

Enrichment of the MedWet Inventory Method

Exploring applications of Remote Sensing techniques and of Spatial Data Infrastructures



The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet) of the Ramsar Convention, as a permanent network of collaboration and provision of scientific knowledge to all Mediterranean countries has launched the MedWet/CODDE project under the INTERREG III C programme (2005-2007), in order to provide regions with a tool that will allow decision making on regional development activities.

The project is headed by the MedWet Coordination Unit (MCU) and is executed in collaboration with 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).

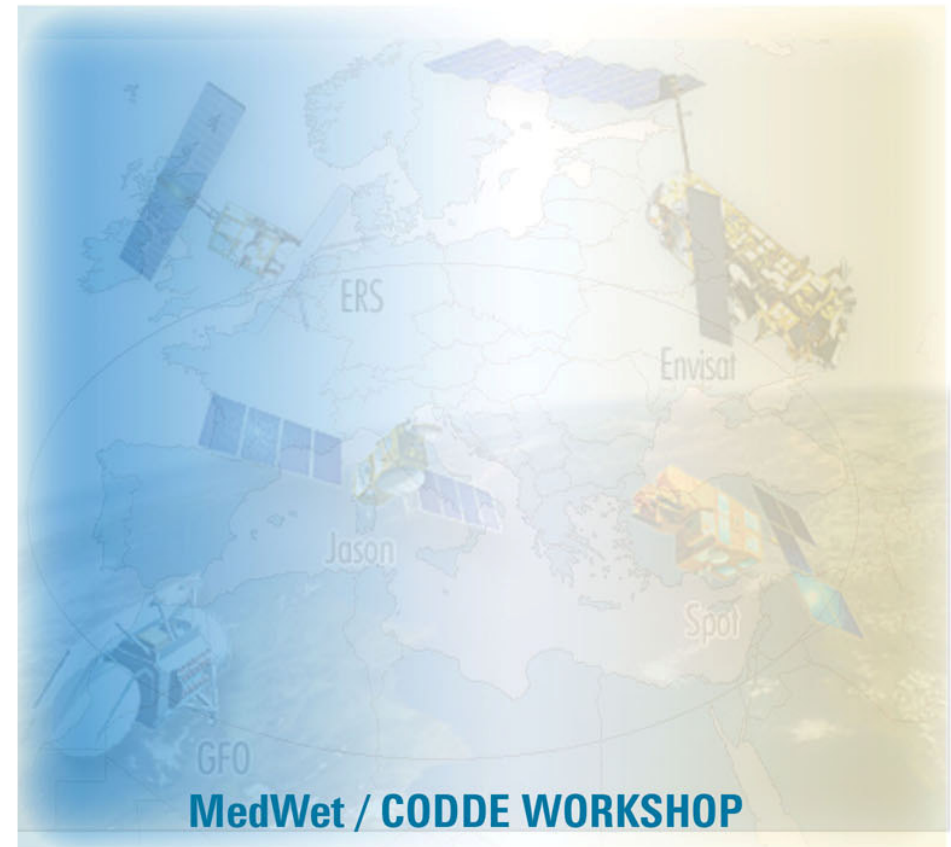
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Funding:



MedWet



Instituto da Conservação da Natureza



TARTU ÜLIKOOL

Sunday, 2 April 2006

Venue: EKBY, Thessaloniki GREECE

ORGANISED BY EKBY AND MCU

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EKBY Greece, 2 April 2006

MISSION

Inventory, Assessment and Monitoring of Mediterranean Wetlands

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To explore possibilities of adopting Remote Sensing (RS) prototype products applicable to Mediterranean wetlands and of making the MedWet Web Information System (MW/WIS) a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) which fulfills European and global requirements (i.e. INSPIRE, GEOSS, GSDI).

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To explore the possibilities of using RS data for inventorying, assessing and monitoring Mediterranean wetlands. In particular i) their habitat extent, ii) land use/cover changes as a measure of threats, iii) dissolved nitrate concentration, iv) chlorophyll a, etc;
- To plan future tests of existing RS prototype products in selected Mediterranean wetland sites;
- To explore possibilities of involving MedWet in the preparatory phase and transposition of the INSPIRE initiative.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Establishment of collaborations in order to test and validate existing prototype products in selected Mediterranean wetlands;
- Establishment of an expert working group to prepare manual guidelines for selected RS prototype products;
- Planning of the MedWet involvement into existing SDI initiatives.

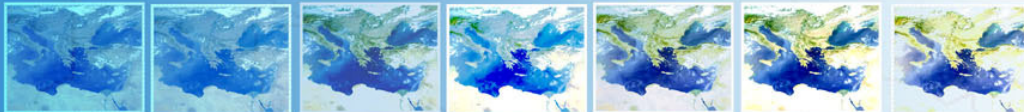
ORGANISER

The workshop is organised by the Greek Biotope-Wetland Centre (EKBY) in collaboration with the MedWet Coordination Unit (MCU) in the frame of the INTERREG IIIC MedWet/CODDE Project (2005-2007).

VENUE

The workshop will be hosted at the premises of the Greek Biotope-Wetland Centre (EKBY) at the city of Thessaloniki in Greece (tel. 0030 2310 473320 and fax 0030 2310 471795).

In case of emergency please contact: Mrs Eleni Fitoka (tel. 0030 2310 218640 and mob. 6932241011) or Mrs Daphne Tsitsi (tel. 0030 2310 346249 and mob. 6973521373).



OPENING (9:00-9:30)

SESSION 1: MedWet inventory method: Background & Future expectations

9:30-9:45 The MedWet Initiative (Spyros Kouvelis, MCU).

9:45-10:00 Overview of the MedWet inventory work 1993-2006, from MW-1 to MW-CODDE (Pere Tomas Vives, TdV).

10:00-10:15 The MedWet Inventory method: data collection & storage, habitat system (Joao Carlos Farinha, ICN).

10:15-10:30 Planning the adoption of RS & SDIs techniques: Expectations of the present workshop (Eleni Fitoka, EKBY).

SESSION 2: Remote Sensing prototype products for inventorying and monitoring Mediterranean wetlands

10:30-11:00 Habitats and flooding duration's satellite monitoring applied to wetlands, an example: the Camargue (the Rhone delta) (Alain Sandoz, TdV).

11:00-11:30 Use of Landsat to create national wetland lists and organize a MedWet database archive: The Albanian Wetland Inventory case (Antonios Apostolakis, EKBY).

11:30-11:45 *Coffee break*

11:45-12:15 GlobWetland: Inventorying, Monitoring and Assessment of Wetlands from Space. European Space Agency (Diego Fernandez, ESA).

12:15-12:45 Exploring the scale dependence of landscape metrics when estimated by satellite imagery. SPIN EU project example in Kerkini Lake, Greece. (Eleni Fitoka, EKBY).

12:45-13:15 Classification of habitats using satellite imagery (Iphigenia Keramitsoglou, University of Athens).

13:15-14:15 *Lunch break*

14:15-14:45 FP6 Geoland - EO-based approaches relevant for Wetlands monitoring (Alistair Lamb, INFOTERRA).

14:45-15:15 Mapping and monitoring of wetland habitats in Northern Germany: Examples from the EU projects: SPIN and Geoland (Michael Bock, DLR).

SESSION 3: Possibilities to include Mediterranean wetlands in future remote sensing product developments

15:15-15:30 From GlobWetlands to the operational use of EO technology for the monitoring of Mediterranean wetlands (Diego Fernandez, ESA).

- The use of ALOS PALSAR data for wetland inventory, mapping and monitoring: examples from the K&C Initiative (Ake Rosenqvist and John Lowry). *Proceedings only.*

SESSION 4: Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI)

15:30-15:45 The MedWet Web Information System: an SDI application (Lena Hatziordanou, EKBY and Panagiotis Katsaros, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki).

15:45-16:00 Application oriented use of GIS and the networking activity of the GISIG Association (Emanuele Roccatagliata, GISIG).

16:00-16:15 CORINE Land Cover & Land and Ecosystem Accounting tools (Jean-Louis Weber, EEA).

- Coastal activities of the Global Terrestrial Observing System (C-GTOS): SDI and remote sensing applications for in situ monitoring sites (John Latham, GTOS/FAO of the UN). *Proceedings only.*

16:15-16:45 *Coffee break*

DISCUSSION AND FUTURE STEPS (16:45-18:00)

- Collaboration between MedWet/CODDE and RS experts for the adaptation of selected prototype products (organization of tests and preparation of application guidelines);

- Possibilities of making Mediterranean wetlands a case study into new Earth Observation (EO) projects or initiatives;

- Participation of MedWet as a Spatial Data Interest Community (SDIC) in the development phase of the INSPIRE initiative;

- Participation of MedWet to the C-GTOS.