The MECOCO assignment

You are supposed to answer the following question:

What is/are the primary determinant(s) of alien species richness for birds / plants on oceanic islands:
a) area per se,
b) native species richness or
c) human factors?

To do so you are given 3 data files:

Islands – a dataset with the characteristics of a set of islands for which there were measured the number of exotic species of birds and plants
Plants – the dataset with the number of exotic species and native of plants
Birds - the dataset with the number of exotic species and native species of birds

The goal is to find a suitable model that allows you to answer the above question. You should provide me a detailed report describing the entire process, from data import, through exploratory data analysis, modelling approach(es) and the answer to the above question, along with a discussion and final conclusions.

This is to handed in by the 20th December 2019. As agreed upfront, this is individual work and it is worth 20% of your grade in Modelação Ecológica.

Please remember, it is fundamental that you do not discuss with each other what you are doing. If you get stuck, you come and talk to me, not amongst yourselves. The entire goal is to see the range of models and modelling approaches that you use to address the question. If you are found to not have respected this condition I reserve the right to fail you in ME – this is a serious warning that you should not ignore nor take lightly.