sDiv working group meeting summary
sCAP2

Testing the Conservation Value of Phylogenetic Diversity, sCAP 2.0

The 2nd Leipzig meeting was a very productive and enjoyable time, with great discussions about traits and option value, plus ample small group time to write and work on analyses. We also continued to update our conceptual diagram, fine-tuning the relationships it depicts, with particular attention on proposed mechanisms. The meeting was split between 25% group discussions and 75% subgroup work on analyses and writing of papers.

Specific discussions focused on the need to differentiate the temporal and spatial scales that are relevant to the linkages in our conceptual figure. We had several long discussions about traits, in particular how they have been defined in different areas of work and by different authors. Understanding the meaning of traits and trait diversity is essential to evaluating arguments for PD-based conservation.

Will Pearse updated the group on the EDGE 2.0 meeting in London: he provided an overview of the new metric that the program is developing for use.

We agreed to aim for 4 papers directly associated with the two sCAP meetings and organized the writing of these papers among the participants.

1. Empirical test of the PD-FD relationship using published data on birds, mammals, and potentially coral reef fish. Authors: lead by Florent, Matt, Will, and with ongoing and expected contributions from Arne, Caroline, Rich, Sandra & Giulio. [This is now in review at Current Biology]

2. Conservation focused test of PD-FD for corals and coral reef fish in MPAs globally. Authors: lead by Chelsea and Danwei, and with ongoing contributions from Marten, and expected contributions from Sandra and external collaborators.

3. Paleo-conservation paper. Does protecting PD lead to the protection of subsequent biodiversity? Authors: lead by Juan, Marc and Tracey, and with ongoing and expected contributions from Arne, Florent, Matt, Giulio, Danwei and external collaborators.

4. Conceptual paper. What is the evidence for using PD for conservation? Authors: lead by Caroline and Arne, with all participants contributing substantially.

We planned to remain in touch regarding the manuscripts via email in the upcoming months.