

# Mapping the suitable habitat and its change in future climate scenarios of the eastern spadefoot toad (*Pelobates syriacus*) in the Caucasus ecoregion

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## Abstract

Amphibians are an integral component of many ecosystems and in some places, they are probably the highest fraction of vertebrate biomass. In the last years, amphibian populations are declining all over the world. One reason to explain these declines, is the global climate change. Amphibian decline is already a significant problem and so it is important to understand the impacts of climate change on amphibian populations. To stop the ongoing loss of biodiversity, conservation efforts need to be focussed on cross-country conservation plans, which are based on precise distribution informations of species.

The goal of this work is, to generate more knowledge about how climate change is affecting the decline of amphibians in the Caucasus ecosystem and how their distribution could change in different climatic scenarios. For this I will present an ecological niche modelling at the example of the Eastern spadefoot toad (*Pelobates syriacus*), to understand their ecological niche and how the distribution could change under the influence of climate change.