The Mediterranean Alliance for Wetlands is a partnership arrangement among NGOs and research organisations dedicated to mobilizing civil society towards the sustainable use of wetlands.

It links Mediterranean actors through:

- Exchanging and sharing knowledge
- Capacity building
- Advocacy actions

Action types

- Red Alert System
- Microprojects
- Training modules
- Peer to peer communication
- Information exchange meetings
- Exchange of best practices

started in 2017
27 members until today
15 countries until now
Alliance's mission and objectives

“The Mediterranean Alliance for Wetlands aims to raise collectively the profile of wetlands in the Mediterranean society at large and in particular in national, regional and international policy through the promotion of their sustainable use, based on innovation and evidence based best practices as catalysts for change.”

To achieve its mission, the Alliance has the following goals:

- Exchange and share in a multidirectional manner between the members of the Alliance available knowledge, sources, experiences, best practices, information on model sites, etc...

- Build the capacity of the wider civil society so that they can become more effective in actions related to wetland management and conservation.

- Effectively link local, national, regional, and international actors for initiatives through innovative concrete joint actions on prioritized policy and strategic topics.

- Increase the public profile of wetlands through joint communication using scientific knowledge and concerted messages around the value of wetlands, their multiple advantages, and benefits they provide to people, and the potential solutions they hold in the face of global change, including climate change.
The Alliance and MAVA

The MAVA Foundation for Nature has established as one of its priorities the development of an innovative and effective conservation community. It has done this in the Mediterranean, bringing together its main partners and beneficiaries.

With the cessation of its activities approaching at the end of 2022, MAVA wants to ensure that this "conservation community" exists and is functional beyond its existence. To this end, the MAVA expects certain partners to take the lead on platforms or networks whose focus would be thematic or geographical.

At the same time, civil society has experienced a strong development in various countries in the Mediterranean, with many cases requiring a great need for capacity building in technical, communication and organizational fields to build their professionalism. Furthermore, there is a strong need for the support of the international community to help increase awareness of the value of Nature.

Considering this context, a number of national and international NGOs, as well as research organisations, donors and the MedWet Secretariat, met in October 2016 under the request of MAVA in order to discuss how to better engage the civil society, raise its voice and responsibility for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

In January 2017 they decided to establish the “Mediterranean Alliance for Wetlands”, a partnership arrangement among NGOs and scientific organisations dedicated to mobilizing the civil society towards the sustainable use of wetlands.

The Alliance intends to contribute to the effective conservation of Mediterranean wetlands and the wise use of their resources, values and services together with civil society. The Alliance has its own governance scheme and retain its autonomy; it has a flexible mechanism and openness to collaborate with other partnerships and consortiums that aims to protect Nature in the Mediterranean and improve the livelihoods of local communities.
The Red Alert System was created to sound the alarm when a wetland is in danger in the Mediterranean Basin due to various direct threats such as residential and commercial development, energy production and mining, transportation & service corridors, and natural system modifications.

The current mechanisms (Ramsar, MedWet, National policies...) don't allow to stop wetlands destruction linked to development projects. Therefore the engagement of a large consortium of CSOs including major actors may have a weight in decision processes.

Some Red Alert launched since 2017

- Vjosa, Albania
- Erimitis, Greece

To know more in detail, please read "Red Alert System" document here
Setting up a task force
The SC will ask its members to form a task force of at least three people to work on the case. The applicant will be part of the task force and the main responsible of developing the strategy.

The Alliance will monitor the site and support/adapt the actions agreed in the Strategy. The case will be brought to the public’s attention through the appropriate media channels (press, social media, petitions, etc...).
A network to exchange knowledge and best practices

Training modules
for the development of strategies to protect mediterranean wetlands

- Restoration of wetlands through water dynamics
- Advocacy campaigns for wetlands
- Development of environmental education programs on wetlands
- Threat management of wetlands
- Creation of national/local wetlands observatories
- Training of trainers

Microprojects
for the management and sustainable development of wetlands

- Creation of regional observatories
- Capacity building of local people and local NGOs on wetlands
- Restoration projects of wetlands
- Creation of visitors center
- Environmental risk assessment
- Short films
and much more...

16 microprojects
+ 9 training modules since 2017
Our members
For further details

- Chart of Collaboration of the Alliance
- Terms of Reference of the Alliance
- Red Alert System and Application form
- Facebook page

contact information

medallianceforwetlands@gmail.com