

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Name:** Vladimíra Dekanová, PhD.

**Current Position:** Scientific Researcher

**Address:** University of Lisbon, Campo Grande, 1749-016 Lisbon, Portugal

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 Researcher ID ABE-1250-2021

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## EDUCATION

**Doctoral degree (PhD)** in Ecology and Biodiversity Protection (02/09/2016 - 10/08/2020) Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, **Technical University of Zvolen, Slovakia**

**Dissertation:** “*The relationships of benthic invertebrates functional and taxonomic diversity to organic matter decomposition in ponds*”

**Master degree (MSc)** in Ecology and Biodiversity Protection (01/09/2014 - 06/06/2016) Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, **Technical University of Zvolen, Slovakia**

**MSc thesis:** “*Plasticity of life cycles of Ephemeroptera (river Hron)*”

**Bachelor degree (BSc)** in Ecology and Biodiversity Protection (01/09/2011 - 23/06/2014) Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, **Technical University of Zvolen, Slovakia**

**BSc thesis:** “*The length-mass relationships of aquatic insects and their relevance for biomass estimation*”

► All thesis were supervised by Dr. Marek Svitok from TUZVO

## EMPLOYMENT

**Postdoctoral Researcher** (01/09/2023 - present)

**Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes & CHANGE** (cE3c), University of Lisbon (UL), Portugal

**Research topic:** project BiNatUr: Nature back to cities - nature-based solutions that promote biodiversity (Ref. DivRestore/001/2020, BiodivRestore ERA-NET Cofund)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Postdoctoral Researcher** (01/02/2021 – 31/08/2023)

**Technical University in Zvolen** (TUZVO), Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Department of Biology and General Ecology, Slovakia

**Visiting Researcher** (15/03/2023 - 25/08/2023)

**Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre** (MARE), NOVA University, Portugal **Research topic:** Application of macroinvertebrate indexes to evaluate the quality of aquatic system, Supervisor: Prof. Marta Martins

**External Collaborator** (01/03/2022 - 01/09/2022)

**Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes** (cE3c), University of Lisbon (UL), Portugal

**Research topic:** Temperature and nutrient interactions in aquatic ectotherms: individuals, populations and communities at latitudinal edges, Supervisor: Dr. Bruno M. Carreira

**Early Postdoc Intern** (17/08/2020 - 18/01/2021)

**University of South Bohemia** (JCU), Faculty of Science, Czechia

**Research topic:** Understanding the combined effects of multiple stressors on freshwater biota, Supervisor: Dr. David Boukal

**Visiting Scholar** (01/02/2020 - 14/07/2020)

**Australian Rivers Institute** (ARI), Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

**Research topic:** Length-mass relationships of Australian zoobenthos, Supervisor: Dr. Michael P. Venarsky

[Visiting Scholar](#) (14/05/2018 - 14/10/2018)

**Australian Rivers Institute** (ARI), Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

Research topic: Length-mass relationships of aquatic insects in Cedar Creek stream in Southeast Queensland, Supervisor: Dr. Michael P. Venarsky

[Visiting Trainee](#) (30/06/2017 - 31/08/2017)

**University of Ostrava**, Faculty of Science, Czechia

Research topic: The community structure and abundance of benthic organisms in two rivers, Supervisor: Dr. Aleš Dolný

## PROJECT AND GRANT PARTICIPATIONS

- 17/09/2021 - 16/09/2024 – Project “BiNatUr: Nature back to cities - nature-based solutions that promote biodiversity”, supported by The Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), No. DivRestore/001/2020  
Role: Investigator at the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c)
- 01/05/2023 - 31/04/2025 – Project “Effects of Microplastics on Mercury’s Biogeochemical Cycle”, supported by The Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), No. 2022.04580.PTDC  
Role: Investigator at the Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre (MARE)
- 17/09/2021 - 16/09/2024 – Project “Temperature and nutrient interactions in aquatic ectotherms: individuals, populations and communities at latitudinal edges”, supported by The Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), No. PTDC/BIA-BMA/1893/2020  
Role: Investigator at the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c)
- 01/07/2020 - 30/06/2024 – Project “Aliens among us: spatio-temporal dynamics of plant invasions and their adverse impact on ecosystems”, supported by Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV), No. APVV-19-17571  
Role: Investigator at the Technical University in Zvolen (TUZVO)
- 01/01/2020 - 31/12/2022 – Project “Understanding the combined effects of multiple stressors on freshwater biota: Will climate change alter the impact of chemical pollution?”, supported by The Czech Science Foundation (GACR), No. 20-19284S  
Role: Investigator at the University of South Bohemia (JCU)
- 01/07/2017 - 30/06/2021 – Project “Functional and taxonomic diversity of wetlands and their relationship to ecosystem processes”, supported by Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV), No. APVV-16-0236  
Role: Investigator at the Technical University in Zvolen (TUZVO)
- 01/04/2017 - 31/12/2017 – Project “Importance of functional diversity in the decomposition process of organic matter in wetlands”, supported by Internal Project Agency of Technical University in Zvolen (IPA), No. 11/2017  
Role: [Holder, principal investigator and administrator](#) at the Technical University in Zvolen

## PERSONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND FUNDING

- [National Scholarship Programme](#) of the Slovak Republic (15/03/2023 - 25/08/2023)  
Fellowship at the NOVA University, Portugal
- [National Scholarship Programme](#) of the Slovak Republic (01/03/2022 - 01/09/2022)  
Fellowship at the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes, Portugal
- [Erasmus+ Programme](#) (17/08/2020 - 18/01/2021)  
Fellowship at the University of South Bohemia, Czechia
- [Grant “Students out into the world”](#) by Tatra Bank Foundation (01/02/2020 - 14/07/2020)  
Fellowship at the Australian Rivers Institute, Australia
- [National Scholarship Programme](#) of the Slovak Republic (14/05/2018 - 14/10/2018)  
Fellowship at the Australian Rivers Institute, Australia

- Erasmus+ Programme (30/06/2017 - 31/08/2017)  
Fellowship at the University of Ostrava, Czechia

## AWARDS AND PRIZES

- 17<sup>th</sup> place for the Call of The European Federation for Freshwater Sciences (EFFS) – Award for the best PhD Dissertation in Freshwater Sciences (2019-2020) (08/04/2021)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place for the Call of the Slovak Limnological Society at the Slovak Academy of Sciences Bratislava - Award for the best PhD Dissertation in Freshwater Sciences (07/01/2021)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place for the best presentation in English language – 16<sup>th</sup> Student Scientific Conference at the Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences at the Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia (29/05/2019)
- Rector's award for excellent study results within MSc. Degree, Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences at the Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia (04/07/2016)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place for the best presentation in section for bachelors – Scientific Congress „Zoológia 2014” in Prešov, Slovakia (22/11/2014)

## PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

DEKANOVÁ, V., SVITKOVÁ, I., NOVIKMEC, M., & SVITOK, M. (2023). Functional diversity of shredders, not species richness, drives the decomposition rate of leaf litter in ponds. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 11, 1286672. DOI: 10.3389/fevo.2023.1286672

DEKANOVÁ, V., STREBEROVÁ, Z., NOVIKMEC, M., & SVITOK, M. (2023). The effect of preservation on biomass and length estimates and its variation within and between two mayfly species. *Limnology*, 24, 181-191. DOI: 10.1007/s10201-023-00715-8

DEKANOVÁ, V., VENARSKY, M. P., & BUNN, S. E. (2022). Length-mass relationships of Australian aquatic invertebrates. *Austral Ecology*, 47(1), 120-126. DOI: 10.1111/aec.13077

DEKANOVÁ, V., SVITKOVÁ, I., NOVIKMEC, M., & SVITOK, M. (2021). Litter breakdown of invasive alien plant species in a pond environment: Rapid decomposition of *Solidago canadensis* may alter resource dynamics. *Limnologica*, 90, 125911. DOI: 10.1016/j.limno.2021.125911

## JOURNAL PEER-REVIEW ACTIVITY

2022 – Biodiversity Data Journal (publisher: Pensoft)

2023 – PLOS One (publisher: PLOS)

## CONFERENCE POSTERS

- The Freshwater Sciences 2023 Conference, Brisbane, Queensland (03-07/06/2023)  
SVITOK M., ČABANOVÁ V., DEKANOVÁ V., JAĎUĐOVÁ D., NOVIKMEC M., SEDLAČKOVÁ PŘIDALOVÁ M., SVITKOVÁ I. & ŽIDIŠINOVÁ E. (2023). Rapidly decomposing litter of invasive *Solidago canadensis* may alter resource dynamics and affect invertebrate communities of small water bodies. In The Freshwater Sciences Joint Conference 2023, Brisbane, Australia. p. 336.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Central European symposium for aquatic macroinvertebrate research (CESAMIR) in Łódź, Poland (08-13/07/2018)  
SVITOK M., DEKANOVÁ V., NOVIKMEC M. & VESELSKÁ M. (2018). Leaf litter breakdown in ponds: a role of taxonomic and functional diversity of shredders. In 3rd Central European symposium for aquatic macroinvertebrate research (CESAMIR), Łódź, Poland. p. 152.

## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- Shadowing Programme at the United Nations (UN) in Austria (11/09/2019)  
- shadowing a staff member at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- Huawei's Seeds for the Future 2017 in China (29/09/2017 - 14/10/2017)  
- training program focused on information and communication technologies in Huawei
- Scientific excursion in Venezuela (21/01/2016 - 18/02/2016)

- exploring ecosystem, plant and animal diversity of tropical America
- Administrative Services Officer (24/08/2015 - 28/08/2015)
- at the District Office, Department of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Interior of SR to provide administrative work and customer service related to development applications
- Environmental Education Volunteer (06/07/2015 - 24/07/2015)
- at the Ponitrie Protected Landscape Area, State protection of Nature of SR, to provide development of educational program for the protected area's new tourism plan

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

at Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia during academic years 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020 as a co-lecturer in courses:

- Biology of Aquatic Animals
- Ecology of Aquatic Organisms
- Ecology of Inland Waters
- Ecology of Populations

► All courses also included student mentoring and project evaluations

## COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

- RGui (Programming language)
- ArcGIS (Geographic Information System)
- QuickPhoto software (Microscope software)
- EthoVision XT software (Video tracking software)

## MEMBERSHIPS

- The European Federation for Freshwater Sciences (EFFS) (2023 - present)
- Slovak Zoological Society at the Slovak Academy of Sciences Bratislava (2022 - present)
- European Pond Conservation Network (EPCN) (2021 - present)
- European Society of Scientists and Experts for Nature Conservation (ESSENCE Slovakia) (2021 - present)
- Slovak Limnological Society at the Slovak Academy of Sciences Bratislava (2014 - present)