



**7th MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON
MARINE TURTLES**


TETOUAN-MOROCCO

18-21 OCTOBER 2022

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PROGRAM

7th MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON MARINE TURTLES PROGRAM

Time	Monday, 17/10/2022	Tuesday, 18/10/2022 Day 1	Wednesday, 19/10/2022 Day 2	Thursday, 20/10/2022 Day 3	Friday, 21/10/2022 Day 4
08-09		Late Registration			 Field Trip
09-10		Opening of the Conference	Session 2: At Sea Biology	Session 4: Pathology and Health	
10-11		Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Session 5: Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics	
11-11:30		Coffee Break Exhibition	Coffee Break Exhibition	Coffee Break Exhibition	
11:30-13:30		Session 1: Threats	Session 3: Nesting Biology	Session 6: Outreach, Conservation and Management	
13:30-15		Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	
15-16:30		Workshop 1 Management Toolkit for Marine Turtles	Workshop 3 Pan- Med Stranding Protocol & Database	Workshop 5 Using Drones for Sea Turtle Research	
16:30-17		Coffee Break & Poster Session 1-2	Coffee Break & Poster Session 3-4	Coffee Break & Poster Session 5-6	
17-20	Registration	Workshop 2 Medicine and Rehabilitation Sea Turtle	Workshop 4 Turtles eat Tomatoes	Round Table Recommendations	
20:00	Welcome Reception	Marine Turtle Specialist Group Meeting	Mava Marine Turtle Project Meeting	Conference Dinner	
21:00		Nastnet Meeting			

PLENARY SESSION 1

(Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

Chair: Mustapha Aksissou

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
10	SEA TURTLES CONSERVATION IN THE WORLD	Earl Possardt

PLENARY SESSION 2

(Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

Chair: Mustapha Aksissou

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
10	SEA TURTLES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: PERSONAL REFLECTIONS	Dimitris Margaritoulis

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

SESSION 1: THREATS (Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

Chairs: Aliko Panagopoulou and Jesús Tomás

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
11:30	EFFECT OF THE SYRIAN CRISIS ON MARINE TURTLE NESTING HABITAT WITH A FOCUS ON AL-SHKAIFAT-SNAWBAR (LATAKIA) BEACH (SYRIA)	Adib Saad
11:45	ON BOARD OF AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE WORK: ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF TUNA FISHERIES ON SEA TURTLES BYCATCH IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA	José Carlos Baez
12:00	UNDERSTANDING THE BYCATCH THREAT: CHARACTERISING BEHAVIOURAL PATTERNS, SPATIAL UTILISATION AND CATCH COMPOSITION OF A SMALL-SCALE FISHERY TO IDENTIFY KEY AREAS OF CONFLICT WITH MARINE TURTLES	Josie Palmer
12:15	MANAGING BYCATCH DATA GAPS OF MARINE TURTLES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA IN COLLABORATION WITH ICCAT.	Juan A. Camiñas
12:30	MARINE TURTLE BYCATCH IN THE GULF OF GABES SURFACE LONGLINE FISHERY (TUNISIA)	Mohamed Nejmeddine Bradai
12:45	A FIVE YEAR MONITORING OF MARINE LITTER INGESTION IN DEAD LOGGERHEAD TURTLES IN TUNISIA (2017 – 2021)	Olfá Chaib
13:00	COLLABORATION WITH FISHERMEN - LESSONS FROM MOROCCO	Wafae Benhardouze
13:15	BACKTRACK MODELLING FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE RISK OF SEA TURTLE ENTANGLEMENT IN GHOST GEAR	Ricardo Sagarminaga

SESSION 2: AT SEA BIOLOGY (Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

Chairs: Sandra Hochscheid and Bojan Lazar

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
09:00	POST-NESTING DISPERSAL OF ADULT FEMALE LOGGERHEAD TURTLES THAT NESTED IN KYPARISSIA BAY, GREECE	Alan F. Rees
09:15	BASIN-WIDE ESTIMATES OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE DENSITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA DERIVED FROM LINE TRANSECT SURVEYS.	Andrew Dimatteo
09:30	GREEN (CHELONIA MYDAS) AND LOGGERHEAD (CARETTA CARETTA) HABITAT USE OF THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY EXTREME SEA TURTLE FEEDING GROUND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN	Basem Rabia
09:45	HABITAT USE OF MEDITERRANEAN GREEN TURTLES: NEW TRACKING OF JUVENILES AND ADULTS FROM CYPRUS	Robin T. E. Snape

SESSION 3: NESTING BIOLOGY (Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

Chairs: Abdulmaula Hamza and Imed Jribi

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
11:30	IS THE STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR A BARRIER FOR THE DISPERSAL OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE NESTING?	Adolfo Marco
11:45	ASSESSING EGGS, EMBRYOS AND HATCHLINGS FOR IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE	Phillott, A.D.
12:00	IMPORTANT FINDINGS AFTER 38-YEARS OF MONITORING THE LOGGERHEAD POPULATION NESTING AT ZAKYNTHOS, GREECE	Dimitris Margaritoulis
12:15	A REVIEW ON LOGGERHEAD NESTING ACTIVITY IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN: ARE TURTLES EXPANDING THEIR NESTING RANGE?	Sandra Hochscheid
12:30	AN EMERGING LOGGERHEAD TURTLE NESTING GROUND IN CAMPANIA, SW ITALY: NESTING PHENOLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE SUCCESS DURING THE PERIOD 2013 – 2021	Fulvio Maffucci
12:45	TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF CARETTA CARETTA NEST TEMPERATURE & HATCHLING GENDER RATIO ON IZTUZU BEACH, TURKEY	Jay Kirkham

13:00	MORE ACCURATE AND REALISTIC TECHNIQUE FOR SEX RATIO ESTIMATION: A CASE STUDY ON GREEN TURTLE (CHELONIA MYDAS)	Onur Candan
13:15	FIRST HATCHLINGS TO THE CAPTIVE GREEN TURTLES BREEDING GROUP A NEW CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR SEA TURTLES	Yaniv Levy

SESSION 4: PATHOLOGY AND HEALTH (Thursday, 20/10/2022)

Chairs: Daniela Freggi and Flegra Bentivegna

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
09:00	SEVERE PNEUMOCELOMA CAUSED BY FISHING LINE CROSSING THE DIGESTIVE CANAL IN FOUR LOGGERHEADS (CARETTA CARETTA).	Antonio Di Bello
09:15	SURGICAL REPAIR OF MULTIPLE HUMERAL FRACTURES IN A CARETTA CARETTA: CLINICAL, RADIOGRAPHIC AND HISTOMORPHOMETRIC ASSESSMENTS	Carmela Valastro
09:30	THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH OF TRAWLED TURTLES: DROWNING OR GAS EMBOLISM, THAT IS THE QUESTION	Delia Franchini
09:45	THE PARASITE COPEPOD BALAENOPHILUS MANATORUM IN DEBILITATED SEA TURTLES HATCHLINGS	Erica Marchiori

SESSION 5: ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS
(Thursday, 20/10/2022)

Chairs: Oguz Turkozan and Yakup Kaska

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
10:00	SEA TURTLE COLONIZATION UNDER GLOBAL WARMING: FEMALES NEEDED TO SUCCEED	Gisela Marín-Capuz
10:15	PLASMA HORMONE LEVELS AND BLOOD BIOCHEMISTRY IN THE GREEN TURTLE CHELONIA MYDAS REARED UNDER CAPTIVITY AS A TOOL TO PREDICT MATING AND OVIPOSITION	Joseph Aizen
10:30	POPULATION GENOMICS AND ADAPTATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN LOGGERHEAD NESTING TURTLES	Marta Pascual
10:45	MOLECULAR METHODOLOGY FOR ASSESSING THE MEDITERRANEAN GREEN TURTLE POPULATIONS AND MONITORING THE ISRAELI BREEDING STOCK.	Yaron Tikochinski

SESSION 6: OUTREACH, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (Thursday, 20/10/2022)

Chairs: Manjula Tiwari and Wafae Benhardouze

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Name
11:30	AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION OF TURTLES IN GREECE: PRIORITIES, ACTIONS, OUTLOOK	Aliki Panagopoulou
11:45	A WELL-CONNECTED NETWORK FOR SEA TURTLES MONITORING IN SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES	Lobna Ben Nakhla
12:00	LIVING WITH POPCORN NESTING: MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND OUTREACH LESSONS FROM NESTING EVENTS IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN	Carlos Carreras

12:15	AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AT THE LARGEST NESTING SITE OF LOGGERHEADS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN	Giannis Chalkias
12:30	HOW CITIZEN SCIENCES USING SOCIAL MEDIA HELPED TO COLLECT DATA ON MARINE TURTLE STRANDINGS IN TUNISIA.	Hamed Mallat
12:45	USING RESOLUTION XIII-24 OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AS A TOOL FOR THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLE HABITAT	Jacques Fretey
13:00	OBJECTIVE METHOD FOR QUANTIFYING CHANGES TO ECOTOURISM VIEWING INTENSITY ON LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC USING A SOCIAL MEDIA-BASED MODEL	Kostas Papafitsoros
13:15	MOBILE APPLICATION “ETURTLE “FOR SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION THROUGH CITIZEN SCIENCE	Wiem Bousellaa

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

SESSION 1: THREATS

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S1.01	SPATIO-TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF MARINE TURTLE STRANDINGS ON THE NORTHWEST COAST OF MOROCCO	Abdelhamid Kaddouri
S1.02	THE RISKS AND THREATS ON THE TURTLES IN YEMEN	Adel Alshawafi
S1.03	INTERACTION BETWEEN SEA TURTLES AND FISHERIES IN JEBHA PORT (MOROCCO)	Youssef Ahannach
S1.04	TURTLE EXCLUDER DEVICE (TED): PRELIMINARY RESULTS ON SEA TURTLE BYCATCH AND COMMERCIAL EFFICIENCY OF BOTTOM TRAWLERS IN THE GULF OF MANFREDONIA, ADRIATIC SEA	Alice Scuratti
S1.05	PLASTIC IN MARINE TURTLES: WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM THE DEBRIS EXPELLED BY PATIENTS OF THE LAMPEDUSA SEA TURTLE RESCUE CENTER	Amber Pearson
S1.06	SINGLE-USE PLASTICS HIGHLY AFFECT LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN SUB-REGION	Andrea Camedda
S1.07	THE GREEN SEA TURTLE (CHELONIA MYDAS) INGESTS LARGE AMOUNTS OF MARINE LITTER IN TURKEY'S WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND SOUTHERN AEGEAN COASTS	Banu Serin
S1.08	THE ENTANGLEMENT OF SEA TURTLES IN ANTHROPOGENIC DEBRIS IN THE MOROCCAN MEDITERRANEAN	Bilal Mghili
S1.09	ASSESSING THE PRESENCE OF MARINE LITTER IN SEA TURTLES FROM THE GULF OF CÁDIZ AND THE ALBORAN SEA	Carmen Morales-Caselles
S1.10	TEN YEARS OF MONITORING MARINE LITTER INGESTED BY SEA TURTLE (2011-2021): THE ITALIAN EXPERIENCE.	Cecilia Silvestri
S1.11	IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE NESTING DISTRIBUTION OF CHELONIIDAE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA	Chiara Mancino
S1.12	TWO DECADES OF MARINE LITTER INGESTION DATA EMPLOYING LIVE LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES RESCUED ALONG THE ITALIAN COAST	Chiara Roncari
S1.13	SEA TURTLE INTERACTIONS WITH THE ARTISANAL FISHERIES IN BELYOUNECH (STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR)	Derdabi Mohamed Rida

S1.14	DISTRIBUTION OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLES AND FLOATING MACRO LITTER IN THE TYRRHENIAN OCEANIC REALM (WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN).	Eugenia Pasanisi
S1.15	MATERNAL TRANSFER OF MICROPLASTICS IN THE YOLK OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES (CARETTA CARETTA) EMBRYOS: EVIDENCE FROM AN ITALIAN PILOT STUDY.	Giorgia Gioacchini
S1.16	SEA TURTLE STRANDINGS AND NESTS IN THE NORTHERN ADRIATIC SEA: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT.	Guido Pietroluongo
S1.17	INTERACTIONS BETWEEN FISHERIES AND SEA TURTLES IN JEBHA PORT	Fatima Zahra Hamiche
S1.18	RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS OF STRANDED MARINE TURTLES ON THE NORTHERN COAST OF TUNISIA (2005-2021)	Hedia Attia El Hili
S1.19	IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE INDUCED SEA-LEVEL RISE ON A KEY NESTING HABITAT OF THE GREEN SEA TURTLE CHELONIA MYDAS	Itri Levent Erkol
S1.20	OCCURRENCE OF MESO AND MICROPLASTICS IN MARINE TURTLE CARETTA CARETTA IN NORTHERN TUNISIA	Hela Jaziri
S1.21	ASSESSMENT OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE BY-CATCH IN THE VALENCIA REGION, EAST SPAIN: RESULTS OF LIFE-MEDTURTLES PROJECT.	Jesús Tomás
S1.22	THE LOGGERHEAD NESTING SITE IN CHEBBA (TUNISIA): AN AREA THREATENED BY ARTIFICIAL LIGHT POLLUTION	Imed Jribi
S1.23	PRELIMINARY DATA ON BYCATCH AND STRANDING OF MARINE TURTLES IN AL HOCEIMA, MOROCCO	Mohamed Keznine
S1.24	STRANDINGS OF SEA TURTLES IN DJERBA: REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2021	Khaled Echwikhi
S1.25	A COMPARISON OF BOTH SIZE AND INJURY CLASSIFICATION BETWEEN CARETTA CARETTA SPECIMENS RESCUED FROM LAMPEDUSA AND SICILY BETWEEN 2016 TO 2021	Lauryn Ankers
S1.26	STATE OF THE ART ON MARINE TURTLES IN TUNISIA AND ON THE SOURCES OF NUISANCE AFFECTING THESE SPECIES DURING THE SUMMER CAMPAIGN OF 2018	Marwan Abderrahim
S1.27	ASSESSING POST-RELEASE SURVIVAL OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES BYCAUGHT IN BOTTOM TRAWLS FOLLOWING ON-BOARD RECOVERY PROTOCOL	Matic Jančič
S1.28	BYCATCH OF SEA TURTLES IN THE EGYPTIAN MEDITERRANEAN WATER - PILOT STUDY	Mohamed Said Abdelwarith Attea
S1.29	FEEDING SEA TURTLES IN THE WILD: THE EXAMPLE OF LOGGERHEADS IN GREECE	Panagiota Theodorou

S1.30	THE BENEFITS OF IRON MESH IN REDUCING PREDATION OF LOGGERHEAD SEATURTLE'S NESTS IN AL-KHAMSEEN BEACH WEST OF SIRTE, LIBYA	Salih Diryaq
S1.31	THE BYCATCH RATE OF SEA TURTLE IN FISHING GEARS OF MEDITERRANEAN COAST OF MOROCCO	Sana El Arraf
S1.32	PLASTIC SACKS BECOME A NEW AND MAJOR THREAT TO SEA TURTLES IN THEIR PELAGIC STAGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA	Shir Sassoon
S1.33	SEA TURTLE BYCATCH BY DIFFERENT TYPES OF FISHERIES AROUND AGADIR, MOROCCO	Mounia Touaf
S1.34	UNDERSTANDING MEDITERRANEAN MULTI-TAXA 'BYCATCH' OF VULNERABLE SPECIES & TESTING MITIGATION – A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH (THE MEDBYCATCH PROJECT)	Vicky Rae
S1.35	DEVELOPING IDENTIFICATION SONAR-BASED DEVICE AS A TOOL TO MITIGATE MARINE TURTLE CASUALTIES IN ANTHROPOGENIC IMPACTED ENVIRONMENT	Yaniv Levy
S1.36	THE IMPACT OF PRE- AND POST- SARS COV 2 LOCKDOWNS ON THE PREDATION OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) NESTS AT DALYAN BEACH, TÜRKIYE	Zakhele Calvin Mathebula

SESSION 2: AT SEA BIOLOGY

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S2.01	WHY IS THE MEDITERRANEAN LOGGERHEAD TURTLE POPULATION NOT INCREASING LIKE THE EASTERN ATLANTIC ONE?	Adolfo Marco
S2.02	SEA TURTLES IN LAKE BARDAWIL, EGYPT - SIZE DISTRIBUTION AND POPULATION STRUCTURE	Basem Rabia
S2.03	RECORD OF TURTLE STRANDINGS ON TUZLA, AKYATAN, AĞYATAN AND YELKOMA BEACHES FROM 2019 TO 2022 YEARS, THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN COAST OF TURKEY	Can Yilmaz
S2.04	EVALUATION OF THE DIET PREFERENCES AND FEEDING ECOLOGY OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLES IN THE ADRIATIC AND THE TYRRHENIAN SEA	Giulia Mariani
S2.05	TAGGING AND TRACKING: SURVIVAL AND MOVEMENTS OF STRANDED AND BYCAUGHT LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES RECOVERED IN THE VALENCIA REGION (SPAIN, WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN).	Jesús Tomás

S2.06	THE KERKENNAH ISLANDS: AN IMPORTANT AREA FOR GREEN TURTLES CHELONIA MYDAS (LINNAEUS, 1758) IN TUNISIA	Sami Karaa
S2.07	RECENT FINDINGS IMPLY INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF ADRIATIC SEA AS A DEVELOPMENTAL HABITAT FOR MEDITERRANEAN GREEN SEA TURTLES (CHELONIA MYDAS)	Matic Jančić
S2.08	STATUS OF THE GREEN TURTLE CHELONIA MYDAS LINNAEUS, 1758 IN THE SOUTH OF THE GULF OF GABES	Sami Karaa

SESSION 3: NESTING BIOLOGY

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S3.01	EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTS OF THE CAGING TOP AND SIDE CAGING ON SEA TURTLES NEST ON DALYAN BEACH, TURKIYE	Adamou Koroney
S3.02	NESTING OF SEA TURTLES ALONG THE LIBYAN COASTLINE 2021	Almokhtar M. Saied
S3.03	A NEWLY IDENTIFIED NESTING BEACH IN GREECE PRODUCING MALE LOGGERHEADS	Anna Lamaj
S3.04	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE IN MCPA KURIAT	Arij Sadraoui
S3.05	EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE ON HATCHLINGS SEX RATIOS OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE IN PATARA BEACH TURKEY	Ayfer Şirin
S3.06	ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERIZATION OF NESTING SITES OF CARETTA CARETTA L. 1758 ALONG THE TUSCAN-LATIUM COASTLINE	Daniele Pagli
S3.07	THE SUITABILITY OF ALBANIAN COASTLINE TO SUPPORT VIABLE NESTING FOR LOGGERHEAD TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA)	Enerit Sacdanaku
S3.08	MONITORING OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE POPULATION ON PATARA BEACHES, TÜRKIYE	Eyup Başkale
S3.09	NESTING SITE SELECTION AND APPLICATION OF DIFFERENT PROTECTION METHODS IN THE COASTAL AREA OF PATARA NESTING BEACH, TÜRKIYE	Eyup Başkale
S3.10	FIRST RECORD OF THE LOGGERHEAD TURTLE CARETTA CARETTA NESTING IN DJERBA ISLAND (SOUTH OF TUNISIA)	Khaled Echwikhi

S3.11	MEDITERRANEAN SEA: CARETTA CARETTA NESTINGS AT HIGH LATITUDES, MINIMALLY INVASIVE APPROACH TO PROMOTE THEIR SURVIVAL	Margherita De Silva
S3.12	ASSESSMENT OF CARETTA CARETTA NESTING SITES ON TUNISIAN COASTS	Marwa Hrizi
S3.13	HATCHLING MORPHOLOGY OF GREEN TURTLES IN TURKISH REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS	Merve Buba
S3.14	CHALLENGES FACING NESTING OF MARINE TURTLES ON THE EGYPTIAN MEDITERRANEAN COASTLINE BY USING GIS TECHNIQUES	Nahla Naguib
S3.15	REPRODUCTIVE ECOLOGY OF GREEN TURTLES, CHELONIA MYDAS, ON KARPAZ PENINSULA OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPR	Oguz Turkozan
S3.16	LOGGERHEAD MISSING BOTH REAR FLIPPERS INSISTING TO LAY EGGS	Olga Dretakis
S3.17	CURRENT AND FUTURE SUITABILITY OF THE BALEARIC ISLANDS AS NESTING GROUNDS FOR LOGGERHEAD TURTLES	Pilar Santidrián Tomillo
S3.18	SURVIVAL, DISPERSAL STRATEGIES AND HABITAT SUITABILITY OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) POST-HATCHLINGS FROM SPANISH NESTS	Sara Abalo-Morla
S3.19	CONSERVATION OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE NESTING IN ZWARA, NORTHWESTERN LIBYA	Emad Banana
S3.20	NESTING ACTIVITY OF MARINE TURTLES IN CYPRUS DURING THE 2016-2021 REPRODUCTIVE SEASONS	Simon Demetropoulos
S3.21	THERMAL CONDITIONS OF GREEN TURTLES NESTS ON KARPAZ PENINSULA OF CYPRUS	Yönter Meray

SESSION 4: PATHOLOGY AND HEALTH

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S4.01	FIRST REPORT ON MARINE LEECH OZOBRANCHUS MARGOI PARASITIZING LOGGERHEAD TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) IN CYPRUS	Angela Mastrogiacomo
S4.02	FIRST CASE OF CYSTITIS OBSERVATION IN A LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE IN TUNISIA (SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN)	Olfa Chaieb
S4.03	POTWORMS (ENCHYTRAEUS, ENCHYTRAEIDAE) IN LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE NESTS (CARETTA CARETTA) IN TUSCANY, ITALY	Daniele Pagli

S4.04	ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS (POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS, ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDES AND TRACE ELEMENTS) IN LOGGERHEAD TURTLE EGGS FROM THE EMERGING NESTING SITES ALONG THE SOUTH-WESTERN COASTS OF ITALY, WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA	Doriana Iaccarino
S4.05	FIRST DETECTION OF <i>LISTERIA MONOCYTOGENES</i> IN STRANDED LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE (<i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>) ALONG THE COAST OF CAMPANIA REGION (SOUTHERN ITALY)	Doriana Iaccarino
S4.06	NEW BACTERIAL PATHOGENS IN SEA TURTLE EGGS: <i>VAGOCOCCUS HYDROPHILI</i> AND <i>IGNATZSCHINERIA</i> LARVAE	Esra Deniz Candan
S4.07	ESSENTIAL OILS TREATMENT FOR CUTANEOUS FUSARIOSIS IN CAPTIVE LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES (<i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>): PRELIMINARY IN VIVO DATA	Federica Marcer
S4.08	COMPARISON BETWEEN MINI-FLOTAC AND A CONVENTIONAL TECHNIQUE FOR THE DETECTION OF HELMINTH EGGS IN SEA TURTLE FECAL SAMPLES	Federica Marcer
S4.09	CELLULAR CULTURES SETUP AND ECOTOXICOLOGICAL EXPOSURE TO BISPHENOLS IN <i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>	Gabriella Di Francesco
S4.10	HAEMATO-BIOCHEMICAL PARAMETERS IN A MEDITERRANEAN POPULATION OF <i>CARETTA CARETTA</i> RECOVERED FROM THE REHABILITATION CENTER "L. CAGNOLARO" PESCARA, ITALY	Gabriella Di Francesco
S4.11	OVIDUCTS DETACHED DURING EGG-LAYING IN A LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	Galini Samlidou
S4.12	GRANULOMATOUS INFLAMMATORY PROCESSES DETECTED IN SEA TURTLES STRANDED ON THE VENETO COASTLINE	Giorgia Corazzola
S4.13	SURGICAL AMPUTATION OF FLIPPER LACERATION IN A LOGGERHEAD, <i>CARETTA CARETTA</i> FROM TUNISIAN COASTS	Idriss Ben Neila
S4.14	PRESENCE OF PHTHALATE METABOLITES IN LIVERS OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLES (<i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>) FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA (EAST SPAIN).	Jesús Tomás
S4.15	HISTOLOGICAL ANALYSIS AND FOURIER TRANSFORM INFRARED MICROSPECTROSCOPY IMAGING (FTIRI) APPLICATION TO CHARACTERIZE THE FOLLICULOGENESIS PROCESS IN LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES (<i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>)	Ludovica Di Renzo
S4.16	FIRST REPORT OF SEPTICEMIC LISTERIOSIS IN SEA TURTLE (<i>CARETTA CARETTA</i>): STRAIN DETECTION AND SEQUENCING.	Ludovica Di Renzo

S4.17	ALLOMETRIC RELATIONSHIPS AND LATERALISATION OF AMPUTATIONS IN CARETTA CARETTA HOSTED IN THE LAMPEDUSA TURTLE RESCUE, SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN	Marco Maiocchi
S4.18	ALLELIC VARIATION IN OOCYTE MATURATION FACTOR MOS (OOCYTE) AND RECOMBINATION ACTIVATING PROTEIN-2 (RAG-2) GENES AMONG CHELONIA MYDA AND CARETTA CARETTA POPULATIONS IN EGYPT	Nahla Naguib
S4.19	SERRATIA MARCESCENS INFECTION OF A STRANDED LOGGERHEAD TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA)	Salvatore Dara
S4.20	A REVIEW OF THE USE OF BACTERIOPHAGE THERAPY AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ANTIMICROBIAL THERAPY IN SEA TURTLES	Sasha Ruane
S4.21	CONSTRUCTION OF A WATERPROOF 3D SHIELD FOR A DEEP CARAPACE PENETRATING WOUND	Silvia Brandi

SESSION 5: ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S5.01	STABLE ISOTOPE ANALYSIS CONFIRMS THAT A LARGE LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) POPULATION RESIDENT AT THE OVERWINTERING SITE AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE NESTING POPULATION IN KÖYCEĞİZ-DALYAN SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREA, TÜRKIYE	Doğan Sözbilen
S5.02	GAS EMBOLISM OCCURRENCE AFTER BYCATCH EVENTS IN NORTHERN ADRIATIC SEA: PRELIMINARY RESULTS	Erica Marchiori
S5.03	TO WHOM BELONGS THE GENOTYPE OF THE UMBILICAL CORD? EXPLORING NON-INVASIVE METHODS FOR SEA TURTLES	Gisela Marin-Capuz
S5.04	FILLING THE GAPS IN MIXED STOCK ANALYSES, THE ORIGIN OF MARINE TURTLES FORAGING IN KUŞADASI BAY, TURKEY	Helena Vela Garcia
S5.05	GENETIC DIVERSITY OF LOGGERHEAD TURTLE (CARETTA CARETTA) ALONG THE CENTRAL-SOUTH TUNISIAN COAST (MONASTIR-GABÈS) BASED ON DNA MITOCHONDRIAL (D-LOOP).	Marwa Hrizi
S5.06	BONES AND SCUTES OF MEDITERRANEAN LOGGERHEADS FOUND IN FRENCH WATERS: WHAT CAN BE LEARNT FROM THESE GROWING STRUCTURES?	Médétian Dimitri
S5.07	DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC ENZYME-LINKED IMMUNOSORBENT ASSAY FOR DETERMINING FSH LEVELS IN	Osher Ester Soffer

	GREEN SEA TURTLE (CHELONIA MYDAS), USING RECOMBINANT GONADOTROPIN.	
S5.08	ULTRASOUND IMAGING OF REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM (OVARIES, EGGS AND TESTICLES) IN LOGGERHEADS (CARETTA CARETTA) IN ADRIATIC SEA (ITALY).	Stefano Ciccarelli
S5.09	SHORT TANDEM REPEATS (STR) OF MT DNA OF GREEN TURTLE NESTS MAY OFFER INSIGHTS INTO WESTWARD SHIFT OF GREEN TURTLE NESTING	Yakup Kaska

SESSION 6: OUTREACH, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

ID	TITLE	Presenter Name
S6.01	THE SEA TURTLES STRANDING NETWORK: AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO EVALUATE THE THREATS ON SEA TURTLES IN THE LEBANESE WATERS	Ali Souheil Badreddine
S6.02	THE MEDTURTLE BULLETIN - A NEW PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO SEA TURTLES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN	Alan Rees
S6.03	LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO STRENGTHEN CONSERVATION	Amerssa Tsirigoti
S6.04	"CARAPACE RACE": SNEAKING AWARENESS & AND INFORMATION INTO PURE ENJOYMENT	Anna Stamatiou
S6.05	AN EFFECTIVE TOOL IN MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION STUDIES: CITIZEN SCIENCE	Ayşe Oruç
S6.06	USING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES IN THE MOROCCAN MEDITERRANEAN	Bilal Mghili
S6.07	LAMPEDUSA HOSTING THE FIRST SUB REGIONAL TRAINING BY SPA/RAC: HOW TO IMPLEMENT NETWORKING AND REHAB SKILLS AMONG RESCUE CENTERS	Camilla Roldi
S6.08	COMPARING VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE DRIVEN SEA-LEVEL RISE OF MAJOR LOGGERHEAD NESTING SITES IN GREECE USING DRONES	Giannis Chalkias
S6.09	LIFE MEDTURTLES - COLLECTIVE ACTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF THE EU SEA TURTLE POPULATIONS: BORDERING AREAS.	Giulia Baldi
S6.10	LOGGERHEAD TURTLES HEAD-STARTING PILOT PROJECT: LEARNING THROUGH COORDINATED MANAGEMENT BETWEEN DIFFERENT RESCUE CENTERS IN SPAIN	Glòria Fainé Sanllehí

S6.11	TUNISIA FIRST AID SEA TURTLE CENTRE: FIRST RESULTS, CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES AND SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVES	Hamed Mallat
S6.12	THE PRECIOUS ROLE OF FISHERMEN IN SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION: THE CASE OF LAMPEDUSA, SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN SEA	Harriet Blencowe
S6.13	PRESERVING ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION & CLIMATE RESILIENCY THROUGH ENHANCED MARINE TURTLE POPULATIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN	Lobna Ben Nakhla
S6.14	MAVA FUNDED PROJECT: PAN-MEDITERRANEAN SYNERGY FOR SEA TURTLES' CONSERVATION	Panagiota Theodorou
S6.15	BUILDING STRONG AND MAINTAINING COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN OBSERVERS AND THE FISHING COMMUNITY	Vicky Rae
S6.16	ZOOARCHAEOLOGY AS A COMPLEMENT TO SEA TURTLE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN	Willemien De Kock
S6.17	CONTRIBUTION TO SEA TURTLE RESCUE FACILITIES OF LIFE MEDTURTLES PROJECT	Yakup Kaska

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP 1: (Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
15-16:30	DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE MAMMALS MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT FOR MARINE TURTLES: SUPPORTING MPA MANAGERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND BEYOND	Tom Dallison

WORKSHOP 2: (Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
17-20	MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION SEA TURTLE WORKSHOP	Daniela Freggi

WORKSHOP 3: (Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
15-16:30	PAN- MEDITERRANEAN STRANDING PROTOCOL & DATABASE	Amerssa Tsirigoti, Flegra Bentivegna, Lobna Ben Nakhla, Arthur Pasquale & Vicky Rae

WORKSHOP 4: (Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
17-20	TURTLES EAT TOMATOES. COMMUNICATING FOR CHANGE (OR, WHY SIMPLY PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE IS NEVER ENOUGH)	Anna Stamatiou & Efi Starfa

WORKSHOP 5: (Thursday, 20/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
15-16:30	USING DRONES FOR SEA TURTLE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION	Alan Rees

MEETINGS:

Marine Turtle Specialist Group Meeting (Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
20	MARINE TURTLE SPECIALIST GROUP MEETING	MTSG

Nastnet Meeting (Tuesday, 18/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
21	NASTNET, A NEW INITIATIVE TO BOOST SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION ACROSS NORTH AFRICA	Abdulmaula Hamza

Mava Marine Turtle Project Meeting (Wednesday, 19/10/2022)

TIME	TITLE	Organiser Name
20	MAVA MARINE TURTLE PROJECT MEETING	SPA/RAC

WORKSHOP 1

Workshop Concept Note: Development of the Marine Mammals Management Toolkit for Marine Turtles: Supporting MPA managers in the Mediterranean and beyond

Outputs: Developed initial draft of the Marine Turtles Management Toolkit, adapting the Marine Mammals Management Toolkit, especially the Self-Assessment Tool.

Expected Participants: 20-30

Duration: half-day to full day (depending on availability) | the workshop could also be held 'back-to-back' with the conference.

Funding: The project has suitable funding to support this workshop.

Concept note:

Over the last 200 years, human activities have tipped the scales against the survival of marine turtles. Commercial fishing, marine bycatch, loss of nesting habitat and coastal development, the influx of ocean pollution and climate change all continue to have a devastating impact on populations, pushing species to extinction. This scenario is no different to that in the Mediterranean. It is estimated that over 132,000 individuals are captured as by-catch, with over 44,000 mortalities, each year. However, mortality rates are estimated to be much higher when considering the broad range of threats – significant where some nesting female estimates are as low as 800 and 1,800 for Mediterranean green and loggerhead turtles, respectively.

Marine turtles - even at diminished population levels - play important ecological and socio-economic roles in the Mediterranean and should be regarded by Mediterranean people and visitors as a real biodiversity treasure. However, the future of marine turtles will be determined by our current and future actions. The development and implementation of good management plans for the conservation of these species should be an urgent priority.

Based upon the success of the Marine Mammals Management Toolkit (www.marine-mammals.info), developed by the Marine Mammal Twinning, as part of the EU-funded Ocean Governance project, we propose a workshop with MPA managers to develop and adapt the Toolkit to support the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean and beyond. The workshop will focus mainly on the [Self-Assessment Tool](#) but discussions will also be held with managers regarding the production of [critical factsheets](#) around the five core themes of: Management Frameworks; Addressing Activities and Threats; Research and Monitoring; Outreach and Engagement; and Management Effectiveness.

The [Self-Assessment Tool \(SAT\)](#) enables MPA managers to assess the extent to which species are included in their respective management plans. The SAT is available both online and offline (in the form of an .xls file) and guides the assessor through a range of questions that are linked to the core themes of the toolkit. Each answer is graded, and a dashboard presents results that unlock the managers' ability to monitor and evaluate the status and performance of the MPA with respect to migratory species.

The workshop will develop a toolkit to empower MPA managers to effectively conserve marine turtles within their MPAs, in conjunction with marine mammals, helping to build the technical capacities of managers by sharing knowledge, expertise and good practises.

We will invite marine turtle conservation experts, including the partners of the Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Mediterranean Region project, marine turtle researchers and MPA managers. Representation of decision makers will also be sought to ensure the Toolkit's

translation from practical, on the ground action into national, regional, and international policy. The workshop will be an interactive format with participants breaking into to discussion groups to discuss the key questions and topics required under each of the five core themes. Following these group discussions, the attendees will present the outputs to the group, contextualising the selected questions. The discussions will be consolidated into an initial draft where the Twinning will transform the draft into a functional tool to be shared with participants and MPA managers.

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Contact:

Main -

Tom Dallison

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Additional -

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Marine Mammal Twinning Ocean governance Project

Ocean-governance@biodiv-conseil.fr

Additional Resources:

Marine Mammals Management Toolkit explainer animation: <https://youtu.be/p6evcuuSk40>

Twinning and Toolkit Summary Flyer (English): <https://marine-mammals.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Marine-mammals-new-tool-web-cert.pdf>

WORKSHOP 2

WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORM

Details of key contact persons

Name of Organisers:	Daniela Freggi
Institution:	Lampedusa Sea Turtle Rescue Center
Contact e-mail:	freggidaniela@gmail.com

Workshop Title:	5 th Mediterranean Medicine and Rehabilitation Workshop
Aim:	
Anticipated outcome:	Standardization of common medical procedures, development of a focused network, agreement on basic procedures of high quality
Duration	3 hours
Participants	About 30 people

Summary of Proposal

The proposal of this workshop emerges from the evidence of the numerous sea turtle rescue centres along the Mediterranean coasts, sometimes facing emergencies with no available support of expertise. The lack of information may cause waste of energy and economical resources, uncertain results, and more important: pain for animals.

This workshop is addressed to people **directly** involved in sea turtle rehabilitation and care, offering the opportunity to share rehab and medical skills, knowledge, experiences and standard operating procedures. We propose to compare expertise on diagnostics, husbandry, critical care, lesions, anaesthesia and surgery, with the aim to develop an open discussion among participants. We hope to better update the role of sea turtle rescue centres in the Mediterranean area, a functional network among them, their support to the conservation efforts and their future perspectives, and the realization of a common agreement that may support the standardization of common protocols and medical administration, with a particular attention to high quality procedures for the care and convalescence of sea turtles.

Everyone is invited to be an integral part of the debate.

Daniela Freggi (Lampedusa Sea Turtle Rescue Center)

WORKSHOP 3

WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORM

Name of Organisers:	Amerssa Tsirigoti ¹ ; Flegra Bentivegna ¹ ; Lobna Ben Nakhla ² ; Arthur Pasquale ³ ; Vicky Rae ¹
Institution:	MEDASSET ¹ ; SPA/RAC ² ; INFO/RAC ³
Contact e-mail:	a.tsirigoti@medasset.org
Workshop Title:	Pan- Mediterranean Stranding Protocol & Database
Aim:	This workshop builds on the previous work achieved in the development of a Pan- Mediterranean Stranding Protocol under the MAVA Funded ‘Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Mediterranean’ project. Feedback received from the participants of the original workshop (Athens February 2019) recommended an additional workshop for increased Mediterranean country representation, more participants from each country and longer in its duration to allow discussions for the feasibility and development of various platforms and the formation of a database. This workshop is proposed in recognition of their feedback.
Anticipated outcome:	(1) Further elaboration & feedback obtained on the Protocol (2) Increased knowledge for the use and structure of a Common Database (3) Participants trained in marine litter data collection protocols All participants will be emailed with a short report outlining the summary of the workshop and next steps formed.
Duration	Approximately 3hrs
Participants	20 – 30
Summary of Proposal	
<p>PRE WORKSHOP: As per the feedback form the first workshop, participants will be provided with the following to review and come prepared to the workshop.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The current status of the Protocol (2) The 2020 Technical Report (3) The outline of the workshop programme and breakout sessions discussion points <p>INTRODUCTION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Welcome & Objectives of Workshop ii. Data obtained from stranding events iii. The importance and formation of a network iv. Stranding network in the Mediterranean, <p>SESSION 1: PROTOCOL</p> <p>Breakout session of working groups to discuss:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Feedback for if the protocol covers minimal amount required for regional analysis</i> ii. <i>What are the current issues faced with implementation or use of the protocol</i> iii. <i>Availability of different types of platforms for the protocol</i> 	

SESSION 2: DATABASE

- i. INFO/RAC – Introduction to IMAP monitoring data management and potential for integration/hosting Database
- ii. Open discussion session for
 - a. *Establish a network of users for contributing to a common database*
 - b. *How to report to input data into a common database*
 - c. *The expected outputs of the database desirable/ beneficial to contributors/ organisations*
 - d. *The integration in the IMAP process*

SESSION 3: MARINE LITTER COLLECTION

END: WRAP – UP

- Ensure we have all participants contact information
- Summary of discussions and main points from workshop to be emailed to all participants

WORKSHOP 4

WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORM

Details of key contact persons

Name of Organisers:	Anna Stamatou ^{1,2,3} and Efi Starfa ¹
Institution:	¹ MEDASSET, ² Animal Action Hellas, ³ Chios Nature
Contact e-mail:	anna@stamatiou.net

Workshop Title:	TURTLES EAT TOMATOES. Communicating for change (Or, why simply passing on knowledge is never enough)
Aim:	<p>This workshop will be of particular interest to NGOs but also those working to <i>achieve change</i>, whether in public behaviour or at the level of conservation management. NGOs typically pour resources into education, lobbying, advocacy and awareness work. Most of them accept that, to be credible, the messages they communicate must be based on good science. Happily, they have access to that from the researchers and academics they work with. The work of NGOs is to select the most relevant ‘nuggets’ of information as they emerge from the scientific community and ‘translate’ them into messages that lead to <i>conservation actions</i> and greater community engagement. But it turns out that providing knowledge and information simply isn’t a powerful driver of change! That means focussing on increasing what people <i>know</i> is a strategy that is doomed to be ineffective. What do we need to do differently?</p> <p>This workshop will take a look at some of the insights that have come from the world of marketing because conservationists, too, are in the business of <i>sales</i>. It’s just that our ‘products’ don’t come with a barcode because they are mostly <i>ideas</i> – new priorities, new ways of understanding the natural world, and how we can live in greater harmony with it.</p>
Anticipated outcome:	Participants will come away having learned to recognise key elements of effective communication and having gained insights into how these can be applied. They will be better able to ensure that the messages they send out reach their intended audience; hitting their target and staying there! Their new insights will help them to revise their communication strategies, relying less on passing on knowledge and responding more effectively to the challenge of turning the scientific community’s research findings into memorable ideas; helping them to devise communications of all kinds that are more likely to <i>achieve the changes they want to see</i> .
Duration	3 – 4 hours
Participants	15 – 20
Summary of Proposal	
First, we will explore some principles of <i>what makes ideas memorable</i> , seeking for example, to identify what it might take to motivate: a community to participate in a new scheme; key decision-makers to improve conservation measures; a corporation or the general public to	

modify its behaviour. We will offer participants the opportunity to work together to consider what effective communication looks like, taking real-world examples and analysing their potential to drive change.

In advance of the workshop, each participant will be expected to present a quick case study of a communication effort or campaign they have been (or currently are) involved with. It could be one that worked well but even more valuable would be one that fell short of expectations! The organisers will select the most relevant examples and participants will apply what they have learned to analyse these cases and suggest new, creative solutions to the communication challenges underlying them.

WORKSHOP 5

WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORM

Details of key contact persons

Name of Organisers:	ALan Rees
Institution:	Independent
Contact e-mail:	alanfrees@gmail.com
co convener,	Matic Jančič

Workshop Title:	Using Drones for Sea Turtle Research and Conservation
Aim:	Highlight the ways in which drones can be used for turtle conservation and research
Anticipated outcome:	Workshop participants will be empowered and enlightened sufficiently to design and implement their own drone projects where applicable
Duration	2-3 hours (suggested)
Participants	40?

Summary of Proposal

The session is intended to act as a follow up to the successful session held at the 6th MMTC in Croatia and bring together sea turtle researchers that are experienced, novice and just interested in using drones for sea turtle conservation and research. The primary aims are to continue dialogue on the best use of UAVs for sea turtle studies and catalyse a network where technical advances and method development are shared.

The session would be divided into two interactive parts, where the attendees are encouraged to ask questions to the presenters and the group at large.

- 1) Brief introduction to UAVs and technology
 - a. Types of UAV, their general properties
 - b. Data capture and processing options
 - c. Demonstrations on some of the popular software used to control UAVs and process data
- 2) Examples of UAV use
 - a. General outline of basic research topics
 - b. Brief review of current level of relevant peer-reviewed literature
 - c. Presentations of UAV research undertaken by workshop participants (with questions)
 - d. Panel Q&A

MTSG meeting

The Mediterranean Conferences on Marine Turtles is an excellent occasion to gather with all members of the IUCN SSC-Marine Turtle Specialists Group of the Mediterranean Region. Although there is an Annual MTSG Meeting and an additional Mediterranean Meeting organized by the Regional Vice Chairs at each International Sea Turtle Symposium, not many colleagues from the Mediterranean can make it overseas each year. The last ISTS was online which made a higher than usual attendance possible and we were very satisfied with how the meeting went and would like to build on this to discuss some more details of ongoing initiatives. This is why we – the Regional Vice Chairs – obtained a time slot at the Mediterranean Conference in Tetouan on Tuesday the 18th from 20.00 to 21.00 hrs and ask ALL MTSG members who will be in Tetouan to attend this meeting. In particular, there are two items on the agenda for the evening:

1. The REGIONAL REPORT INITIATIVE

*The first complete Report that will be published by the IUCN is almost ready.
Where do we stand after completing the review process?*

2. IMPORTANT MARINE TURTLE AREAS (IMTA)

One year has passed since the IMTA Working Group of the 7th Burning Issues Workshop has finalized the first guidelines that present the context and proposed criteria and process for defining IMTAs. How can we take action and move forward in following the IMTA guidelines in the Mediterranean?

3. Miscellaneous

Any suggestions/comments from the floor are welcomed!

The Mediterranean MTSG Vice Chairs

Sandra Hochscheid, Imed Jribi, Yakup Kaska, Aliko Panagopoulou