The Ghar El Melh Lagoon in Tunisia

- is roughly 7 km wide and 4.5 km long
- is a winter home for migratory eels that feed in the lagoon
- boasts a unique Andalusian agricultural technique called 'gattayas'

Tip
Pilot projects are effective at engaging communities and engendering political support. They need not be expensive and can in fact rely on voluntary support.
Ninety-five percent of coastal wetlands today are threatened with flooding, and wetlands are disappearing three times more quickly than forests. I hope solutions are found quickly - it would be wise to begin by highlighting the ecological role these environments play."

Inji Hanini, Regional Commissioner for Agricultural Development in Bizerte, Tunisia

Subsidiarity in action - a local initiative

The 2018 Law of Governance is a very significant piece of legislation – decentralising long centralised powers to the local level.

The municipality committee makes links between stakeholders and civil society, local and regional government, institutions and with national and international agencies.

In discussions with the municipality and other stakeholders the central role of the municipality was accepted and a “Non Permanent Commission” was created under the 2018 local collectivities code chaired by a local municipal deputy. The members, mandate and role of the commission was drafted by the municipality and key stakeholders. Work is now progressing on building the capacity of this body to ensure the sustainability of the governance process.

Learn more about Ghar El Melh Lagoon: www.mediterranean.panda.org