

Seabird research and extent of protection: Knowledge gaps and conservation priorities



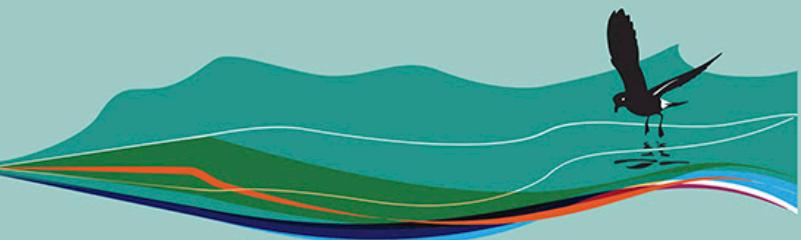
Gozo (Malta), 22-25 November 2015

By Dr. Imad CHERKAOUI & Dr. H. Rguibi Idrissi

PROTECTING SEABIRDS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: ADVANCING THE MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

23RD – 25TH NOVEMBER 2015



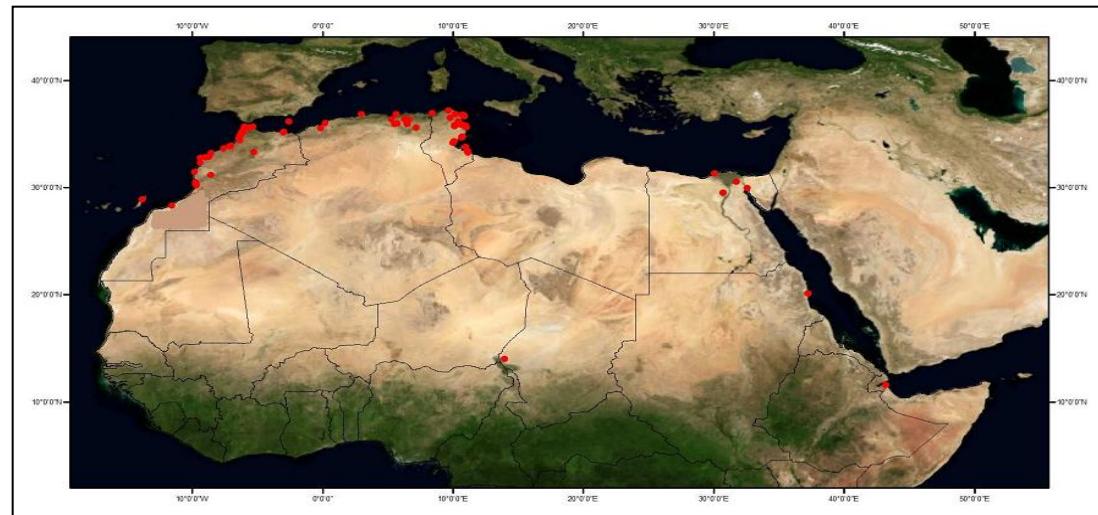
MINISTRY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,
THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



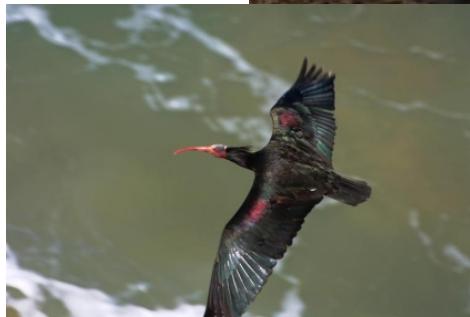
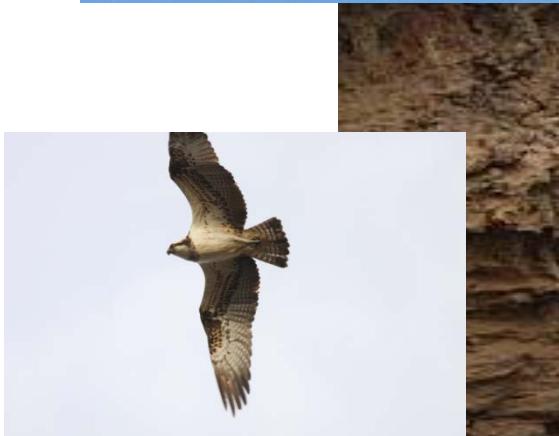
Partnership for
nature and people

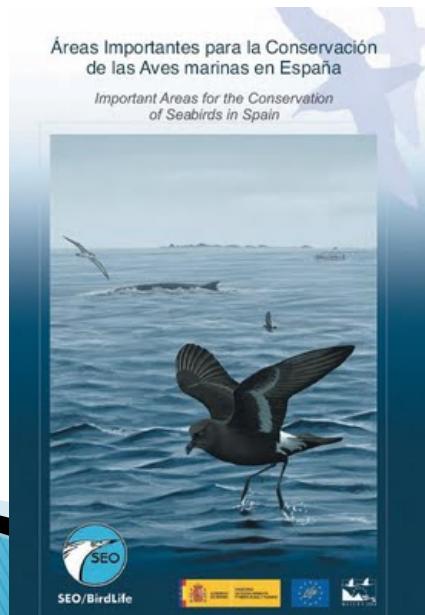
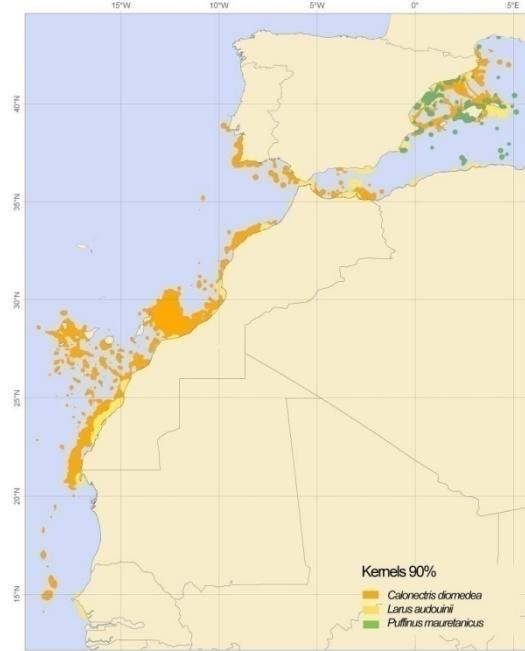


- **More than 51 Marine species depend on Moroccan offshore during a least part of their life cycle.**
- **Morocco has more than 3500 km of coasts but its offshore are mainly important for staging, wintering and foraging**
- **Among those species some are globally threatened.**
- **Very few species are breeding: lack of islets**



ICZM Project

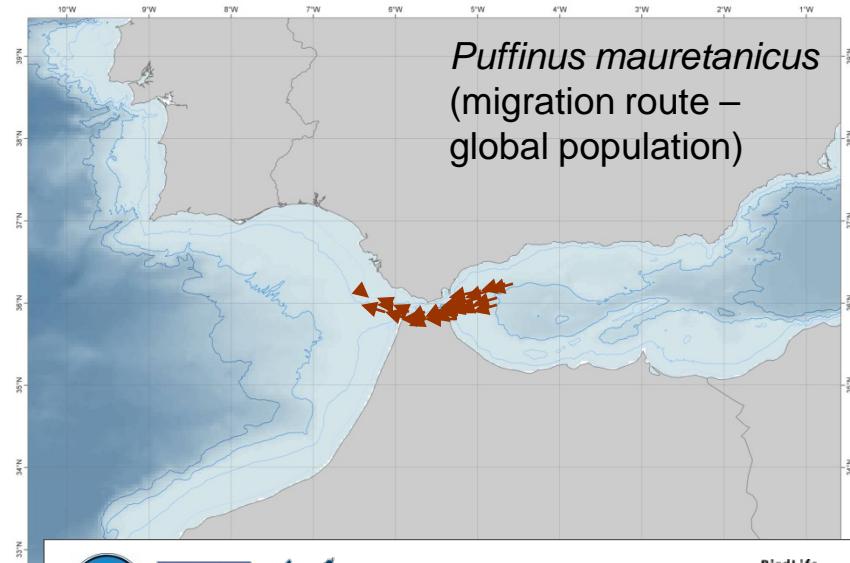




The process of marine IBA identification

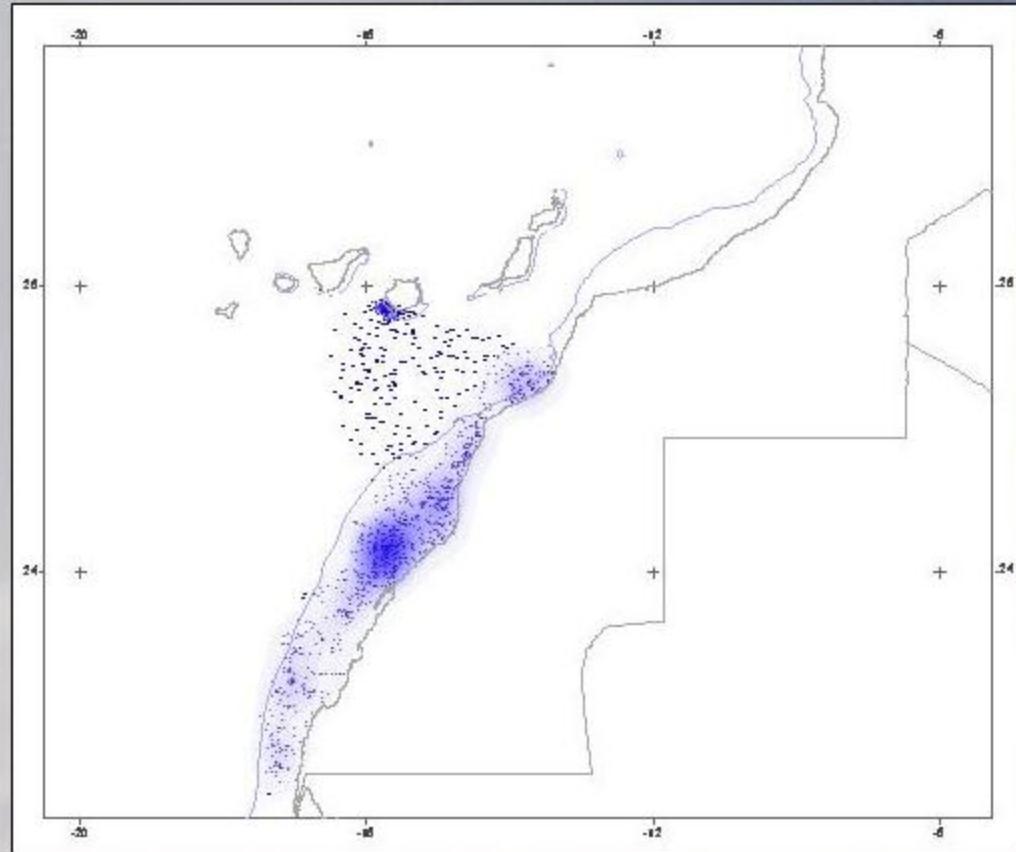
- ▶ (1) Non-breeding (coastal) concentrations
- ▶ (2) Areas for pelagic species
- ▶ (3) Seaward extensions to breeding colonies
- ▶ (4) Migration bottlenecks

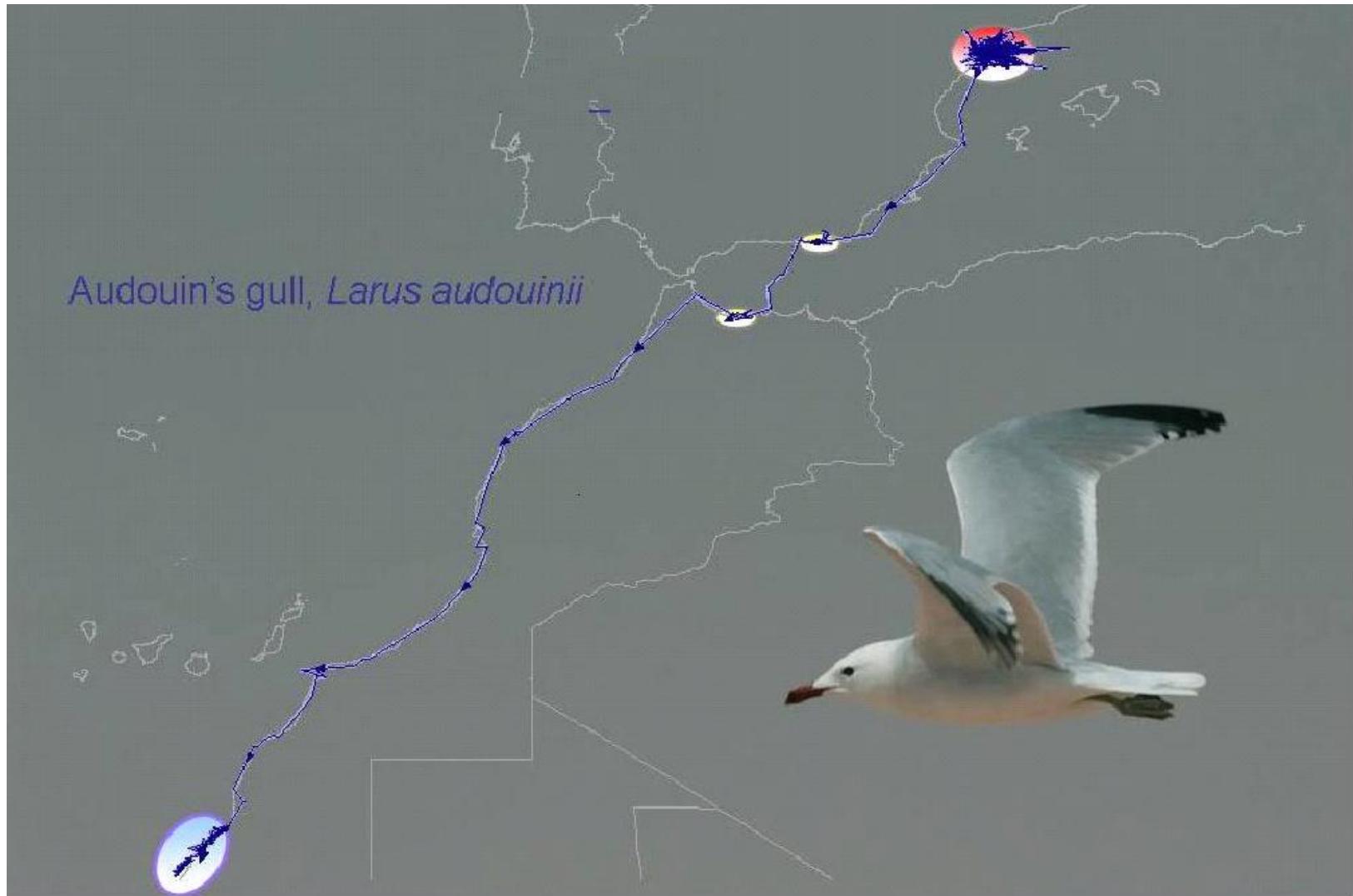
Áreas Importantes para las Aves (IBA)
marinas en España
LIFE04NAT/ES/000049

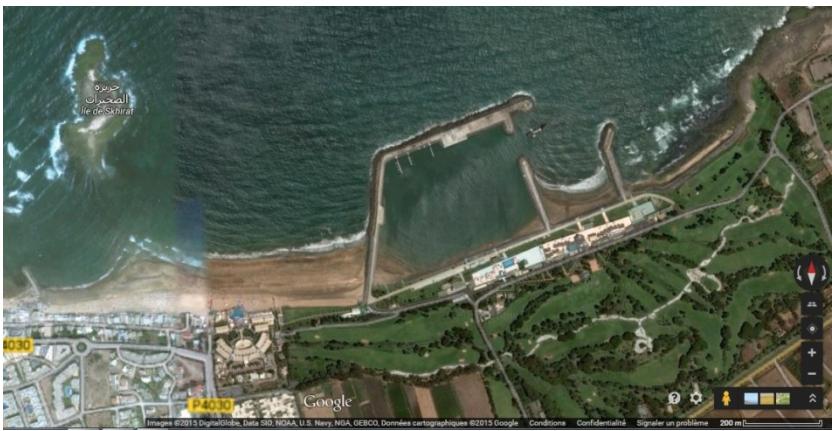




Cory's shearwater, *Calonectris diomedea borealis*







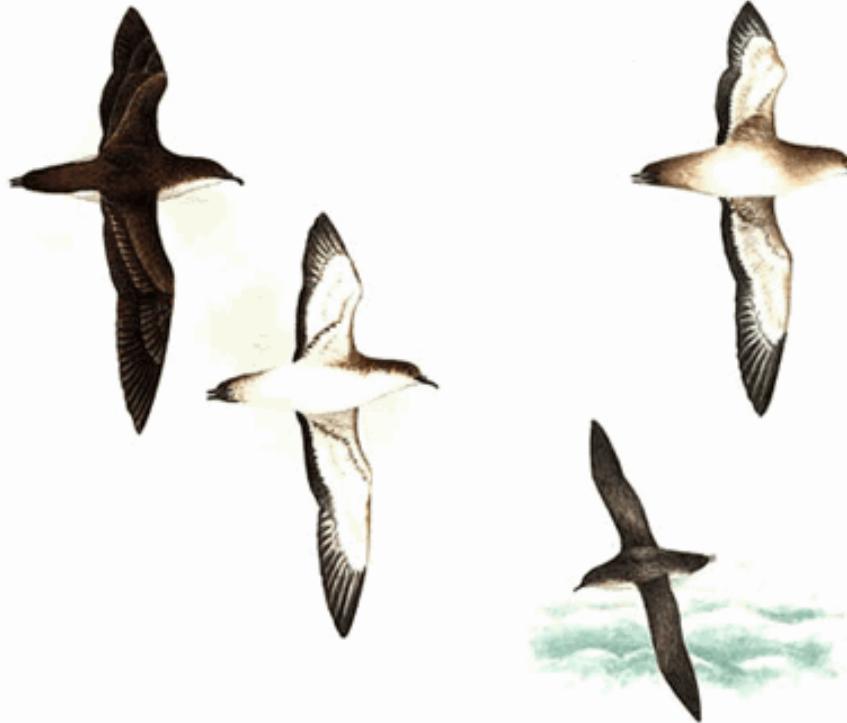
Fixed observation points



Fishing Trawlers, ships

Rough sea,

Lack of identification capacities



Pandion haliaetus







Project : Yellow-legged Gull in Morocco: population Dynamics, Foraging behaviour, Toxicology and Bacteriology

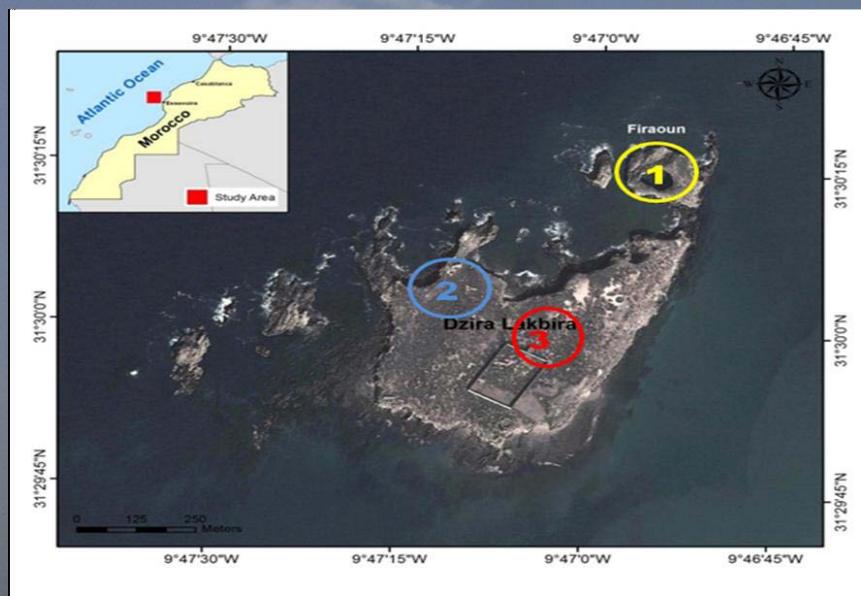
Sponsor's : University Chouaib Doukkali, CNRST Morocco, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie

Period project: January 2015-December 2017

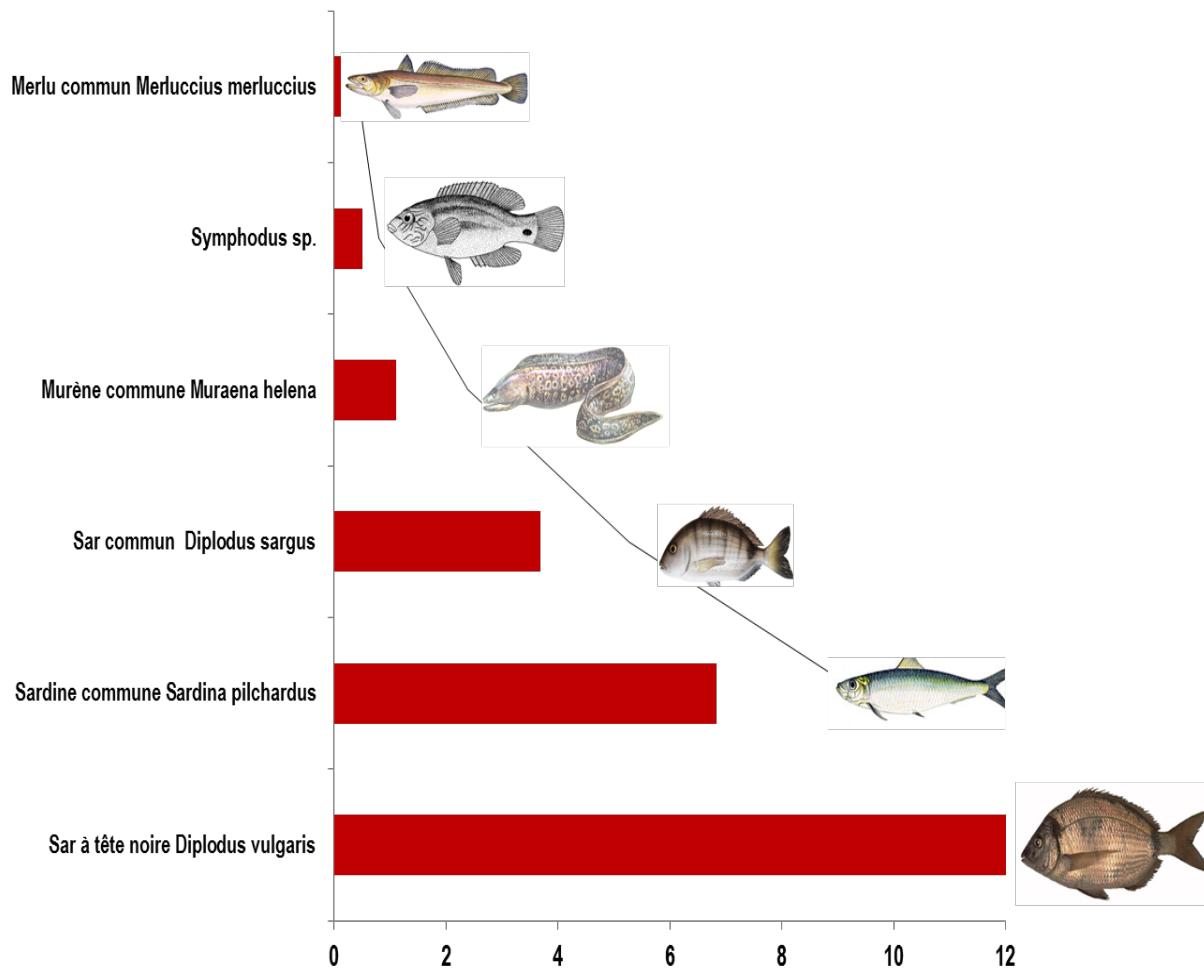
Dr. Hamid Rguibi Idrissi, Bouskout Mohamed (PhD),
Aboudihaje Mohamed (PhD), Dr. Sidi Imad Cherkaoui

Aims project:

- ✓ Study of the composition of the diet (optimal diet) .
- ✓ Spatiotemporal diet and prey research effort,
- ✓ How the exploitation of food resources may help to explain the observed differences in strategy feeding behavior in this species.
- ✓ The present project was carried out to assess toxicological and bacteriological related issues



Relative abundance of fish consumed by young gulls on the island of Mogador



➤ birds mainly feed on small prey ingested in large quantities. These data indicate that these marine predators can maximize their body weight gain by eating small prey because they require a lower cost-effort (time and energy) for their handling.

➤ This predator adopts this strategy by focusing on occasionally abundant preys and especially social insects (ants and bees) and beetles.











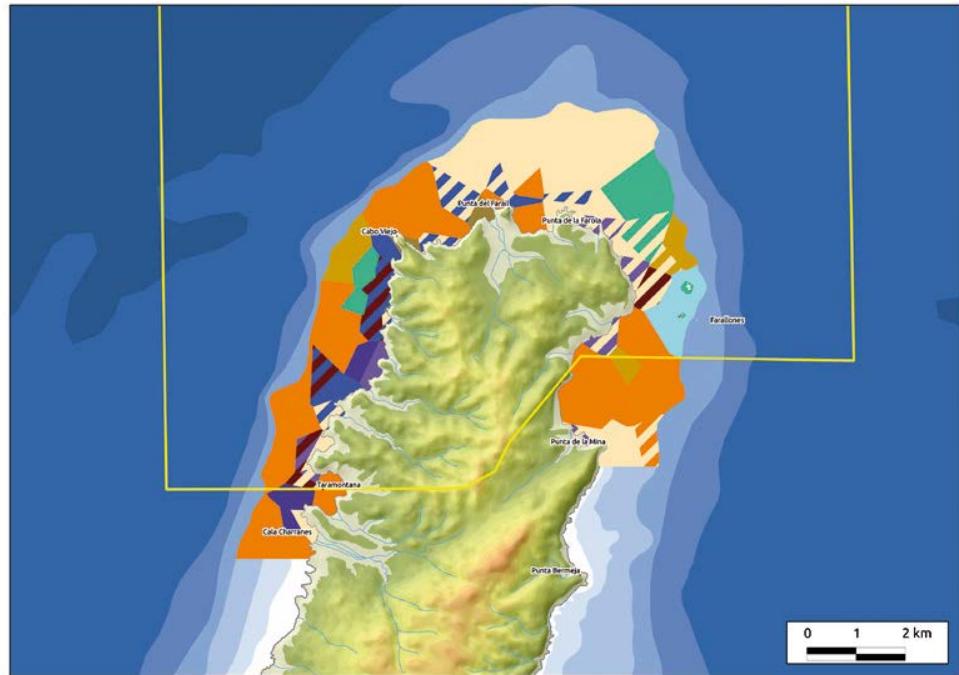


Le cap des Trois Fourches

Un site de grande importance pour la conservation de la nature sur la côte méditerranéenne du Maroc



Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts
et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification



Cap des Trois Fourches
Carte des communautés biologiques marines



- Fonds éboulés côtiers de Corallinaées libres (*Morophithes*)
- Grottes semi-obscurées et surplombs
- Sable bien calibré
- Coralligène
- Frécoralligène
- *Cymodocea nodosa*
- Rhodophytes calcaires encroûtantes et ourissés
- *Posidonia oceanica* (communautés API) avec dominance de *Cystoseira sp.*
- API avec dominance de *Halopeplis sp.* / *Asparagopsis sp.* / *Placodium sp.*
- *Ensisella sp.*

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Partenariat Stratégique pour le Grand Ecosystème Marin de la Mer Méditerranée (MedPartnership)

Projet MedMPAnet
Projet régional pour le développement d'un réseau méditerranéen d'Aires Protégées Marines et Côtierres (AMP) à travers la création et l'amélioration de la gestion des AMP

IDENTIFICATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES ET DES PARTENARIATS POTENTIELS POUR LA CREATION D'UN RESEAU NATIONAL D'AMP AU MAROC

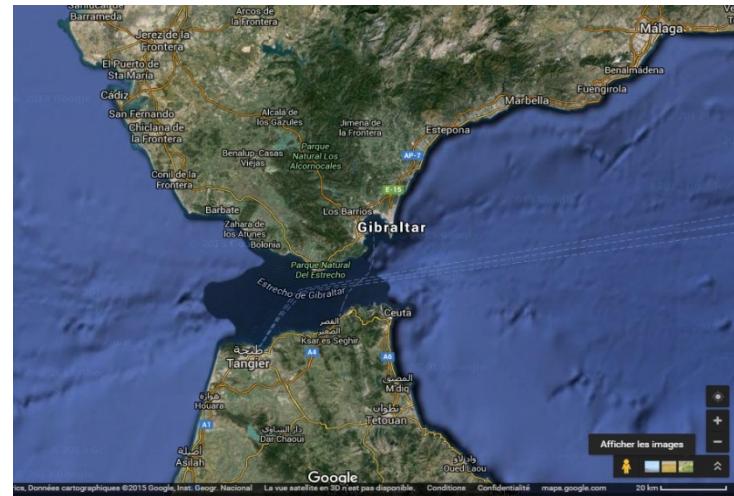
MedMPAnet PAM CAR/ASP

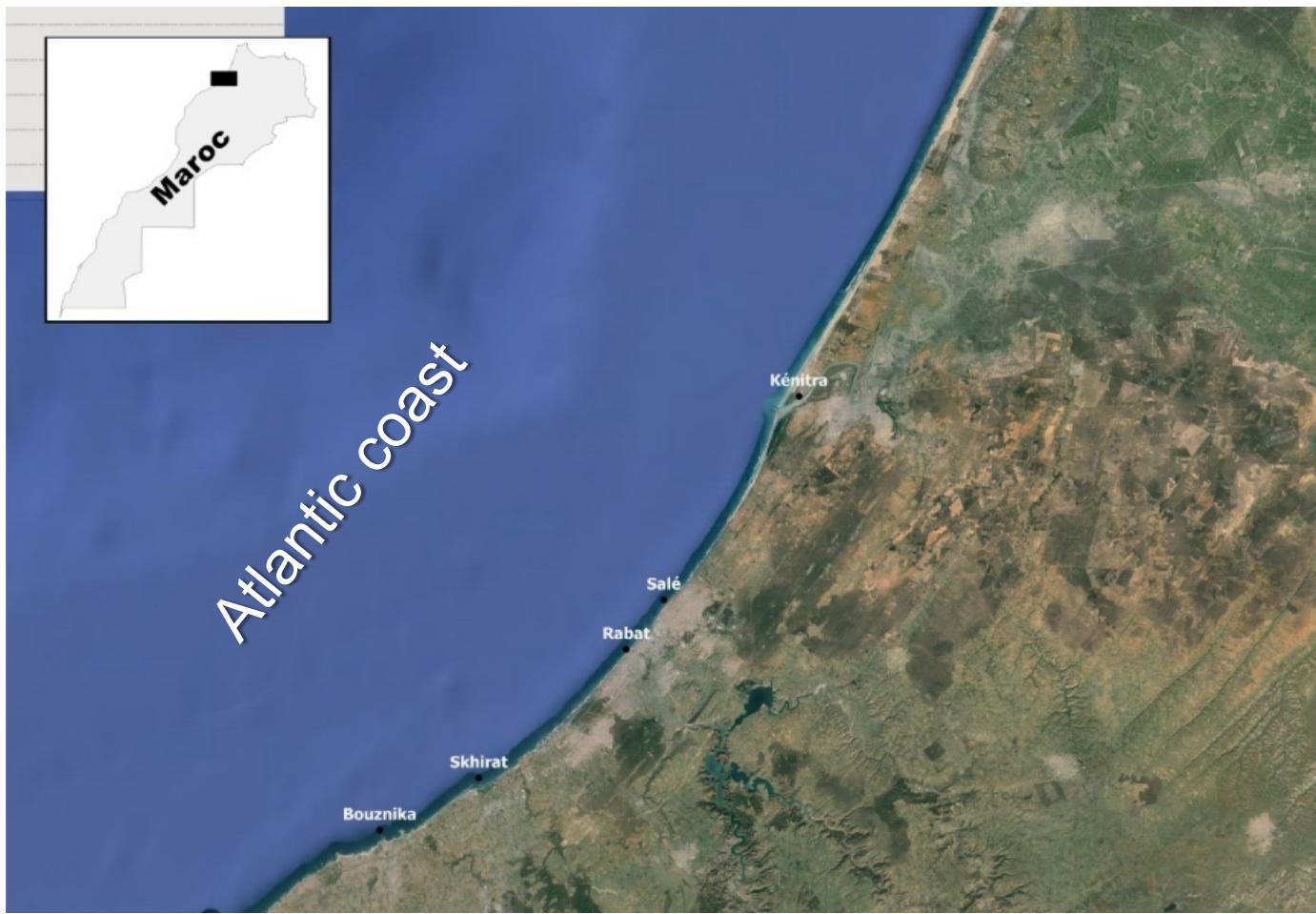
Marie Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification



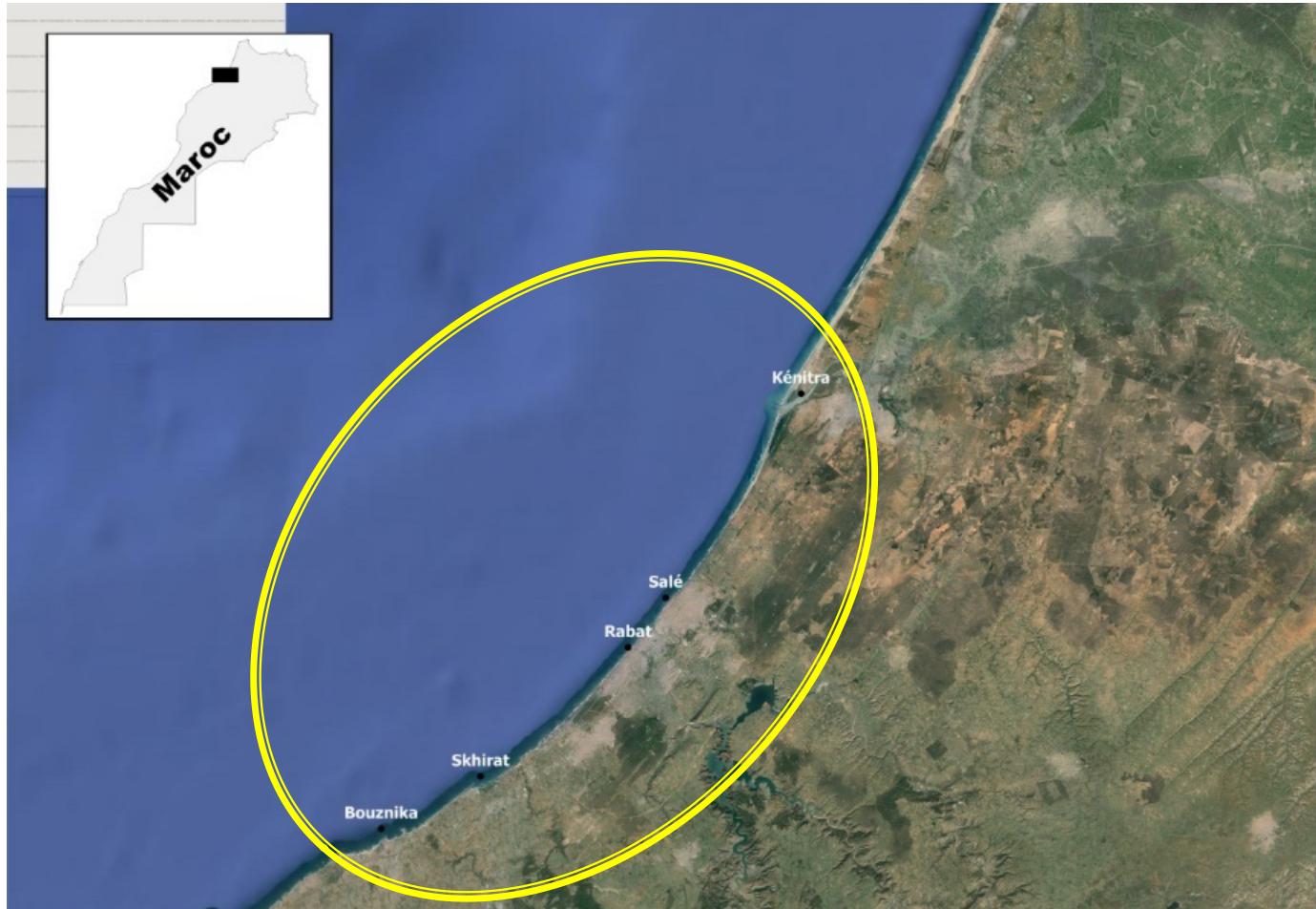


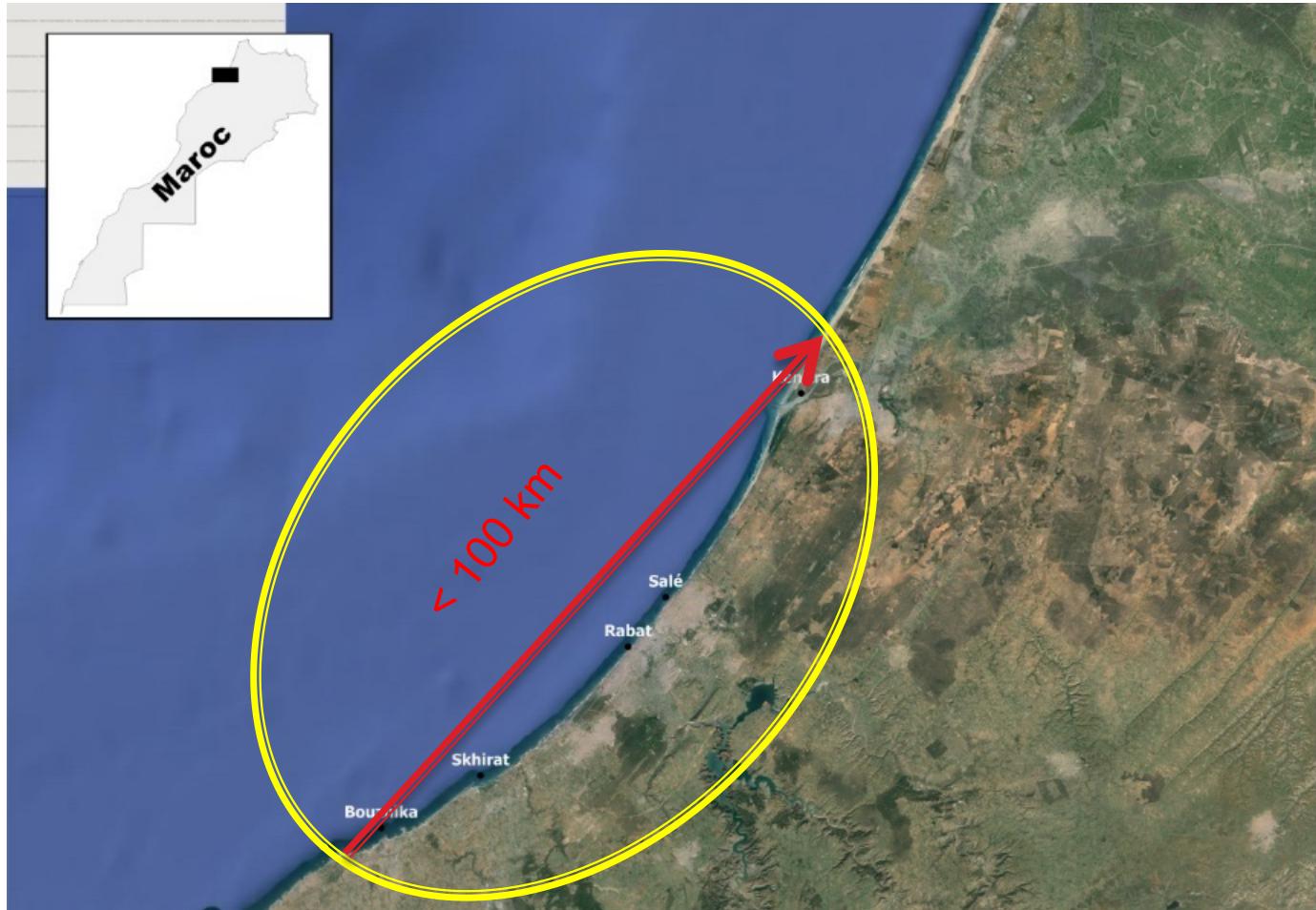






Pelagic Bird and Seabird monitoring



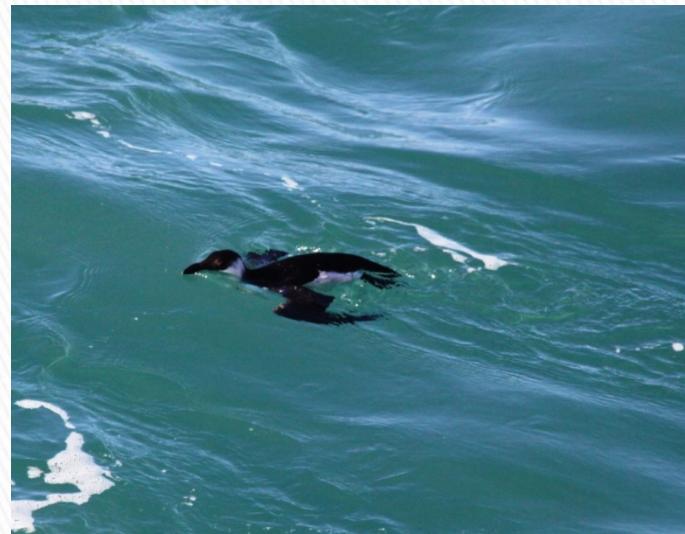


Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*



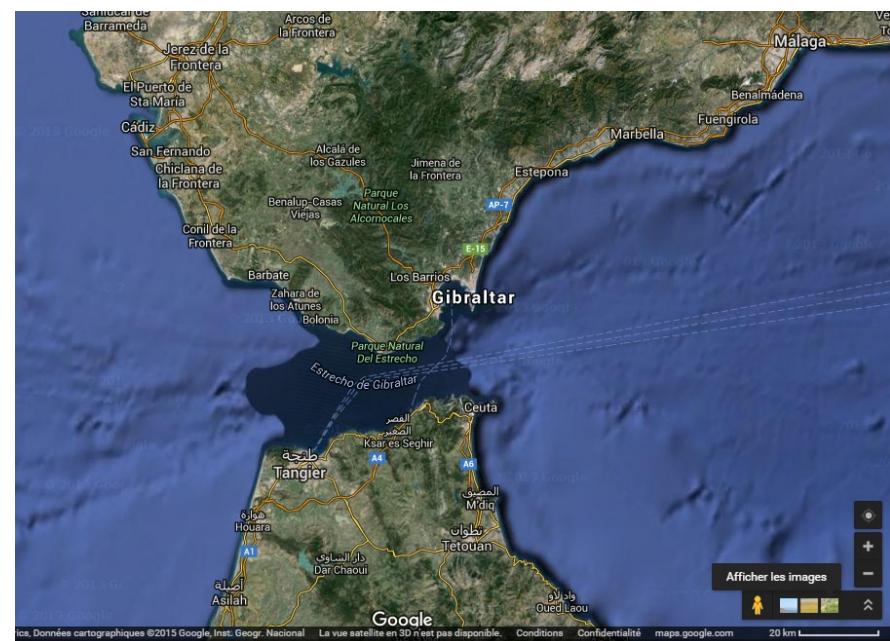
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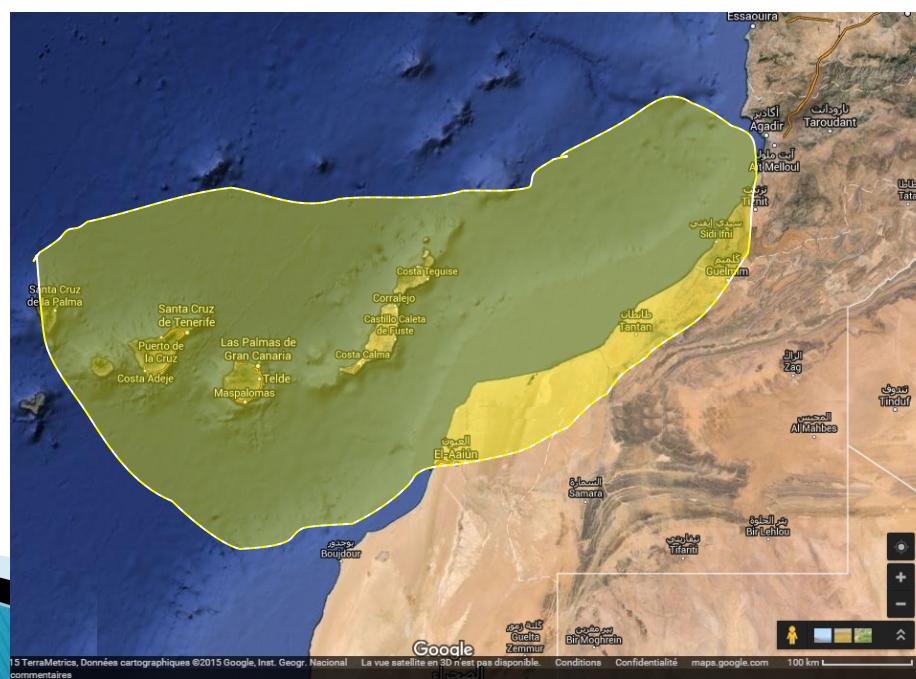
Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*











Category A1 - Globally Threatened Species

The site regularly holds significant numbers of a globally threatened species, or other species of global conservation concern.

The site qualifies if it is known, estimated or thought to hold a population of a species categorized on the IUCN Red List as globally threatened (Critical, Endangered and Vulnerable). The list of globally threatened species is maintained and updated annually by BirdLife International.

Category A2 - Restricted-range Species

The site is known or thought to hold a significant component of the group of species whose breeding distributions define an Endemic Bird Area (EBA) or Secondary Area (SA).

Endemic Bird Areas are defined as places where two or more species of restricted-range, defined as those whose global breeding distributions are of less than 50,000 km², occur together—see Stattersfield *et al.* (1998). A Secondary Area (SA) supports one or more restricted-range species, but does not qualify as an EBA because fewer than two species are entirely confined to it.

Category A3 - Biome-restricted Assemblages

The site is known or thought to hold a significant component of the group of species whose distributions are largely or wholly confined to one biome.

Biome-restricted assemblages are groups of species with largely shared distributions which occur mostly or entirely within all or part of a particular biome.

Category A4 - Congregations

- i) Site known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 1\%$ of a biogeographic population of a congregatory waterbird species.*
- ii) Site known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 1\%$ of the global population of a congregatory seabird or terrestrial species.*
- iii) Site known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 20,000$ waterbirds or $\geq 10,000$ pairs of seabirds of one or more species.*
- iv) Site known or thought to exceed thresholds set for migratory species at bottleneck sites.*

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Inventory of impacts / risks of anthropogenic origin observed in the vicinity of Main Mediterranean Marine IBA

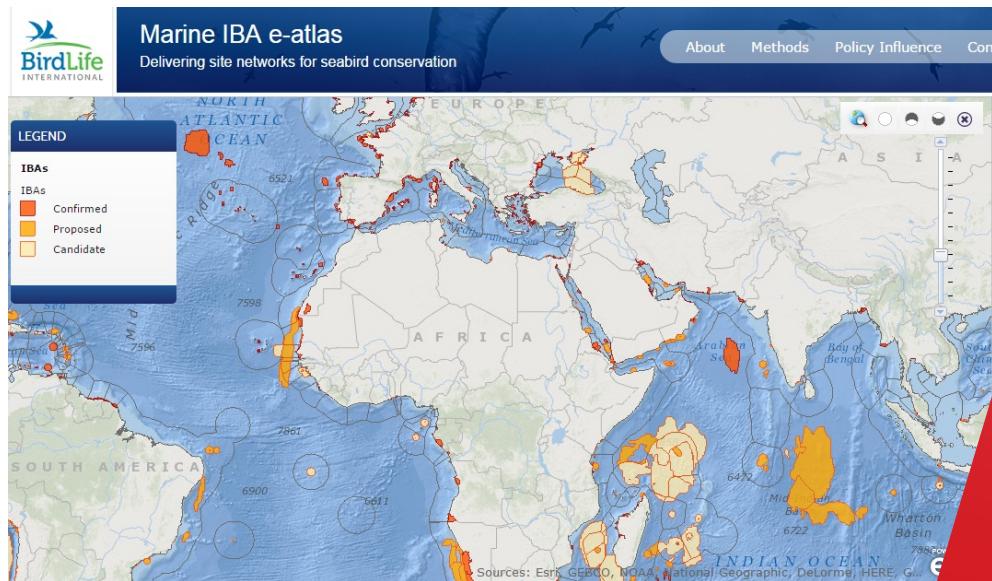
Impacts et risques potentiels	PNAH	MES	JEB	RHO
Activités liées à la pêche :				
Pêche artisanale à petite échelle	2	1	2	1
Plongée sous-marine	2	1	2	1
Chalutage	3	3	3	3
Pollution :				
Rejets urbains	2	0	2	1
Pollution portuaire	3	0	2	1
Déchets solides (sous-marins)	2	1	3	1
Activités touristiques / Loisirs				
Sports nautiques	2	1	2	1
Pêche sportive	2	1	2	1
Aménagements Bassin Versant :				
Agriculture	1	1	1	1
Rocade méditerranéenne	1	1	2	2
Score global :	21	10	21	13
Risque :	R3	R1	R3	R2

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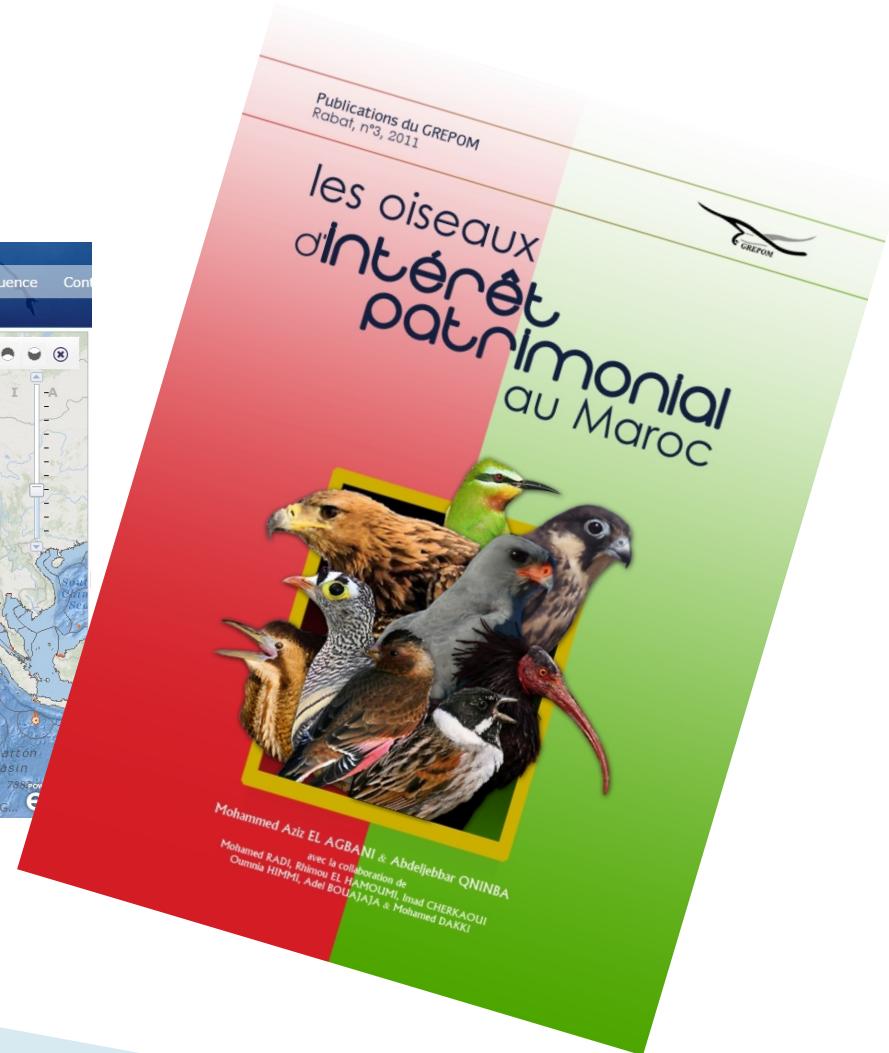
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- ▶ Marine IBA e-Atlas of BirdLife
- ▶ Monitoring program of IBA

- Proposal of marine Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Morocco
- update bird conservation status
- Fill Gaps
- Adopt the national redlist



BIRDLIFE IMPORTANT BIRD
AND BIODIVERSITY AREA



THANK YOU !

