



Joint Meeting of Bern Convention SFPs and CMS MIKT on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Wild Birds

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Waterbirds Network

13-15 May 2025, Bonn, Germany





THE MEDITERRANEAN
WATERBIRDS NETWORK
(MWN) : international
cooperation and funding
opportunities

Presentation Outline



- Brief presentation of the Mediterranean Waterbirds Network:
 - ✓ origins
 - ✓ activities
- Recent involvement in IKB monitoring
- Funding for this international collaboration
- Focus on two funding sources



IWC - context



2012-2017 : The AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, 5 Objectives:

1. Conservation measures (legislation , key sites id°...)
2. Sustainable use of waterbirds (legislation , illegal killing ...)
3. Improve knowledge : **IWC data quality and quantity**
4. Improve communication, education
5. Improve capacity for international cooperation (trainings in international wildlife training center...).



IWC context

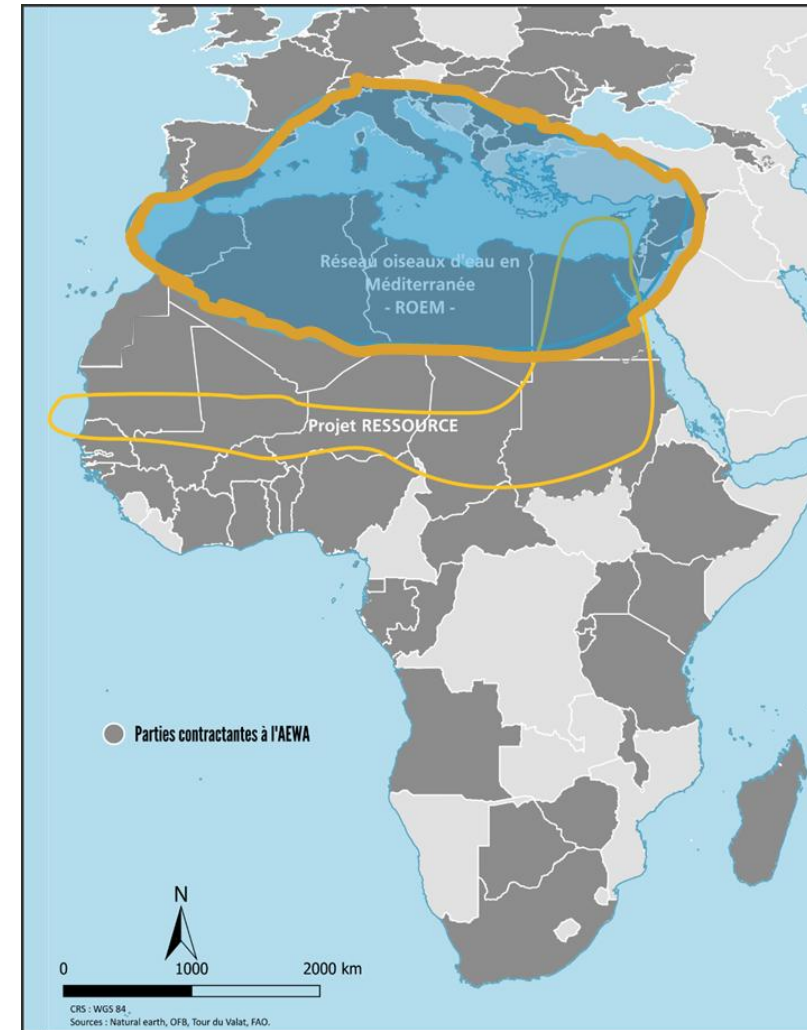
2012 : Medwaterbirds Network:

- ✓Supported by France
- ✓At the beginning, only 5 North African countries involved
- ✓coordinated by Tour du Valat in collaboration with the OFB.



Improvement of the capacity building on:

- IWC data in the field
- IWC data management
- IWC data use



<https://www.unep-aewa.org/fr/parties-range-states>

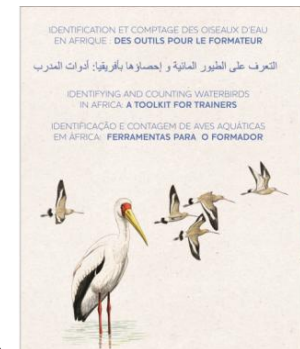
Capacity building in IWC data collection

- International and annual training sessions,
- Optical equipment
- Financial contribution to IWC
- Contribution to TOTAL COUNTS since 2014 (each 3 years).



Development of tools :

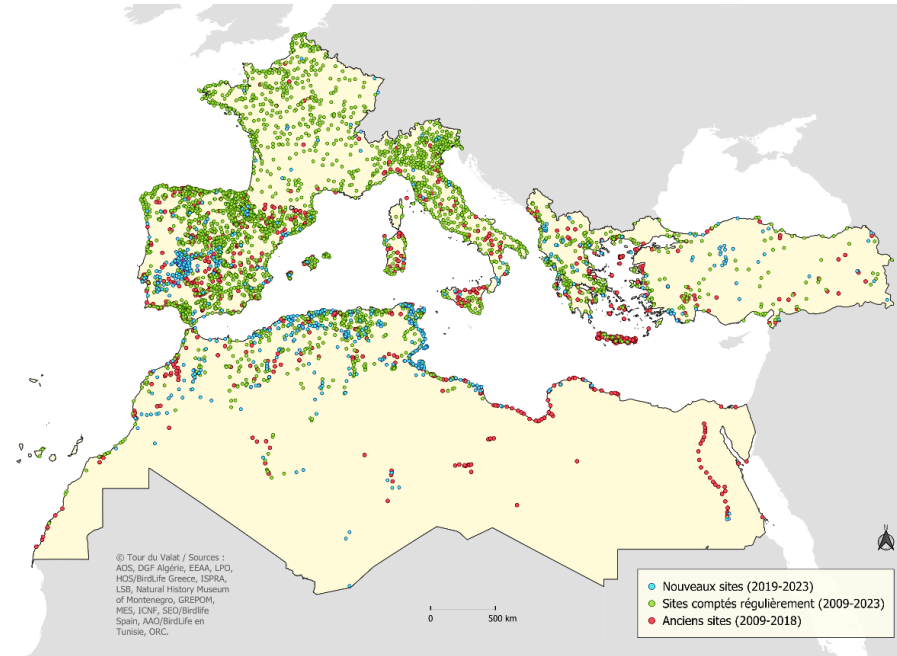
- A "Training the trainers" module on CD (For North African & Sub-Saharan species)
- The 1st modern ornithological guide in Arabic language - Fourth Edition
- Web platform to manage and share data



www.medwaterbirds.net

International cooperation

Since 2017, technical and scientific collaboration around the Mediterranean region : 14 countries in total



Biological Conservation

The first coordinated trans-North African mid-winter waterbird census: The contribution of the International Waterbird Census to the conservation of waterbirds and wetlands at a biogeographical level

Sayoud M.S., Salhi H., Chalabi B., Abali A., Dakki M., Qninba A., El Agham M.A., Azafaf H., Fekrup-Azafaf C., Djeni H., Hammou N., Abdel Latif Ibrahim W., Assan H., Abu Elmor A., Ibrahim H., Bayeb K., Bouras E., Basbaitam W., Berbah A., Deschamps C., Mondain-Monval J.V., Brochet A.L., Veran S., Defos du Rau P.

Imputation of incomplete large-scale monitoring count data via penalized estimation

Mohamed Dakki¹ | Genevieve Robin² | Marie Suet³ | Abdeljebar Ombal² | Mohammed A. El Agham⁴ | Amal Ouassou⁵ | Rimoua Di Housseini⁶ | Hichem Azafaf⁷ | Sami Rebah⁸ | Claudia Feltrup-Azafaf⁹ | Naoufel Hamouda¹⁰ | Wied A. L. Berbah¹¹ | Hosni H. Assan¹² | Amir A. Elbady¹³ | Hailham Ibrahim¹⁴ | Khaled Elayeb¹⁵ | Essam Bouras¹⁶ | Almohtar Saleh¹⁷ | Adraf Ghidoui¹⁸ | Bakr M. Habib¹⁹ | Mohamed S. Sayoud²⁰ | Nadja Bendjedja²¹ | Laura Dami²² | Catherine Deschamps²³ | Elie Gage²⁴ | Jean-Yves Mondain-Monval²⁵ | Pierre Defos du Rau²⁶

Gap analysis of the Ramsar site network at 50: over 150 important Mediterranean sites for wintering waterbirds omitted

Nadège Popoff, et al. (full author details at the end of the article)

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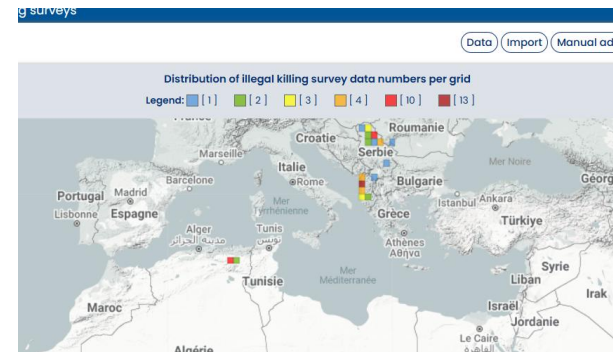
Sayoud M.S. et al., 2017. *Biological Conservation*

Dakki M et al, Imputation of incomplete large- scale monitoring count data via penalized estimation. *Methods Ecol Evol.* 2021;00:1– 9.

Popoff et al. Gap analysis of the Ramsar site network at 50: over 150 important Mediterranean sites for wintering waterbirds omitted. *Biodivers Conserv* 30, 3067–3085 (2021).

Capacity building in IWC data use and analysis

8 countries collaborating on a monitoring (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Turkey, North Macedonia, Albania, Serbia) (same protocol at the same "time" - during the IWC in January)



Survey on :

1. National legislation
2. Cooperation/monitoring and legal hunting
3. Practices
4. Priorities
5. Past actions

IKB data						
(if needed call :)						
Disturbance H = hunting, F = fishing, W = water cannons, S = shooting, O = other (write)	Hunting H = recorded hunters, B = LEAD cartridges recorded, C = Other cartridges; V = bird callers. + quantity (for example H0, V2, B100, H5)	Bird or Animal name of the species	Condition D=Dead; K= Killed; B=Injured +quantity (example D5; K2; B10)	New hunting hide Y=yes; N=no	Traps/ sound recorder/ Nets T=Traps; S= electronic bird caller; N= Nets + quantity (example: T5, S0, N2)	Reported to the authority (Y=yes; N=non) If yes, which one?

1. Only 1/3 with a NP against IKB; less than 1/2 clear legislation and sanctions
2. 1/2 and 1/2 Good/bad cooperations (authorities/hunters/NGOs); 1/2 and 1/2 (with hunters' groups)
3. Leisure/sport and lack of knowledge
4. Application of the law and monitoring
5. No political will (3/4)



International Supports

International supports

FRENCH MINISTRY OF ENVIRONNEMENT (SINCE THE BEGEMNING !)

MAVA FOUNDATION (2013-2015)

CEPF (2014-2016)

ALBERT II FOUNDATION (2016-2018)

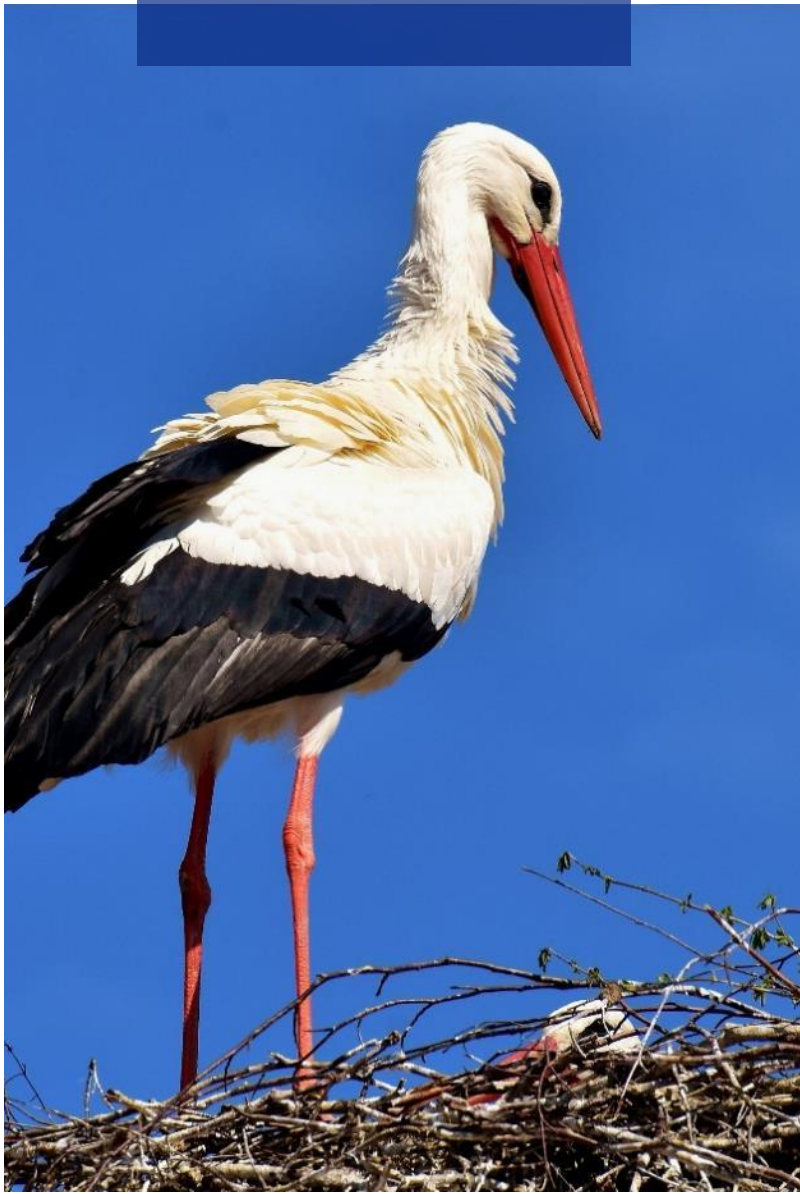
TOTAL FOUNDATION (2015-2017)

FRENCH FACILITY FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONNEMENT (FFEM) (2019-2023)

FRENCH AGENCY OF DEVELOPPEMENT (AFD) (2018 – 2026 and hopefully in the future)

Tour du Valat

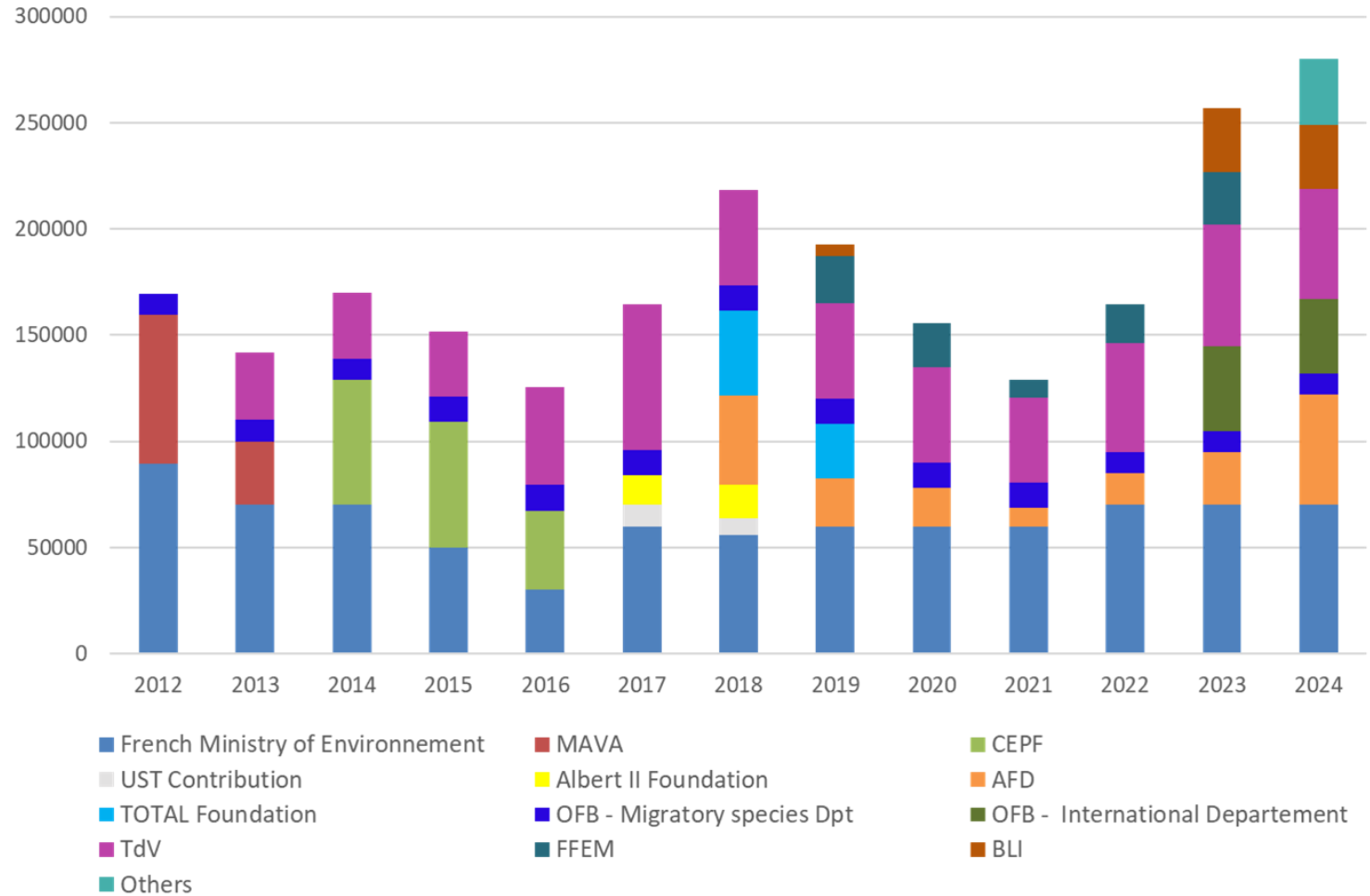
Others (on some activities: SOVON, WI)



International supports



Funding sources



**Pro rata estimate, as the budget is shared among 3 projects and some activities are common.*



- FRENCH MINISTRY OF ENVIRONNEMENT : mainly to support the AEWA
- MAVA FOUNDATION: at the beginning to launch the network. No anymore
- CEPF : it supported the network to improve the collaborations. It supports civil society – in biodiversity hotspots - one strategic direction - small and large grants - calls for proposal (ecosystem regions)
- ALBERT II FOUNDATION : corresponding to the strategy of the Foundation – 3 main “regions” (Mediterranean Bassin, Polar region, Low and middle-income countries)
- TOTAL FOUNDATION : we stopped to ask support for ethical reasons
- FRENCH FACILITY FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONNEMENT (FFEM) : supported certain activities of 3 networks coordinated by TdV
- FRENCH AGENCY OF DEVELOPPEMENT (AFD) : International division : financially supports certain activities of 3 networks coordinated by TdV (for strengthening civil society organizations).

FRENCH FACILITY FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONNEMENT (FFEM) (2019-2023)

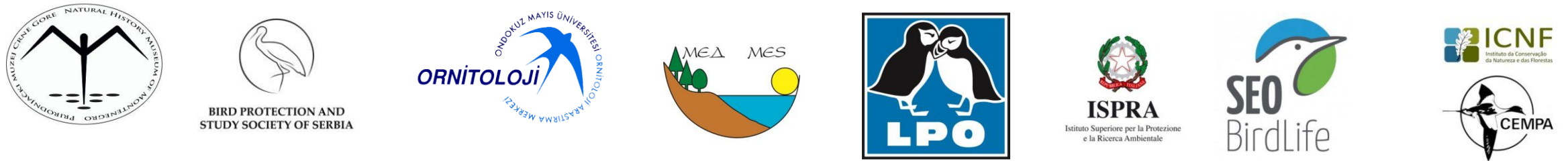
- Pilot projects to support **innovation** and scaling up best practices.
- Led by **public, private, or civil society** stakeholders, from both the Global South and the Global North, co-financed by other funders and international organizations.
 - In developing countries, impactful and replicable
- Five areas of intervention are reflected in five priority themes: Biodiversity conservation and improvement – Low-carbon adaptation of cities and territories – Sustainable management of agricultural and forested lands – Resilience of aquatic ecosystems – Circular economy and pollution control.
 - 500 000 € – 2M €
 - 3 (or max 5) years

FRENCH AGENCY OF DEVELOPPEMENT (AFD) - Civil society organisations

- Projects led by French organisations or local organisations in partner countries*
 - Strengthening actors of the civil society
- CSOs registered in countries eligible for Official Development Assistance, *according to the list established by the OECD*
 - > 250 000 € - 2M € (needs co-funding)
 - *Max 3 years (but renewable 2 times)*
- Possibility to request a **strategic collaboration**, followed by a **partnership**

**Organisation previously supported by AFD through projects led by French organisations.*

- Thanks to all our partners and all the volunteers !



- And the support from





THANK YOU!

