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**Reports of the:**

**1. Fifth workshop on International Waterbird Censuses in North Africa and**

**2. First workshop with the National IWC Coordinators of some Northern Mediterranean countries**

*15-16-17, September 2017, Tunis- Tunisia*

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**Under the aegis of:**



**Organised by :**

**Supported by :**



## LISTE OF PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of the IWC national coordinators of the five North African countries, attended the workshop:

Country (Alphabetical order)	Institution / Organisation	Representative
<b>Algeria</b>	Direction Générale des Forêts	Bendjedda Nadjiba
	Centre Cynégétique de Réghaia	Samir Mohamed Sayoud
<b>Egypt</b>	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs- Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency	Wed Abdel Latif Ibrahim Ayman Hamada
<b>Libya</b>	Environment General Authority	Mohamed Abubakera Abuzanin
	Université de Tripoli	Khaled Etayeb
<b>Morocco</b>	Institut Scientifique de Rabat / GREPOM GREPOM	Mohamed Dakki Asmaâ Ouassou
<b>Tunisia</b>	Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux"	Hichem Azafaf Claudia Feltrup-Azafaf
<b>France</b>	Institut de recherche de la Tour du Valat	Laura Dami Suet Marie
	Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage	Pierre Defos du Rau Jean-Yves Mondain-Monval
<b>Holland</b>	Wetlands International	Tom Langendoen

National coordinators from other 6 Mediterranean countries were invited for a huge meeting on the 16th and 17th September: Spain, France, Italy, Macedonia, Greece and Turkey. Unfortunately Greece couldn't attend the meeting but the national coordinator sent a presentation about IWC in Greece.

Country (Alphabetical order)	Institution / Organisation	Representative
<b>Espagne</b>	SEO/ BirdLife	Blas Molina
<b>France</b>	LPO Nationale	Clémence Gaudard
<b>Italie</b>	ISPRA	Marco Zenatello
<b>Macédonie</b>	Macedonian Ecological Society (MES)	Danka Uzunova
<b>Turquie</b>	Ornithological Research Center	Kiraz Erciyas Yavuz
<b>Grèce</b>	Hellenic Ornithological Society	Danae Portolou

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS IN THE TEXT

**AAO** : Association “les Amis des Oiseaux” (Tunisie)

**AEWA** : Accord sur la conservation des oiseaux d’eau migrateurs d’Afrique-Eurasie [African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement]

**CEPF** : Fonds de Partenariat pour les Ecosystèmes Critiques [Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund]

**GREPOM** : Groupe de Recherche et de Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc

**ISPRA** : Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale

**IWC**: International Waterbird Census

**LPO** : Ligue pour la protection des Oiseaux

**LSB** : Libyan Society for Birds

**MEEM** : Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Energie et de la Mer (précédent nom du ministère de l’Environnement en France)

**MES** : Macedonian Ecological Society

**METS** : Ministère de la Transition Ecologique et Solidaire (actuel nom du ministère de l’Environnement en France)

**MOP** : Réunion des Parties (de l’AEWA) [Meeting of the Parties]

**ONCFS** : Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage (France)

**ONG** : Organisation Non-Gouvernementale

**RAC/SPA**: Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas

**SEO** : Sociedad Española de Ornitología

**TDV**: Tour du Valat

**TSU** : Technical Support Unit (African Initiative of the AEWA)

**WI**: Wetlands International

## LIST OF ACTION POINTS (PARTS OF THE TEXT)

Action Point 1: To find a way of communicating that is quicker and livelier than e-mail, a survey was conducted on the most frequently used means of communication among the participants. WhatsApp and Skype tied as the most popular among the different users. To begin, a group will be set up on the two platforms to see the level of responsiveness on both of them. For that purpose, you should send your phone numbers to Laura so she can set up a WhatsApp group.

Action Point 2: A calendar was set up for writing the future scientific paper. This calendar will be shared with all of the members and partners will give feedback if they want to become part of the team working on writing the article.

Action Point 3: In order to add interesting co-variables for the issues analysed in the article, all North African partners agreed to send the list of names and dates of creation (salt works, dams, reservoirs, dykes, wastewater treatment lagoons) and/or destruction (drainage, filling-in) for all wetlands in the North African database.

Action Point 4: To share the bibliography of works needed to write this article, Laura will create a shared file on Zotero, which will enable research to be shared by all members in the group working on the article.

Action Point 5: North African partners are invited to send their bird count data for January 2016 and 2017 as soon as possible (for the article, to share with WI, and for the study on trends in the east-Atlantic flyways, within the framework of the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative).

Action Point 6: Laura or Marie will ask Christophe whether it is possible to get around the problem of double data entries (utilisation of the same type of data for different projects) -- the impossibility of having the same data item used by 2 different projects on the Medwaterbirds site.

Action Point 7: Laura or Marie will list for Christophe the types of syntheses requested for the Medwaterbirds site, and see with him which ones are possible.

Action Point 8: For the training in Tunisia, Laura and Hichem will redesign a new poster that will be sent to all partners to try to find participants that will pay for the participation in the training.

Action Point 9: All partners will be asked to send their 2017 counting data and data concerning the dates of creation (dams, reservoirs, dykes) and destruction of the sites in order to relaunch complete studies. In addition, we expect to receive 2017 data in the framework of studies for trends in the

east-Atlantic flyways for SOVON, which is working with Wetlands International on the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative.

Action Point 10: Samir, Claudia, and Laura are reading the new CEPF strategy and discussing possible projects to propose that are coherent with our network's operations and of course with the new CEPF strategy (for the choice of sites and species).

Action Point 11: Tunisia has been elected as the representative of the Mediterranean Waterbird Network for the North African group. Laura will include Hichem in all upcoming invitations/communications on the international meetings and/or conferences that are likely to be interesting for the network. Hichem will also be included in the group that receives invitations from the AEW Monitoring Partnership.<sup>1</sup>

Action Point 12: Mohamed Dakki will share his feasibility study with the other North African partners, concerning the creation of a scientific journal (as has been done for the Rabat Scientific Institute).

Action Point 13: Hichem will get information from the RAC/SPA on the feasibility of obtaining funding to create a unit for assisting with bird counts in Egypt and will keep Mr. Hamada posted on this issue.

Action Point 14: The partners have unanimously decided to begin working on counts of nesting colonial waterbirds. The next network workshop should take place at the TdV. It will enable participants to conduct bibliographic research on waterbird nesting in their countries (based on unpublished reports, mission reports, etc.). Laura will begin thinking about the appropriate period for organising the next workshop at the Tour du Valat, which is compatible with the schedules of the participants and of the Tour du Valat.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wetlands.org/publications/african-eurasian-waterbird-monitoring-partnership/>

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## Workshop report

### 1. Context reminder

#### 1.1. The IWC

The IWC constitutes a monitoring programme for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and wetlands. This scheme is an essential tool for the implementation of the AEWA and the Ramsar Convention on wetlands. The IWC is a simple and effective tool to estimate **trends in waterbird population numbers** and **evaluate the relative importance of wetlands** for biodiversity as a whole. It is one of the world's largest programmes for monitoring biodiversity.

#### 1.2. The Support programme to IWC in the Mediterranean Basin

In the Mediterranean Basin, an IWC Support Programme was initiated in 2012 by Tour du Valat, ONCFS and Wetlands International, with the support of the MEDDE and the MAVA Foundation. This programme aims to **improve the spatial coverage and the overall quality of waterbird monitoring** and wetland conservation by creating synergies between existing programmes, by strengthening national networks of observers and by completing wetlands inventories.

This program aims at covering all the Mediterranean countries, but in the first instance, it focused on the countries of southern Mediterranean. **North Africa** has indeed a great role to play in this Mediterranean programme, but also in the AEWA **African Initiative** and its **Plan of Action for Africa**<sup>2</sup> (2012-2017) adopted at the AEWA MOP 5 (La Rochelle, France, May 2012).



A 1<sup>st</sup> **regional workshop on the IWC in North Africa** was held in Tunis (Tunisia) in October 2012 with representatives of governments, NGOs and universities from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. Capacity building of national networks, training of observers, data sharing, as well as a better use of IWC for the management and conservation of wetlands were discussed. This workshop resulted in the creation of the "**Mediterranean Waterbird**" network.



As a follow-up to this initiative, a 2<sup>nd</sup> **regional workshop on IWC in North Africa** was held in El Kala (Algeria) in June 2013 with representatives of governments, NGOs and universities from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. The 1<sup>st</sup> part of the workshop focused on recent developments in training for trainers with the presentation of existing tools. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the workshop was devoted to the **meeting of the "North Africa" sub-region** for the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa.

Under the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, a **TSU was created at the initiative of France to strengthen the implementation of the African Initiative for the period 2013-2015**. At the request of the MEDDE, Tour du Valat co-hosts this TSU with ONCFS. Its main objective is to develop and sustain technical support of France to the African Initiative until the MOP6 (2015) by helping African Parties to implement the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa.

This is the report of the **fifth IWC-Med workshop with North African partners**, the Tour du Valat and the National Office of Hunting and Wildlife (ONCFS). This is also **the first workshop with other north Mediterranean countries**. This year the workshop was held in Tunisia for technical and

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/africaninitiative/publication/index.htm>

administrative reasons: the organisation of the workshop in Tunisia allowed to Moroccan and French (TdV and ONCFS) partners to work together on the next scientific article and also de travailler au calme sur la préparation du prochain article scientifiques ainsi que de permettre à tous les partenaires de se rendre à l'atelier sans trop de problèmes de visa.

## **2. Fifth IWC-Med workshop in North Africa**

This year the IWC-Med workshop was held for one day in North Africa, after three days of working on the next scientific article by the network, which will be overseen this time by our partners from Morocco. This workshop enabled us to collect feedback on the studies needed to make use of this database while taking account of the particularly acute problem of the great amount of missing data.

After a word of welcome from the hosts and the workshop organisers (Directorate General of Forests, Tunisia, Friends of Birds Association (AAO/BirdLife Tunisia), Tour du Valat (TdV), and the National Office for Hunting and Wildlife (ONCFS--France), the workshop focused on the following subjects:

- network achievements since the last meeting in October 2016;
- the results of the discussions from the three days of working on the next scientific article;
- discussion on the state of progress of the Medwaterbirds website and the modifications to be made to it;
- discussions on the future prospects of the network;
- various other issues

### ***2.1. Achievements of the Mediterranean Waterbird Network (MWN)***

A short presentation to describe the activities conducted since the last workshop in October 2016:

- The network provided support for a fourth bird counting training course, held in Tunisia, in which two Algerians participated who were not able to obtain funding from the MWN for Total counts. The other countries received economic aid to conduct Total counts in order to cover more counting sites;
- A brochure concerning the achievements of the MWN was designed, created, and printed in three languages (French, Arabic, and English);
- The network and its activities were presented at 2 international conferences this year: one presentation at International Waterbirds and Wetlands Days in Morocco (Khenifra) and a poster presented at the 33rd Congress of the International Union of Game Biologists in Montpellier, France, at which other Mediterranean countries were present to discuss the quality of the waterbird censuses on Ramsar and non-Ramsar sites in the Mediterranean;

- Two steering and coordination committee meetings were held with the French Ministry of the Environment and Wetlands International (WI) ;
- Three potential funding projects were evaluated: one of these projects would combine the work of the MWN with that of the Alliance ([http://www.tourduvalat.org/fr/actualites/vers\\_une\\_alliance\\_pour\\_les\\_zones\\_humides\\_de\\_mediterranee](http://www.tourduvalat.org/fr/actualites/vers_une_alliance_pour_les_zones_humides_de_mediterranee)), another in partnership with the TOTAL Foundation, would help us complete an annual workshop, and the third would entail research on colonial waterbirds with potential funding from the LIFE project. This final project would permit the extension of infrastructure construction and the monitoring conducted within the framework of a French Mediterranean LIFE project that concerns Charadriiforme species in order to improve the breeding and the viability of the species concerned. It is still in the phase of an in-house feasibility study, and will be discussed with BirdLife before initiating contacts with potential partners to think about the actions to carry out, the sites to include and the budget to establish.
- *NOTE: Claudia reminded us of the possibility of obtaining funding from the CEPF, which should become possible this year because the strategy is finally available on their site. She has proposed that a collaborative work group should study this document to reflect on a possible project to submit as soon as the call for projects is open. She also pointed out that it would be useful to have a more lively communication (via WhatsApp, Skype...) to provide regular updates concerning the different partners.*
- ***Action Point 1: A sheet of paper was passed around the room to vote on the means of communication that is the most popular among the participants. WhatsApp and Skype were equally popular among the different participants. Initially, a group will be set up on both platforms to see which one is more fluid for information exchange. For that purpose, it would be useful to send your telephone numbers to Laura so she can set up a WhatsApp group.***
- Since the last meeting, the analysis work for the next scientific article has advanced in different but complementary ways. The ONCFS/TDV team has invested a great deal of energy in gathering the covariables to enter in the analyses: this huge job of gathering and formatting these new data was conducted in particular by Marie Suet. On the other hand, the first studies were completed in Morocco on the national trends in this country, in order to be able to compare them with international trends, and also to be able to focus attention on specific points of certain species. In addition, given the major issue of missing data in this data set, which is nonetheless very rich, it was necessary to look into statistical methods that are adapted to this issue, or new ones that are capable of coping with these missing data. Pierre attended several specific training courses for that purpose, and will be presenting the main issues to address to our North African partners.

## **2.2. *Second scientific article***

The three days spent working on the scientific article gave the representatives of the GREPOM, the TDV, and the ONCFS the opportunity to present the work each team conducted during the year and to reflect together on the next actions to conduct in order to finalise this article.

Mohamed Dakki has drawn up a detailed outline of the paragraphs to be written and a calendar has been created in concertation so as to share the different tasks among the members of this work group (Annex 2). Other partners can also join a work group in order to revise and/or help to draft a particular paragraph.

***Action Point 2: the calendar will be shared with all members and the partners will give feedback if they want to be included in a writing team.***

Asmaâ and Mohamed also worked a great deal on a study of species trends in Morocco. Their study highlights certain trends that are very different than international trends.

Marie and Pierre worked a great deal to gather the covariables to be used at the North African scale to try to explain the trends observed. These covariables include the weather in North Africa, but also in northern Europe.

Pierre worked a great deal on the future analyses that should be conducted on our common database, in which approximately 70% of the data is missing. This type of data is very 'tricky' to handle, but can be more or less taken account of in four large families of models to test out on all of the data:

1. Generalised linear and additive models (GLMs & GAMs)
2. TRIM software (one allocation per missing data item with a deterministic model)
3. Multiple allocation based on ACP (on average 100 different allocations for the same missing value)
4. A Bayesian space/state type model (Bayesian prediction of a population in year  $t$ , based on the population in year  $t-1$ ).

Applying these 4 models could confirm the estimates if there is convergence toward the same result for the same species and in this way strengthen the conclusions.

A test is being conducted for the White-headed Duck. Unfortunately, there are too many values missing (NA), which makes it impossible for TRIM to function for this species. Two other models show a similar positive linear trend for the North African populations of this species as of 1995. No available variable seems to explain this positive trend. After discussions with the team, in order to reduce the amount of missing data, it seems necessary to include other variables, such as the dates the existing artificial bodies of water (dams, reservoirs, dykes) were created and the ones that were destroyed and have disappeared. It is indeed vital to make a distinction between the definite absence of birds (because the site did not yet exist or had been destroyed) and the absence of counting (possibility that there may have been birds).

***Action Point 3: ask all partners to send the list of the names and dates of creation (dams, reservoirs, dykes) and/or destruction (draining, destruction) of wetlands so they can be included in future studies.***

***Action Point 4: to share the bibliography needed to write this article, Laura will create a shared file on Zotero, so that all of the members in the group working on this article can share resources.***

It was also concluded that it is crucial to add to the database the 2016 and 2017 counting data (which are also the data for the *Total counts*) before relaunching the analyses. It was therefore decided to reiterate our request for this data to our partners and also to include meteorological data concerning

these years. That will make the data set used more consistent, and will re-update the trends up to the final counts conducted during the study period, which would be original and an added value compared to international reports, which are generally distributed three years after the fact.

**Action Point 5: the North African partners will be invited to send their January 2017 counting data as soon as possible.**

### 2.3. Medwaterbirds: news, discussions

Marie Suet summed up the use of Medwaterbirds by the partners since the last workshop in order to discuss the difficulties identified as well as any changes and/or improvements that could be made to the system. One of the difficulties characterising this data entry system is the impossibility of entering the same data item in 2 different projects.

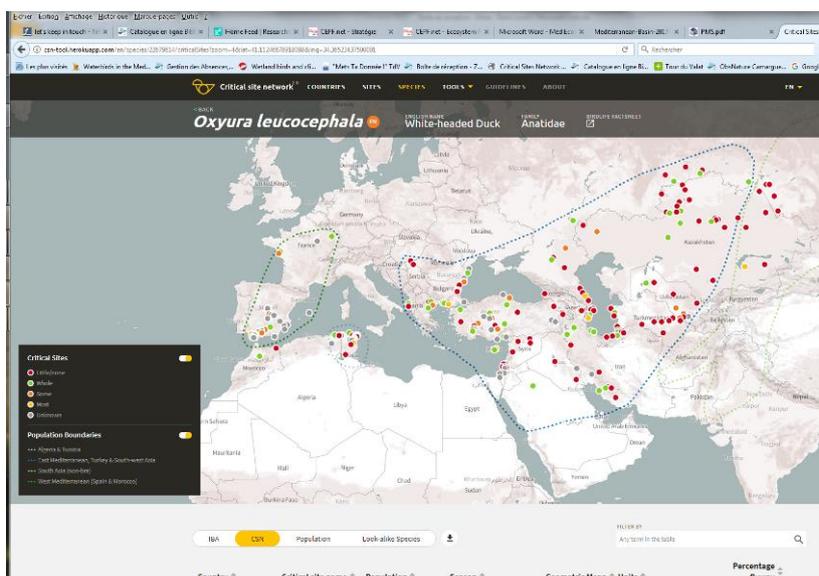
**Action Point 6: Laura or Marie will ask Christophe if it is possible to get around the problem linked to the impossibility of having the same data item integrated into two different projects.**

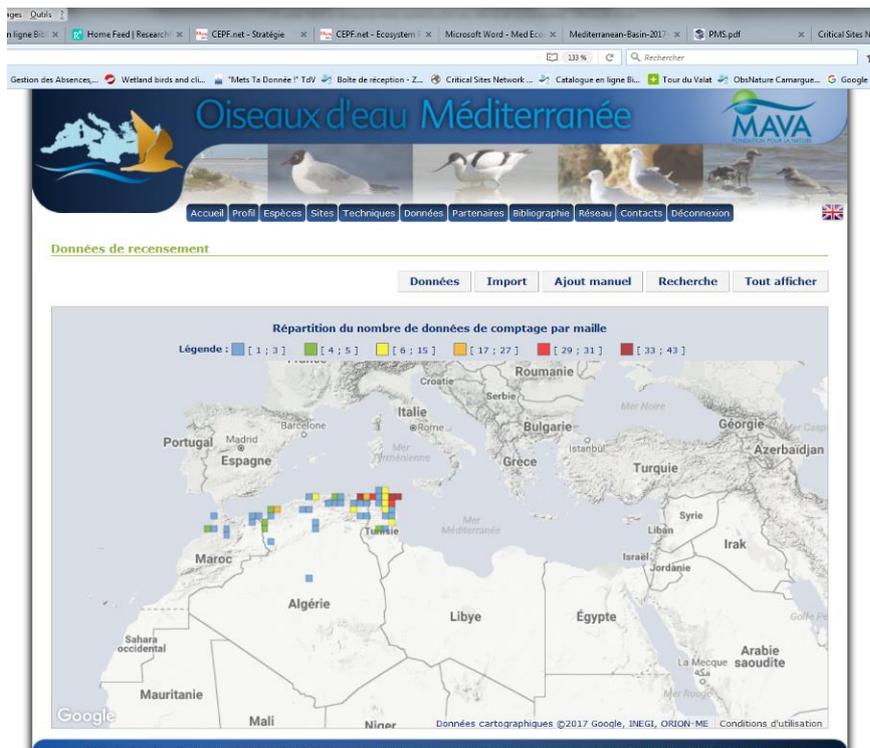
A reminder was given that data entry on the Medwaterbirds platform must be performed by the partners themselves because this tool is intended to be used by them for their national needs. Such use also helps to test out the tool and give feedback to the TdV concerning difficulties encountered and/or changes to be made to it.

Laura and Marie will present a list of syntheses that will make Medwaterbirds more useful for the Mediterranean partners: yearly trends for species; sites visited each year, and for each category; bird populations observed by family, number of birdwatchers per year and per site; integrating the species status in the species identification sheet.

**Action Point 7: Laura or Marie will list for Christophe the types of syntheses requested and will see with him which ones are possible.**

A test on the data available for the White-headed Duck enables us to see its distribution on the Medwaterbirds site and the CSN Tool, and shows that the national data for North African countries is more accurate on the Medwaterbirds site.





## 2.4. Future prospects for the network and discussions on various points

The key points in MWN activities were examined: training, updating the database, publications, fund-seeking.

The network would like to continue supporting training in the identification and counting of waterbirds in Tunisia for at least two people from each country. The idea developed since last year by the TdV and AAO is to try to make this training as autonomous as possible in terms of funding. To that effect, last year we made an information brochure that could be distributed in universities, institutional organisations, and associations, in order to motivate individuals to participate by covering their enrolment fees (for instance, through student scholarships and/or training paid for by their employer). These training courses are taught by experienced ornithologists (from Tunisia and the Tour du Valat) and thus a fee should be charged for them. This year there is still a budget to fund the training, but this funding will probably not be long term. It is therefore important to make a new poster and to try this approach again so that in the long term this training can be self-financed.

***Action Point 8: Laura and Hichem are working on a new poster that will be sent to all partners to try to find participants able to pay for their own participation in this training.***

Work on the scientific article will be a predominant activity this year, so that a draft can be submitted before the end of 2018.

***Action Point 9: all partners will be asked to share their data on the dates of creation and destruction of sites (dams, reservoirs, dykes) so that complete analyses can be relaunched. In addition, 2017 data must be submitted in the framework of their studies on trends in flyways conducted by SOVON with the assistance of Wetlands International for the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative.***

The possibility of developing a project on colonial waterbirds in the Mediterranean will be evaluated in 2018, so that it can be submitted to a potential funder (LIFE or other funding). This project will be developed as much as possible in co-participation with BirdLife within the framework of the 'Overarching Saltpans' projects. Any fund-seeking operations concerning colonial waterbirds in the Mediterranean will only be possible and credible if a review of scientific knowledge can be established on a shared platform so as to create and illustrate arguments that are convincing for the funders. The initial phase of such a project would be for the national MWN coordinators and their teams to immediately engage in entering on the Medwaterbird site data that exists for North Africa and finding the references of all recent and past bibliographic documents that may contain such data for their countries. These documents could then be found at the Tour du Valat library during the next workshop in 2018.

In the framework of future CEPF funding, a proposition that is consistent with the new strategy must be formulated. A small work group including Samir, Claudia, and Laura has been created to read the strategy and study the possible projects to propose. Because of the excessive amount of work she has, Laura may not be available to draft this CEPF project proposal.

***Action Point 10: Samir, Claudia, and Laura will read the new strategy and discuss the possible projects to propose with the network, making sure they are consistent with the new CEPF strategy (for the choice of sites and species).***

The need to be represented at various international meetings and on international organisations was expressed by the North African countries. A representative and a vice-representative were elected for two years. Tunisia is the official representative for the first period (Hichem Azafzaf) and the vice-representative will be from Libya (Khaled Etayeb). After two years, Khaled will replace Hichem, and Egypt (Wed abdou) will become the vice-representative. Then Morocco will take on the role of representative, and finally Algeria.

***Action Point 11: Laura will include Hichem in all future invitations/communications about international meetings and/or conferences, likely to be of interest to the network. Hichem will also be sent invitations pertaining to the AEW Monitoring Partnership group.***

A discussion took place between the partners on the future of the Bulletin du Réseau. The problem is the lack of time to relaunch this Bulletin, which was abandoned at the end of 2013 due to the departure of Anne-Laure. It will not be possible to maintain it in the initial format as a publication including several scientific articles, because that would require too much time in terms of finding articles, and reading and editing them. The last format, which was approved two years ago, would be to publish one scientific article, and abstracts of other scientific articles concerning Mediterranean waterbirds and wetlands. Abdelkrim Si Bachir's attempt to produce such a format has not yet come to fruition. After discussion, it seems to be easier to produce a 'lighter' version in the form of a Newsletter, which would include information concerning the partners and their activities. This format seems to be easier to relaunch, and if the occasion should arise it could also include articles and/or abstracts of scientific articles once a certain number of issues have been published. We then discussed the possibility of publishing a science journal: this journal would enable students who are having a hard time publishing their work find an outlet for their research. This discussion, which was also continued in a smaller circle the following morning, resulted in the idea of conducting a feasibility study for this journal.

***Action Point 12: Mohamed Dakki will send the feasibility study that had been completed for the Rabat Scientific Institute to the other North African partners. Neither the TdV nor the TSU can spend time working on this Action Point.***

The regional workshop with the North African partners came to an end, with everyone anticipating the arrival of other partners from the northern shore of the Mediterranean for the next two-day gathering.

### **3. The first MWN-MED workshop for the Mediterranean**

For the first time, it was possible to include other countries from the Mediterranean besides Italy, which has been linked to the network for years. The participation of five other countries enabled us to discuss the common interests and benefits of working at the pan-Mediterranean scale. Most of the Mediterranean countries had already been asked to contribute to the poster that compares the censuses of waterbirds in Ramsar and non-Ramsar sites in the Region. Most of the countries that responded to this request expressed an interest in participating in activities organised by the network. Due to budget as well as logistical constraints, it was not possible to invite all the countries to this workshop. The invitations were made in function of the geographic location of the countries, so as to have at least two countries from the eastern Mediterranean, two from the western Mediterranean and two from the centre for the northern Mediterranean.

Six countries were thus invited to this workshop: Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Macedonia, and Turkey. Only Greece was unable to participate in the two-day meeting held in Tunis. The Greek representative participated nonetheless by sending a presentation on the current state of IWCs in Greece and expressing its interest to work with the MWN.

All of the other countries presented the state of progress and the national coordination for their IWCs. The North African countries, which are the initial partners of the MWN, underlined the advances they have made since being integrated into the network, while the other countries highlighted their expectations vis-à-vis this kind of relationship.

***Important: the presentations made by the different countries are summed up very briefly in this text, because they can be consulted in their full version via the following Dropbox link, where this report can also be found: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wb0p4fq0m7cz3xs/AADnwrrMsPX7qb3HblpEWOERa?dl=0>***

#### **3.1. Presentation of the Mediterranean Waterbird Network**

The presentation of the MWN introduced the historical reasons that led to its creation. A brief description of the activities carried out by the Network since its creation includes the following capacity building tools for censuses and/or data entry and management:

- an ornithological field guide in Arabic;
- a training CD for trainers;
- several training courses led by an ornithologist from the Tour du Valat and one or two ornithologists from the AAO/BirdLife in Tunisia;
- a platform for sharing tools and data ([www.medwaterbirds.net](http://www.medwaterbirds.net));
- CEPF funding for local capacity building;

- a scientific article that has already been published and another one that is being drafted;
- several international presentations on the MWN, and a recent poster session, comparing IWCs on Ramsar and non-Ramsar sites at the Mediterranean scale, with the collaboration of the NCs of the different countries;
- two awareness raising brochures to increase the notoriety of the network;

The MWN is also striving to mobilise the funding needed to support and develop IWCs and their coordination.

### **3.2. Presentation of the Medwaterbirds platform (Tutorial in annex 2)**

The contents and utilisation of the data management platform (for IWCs and/or other uses, such as data on breeding colonies), which are located on the Medwaterbirds site (<http://www.medwaterbirds.net/datacounts.php>), were presented. We discussed the ways for successfully exploiting the data found on the platform and the usefulness of this platform compared to others.

The example of the White-headed Duck enabled us to show how effective the Medwaterbird platform is because it presents the most up to date and comprehensive data map for the species (compared to the CSN tool (<http://csn-tool.herokuapp.com/en/threshold-lookup>)). This difference in data entry and in the type of display between Medwaterbirds and the CSN Tool can be explained in particular due to the fact that the national coordinators have an independent national mirror, which enables them to centralise and update their national data directly at the international level and to share them if they so desire.

## **Presentation of IWCs in North Africa**

**Algeria** (Nadjiba Bendjeda, Directorate General of Forests (Algeria); Samir Sayoud, Reghaia hunting centre)

The national coordinators of IWCs in Algeria described the issues as well as the results for 2017. Conducted in a vast territory where the distance between the sites is significant, IWCs in Algeria rely on a national network in which there are many people including professional birdwatchers, but also a great number of volunteers. In 2017, it was not possible to reach the southernmost sites due to technical difficulties. The results at the national scale show a trend that is generally positive for the number of waterbirds since 1971.



**Morocco** (Mohamed Dakki, Rabat Scientific Institute and GREPOM, Asmaâ Ouassou, GREPOM)

After a general introduction concerning how the GREPOM functions, M. Dakki drew attention to the importance of the existence of the MWN in terms of helping the national network in Morocco, which has been experiencing a drop in activities and motivation. The discovery of a regional dynamic and financial assistance has made it possible to re-



motivate a small group of people faithful to this project and to develop a network of new birdwatchers who can be invited to the training courses.

**Tunisia** (Hichem Azafzaf from the Association des Amis des Oiseaux/BirdLife Tunisia)

The 2017 IWCs were able to cover a greater number of sites, thanks to support from the MWN (financial support and technical support through training). The issue of counting roosts for certain species was raised, particularly for Common cranes and cormorants. WI has not requested a specific effort for these species. According to Clémence Gaudard, there is specific counting of roosts in France every three years: a solution that could also be envisaged for Tunisia.



**Libya** (Khaled Etayeb, University of Tripoli and Libyan Society for Birds)

In Libya, it has been very beneficial to work with other countries to develop projects such as the CEPF, which have made it possible to include other people (and also women!) in the censuses. It was thus possible to create a national network around a group of ornithologists, which has subsequently grown and become independent vis-à-vis the contributions of foreign experts. The optical material and financial assistance provided by the MWN are a major form of support for IWCs in Libya.



**Egypt** (Wed Abdou Latif Ibrahim, Egyptian Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs)

In Egypt, there are vast wetlands that are difficult to monitor due to their large size (e.g., Lake Nasser). Very few people are currently involved in IWCs and without the intervention of the MWN and similar organisations (RESSOURCE, SPOVAN), it would be nearly impossible to continue these counts with an adequate number of birdwatchers. The national network is expanding, but at the current time it is not supported by local authorities.

Hichem Azafzaf drew attention to the major interest there would be in setting up a small network of foreign experts who could help to conduct an initial census of the total waterbird populations (as had been done in Libya between 2005 and 2010). It would then be necessary to organise training sessions that are more focused on Egypt in order to increase the number of Egyptian birdwatchers capable of participating in IWCs. He suggested the possibility of having this action funded by the RAC/SPA via a request aiming in particular to improve knowledge about the species listed in the Barcelona Directive.



**Action Point 13:** *Hichem will obtain information from the RAC/SPA concerning the feasibility of such a request and will keep Mr. Ayman Hamada informed on the possibility of asking the RAC/SPA for financial assistance to set up an international team for the Egyptian bird censuses.*

### 3.3. *Presentation of the IWCs in northern Mediterranean countries*

#### *Spain* (Blas Molina, SEO/BirdLife)

There are numerous wetlands in Spain (approximately 1500) and many professionals and volunteers are involved in the censuses, which are often organised locally. This local organisation complicates the coordination at the national scale, and SEO/BirdLife is unable to centralise all the information. As a result, some sites are no longer surveyed. In addition, the Spanish Ministry of the Environment stopped its censuses in 2009. All of the 2010-2017 data must still be sent to WI.

Blas drew attention to the importance of studying species at the regional level and understanding the trends at the Mediterranean scale to better comprehend the movements of species between countries. In Spain, there seems to be an increase in the number of species that used to be more typical of North Africa. National IWC data are used for the comprehensive reports that are published as atlases (of nesting and wintering birds).



#### *France* (Clémence Gaudard, LPO France)

IWCs in France are managed locally, at the Departmental and/or Regional level, with many volunteers (approximately 1500). Every two years, the national coordination team brings together the regional coordinators. A synthesis is published every year. The problems encountered are especially linked to a delay in the compilation of data. It would be interesting to work with other international networks to carry out studies at the regional scale or at the flyway scale. In addition, other ideas, such as the creation of an atlas at the Mediterranean scale, could be successfully implemented and promoted by means of international cooperation.



#### *Italy* (Marco Zenatello, ISPRA)

IWCs in Italy are carried out on the basis of counting units as well as functional ecological units (determined according to Ramsar criteria). 752 of the 2101 sites were covered during the IWCs. Only the counts conducted by people who passed a counting aptitude test are included in the database. There is a major problem due to a delay in centralising the data, and often even the syntheses of 5 years of counting data do not include all of the data of the years concerned. The funding for the IWCs used to come from the Regional government, but today it is less regular and varies from one Region to another with obvious consequences on the quality of the counts. The Venice lagoon is one of the largest wetlands in Italy, and it is used by the greatest number of waterbirds. The managers of the hunting areas on this site regularly distribute bait (to improve hunting opportunities), which has greatly increased the abundance of species that are now highly concentrated in this wetland. One of the problems raised concerns the geographic representation of the sites: many of the sites are only georeferenced by their centroid, even vast sites such as rivers, and only 50% of the sites are represented by polygons.



### *Macedonia* (Danka Uzunova, ISPRA)

IWCs have been conducted every year since 2010, but with only 4 experienced ornithologists, who have been helped by volunteers. These censuses have constantly improved since 2010. Macedonia is located at the boundary between continental and Mediterranean climates, and not all of the waterbirds found in other more typically Mediterranean countries can be found there, which is also due to the rather high altitude of the country. Logistically speaking, it is not complicated to centralise the data, but there is a major interest in benefitting from the experiences of the other countries as well as in participating in the joint studies conducted at the regional scale. The current challenge is to increase the number of participants taking part in the censuses.



### *Turkey* (Kiraz Ercyaz, Ornithological Research Center)

Bird census training courses are held every year. The national network of bird counters includes over 170 people for 120 sites. In addition, a site importance ranking, based on bird count feasibility criteria, lists the 15 most important sites. The counting network was taken over in 2011 by the Ornithological Research Center, which made contact with the previous institution that coordinated the censuses and some volunteers who had stopped sending their data. This network is currently developing a closer relationship with volunteers and associations.



### *Greece* (Danae Portolou, Hellenic Ornithological Society)

There is a good counting dynamic in Greece, where an effective data entry system has been set up with sites that are subdivided into sub-sites and of which boundaries are imaged. The organisation of the censuses relies entirely on the HOS, which has observed a general decrease in the level of participation of the volunteers due to economic problems. As a result, the HOS is obliged to find funding and staff time so it can produce studies that are more attractive for those who participate in the censuses.

## **3.4. Presentation of the initial results of CSR7 3** (Tom Langendoen, Wetlands International)

The studies of trends conducted through IWCs in the framework of the CSR have highlighted remarkable changes for some species due to the contribution of the North African data, which have been integrated into WI's general database since December 2016 thanks to the assistance of all MWN partners. This major result has made it possible to update their status based on a more

<sup>3</sup> The species conservation status report (CSR) is principally used to update Table 1 in the AEWA Action Plan. In this table, AEWA species are listed and ranked, which determines their official protection status in the countries that are parties to the AEWA. The modification of the table is examined, discussed, and then finally adopted at each meeting of the AEWA contracting parties (approximately every 3 years). This CSR uses different sources of information to determine the conservation status, such as the results of IWCs.

complete data set. For example, Morocco and Egypt played a dominant role in the study of this trend, particularly for the Kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*). In the future, we must be able to include the history of the sites (their construction/destruction), as well as their spatial relationship (presence or absence of parent sites), and conduct annual studies if more rapid feedback from the coordinators is possible.



This result presented by WI is of major significance for the MWN, because it justifies and validates the work that has been carried out for several years by North African countries to update their databases with support from the TdV and the ONCFS. As WI has clearly demonstrated in the soon to be published CSR7, the North African data greatly influence the trends and estimations of population sizes for some species, including threatened species. It is therefore of crucial importance that North African countries and the MWN continue working together and participating in the world IWC programme. Likewise, the Medwaterbird database is a powerful and user-friendly tool that can facilitate the **annual** transfer of national counting data established in mid-January to WI.

### 3.5. Discussion and conclusions

The various discussions focused on the common interest of conducting studies at the scale of the Mediterranean region and of sharing experiences and capacities with the other partners.

*This point has now been added to the objectives and purposes of the Mediterranean part of the Network.*

The countries that would also like to include their census data on the Medwaterbirds website, can do so, and should contact the MWN team if they require any technical support. A mini guide for helping enter the data has been drafted (annex 2), which can be used initially to try to enter the data.



Other points were added to the discussions:

- a presentation of the new anti-poaching platform created by AAO/BirdLife Tunisia, with support from BirdLife, which is now active and functional (<http://www.stop-braconnage.com/>)

During the discussions and exchanges concerning the future of the network and the new collaborative projects linking southern and northern Mediterranean countries, the idea emerged of working together on a project for sharing data on colonial waterbirds in order to create a shared database. This new project could be set up during a joint work session at an upcoming workshop. This workshop would include some time for doing bibliographic research in the TdV's remarkable ornithology library, and then entering the data found on the Medwaterbirds platform. This idea was generally approved. This project would also give the participants the chance to discuss with other scientists at the TdV and in similar organisations.



***Action Point 14: Laura will start thinking about a good time to organise the next workshop at the Tour du Valat that is compatible with the calendars of the participants and the Tour du Valat.***



## 4. Discovery outings

We spent some nice moments together at the hotel, and also in other places where we visited sites that are very interesting from historical and/or environmental points of view.

The Dam Khairat, a wetland gem, rich in waterbird species, including White-headed Ducks and Marbled teal.

The Berber village of Takrouna, where we tasted delicious bread (*tabounas*) with very good olive oil and small, delicious olives.

For those of us who remained a bit longer, other beautiful outings, excursions and discoveries of landscapes gave us the chance to share very enjoyable moments together. Big thanks to the entire team of the AAO/BirdLife Tunisia for having organised such a fun and interesting workshop.





*Thanks to the whole team at the AAO for having organised everything so well, for all of your kind actions during our stay, and for having helped us to discover magnificent places!*

*Thanks to all of the partners for your active collaboration and participation and the enthusiasm you expressed!*

*I really look forward to seeing you and working with you again!*



## Annexe1

*Work plan for the scientific article on North African trends : do not hesitate to join a group to revise a chapter !*

Chapters	Coordinateurs	Agenda														
		oct-17	nov-17	déc-17	janv-18	févr-18	mars-18	avr-18	mai-18	juin-18	juil-18	août-18	sept-18	oct-18	nov-18	déc-18
Analyses	Mohamed – <b>Pierre</b> +						X	X	X	X						
Introduction	Jean-Yves, <b>Laura</b> , Mohamed, Asmaâ +													X		
Matériel (providing data)	<b>Marie</b>				X	X	X									
Methods	<b>Pierre</b> & Mohamed +							X	X	X	X					
Results	Pierre, <b>Mohamed</b> , Jean-Yves, <b>Asmaâ</b> , Laura +									X	X	X				
Discussion	Pierre, Mohamed, <b>Jean-Yves</b> , Asmaâ, (Marie), Clémence & Laura +												X	X		
Conclusion	<b>Pierre</b> , <b>Mohamed</b> , Jean-Yves, Asmaâ, (Marie), Clémence & Laura +													X		
References	Asmaâ, (Marie) & <b>Laura</b> +			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Translation/Review/shaped/Submission	Pierre, Mohamed, <b>Laura</b> , <b>Asmaâ</b> +													X	X	X



## Annex 2

# MedWaterBirds

## *Tutorial*

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## I. Inscription

In MedWaterbirds.org, you need to register to access the data viewing, importing, or exporting. Otherwise, if you go to the "Data" menu then "Censuses", a message appears in red: "More tools like data access and export are available".

If you don't have an account yet, you need to create one. Click on "Login" and "Not yet registered? Click here...".



Home Login Species Sites Techniques Data Partners Bibliography Network Contacts

**Login to your account**

User:

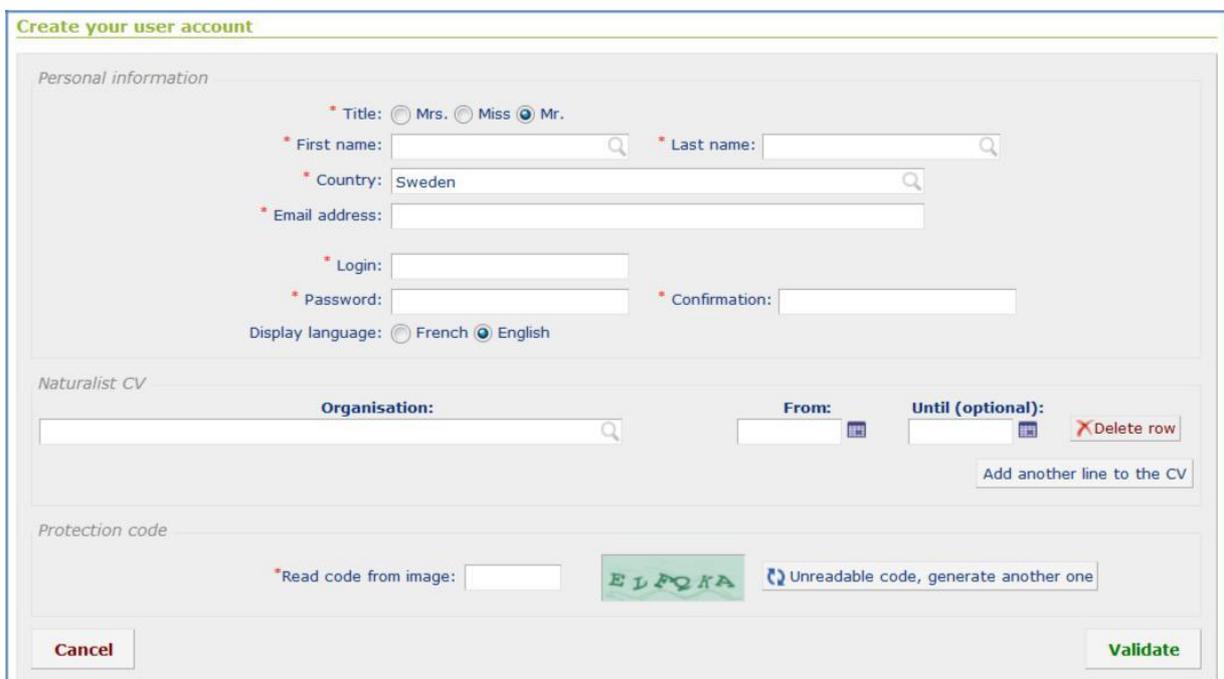
Password:

Login

Not yet registered? Click here...

Forgot your password? Click here...

Then, fill in the order information required.



**Create your user account**

*Personal information*

\* Title:  Mrs.  Miss  Mr.

\* First name:  \* Last name:

\* Country: Sweden

\* Email address:

\* Login:

\* Password:  \* Confirmation:

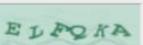
Display language:  French  English

*Naturalist CV*

**Organisation:**

**From:**  **Until (optional):**

*Protection code*

\* Read code from image:  



### III. Project creation

The waterbird data integrated into the website are each linked to **a project**.

The project allows you to manage the visualization, the export and the import of the data associated with it, making it possible to fix limits to its diffusion. For example, all data related to IWC (International Waterbird Censuses) in Libya are reunited into a single project, "Official IWC-LIBYA", with specific rights.

**Note:** when you want to add data to MedWaterbirds.org, you first need to know if it could not be added to an existing project. For example, in the case of wintering waterbird data in North Africa, 5 projects already exist on MedWaterbirds.org. In case you want to integrate IWC (International Waterbird Censuses) data with the projects related to these 5 countries, you **do not need to create a new project (risk of creating duplicates)**, go directly to part IV: **Data imports**.

#### How to create a project

In order to access the projects, you need to go in Data=> Projects, on the MedWaterBirds.org main page.



You are now on the general project page, where you can see what projects are available on the site and the rights you have for these projects.

6 projects found

[New project...](#)

Projects for which you have rights					
Title	Manager	Concerned data	Your rights	Data use	Edited on
Public personal data	Christophe Germain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Censuses</li> <li>Breeding surveys</li> </ul>			01/10/2016 13:20



To create a new project, click on "New project..." at the top right of the page. Then enter the title of the new project, its description, and set the members who will have access to it.

English
 French
 Spanish
 Italian
 Arabic

Title: IWC Tunisia

Description: test

---

Concerned data:  Censuses  Breeding surveys  Bandings

Partners involved: Tour du Valat ✗  
 Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux" ✗  
 Search and select a partner:

Members of the project and their rights:	Members	View	Input	Export
	All members of MedWaterBirds.net	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Marie Suet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Claudia Feltrup-Azafzaf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Search and select a member: claudi

Use, dissemination of data by members of the project:

No, except as part of an agreement between the parties, or except my express agreement

Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the charter

Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the free 'Creative Commons' license

You can choose between two options concerning the members:

Assign the same rights to all project members **OR** give specific rights to each new member:

only data visualization, data input and visualization or visualization, data input and export.

Members of the project and their rights:	Members	View	Input	Export
	All members of MedWaterBirds.net	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Marie Suet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Claudia Feltrup-Azafzaf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Search and select a member:

Each new member of the established project will receive a message beginning with: " You receive this message as part of the project entitled (...)"

Small icons activate or deactivate according to the rights : 

**Note:** meaning of the colours used for the icons describing the rights:

- I.** Rights activated, terms and conditions for data use accepted
- J.** Rights not activated, terms and conditions of data use refused
- K.** Rights not activated, terms and conditions of data use not read
- L.** Rights activated or not according to the persons, it depends if the terms and conditions for data use have been accepted or not

## Types of data use

You have the choice between 3 types of use/dissemination of data to choose



**No, except as part of an agreement between the parties, or unless the express consent of the project manager<sup>1</sup>:**

Access to the data is done by means of a signature of a document (for exemple a charter), or an agreement between the parties. If it's a charter, the the members of the project can't visualize it on the website, it is exchanged and signed between people privately.

First, the project manager elects members of his project, without assigning their rights. Then, if they have signed the document or if he agreed with them, he can change the rights of each member (for example, once the charter signed or the agreement given, he may assign the export rights to a member).

Use, dissemination of data by members of the project:  No, except as part of an agreement between the parties, or except my express agreement  
 Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the charter  
 Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the free 'Creative Commons' license



**Yes, without the project manager consent and under the conditions of the charter of use:**

The project charter is visible to all project members. Members have access to the data **only if they accept the terms and conditions of use stipulated in the pdf document.**

Use, dissemination of data by members of the project:  No, except as part of an agreement between the parties, or except my express agreement  
 Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the charter  
 Yes, without my consent but under terms and conditions of the free 'Creative Commons' license

Charter (pdf): 	Parcourir...	Aucun fichier sélectionné.
	Parcourir...	Aucun fichier sélectionné.
	Parcourir...	Aucun fichier sélectionné.
	Parcourir...	Aucun fichier sélectionné.
	Parcourir...	Aucun fichier sélectionné.

Once the terms accepted, the rights of the member (viewing, visualization and data input or visualization, data input and export) are automatically activated, without the consent of the project manager.

=> Example: you authorize a member to capture and export data. The user will have access to these rights only if he accepts the terms and conditions of the charter.

**Note :** a member may change his mind and finally reject the terms and conditions (for example if he sees that the project manager has made changes to the charter). In this case, ***he will not have access to the data anymore***, nor to its input or export (except the data he have potentially inputted in the project, which remain its property).

---

<sup>1</sup> Those rights depend on the settings chosen by the project manager during the integration of the member to the project

- **Yes, without the project manager consent but under terms and conditions of the free 'Creative Commons' license:**

This type of use is chosen when you want to make visible and usable your data to all members of the site. Click on the logo to display the summary of the license.

License definition: 1. Allow adaptations of your data to be shared (remixed, transformed, created from)?

No  
 Yes, as long as others share alike  
 Yes

2. Allow commercial uses of your data?

No  
 Yes

 [Attribution - NonCommercial - NoDerivatives 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC-ND 4.0\)](#)



## 🔍 Viewing and editing your projects

As mentioned earlier, you can see the projects you have created as well as the projects for which you have rights in the menu Data => Projects-Programs.

Your projects						
Title	Concerned data	Data use	Edited on			
Test tutorial	• Censuses		27/10/2016 10:23			

Projects for which you have rights						
Title	Manager	Concerned data	Your rights	Data use	Edited on	
Public personal data	Christophe Germain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Censuses</li> <li>• Breeding surveys</li> <li>• Bandings</li> </ul>			01/10/2016 13:20	
Official IWC - ALGERIA	M.Samir Sayoud	• Censuses			09/10/2016 23:20 (01/10/2016 15:58)	
Official IWC - TUNISIA	Hichem Azafzaf	• Censuses			01/10/2016 15:58	
Official IWC - LIBYA	Essam Bouras	• Censuses			01/10/2016 15:58	
Official IWC - MOROCCO	Mohamed Dakki	• Censuses			01/10/2016 15:58	
Official IWC - EGYPT	Wed Abdel Latif Ibrahim	• Censuses			01/10/2016 15:58	

Other projects						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

In **"Your Projects"**: if you want to modify one of the projects you have created (modify the description or the rights of the members), click on the small pencil:



In "**Projects for which you have rights**": you can view all the projects of which you are a part and the information related to them. If all the icons in "Your rights" are green for a project, you can view, import and export data on this project.

If, as a member of the project, you are not allowed to enter or export, you can submit a request to the project administrator by e-mail: a small icon appears in front of the project.



**Warning:** the member can send only one message via this link, if he wants to send a second message he has to wait 30 days or contact directly the webmaster<sup>2</sup>.

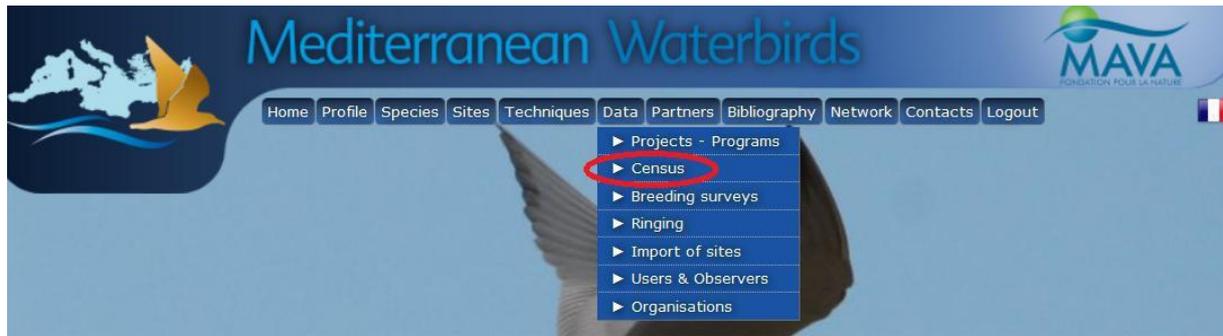
---

<sup>2</sup> Christophe Germain (germain@tourduvalat.org)

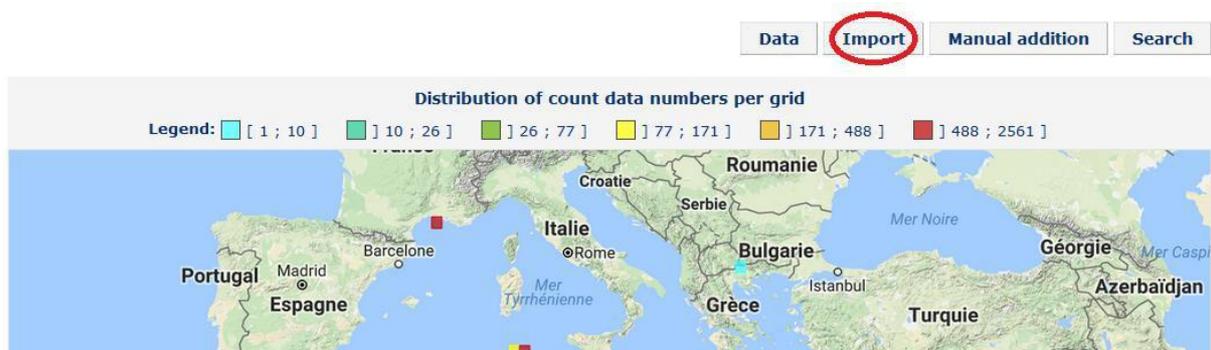
## IV. Data imports

### Step 1 and 2: Project and Worksheet to import

Click on "Census" in Data menu.



Click on "import"



Select the project in which you want to integrate data, then choose your import file.

### Import count data

**Step #1**  
Project and File

Step #2  
Worksheet to import

Step #3  
Field Mapping

Step #4  
Value Mapping

Step #5  
Checks

Project:

In order to avoid eventual server overloads,  
the maximum number of records per import has been set to  
10000 for CSV files, and to  
2000 for other ones (XLS, XLSX, ODS)..

If your file or worksheet to be imported contains more records, the process will be interrupted.

File to import:  Aucun fichier sélectionné.

## Step 3 : Field Matching

MedWaterBirds.org makes matchings between the fields of your excel file **(1)** and its own fields **(2)**. For example, in the image below, the field "date" in the IWC 2016 file is automatically linked to the MedWaterBirds.org field "Exact date".

### Import count data

Step #1 Project and File	Step #2 Worksheet to import	Step #3 Field Mapping	Step #4 Value Mapping	Step #5 Checks
		<b>(1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	
		Fields in "IWC 2016_checkedOK.XLSX" worksheet "Water Bird"	Fields in MedWaterBirds	
		site name ↔	Site, code or name	▼
		English name ↔	Taxon code or name	▼
		date ↔	Exact date	▼
		time ↔	--- NOT LINKED ---	▼
		PCT_coverage ↔	--- NOT LINKED ---	▼
		PCT_water ↔	--- NOT LINKED ---	▼
		counters ↔	Observers	▼
		count ↔	Exact count number	▼
		remarks_visit ↔	Visit comment	▼
		remarks_count ↔	Count comment	▼
		<input type="button" value="Cancel the import"/>		<input type="button" value="Validate this step"/>

Some fields are requested in your excel file, in order to be able to import it in

MedWaterbirds.org :

- III. Name of your sites,
- JJJ. Date of the observations,
- KKK. Observers,
- LLL. Species names (in english, french or latin),

MMM. Birds counts.

Some of the fields can be not recognized by MedWaterBirds.org : you have to choose yourself the corresponding field.

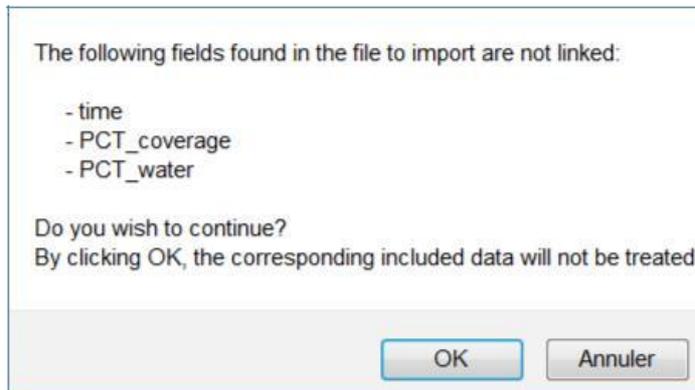
If a field have no matching with MedWaterBirds.org fields, choose "NOT LINKED".

**Warning** : if you don't have, in your excel file, a field with the codes of your sites (and you just have the sites names), you have to link your site names with the MedWaterBirds.org field "Site, code or name" (and not just "Sitename"). Same with your species name, choose "Taxon code or name"<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup> If you don't do that, MedWaterbirds won't considerate that you've completed the matchings (orange and red colours appear). "Site,code or name" and "Taxon, code or name" are required fields when you don't have the codes of species and the codes of sites in your excel file.

When you validate this step, a warning message may appear, asking if you are sure not to link some unrelated fields. Click OK.





## Step 4 : Value Matching

MedWaterBirds.org is trying to establish matchings between its values and the values figuring in the fields of your excel file (sitenames, observers names...). If there are too much differences, you will have to make yourself those matchings.

Choose the matchings between your observers names and MedWaterBirds.org observers names. Do the same with sites names and species names.

Step #1	Step #2	Step #3	Step #4	Step #5
Project and File	Worksheet to import	Field Mapping	Value Mapping	Checks
Values in "IWC 2016_checkedOK.XLSX" worksheet "Water Bird"		Values in MedWaterBirds		
<b>Observers</b>				
AB ↔			🔍	➕ Not found...
EB ↔	essa		🔍	➕ Not found...
IT ↔		Essam Bouras	🔍	➕ Not found...
KE ↔		Messaoud Adhimen	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Messaoud Chaoui	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Messaoud Gueddoul		
		Messaoud Rouene		
		Messaouda Belgourte		
<b>Site, code</b>				
Ain Kaam ↔		Messaouda Dada	🔍	➕ Not found...
Al Haçabah Sewage Treatment Plant ↔		A. Essabani	🔍	➕ Not found...
Almallaha ↔		Abdessalem Grira	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Ahmed Kessal	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Farah Yessaad	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Yacine Essalami	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Nadjib Messah	🔍	➕ Not found...
		Slaheddine Bessadek	🔍	➕ Not found...

If you can't find some observers or site names, click on the "Not found" icon and enter the new informations. If you can't find species names, you need to contact Christophe Germain in order to add it to the database (you have to send the coordinates for the new sitenames).

***If you wish, you can save your choices and exit the import to return later without losing all the steps already completed: for this, when you enter 5 or more value matches, a small screen appears at the top left. Click on "Save them now".***

5 relationships have been (re)defined.

In case of interruption of the process you will have to make this job again...

Unless you save them now...

In order to go back on a precedent import, you just have to click on Data=>Census, and on "Resume" on your import process.

#### Import count data

List of import process not finalized				
Project File name	Started import	Last action	Current step	Action
IWC 2016_checkedOK.XLSX	Test tutorial	27/10/2016 10:57	27/10/2016 11:02	4 (Value Mapping) <a href="#">Resume</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

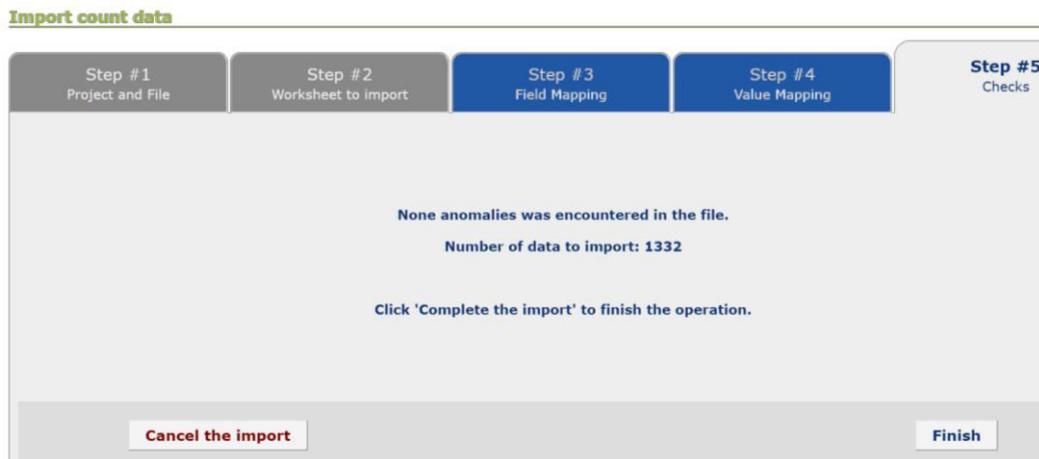
[Back](#) [Perform a new import](#)

## Step 5 : Checkings

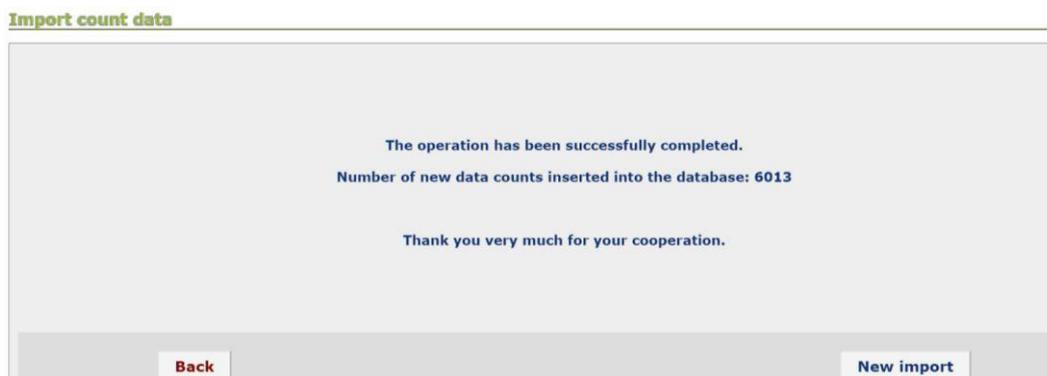
With this step, you can check if your file contains duplicates.

Two cases:

### 1) Your import file is clean: you will see the following window



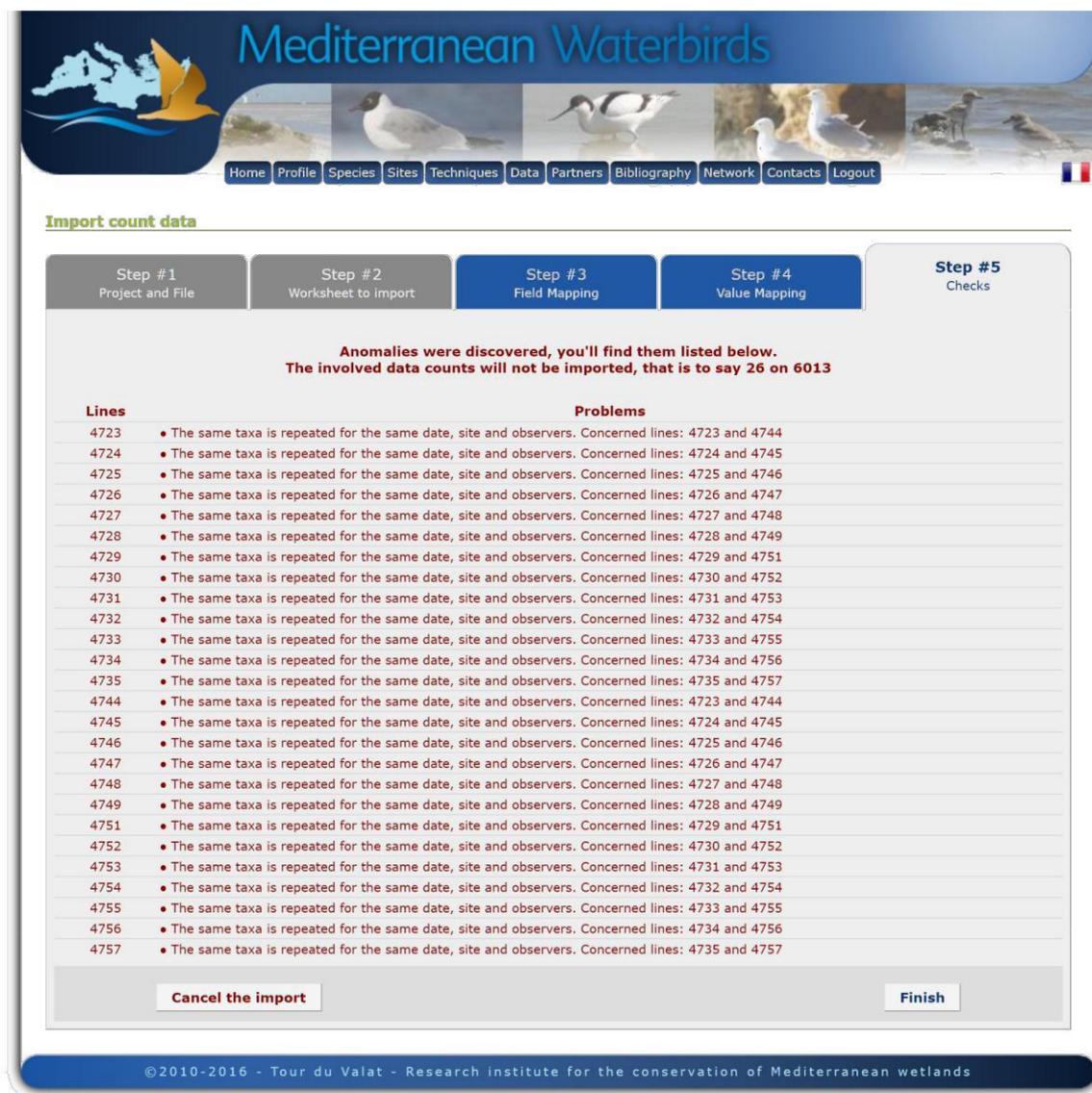
You can then validate the importation of your file.





## 2) There are anomalies in your file, such as duplicated taxa for the same visit.

The website indicates which lines have a problem.



**Mediterranean Waterbirds**

Home Profile Species Sites Techniques Data Partners Bibliography Network Contacts Logout

**Import count data**

Step #1 Project and File    Step #2 Worksheet to import    **Step #3 Field Mapping**    Step #4 Value Mapping    **Step #5 Checks**

**Anomalies were discovered, you'll find them listed below.**  
**The involved data counts will not be imported, that is to say 26 on 6013**

Lines	Problems
4723	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4723 and 4744
4724	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4724 and 4745
4725	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4725 and 4746
4726	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4726 and 4747
4727	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4727 and 4748
4728	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4728 and 4749
4729	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4729 and 4751
4730	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4730 and 4752
4731	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4731 and 4753
4732	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4732 and 4754
4733	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4733 and 4755
4734	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4734 and 4756
4735	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4735 and 4757
4744	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4723 and 4744
4745	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4724 and 4745
4746	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4725 and 4746
4747	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4726 and 4747
4748	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4727 and 4748
4749	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4728 and 4749
4751	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4729 and 4751
4752	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4730 and 4752
4753	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4731 and 4753
4754	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4732 and 4754
4755	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4733 and 4755
4756	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4734 and 4756
4757	• The same taxa is repeated for the same date, site and observers. Concerned lines: 4735 and 4757

Cancel the import    Finish

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You can import your file (click on "Finish"), but those red lines will not be integrated in the database. As a solution, you can create another excel file with only the problematic lines corrected, and import it afterwards.

### 3 Visualization and data export

#### Step 1 : Search and visualization

If you want to export data from projects which you have rights, click again on "Census", then on "Search".

The screenshot shows the website header for 'Mediterranean Waterbirds' with the MAVA logo. The navigation menu includes: Home, Profile, Species, Sites, Techniques, Data, Partners, Bibliography, Network, Contacts, and Logout. A dropdown menu is open under 'Data', with 'Census' highlighted by a red circle. Below the header, the 'Counts' section is visible, featuring buttons for 'Data', 'Import', 'Manual addition', and 'Search' (the latter is circled in red). A legend for 'Distribution of count data numbers per grid' is shown with five color-coded categories: yellow [1; 10], green [11; 41], blue [42; 127], purple [128; 357], and red [358; 1837]. A map of the Mediterranean region is partially visible below the legend.

A window is now open : you can choose your search criteria (project, between which dates, etc...). You can also select only waterbird species during your search.

**Definition of the search criteria** X Close this window

Project(s):

Date of surveys, between:  and:

Observer(s):

Organisation(s):

Place(s):



When you start the search, you will see a message indicating the number of data found, as well as the restriction of access to this data in case you do not have all the rights to use it.

If you want to view the data from the result of your search, click on "Data"



## Step 2 : Export

Once your criteria chosen, you can export your selection by clicking on the corresponding button:



A new window will open, where you can choose which export format you want.

Excel format doesn't allow to export more than 1 500 lines *for now*, so prefer the CSV (Comma Separated Values) format. Select "Comma" and "Semicolon", then choose if you want to export in Wetlands International format or as row data (with all informations).

**Export selection results** X Close this window

File format: CSV (Comma Separated Values) ▼

Decimal number delimiter:  Dot  Comma

Column delimiter: Semicolon ▼

Data format: Raw data ▼

Export Wetland International fields: Raw data  
Wetland International

Export selection criteria:  Yes  No

**Export**

## Step 3: Exported files

After the downloading process, you have 3 files in one folder : Counts, Criteria and Sites.

Nom	Type	Taille compressée	Protégé pa...	Taille
 ej1ocnywxn_Counts	Fichier CSV Microsoft Offi...	207 Ko	Non	
 ej1ocnywxn_Criteria	Fichier CSV Microsoft Offi...	1 Ko	Non	
 ej1ocnywxn_Sites	Fichier CSV Microsoft Offi...	11 Ko	Non	

« **Counts file** contains all the results of your search, with species, counts, dates and sites corresponding to your previous search criteria,

«**Criteria file** contains criteria you used for your search,

«**Sites file** contains the list of sites which are concerned by the data you exported, with their coordinates, region, country...

