



Minutes of the Second Partner Workshop

“Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands”

Tour du Valat, 26-28 March 2009

**Prepared by the Coordination Unit
The Tour du Valat, 2 April 2009**

Introduction

The second International Workshop on the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands was organized at the Tour du Valat between 26 and 28 March 2009. A group of 34 participants¹ attended the workshop to discuss the different points included in the Agenda² and detailed in the supporting documents which were sent prior the workshop. This workshop was supported financially by the Total Foundation. This workshop was associated with a user meeting (25 March) jointly organized by the European Space Agency and the Tour du Valat for discussing the preparation of GlobWetland II project.

The agenda of the workshop prepared by the Observatory coordination Unit was validated by the participants. The agenda was found to be in line with :

- the institutional background of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands (presentation by N. Benessaiah, MedWet Coordination)
- the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the first international workshop conducted in March 2007 (presentation by P. Tomas, Tour du Valat)
- the follow-up activities carried out between March 2007 and March 2009 to prepare and consolidate the Observatory (presentation by P. Grillas, Tour du Valat) although the the mandate and objectives were reworded.

Before working on the building of the Observatory itself, a series of presentations, experiences and cases studies were shared. All presentations and case studies³ presented on Thursday 26 are available on a CD provided to each participant at the end of the workshop.

Observatory steps discussed during the workshop

The workshop has reviewed and discussed the different main steps to start the operation of the Observatory as a monitoring and assessment tool. At the end of the workshop, a tentative 3 years work plan has been approved, incorporating suggestions and

¹ Annex 1

² Annex 2

³ Annex 3

recommendations from the participants. This work plan will be refined and adjusted by the end of 2009, after the implementation of the needs and expectation assessment planned during the second part of 2009 in all MedWet countries.

It has been approved that the Observatory framework, methods and tools endorsed by the participants for the starting of the operation of the Observatory will be reviewed and validated in 2010.

1. Observatory mandate and objectives

The mandates and objectives of the Observatory have been amended and approved by the participants as follows:

Mandates

Immediate mandate

- *To catalyze, consolidate, assess and share knowledge on the conservation status and trends of Mediterranean wetlands.*
- *To raise awareness among users of the Observatory and to help decision-making towards wetland conservation and sustainable management and use.*
- *To monitor and assess the status and trends of ecological functions, values and services of Mediterranean wetlands in the context of sustainable development.*

When the Observatory has more capacity and experience, the mandate may be extended to

:

- *Early warning timely reported to decision makers, in line with international conventions and global changes.*
- *Evaluation of impact of public policies and strategies on Mediterranean Wetlands.*

Objectives

In line with the MedWet strategic vision, the participants have agreed that the Observatory has three interdependent objectives:

1. *Provide timely and quality information on Mediterranean wetlands status and trends.*
2. *Track threats to Mediterranean wetlands and identify actions to promote their protection and wise use.*
3. *Assess Mediterranean wetlands dimension in the Mediterranean context of sustainable development.*

2. Observatory strategy

A strategy for a sustainable Observatory built on utility and performance

Based on lessons learned and taking into account the evolving context of globalization, harmonization of international conventions and commitment towards sustainable development and environment protection, the strategy of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands process will be built towards utility and performance ensuring its sustainability, the three dimensions being inter-related and mutually reinforcing themselves. The success of the building process and operation should show a comparative advantage and added value recognized by the users including data providers, for the benefit of the wetlands protection, use and management.

3. Targeted users of the Observatory

The potential targeted users of the Observatory have been defined by the participants as follows:

In the evolving conservation and development governance context, it is expected that the main users of the Observatory services and results will be:

- Governments, local and regional authorities and decentralized government bodies dealing with matters that affect wetland conservation, management and use (environment, water, agriculture, forest, tourism, infrastructure, fishery, etc.);
- International Conventions, in particular their technical advisory bodies, National Focal Points and Conferences of the Parties. i.e. the Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Convention on Migratory Species, Convention to Combat Desertification, Convention on Climate Change, Barcelona Convention (especially its ICZM protocol);
- International and regional organizations, in particular the governing bodies and specifically relevant offices of *EU Agencies, UNEP, UNDP, World Bank, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, Union for the Mediterranean, MedWet and GEF* ;
- Civil society organisations in particular NGOs, associations, projects and other groups involved in wetland protection and management;
- Wetland site managers;
- Universities, institutes and research centres active in conservation and development issues;
- Business and industry, especially natural resources based industries (agriculture, fishing, hydro power, etc.) and financial institutions;
- Mass media, including press, radio and TV in various regions/countries.

Priority target will then be defined based on their specific interest on Observatory products, themes and indicators.

4. Geographic scope covered by the Observatory

The geographic scope covered by the Observatory has been discussed and validated by the participants as follows:

- Overall coverage: countries included in the MedWet initiative
- Specific coverage depending on theme and indicators:
 - Mediterranean watersheds within MedWet countries;
 - administrative units;
 - coastal zones;
 - Mediterranean biogeographical regions.

5. Monitoring and Assessment framework of the Observatory

The proposed monitoring and assessment framework for the Mediterranean Wetlands has been approved⁴. It was agreed that the coordination unit will complete the framework after receiving the remaining participant contribution expected for mid April 2009.

6. Cross-cutting issues

⁴ Annex 4

The workshop validated the following major cross-cutting issues that can impact on Mediterranean Wetlands and that may be taken into account in interpretation and analysis:

- Poverty
- Governance
- Participation
- Climate change
- Gender
- Mobility/migration
- Energy
- Access to innovation
- Security
- Partnership
- Cultural values

7. Development topics

The workshop validated the following development topics that can impact on Mediterranean wetlands and that may be taken into account in interpretation and analysis:

- Food security
- Urbanization including littoralization
- Agriculture (crops and livestock)
- Fisheries and aquaculture
- Irrigation
- Domestic and industrial water supply and sanitation
- Public and private infrastructure
- Industry sector
- Tourism
- Trade
- Transport

8. Priority themes and sub-themes to be monitored by the Observatory

A list of proposed priority themes was presented by the Coordination Unit based on the review of major international and regional conventions, protocols and programmes related or impacting on Mediterranean Wetlands. A theme fact-sheet format was presented and approved by the workshop. Participants were organized into three working groups of users (data providers and users at local and national scale, data providers and users at international scale, decision-makers) to review and propose priority themes and sub-themes. Each group then returned its proposal, summarized in the following table:

Observatory objectives	Priority themes validated	Priority sub-themes validated
Objective 1: Mediterranean Wetlands status and trends	Biodiversity components	Genetic
		Species and communities
		Habitat/ land cover
	Ecosystem integrity and health	Water regime
		Chemical states
		Spatial structure
Objective 2: threats to MW and actions to promote their wise use	Land and water management	Policies with environmental impact on wetlands
		Policy implementation
	Adaptive management	Legislative and regulatory mechanisms

		Knowledge and innovation
	Socio-economic Drivers and pressures	
Objective 3: sustainable development	Sustainable development	Integration of environment in development process
	Ecological services	Provisioning services
		Regulating services
		Cultural services
		Supporting services

The first group also prioritized the issues to be followed in priority by the Observatory:

- 1) Ecosystem integrity
- 2) Ecosystem services
- 3) Biodiversity components
- 4) Land and water management, adaptive management
- 5) Sustainable development

While 7 themes have been identified as the most relevant for monitoring of Mediterranean wetlands, the effective monitoring of theme will depend on the availability of data and indicators at the Mediterranean level to measure them. Some monitoring of theme or sub-themes may be postponed until enough indicators are developed.

9. Priority indicators to be used for monitoring and assessments of wetlands

A list of about 40 indicators selected after a review of 537 existing indicators was prepared by the Coordination Unit as well as an indicator fact-sheet format. The format was approved by the workshop. As for the themes, the participants were organized into working groups to review and prioritize the indicators of each theme for monitoring and assessment of Mediterranean wetlands. However, time did not allow the full discussion and selection of priority set of indicators.

It was agreed to allow more time for each working group of participants to work on indicators after the workshop. Following the reception of the workshop minutes (to be sent by the Coordination Unit of the Observatory by April, 3), the representative of each working group will send the group proposal by 15 April to the Coordination Unit. The proposal will be then synthesized by the Coordination Unit and communicated to participants.

For this additional duty, the preliminary work done by each group and returned during the workshop is available in [Annex 5](#). The full list of selected indicators is in the document provided to the participants during the workshop.

10. Structure of the Observatory

The structure of the Observatory which was already discussed and agreed in March 2007, has been confirmed as follows :

- Executive structure
 - Partner Organisations
 - Focal Point in each partner organisation
 - Coordination Unit
- Steering structures
 - Consortium
 - Steering Committee
 - Advisory Group

It was agreed that each participant, and other partners who could not attend the meeting, will inform the Coordination Unit at what level of the structure their respective institution would like to participate. A table is provided in [Annex 6](#). The structure will be formalized by MedWet through a MoU that will be drafted by the Coordination Unit.

11. Modalities and conditions of partnership and observatory network

Concerning modalities of data sharing, the need to establish a platform to manage data and to facilitate the coordination of partners of the Observatory has been mentioned. Other questions regarding the responsibility of management and control data quality have been raised. In the meantime, in order to quickly start the operation of the Observatory, it has been decided that data available in the public sphere will be used at the beginning. Each partner will inform the Coordination Unit on their respective network where data can be found.

Access to unpublished data including private data is an issue that will be discussed in the process of developing the monitoring system of the Observatory. A specific MoU may be prepared between the Observatory and the data providers. In the meantime, preliminary may be provided by the potential partner as per the table presented in Annex 6.

12. Current and required resources

The coordination unit of the Observatory is currently functioning with an equivalent of 2 full time positions secured for the period 2009-2011 under the MAVA Foundation. Based on the preliminary Observatory work calendar 2009-2012, the Coordination Unit estimate that a minimum of two additional full time positions are needed to deliver a minimum set of products by 2011, especially on communication, networking and electronic data research.

There are several options to carry out these activities, among them:

- Get additional fund starting from mid-2009 in order to deliver the first report by 2010;
- Reduce the scope of work – streamlining priorities;
- Active implication of partners to take in charge some actions

The Coordination Unit has already prepared and submitted some projects but responses are expected between May and July 2009.

In the meantime, it was suggested by the participants to adjust the work to the resources with the objective of producing the first report by end of 2010 and to continue seeking additional funds. The need to quickly establish the MoU was once again reminded as well as to define the commitments of partner within the Observatory structure and for technical activities. The challenge is to quickly start the monitoring and to produce a first monitoring report by end of 2010, before the Grado + 20 Conference.

13. Validation of the preliminary Observatory 2009-2011 work programme

A tentative 2009-2011 work plan⁵ has been amended and validated in the course of the workshop. Activities included in the calendar are to be considered as a tentative checklist of logical activities to institutionally start and operate the Observatory. A consolidated 2010-2012 work plan and a annual 2010 detailed work plan will be drafted by the end of 2009 for review by the partners.

⁵ Annex 7

Annex 1

List of participants

**Observatory of Mediterranean wetlands - Tour du Valat Workshop 26-28
March 2009**
GlobWetland II User Consultation meeting 25 March 2009

First Name / Surname	Organisation
Simon DELANY	Wetlands International
Jean-Pierre GIRAUD	UNEP-MAP - RAC/ Blue Plan
Françoise BRETON	ETC-LUSI/EEA
Emil IVANOV	ETC-LUSI/EEA
Nejib BENESSAIAH	Coordinator / Policy advisor MEDWET
Eleni FITOKA	Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre
Hichem AZAFZAF	"Les Amis des Oiseaux" Association / BidLife International Tunisia
Laurent CHAZEE	Tour du Valat
Christian PERENNOU	Tour du Valat
Patrick GRILLAS	Tour du Valat
Jean JALBERT	Tour du Valat
Alain SANDOZ	Tour du Valat
Jean-Jacques BRAVAIS	Tour du Valat
Pierre CAESSTEKER	Tour du Valat
Pere TOMAS VIVES	Tour du Valat
Thomas GALEWSKI	Tour du Valat
Coralie BELTRAME	Tour du Valat
Clotilde LEBRETON	Tour du Valat
Alain SANDOZ	Tour du Valat
Florence DAUBIGNEY	Tour du Valat
Marie-Antoinette DIAZ	Tour du Valat
Marc PAGANINI	European Space Agency
Olivier ARINO	European Space Agency
Romain JULLIARD	Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris
Jean-Louis WEBER	European Environment Agency (EEA)
Mme Jana TAFI	

Vicky JONES	BirdLife
Marie-José ELLOUMI	ANPE Tunisie
Ugur ZEYDANLI	DKM (centre pour la conservation de la Nature, Turquie)
Hüma ULGEN	DKM (centre pour la conservation de la Nature, Turquie)
Laure FOURNIER	Fondation TOTAL
Raffaele MANCINI	WWF Mediterranean Programme-Across the Waters
Albert BERTOLERO	IRTA Ecosistemas Aquatics (Delta del Ebro)
Michael BOCK	German Aerospace Center

Annex 2

Agenda of the workshop

AGENDA OF THE SECOND PARTNERS WORKSHOP “OBSERVATORY OF MEDITERRANEAN WETLANDS”

Tour du Valat, 26-28 March 2009

THURSDAY, 26 MARCH

Session 1: Introduction and validation of the workshop agenda

- 9:00-9:10 Welcome and opening of the workshop; Short introduction of the Tour du Valat programme relevant to the Observatory (J. Jalbert, Tour du Valat)
- 9:10 – 9:20 Institutional background of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands (Adnan Budieri or Nejjib Benessaiah, MedWet Coordination)
- 9:20-9:30 Findings, conclusions and recommendations of the first workshop launching the Observatory in March 2007. (P. Tomas, Tour du Valat)
- 9:30-9:40 Ramsar Convention and Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory (Nick Dawidson, Ramsar Secretariat, Deputy Secretary General – *to be confirmed*).
- 9:40-09:50 Follow-up activities carried out between March 2007 and March 2009 to prepare and consolidate the Observatory. (P. Grillas, Tour du Valat).
- 09:50-10:00 Validation of the second workshop objectives and agenda.

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

Session 2: Presentations and case studies

- 10:30-10:50 Study and first analysis on available indicators relevant to Mediterranean Wetlands. (C. Beltrame, Tour du Valat)
- 10:50-11:10 Inventory of Mediterranean Wetlands and level of harmonization between countries (methods, criteria of site selection, etc.). (T. Galewski, Tour du Valat)
- 11:10-11:30 Case study in Monitoring indicators in a World Heritage/Biosphere/Ramsar site: Ichkeul case, Tunisia. (Marie-José Elloumi, Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement)
- 11:30-11:50 Factors of success or failure in monitoring biodiversity
Participatory monitoring approaches and resources needed for active network (R. Juliard, Conservation des Espèces, Restauration et Suivi de Population).
- 11:50-12:10 Wings Over Wetlands, WetCap and CEPF Mediterranean Ecosystem Profiling; contributions to wetland conservation' (Vicky Jones, Birdlife).
- 12:10-12:40 Lessons learned from Camargue and Prespa Observatories development process (C. Perennou and C. Lebreton, Tour du Valat).
- 12:40-13:00 Living Planet Index, an indicator adapted to Mediterranean wetlands (T. Galewski, Tour du Valat).

13:00-14:30 Lunch

- 14:30-14:50 The Blue Plan : A Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development (Jean-Pierre Giraud, Blue Plan).
- 14:50-15:10 GlobWetland II (M. Paganini, European Space Agency)
- 15:10-15:30 Long term strategy and 2009-2011 strategic steps proposed for the development and operation of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands. (L. Chazee, Tour du Valat).
- 15:30-16:00 Validation of Observatory mandates and Objectives for 2009-2012

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

Session 3: Working and discussion groups

- 16:30-17:00 Discussion and agreement on targeted users of the Observatory
- 17:00-17:30 Discussion and agreement on geographic scope covered by the Observatory
- 17:30-18:00 Discussion and approval of a draft monitoring and evaluation logical framework of the Observatory.

End of the day

FRIDAY, 27 MARCH

(end of Session 3, from day 1)

- 09:00-10:15 Discussion and agreement of priority themes and sub-themes of the Observatory to be considered by the observatory for the period 2009-2012. (*Working groups by category of users*).

10:15-10:45 Coffee Break

- 10:45-12:00 Discussion and preliminary agreement on priority indicators (to be refined at a later stage) to be used for monitoring and assessment of wetlands. (*Working groups by category of users*).

12:00-13:00 Proposed structure and management principles of the Observatory

13:00-14:30 Lunch

- 14:30-15:45 Modalities and conditions of partnership and observatory network, in particular in data sharing and use to measure indicators.

- 15:45–16:30 Concepts for joint project proposals and potential funding sources
Presentation of current and potential funding, and general discussion.

16:30-17:00 Coffee break

- 17:00-17:50 Discussion and validation of the Observatory work programme for 2009-2011 period, and share of responsibilities.

17:50-18:00 Conclusions and closing.

SATURDAY, 28 MARCH

Field visits will be organized

Annex 3

List of presentations and case studies (February 26)

1. Welcome and opening of the workshop; Short introduction of the Tour du Valat programme relevant to the Observatory (J. Jalbert, Tour du Valat)
2. Institutional background of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands (Nejib Benessaiah, MedWet Coordination)
3. Findings, conclusions and recommendations of the first workshop launching the Observatory in March 2007. (P. Tomas, Tour du Valat)
4. Follow-up activities carried out between March 2007 and March 2009 to prepare and consolidate the Observatory. (P. Grillas, Tour du Valat).
5. Study and first analysis on available indicators relevant to Mediterranean Wetlands. (C. Beltrame, Tour du Valat)
6. Inventory of Mediterranean Wetlands and level of harmonization between countries (methods, criteria of site selection, etc.). (T. Galewski, Tour du Valat)
7. Case study in Monitoring indicators in a World Heritage/Biosphere/Ramsar site: Ichkeul case, Tunisia. (Marie-José Elloumi, Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement)
8. Factors of success or failure in monitoring biodiversity
Participatory monitoring approaches and resources needed for active network (R. Juliard, Conservation des Espèces, Restauration et Suivi de Population).
9. Wings Over Wetlands, WetCap and CEPF Mediterranean Ecosystem Profiling; contributions to wetland conservation' (Vicky Jones, Birdlife).
10. Lessons learned from Camargue and Prespa Observatories development process (C. Perennou and C. Lebreton, Tour du Valat).
11. Living Planet Index, an indicator adapted to Mediterranean wetlands (T. Galewski, Tour du Valat).
12. The Blue Plan : A Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development (Jean-Pierre Giraud, Blue Plan).
13. GlobWetland II (M. Paganini, European Space Agency)
14. Long term strategy and 2009-2011 strategic steps proposed for the development and operation of the Observatory of Mediterranean Wetlands. (L. Chazee, Tour du Valat).

Annex 4

Observatory Mediterranean Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment Framework

Analytical framework

1. Observatory mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To catalyze, consolidate, assess and share knowledge on the conservation status and trends of Mediterranean wetlands.</i> • <i>To raise awareness among users of the Observatory and to help decision-making towards wetland conservation and sustainable management and use.</i> • <i>To monitor and assess the status and trends of ecological functions, values and services of Mediterranean wetlands in the context of sustainable development.</i>
2. Observatory objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Provide timely and quality information on Mediterranean wetlands status and trends.</i> 2. <i>Track threats to Mediterranean wetlands and identify actions to promote their protection and wise use.</i> 3. <i>Assess Mediterranean wetlands dimension in the Mediterranean context of sustainable development.</i>
3. Contribution of the Observatory	General executive summary
<u>3.1. Contribution of the Observatory partner network to international and regional environmental objectives</u>	
Contribution of the Observatory to the objectives of major international and regional environmentally-based Conventions and Protocols.	<u><i>CBD, Ramsar, Barcelona, Bern, Bonn, etc.</i></u>
Contribution of the Observatory to the objectives of major international, regional and national strategies, plans and programmes in the Mediterranean Basin Conventions	
Contribution of the Observatory to the major environmental tools applied in the Mediterranean Basin	
<u>3.2. Contribution of the Observatory in performing its mandate</u>	
Knowledge	<i>To catalyze, consolidate, assess and share knowledge on the conservation status and trends of Mediterranean wetlands.</i>
Communication and Transfer	<i>To raise awareness among users and to help decision-making towards wetland conservation and sustainable management and use.</i>
Contribution in Sustainable development	<i>To assess the status and trends of ecological functions, values and services of Mediterranean wetlands in the context of sustainable development.</i> <i>Correspondence : MEDWET, MDG, Blue Plan</i>
<u>3.2. Contribution of the Observatory to achieve its objectives</u>	
Objective 1	<i>Provide timely and quality information on Mediterranean wetlands status and trends.</i>
Objective 2	<i>Track threats to Mediterranean wetlands and identify actions to promote their protection and wise use.</i>
Objective 3	<i>Assess Mediterranean wetlands dimension in the Mediterranean context of sustainable development</i>

4. Cross-cutting issues	Poverty, Governance, Participation, Climate change, Gender, Mobility/migration, Energy, Access to innovation, Security, Partnership, Cultural values
5. Interaction with main development issues	Food security, Urbanization including littoralization, Agriculture (crops and livestock), Fisheries and aquaculture, Irrigation, Domestic and industrial water supply and sanitation, Public and private infrastructure, Industry sector, Tourism, Trade, Transport

Monitoring framework

Indicator number	Indicators (Definition and nature)	Required data and method to measure value of indicator	Associated strategy and regional commitment	Sources of information	Frequency of measurement	Level of disaggregation of measurement	Responsibility for final data collection	Relation with expected outcomes and impacts
Theme 1:								
1								
2								
3								
4								
Theme 2:								
5								
6								
7								
8								
Theme 3:								
9								
10								
11								
12								
Theme 4:								
13								
14								
15								
16								
Theme 5:								
17								
18								
19								
20								

Annex 5

Priority indicators – Preliminary selection by working groups

Groupe 1:

Participants: Eleni Fitoka, Hichem AZAZAF, Marie-José Elloumi, Ugur Zeydanli, Hüma Ulgen, Christian Perennou, Nathalie Barré

Theme	Sub-theme	Priority line of monitoring	Indicator
Ecosystem Integrity	Water regime	Volume of water input to wetlands	Flooded surface (wetlands and non-wetlands)
	Pollution		% of water bodies in good conditions
	Spatial structure	Fragmentation Index of wetland habitats	% of sites increasingly fragmented
	Ecosystem processes		Community Specialization Index
Ecological services	Regulating services	Carbon storage	?
		Pollution control/water purification	?
	Cultural services	Recreational services	Number of visitors
	Supporting services	Biodiversity	LPI
	Provisioning services	Assess a value for each service on test sites	Updating value of each service (water, food, game, reed,..)

Groupe 2:

Participants: Simon Delany, Vicky Jones, Jean-Pierre Giraud, Françoise Breton, Emil Ivanov, Mickael Bock, Thomas Galewski, Coralie Beltrame, Pierre Caessteker, Alain Sandoz

Theme	Sub-theme	Priority line of monitoring	Indicator	
Biodiversity components	Species and communities		LPI/STI	
			Red List Index (IUCN opinion?)	
	Habitats		% of wetland loss	
Ecosystem Integrity	Water regime		River flow	
			Water depth	
	Pollution	Water quality		Temperature
				Salinity
				BOD
				N and P
	Spatial structure	Fragmentation		Landscape Ecological Potential
			Number of dams	
Ecosystem processes			Community Specialisation Index	
			Community Temperature Index	
Land and Water	Policies with environmental		Urban temperature	
			Agriculture temperature	

Management	impact on wetlands		
	Policy implementation	Tourism	Number of beds
		Pressure on water resources	Ecological footprint

Groupe 3:

Participants: Nejib Benessaiah, Raffaele Mancini, Marc Paganini, Jean-Louis Weber, Pere Tomas Vives, Jean Jalbert, Clotilde Lebreton

Theme	Sub-theme	Priority line of monitoring	Indicator
Ecosystem Integrity	Water regime	Water surface with satellite images	
	Pollution	Water quality	Algae bloom (maps)
			BOD
			N and P
Land and Water Management	Policies with environmental impact on wetlands		
	Policy implementation	Pressure of tourism	
		Pressure of agriculture	
	Urban expansion		

The group highlighted the importance of working at wetland or catchment level rather than national scale. Statistics at national level or regional level won't be useful to explain the local dynamics, there is a need of local data.

Annex 6

Partners of the Observatory and data sharing modalities (Session 3, 27 March)

As stated in the MedWet 9th Meeting, the structure of the Observatory will include intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and build upon existing networks of scientists, and managers involved in environmental and development programmes. Especially, all the countries that are members of MedWet/Com are invited to take part to this initiative.

Three main types of partners can be expected to get involved in the Observatory:

- Technical partners with knowledge and experience in monitoring programs or the development of tools (indicators and earth observation technologies);
- Members from International, European or National official structures that promote and implement policies (EU, International Conventions, National administrations, International bodies involved in the Mediterranean);
- Local organisations committed in major Mediterranean wetlands management and conservation (administrative structures, scientific centres or NGOs).

The Observatory is a monitoring and management tools for better protection, use and management of Mediterranean wetlands. This tool, politically and strategically supported by Ramsar/Medwet, will involve a network of interested partners, either data providers and users (research, wetlands manager, specialized institutions, NGOs, etc.).

Proposed level of participation of each partner institution within the Objectory structure

Structure	Name of proposed institution	Name of the proposed person
<i>Executive</i>		
PO		
FP		
CU		
<i>Steering</i>		
Consortium		
SC		
AG		

Preliminary information of level of commitment and interest of potential partner and user of the Observatory

Level of commitment and interest	Name of the Institution:		
	Yes/no	Specific theme or indicator	Any condition
Interest for providing data and participating in measuring value of some indicators.			
Interest in providing data to the Observatory			
Interest in data/indicator interpretation and analysis			
Institutional coordination with Observatory partners			
Sharing information			
Interest in using Observatory services and feedback information			
Other			

Annex 7

Tentative Work Plan 2009-2011

Activities	Tentative Period	Collaborative partners	Responsibility	Deliverable	Remarks
Preparation and sending Workshop minutes	Sent by 3 April 2009		Coordination Unit	Minutes and documents	To send to all participants of the workshop
I. Observatory Institutional and management building					
MedWet Countries needs and expectation assessment					
Study of Mediterranean needs and expectation assessment toward Observatory services in each partner MedWet country (relevant public, private and NGOs bodies)	May – December 2009	MedWet network, Focal Point, Governments	Coordination Unit	Report on respective needs and expectation.	Conditional to funding
Incorporation of study findings in final M&A framework	December 2009		Coordination Unit	Incorporation of findings in Observatory Monitoring Framework.	
M&A Framework					
Consolidation of M&A draft framework with themes, indicators information	April – July 2009		Coordination Unit	Draft framework	
Review of M&A framework by partners	August-September 2009	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit		Time resource of partners
Final draft Observatory monitoring strategy, including M&A framework and findings of country needs assessment	November 2009	Partners organizations, Consortium	Consortium, Advisory group, Steering Committee	Final strategic framework	Time resource of partners and consortium
Consolidation of selection of indicators by the consortium	6-17 April-2009	Participants of the workshop	Coordination Unit	Final draft of priority indicators to be provided by each of the 3 groups	
Communication and feedback strategy, system and products					
Elaboration of communication strategy, including products, diffusion, dates.	May – September 2009	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit	Communication strategy	Conditional to funding
Identification of the Observatory: logo, font, graphic, etc.	July – October 2009	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding
Creation of Website	September 2009 – December 2009		Coordination Unit	We-site	Conditional to funding

Review and validation of communication strategy and Website structure	March 2010	Partners organizations, Consortium	Consortium, Advisory group, Steering Committee		
Operation of web-site	April 2010 and beyond	Partners organizations, Focal points, NGOs, etc.	Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding and time resource
Draft structure of Observatory annual monitoring report.	September - October 2009		Coordination Unit		
Review of draft report	November 2009	Partners organizations			
Final report structure	December 2009	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit	Final structure of report	
First Observatory Progress report	December 2010	Partners organizations, Focal points, NGOs, etc.	Coordination Unit	First progress report	Adapted to funding
Printing and dissemination of report	February 2011				
Design of other Observatory products	September – December 2009	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding
Production of other products	Starting from June 2010	Partners organizations	Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding
Partnership					
Consolidation of partnership agreement and working conventions	April-June 2009	Partners organizations, Consortium	Coordination Unit/MedWet secretariat		
External consultation to review and validate Observatory strategy and tools	June 2010	Consultation	Coordination Unit	Consultant report	External reviewer of partners, Observatory structures and users.
II. Implementation activities					
M&A activities					
Site monitoring approach with selected indicators for quick feedback (2010) at Mediterranean level Including Funds raising and test of indicators	May 2009 – May 2011	Partners in the selected sites	Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding
Monitoring of priority indicators selected by the Observatory including collection of data	Starting from January 2010	Partners Organization, NGOs, Managers, researchers, Focal points	Coordination Unit		Adapted to funding
Data control, diagnosis, analysis and reporting of data and indicators including a workshop with organizations working at Mediterranean scale (Blue Plan, etc.).	March – September 2010	Partners organization	Coordination Unit		Adapted to funding
Review of draft report by partners	September-October 2010	Partners organization	Coordination Unit		Adapted to funding

		Advisory group			
Production and diffusion of first Observatory monitoring report	Starting from December 2010		Partners organization	First Observatory monitoring report	Adapted to funding
Preparation of a M&A manual to harmonize monitoring approach and methods based on preliminary monitoring activities started in November.	April – September 2010	Partners organization	Coordination Unit	M&A manual	Adapted to funding
Validation, printing and diffusion of manual	October-December 2010		Partners organization		Conditional to funding
M&A training when needed	After December 2010			Training module and training report.	Conditional to needs and funding
Internal annual Observatory performance report	December 2010, 2011 and 2012	Partners organization	Coordination Unit		
Special development themes (emerging and/or innovative) associated to Observatory					
Process of preparation of GlobWetlands II	April 2009 and beyond <i>To be discussed</i>	European Space Agency and partners organization	ESA and Coordination Unit		
Implementation of GlobWetlands II	<i>To be defined</i>				
Development of Mediterranean wetlands biodiversity database and related indicators on theme "status and trends of wetlands"	May 2009 and Beyond			Report, leaflet, article or web-site	Conditional to funding
Study on key interface between conservation and development programme at planning stage (Local development, Charts, etc.). Case studies in 3 countries (Europe, North Africa and Middle East).	April 2009 – October 2009		Master Student supervised by Coordination Unit	Report	
Research on citizen sciences and participatory monitoring schemes	May 2009 and beyond		Coordination Unit or supervised by Coordination Unit	Report, leaflet, article or web-site	Conditional to funding
Strategic surveillance and research on global policies relative to environment and indicators	May 2009 and beyond		Coordination Unit		Conditional to funding
Research, test and development of indicators such as Ecosystemic services	May 2009 and beyond		Coordination Unit or supervised by Coordination Unit	Report, leaflet, article or web-site	Conditional to funding
To prepare strategic development and resources beyond Grado +20					
To be done					