

MedWet

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INTERREG III C



THE GOULANDRIS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
GREEK BIOTOPE / WETLAND CENTRE



TRAINING COURSE

MedWet Tools for Wetland
Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment

12-15 December 2007

Venue: EKBY, Thessaloniki, Greece





Duration

32 hours

Organiser

The training course “MedWet Tools for Wetland Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment” is organised by the Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre (EKBY) in the framework of the INTEREG IIIC project: “MedWet information and knowledge network for the sustainable development of wetland ecosystems (MedWet/CODDE)”.

Location

The seminar will be hosted at EKBY's premises, in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Who can participate?

Scientists and technical staff from public authorities or institutes and organisations working on wetland conservation and management, and in particular scientists and technical staff who hold positions relevant to the fields of wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring.

Number of Attendants – Prioritisation

- The training course will be attended by maximum 16 scientists.
- Scientists who have already provided inventory data sets of their country or region for the Pan-Mediterranean Wetland Inventory will receive priority.

Requirements for attendance

Participants should meet the following requirements:

- University education
- Experience on wetland inventorying, assessment and monitoring
- Basic computer knowledge
- Competence in the English language
- Participants are encouraged to bring electronic files (database, excel, etc.) on wetland data from their countries or regions.

Certificate

Participants will be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

Registration

- No fees are required.
- Travel expenses (air ticket, accommodation, meals, transportation) are offered for 12 participants. No per diem is offered. Receipts (or invoices if the cost is higher than 15 Euros) are obligatory for reimbursement.
- Interested scientists shall send the registration form completed by 19 November to Mrs Daphne Tsitsi: E-mail: daphne@ekby.gr, Tel: +30 2310 473320 (231); Fax: +30 2310 471795, with copy to Eleni Fitoka (helenf@ekby.gr).
- For further information on travel and logistics, you are advised to contact Ms Daphne Tsitsi (Daphne@ekby.gr), and for any technical matters, Ms Eleni Fitoka (helenf@ekby.gr)



Aims of the Training Course

The training course on “MedWet Tools for Wetland Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment” aims to build capacities of scientists involved in nature conservation, in order to advance their knowledge and make them capable to apply the MedWet inventory method and to use the MedWet Web Information System in line with the Ramsar Convention Inventory Framework. The training promotes data harmonization and compatibility among inventory efforts and facilitates the inventory and assessment of Mediterranean wetlands overall.

During the training course trainees will:

- be acquainted with the Framework of Wetland Inventory (FWI) adopted by the Ramsar Convention and understand the scope and the necessity of individual steps of the planning process of a wetland inventory;
- learn about the MedWet inventory process and its components, phases and levels;
- learn about the different MedWet inventory modules and about the tools and services provided by the new online MedWet Web Information System, on data recording, storage, analysis and reporting;
- recognize the importance of compiling and participating in the Pan-Mediterranean Wetland Inventory (PMWI), as a tool for preliminary assessment of wetland status and trends;
- be acquainted with the MedWet inventory policy and the data exchange protocol;
- learn the basics on wetland mapping, including the MedWet Habitat Description System, as well as basic remote sensing and GIS techniques and tools. This will also comprise how RS techniques can assist to undertake a preliminary wetland inventory of a country or region.

Training includes

- Hands on activities on the use of the different modules of the MedWet inventory method (catchment, site, habitat, surveillance, PMWI, WFD, indicators) through the online MedWet Web Information System and on the use of web applications for purchasing satellite images.
- Field work on applying the MedWet Habitat Description System for mapping purposes.
- Group work to help trainees bridging the gap between training and implementation, and to give them the opportunity to “pull it all together”, to discuss concerns, and to propose follow up activities. Group work will focus on wetland inventory planning, use of the MedWet tools for data recording, storage, analysis and reporting, and dissemination of inventory results.





Training Programme

TRAINING COURSE MedWet Tools for Wetland Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment

Wednesday 12/12/2007

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| 9:00-9:05 | Opening of the Training Course, Dr. Dionyssia Hatzilacou (Interim MedWet Coordinator) |
| 9:00-9:45 | Goals and objectives of the Training Course, Eleni Fitoka Self introduction of trainees (icebreaking) |
| Session I: PLANNING A WETLAND INVENTORY | |
| 9:45-10:15 | The Ramsar Wetland Inventory Framework, Ramsar Bureau |
| 10:15-10:30 | Planning a wetland inventory, Eleni Fitoka |
| Session II: MEDWET TOOLS | |
| II.1 Introduction to MedWet Inventory Method and Tools | |
| 10:30-10:45 | Introduction: the MedWet inventory work 1992-2007. From MedWet-1 project to MedWet/CODDE, Pere Tomàs-Vives |
| 10:45-11:00 | Revised MedWet Inventory method, Eleni Fitoka |
| 11:00-11:15 | Coffee break |
| 11:15-11:30 | The MedWet Web Information System (MedWet/WIS), Yiannis Kapanidis |
| II.2 MedWet Inventory Policy | |
| 11:30-11:45 | MedWet Inventory Data Protocol, Pere Tomàs-Vives & Eleni Fitoka |
| 11:45-12:00 | MedWet / WIS Data Access Control Mechanism, Yiannis Kapanidis & EleniFitoka |
| II.3 Wetland Data Recording, Storage, Analysis and Reporting using the MedWet Tools | |
| 12:00-13:00 | The Pan-Mediterranean Wetland Inventory, Pere Tomàs-Vives |
| 13:00-13:30 | The Catchment Module, Joao Carlos Farinha |
| 13:30-14:30 | Lunch break |
| 14:30-15:30 | The Site Module, Joao Carlos Farinha |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee break |
| 15:45-17:30 | Group Work |

Thursday 13/12/2007

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| | II.3 Wetland Data Recording, Storage, Analysis and Reporting using the MedWet Tools (contd.) |
| 9:00-9:30 | The Site Module, Joao Carlos Farinha (contd.) |
| 9:30-10:00 | The Surveillance Module, Joao Carlos Farinha |
| 10:00-11:15 | The Water Framework Directive Module, Mario Cenni |
| 11:15-11:30 | Coffee break |
| 11:30-12:00 | The Indicators Module, Eleni Fitoka |
| 12:00-12:30 | Batch data input into the MedWet / WIS, Anakreon Mentis |
| 12:30-13:30 | The MedWet / WIS Services: Statistics, Queries, Reports, Map Viewer, Anakreon Mentis |
| 13:30-14:30 | Lunch break |
| 14:30-15:30 | Group Work |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee break |
| 15:45-17:00 | Group Work |

Friday 14/12/2007

Session III: WETLAND MAPPING USING REMOTE SENSING AND GIS

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| 9:00-9:30 | III.1 Introduction to Wetland Mapping, Eleni Fitoka |
| | III.2 Basics of Remote Sensing and GIS |
| 9:30-10:00 | Principles, Terminology, Advantages, Limitations of Remote Sensing, Iphigenia Keramitsoglou |
| 10:00-11:30 | Satellite Image Selection, Iphigenia Keramitsoglou |
| 11:30-11:45 | Coffee break |
| 11:45-12:00 | Principles and Advances of GIS, Lena Hatziiordanou |
| 12:00-13:00 | Introduction to GIS Tools, Lena Hatziiordanou |
| | III.3 Wetland Mapping using Remote Sensing and GIS |
| 13:00-13:30 | MedWet Habitat Description System, Joao Carlos Farinha |
| 13:30-14:30 | Lunch break |
| 14:30-15:00 | Remote Sensing Classification Techniques, Iphigenia Keramitsoglou |
| 15:00-15:30 | Preliminary wetland inventory of a catchment, country or region, Antonis Apostolakis |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee break |
| 15:45-17:00 | Group Work |

Saturday 15/12/2007

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| | III.3 Wetland Mapping using Remote Sensing and GIS (contd.) |
| 8:30 -13:30 | Field Work |
| 13:30-14:30 | Lunch break |
| Session IV: WRAP UP & FOLLOW UP | |
| 14:30-15:30 | Wrap up of group working |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee break |
| 15:45-16:15 | Discussion on follow up activities |
| 16:15-16:45 | Evaluation of knowledge |
| 16:45-17:00 | Evaluation of the training course |



The MedWet inventory method and tools

The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet) was launched in 1991 as a long-term regional collaboration among Mediterranean governments, specialised wetland centres and international NGOs active in protecting wetlands. The main goal is to contribute to the conservation and wise use of Mediterranean wetlands.

In 1997, MedWet became the first regional initiative under the umbrella of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. From its inception, MedWet has focused its activities on the development, testing, application and dissemination of methods and tools for the conservation and wise use of Mediterranean wetlands, including wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring.

The MedWet inventory system, which was developed during the MedWet 1 (ACNAT) project and presented in 1996 at the Conference on Mediterranean Wetlands in Venice, is a standard methodology provided for the countries of the Mediterranean region, but it has been implemented elsewhere too. One of its basic principles is flexibility, which allows to be implemented at different level of detail according to available resources and capacity. It includes a set of manuals and a suite of separate but linked tools such as data collection forms, mapping protocols and a database software package. Until now the MedWet method and the successive versions of the MedWet database (MWD ver.1, MWD2000, MWD ver.3, MWD/SUDOE) have been applied in several countries.

In 2005, MedWet has launched the “MedWet information and knowledge network for the sustainable development of wetland ecosystems (MedWet/CODDE)” project under the EU INTERREG IIIC programme (2005-2007), in order to provide tools that will assist decision making on regional development activities. During the project, the MedWet inventory method has been upgraded, incorporating Water Framework Directive requirements, the Pan-Mediterranean Wetland Inventory, remote sensing techniques, and a new online Web Information System.



The MedWet/CODDE project is headed by the MedWet Secretariat and is carried out by The Goulandris Natural History Museum – Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre (EKBY), the Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat (TdV), the Instituto da Conservação da Natureza (ICN), the Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione Ambientale della Toscana (ARPAT) and the Geography Institute of Tartu University in Estonia (IGUT).

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