

Med-ESCWET project

Regional workshop on ecosystem services provided by Mediterranean wetlands

Mercure Hôtel, Valbonne - Sophia-Antipolis, France

September 19th, 2016

1 Context and objectives of the MED-ESCWET project

According to IPCC reports, climate change will have a significant impact on water resources in Mediterranean. It is expected, and already noted in some regions, an increase in extreme events (floods, heat waves, droughts, etc...) and risks in terms of economic losses and human lives. Adaptation and mitigation to climate change are therefore major challenges for water management in the Mediterranean.

While many studies on the impact of climate change on ecosystems already exist and are ongoing, it seems that, conversely, the study of the role of ecosystems as an adaptation tool is still largely to develop. However, ecosystems such as (undamaged) wetlands have (1) a direct role in climate regulation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and (2) a function of mitigation of climate change effects by providing protection against floods, droughts and coastal storms.

The **Med-ESCWET project** on "[the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by wetlands in the context of climate change in the Mediterranean](#)" seeks **to promote the adaptation based on ecosystems and to facilitate its integration in national climate change adaptation policies**. To raise the awareness of policy makers on wetlands importance in adaptation to climate change, the project seeks to economically assess these services to inform decision-making process.

An economic valuation will be conducted on a regulation ecosystem service related to adaptation to climate change in **four Mediterranean pilot areas**: Lonjsko Polje Flood Plain (Croatia), Burullus Lake (Egypt), Vic coastal lagoon (France) and Yeniçaga Lake (Turkey). These pilot sites were selected in May 2015 during the 1st Steering Committee meeting of Med-ESCWET project following a feasibility study led on 12 combinations ecosystem service/wetland.

This project was initiated in 2013 by Plan Bleu, in partnership with Tour du Valat, for a three years period. It is co-financed by the MAVA Foundation and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

2 Objectives of the regional workshop on ecosystem services provided by Mediterranean wetlands

The overall objective of this workshop is to highlight the ecological importance of Mediterranean wetlands, the critical role they play in maintaining many natural cycles and supporting biodiversity, through the

presentations of various case studies. Wetlands are tremendously productive ecosystems that provide a wide array of services to society worldwide.

Final results of the Med-ESCWET project will be presented, especially the economic valuations carried out for four case studies: Lonjsko polje floodplain (Croatia) for flood control service, Vic coastal lagoon (France) for coastal protection service, Yeniçaga peatlands (Turkey) and Burullus Lake (Egypt) for carbon sequestration. Case studies from Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt will also highlight benefits from ecosystem services provided by Mediterranean wetlands.

3 Organisers and target audience

3.1 Organisers and partners

This workshop is organized by the Plan Bleu with the support of the consultancy Nomadeis.

Funders: MAVA Foundation and Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco (FPA2).

Partner : Tour du Valat

3.2 Target audience

Biodiversity stakeholders, decision-makers, NGOs, civil society, researchers, Local authorities.

4 Place and duration

Location: Mercure Hotel, rue Albert Caquot, 06560 Valbonne- Sophia Antipolis - France

Duration: One day

5 Languages

Simultaneous translation: French / English

6 Draft agenda

19 September 2016

09:30-09:40 am	Welcome speech (<i>Plan Bleu/ Tour du Valat</i>)
09:40-10:00 am	Objectives of the regional workshop (<i>Dr Céline Dubreuil-Imbert, Plan Bleu</i>)
10:00-10:15 am	Mapping of ecosystem services provided by Med-ESCWET project case studies (<i>Juliette Balavoine, Plan Bleu</i>)
10:15-10:30 am	<i>Debate with participants</i>
10:30-10:50 am	Economic valuation of the coastal protection service provided by Vic coastal lagoon, France (<i>Nicolas Dutreix, Nomadeis</i>)

10:50-11:05 am	<i>Debate with participants</i>
11:05-11:20 am	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:20-11:40 am	Economic valuation of the flood control service provided by Lonjsko polje floodplain, Croatia (<i>Nicolas Dutreix, Nomadeis</i>)
11:40-12:00 am	<i>Debate with participants</i>
12:00-02:00 pm	<i>Lunch break</i>
02:00-02:30 pm	Economic valuation of the carbon sequestration service provided by Yeniçaga peatlands, Turkey, and Burullus lake, Egypt (<i>Nicolas Dutreix, Nomadeis</i>)
02:30-03:00 pm	<i>Debate with participants</i>
03:00-03:15 pm	"Nile Ecosystems Wetlands Valuation and wise-Use project" (Nile-Eco-VWU): Burullus case study (<i>Prof. Aly El-Bahrawy, Ain shams University</i>) tbc
03:15-03:30 pm	Development of an EO-based indicator to assess the ES "Wetlands and flood regulation" (<i>Anis Guelmami, Tour du Valat –MWO</i>)
03:30-04:00pm	<i>Debate with participants</i>
04:00-04:30 pm	<i>Coffee Break</i>
04:30-04:45 pm	Monitoring recreational and educational services provided by Mediterranean Wetlands: how natural capital impact human and social capital? (<i>Laurent Chazée, Réquier Desjardin M., Khechimi W, Tour du Valat</i>)
04:45-05:00 pm	Study on the economic value of ecosystem services provided by Ichkeul park (Tunisia) (<i>Hamed Daly Hassen, INRGREF-IUCN</i>)
05:00-05:15 pm	<i>Debate with participants</i>
05:15-05:30 pm	Ecosystem services: a concept developed for the integrated local planning between local authorities and El Kala National Park in Algeria (<i>Abdenour Chagour, Laurent Chazée, Tour du Valat</i>)
05:30-06:00 pm	Conclusion (<i>Dr Céline Dubreuil-Imbert</i>)