

*Djerba Island, Tunisia, 14 to 18 November 2018*

**Call for contributions / Registration:** deadline 22 July 2018

**Updated information on:** <http://www.unep-aewa.org> and a website will be available soon (21/06/2018).



This workshop organized by the AEWA Eurasian Spoonbill International Expert Group (ESIEG) is open to network members and any participant with an interest in wetland conservation and waterbird populations. It will be of relevance to staff from a variety of nature conservation organizations, including scientists, statutory agencies, NGOs, as well as volunteers and students.

The workshop will provide a unique opportunity to exchange and strengthen connectivity between people involved in studying and managing wetlands for the conservation of Eurasian spoonbill and associated waterbird populations. The aim is to share information in a friendly atmosphere and build practical know-how about drivers of population regulation and ways to improve management effectiveness in habitat restoration. A special emphasis will be put on enhancing capacity-building within the network focusing on stakeholders from Africa, Asia and Eastern Mediterranean countries.

### Organising Committee

- [AEWA Eurasian Spoonbill International Expert Group](#)
- [Association des Amis des Oiseaux](#) (AAO/BirdLife Tunisia)

### Collaborating partnerships

- [Tour du Valat](#)
- [EURONATUR](#)

### Scientific Committee

- Mr. Hichem Azafzaf, AAO/BirdLife Tunisia, Tunisia
- Dr. Jocelyn Champagnon, Tour du Valat, France
- Dr. Petra de Goeij, Royal NIOZ, the Netherlands
- Dr. Juan G. Navedo, Austral University, Chile
- Dr. Csaba Pigniczki, Kiskunság National Park Directorate, Hungary

### Workshop Technical Secretary

- Mrs. Claudia Feltrup-Azafzaf, AAO/BirdLife Tunisia, Tunisia
- Mrs. Florence Daubigney, Tour du Valat, France

### Scientific Programme

Specific workshop sessions and keynote speakers are to be confirmed. Some of the proposed sessions include (titles must be considered as preliminary):

- **Session 1: Migratory connectivity**  
Eurasian spoonbills in Africa, Asia and Europe, networking and state of art of populations throughout the species' distribution range at the migratory global level.
- **Session 2: Tracking spoonbills**  
Recent technological advances and colour marking studies are increasingly used allowing exploration of the drivers of variation in individual movement, migration and settlement decisions and their consequences at population level.
- **Session 3: Ecology and behaviour of spoonbills**  
What we know about ecological and evolutionary processes.
- **Session 4: Conserving wetlands and spoonbills, AEWA International Action Plan**  
Wetland management and restoration, communication, awareness raising and public support.

The official language of the IX International Spoonbill Workshop will be English. Further information including the Scientific Programme of the Workshop will be published and updated on [website](#)



## IX International Workshop Eurasian Spoonbill international Expert Group



### CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: DEADLINE 22 JULY 2018

Abstract submission should be done through a [website](#) (More information coming soon)

Each contribution will be proposed as an oral or poster presentation. Abstracts should include: title, authors and affiliations, a brief description of the purpose and methods of the study, as well as main results and discussed ideas of the contribution. A suggestion on the session preferred is welcome. A maximum of 2,500 characters (up to one page, A4 standard) is allowed per abstract.

The Scientific Committee will evaluate each proposed contribution with regard to its potential of filling identified gaps in basic knowledge and transferability for the conservation for spoonbill populations. The Scientific Committee will further decide if a contribution should be made as an oral presentation, within one of the four proposed sessions, or if it should be presented as a poster. The deadline for the final decisions will be 15 August 2018.

The final programme and the abstract books will be provided to participants at the workshop and will also be available on the AEWA website. If you have any query about abstract submission, please contact directly [champagnon@tourduvalat.org](mailto:champagnon@tourduvalat.org)

Although it cannot be guaranteed, the organization may be able to offer some assistance with travel and subsistence costs, especially for participants from Africa, Asia and Eastern Mediterranean countries. If you want to apply for a grant, please mention it when registering and on your abstract submission.

## LOGISTICS, LOCATION & SPECTACULAR SITE VISITS

This workshop will be held on Djerba Island, south-east Tunisia. The island is situated seven hours by car from Tunis, the capital. Most international flights arrive in Tunis-Carthage International Airport, but domestic flights between Tunis and Djerba (Houmt Souk) are available several times per day. Many charter flights also serve Djerba directly. Workshop Organization will pick up participants at Djerba-Zarzis International Airport.



### **Tunisia is a country of contrasts:**

On a distance of only 700 km from north to south the landscapes changes from Mediterranean Oak forests, through agricultural and steppe lands to the Sahara, a sand desert. With an area of only 163,610 km<sup>2</sup> Tunisia is characterized by more than 1,300 km of Mediterranean coastline and an important number of natural and artificial wetlands including the second largest tidal zone of the Mediterranean Basin, the Gulf of Gabès. An extensive network of protected areas has been developed over the last 40 years including 17 National Parks, 27 Nature Reserves, 43 Ramsar sites and 46 Important Bird Areas. Home to 395 bird species, Tunisia is one of the main stopover and wintering areas for waterbirds in North Africa. Among these species is the Eurasian Spoonbill with very important numbers of wintering birds. A full-day visit is planned on Saturday, 17 November by 4x4 vehicles to visit the best birdwatching areas around the island. Bring your binoculars and spotting scope! Djerba is an island that should be reach by plane (approximately 125€ for round trip)

### PROGRAM FROM 14 to 18 November 2018

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Wednesday 14: Arrival of the participants in Djerba island, Tunisia

Thursday 15 – Friday 16: Workshop (see preliminary scientific programme)

Saturday 17: Field trip + Spoonbill dinner

Sunday 18: Departure of the participants from Djerba island, Tunisia

### REGISTRATION & FEES

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The registration deadline is **22 July 2018**.

#### **Package**

The organization committee provides a unique package that includes 1) Registration fees, 2) Accommodation and food.

1. The registration fees for the Workshop includes:
  - admission to oral and poster sessions,
  - workshop material,
  - the official reception and coffee-breaks,
  - lunch (4 days),
  - a whole-day fieldtrip
  - the 'Spoonbill party'. Breakfast, dinner, accommodation and travel costs are not included in registration fees (please see below).
2. Accommodation in a Hotel  
(<https://www.vinccihoteles.com/eng/Hotels/Tunisia/Djerba/Vincci-Djerba-Resort> to be confirmed) for the whole workshop (four nights), including food (breakfast, lunch and dinner).

The package costs **260€** per person for a **shared room** and **320€** per person for a **single room**. Students with official documents can benefit for a **35€** discount. Package should be booked through the website (coming soon). More information may be obtained sending an email to the Workshop Technical Secretary [secretariat@aao-birdlife.tn](mailto:secretariat@aao-birdlife.tn).

#### **Other options**

Registration only (without accommodation) is possible at the cost of €100 per person. There are other options and facilities for accommodation available in the area, but they should be arranged directly by participants.



## IX International Workshop Eurasian Spoonbill international Expert Group



### *Payment*

Payment should be done at the time of registration (before 22 July) through a bank transfer. **A copy of bank transfer is needed to validate the registration.**

Association « Les Amis des Oiseaux » (AAO)

*Name of bank:* Banque Internationale Arabe de Tunisie (BIAT)

*Address of bank:* Agence LE FORUM, 2080 Ariana, Tunisie

*Bank account number (IBAN):* TN59 0810 6000 7620 0936 3157

*Swift code:* BIATTNTT

To register for this unique workshop, please register on the website available soon (probably 21/06/2018)

On website you will have to input the following information:  
name, employing organization, job title and the dates you expect to arrive and depart, as well as your selection of accommodation during the workshop and copy of bank transfer – we will reserve your accommodation directly with the hotel.

Programme details and further information will be published and updated at <http://www.unep-aewa.org> and the website

***We look forward to welcoming you in Tunisia!***