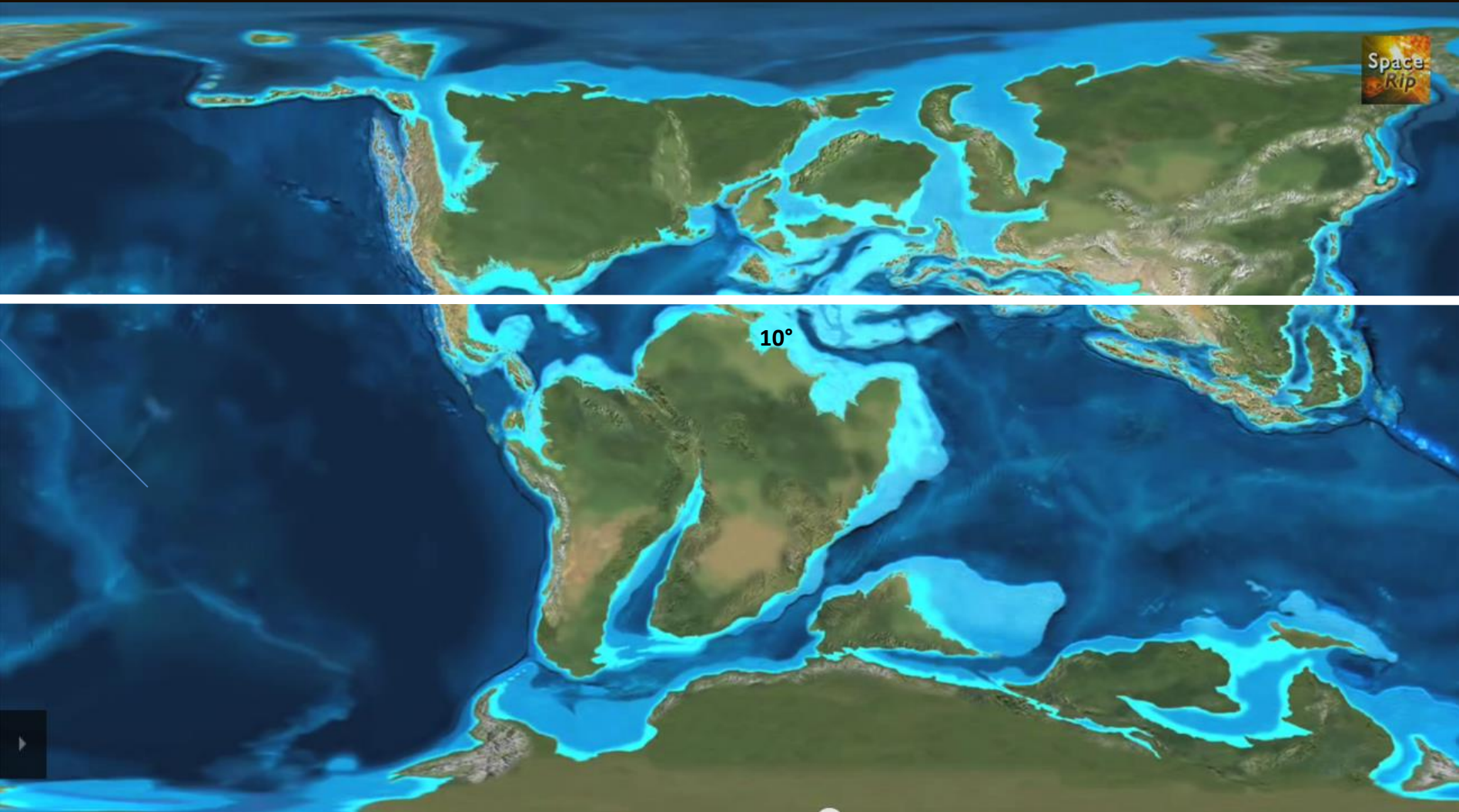
Sapindaceae

Crétacé moyen
(Aptian / Neocomian) 100 – 130 Ma



Cénomanién (-93 Ma)
– En- Nammoura (Liban)

Cretaceous 120 Ma



This area of the world is believed to have been at about 10° north latitude during the Cretaceous and, based on oxygen isotopic studies of fish remains from Cenomanian sediments in EMR, the paleotemperature is thought to have been about 30 C (KOLODNY and RAAB 1988).

Eocene 50 Ma



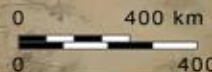
Oligocene 25 Ma



30°

60°

Mediterranean species

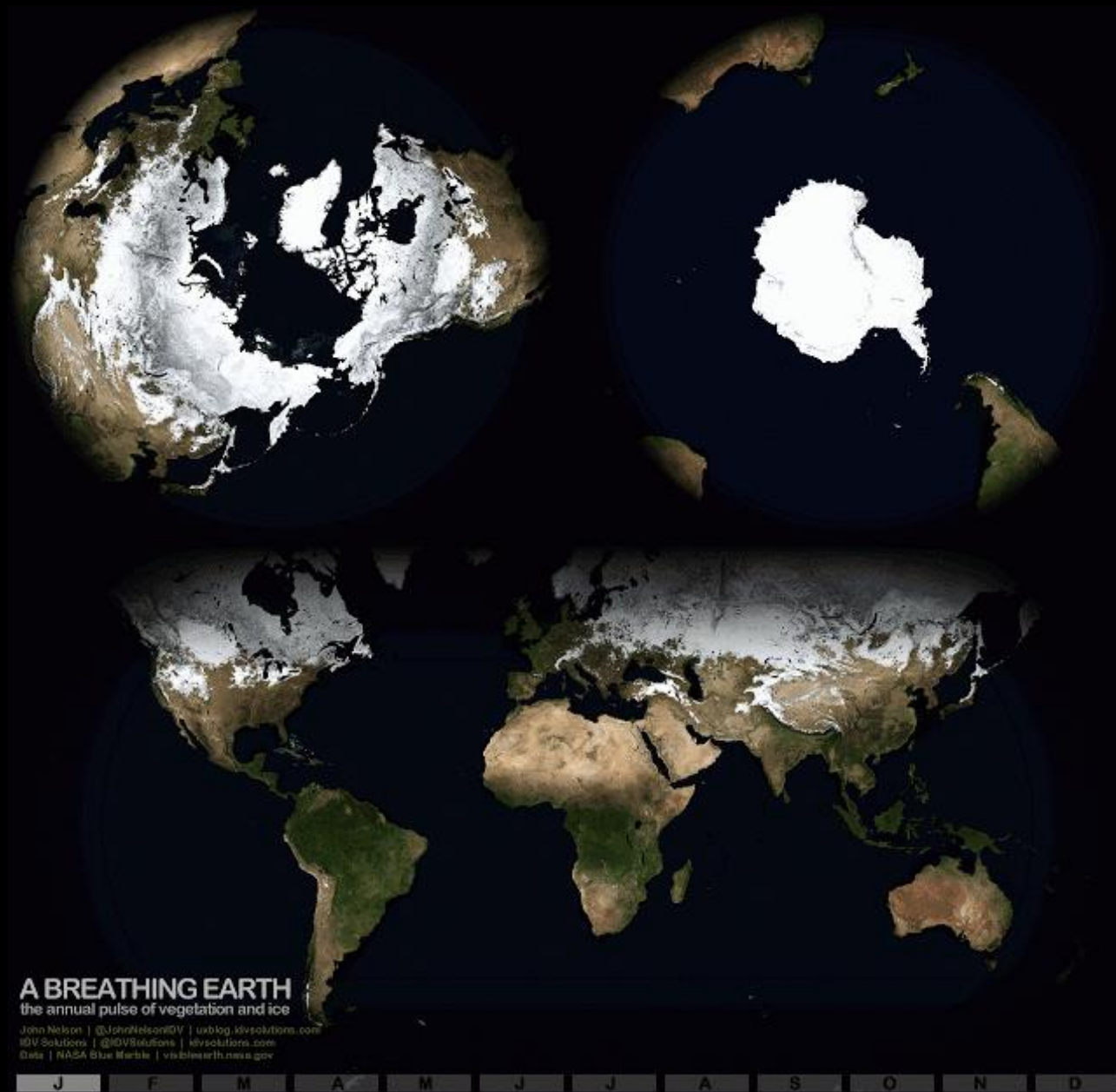


Miocene 13 Ma

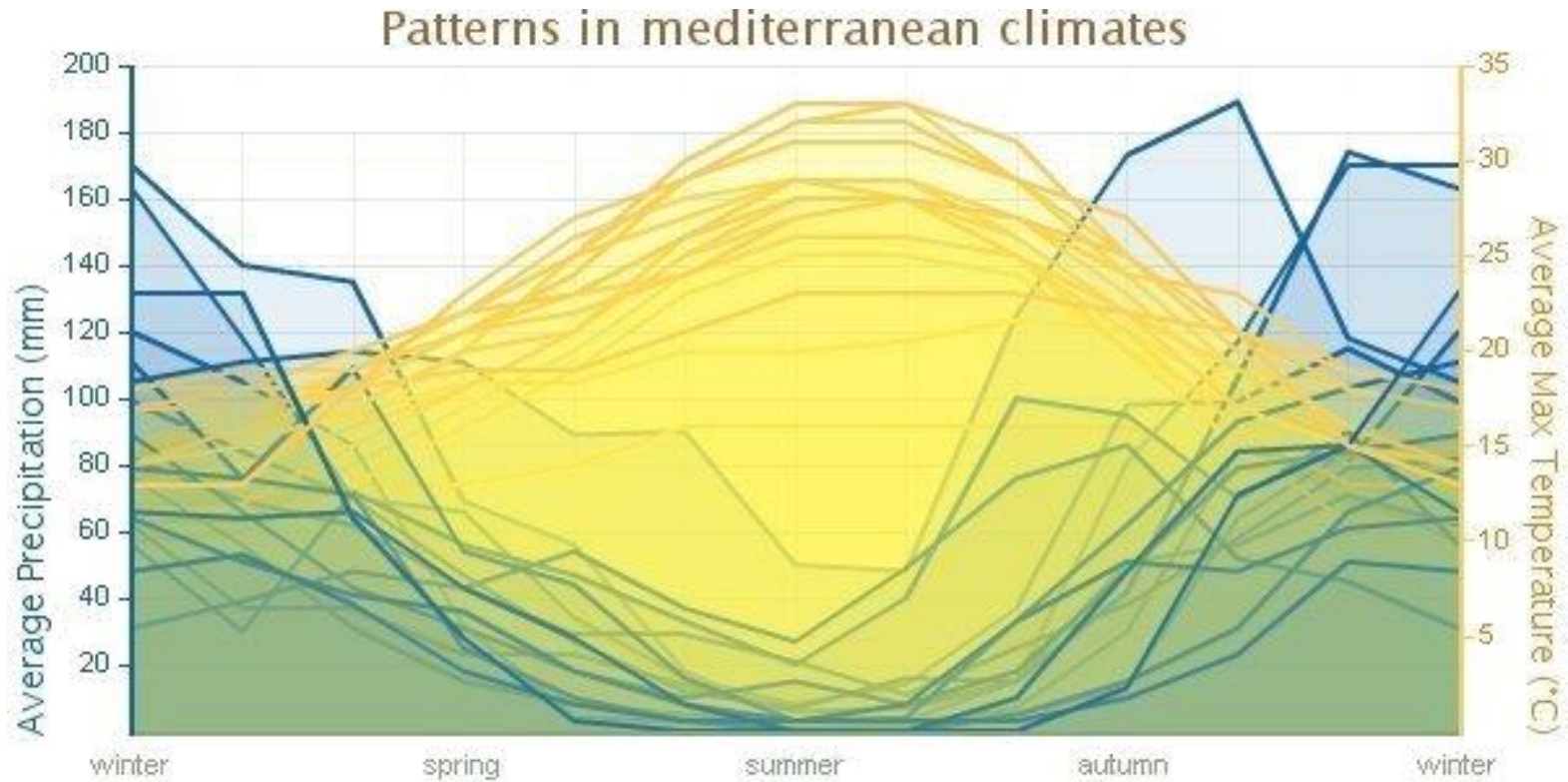




Seasons



Mediterranean climate



The Mediterranean climate imposes a double constraint on plant growth, lack of moisture in summer and cold temperatures in winter.

The **blue areas** of the chart shows the average rainfall received in one of various mediterranean climate cities, and the overlap of these areas creates a deeper blue. The **yellow areas** show the average maximum temperature of the same cities, deepening with their corresponding overlaps. From left to right the seasons progress — mid-winter, spring, summer, autumn, mid-winter.

Green areas can be thought of as the seasons in which conditions are best for growing things.

Messinian Salinity crisis - 5.6 Million years



When the seaway was completely closed, its level may have lowered by one kilometer due to evaporation

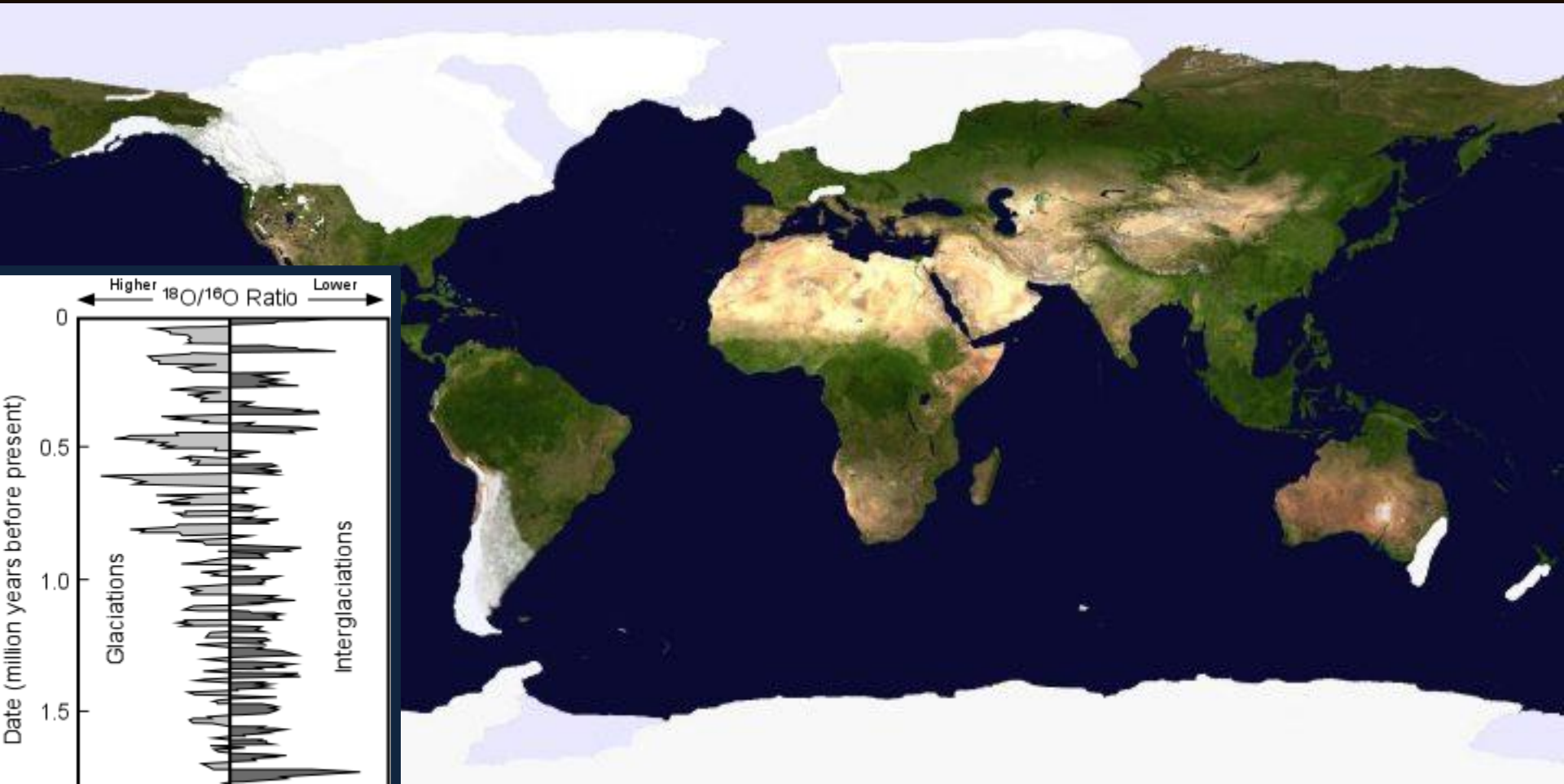
Zanclean flood – 5.33 million years

The Atlantic waters found a way through the present Gibraltar Strait and rapidly refilled the Mediterranean **5.33 million years ago** in an event known as the **Zanclean flood**



This extremely abrupt flood may have involved peak rates of sea level rise in the Mediterranean of more than **10 m/day**.

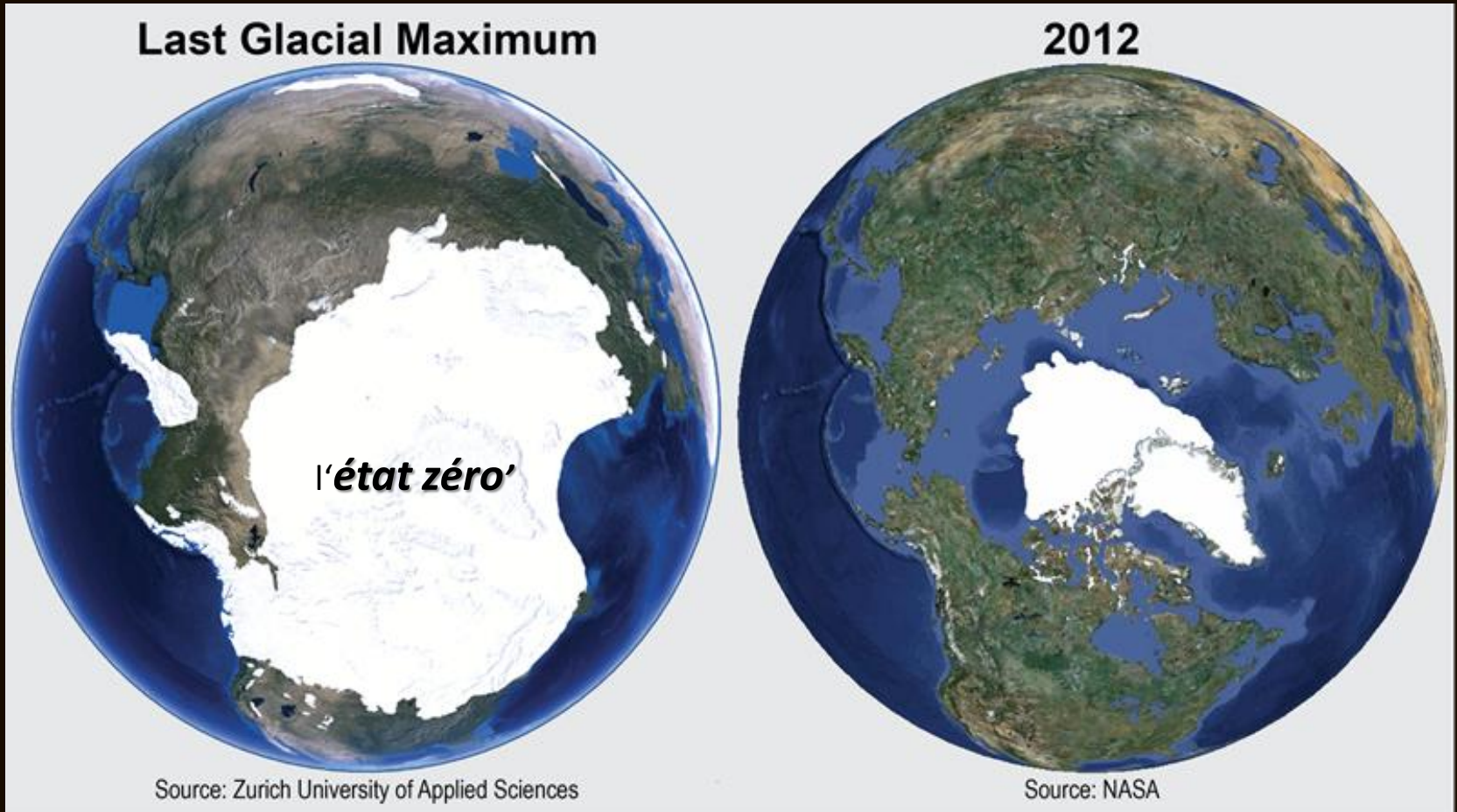
Glaciation cycles



Oscillations

During the glaciations, aridity, associated with reduced temperature, was thus a key factor causing what was to be a third wave of enhanced extinction rates !

Northern view



Le maximum glaciaire au Sud de l'Europe est survenu il y a 20 000 ans. La végétation a connu un moment dramatique le déclin vers *l'état zéro* (Pons 1984). Diminution de la température de 5 à 7 C.

It's not about the circumstances,
but rather what you are made of...



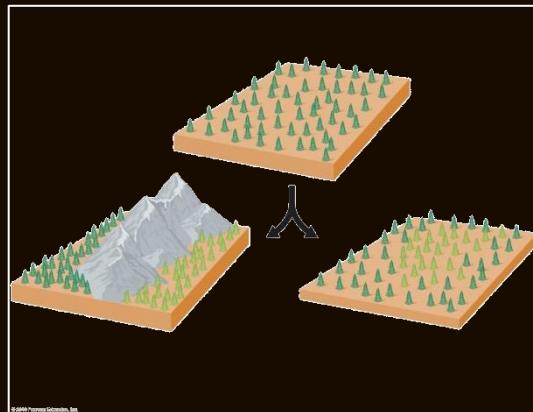
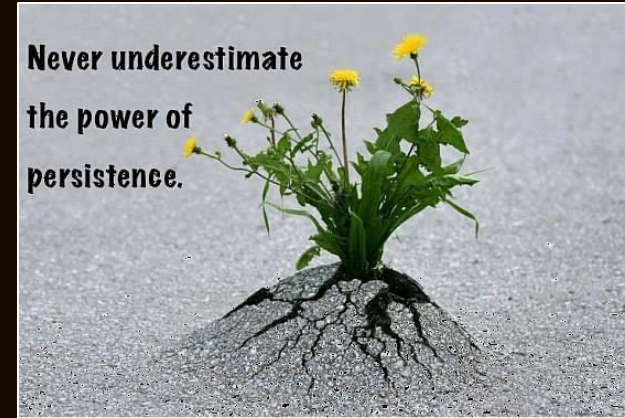
Species response to habitat disturbance

3 main evolutionary scenarios (Schluter, 2001)

- Persistence

- Extinction

- Speciation



Same place

After

Extinction de masse de la fin du Permien (-250 Ma)

Before



En surexploitant nos ressources naturelles, c'est avant tout nous mêmes que nous pénalisons.

La Nature, elle, s'en remettra!





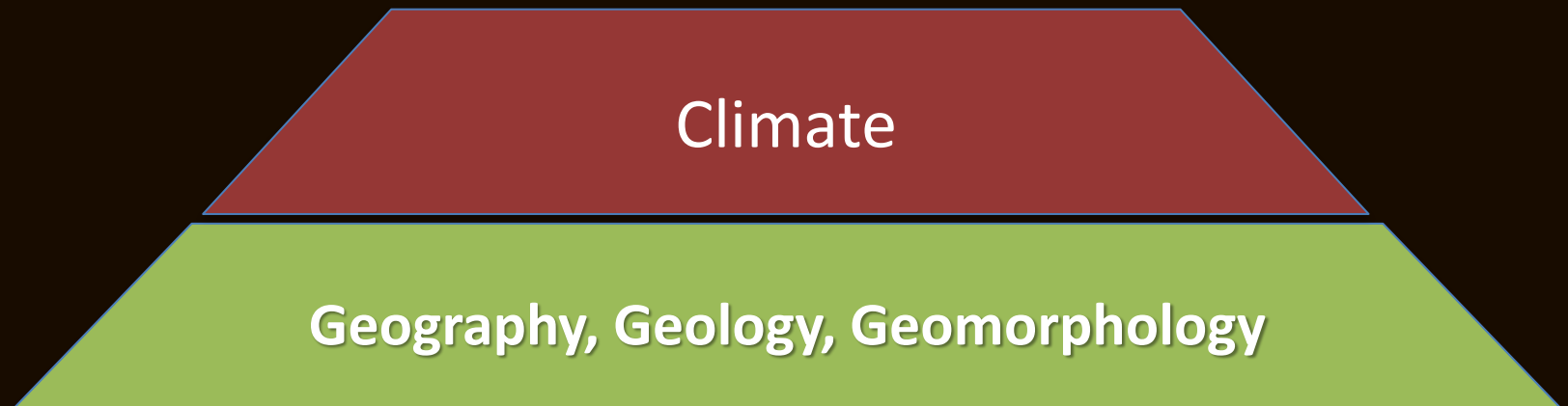
Facteurs d'influence sur la répartition des êtres vivants sont discernées :

1- période antérieure au milieu du Pliocène (>3 Ma)

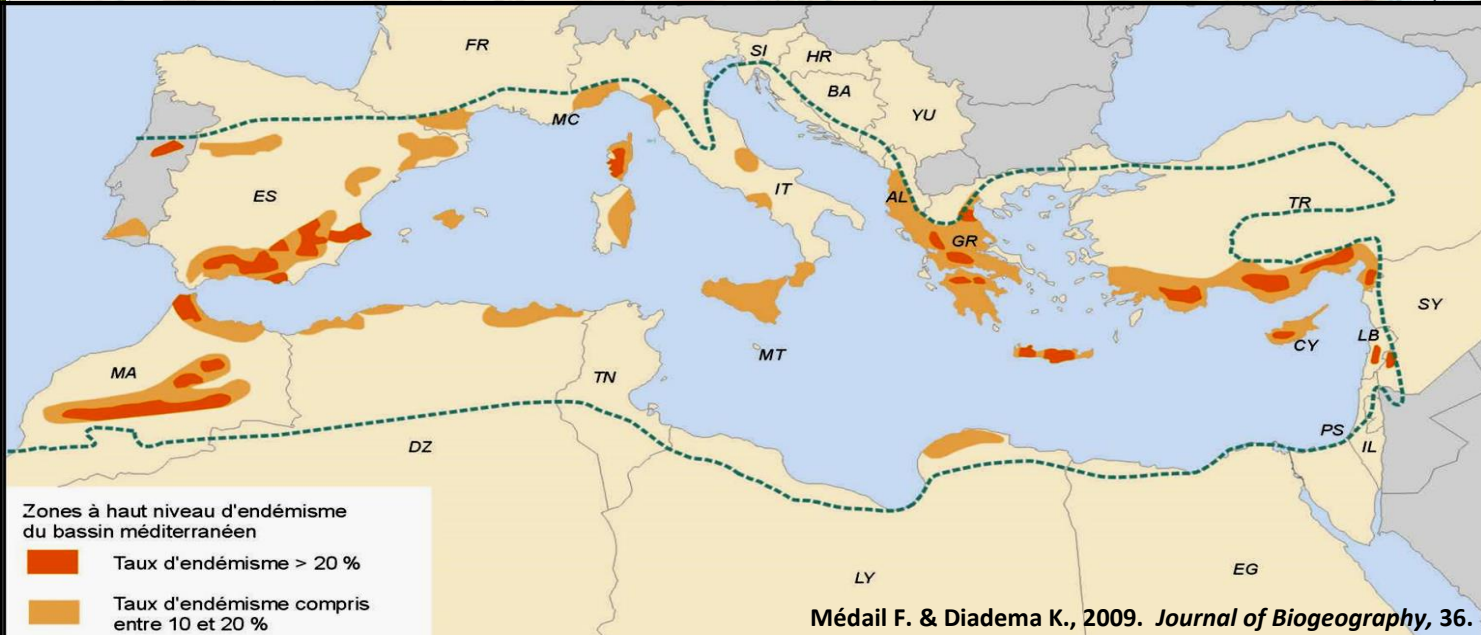
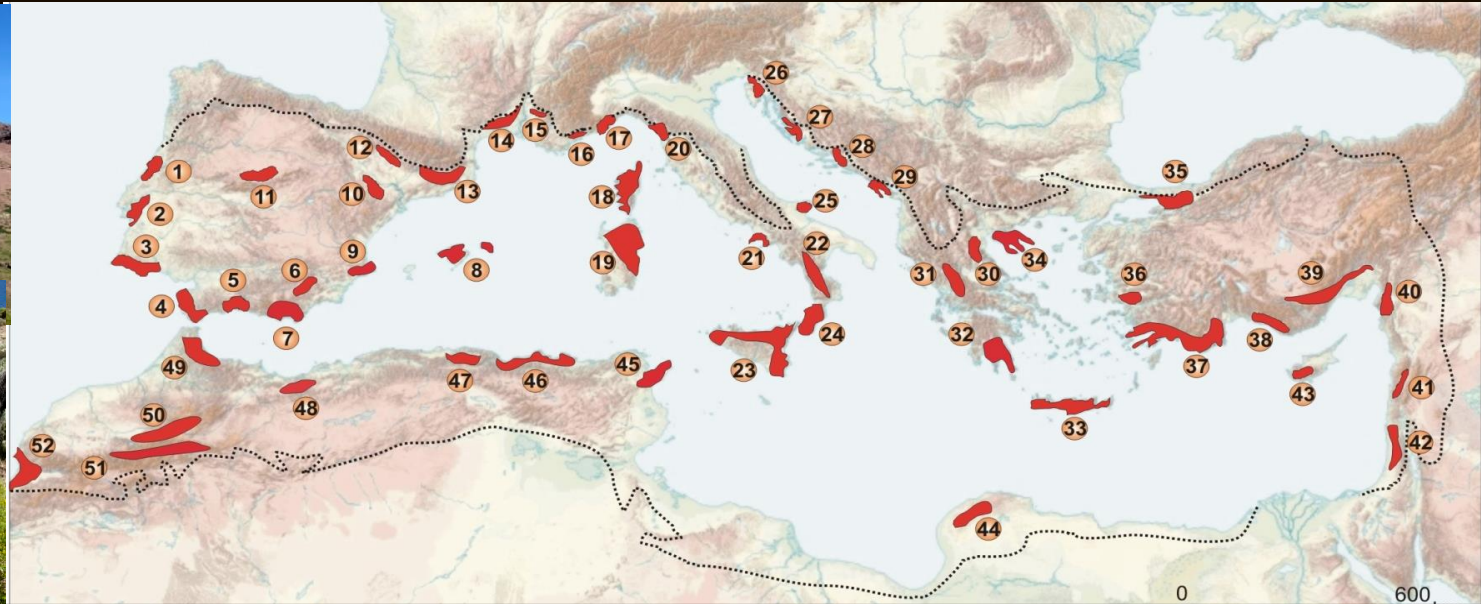
2- Altérations du cycle été-chaud/hiver-froid associées aux glaciations

3- changements climatiques dus aux activités humaines depuis la dernière glaciation.

White F. & Léonard J., 2001. *Flora et Vegetatio Mundi*, 9.

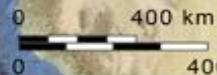


Glacial refuge and endemism zones

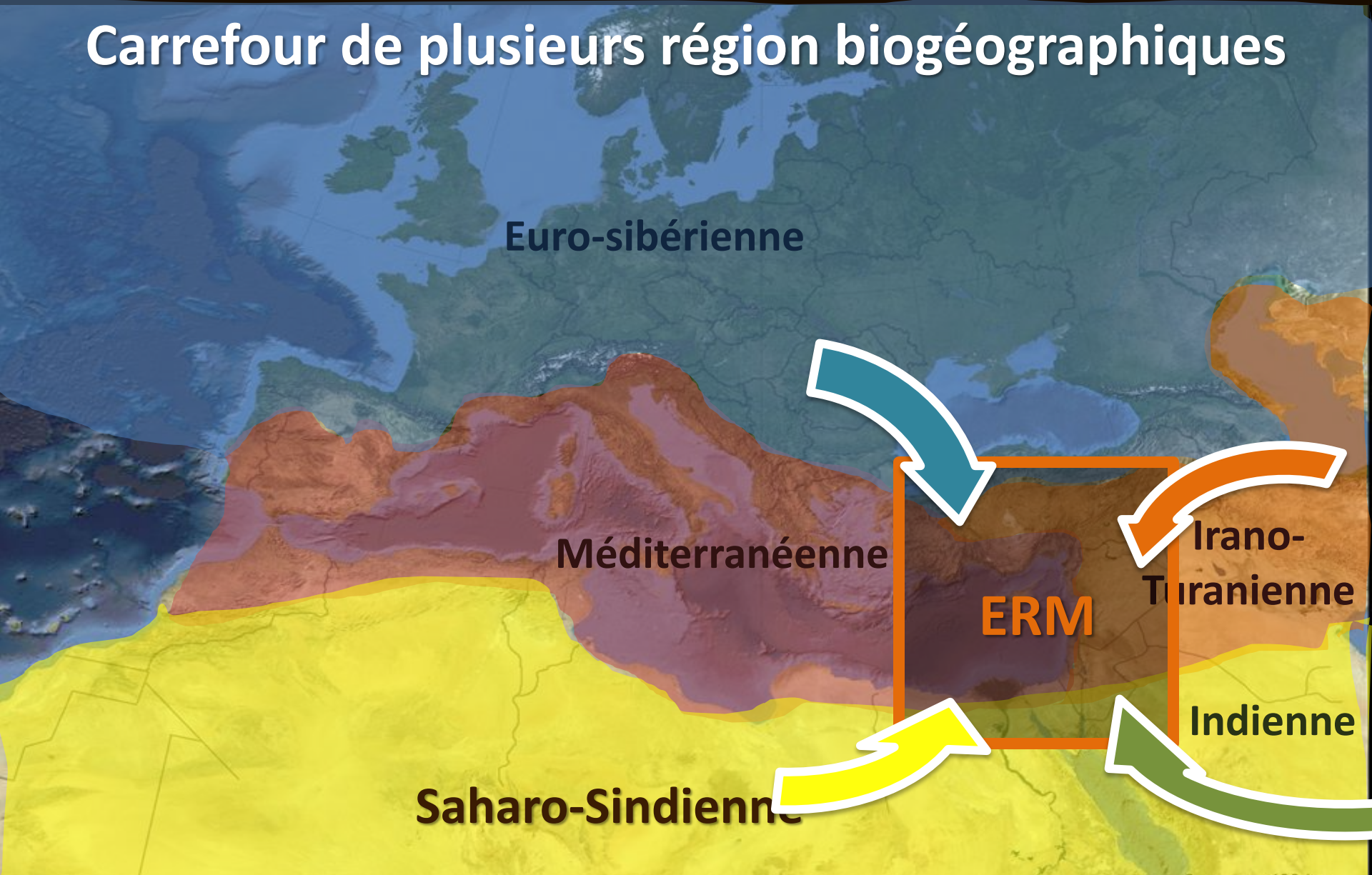




ERM



Carrefour de plusieurs région biogéographiques



Euro-sibérienne

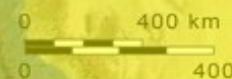
Méditerranéenne

ERM

Irano-Turanienne

Indienne

Saharo-Sindienne

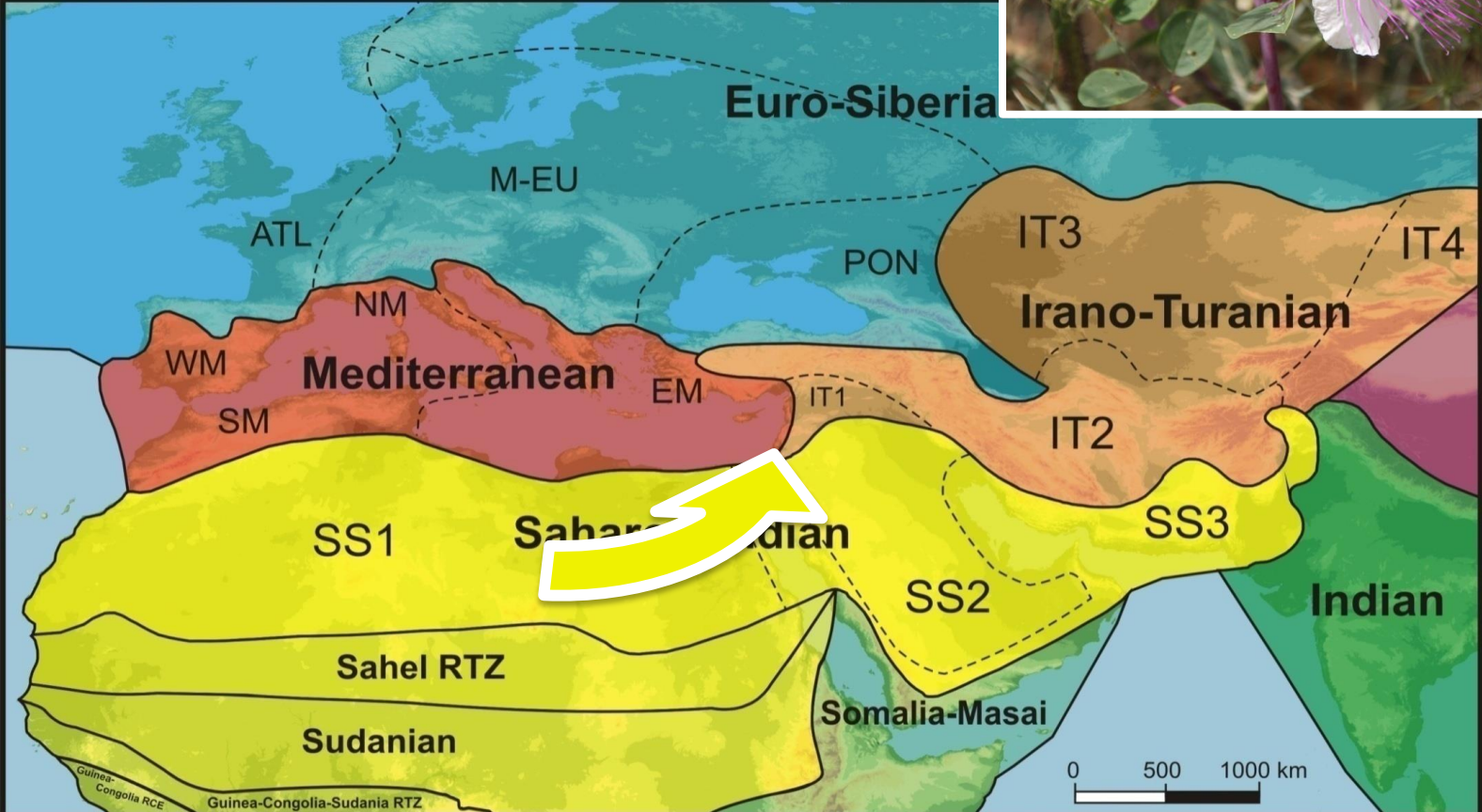


Origin : Euro-Syberian phytogeographic region



Atalay 1987; Nahal 1962

Origin : Saharo-Sindian phytogeographic region



Eig 1931-1932

Origin : Irano-Turanian phytogeographic region



Artemisia,



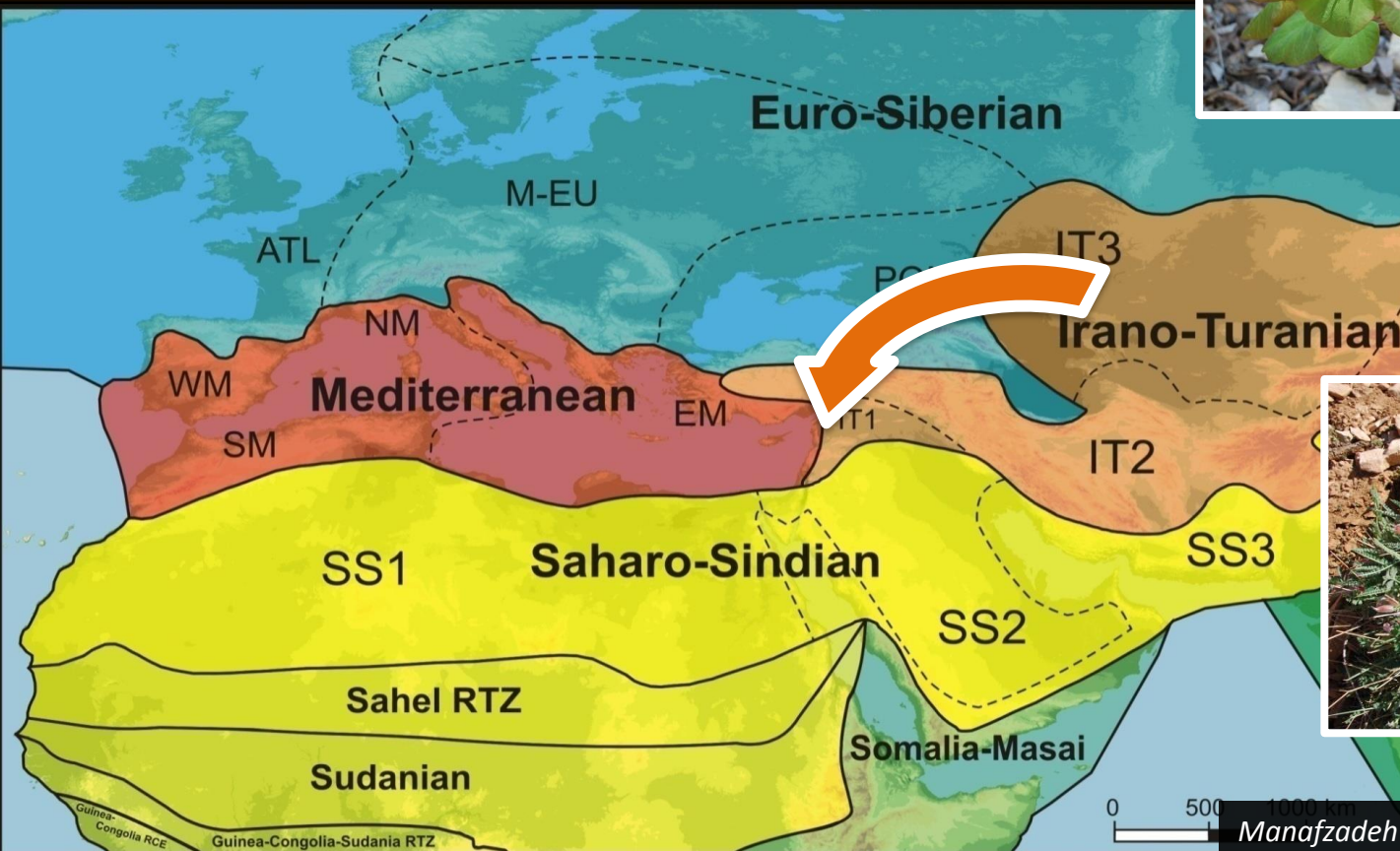
Cercis siliquastrum



Styra officinalis



Astragalus sp



Manafzadeh et al. 2013; Abdel Samad et al. 2014

Origin : xerotropical Indo-Malesian flora



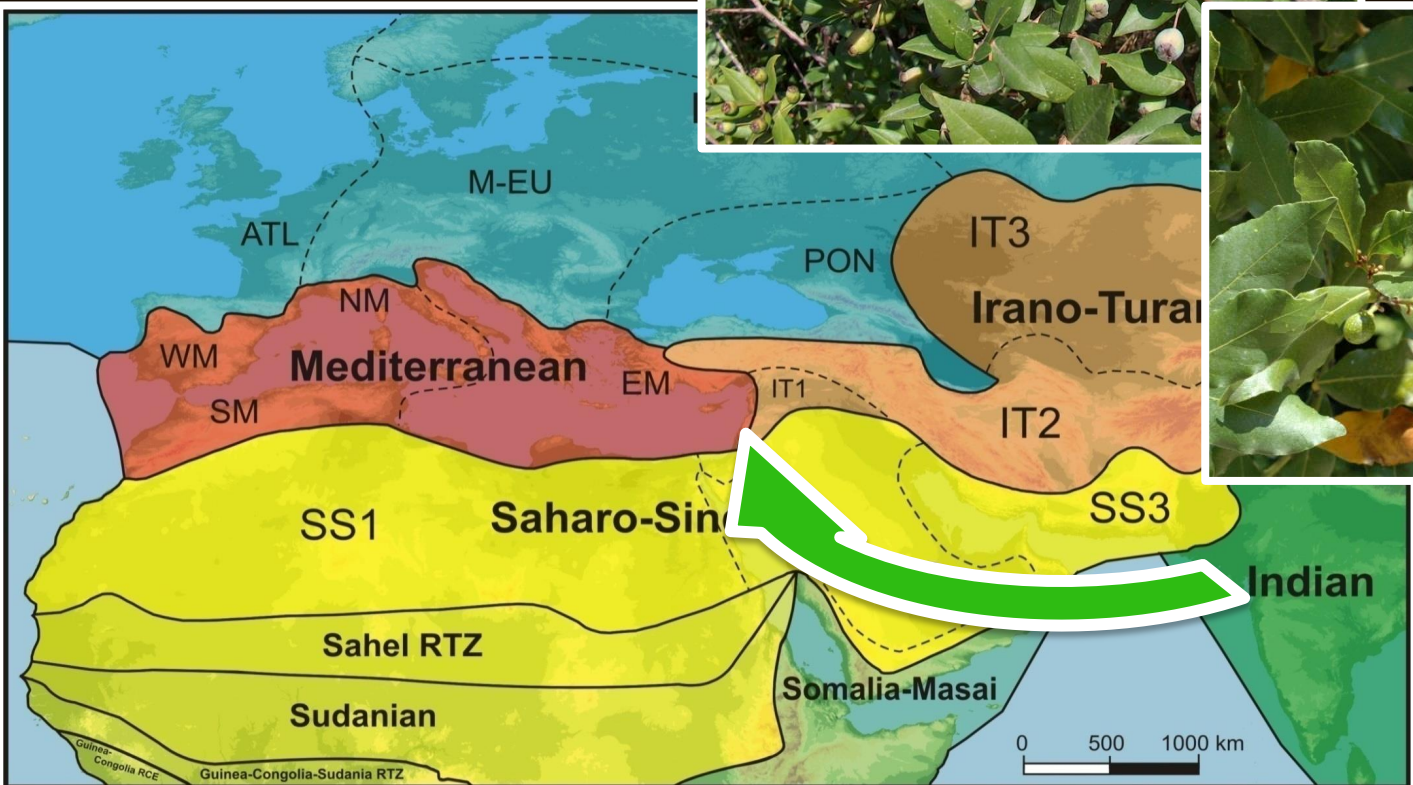
Ceratonia siliqua



Myrtus communis

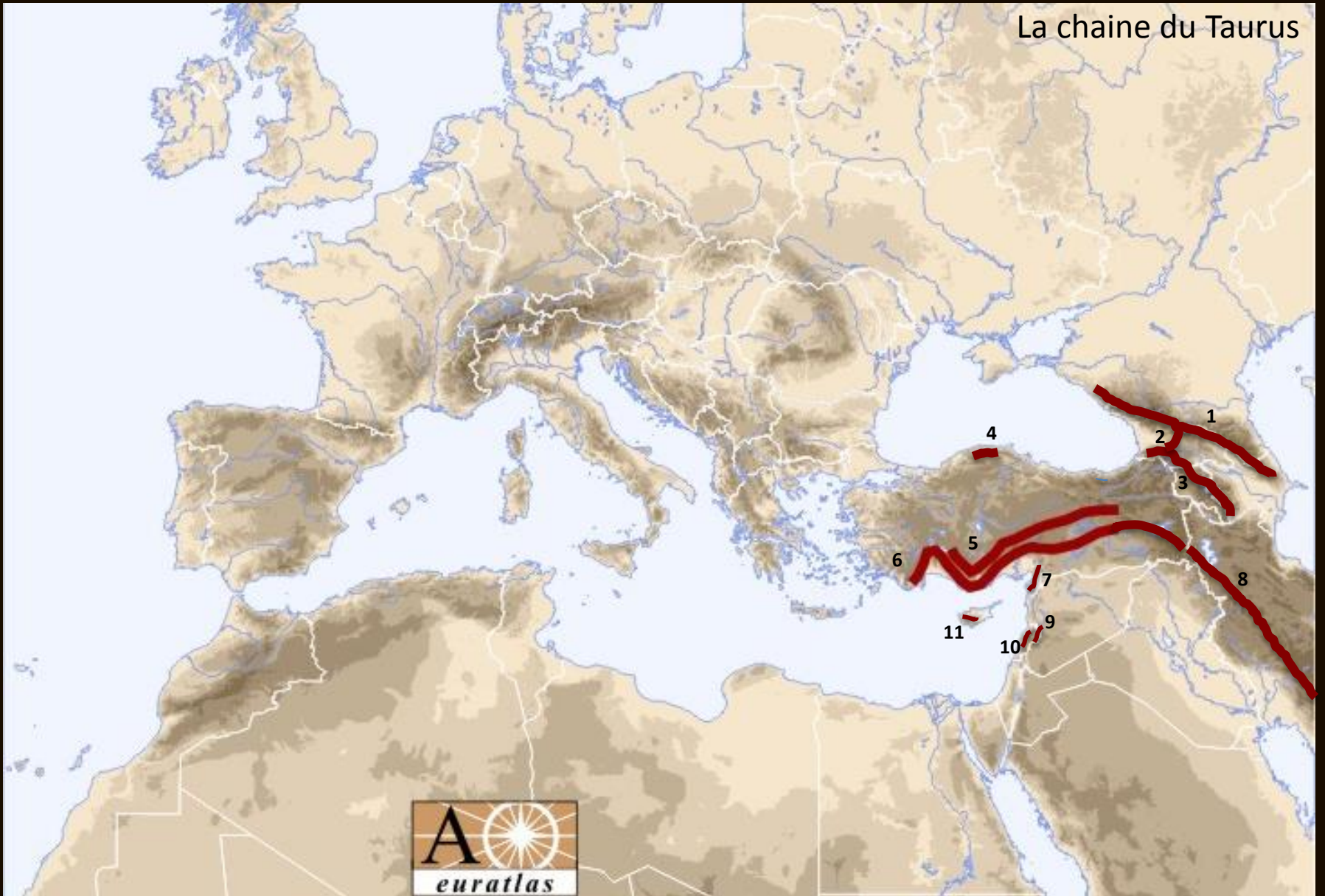


Laurus nobilis



Zohary (1973), Migliore et al.2012

La chaîne du Taurus





La chaîne du Mont-Liban

Clement Tannouri
CLEMENT TANNOURI
CHASSEUR D'INSTANTS
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Liban: Sur la terre comme au ciel
Lebanon: On Earth As It Is In Heaven

Méditerranée

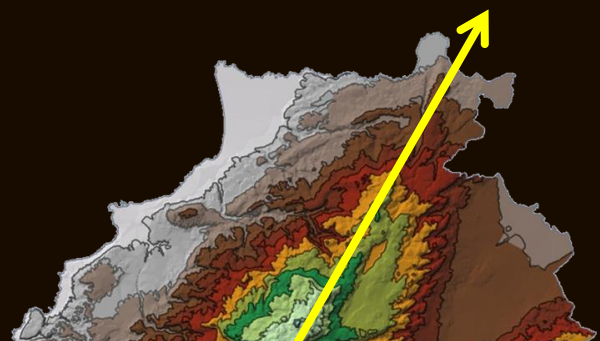
Mont Liban

Vallee de la Bequaa

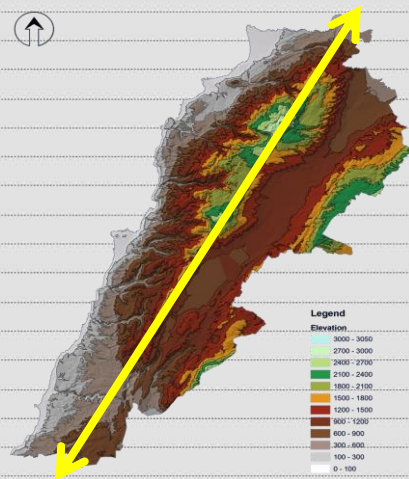
La chaîne du Mont-Liban


Clement Tannoury
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Liban: Sur la terre comme au ciel
Lebanon: On Earth As It Is In Heaven



Coupe longitudinale du Mont Liban montrant sommets montagneux et vallées.



Sud

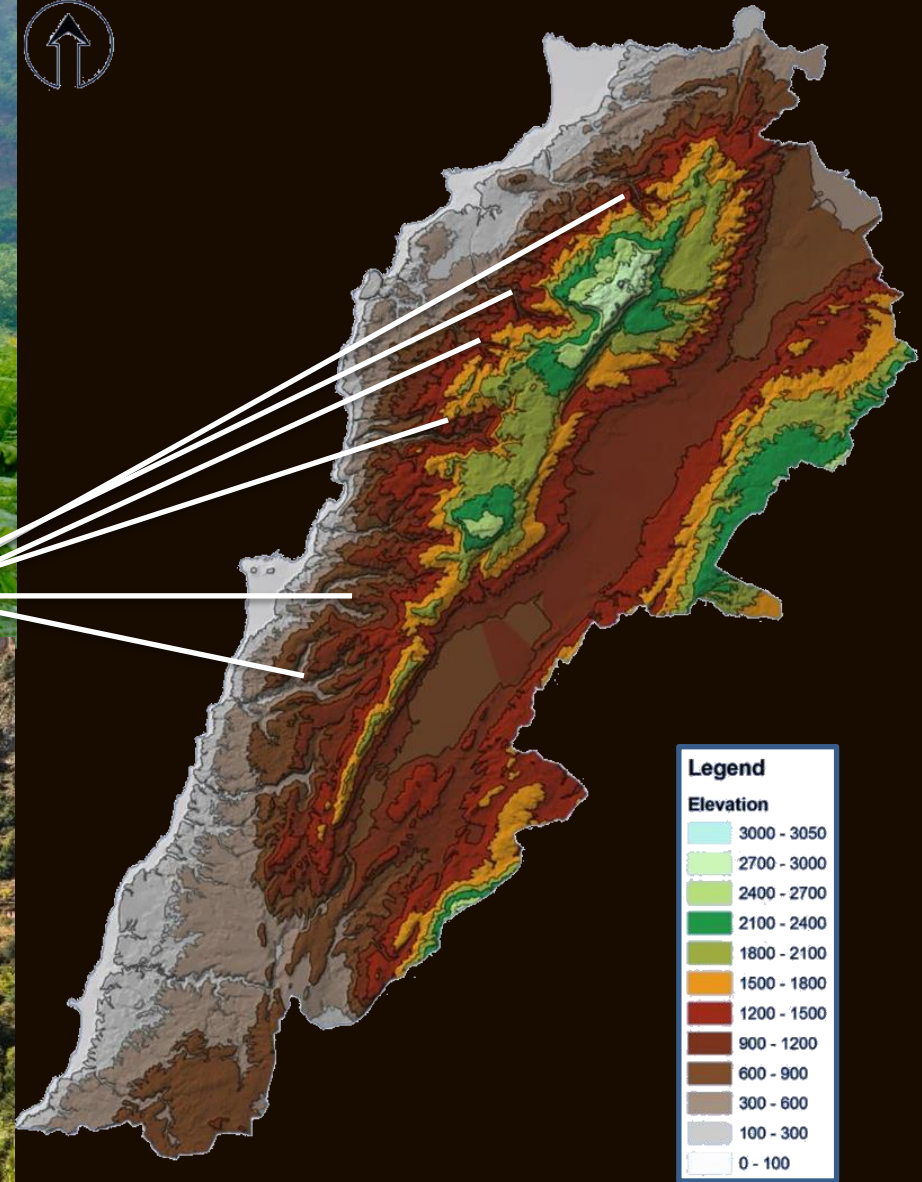


Baskinta

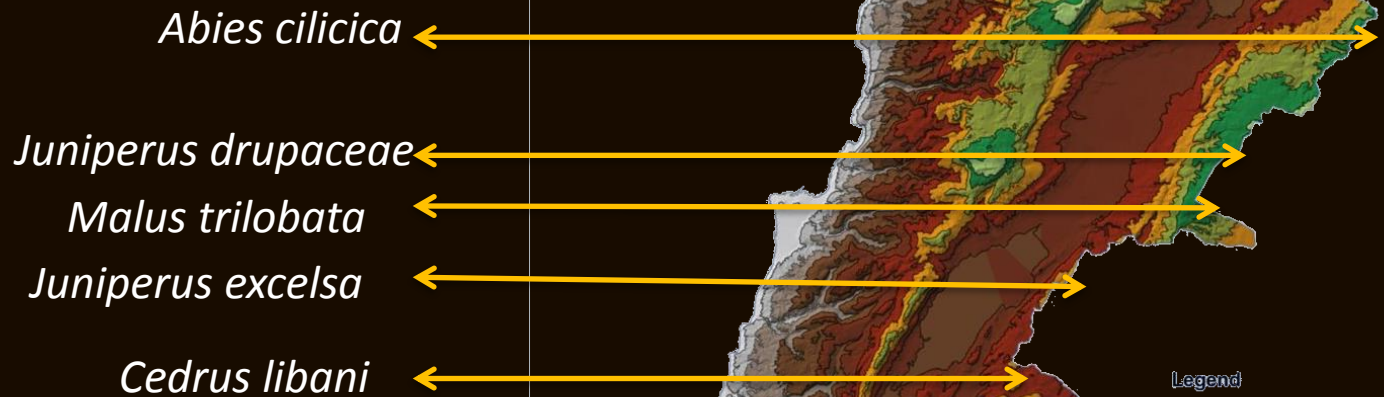
Vallées



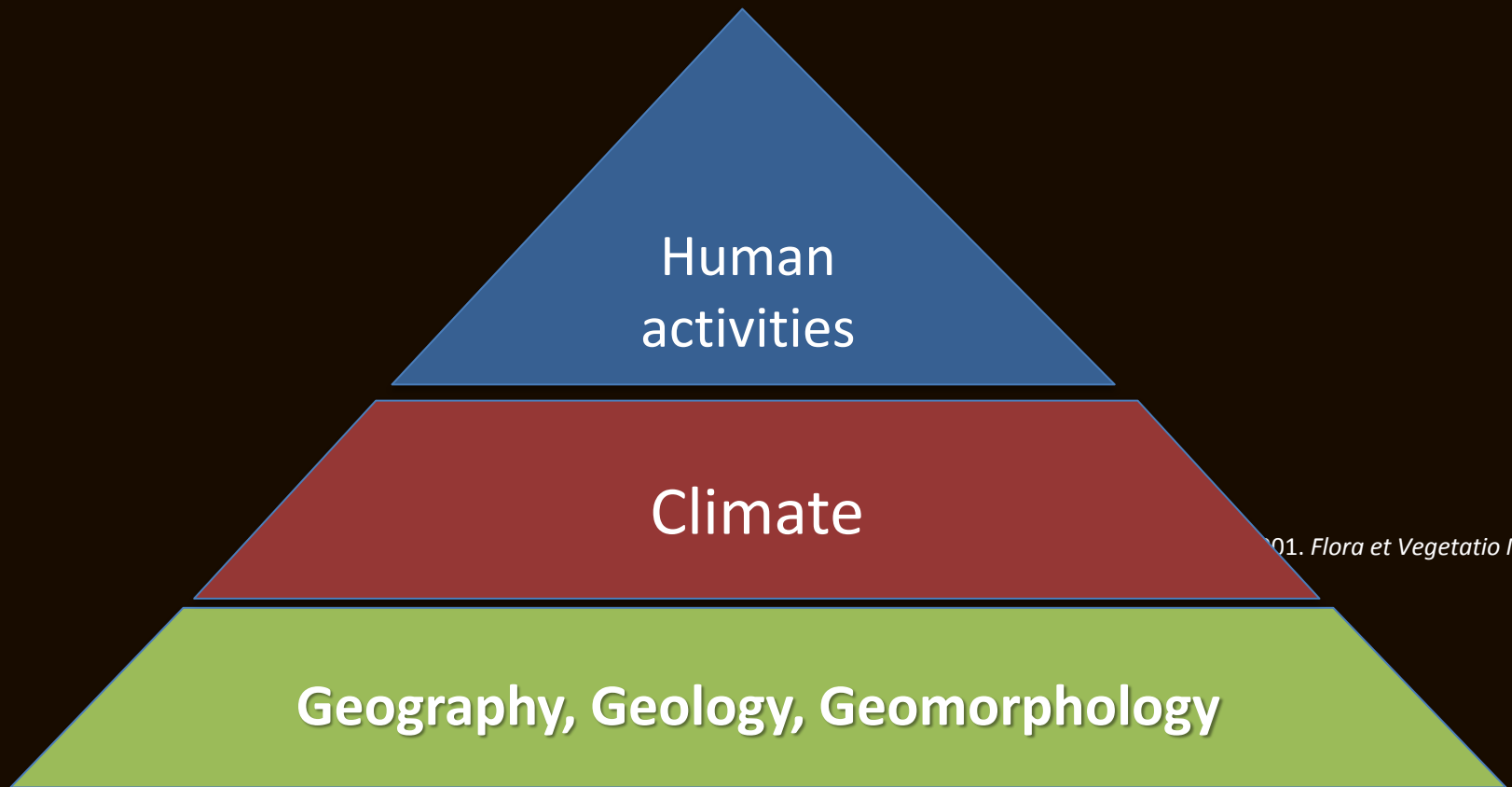
Quadisha valley



Southern-most edge populations of many “northern” species



Geology, climate, and human activities: the mould and sculptors of plant diversity



01. *Flora et Vegetatio Mundi*, 9.

Human impact

The Mediterranean is also the home of many human civilizations.

Human activities have been modifying natural habitats and the spatial distribution of species for thousands of years and have thus played a key role in shaping recent and contemporary evolutionary pressures in natural populations.

Rollover a species image or group name to learn more.
Click a species image to go to its summary page.

You are here.

Today

Homo group

Paranthropus group

1

million
years ago

2

million
years ago

3

million
years ago

4

million
years ago

5

million
years ago

6

million
years ago

Past

Australopithecus group

Ardipithecus group



Homo spp.

Welcome *Homo sapiens* ...

1- Hunter gatherer



Genèse 1 : 26

« ... Faisons l'homme à notre image, selon notre ressemblance, et **qu'il domine sur les poissons de la mer, sur les oiseaux du ciel, sur le bétail, sur toute la terre, et sur tous les reptiles qui rampent sur la terre** ».



Welcome *Homo sapiens* ...

2- Agriculture, domestication and settlement,

sedentarisation in human society



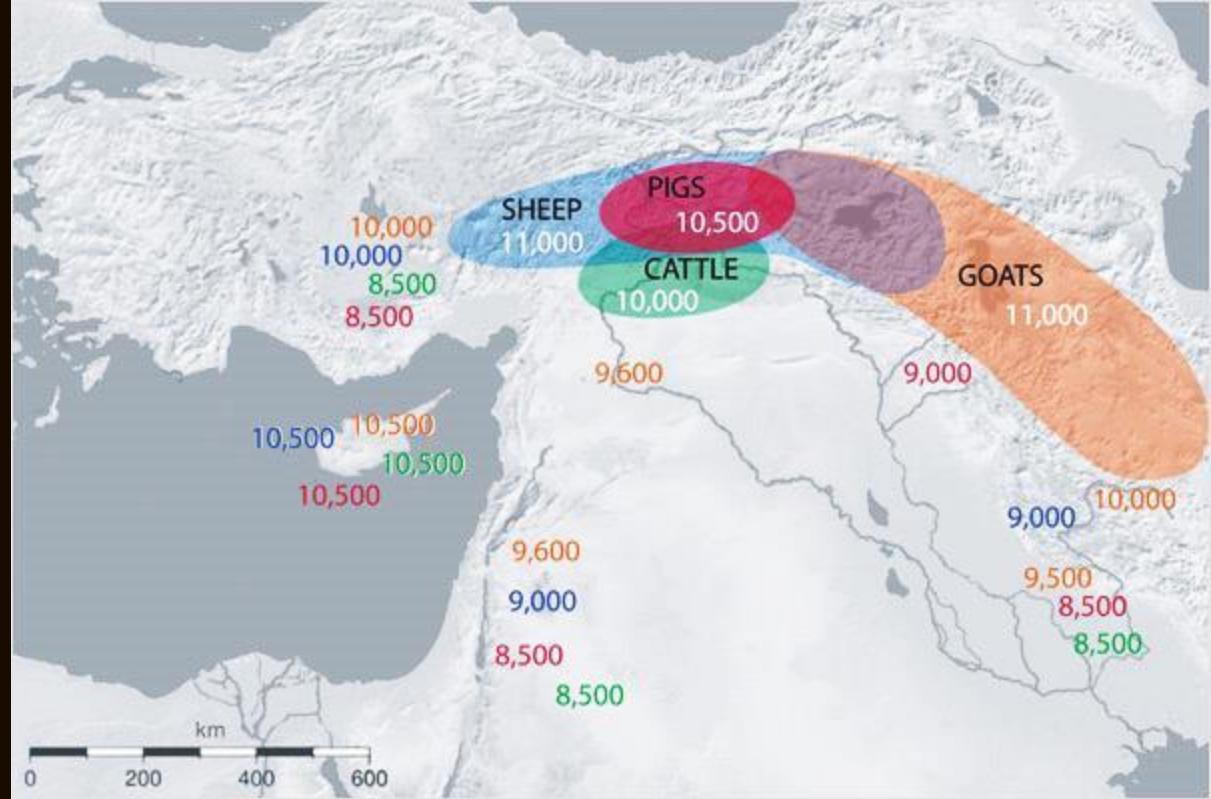
Fertile crescent

“the Fertile Crescent is regarded as the birthplace of agriculture, urbanization, writing, trade, science, history and organized religion and was first populated c.10,000 BCE when agriculture and the domestication of animals began in the region.



Agriculture and the domestication of animals

Domestication and early agriculture in the Mediterranean Basin: Origins, diffusion, and impact
(Zeder, 2008)



Human and dogs

Dog

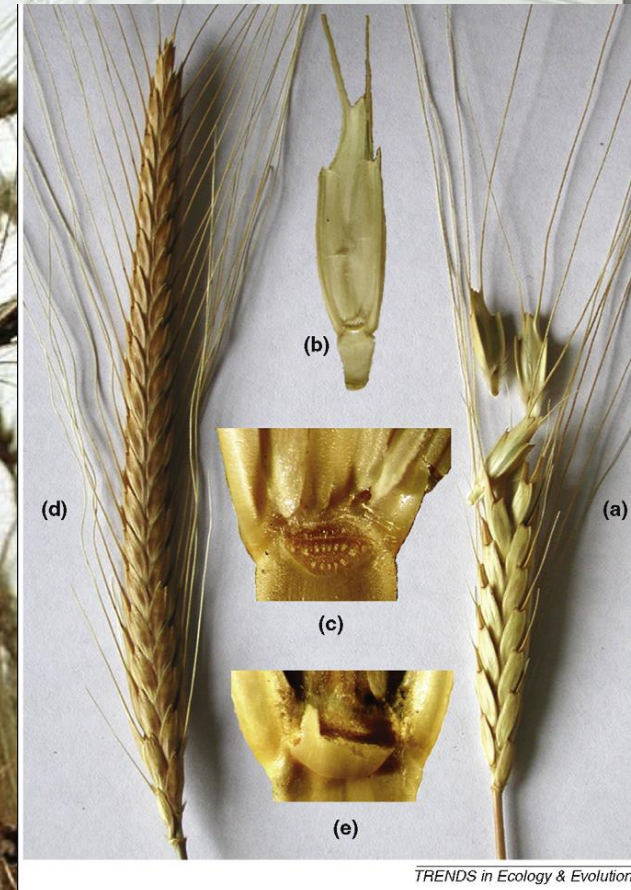


The skeletons of a human and dog (*upper left*) discovered underneath a 12,000-year-old home in northern Israel are early evidence of the human-canine bond.



Domestication du **chien** -15 000 a
JC - Avant la sédentarisation

Wheat's-eye view. Crop plants adapted slowly to human cultivation, evolving on a time scale of millennia rather than centuries.



TRENDS in Ecology & Evolution

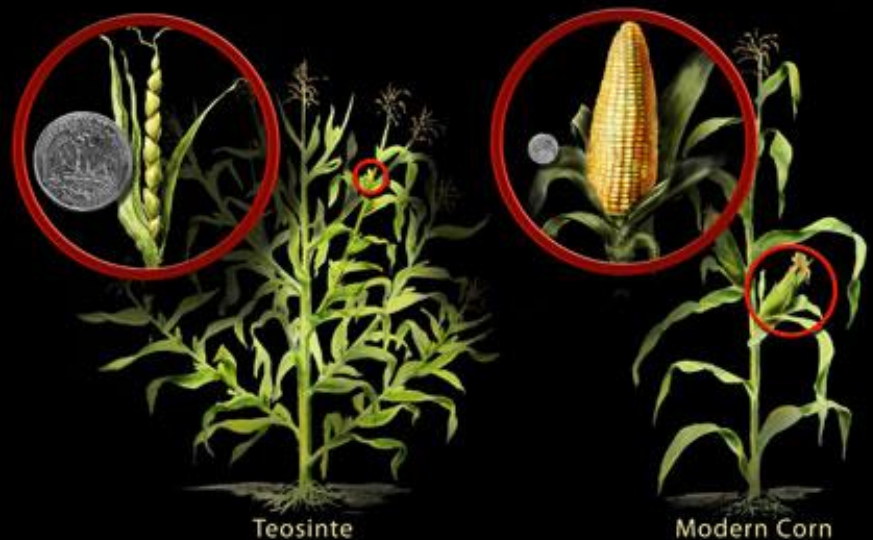


Wheat diversity





All in the family. Maize and its wild ancestor teosinte (*left*) are closely related despite their differences.



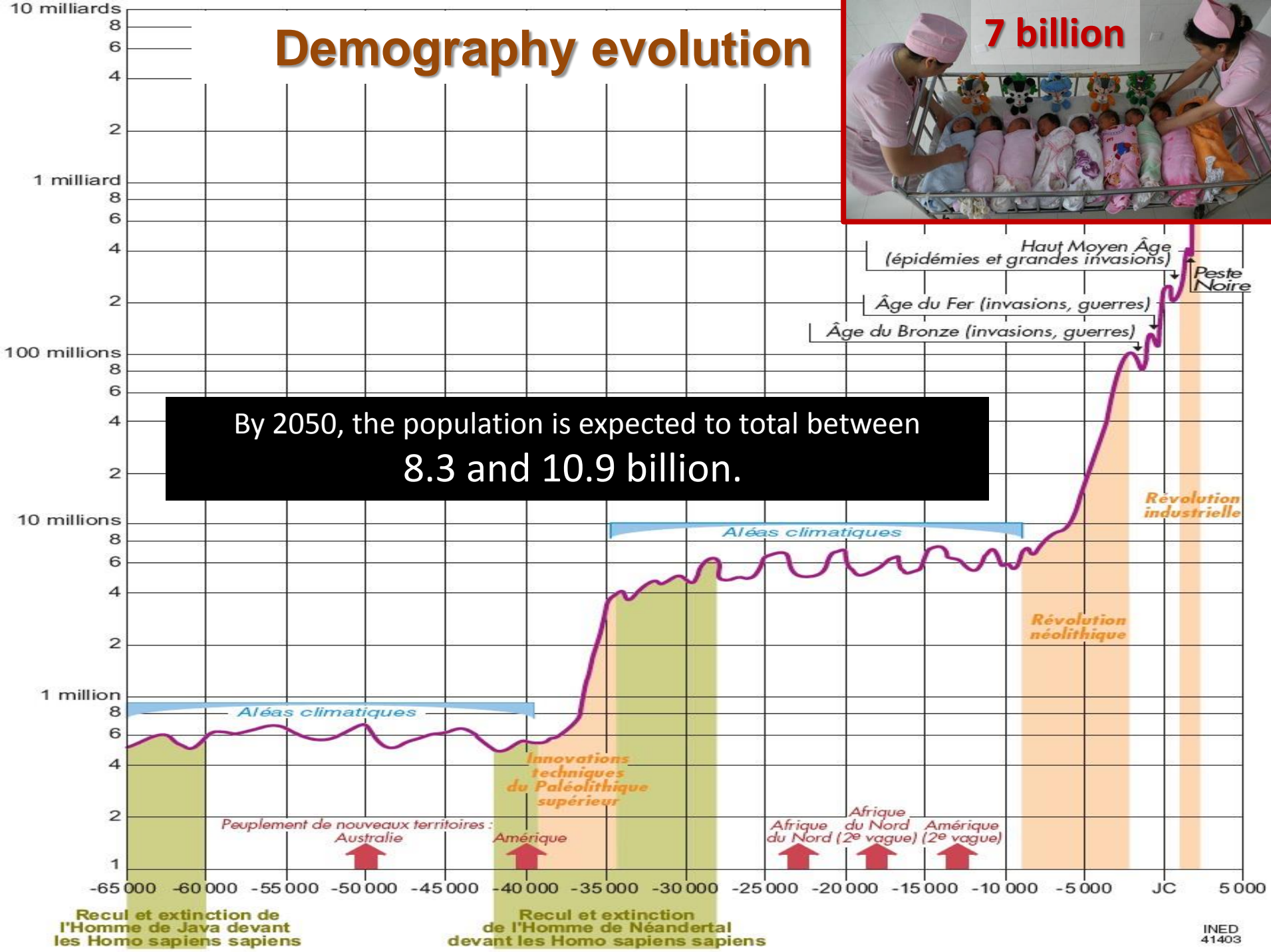
Teosinte

Modern Corn

Demography evolution



7 billion



Eat plenty of fruit & learn to multiply. That way **you won't** pollute your bodies & the earth with animal agriculture , and reproduce faster than the planet can support.

We should have written that down. What was it again?

« **Be fruitful & multiply** », I think.

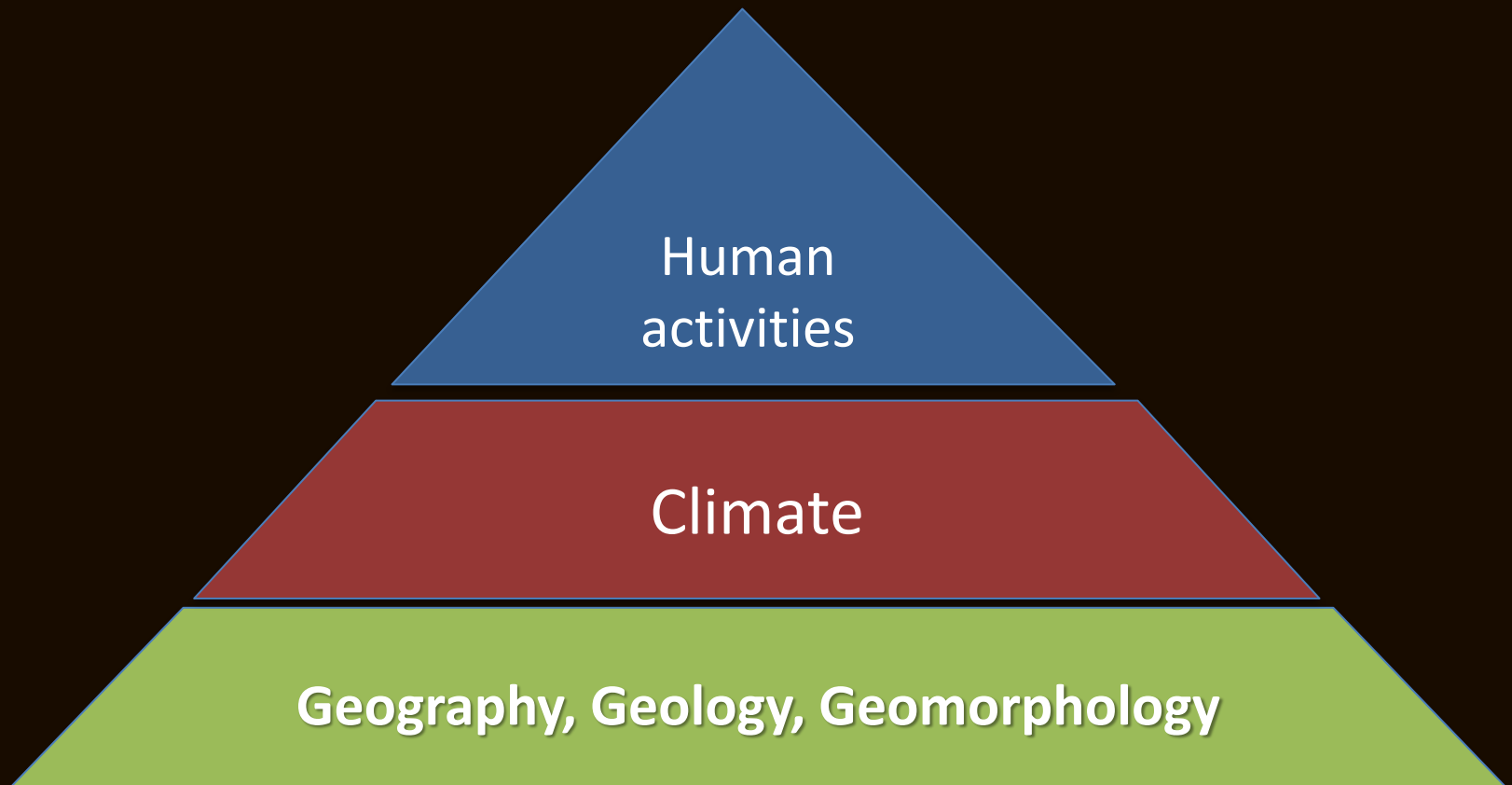






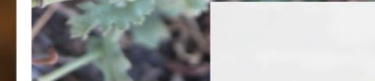


Geology, climate, and human activities: the mould and sculptors of plant diversity



Each flora is **UNIQUE**

Result of different evolutions
pathways over millions of years....



The Global Transportation System



human-mediated dispersal of species into new regions



Exotic species

Non Indigenous Species (NIS)

Alien species

Introduced species

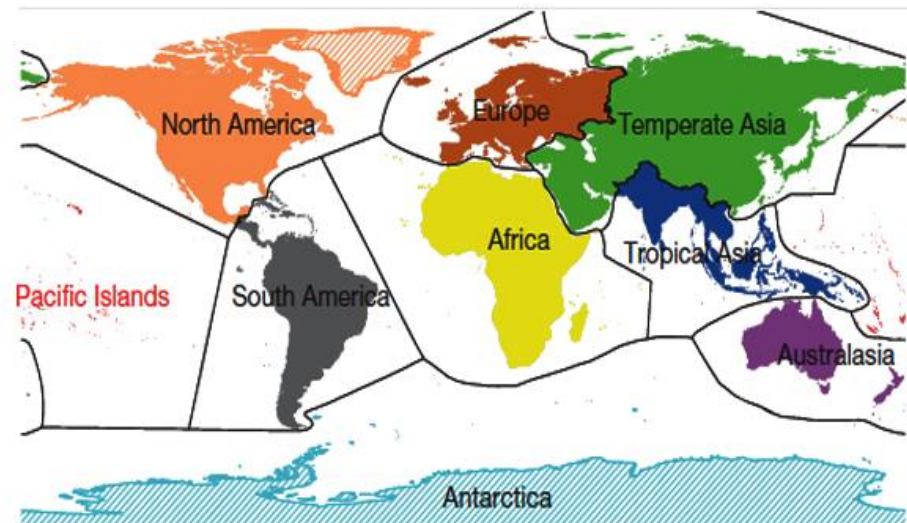
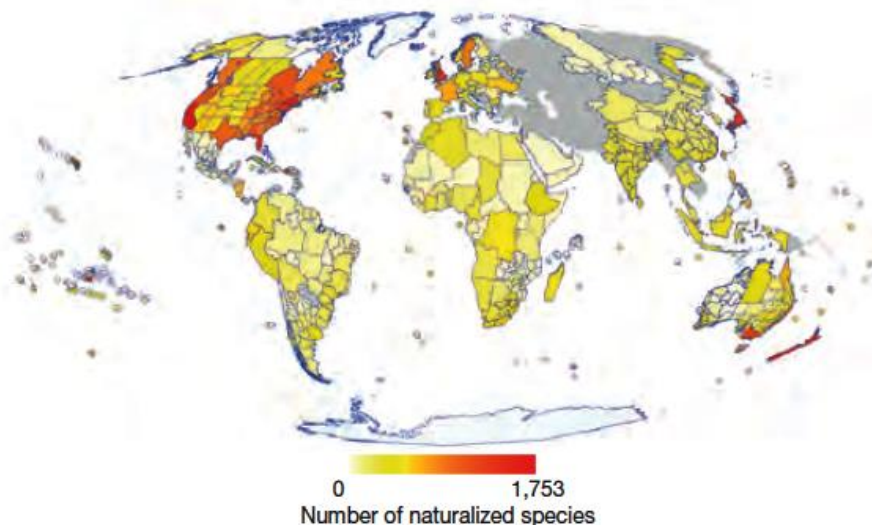


?



Global exchange and accumulation of non-native plants

Mark van Kleunen¹, Wayne Dawson¹, Franz Essl², Jan Pergl³, Marten Winter⁴, Ewald Weber⁵, Holger Kreft⁶, Patrick Weigelt⁶, John Kartesz⁷, Misako Nishino⁷, Liubov A. Antonova⁸, Julie F. Barcelona⁹, Francisco J. Cabezas¹⁰, Dairon Cárdenas¹¹, Juliana Cárdenas-Toro^{12,13}, Nicolás Castaño¹¹, Eduardo Chacón^{2,14}, Cyrille Chatelain¹⁵, Aleksandr L. Ebel¹⁶, Estrela Figueiredo^{17,18}, Nicol Fuentes¹⁹, Quentin J. Groom²⁰, Lesley Henderson²¹, Inderjit²², Andrey Kupriyanov²³, Silvana Masciadri^{24,25}, Jan Meerman²⁶, Olga Morozova²⁷, Dietmar Moser², Daniel L. Nickrent²⁸, Annette Patzelt²⁹, Pieter B. Pelsers⁹, María P. Baptiste¹², Manop Poopath³⁰, Maria Schulze³¹, Hanno Seebens³², Wen-sheng Shu³³, Jacob Thomas³⁴, Mauricio Velayos¹⁰, Jan J. Wieringa^{35,36} & Petr Pyšek^{3,37,38}



In total **13,168** plant species corresponding to **3,9 %** of the extant global vascular flora have become naturalised somewhere on the globe as a result of human activity.

Approximately the size of the Native European flora



NO - NO - NO

For Biotic homogenization

Native plant communities are vital components of ecosystems.



In order to be healthy and sustainable, an ecosystem needs to be filled with a wide array of plants and animals indigenous to the area.

Native plants are valued for their **economic, ecological, genetic, and aesthetic** benefits in addition to the growing societal belief in their intrinsic value as living species.

Advantages of native plants:

- add beauty to the landscape and preserve our natural heritage
- provide food and habitat for native wildlife
- serve as an important genetic resource for future food crops or other plant-derived products
- help slow down the spread of fire by staying greener longer
- decrease the amount of water needed for landscape maintenance
- require very little long-term maintenance if they are properly planted and established
- protect water quality by controlling soil erosion and moderating floods and droughts

Using native plants to restore the landscape or as a substitute for exotic ornamental plantings can help to reverse the trend of species loss.

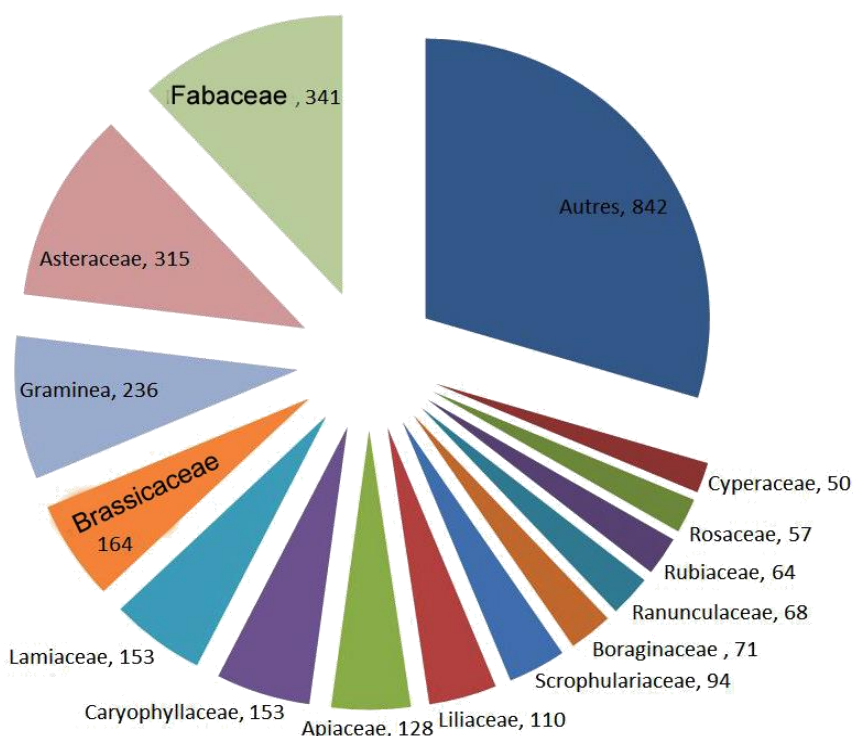
Lebanon flora in a glance!

131 Families

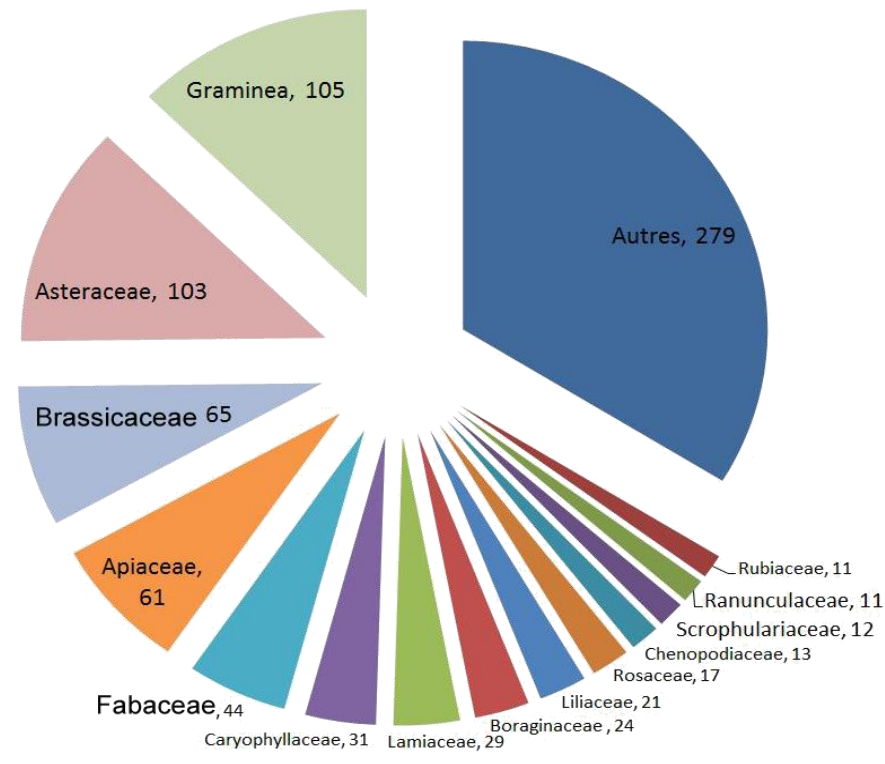
826 Genera

2845 Taxa

Species richness per Family.



Genus richness per family



Bou Dagher Kharrat M. *et al.*, en préparation.

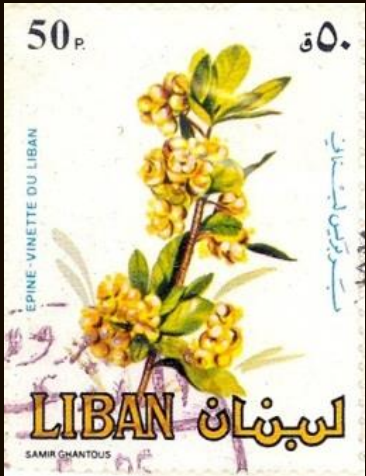
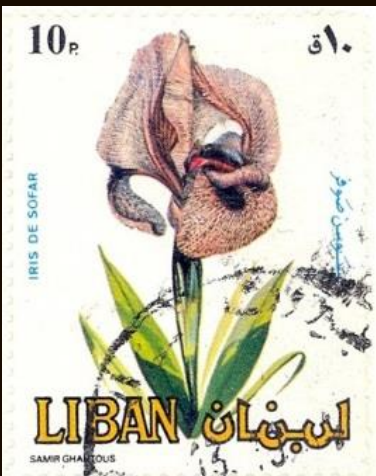


Aubrieta libanotica

F

Each flora is UNIQUE

Result of different evolutions pathways over millions of years....





virtual data base for Plants

<http://www.lebanon-flora.org/>

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Classification

Name

Others

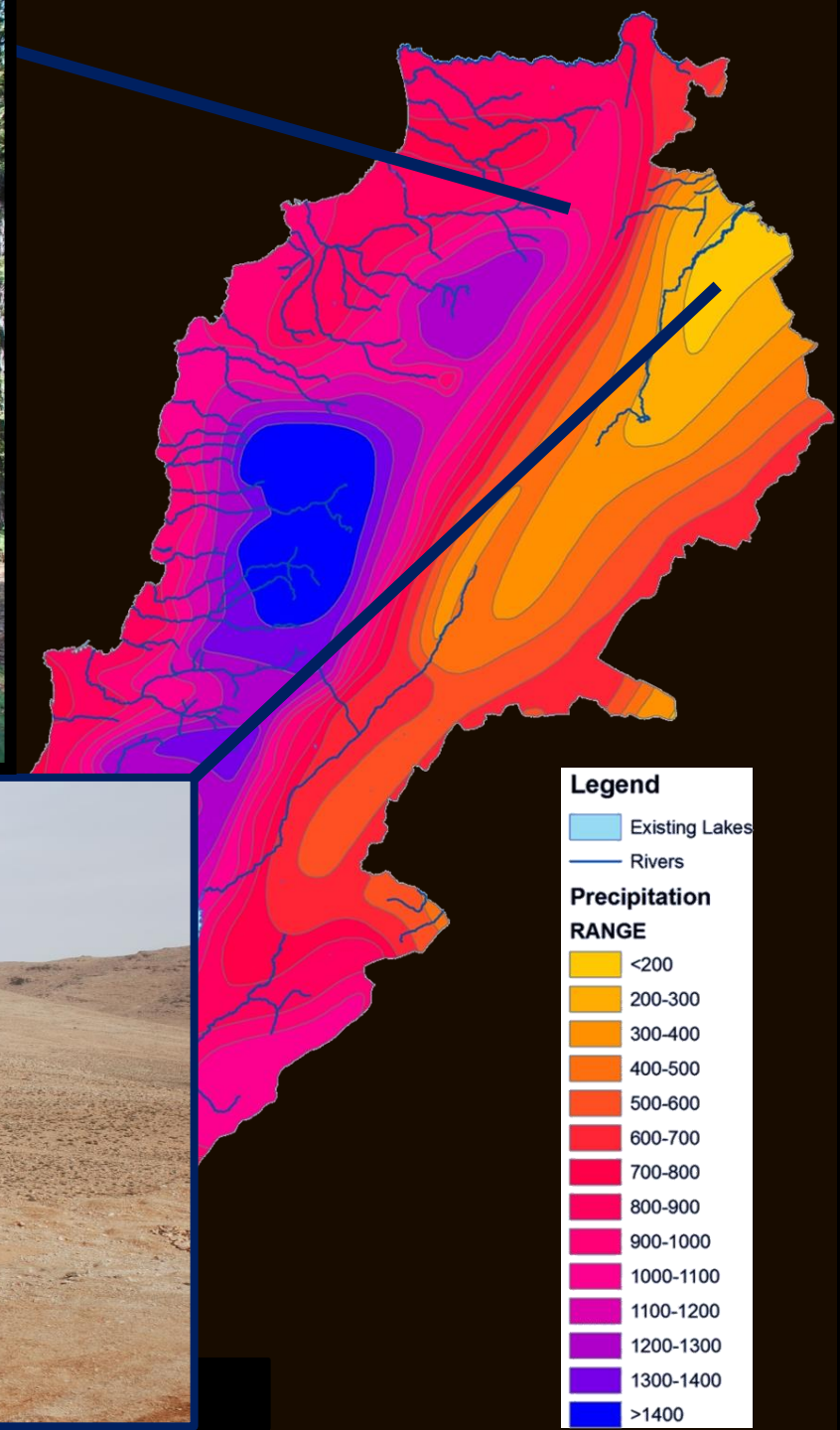
News

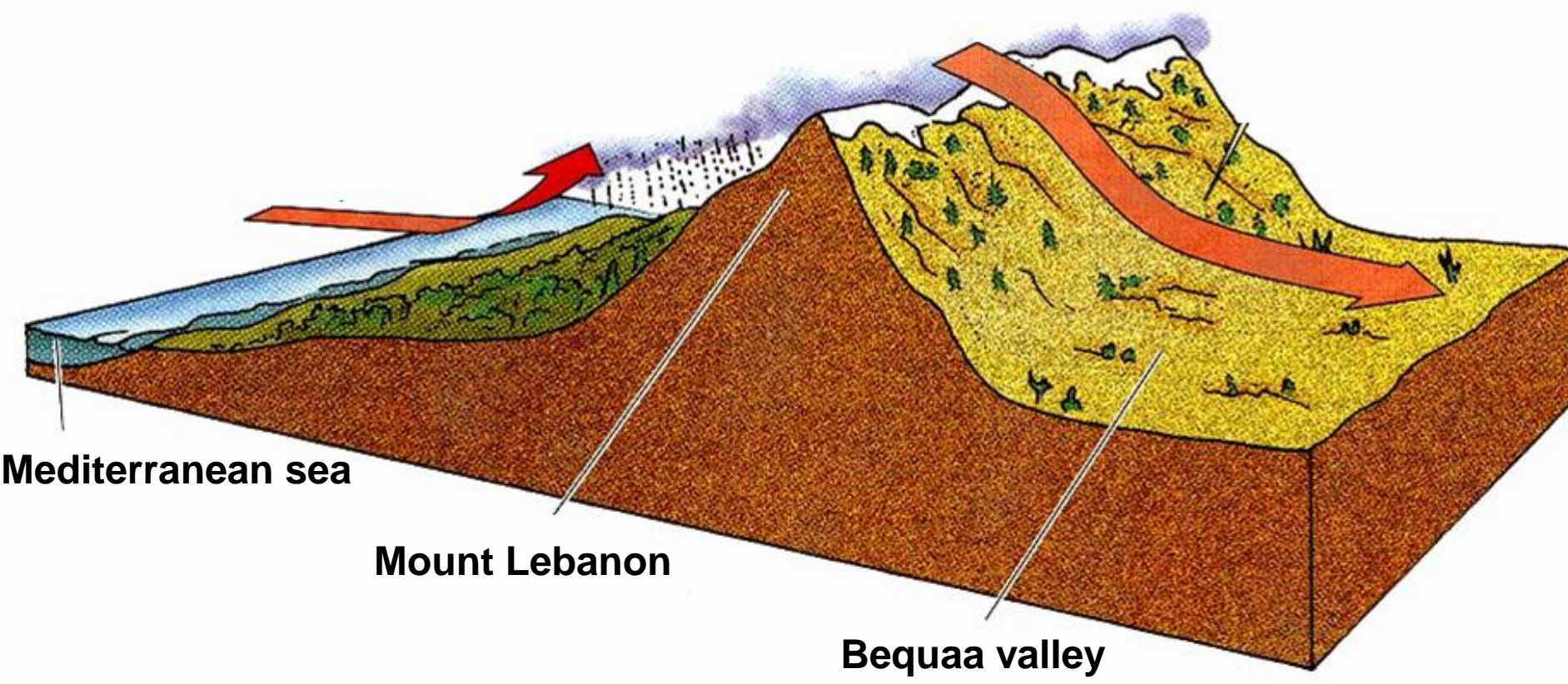
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Species
Mapping Tool

Flowering now

Lebanon-Flora in social media





Mediterranean sea

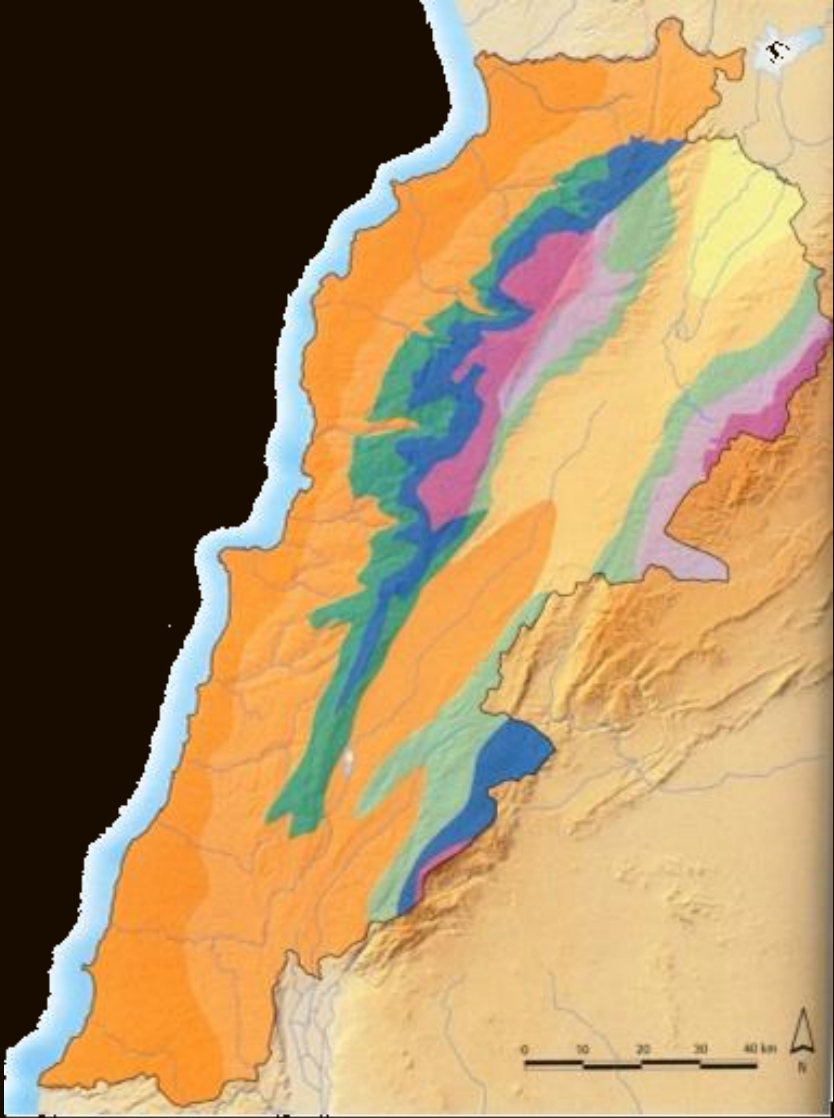
Mount Lebanon

Bequaa valley

Bioclimatic zones

The singularity of geomorphological regions give rise to different **bio-climatic zones and several types of habitats**, including several distinct semi-natural habitats that have evolved and adapted to anthropogenic activities and pressures.

Altitude (m)		Mediterranean
0 – 500		Thermomediterranean
500-1000		Eumediterranean
1000 - 1500		Supramediterranean
1500 - 2000		Montagnard mediterranean
> 2000		Oromediterranean
Pre steppic mediterranean		
1000 - 1500		Mediterranean
1400 - 1800		Supramediterranean
1800 - 2400		Montagnard mediterranean
> 2400		Oromediterranean



(Abi Saleh 1978, Atlas du Liban 2006)

Taanayel lac



**Ouyoun Ourghosh,
2800 m**



Horsh Ehden natural reserve



Aarsal Anti-Liban



Barqua



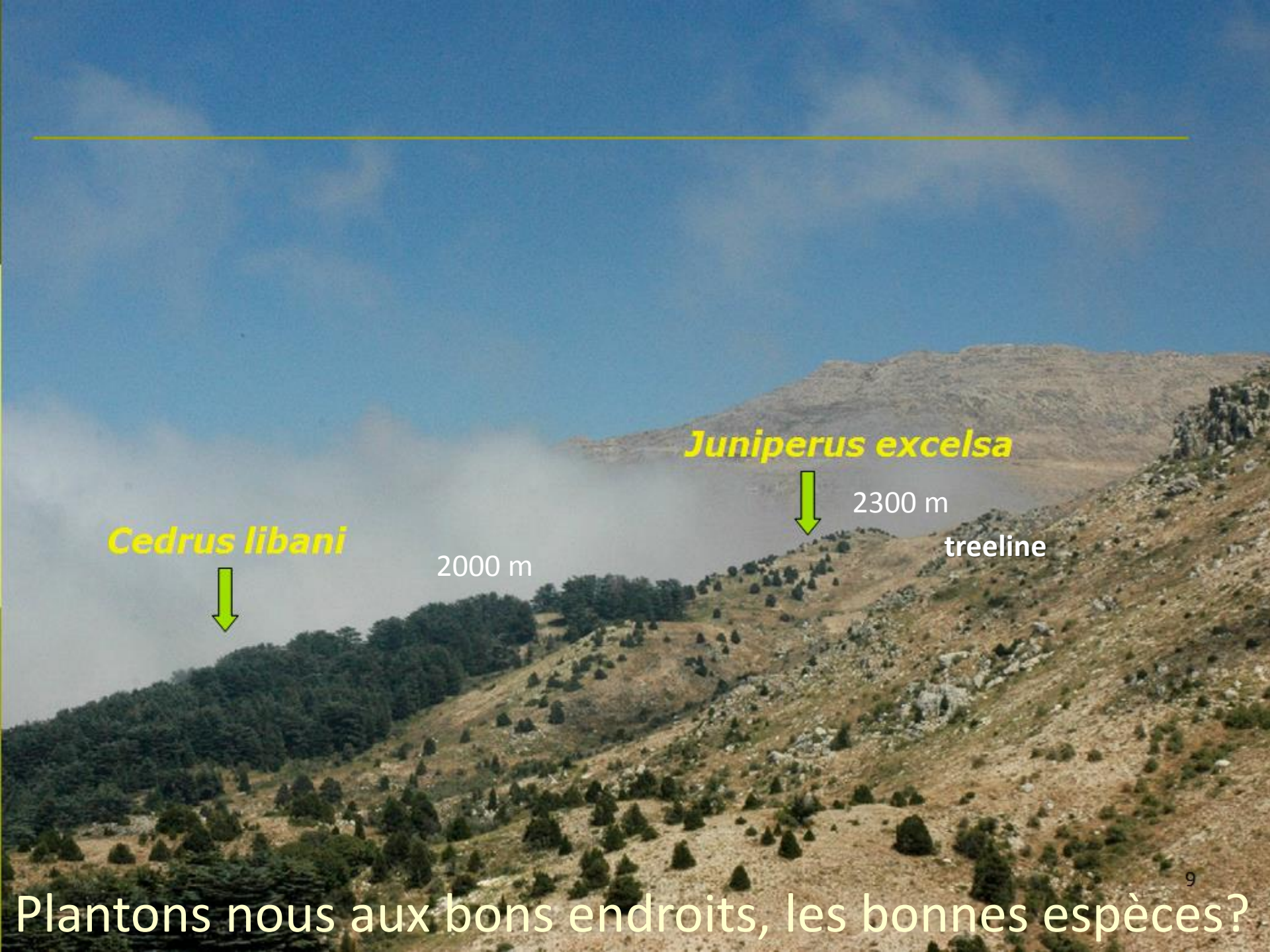
Jabal el Kneisseh



Quercus cerris pseudocerris Quammouah

Jroud Danniyeh





Cedrus libani



2000 m

Juniperus excelsa



2300 m

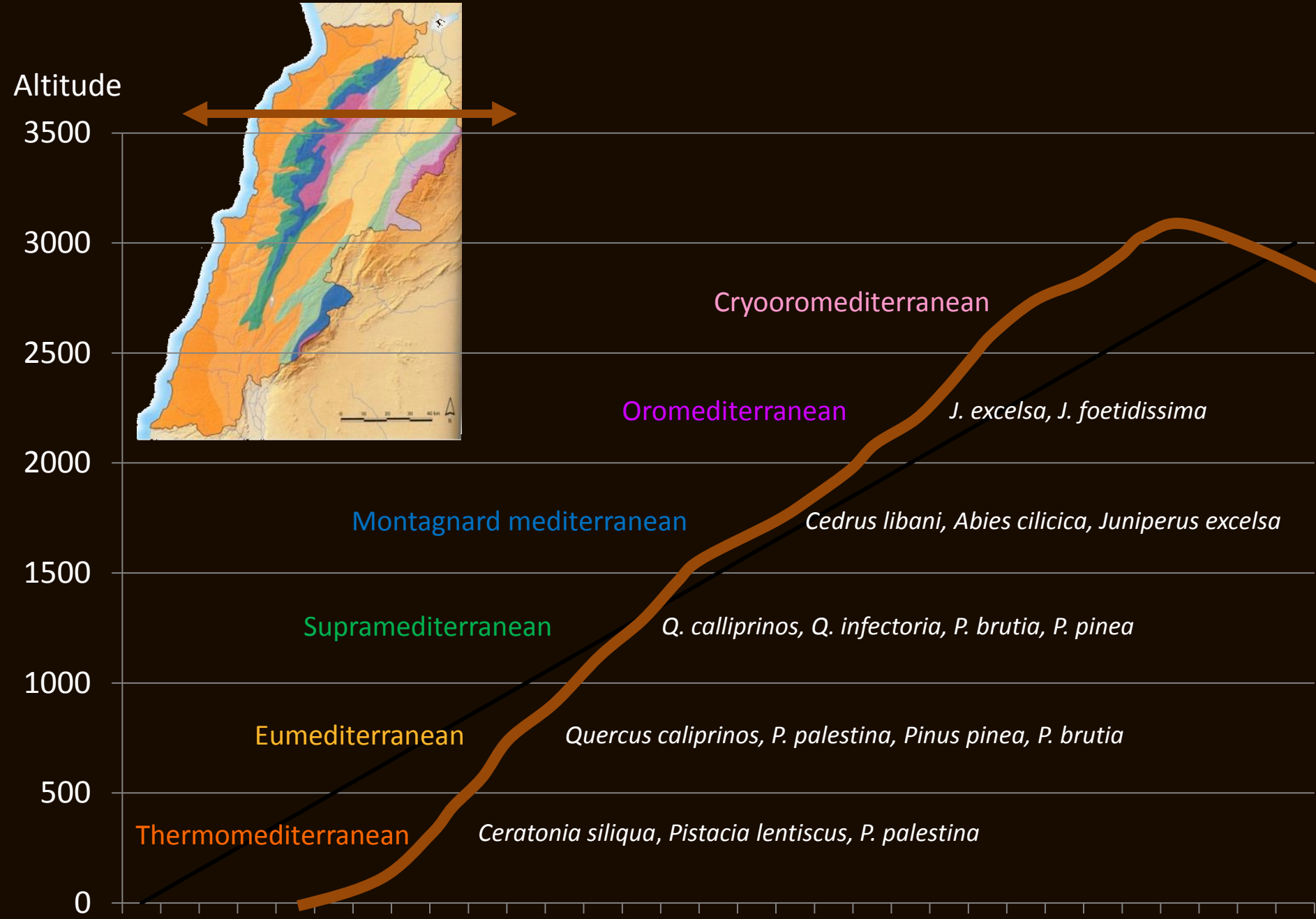
treeline

Plantons nous aux bons endroits, les bonnes espèces?

2000 m – Oyoun orghoch



Juniperus foetidissima

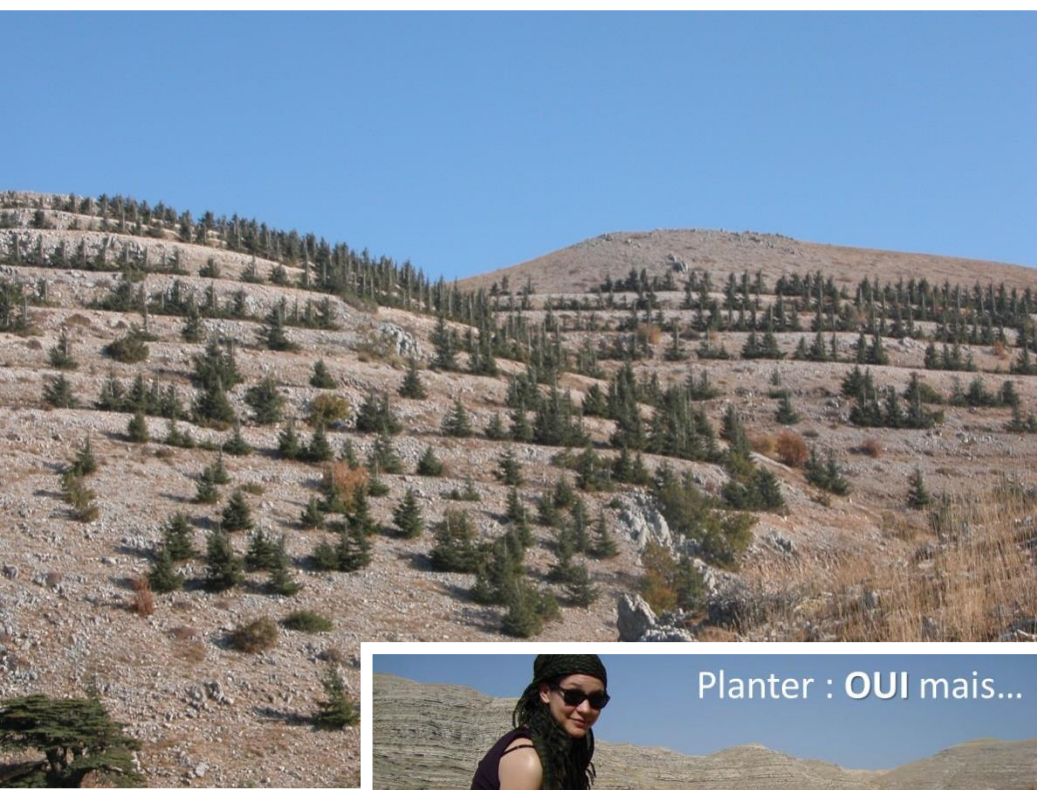


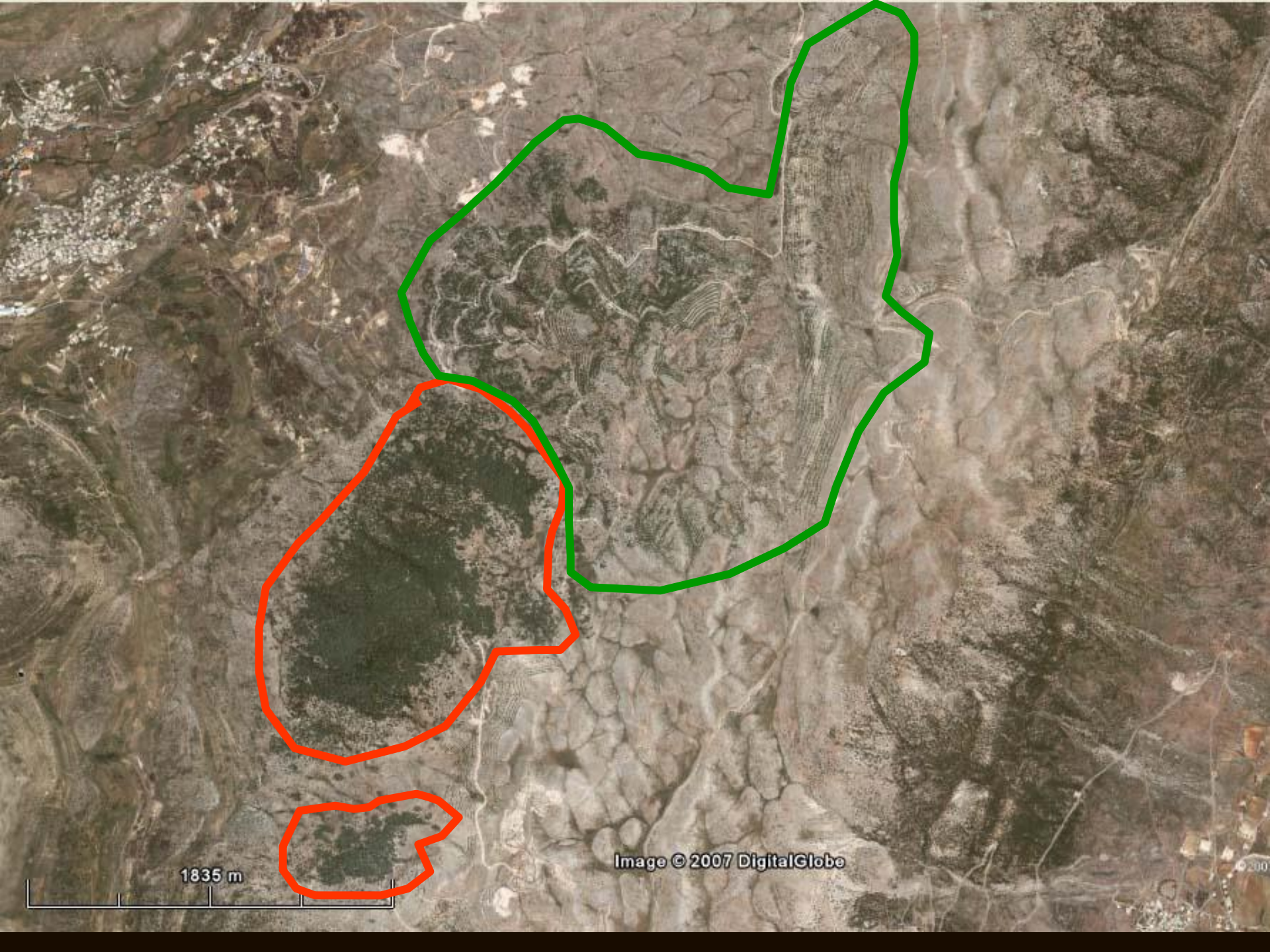
The presence of strong altitudinal gradients around the shores of the Mediterranean may have allowed different associations to locally persist and thus rapidly track climate change.



A New Development Goal for Lebanon: the 40 Million Forest Trees

Plantation campaigns





1835 m

Image © 2007 DigitalGlobe

© 2007

Reforestation vs Ecosystem restoration



Boisement monospécifique avec *Pinus pinea* aux alentours de Jezzine.



Ecosystème forestier très diversifié dans la réserve naturelle de Ehden.

Ecological restoration of high altitude forest ecosystems

أرضك بحاجة لجذور
ساهم الآن في التشجير*



جذور لبنان
jouzourloubnan.org

*Votre terre a besoin de racines, participez aujourd'hui au reboisement.



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زرعنا 60,000 شجرة
قولكن بكفي؟



ساهم معنا بالتشجير



ساهم معنا
بالتشجير...
لنتنفس هوا
نظيف!

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معًا نزرع غابات الغد

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بدي شجر لبنان!
بتساعدوني؟

71 124 000

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تمويل مشترك مع
الاتحاد الأوروبي

ECOLOGICAL use of native PLANTS for
environmental restoration and sustainable
development in the MEDiterranean region

WP6 :

Tomorrow
Session 3
Perla Farhat



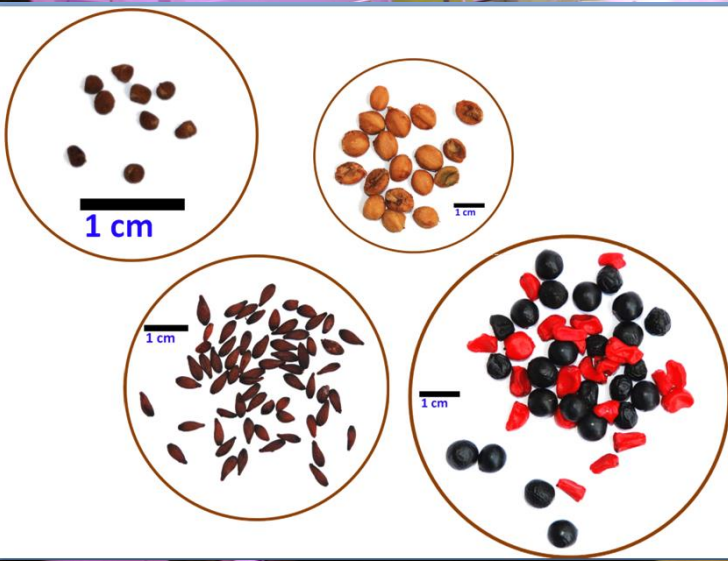
Effect of native nurse plant

Effect of site exposition

Effect of irrigation

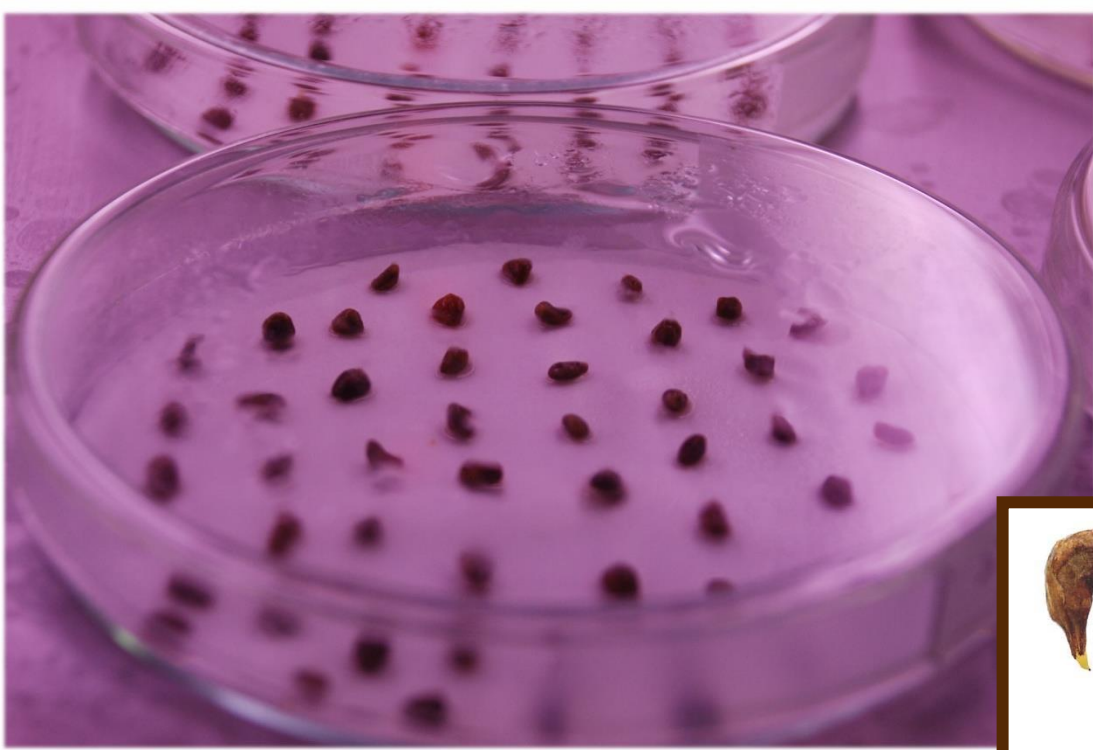


1,5 Mm² clôturés



Ramy SAKR





ECOLOGICAL use of native PLANTs for environmental restoration and sustainable development in the MEDiterranean region



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JANVIER 2015



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Christy

Tony

Sarah

Rana

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Abdo

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Helen

Mahmoud

Merci



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- **Pascal Bou Nassar**, Saint Joseph University, Lebanon
- **Tony Chahine**, Jouzour Loubnan, Lebanon
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- **Costas Thanos**, National Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- **Ramón Vallejo Calzada**, Barcelona University, Spain

Thank you!



EcoplantMed
International Conference
14-16 October, Beirut, Lebanon

Session 1



Welcome and a brief introduction on the day topics

Arid and Dune Ecosystems

Chair : **Gianluigi Bacchetta** - Università degli Studi di Cagliari

for the restoration of semiarid landscapes at different scales

Jordi Cortina

9:45

Actions for the conservation and restoration of coastal dunes with *Juniperus* spp. in Crete and the South Aegean (JUNICOAST)

Dany Ghosn

CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania - Greece

10:00

The LIFE+ project "RES MARIS - Recovering Endangered habitats in the Capo Carbonara Marine area, Sardinia" (LIFE13 NAT/IT/000433): first year results

Francesca Meloni

Università degli Studi di Cagliari - Italy

10:15

Mimicking natural processes on urban dunes

Josep Lascurain

Consultora de Servicios Globales Medioambientales - Spain

10:30

Restoration Against All Odds: The Case of Coastal Sand Dunes in Ouzai, Lebanon

Joanna Sabra

American University of Beirut - Lebanon

10:45

Contrasting survival and growth responses of two native species with different rooting strategy during plantation establishment under severe summer drought in the Mediterranean of central Chile

Juan Ovalle

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile - Chile

11:00

Discussion

11:05-11:20

Coffee Break

Session 2



12:00 – 13:40): Forest Ecosystem

Chair: Samir SAFI - Lebanese University

Relevance of genetic considerations in ensuring effective forest restoration

Michele Bozzano

12:05

Review on the historical afforestation in Rincon de Ademuz, an historical area in the province of Valencia (Spain)

Mario Romero-Vivó

Dirección General de Medio Natural –
Generalitat Valenciana - Spain

12:20

Bioclimatic and niche characterization; a tool for ecological restoration strategies: case study of Oak species in Lebanon

Jean Stephan

Lebanese University - Lebanon

12:35

Restoration of Tilio-Acerion forests in the eastern Iberian System. The Life Renaix el Bosc project

Daniel Arizpe Ochoa

Centre of Applied Forest Research (CIEF),
VAERSA-Generalitat Valenciana - Spain

12:50

A review on rehabilitation and afforestation experiences of Cedrus libani A. Rich in Turkey

Sezgin Ayan

Kastamonu University - Turkey

13:05

The Mediterranean Mosaics Project: Building resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration and management in the Shouf Biosphere Reserve (Lebanon)

Nizar Hani

Al-Shoulf Cedar Society, Maasser el Shouf
– Lebanon

13:20

Le caroubier en Tunisie : espèce autochtone à intérêt écologique et économique

Mohamed Larbi Khouja

Institut National de Recherches en Génie
Rural, Eaux et Forêts - Tunisie

13:35

Discussion

13:40-14:40

Lunch Break



Michele Bozzano

He is a Researcher at **Biodiversity International**, where he coordinates initiatives related to ecosystem restoration. Dr Bozzano has a PhD in Restoration Ecology. In 2014, biodiversity released the Thematic Study on Genetic considerations in ecosystem restoration using native tree species as part of The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN's (FAO) first report on The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources.

Michele Bozzano has also contributed to the development of the Forest Genetic Resources Training Guide. Dr Bozzano works at the secretariat of the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme.



Session 3



16:45): Ecological Restoration Techniques and Key Parameters Chair : Evangelia Daskalidou - Institute of Med. Forest Ecosystems

Restoring ecosystems with ecological engineering techniques :
Case studies in Mediterranean France

Thierry Dutoit

15:25

Bridging nature and human priorities in Mediterranean rehabilitation projects: a case report from Qattine- Lebanon

Johnny Fenianos and Carla Khater
National Council for Scientific Research - Lebanon

15:40

Back to earth: Reintroduction of native Lebanese Medicago species as a means for their in-situ conservation

Jostelle Beyrouthy
Lebanese University - Lebanon

15:55

ECOPLANTMED pilot site in Lebanon : implementation and results

Perla Farhat
Université Saint-Joseph - Lebanon

16:10

Ecological restoration of forest ecosystems of Lebanon, using native species

Michel Khouzami
Retired FAO Forestry Expert - Lebanon

16:25

The importance of local gene banks for native plant conservation – The case of the Cretan Seed Bank

Christini Fournaraki
CIHEAM - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania - Greece

16:40

Discussion

16:45-17:00

Coffee Break

POSTER PRESENTATIONS SESSION (17:00 - 18:40)



Thierry Dutoit

is a research director at the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) in France and a member of the Mediterranean Institute of Biodiversity and Ecology. As a plant ecologist, the objectives of his research are mainly on assembly rules and species-coexistence in plant communities.

He is particularly interested in the study of Mediterranean herbaceous plant communities resilience after major disturbance and he is involved in many restoration projects of Mediterranean rangelands with the use of ecological.

Thierry Dutoit holds a PhD that tackles sciences devoted to the dynamics and conservation management of dry grasslands on limestone slopes of the Seine Valley from the University of Rouen (north-western France).

Day 1 : October 16th, 2015

Supported by



Holcim Quarry Restoration Pilot Project



Horsh Ehden Nature Reserve



Day 2 : October 17th, 2015

On participants own costs



Bienvenue à l'USJ



Université Saint-Joseph
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في بيروت