**My ideas/ comments, etc. for the CBD (July 25, 2020):**

**Dear Sir/ Madam,**

Following receiving an email from the Mountain Partnership secretariat about my Ideas, views and comments about the situation of biodiversity in mountains, please see below my related view, ideas, etc. as a senior agri-environmental scientist, the focal point of the FAO-mountain partnership in the University of Tehran, a mountain climber for the past 50 years, living in mountains, observing sharp decline of biodiversity in mountains and mountain food & farming…..

Also considering my scientific background and activities during the past 3-4 decades on the effects of toxic compounds on biodiversity in soil & agrobiodiversity, in wetlands, marine and oceans, I am adding my points, views, etc. in this regards, for some other my activities on protection of biodiversity please see the references and also my resume attached:

**Biodiversity in mountains:**

Mountains are a 60 years life experience for me, I did many activities in Twitter, in Facebook, communications with emails, since last year in Instagram of the #MountainsMatter etc., many other activities, because I am a agri-food scientist, a mountain climber for the past 55-60 years, living in mountains, love mountains, etc., Mountains provide ecosystem services essential for food and health of people particularly for people that live in and around mountains.

Referring to my talk in the global mountain partnership 2017 in Rome (please see below), we are observing sharp decline of biodiversity in mountains for both plants and animals, due to different reasons: climate change, etc…...

Considering the importance of the issue because of the breaking situation of mountains that I see now we need more actions, surely more related events under FAO and also other UN related agencies, more local events with financial support for developing countries,

#MountainBiodiversity, is under threat in most mountains on the planet and to overcome dangers that threat biodiversity in mountains we need much more communications locally, nationally, regionally and finally globally between members particularly members related to the FAO-MP.

My active involvement in sustainable mountain development in Iran as a very mountainous country doing as much as possible to protect biodiversity of Iranian mountains. To follow a good program for waste management in mountains around Tehran, now highly polluted with different types of waste. I endorse the vision, mission and guiding principles of the Mountain Partnership

Due to the complex interlinkages between biodiversity, quality of life and drivers of change, research on NCP in mountains requires interdisciplinary approaches (Berta Martín-López, et al, 2019).

**Food, food safety and food biodiversity in mountains:**

FAO as the responsible UN agency for food, mountains, etc. should do more about the importance of foods from mountains.

Every week I am doing observation about the situation of biodiversity in mountains, etc., about mountain biodiversity when I climb (I live in mountains in East of Tehran near Damavand), I have been in communications with people responsible for Damavand Mountain (in Amol Mazandaran) the highest summit of Iran that I climbed it some years ago and am planning to do it again. Perhaps one of my most important expertise that I can put forward to help MP is the meaning and importance of veggies diversity in particular those from mountains. This is a very important issue globally (please see a half page text that I sent to FAO site 2-3 years ago (Under: **Agroecological approaches and other innovations for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition - HLPE e-consultation on the Report’s scope, proposed by the HLPE Steering Committee**), you can find it online, it is a very important food & food biodiversity related issue for health of people. Please note that I am doing a wide study about biodiversity, please see my talk last year about Big data for biodiversity....for the 2nd UN data forum and EoE, perhaps now we can use Big data for mountains. The other important related issue is my GEO activities that I am going to use it for mountains, also climate change, Mountain agri-food that is my whole academic background, etc. Now we can use different GEO tech to save the biodiversity in mountains, satellite imaging, etc.

Indeed, mountain products are important and should be given some support, organizations, etc. mountain products are different, cleaner, safer ...many other good (please note that I am helping globally for nontoxic and organic food) as a food/ environmental, toxicologist. There are big mountain resorts now everywhere including in my country Iran that they should be considered for help! skiing resorts, etc.

My preposition to save biodiversity in mountains is: "Mountain constructions tax" right now there are big attacks in mountains with constructions (like where I am now) and MP should be able to get some global tax! for destruction of mountains by governments, companies, etc., right now I am observing also lots of mining activities around myself all destroying mountains, many activities for gathering wild plant species in a wide extent to destroy the whole species in the area,...etc. all should pay taxes.

However, in mountain biodiversity we have to consider the bioclimatic mountain belts (Körner et al (2011) mountain portal in GMBA (Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment), the biota changes with latitudinal changes, etc.

**What I am doing myself as a mountain climber and a scientist:** Carefully watch and help for the mountain environment, fortunately we have now many groups in Iran are active to not allowing garbage in the mountain, help collecting, etc. What I do myself and can help globally through MP is writing some policies etc., (if you do not have it already) for protection of plants and animals biodiversity in mountains, they are vanishing now, also for some particularly threatened species like mountain vulture (please see my talk for the UNEP CMS preventing poisoning in Toledo some months before your big event on 2017), vultures are vanishing, also as a basically entomologist we are observing collapse of insect populations in many insect orders and so in some orders like Lepidoptera (butterflies, etc.) mountains related...this is a very important issue since insects are very important in this planet as food for birds, etc., there are already many birds extinct because their food are extinct!!. Also helping the mountain resorts, restaurants, etc. to act correctly for garbage, etc.

Biodiversity in mountains is under threat and we have to be prepared for immediate actions. In the past 2-3 decades I did a wide activity about regulations and enforcement (most for toxics...) in developing countries and found it a very difficult task, you cannot do enforcement yet in many developing countries even if have good regulations written on the paper, etc., the infrastructure is not ready, however not to be pessimistic surely there are ways to influence policy makes to do more for protection of biodiversity in mountains, I should be able to open this personally, because it includes many widely related mountains issues like water, recreation and mountain tourism, food and mountain resorts, skying resorts,..many, it is a very important global issue that includes about %30 of all planet, people, environment, food, etc. perhaps in a session will have my ideas..

As I mentioned above I myself as a regulatory expert find that enforcement in many developing countries and I think it is worst event when you go to mountains, is a very difficult task, however I may be able to help to put my experience in action to help since mountains are my love, we need at first to talk and write it down how to do this and enforce it, I suppose that regulations are already in place if not I can also help to write/ improve it! It is a multitask issue including for mountains environmental and biodiversity, waste, food, etc.

Bottom of Form

Bottom of Form

**The three mountain-related targets are:**Target 6.6  
By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes  
**Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

Target 15.1  
By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements  
  
Target 15.4  
By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity

15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index

**Green vegetation in mountain areas:**

The “**Mountain Green Cover Index” (MGCI)** measures changes of the green vegetation in mountain

areas - i.e. forest, shrubs, trees, pasture land, crop land, etc. – to provide indications on the status of

conservation of their environment. This index contributes to the achievement of SDG Goal 15 mentioned above. The index is under the custodian of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) through the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.

The scientific mountain community recognizes that – with a few exceptions, such as the one

produced by climate change at high altitudes and latitudes and in zones covered by glaciers - there is

a direct correlation between the green coverage of mountain areas and mountain ecosystems’ state

of health, which also relates to mountains’ capacity to fulfil their ecosystem roles.

**In this context, the objective of the Mountain Green Cover Index is**: to monitor changes in mountain

vegetation and to provide information on forests and woody / vegetal cover in general. It aims at

addressing the need for more detailed information about the status of mountain ecosystems at

global and regional levels since there is a serious lack of those disaggregated data required for

monitoring and analyzing environmental trends on mountain areas.

Source: <http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/mountain_partnership/MGCI_for_validation/Methodological_notes/Methodological_note___metadata_-__Mountain_Green_Cover_Index.pdf>

**helping people, environment and wildlife against toxic compounds**

This is started about 10 years ago as a part or subsection of the main study mentioned above and with more activities since my participation in the SCP conference in Bangkok (2014), Stockholm convention in Nairobi 2015 and going on and highly developed during my talks in Toledo Spain for the CMS preventing poisoning 2017. Since a few years ago I presented many talks by concentrating on the important issue: toxic pollution in wetlands, so on migratory birds and wildlife.

<https://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/events/2018/migratory-birds-preventing-poisoning>

**Migratory Birds Preventing Poisoning**

**Migratory birds in Asia are under big threat of direct and indirect poisonings**

Agro-ecosystems of rice paddies as well as other field crops have been under high pressure of pesticide use all over Asian countries during the past decades, with no regulations and enforcement. Heavy pesticide use not only ended to some local disasters but also had big impact on biodiversity in Asian wetlands and so on migratory birds.

Please see my first message 10 years ago: "How pesticides are handled in developing countries" (on Google search), as I mentioned in this first message the big problem was and unfortunately still is: lack of proper regulations and in particular no enforcement. We found shocking evidences of migratory birds kills by unregulated use of insecticides (Toledo, Spain, CMS preventing poisoning).

In the occasion of this year migratory bird's day I will organize a demonstration in the "FereydunKenar" Mazandaran, Iran, where I lived more than 10 years to help preventing migratory bird poisonings.

FereydunKenar wetland FereydunKenar wetland

FereydunKenar, Mazandaran.

See map: [Google Maps](http://maps.google.com/?q=FereydunKenar+wetland+%2C+FereydunKenar%2C+Mazandaran.%2C+%2C+%2C+ir)

**Saicm workshop Sept 2019:**

To **identify areas of synergy** between the beyond 2020 framework for chemicals and waste, biodiversity, climate change, health and other relevant areas, identifying potential for commonality of indicators.

In 2017 workshop of the CMS preventing poisoning group I showed the big threat of toxic pesticides/ chemicals to biodiversity, helped most for the future POW. Always followed the specific indicators: 8.3 of the Aichi targets, in particular the Specific Indicator 8.3.5: Trends in pesticide use.

Considering importance of cumulative/ multiexposure, and synergistic effects, would like to help for aquatic/ birds and insect indicator species.

**Preventing wildlife poisoning:   
case study from Iran and applicable international vs national regulatory issues, Second Meeting of the UNEP/CMS Preventing Poisoning Working Group, (PPWG2), Toledo, Spain, 19- 21 February 2017**

* **From CMS convention: for some species of migratory birds poisoning is the primary cause of their unfavorable conservation status**
* **CMS Resolution 11.15 ‘Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds’**

**Wildlife poisoning by insecticides:**

History: Carbofuran; …….**Insects!??** Carbamates: Aldicarb (LD50=2 mg/kg); Ops: diazinon (my work), Monocrotophos; Neonicotinoids: in Iran- in the World; Fipronil a phenyl pyrazole broad-spectrum insecticide is highly toxic to many bird species; Also impacts on earthworms/ other bird feeds; DDT/ POPs: birds eggshell thickness?

**Big declines in bird populations: Case study: Huma, the birded vulture: *Bartgeier Gypaetus barbatus, Gypaetus barbatus* distr**

**Wildlife poisoning by rodenticides**

Second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) used widely in open agricultural fields; No program baiting, Permanent baiting, No later removal; No best practice guidelines followed; Wide use in cities as biocides/ some program baiting/ awareness followed.

***Unless under the supervision of a pest control operator / other competent person, do not use anticoagulant rodenticides as permanent baits.***

**Impact of second generation anticoagulant rodenticides on non-target wildlife**

According to well documented decades scientific research: there are disastrous impacts; Anticoagulant rodenticide (AR) poisoning has emerged as a significant concern for conservation and management of non-target wildlife (Mourad et al, 2012) ; Exposure to rodenticides pose big danger for predators/ scavengers when they prey on dead/ moribund rodents. Hernandez-Moreno et al, 2013, (BRAKES & SMITH, 2005- Elmeros, et al, 2011- Dashti Khavidaki, et al, 2014………Many refs)

**Wildlife poisoning by Poison-baits**

In most cases non-target animals are exposed to poison-baits, Big/ dangerous advertisement:

**What is 1080?** 1080 is a registered agricultural poison and is classified as a restricted S7 poison. Compound 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate), **PINDONE** FOR RABBIT CONTROL, Metaldehyde- LC50 for fish is 75 mg/L (Bogers, 1990a) and metaldehyde is not readily biodegradable (Wuethrich, 1990a).

Bioaccumulation in fish, Buckmaster et al, 2014.

Lots of deliberate intoxication of wildlife by poison baits by herd owners, animal husbandry farms, illegal hunters; Feeding of wildlife on these poison baits; Installing signs/ banners etc. in places of toxic bait use does not exist in rural agricultural areas and it is in its starting phase. Veterinary toxicology in early stages, just starting; So reporting only to DoE offices/ environmental conservation guards, many of them (115) already killed by illegal hunters, my experience 40 years ago; No particular training courses about poison-baits up to this date; Poison baits in ponds/ wetlands against fish/ birds in the Caspian/ Khuzestan.

**Applicable regulatory issues,**

Recently there are fines, but considering the size**/ diversity of Iran for land, culture, etc**. this needs huge work to rescue remains of wildlife (%90 to %95 lost) in Iran, fines announced; Hunting licenses being withdrawn/ sentencing guidelines exist for wildlife poisoning birds, bears, leopards, etc.; For example: a bee hive owner that killed hundreds of beautiful colored birds that eat bees and wasps fined & sentenced.

**Wildlife Poisoning Prevention and Conflict Resolution:**

**Wildlife poisoning by Veterinary pharmaceutical diclofenac;** No surveillance of ungulate carcasses in high risk areas for diclofenac; No vulture safe zones, Iran is a very diverse mountainous country….;

**Wildlife poisoning by Veterinary pharmaceutical diclofenac in Iran**

Diclofenac widely/ freely available for human use; Highly/ freely available in all forms in Iranian pharmacies with absolutely **no reporting/ recording system by pharmacies**, so could be easily misused for vet purposes; meloxicam is available.

**Applicable regulatory issues,**

A few years ago Iran called stop use of diclofenac in veterinary but ordinary people in remote/ rural areas are not aware about the risk; Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs) removed from the Iranian veterinary market but widely available in pharmacies; Any type use of diclofenac is highly prohibited in developed world and even in neighboring countries of Iran.

**Vultures have been poisoned and persecuted (Africa)**

**Wildlife poisoning by lead**

1-1.5 million guns on hand of people with 350 million lead bullets targeting wildlife of Iran; %90 to %95 of our wildlife species in Iran is already lost forever; Absolutely no sign of alternatives for lead ammunitions & no sign of awareness about lead poisoning for wildlife. This year hunting is prohibited in Iran due to the widespread bird's flu; But DoE following its tradition issues lots of licenses again according to the news; No deadline of banning lead ammunition by 2017 in Iran.

**Applicable regulatory issues**

No legislative processes implemented to reduce/ environmental contamination by lead ammunition/ phase out/ lead fishing weights in Iran yet; Many academic papers in Iran about lead toxicity for human/ our Iranian society of toxicology with excellent academic paper/ clinical toxicology (Loghman hospital).

**Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint at UNEA 2**

**We need to look deeper on birds poisoning by looking on what they eat/ pesticides are sequestered in fat/ other tissues ….**

**Loss of biodiversity in Iranian Mountains (Mountains under pressure)**

Ahmad Mahdavi, professor emeritus at University of Tehran, PhD, Entomologist, ecotoxicologist, UN-FAO focal point for Mountain Partnership in the University of Tehran, CMS preventing poisoning group, University of Tehran/ and Sustainable agriculture and environment.

**Causes of biodiversity loss in Iranian mountains**

* Construction (case study: Pardis city, where I live, also in North of Tehran;
* Pollution and toxic air (case of Arak due to toxic air);
* Wildlife poisoning;
* Recent destruction of wild mountain plants to be sold as herbs in markets;
* Fire in Zagros mountains in west of Iran;
* Uncontrolled mountain tourism & waste in mountains.

**Insects (Hexapoda) Global view**

* Big collapse of Insect populations in nearly all insect orders;
* Beetles: the most diverse order in animal kingdom: sharp decline;
* Lepidoptera: Sharp population decline in many families;
* Sharp decline in pollinators.

**What’s Causing the Sharp Decline in Insects, and Why It Matters**

* Scientists have described 1 million species of insects so far, and estimate at least 4 million are still unrecorded;
* Only 10000 species are pests to our food, fiber, health, livestock.

Insect populations are declining dramatically in many parts of the world, recent studies show.

* Researchers say various factors, from monoculture farming to habitat loss, are to blame for the plight of insects, which are essential to agriculture and ecosystems.

**Where Have All The Insects Gone? Everyone Including Birds Depend On Them For Food**

* Insect orders (more than 40) under threat
* **Insects (Hexapoda): Case study: Iranian mountains**

**Lepidoptera**

* Case study: Lepidoptera: *Nymphalidae*
* **Insects (Hexapoda)  
  Case study: Iranian mountains**
* Coleoptera:
* Case study: Buprestid beetles

**Other Arthropoda**

* Arachnida & Scorpions &…..
* Case study Arak mountains

**Loss of Vertebrates in mountains**

* Sharp decline of biodiversity in Iran
* Iran has already lost more than %90 of its total biodiversity due to:
* Unregulated hunting, poching
* Deliberate poisoning by herd owners, Illegal hunters!!
* **Loss of biodiversity in Iranian Mountains**
* Sharp losses of wild plant species;
* Sharp losses in mountain goats;
* Loss of vulture in Iranian mountains
* Scientists-warning:
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URi0WU7-Ey0>
* [scientistswarning@oregonstate.edu](mailto:scientistswarning@oregonstate.edu)
* **Wikipedia:** The Karkas mountain chain (Persian رشته كوه كركس Reshteh kuh-e Karkas) is a mountain range which is located almost in central Iran. Having a northwest-southeast direction, it is stretched from Kashan to Ardestan for more than 100 kilometres. With an elevation of 3895 metres, the highest peak of the Karkas Mountains is Mount Karkas which is situated close to Natanz.[1]
* **Bearded Vulture as endangered species**
* The Bearded Vulture occupies an extremely vast range;
* Population densities are low. ...
* Classified as endangered in this area,
* Bearded Vulture numbers are dwindling due to habitat loss and degradation, together with human-raptor conflict.
* Karkas mountains chain (Central Iran) locally Called: Karkas\_Kooh

**Is speciation continuing?**

* The delicate system of speciation mechanisms responsible for creating the diversity of species by evolution/ coevolution is now under real threat and surely cannot continue its natural way after this pollution scenario;
* Is the speed of speciation equal to extinction?
* Now we are in the 6th round of big extinction.
* Alborz & Damavand

According to the Damavand Mountain Protectors Society website & my own observations: most environmental problems in Damavand mountains are:

* Mineral activities in 2000 m height and upper areas of the mountain;
* Road construction activities up to 3000 m;
* Southern road up to 3000m;
* Restaurants, refuges…up to 4200m
* Activities of Many mineral water companies.
* Plant species
* Iran a very diverse country
* Diverse in land, culture, language, etc.;
* Very diverse in plants: 8000 plant species equal to that of whole EU;
* **Pyrethrum flowers**
* ***Pyrethrum*** was a genus of several Old World plants now classified as [*Chrysanthemum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrysanthemum) or *[Tanacetum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanacetum)* (e.g., *C. coccineum*) which are cultivated as ornamentals for their showy [flower](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower) heads.
* ***Pyrethrum*** continues to be used as a common name for plants formerly included in the genus *Pyrethrum*.
* Pyrethrum is also the name of a natural [insecticide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insecticide) made from the dried flower heads of ***Chrysanthemum cinerariifolium***.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

* ***Tanacetum cinerariifolium***
* **Pyrethrums, pyrethrins and Pyrethroids (Natural vs. Synthesized)**
* **Pyrethrins and Persian lice Powder:**
* **During my studies on synthetic Pyrethroids in North America I encountered with some reports about the Persian Louse Powder related to thousand years ago;**
* **This is a proud story about our past capabilities in science and in particular Alchemy. <<Persians in old time were extracting a drug called Persian Louse Powder from *Composite* flowers and were exporting it to the World (Mahdavi, A. 2012);**
* **Later in recent time this turned to be a big science and profit for other countries extracting Pyrethrins from the species *Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium*.**
* **Zagros mountains forests  
  Fire as big factor od loss in biodiversity  
  Sarkan mountains (Lorestan)**
* Fire as big factor od loss in biodiversity  
  Sarkan mountains (Lorestan)
* **Oshtrankooh  
  (Protected area)**
* Zagros Mountain area in Lorestan, West of Iran;
* Area:106000 Hectares;
* 1300m to 4080m height;
* Protected since about 50 years ago;
* 600 plant species: 68 endemic;
* 274 animal species;
* **Big threat to mountain plants and herbs all over the country**
* Overharvesting of mountain plants and herbs as a business in local markets;
* **Rhubarb- *Rheum rhaponticum* &many other species *(Polygonaceae*)**<http://daneshnameh.roshd.ir/mavara/mavara-index.php?page>
* ***Cirsium vulgare***
* ***Berberis vulgaris***
* **Flowers  
  Iran: land of inverted tulips**
* Environmental issues in Iranian Caves
* Recent news: caves as a very important reservoirs of water & Ice for the planet;
* Workshop for protection of 80 caves in Alborz ([www.doe.ir](http://www.doe.ir/));
* Cave cleaning activities in “Clean Cave day”;

**Only after the last tree has been cut down,**

* **only after the last river has been poisoned,**
* **only after the last fish has been caught,**
* **only then will you find that money cannot be eaten.'**
* **CREE INDIAN PROPHECY.**

**References:**

**Martín-López B, Leister I, Lorenzo Cruz P, Palomo I, Grêt-Regamey A, Harrison PA, et al. (2019) Nature’s contributions to people in mountains: A review. PLoS ONE 14(6): e0217847.** [**https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0217847**](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0217847)

**Report from the technical expert workshop on indicators for the SAICM Strategic Approach Beyond 2020, *WYNG Gardens, Cambridge, 3-5 September 2019***

**HISTORY OF HCH AND PESTICIDE USE IN IRAN, IMPACT ON HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT**

SUBMITTED PAPER: Ahmad Mahdavi

University of Tehran/ and Sustainable agriculture and environment, P. O. Box: 19615-544, Tehran, IRAN, Tehran, IRAN.

Pages: 200- In: **13TH HCH INTERNATIONAL HCH & PESTICIDES FORUM IN ZARAGOZA**

3TH to 6TH NOVEMBER 2015

<http://www.ihpa.info/docs/library/forumbooks/13/13thHCHForum_FORUM_BOOK_2015.pdf>

Please see my paper by following the link above.

**More exposure to a wide variety of pesticides/ chemicals in developing countries compared to developed World**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ahmad-mahdavi-74839a75/?originalSubdomain=ir>

<https://www.facebook.com/IsoCopolco/posts/more-exposure-of-people-to-toxic-compounds-pollution-in-developing-countries-as-/2056674051120279/>

My profile in: website of the SWS…

<https://www.sws.org/Forum/profile/11124-biomahda-gmail-com.html>

Please see my resume in Entomological Society of America.

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Search from Mountain Portal: Alborz, Information, Species

Attributes

* **Country**: Iran
* **Total area of mountainous terrain**: 54,656 km2
* **Total human mountain population**: 2,895,130
* **Area of mountainous terrain above the treeline**: 0 km2
* **Area of mountainous terrain below the treeline**: 54,656 km2
* **gmba\_id**: 5.01.70

Description

Alborz ( listen Persian: البرز‎‎), also spelled as Alburz, Elburz or Elborz, is a mountain range in northern Iran that stretches from the border of Azerbaijan along the western and entire southern coast of the Caspian Sea and finally runs northeast and merges into the Aladagh Mountains in the northern parts of Khorasan. This mountain range is divided into Western, Central, and Eastern Alborz Mountains. The Western Alborz Range (usually called the Talish Mountains) runs south-southeastward almost along the western coast of the Caspian Sea. The Central Alborz (the Alborz Mountains in the strictest sense) runs from west to east along the entire southern coast of the Caspian Sea, while the Eastern Alborz runs in a northeasterly direction towards the northern parts of the Khorasan region southeast of the Caspian Sea. Mount Damavand, the highest mountain in Iran, is located in the Central Alborz Mountains.

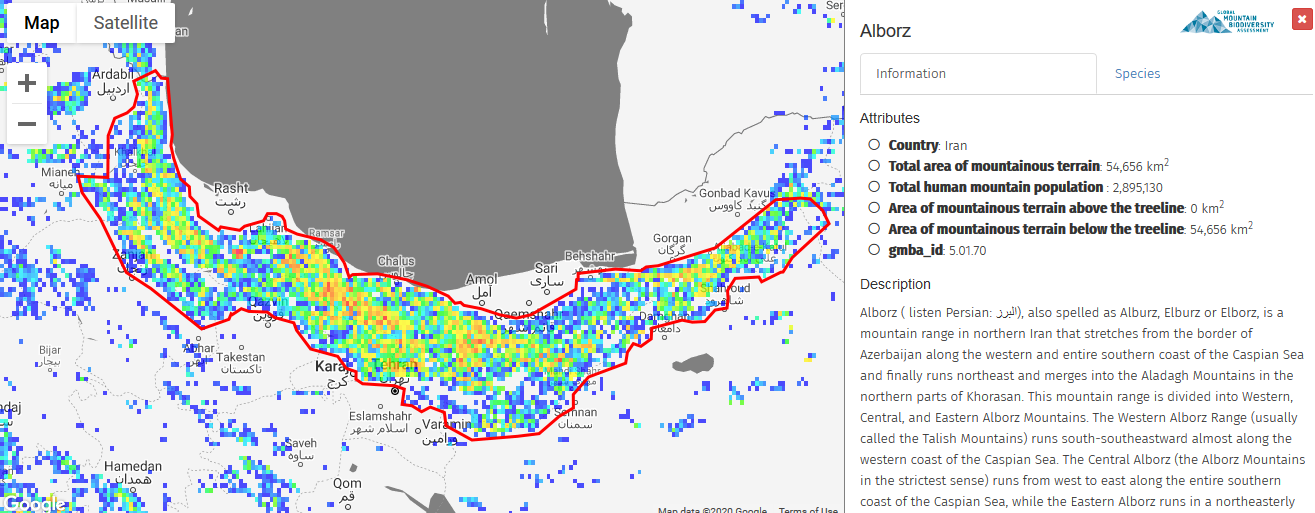
**Alborz**

Download full list

[Browse datasets](https://mapoflife.github.io/) available for this mountain range.

357 Birds, 107 Mammals, 39 Reptiles, 4 Turtles (non-marine), 14 Amphibians, 206 Butterflies,

 34 Sphingid moths, 35 Bumblebees,   6 Conifers



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