

## Conservation of biodiversity in the Mediterranean: How to link science and policy?

### Principal organizers

[Grillas Patrick](#) (Tour du Valat)

[Wolfgang Cramer](#) (IMBE)

### Session description

Climate change, combined with changing human impacts on landscapes and ecosystems is occurring on both sides of the Mediterranean Basin, affecting the biodiversity and more generally the functions and services provided by ecosystems. Many political decisions favour activities that are impacting biodiversity (agricultural intensification, urbanization, new infrastructure for the abstraction of water and modification of hydrological cycles). In order better support policy, scientific results should be provided to this audience in an appropriate form and in due time. Scientific publications and expert panels relaying these publications are increasingly important in the process of decision making on broad conservation issues (exemplified by the rising role of IPBES).

The aim of this session is to share experience and discuss what scientific information is needed and how should it be shaped to facilitate communication with decision makers in The Mediterranean region. The session will be focused on global change in Mediterranean wetlands, a critical type of ecosystems for biodiversity and providing important services to local populations. It will first review the science-policy, climate change and agricultural development issues in the Mediterranean basin. Several talks will then show how the Mediterranean Wetland Observatory has been organized to build syntheses on the situation of wetlands in the region and highlight examples of thematic analyses on biodiversity, and ecosystem services.

### Speakers

- [Audrey Coreau](#) (AgroParisTech) Science-policy interface for biodiversity conservation: Bridging the knowledge gap, complying with a scientific imperative or preventing an environmental decline?
- [Wolfgang Cramer](#) (IMBE) Climate change in the Mediterranean region
- [Mélanie Réquier-Desjardins](#) (CIHEAM, IAM) Development of agriculture in the S-Mediterranean basin
- [Christian Perennou](#) (Tour du Valat) The Mediterranean Wetland Observatory: a link between science and policy
- [Anis Guelmani](#) (Tour du Valat) Assessment of land-use changes in Mediterranean wetlands.
- [Elie Gaget](#) (MNHN-Paris) Identification of long-term changes in bird diversity in Mediterranean wetlands
- [Özge Balkız](#) (DKM Turkey) Ecological Services as a Decision Making Tool in the Mediterranean Wetlands