

Moustapha Itani  
Visiting scholar  
Organismal and Evolutionary Biology Research Programme  
Doctoral Programme in Interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences  
Email: moustapha.itani@helsinki.fi



## Curriculum vitae

**Moustapha Itani** earned his MSc in Environmental Sciences from the American University of Beirut in 2015. Although his MSc work had focused on conserving rare plants in urban environments, he is now actively involved in interdisciplinary research, gaining valuable experience along the way.

During this time, Moustapha worked on developing vegetation management plans for archaeological sites and assessing the conservation potential of Important Plant Areas. He also focused on researching public and mental health issues affecting refugees and victims of regional conflicts in the Middle East.

Now pursuing his PhD, Moustapha aims to merge natural and social sciences to address timely global challenges. His focus on pastoralism's sustainability in the Global South reflects his commitment to addressing societal and environmental issues through robust interdisciplinary science.

To achieve this goal, Moustapha combines field surveys, participatory mapping, interviews with local stakeholders, and multi-scale geospatial analyses. His work aims to contribute to a more sustainable future by better understanding and addressing the challenges facing pastoral communities.

## Employment

### Visiting scholar

Organismal and Evolutionary Biology Research Programme  
University of Helsinki  
Finland  
15 Aug 2024 → 15 Aug 2025

### Doctoral Researcher, Doctoral Programme in Interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences

University of Helsinki  
Helsinki, Finland  
1 Jan 2021 → present

## Publications

### Political Bias against Atheists: Talk Shows Targeting Arabic-Speaking Audiences

Khazaal, N., Itani, M. & Abdallah, S., Jul 2023, In: Religions. 14, 7, 23 p.

### Défis et opportunités de la recherche collaborative dans les réserves de biosphère en Méditerranée

Itani, M., Nashabe Talhouk, S., El-Hajj, W., Nasrallah, N. & Abou Fakher, H., Apr 2023, *Réserves de biosphère et objectifs de développement durable 1: enjeux scientifiques et pratiques éducatives en Méditerranée*. Barthes, A., Cibien, C. & Romagny, B. (eds.). London, UK: ISTE Editions Ltd, Vol. 2. p. 63-78 16 p.

### Underrated past herbivore densities could lead to misoriented sustainability policies

Manzano, P., Pardo, G., Itani, M. & del Prado, A., 6 Jan 2023, In: npj Biodiversity. 2, 6 p., 2.

### Grazing research should consider mobility and governance

Manzano, P., Azcarate, F. M., Bencherif, S., Burgas, D., Byambaa, B., Cabeza, M., Cadahía, L., Chatty, D., Eronen, J. T., Galvin, K. A., Herrera, P. M., Holand, Ø., Itani, M., Niamir-Fuller, M., Pauné, F., Perrier, G., Scoones, I., Seitsonen, O., Stenseth, N. C. & Varela, E. & 1 others, Waters-Bayer, A., 25 Nov 2022, In: Science. 378, 6622, 3 p.

### Hopes from the North: Positive Impacts of EU Sustainable Development Policies on Pastoralism along the Southern Mediterranean Shore

Itani, M. A. & Manzano, P., 21 Sept 2021.

Vertical gardening and Syrian women refugees in Lebanon: an exploratory study on motivation for gardening and depression relief

Itani, M., Nashabe Talhouk, S. & Chalak, A., 2021, In: *Local Environment*. 26, 10

Weaponised uranium and adverse health outcomes in Iraq: a systematic review

Itani, M. & Surdyk, S., 2021, In: *BMJ global health*. 6, 2

Biodiversity conservation in cities: Defining habitat analogues for plant species of conservation interest

Itani, M., Nashabe Talhouk, S., Nasrallah, N. & Al Zein, M., 2020, In: *PLoS One*. 15, 6