

Tourism and Mediterranean forests



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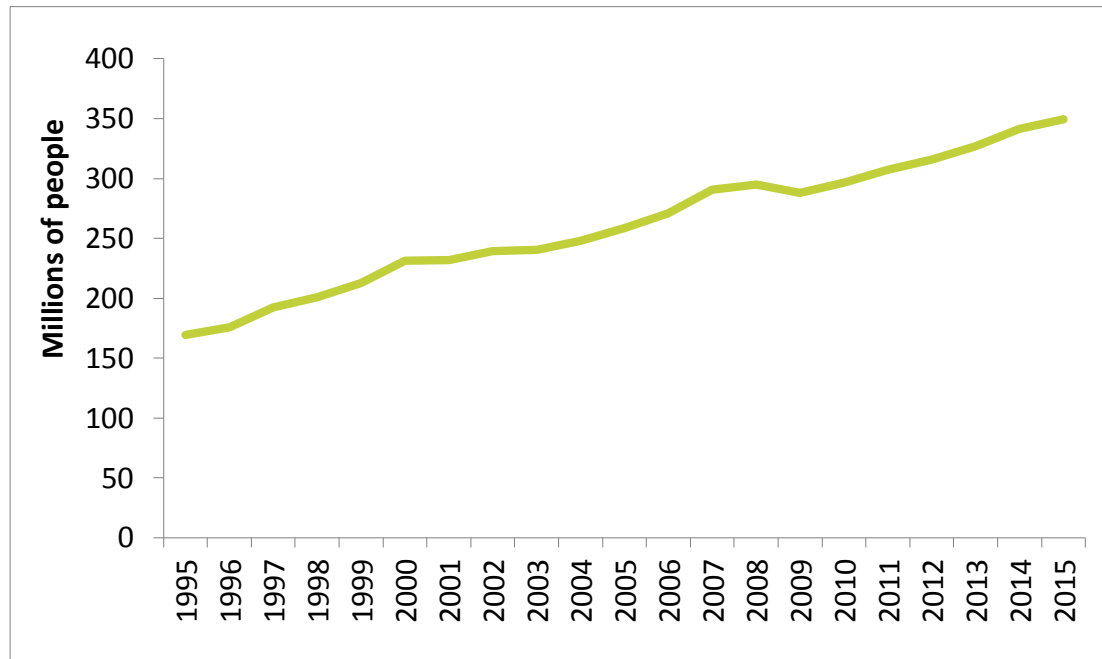
Plan d'Action pour la Méditerranée
Convention de Barcelone



*Side-event : Preservation and valorization of forests from mass tourism impact
April 2nd, 2019*

The world's leading tourist destination

More than 300 million international tourist arrivals (2015) = 30% of all global tourist arrivals



International tourist arrivals in the Mediterranean, 1995-2015. (UNWTO, 2017)



<http://planbleu.org/en/publications/state-mediterranean-forests-2018>





27% of all UNESCO World Heritage sites are located in Mediterranean countries



International tourist arrivals in Mediterranean countries in 2015. (UNWTO, 2017)

Note: Data not available for : Holy See, Gibraltar, Libya, and Syria.



UNESCO World Heritage site : Tyre Lebanon © UNESCO



UNESCO World Heritage sites and World Heritage Sites in Danger, 2016. (UNESCO, 2017)

Tourism, a driver of degradation



“The primary drivers of environmental degradation are urbanization, **tourism**, transport, business and industry and agricultural developments” (*State of Mediterranean forests 2018*)

The prospect of deriving short-term financial benefits from tourism outweigh incentives to preserve biodiversity and ecosystem services (*Derneji, 2010*)

Environmental degradation

- Land fragmentation
- Biodiversity losses
- Waste generation
- Air pollution
- Etc.

Alteration of cultural heritage, traditional values and local identities

- Standardization
- Degradation of authenticity and aesthetic
- Unbalanced relationships
- Etc.

Tourism = 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions

Tourism, a driver of degradation



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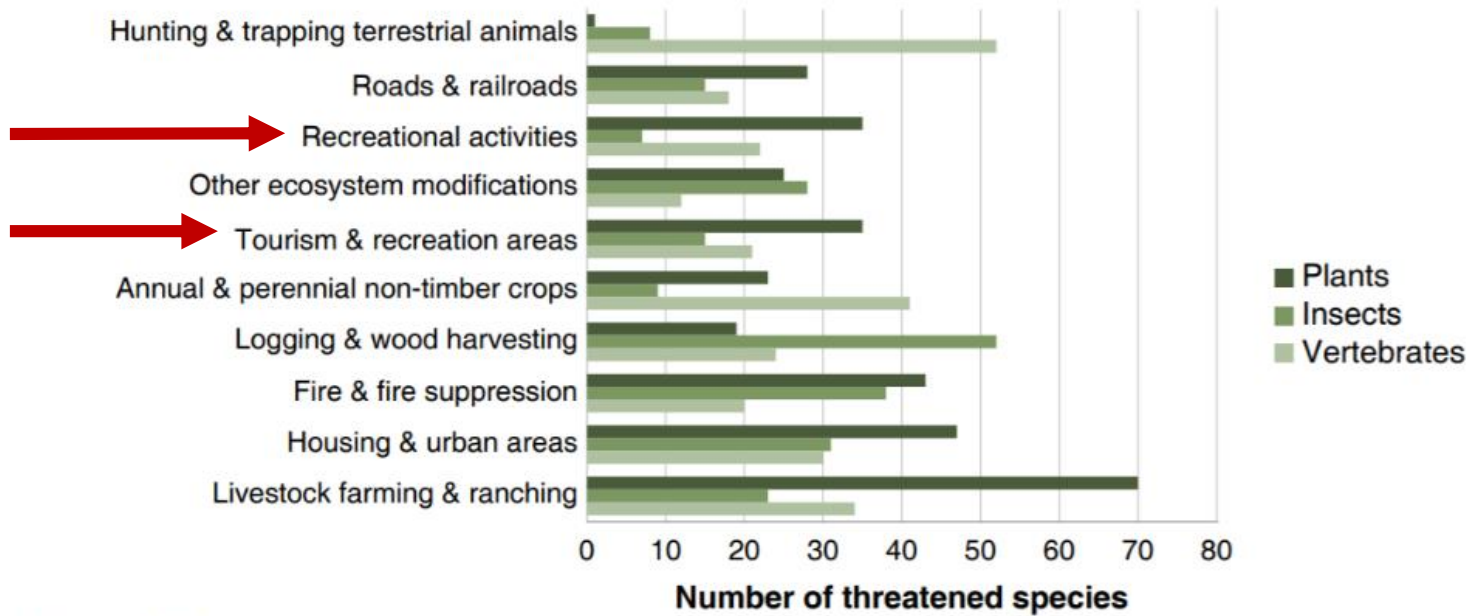


Figure 3.17. Primary threats to threatened forest species (IUCN Red List Categories CR, EN and VU) in the Mediterranean region

State of Mediterranean Forests 2018

Unmanaged primate tourism :

- **health problems** for macaques (*Maréchal et al., 2011, 2016*)
- **risk of road traffic accidents** (*Campbell et al., 2016*)
- theft of infants for the **pet trade** (*Ménard et al., 2014c*)

Tourism, a pillar of Mediterranean economies

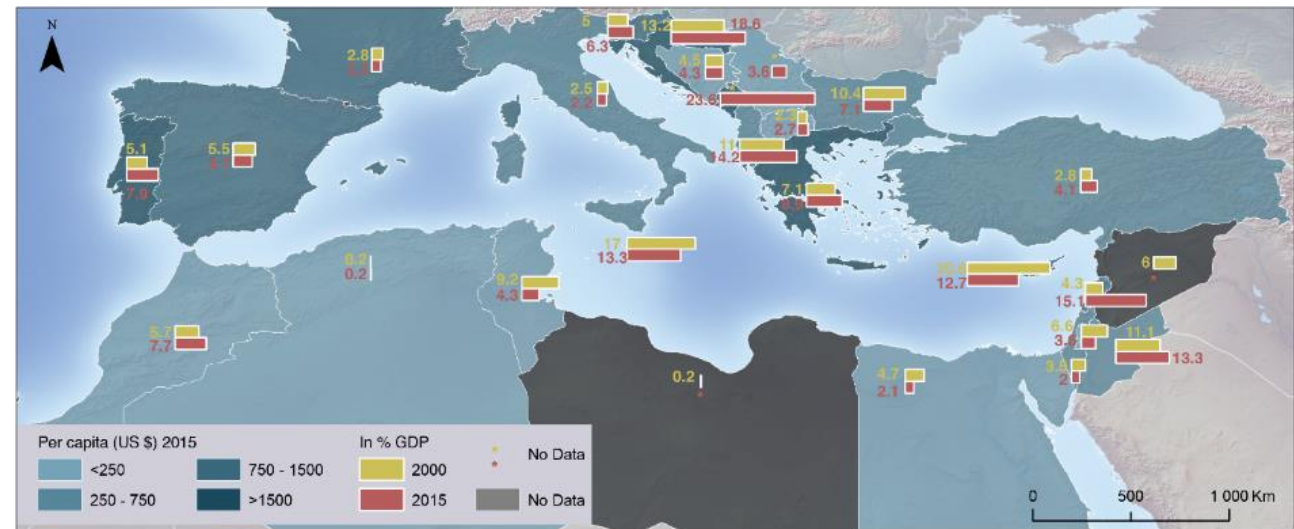


Tourism is a key pillar of Mediterranean economies:

- employment : 11.5% of the total number of jobs in 2014
- economic growth : 11.3% of the region's GDP
- USD 333 billion in 2016

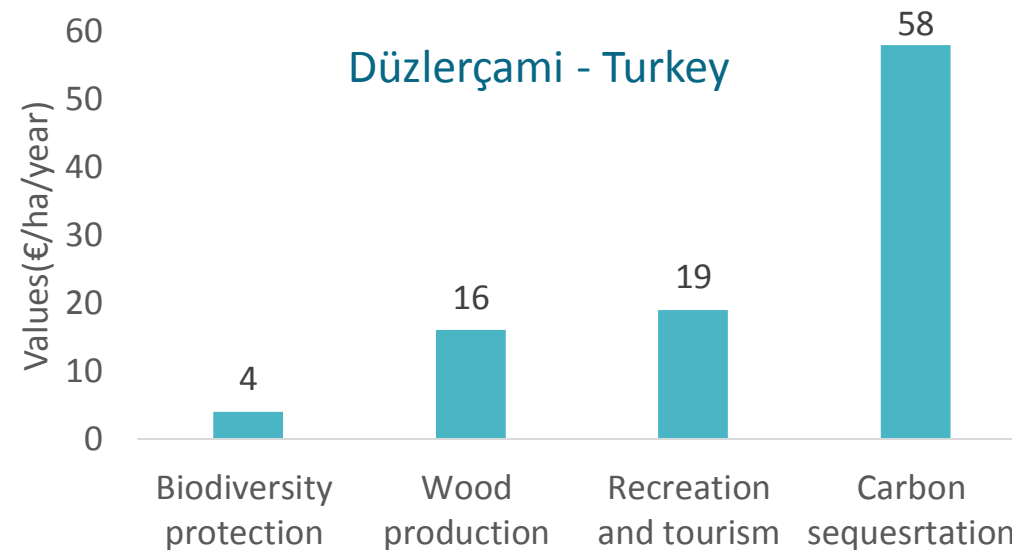
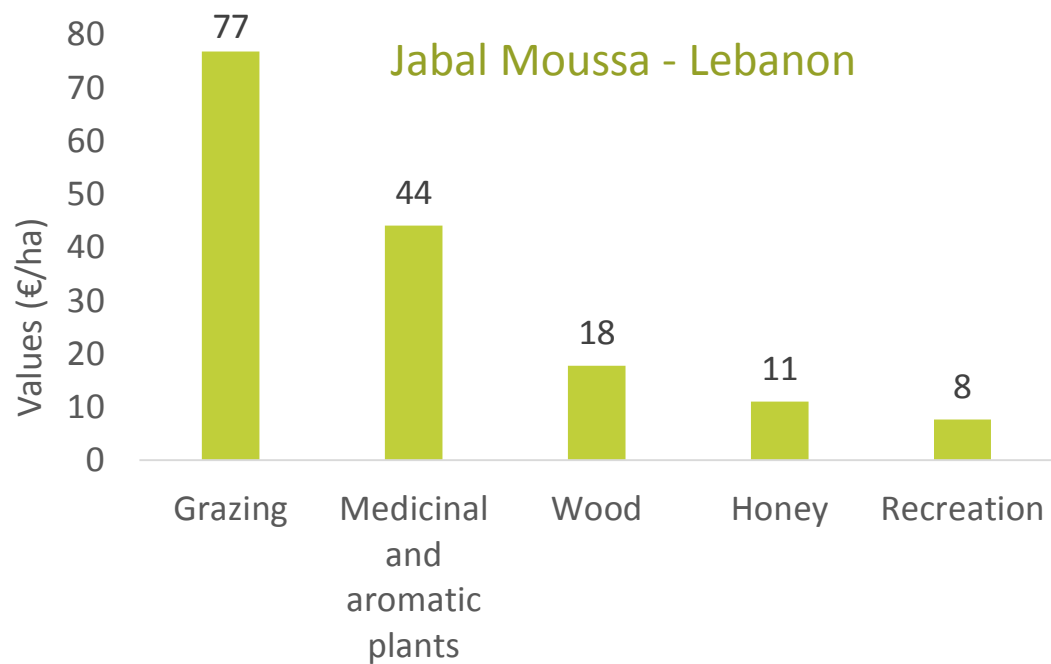
Over the last 20 years, the direct contribution of tourism to GDP in the Mediterranean region has increased by **53% for the economies of coastal regions** (*Plan Bleu, 2017*)

Reminder :
Coastal regions are covered at 28% by forests

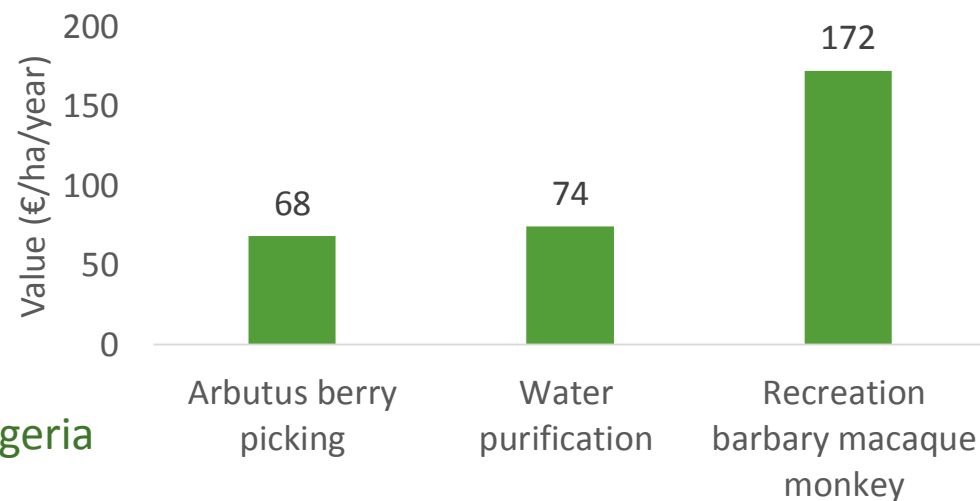


International tourism receipts in 2015 per capita and as a percentage of GDP 2000-2015 (World Bank, 2017)

Tourism, a valuable service



Chrea National Park - Algeria



How to preserve forests while ensuring tourism development ?

Exploratory project with AFD : PPP in PAs

Potential of PPP to manage tourism, bring economic returns while conserving biodiversity

Objective:

to build on the technical and financial capacities of the private sector to respond to the need for a **global and integrated model of sustainable management** of Mediterranean PAs

1. Inventory of existing legislative and regulatory resources

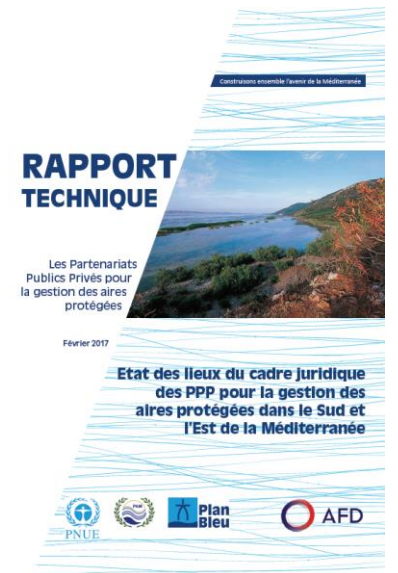
2. Identification of partners and potential pilot sites

3. Focus on two pilot sites
Ifrane Morocco – Kuriat Tunisia

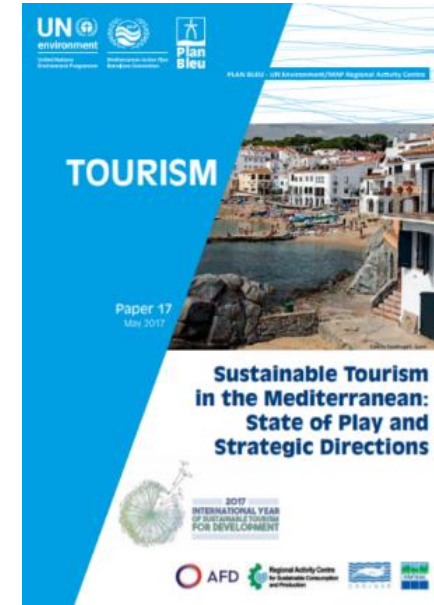
4. Capitalization and regional lighting to come up with recommendations



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THANK YOU



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