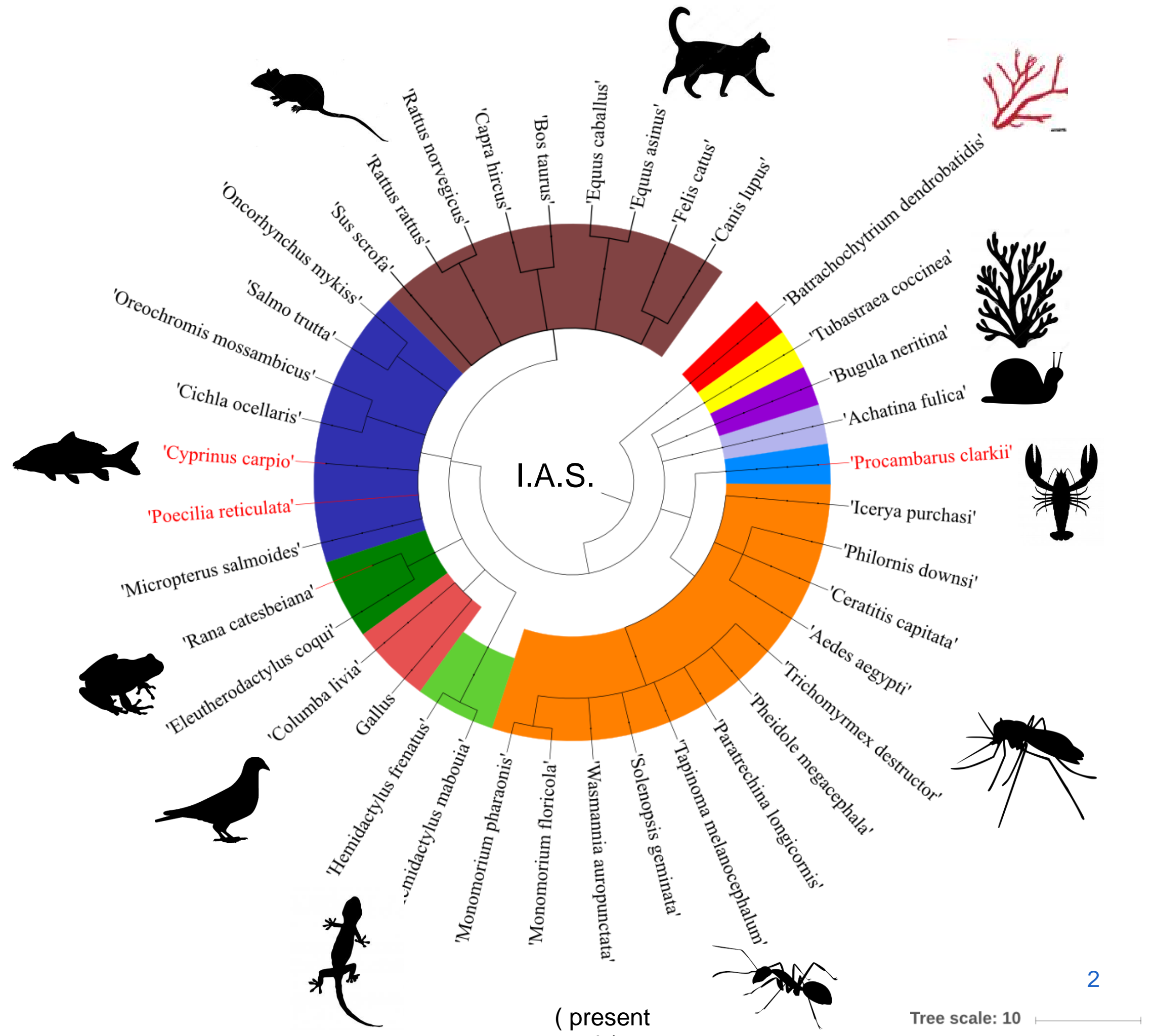


# INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE ECUADORIAN ANDES: *PROCAMBARUS CLARKII*, HUMANS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DNA

**Lenin Riascos**, Peter Goethals, L. Dominguez, R. Chiriboga, L. Benavides, A. Encarnacion, E. Velarde, R. Bermudez, J. M. I. Cevallos, W. V. Berge, P. Boets, J. Bonilla, A. Geerts, Christine Van der heyden

# IAS IN ECUADOR

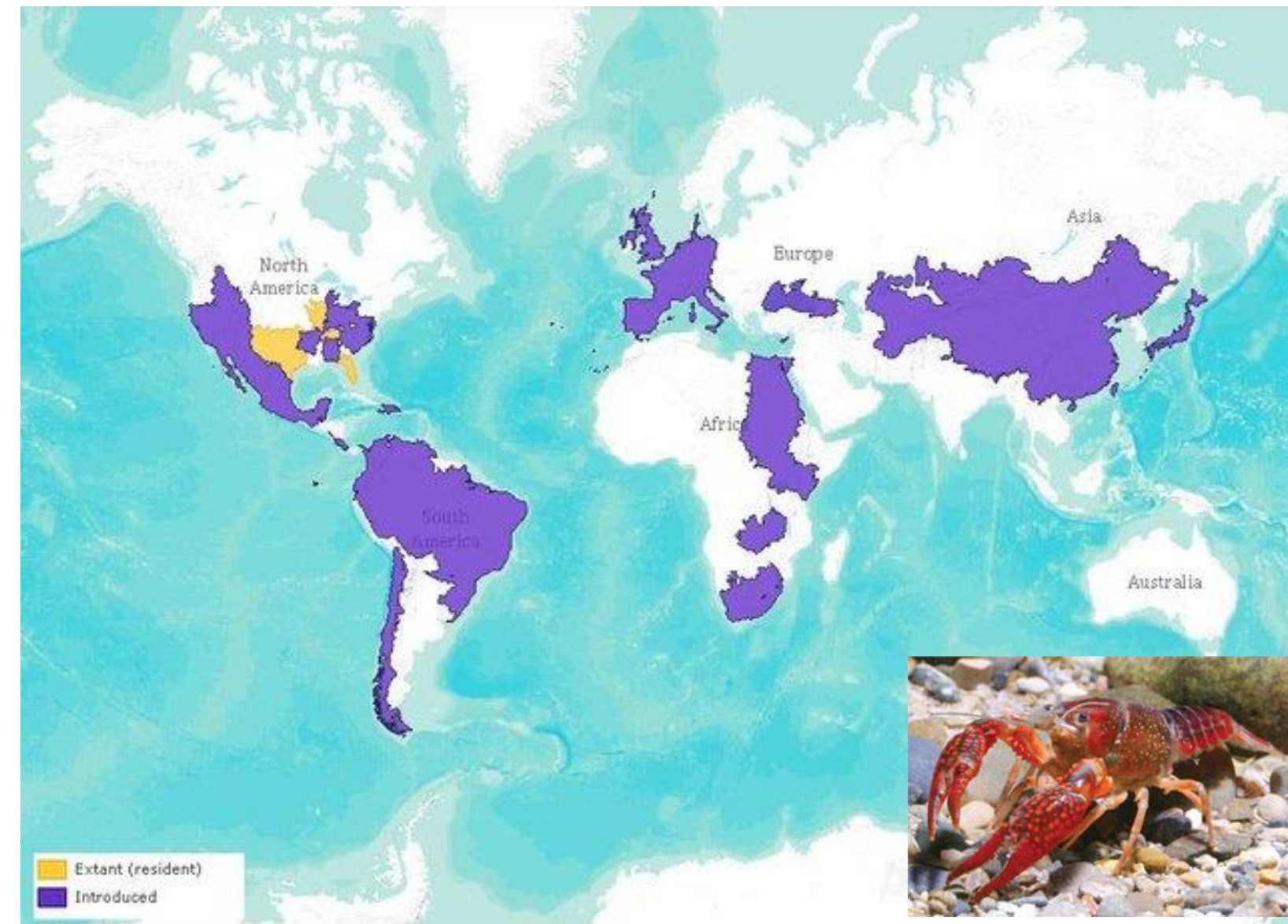
- Ecuador: one of the most biodiversity countries in the world.
- Invasive populations have not been monitored in mainland.
- Monitoring to estimate the biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems are expensive and required taxonomic expertise...





# IAS-PROCAMBARUS CLARKII

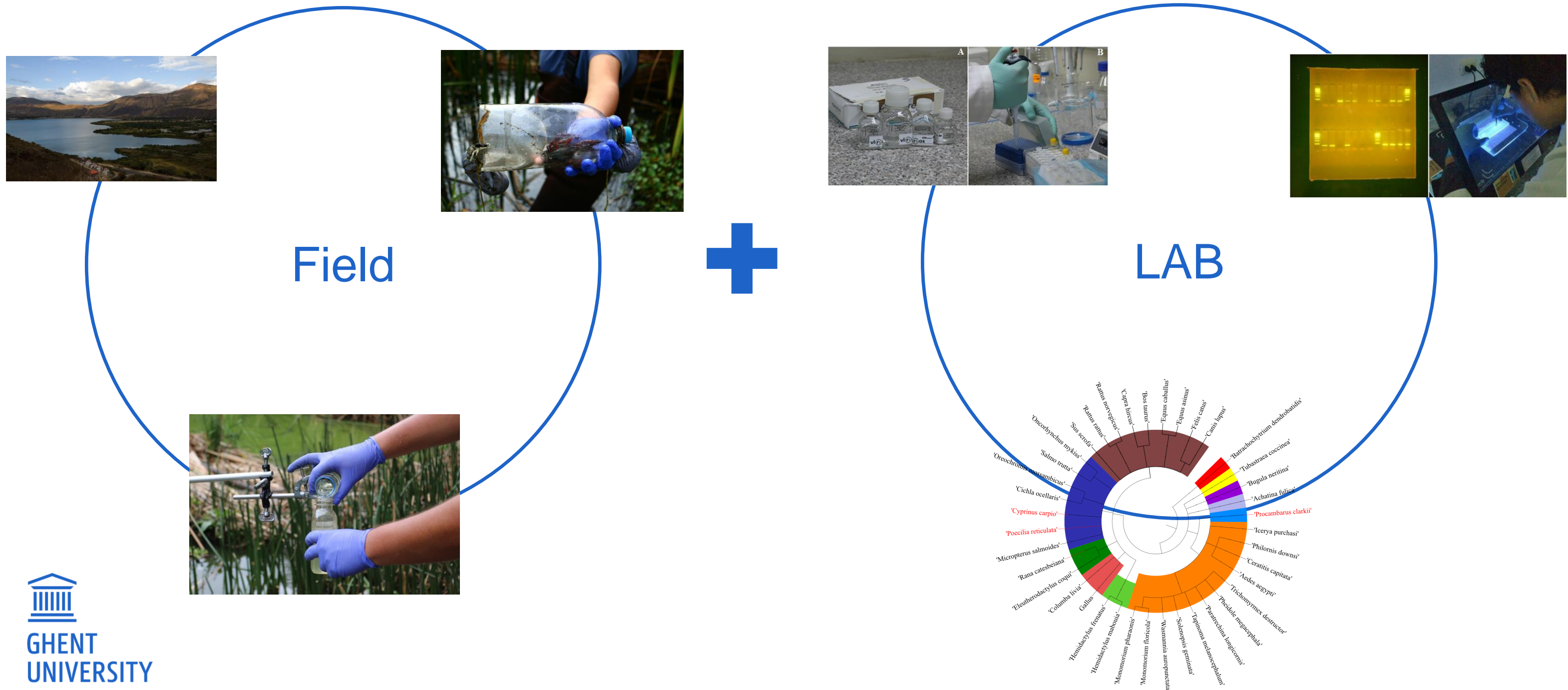
- Native from **Louisiana**
- Invasive populations have been reported from Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, and South America.
- Impacts include:
  - **Aggressive competition** with native species
  - Introduction of the **crayfish plague** (*Aphanomyces astaci*)
  - Reduction of macrophyte assemblages
  - **Alteration of water quality**
  - Predation on and competition
  - Negative impacts on **agricultural** and **fishing industries**
- Introduced in **Ecuador** in **1986**
- Introduced in **Andean** lakes from **2013**



Distribution *P.clarkii* around the world ( Loureiro et al., 2015)

# BACKGROUND -eDNA

Environmental DNA, in its simplest sense, is DNA extracted from any type of environmental sample (e.g. soil, water, air, etc.), without isolation of a particular organism





# BACKGROUND -eDNA

TERRESTRIAL	Soil samples	Mammals, Birds, Reptiles
	Specimens and Symbooses	Fungi, Microbes, Parasitoids, Arthropods
	Sediments	Fungi, Plants, Arthropods, Vertebrates, Birds
MARINE	Sediments	Eukaryptes, Metazoans, Invertebrates, Fungi, Protist, Plankton
	Specimens and biofilms	Eukaryotes, Nematodes, Diatoms, Plankton
	Water	Eukaryotes, Prokaryotes, Fungi, Protist, Plants, Vertebrates, Fish
ESTUARINE	Sediments	Eukaryotes, Metazoans, Protist, Nematodes
	Water	Plankton
FRESHWATER	Sediments	Fungi, Plants, Arthropods, Vertebrates, Birds
	Specimens and biofilms	Microbes, Plankton, Larvae, Macroinvertebrates
	Water	Plankton, Metazoans, Protist, Plants, Fungi, Fish, Amphibians, Reptile



# MONITORING 2016

- 3 lakes
- Methodology Efficacy 86% in comparison with traditional traps

ELSEVIER

## DNA-based monitoring of the alien invasive North American crayfish *Procambarus clarkii* in Andean lakes (Ecuador)

L. Riascos <sup>a,1</sup>, A.N. Geerts <sup>b,1</sup>, T. Oña <sup>a</sup>, P. Goethals <sup>c</sup>, J. Cevallos-Cevallos <sup>d,e</sup>, W. Vanden Berghe <sup>f,8</sup>, F.A.M. Volckaert <sup>h</sup>, J. Bonilla <sup>d,e</sup>, K. Muylaert <sup>i</sup>, E. Velarde <sup>a</sup>, P. Boets <sup>c,j</sup>, Christine Van der heyden <sup>b</sup>

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.limno.2018.02.002>

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### Results-based monitoring in *Procambarus clarkii* using traditional and eDNA methods

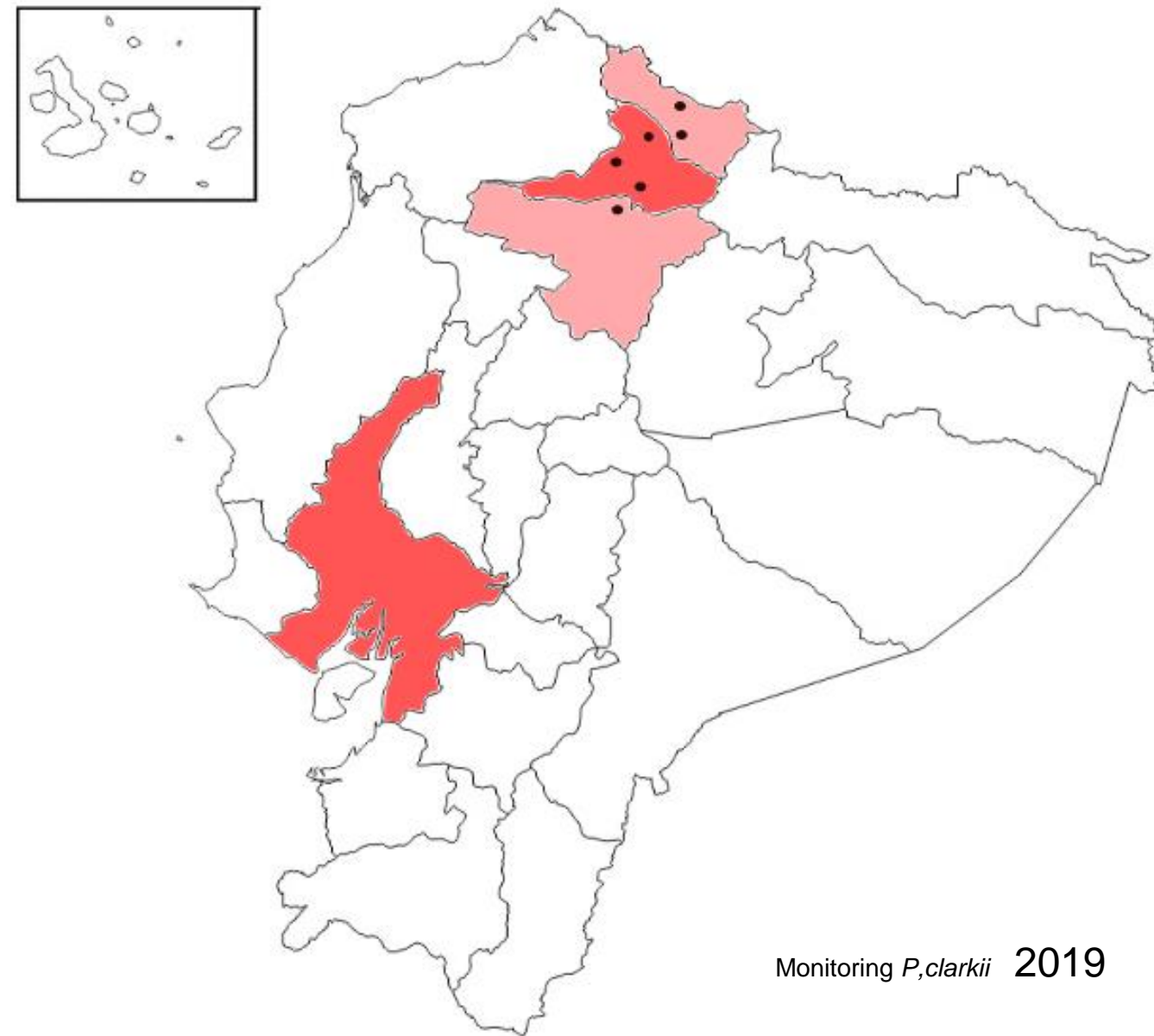


Monitoring  
*P.clarkii* 2016



# MONITORING 2019

- 7 lakes and 12 flow streams
- Methodology Efficacy 100% in comparison with traditional traps



Monitoring *P. clarkii* 2019





# CAUSES OF PROPAGATION

## PRINCIPAL:

- interview with local people
  - ➔ intentional introduction of *P. clarkii* based on the desire of local **people** to generate touristic alternatives and new gastronomic resources.....





# NEW TECHNIQUE...

## Normal:

- 2 hours per sample
- 9 reagents
- Expertise
- 4 Equipments

eDNA

## New:

- 15 minutes
- 4 reagents
- Less expertise
- 2 Equipments

Tested in PCR applications with IAS:

*P. clarkii*, *P. reticulata*, *C. carpio*

# CURRENT WORK...

- IAS
- Andes
- New technique
- *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*

eDNA

- Complementing biomonitoring of aquatic environments in the Galapagos with innovative molecular approaches
- eDNA metabarcoding



# CONCLUSION

The results indicate that this **budget-friendly** method of biomonitoring of aquatic environments is:

- **easy to use**
- can **provide important information** on the occurrence of alien invasive species in the tropics



An aerial photograph of a large, calm lake situated in a valley. The lake's surface reflects the sky and the surrounding landscape. In the background, a city is spread across a hillside, with a prominent mountain peak visible under a sky filled with large, white clouds. The foreground shows rolling hills with patches of green grass and some small buildings or structures.

GRACIAS POR SU  
ATENCIÓN



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