



# Conservation of the island wetlands of the Mediterranean Basin

The island wetlands of Turkey

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Kick off meeting – MedIsWet project  
Iraklion, Crete, 7-9 November 2017

- ✓ Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
- ✓ No list for island wetlands
- ✓ ~ 50 wetlands
- ✓ The Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs- no list for islands



- ✓ Gökçeada Dam

# Level of knowledge



Gökçeada Salt Marsh

In the national wetlands list

No protection status

# Main problems wetlands are facing

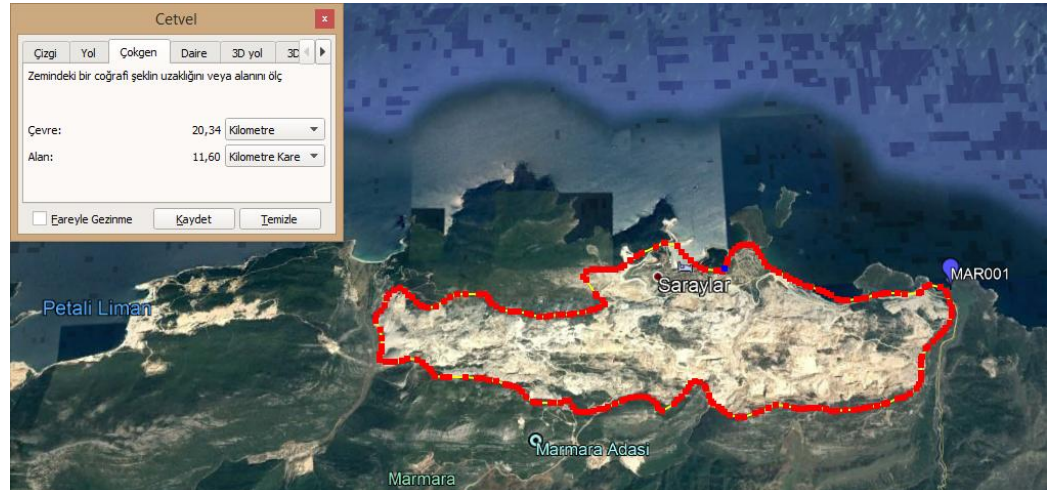
## ✓ Tourism :

- Construction activities
- Increasing water demand
- Daily boat tours



## ✓ Mining:

- Marble quarry in Marmara Island



# Main problems wetlands are facing

## Potential?

- ✓ Agriculture? Industrial agriculture?
- ✓ Water allocation for domestic use or animal husbandry or agriculture?
- ✓ Hunting?
- ✓ Fish farms?

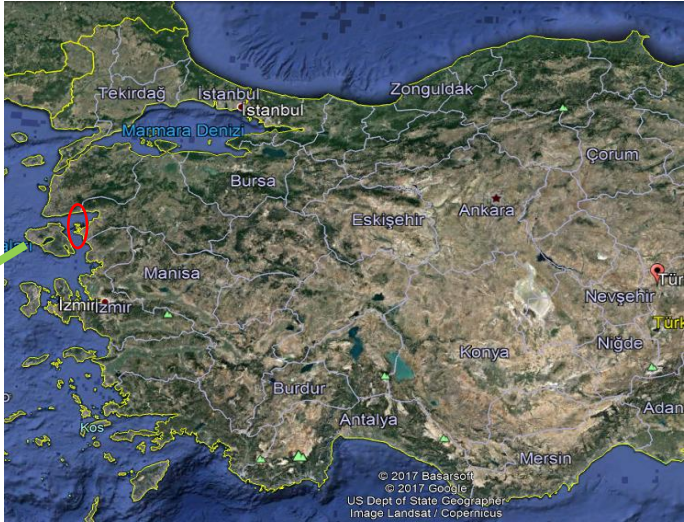
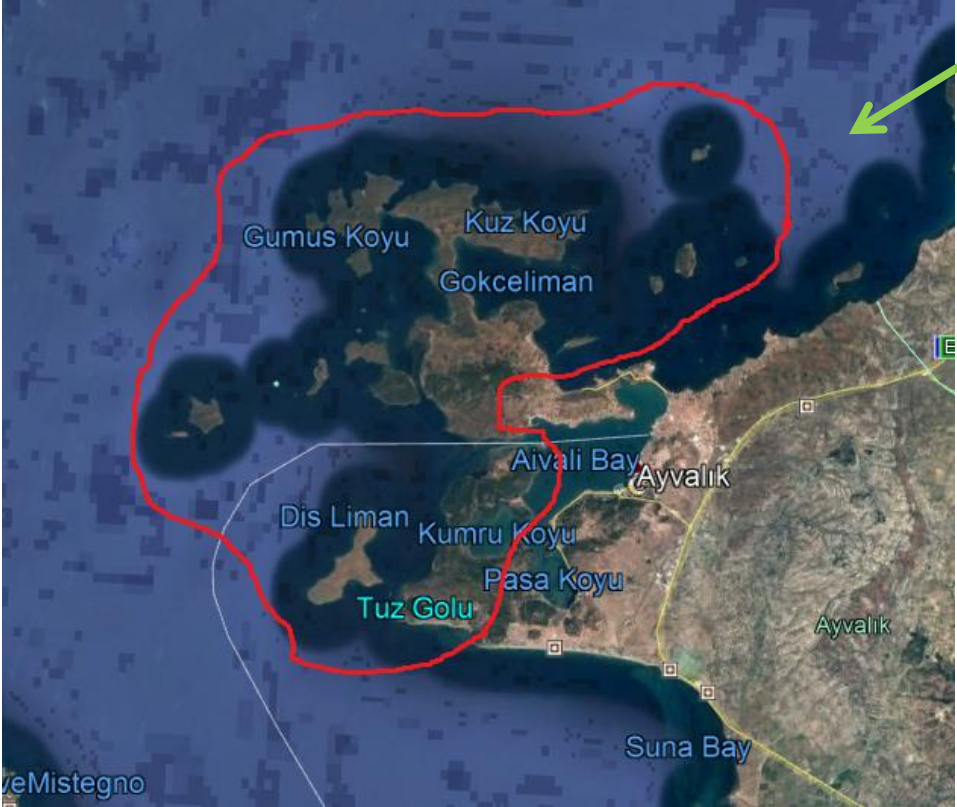


# Gökçeada Salt Marsh



# Current legal framework

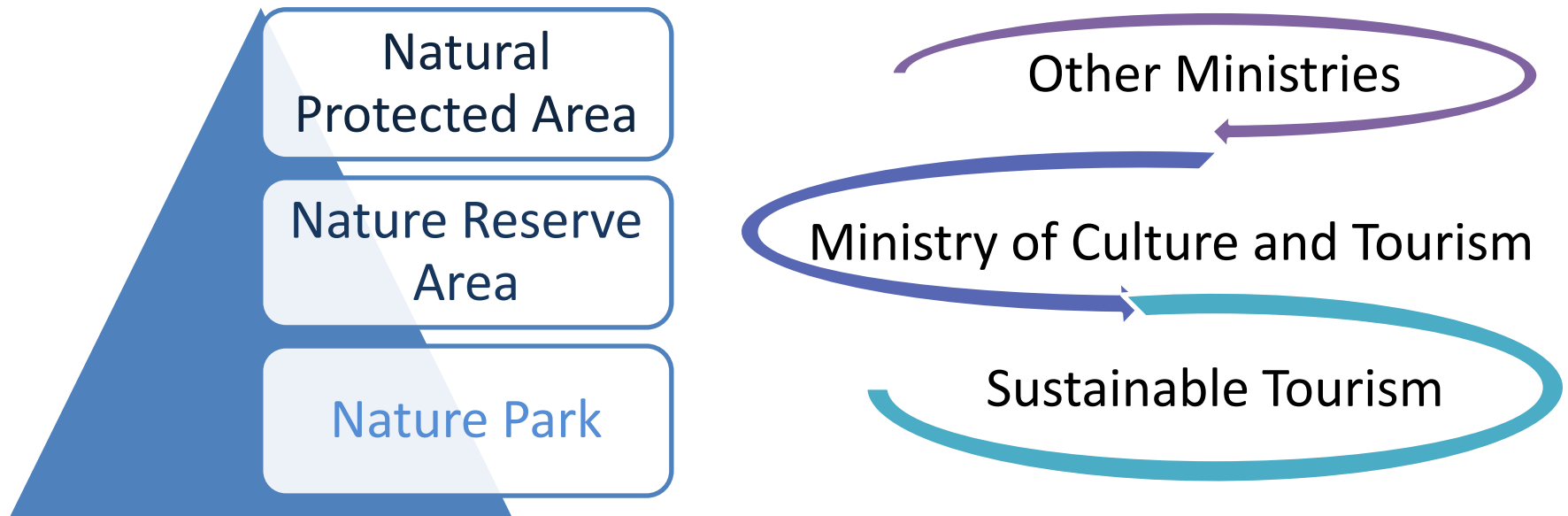
## ✓ Development Plan for Ayvalık Islands Nature Park



- ✓ WWF Turkey → NGO member of National Committee of Wetlands
    - ✓ advisory board
    - ✓ responsible of the management plans
  
  - ✓ Island wetlands of Turkey designated as Ramsar sites:  
POSSIBLE?
    - ✓ Criterion 1: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it contains a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate biogeographic region.
- (MINISTRY)**

# What if we cannot designate them as Ramsar Sites?

- ✓ 1st step:
  - ✓ Inclusion in the national list of wetlands
- ✓ 2nd step:
  - ✓ Other protection status and MANAGEMENT PLANS



## ✓ INVENTORY



- ✓ The Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs

- ✓ Permission of the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
- ✓ If they have a stake, it is faster and easier

## Documentation at National Level (Strategy 1)

- Delineation of the wetlands (1.1)
- Construction of the db (1.1)
- Collection of the inventory from literature in collaboration with the ministries, institutes and other stakeholders (1.1)
- Field visits (1.1)
- Documentation of the threats (1.1)

## National policy and advocacy (Strategy 2)

- Analyse of the current and potential legal protection status
- Define threats in each site; identify relevant mechanisms and key stakeholders to address those threats
- Prepare communication strategy , identify tools/mechanisms to deliver the key messages (campaigns, lobbying activities, communication materials, citizen science models, inclusion of local NGOs, birdwatching festivals etc.), engage relevant stakeholders etc.)
- Prepare proposals for relevant legislative instrument (Ramsar site etc.)
- Identification of the mechanisms for local ownership and engagement (awareness rising)
- Management plan at least for 1 island wetland

THANK YOU!

