



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



SPAMIday
15 April

**LA GALITE ARCHIPELAGO: A JEWEL OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN, A SPAMI TO PRESERVE
- *MINI PROJECT ACTIVITY REPORT***



Legal notice:

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) or the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Copyright:

All property rights of texts and content of different types of this publication belong to SPA/RAC. Reproduction of these texts and contents, in whole or in part, and in any form, is prohibited without prior written permission from SPA/RAC, except for educational and other non-commercial purposes, provided that the source is fully acknowledged.

© 2023 - United Nations Environment Programme
Mediterranean Action Plan
Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)
Boulevard du Leader Yasser Arafat
B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex - Tunisia
car-asp@spa-rac.org

For bibliographic purposes, this document may be cited as:

UNEP/MAP-SPA/RAC, 2023. La Galite Archipelago: a jewel of the Mediterranean, a SPAMI to preserve. Mini project activity report.
By XXX

Cover photos credit:

© Oussema Fersi

The mini project presented in this report has been carried out in the framework of the SPAMI DAY Celebration 2023, and has benefited from the support of the SPAMI Twinning Programme - Ensuring effective management and evaluation of SPAMIs – coordinated by SPA/RAC under the cooperation agreement between UNEP/MAP-Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention and the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security.

The present report has been prepared by Association Méditerranée Action Nature in collaboration with XXX

Available from
www.spa-rac.org



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



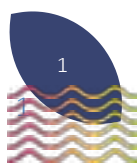
LA GALITE ARCHIPELAGO: A JEWEL OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, A SPAMI TO PRESERVE - *MINI PROJECT ACTIVITY REPORT*



SPAMIday
15 April

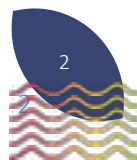
Table of content

List of Acronyms	2
Executive Summary	3
1. Introduction	4
2. Presentation of the Association Méditerranée Action Nature	5
3. Dedicated Team for the Mini Project	5
4. The Mini Project	6
5. Activity Results	7
5.1. SPAMI Night	7
5.2. Video	8
5.3 Environmental education at a primary school	8
5.4 Field school	9
5.5 Information day at the Faculty of Sciences, Tunis El Manar	10
6. The way forward	11
Annexes	12



List of Acronyms

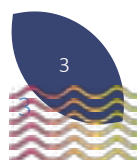
SPA/RAC	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre
SPAMI	Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance
MAN	Mediterranean Action Nature Association
APAL	Agence de Protection et d'Aménagement du Littoral
AMCP	Aire Marine et Côtière Protégée



Executive Summary

This project takes the form of a series of events and meetings with the various components of Tunisian civil society and local authorities with the aim of communicating on the SPAMI of the Galite archipelago and more generally on what the SPAMIs are to enhance its natural, cultural and historical heritage.

Indeed, the Galite archipelago is a specific ecosystem for Tunisia and the Mediterranean characterized by an important biological, cultural and historical wealth. It is home to emblematic, endemic and other threatened animal and plant species. In addition, the history of the Galite archipelago, its richness and the objectives aimed at making it a real gateway to nature in the Mediterranean must be communicated more intensely.



1. Introduction

The SPAMI Day, a **regional celebration of Mediterranean marine conservation and protected areas**, was set up by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at their COP 22 (Antalya, Türkiye, 7-10 December 2021), and is officially celebrated on 15 April of each year.

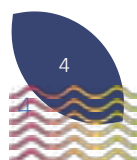
The objective of the SPAMI Day is to promote the List of **Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance** (SPAMIs), in other words, exceptional marine areas, managed in an exemplary manner, and more broadly, to raise awareness about ocean conservation.

The theme of SPAMI Day 2023 focused on the co-management and involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the management of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs). By selecting this theme, the aim was to value and encourage all the dynamics involving different stakeholders within SPAMIs, which contribute to transformative change towards preserving and restoring ecosystems and living in harmony with nature.

As part of the third edition of the SPAMI Twinning Programme, funded by the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, SPA/RAC provided support to Mediterranean Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in implementing activities to celebrate the SPAMI Day and promote the conservation of marine biodiversity across six SPAMIs, in collaboration with their respective managers.

In this context, the mini project “La Galite Archipelago: a jewel of the Mediterranean, a SPAMI to preserve” was proposed and implemented by Association Méditerranée Action Nature (MAN) in collaboration with the Tunisian Coastal Protection and Planning Agency (APAL).

The aim of this mini project was to raise awareness of La Galite Archipelago as a Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) and emphasize the need for its conservation. The project aimed also to engage a network of actors and advocates committed to the sustainable management of SPAMIs in Tunisia and the Mediterranean.



2. Presentation of the Association Méditerranée Action Nature (MAN)

The Mediterranean Action Nature association has emerged from a reflection since 2015 of a group of experts and managers working on the creation and management of MPAs / AMCPs in Tunisia and in the Mediterranean and working for the conservation of coastal biodiversity and coastal.

Our association Méditerranée Action Nature works on two major axes:

- Contribution to environmental management at the level of protected natural areas, in particular island areas and more generally on the coast.
- Contribution to capacity building, training of stakeholders in environmental management, environmental protection and conservation of coastal, coastal and island biodiversity (Naturalists, amateurs, experts, etc.).

3. Dedicated Team for the Mini Project

Permanent team:

Walid Belgacem: Coordinator and finance responsible

Oussama Fersi: Photographer & Designer

Moez Shaeik: Assistant

Sahbi Dorai: Photographer

Mr Sabri Jaziri : Photographer

Volunteers MAN

Mr Sami Ben Haj (Président)

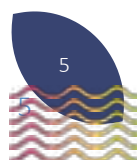
Mr Neji Ben Aissa (General secretary)

Ms Mouna Rifi (Member)

Mr Abdessalem Fezzeni (Trésorier)

Ms Safa Arfaoui

Ms Meryam Amdouni



4. The Mini Project

(Describe the problem addressed and the actions planned)

La Galite Archipelago in Northern Tunisia boasts stunning terrestrial and marine landscapes and serves as a nursery for vulnerable fish species. Strengthening its protection is crucial.

The project included several activities aimed at raising awareness and engaging different stakeholders.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- 1- Environmental education on the SPAMI of La Galite
- 2- Strengthen knowledge about the SPAMI of La Galite
- 3- Reinforce efforts for the protection and sustainable management of the SPAMI of La Galite
- 4- Promote sustainable tourism and responsible fishing on the SPAMI of La Galite

Activity 1: Manifestation of the celebration of SPAMI DAY

“SPAMI NAIGHT”

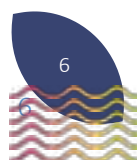
Activity 2: Environmental education in collaboration with a primary school

Action1: Environmental education session in a primary school approved by the MAN association

Action 2: Field school

Activity 3: Information day at the Faculty of Sciences Tunis El Manar

Activity 4: Production of a video to promote the ASPIM of the Galite archipelago



5. Activity Results

5.1. SPAMI Night

Short description of the activity and its objectives.

It is an evening dedicated mainly to talk about the SPAMI of La Galite and its natural, historical and cultural specificity. The interventions focused on the history of La Galite, a very rich site with a very diversified human occupation.

- **Where:** *Andalucia Hotel Bizerte*
- **When:** *April 15th 2023*
- **Programme:**
 - Presentation of the SPAMI of the Galite
 - Diffusion of the video produced especially for the APAMI of the Galite
 - Intervention of former Galitois
 - Free Discussion & interactions

- **Participants:** *who took part in the event and how many people (list of participants in annex)*
 - Former Galitois
 - Locals stakeholders
 - Local NGO
 - Fisher's men
 - APAL
 - CRDA Bizerte
 - DGF Tunis
 - Faculty of sciences of Bizerte
 - National Institute of Agronomy of Tunisia (INAT)
 - Gustave Eiffel School

- **Impact:**

The event was an opportunity to present to participants the natural, social and cultural potential of the Galite archipelago. A majority of those present did not know the specificities of this SPAMI and they were very interested in the continuous presentations and interventions.

On the other hand, the event was marked by the presence of former Galites and fishermen who testified to their experiences of living in Galite. They spoke with great nostalgia and told those present how they lived at La Galite and how they exploited the resources of this site with a sustainable vision.

At the end of the evening, the participants were very satisfied with what was presented and they are all motivated to get involved, each on their own, to contribute to the preservation of the SPAMI of La Galite.

- **Relevant links:**

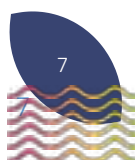
<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7051766247872434176/>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063648909060>

<https://www.youtube.com/@mediterraneeactionnature1892>

<https://mediterraneeactionnature.org.tn/>

- *Photos of the event: see [shared folder provided by SPA/RAC](#).*



5.2. Video

Synopsis.

it's a video made based on materials that belong to the MAN association and taken by the co-management team.

This video will allow participants to have an idea of the current state of the SPAMI of La Galite and the richness of its terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and the conservation objectives.

- *Date of the production: April 15th 2023*
- *Credits: Realized by Oussema Fersi (MAN)*
- *Relevant links:*
- <https://www.youtube.com/@mediterraneeactionnature1892>

5.3. Environmental education at a primary school

Short description of the activity and its objectives.

The MAN association, in partnership with APAL, the official manager of the ASPIM de la Galite, organizes a series of environmental education sessions each year in public or private primary schools.

As a continuation of these activities, organized an environmental education session for the students of a primary school in Bizerte (Gustave Eiffel School). The main objective of this action is to introduce them to the SPAMI and raise their awareness of the importance of its protection and the conservation of its biological diversity.

- *Where: Gustave Eiffel School Bizerte*
- *When: April 26th 2023*
- *Participants: Gustave Eiffel Student & Teachers*
25 students and 2 teachers

- *Programme:*

Before the day of the activity, the pupils of the environment club of the Gustave Eiffel school were invited to carry out research on the AMCP in general and then on the AMCP of Galite specifically.

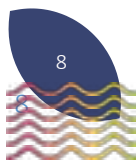
The main objective of the activity is to define a SPAMI and detail the characteristics of an area classified as SPAMI.

During the activity, each student presented his work and then a discussion was led by all the participants. The students were very excited and presented their work with great pride.

- *Materials used: if available in digital format, to be provided in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*
- *Impact:*

Students have strengthened their capacities in terms of:

- Definition of AMCPs and their specificities
- Role of SPARAC in the preservation of SPAMIs and MCPAs in the Mediterranean
- The advantages of the SPAMI classification
- SPAMIs in Tunisia
- Roles of SPAMIs in the preservation of natural, historical and cultural heritage
- *Relevant links:*
- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063648909060>
- *Photos of the event: to be provided in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*



5.4. Field school

Short description of the activity and its objectives.

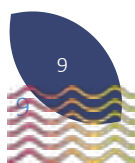
This action consists of a field trip for a group of schoolchildren who participated in the environmental education session.

In this context, the MAN association has organized an outing to Sidi Mechreg, the closest land area to La Galite and which will allow participants to observe the Galite archipelago with the naked eye or with binoculars, which is visible at this level. Visitors are installed at the station “Eco Rand Sidi Mechreg” which is reserved in advance to host the event.

For this activity, the MAN association acquired observation equipment consisting of two binoculars and a telescope which were used by all participants.

This activity allowed the students to see the real structure of the archipelago and the different islets that make it up and make a comparison with everything that was presented theoretically, especially the comparison with the educational model of Galite designed by the co-management unit.

- *Where: Sidi Mechreg*
 - *When: June 16th 2023*
 - *Participants: who took part in the event and how many people*
 - MAN Staff
 - APAL
 - Students from Gustave Eiffel School and Teachers
 - MAN Volunteer
 - *Programme:*
 - 9.30am: Arrival to Sidi Mechreg
 - 9.30am: 10am:
 - Introduction of the activity and presentation of the SPAMI day and the overall context of this day
 - Presentation of the project “EcoRand Sidi Mechreg” et the mains objectives
 - Questions and Responses session
 - 10am – 11.30am:
 - guided tour on the coast of sidi mechreg to observe the characteristics of coastal biodiversity
 - Visit of the Sidi Mechreg fishing port and talks with the fishermen to discover the main species caught in La Galite and the fishing gear used
 - 11.30am-13.30pm:
 - Observation of the SPAMI of the Galite by binoculars and telescope and comparison with the model.
 - *Materials used: if available in digital format, to be provided in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*
 - Model of the Galite Island
 - T-shirt SPAMI
 - *Impact:*
- The students had the opportunity to see with the naked eye the SPAMI of the galite and its different components.
- They were very satisfied with this event which allowed them to get out of the classroom and observe the beauty of nature and discover a new environment.
- *Relevant links: <https://www.facebook.com/MedActionNature>*
 - *Photos of the event: to be provided in the shared folder of SPA/RAC.*



5.5. Information Day at the Faculty of Sciences, Tunis El Manar

Short description of the activity and its objectives.

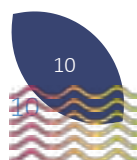
This activity consists of organizing an information day in collaboration with the Faculty of Sciences of Tunis and the Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte. It is an opportunity to integrate into the academic world and talk to students about SPAMIs, their natural importance but also their roles in promoting cooperation for the preservation of biodiversity in the Mediterranean. The SPAMI of Galite has set the standard example for this theme, especially since the co-management unit has integrated, since last year, several student researchers who are currently working on Galite and who will testify to their experiences.

Several researchers (active or retired teachers) who have worked on Galite are invited to speak to the students about the specificity of this SPAMI and biodiversity and their experiences during their field missions.

- *Where: Faculté of Science of Tunis*
 - *When: May 3rd 2023*
 - *Participants: who took part in the event and how many people*
 - Researcher
 - Students from many organizations (Faculty of science of Tunis; Faculty of science of Bizerte; National Institute of Agronomy (INAT)).
 - APAL
 - MAN and volunteer
 - SAPARC Director
 - The dean of the faculty of science of Tunis
- A total of **85 participants** attended this event

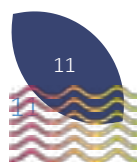
- *Programme: See in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*
- *Materials used: if available in digital format, to be provided in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*
- *Impact:*
- *This event was like a forum for students, the majority of whom will discover SPAMIs for the first time, but also it will allow them to get in touch with national and international organizations involved in the management and conservation of SPAMIs and what new research or work opportunities can open to them.*

- *Relevant links: <https://www.facebook.com/MedActionNature>*
- *Photos of the event: to be provided in the [shared folder of SPA/RAC](#).*



6. The way forward

Based on the activities carried out, the association is proposing a series of recommendations for future SPAMI DAY celebrations.



Annexes

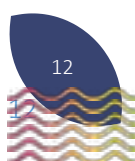
Annex.1. List of participants in the SPAMI NIGHT

Annex.2. List of participants in the field school

Annex.3. List of participants in the information day at the Faculty of Science of Tunis

Annex.4. Program of the information day at the Faculty of Science of Tunis

Annex.5. Attestation of participation delivered to the participants in the information day





Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



The Mediterranean
Biodiversity
Centre

Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)

Boulevard du Leader Yasser Arafat

B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex - Tunisia

car-asp@spa-rac.org

www.spa-rac.org



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA