

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal	Réseau Enfants de la Terre
Project Title:	Promotion des zones humides pour le développement local
Date of Report:	09/03/2016
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CEPF Region: Montagnes plateau et zones humides du tell algérien et de la Tunisie

Strategic Direction: SD1: Encourager l'implication de la société civile dans la gestion intégrée des zones côtières pour réduire les effets négatifs du développement du

littoral dans trois corridors prioritaires (sud-ouest des Balkans; péninsule cyrénaïque et les montagnes, plateaux et zones humides du Tell algérien et de la Tunisie) et dans 20 zones clés pour la biodiversité marine et côtière dans d'autres corridors

PI.1.3 Appui aux parties prenantes locales pour progresser et tirer parti du tourisme basé sur la nature à travers la diversification des activités liées au tourisme et la création de moyens d'existence alternatifs

Grant Amount: 17 770 US\$

Project Dates: 01/11/2015 à 29/02/2016

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

The project trail includes five natural sites, each managed by a local association:

- 1- **Association Amis des Oiseaux** : provide the need information about the eco-touristic trail developed through GEPF large grant project during the last previous years. AAO is also one of the actors on lake of Tunis site where they ensure the tour and the explanation for the biodiversity conservation. Several preparatory meetings took place during the month of January and February 2016 in order to prepare logistics. They contacted and mobilized the local authority to clean the site. The AAO facilitated the mobilization of the national partners of the project like the APAL and the DGF
- 2- **Association Amis des Oiseaux Cap Bon** : conducted the ecotouristic visit on Haouaria site, AAO Cap-Bon has contacted locals to provide local products for participant. A continual discussion took place with AAO-CapBon through phone and face-to-face meeting to ensure their involvement. AAO-CapBon ensured a rich program the visitors. We devoted more time to ElHaouaria for the two groups see in the potentials of the area.
- 3- **Association Tunisienne de Protection de la Nature et Environnement Korba** : help in the implementation of the visit in Korba lagoon. A continual meeting and communication took place with ATNPE Korba for logistic preparation. They involve the local authority who cleaned the site and have been highly involved.
Korba is the first producing city of strawberry in Tunisia, the ATPNE ensured a visit in a strawberry farmer
- 4- **Association Eco-tourisme et Environnement** : help in the implementation of the visit in Maamoura. ETE+ contacted local authority in order to clean the site. ETE+ integrated local families and artisans in the circuit

5- **APAL:**

One of our national partners in project AAOCEPF. The APAL is one of the managers of the sites. They contributed to the development of the ecotouristic activities: choices of the paths. During this project the representatives of the APAL were invited to evaluate the circuit.

6- **Head office of Forests**

DGF: One of our national partners in project AAOCEPF. The DGF is one of the managers of the sites. They contributed to the development of the ecotouristic activities. During this project the representatives of the APAL were invited to evaluate the circuit.

7- **National office of tourism ONTT:** *This project was an opportunity to integrate representative of the tourism. Their contribution in the circuit were the participation in the circuit and the evaluation with regard to (compared with) the requirements of the domain of the tourism. The second contribution was the collaboration with actors' network of the project AAO-CEPF to promote this new circuit.*

8- **The journalists:** *the role of the journalists was the mediatisation of our actions and the support for the mobilization of the local authorities to clean sites.*

The Journalists communicated on the project before the visits of the groups and also there were journalists among the participants who communicated the progress of the circuit and their evaluations.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

Our project fits perfectly with the strategic direction 1 and the investment priorities 1.3 in the ecosystem profile. The ecoduc-tour participated to valuing the ecotouristic trail that has been established through CEPF project with AAO since 2013. To enhance the work of involvement of local people and good management of natural sites, the RET invited tourism professionals (Ministry, National Tourist Office) to raise awareness and promote eco-tourism in these areas, its economic potentialities and the social impact that can be created. During the two circuits, the RET and its local partners have mobilized local ecotourism providers. These local families receive for the first time ever tourists. We have successfully diversified the activities with the local population: host tables, agricultural activities, exhibition of regional products, agricultural, cultural exchange workshops. This diversification of tourist activities strengthens our offering and improves the social and economic impact on local populations. All these activities support local stakeholders to use the local richness and empower local people to profit from tourism based on nature. This is perfectly in line with PI 1.3

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected:

- The project includes 5 natural sites:
- The South Lake of Tunis: 50 hectares
- Sebkhah of Soliman: 225 hectares
- Lagoon of Korba: 450 hectares
- Lagoon of Maamoura: 96 hectares
- Mountain of EL Haouaria: 1200 hectares

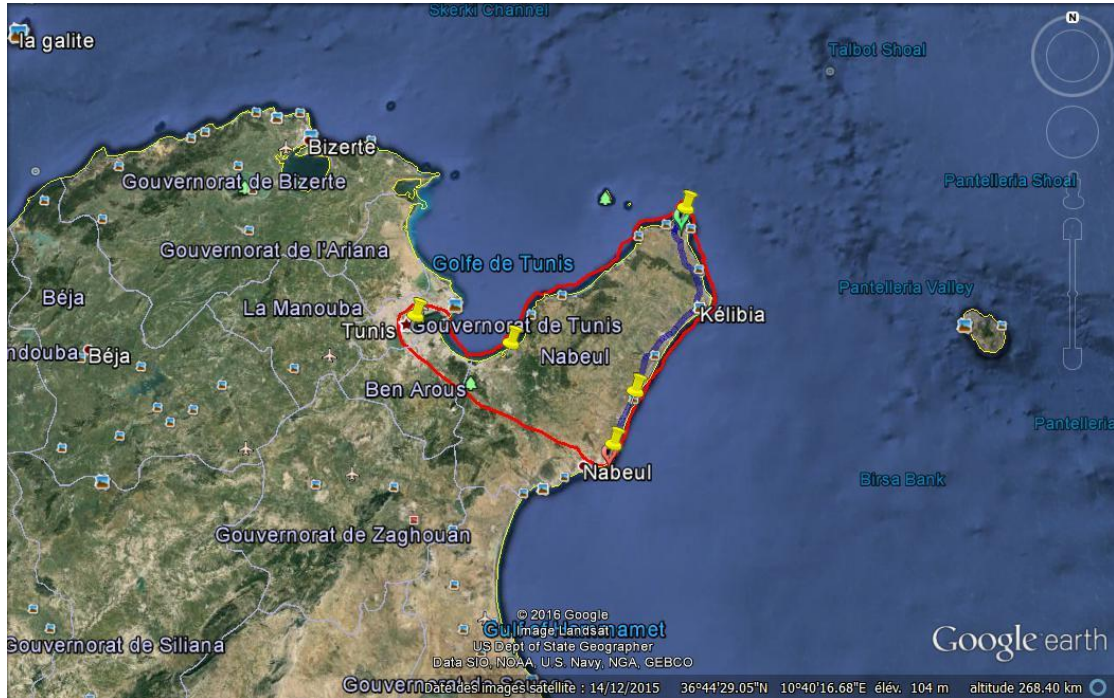


Figure 1 intervention zone

Species Conserved:

Corridors Created:

Through this project the association has managed to create a corridor linking the five sites of the AAO-CEPF project: South Lake Tunis, Sebkhia Soliman, Maamoura Lagoon, Lagoon Korba; and Djebel El Haouaria.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

This project is a first in our region; there were challenges during every stage of its implementation:

- The involvement of local authorities to intervene to properly prepare the sites.
- Communication and involvement of tourism stakeholder. This is a first that a network of organizations working on biodiversity offers an ecotourism circuit.
- The identification and involvement of local host families in the circuit. Through this project we managed to involve some families that receive their first groups of visitors. These families will be the highlight of our future trip.
- The circuit design: involving ecological wealth of each site and the authenticity of the cultural heritage of each city. The adaptation of the program according to the visitor was a challenge during the project and still remains for future visitors.
- Maintain communication with participants to ensure the promotion of the circuit.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Yes, cleaning campaigns were an initiative of the locals associations. These companions have improved the condition of the sites by the removal of tons of solid waste.

Project Components

Project Components: Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.

Component 1 Planned:

The circuit is tested and identified: the necessary period of visit, the proposals of accommodation in every site and the suggestion of places to get local products are identified.

Component 1 Actual at Completion:

A. Preparatory phase

A.1. Coordination Meeting

The association "Réseau Enfants de la Terre" RET coordinated between the 5 associations of AAO-CEPF project to ensure good coordination.

The approach of our association was participatory, this by organizing coordination meetings with the project responsible and presidents of associations. The first meeting was in July.

The objectives of the meetings were:

- *Propose names of people to invite*
- *Propose dates for circuits depending on availability of associations*
- *Discuss the contents of the case-by-case visits*
- *Communicate the price of local service providers*

The monitoring was through coordination meetings, testing visits, and field visits to see the circuit and the service providers.



One of the recommendations of the coordination meeting was to do a test circuit with CLAG-members at each site.

A.2. Circuits tests

All associations have assured these tests visits with members of CLAG.

For our local project in Soliman, we invited some members of CLAG and we made a program of half-day combining visit to the Sebkha and a cultural visit. We tested the necessary timing for each component of the circuit and we had recommendations as the need for optical equipment for the observation of birds, and to integrate a host family for

restoration.



The common recommendation for the five sites was the need for organizing cleaning campaigns before the programmed visits.

A.3. Cleaning Campaigns

The state of the five sites was not ideal to receive visitors, all the associations of the AAO-CEPF project have agreed on the need to coordinate with local authorities to clean our sites.

Each association has set a date to clean up the site, usually a week before the visit in order not to find new discharge points on the day of the visit.

The case was different in Soliman for the catastrophic state of the site. The members of the local conservation group mainly the Association of Environment and Development in Soliman AEDS, conduct a significant change on the site. We have implemented a program of work, the AEDS assured contact with local authorities following a series of meetings to convince authorities of the ecotourism potential of the Sebkha and the importance of the success of this first visit.

The cleaning companion was spread over a month with daily work on the site, work has started slowly and following a media intervention RET who passed the message through radio, the reaction was very positive, the delegate intervened by phone and we promised to accelerate work.

Following our intervention, local authorities have removed all the medical waste, 90% at the site and 90% of waste. This is a success thanks to the networking, and thanks to the strength of the local conservation group that involve more than one association and prove that it can bring more and significant change.



B. Realization of the programmed circuit

B.1 First Group

The first group was composed of 13 people: representatives of partner site managers, NGOs (hikers and sportsmen), journalists. This group was accompanied by two guides Abdelly Mahdi (RET) and Moujib GABOUS the national coordinator of the AAO-CEPF project to ensure coordination between the five local guides at each site.

First Day: Departure from Tunis by minibus to Korba where we started our visit with a birdwatching in Korba lagoon. Throughout the tour the Group discovered the close relationship between agriculture and wetland. We walked 2 km to reach the breeding area of flamingos. The visit was completed by a quick pass on an archaeological site to admire Roman mosaics. The team headed to the socio cultural center APAL, the center's leader presented the activities of the center. Participants closely observed flamingoes from the observation point of the center.

We spent the second half of the day in Maamoura where we started our visit with a cultural tour in the Medina to be greeted at the end with a local family to drink coffee together. We headed later to the Maamoura lagoon for bird watching and admire the sunset on the beach. The evening was organized by a local association INMA in a marabout with traditional music, exhibition of regional products and dishes of traditional cuisine.

The group was hosted in two guest houses in Beni Khia: Caballus Club and Villa Maamoura.



Second day: Departure from Maamoura to Haouaria, we started our visit with olive el CHRAF dating for more than 2500 years. Afterwards we headed towards the Djebel El Haouaria and specifically Sidi Ameur: We were welcomed by the local population who prepared a coffee break there and a demonstration of the Hamem with Aromatic and Medicinal Plants. Participants also had the opportunity to try to make bread "Tabouna".

Then we hiked through the Punic well in Djbel of Haouaria.

Lunch was with a local family, they prepared typical dishes of Haouaria: millet couscous fish.

Towards the end of the day we headed to the caves where we enjoyed panoramic views of the island Zembra and sunset.

The group was hosted in two guest houses Haouaria: Villa Dar Ennesema and Zembra.



Demonstration of the Hamem to the Medicinal plants

Third Day: Departure to Soliman, the visit began with a tour Sebkhia Soliman where the group was able to observe water

birds present and the importance of the site during this critical phase of the year.

Afterwards we headed to the Andalusian city of Soliman where we visited the last Moulin Andalous in Tunisia that belongs to a local family who provided coffee break with Andalusian dishes as el "Gross" "El Banathéj" and "Halwét chbébek".

later we finished our visit to the Andalusian Grand Mosque and later to a local farm where we had lunch with the host family.

The group visited the South Lake Tunis TP4, where they observed waterbirds that were very close to visitors who enjoyed the site.

Accommodation in Tunis was made in Dar Yasemine in Soukra.



B.2. Second Group

*The visit of the second group was between **11 and 13 February**. The project team led changes in the program:*

- *Devoted a whole day to Tunis and a half-day in EL-Haouaria.*
- *The tour content to suit the recommendations of the first group.*

The Participants were experts in ecotourism, the tourism ministry representatives, National Office of Tunisian Tourism, travel agencies and journalists.

First Day 11/02/2016

***Visit to Tunis:** We started the day at South Lake Tunis where members of the AAO, presented the site, its national and international importance, bird species and site characteristics. We had the opportunity to observe several waterbird species. After visiting the lake, the group headed to the Medina for a circuit bringing together the main historical monuments of the Medina.*

At the end of the day we visited the Museum of Bardo, the theme of the visit was "Birds in mosaics" and participants were able to discover several species. After our tour we headed to "Dar Yassemine" to evaluate the day.



Second Day 12/02/2016 :

Visit to "Soliman": We started the visit in Sebkhet Soliman, where the local guide presented the history of the site, its national and international importance, associative work on site to mobilize the local population and authorities, the design of ecotourism circuit, the efforts of local conservation group to lead the site to attract the attention of authorities.

During the visit the visitors were fascinated by the beauty of the site. We observed several species of water birds, ducks, pink flamingos, glossy ibis ...

After sebkha the group headed to the Medina "Soliman" where they had the opportunity to taste authentic dishes and visit some historical monuments of the city of Soliman.



Maamoura visit:

We started our tour with a visit to the Medina to see the main monuments of the city and the old quarter. During our tour we visited two traditional houses and we met "Khalti Mehrzia" which tied prepared good traditional dishes, "Makrouth", coffee and fresh orange juice. The participants enjoyed the meeting and exchange with the host family.

After we headed to the lagoon for birdwatching. The local guide presented the site to the participants, its potential and its importance, characteristics species of the site. We had the chance to watch the sunset while observing birds: Flamingos, Shelduck, Black-winged Stilt, Kentish broken necklace ...

Our friends from Maamoura have prepared a surprise for the evening, it was in the Marabout Sidi Ahmed BEN DAOUD: an exhibition of local products: mainly products of el Aoula, and an authentic dinner with typical dishes of the city. We finished the day with good traditional music.



Third Day :

Visit in Korba:

The group began the visit by the lagoon more specifically by the small lagoon where we observed a remarkable concentration of ducks: mallard, pintail, shoveler, teal, coots and a few flamingos. The local guide showed us the importance

of these wetland for wintering of these species for the ideal habitat it offers.

After the little lake we headed towards the great lagoon and we started our tour by sand dunes on the beach. The local guide showed us the dunes fixation system and its importance to the ecosystem balance.

In the Lagoon we had two observation points and we saw several species: Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, Flamingos, cormorants and some waders.



Korba is known by the name "the red city": It is the first national producer of strawberry and leading producer of tomato, red pepper and red meat. After visiting the lagoon we had the chance to visit a local farmer at his farm where we spent a pleasant moment of exchange and discovery.

The host family cooked us lunch with freshly prepared salad and locally produced products. It was wonderful.

Houaria visit:

The program in El Haouaria was a little different from other sites: the mountainous nature of the region. The group visited "Sidi Amer" in Djebel el Haouaria. During the visit the local guide, with a local family, showed us the steps to prepare the bread "Tabouna" and traditions for the preparation of this bread.

After that he showed us the bath with Medicinal Plants: Preparation Techniques and use. Some participants had the curiosity to test it.

After a coffee break, the group hiked up towards the mouse heater caves. During our tour guide told us many history of the city, historical use of the mountain plants.

In the evening and during dinner we made the overall assessment point of the circuit with a very rich discussion and a very real return to improve our circuit.



Component 2 Planned:

The guides formed during AAO-CEPF project mastered the circuit and management of visitor group of ten people.

Component 2 Actual at Completion:

The Project Team has prepared a plan to properly evaluate the circuit and the local guide this by:

- Preparation of an evaluation form for each site, were the questions on: the visit to the natural site, the capacities of the guide, content and duration of the visit; The cultural tour; catering and accommodation.

- Preparation of a comprehensive assessment questionnaire of the circuit. .

- A daily assessment meeting at the end of the day to note the comments of the participants.
- Two evaluation meetings with project partner associations after each group.

The RET organized two evaluation meetings after each group. During these meetings the project coordinator presented the remarks and recommendations of the participants.

These meetings were an opportunity to discuss with projects responsible possible changes to improve the circuit and optimize their work on site.

1. Evaluation of the first group

The overall impression of the participants was positive on the circuit and the program, but this does not prevent it noted a number of comments and recommendations to improve the circuit.

- **The program was overloaded:** It was very difficult to show **in half-day strengths** of a given area: The natural and cultural wealth. It would be ideal to extend the length of stay, or to lighten the program by eliminating redundancies. This problem was especially visible the first day between Korba and Maamoura, two **cities** in one day with visits to wetlands and cultural tours, and too lively evening at Marabout Maamoura with music and dance.

The rhythm was too tiring for the group and they were not able to follow and appreciate what is presented and they were tired from the first day of the tour.

- **Local Guide:** The five local guides did not have the same level of mastery of guidance. The difference was not in the knowledge of the site or its bird species but rather at the mastery of the communication with the group: Learn how to attract attention of the group, the choice of information communicated, interpretation and telling stories.
- **Program Content:** The first day took the majority of recommendations in relation to program content:
 - Choose our local service providers to be consistent with the ecological approach.
 - Ensure contact with the local population.
- **Communication documents:** We still need to provide communication tools on our sites to hand out to visitors: site maps; Photos of birds with names in Arabic.

All of these comments and recommendations were discussed at the first evaluation meeting with local guides and we made the necessary adjustments to improve the program:

- Reduce the program
- Eliminate the cultural visit in Korba
- Include a tour and lunch in a farmhouse in Korba
- Reduce the animation during the evening Maamoura

2. Evaluation of the second group

- **Local Guide:** The remarks of the second group were mainly the mastery of communication by local guides, the management of the group. Other technical notes the information communicated was insufficient for some and too technical for others this is due to the heterogeneity of the group.

- **State of wetlands:** Despite all the efforts of associations to clean up their sites, the state of our wetlands is not yet ideal for receiving visitors and tourists. The participants made a long discussion on this point.

Discharge points dating for years and it will be difficult to solve this problem in two years with only the efforts of associations who managed to stop this waste deposition flux and remove a percentage of these wastes.

The group agreed that we must not give up, or wait the state cleaned sites to invite groups. The approach of the AAO-CEPF project is highly relevant to this problem: parallel work to raise awareness, clean, involve the state and invite groups of visitors. Otherwise we will never make ecotourism in our wetlands.

- **Animation of the sites:**

One of the points made for the five sites visited was the lack of entertainment in the sites; it gives the impression of "abandoned areas".

Recommendations :

- Implement information panels at the entrance of the site and the course: Presentation of the site, status, ecological riches
- Points of rest and refresh
- The presence of site managers during visits

- Visit content

The content of the visits was varied between natural sites and wetlands and cultural visits. This alternation was appreciated by some participants but not for others.

Recommendations for well integrating the cultural component:

- Having a rich cultural circuit

- Find a common thread between the visit of the wetland and cultural visit, as the example of the visit to South Lake Tunis and visit the Bardo Museum which had as its theme the mosaics of birds.
- Adjust the circuit according to the target: it differs between a group of birdwatcher, a group of amateur nature, or people who want to discover other civilizations.

- **The contact with the local population**

It was among the highlights of the circuit and the result of two years of communication and awareness in the AAO-CEPF project to mobilize these local partners.

The host families provided mainly restoration, which despite some logistical failures was appreciated by the group. recommendations:

- Supervise and train these families to improve their services and their implications in the circuit.
- Involve benefits artisans.



Component 3 Planned:

The circuit is adopted by the tourism ministry and shared with tour operators and travel agency.

Component 3 Actual at Completion

The team of RET began work on the promotion of the circuit by the establishment of a rich communication plan: Overview circuit in radio and national television which has attracted much positive attention to our project.

- Intervention on Arabic Radio Med (40 minutes) Participants: Radhia LOUIHICHI (President of RET), Mahdi Abdelly project coordinator and member Insaf FATHALLAH RET office. During the show we presented the work that the RET and its local partners to Sebket Soliman in the AAO-CEPF project and the critical state of the site because of these discharges on the site and presented the new project for the promotion of ecotourism circuit in our sites and the expected results of the project. Result: a direct intervention of the delegate and an acceleration of the cleaning companion.
- French Intervention on RTCI, a 30-minute program; participants were Abdelly Mahdi, Moujib GABOUS national coordinator of the AAO-CEPF project. During the program Moujib had the opportunity to present the national project AAO-CEPF, its objectives and its progress, Asma presented the project to the local lake-South Tunis Mahdi presented the project to local Soliman and this new project for the promotion of the circuit.
- Arabic Intervention on Cultural Radio, the duration of the show was 2 hours, the guest were charged the four local projects AAO-CEPF Mahdi Abdelly Karima Kerkeni Hend Abid and Malek GRARI.
- During the program, participants had time to present their local project: The site, partners, progress, successes and challenges. Mahdi also presented the new project for the promotion of ecotourism circuit.
- English Intervention by the Communication Officer Ms. Najet Hosni (40 minutes) on RTCI to present the project: the approach the objectives and expected results of the project.
- Media coverage on the national TV channel of the visit of the first group in Soliman: the TV team was present with the first group during the visit Soliman and recorded all a program on cultural and ecological riches of Soliman valued through both AAO-CEPF projects and this project.
- Media coverage on RTCI during our visit to South Lake Tunis, recording interviews with participants mainly tourism professionals.



The second step was to choose who to invite for the circuits to ensure the promotion of the circuit and the adoption of the circuit by the Ministry of Tourism.

For this the project team has sent formal invitations to:

- *Ministry of Tourism and its regional commissions (Tunis and Nabeul)*
- *Ministry of Culture and its regional commissions (Tunis and Nabeul)*
- *Some Travel Agencies*
- *The Tunisian Federation of Travel Agencies*
- *National Office of Tunisian Tourism, ONTT*
- *Tourism Experts and national guides*
- *Agencies specialized in tourism*
- *Journalists*
- *Experts in Ecotourism*
- *Enda Tamwil*

The mobilization of such actors was not easy. Members of RET ensured an intense communication with these structures in order to present this new product, the project and its objectives, we sent official invitations, project documents, the contents of the circuit.

We managed in the end to mobilize the majority of the important actor; we had representatives of travel agencies, ONTT, communication experts, expert in ecotourism, Journalists.

We had constraints in mobilizing the tourism ministry representatives during the three days of the circuit. So they were invited to attend a day depending on their availability and this was the case we had representatives from the Ministry the first day in Tunis (the regional police station in Tunis), the second day in Maamoura (regional police Nabeul) and the third day in Korba (Nabeul the regional station).

The general impression of tourism stakeholders was very positive with respect to the components of the circuit and confirmed that they discovered many things, although it was next door.

Through this project we have established good relations and we had the right contacts to promote our circuit. We had promises from Mr Mohamed Halouani travel agency manager, to work with associations to market this product with the proposed improvements. It has also been proposals for tourism stakeholders to organize days to further involve other tourism stakeholders to promote the circuit.

Ministry representatives were very satisfied with the circuit and have asked for more information on our work, photos of the circuit to prepare reports to the Minister of Tourism to advance in the adoption procedure of the circuit.

The Executive Director of Enda also promised to support small artisans with microcredits.

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

Yes, we do not successfully finished the adoption process of the circuit by the Ministry of Tourism, but we started the communication with representatives of the Ministry who were very open to our product, and it's a matter of time see our circuit adopted by the ministry.

We have also targeted three travel agencies to market our circuit, but up to the present we had the promise of two travel agency.

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

- You can find the project process details in the report "Rapport du circuit écotouristique « Promotion des Zones Humides pour le Développement Local »
- Project video

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

The team of RET adopted a participatory approach with our local partner to ensure their involvement and good project management.

The design of a circuit combining the 5 sites of the AAO-CEPF project was not easy with the specifics of each site, the status of the wetlands and local partners.

To take all these factors into consideration, we organize coordination meetings with our partners to:

- *Suggest the circuit program*
- *Propose dates according to their availability*
- *List the local service providers and their offer price*
- *Coordinate to ensure diversity program*
- *Coordinate to organize cleaning companions and testing circuits*
- *The financial study of the project*
- *The list of people to invite*
- *Share the work plan*

This approach was very efficient and we were able to ensure appropriate coordination between the five sites and avoid the constraints that may affect project progress.

Our association has not also intervened directly with local service providers but leaves this task to the association site manager. This has improved their credibility with their local partners. This motivated them to get involved in conservation work.

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

- *Target your guests according to project objectives: we had better recommendations and proposals for promotion from the second group more than the first group, consists mainly of representatives of partner administrations and associations.*
- *Well coordinating with local service providers, for the accommodation and food to avoid unpleasant surprises especially for the majority of them it was their first experience.*
- *Involve marginalized local expertise to make a significant and lasting change.*

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Create link between local community and wetlands, which can be an economic or social interest to involve them in the conservation.

In our project we managed to involve local service providers and therefore a direct economic impact to motivate them to protect the wetland, which became their source of income.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-

*Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:

A) Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)

B) Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)

C) Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

Promoting an ecotourism circuit based on bird watching and connecting wetlands, considered by the majority abandoned areas, was the great challenge of the project to ensure the sustainability of these activities in our sites.

For this, the project team provides communication before the project through participation in radio programs, direct contact with our partners during the circuits and after the project to finalize the adoption process of the circuit.

The result was positive and we managed to change the bad image of our wetlands and promote our ecotourism product.

The second success of this project was to ensure the sustainability of ecotourism activities at our sites, the identification and involvement of local families who previously were isolated from any conservation process.

The involvements of these actors create an economic and social dynamic around our wetlands. Such a dynamic can only strengthen local conservation groups and thus improving the condition of the sites and the sustainability of activities.

At the end of the project two travel agencies have expressed their willingness to work with us and to adapt the circuit according to their clientele. The financial sustainability of the circuit and the social impact on local service providers can guarantee the sustainability of activities.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

The project has direct environmental and social impacts on the sites involved in the circuit.

Environmental impact:

Our overall objective is to contribute to biodiversity conservation efforts in the five project site through the development and promotion of ecotourism activities developed under the AAO-CEPF project.

The direct impact of this four-month project was the mobilization of local and national authorities

Following this dynamic the authority had an obligation to respond positively and follow our rhythm and we managed to mobilize them to clean the sites. This mobilization will also help us in our future conservation action.

Media coverage and promotion of the circuit also attracts the attention of Ministries such as tourism, culture and tourism stakeholders who can create a support force to protect these sites and convert them to receive visitors.

Social Impact:

The social component is one of the added values of our project. During the tour the project team was able to integrate service providers who in most cases receive visitors for the first time. The creation of a new source of revenue and an economic and social dynamic around wetlands can only strengthen our conservation work.

We involved host families for the restoration in Soliman, Haouaria Maamoura and Korba, women artisans by exposing their terroirs products. The development and promotion of these activities around our wetlands contributes to these latest economic and social values and facilitate collaboration with the authorities.



Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and

publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	yes			<p>During the project the local authorities are better involved and the first result during this project was the cleaning companions mainly Soliman. The project includes 5 natural sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9- Lac sud de Tunis: 50 hectares 10- Sebkhet Soliman: 225 hectares 11- Lagune de Korba: 450 hectares 12- Lagune de Maamoura: 96 hectares 13- Djbel EL Haouaria: 1200 hectares
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	no			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	yes			<p>The project includes 5 natural sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14- Lac sud de Tunis: 50 hectares 15- Sebkhet Soliman: 225 hectares 16- Lagune de Korba: 450 hectares 17- Lagune de Maamoura: 96 hectares 18- Djbel EL Haouaria: 1200 hectares
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	no			

<p>5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.</p>	<p>yes</p>			

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services									
Host family in Soliman	X		X							X											
Host family in Maamoura			X							X											
Farmer in Korba	X		X							X											
Host family in Haouaria						X				X											
Total																					
If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:																					