



PLM INITIATIVE

ACTIVITY REPORT 2025



WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

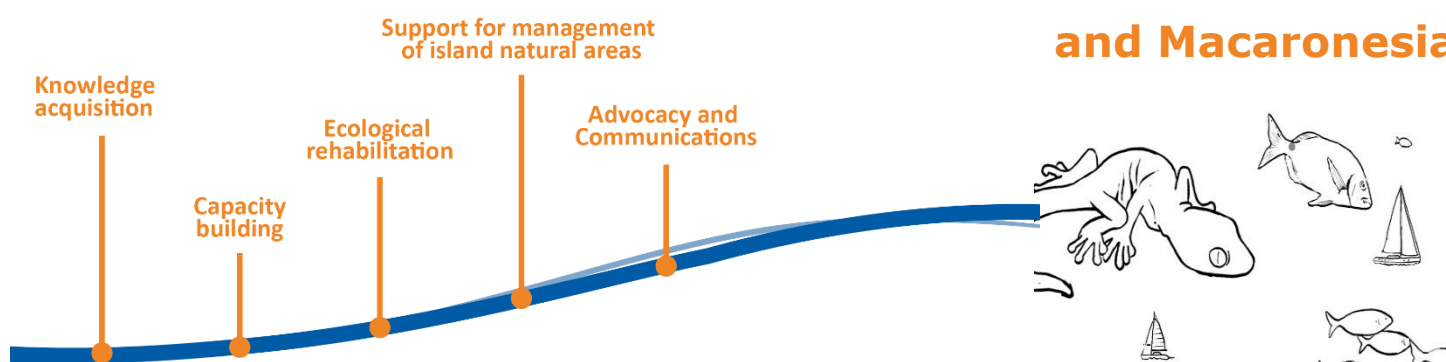
- ▲ AIFM: International Association of Mediterranean Forests
- ▲ ANEF: National Water and Forestry Agency
- ▲ MPA: Marine and Coastal Protected Area
- ▲ ATVS: Tunisian Association for Wildlife
- ▲ APAL: Agency for Coastal Protection and Planning
- ▲ CAIPIM: Understanding, Acting and Innovating to Protect the Small Islands of the Mediterranean and Macaronesia
- ▲ CMB: Mediterranean Consortium for Biodiversity
- ▲ CFPPA: Centre for Vocational Training and Agricultural Promotion
- ▲ CPIE: Permanent Centre for Environmental Initiatives on the Provençal Coast
- ▲ CSRPN: Regional Scientific Council for Natural Heritage
- ▲ DNA: National Delegation for the Environment
- ▲ EMM: Mobile Marine Species (European LIFE project)
- ▲ FEAMPA: European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund
- ▲ FFEM: French Fund for the Global Environment
- ▲ IMBE: Mediterranean Institute for Biodiversity and Marine and Continental Ecology
- ▲ MNHN: National Museum of Natural History
- ▲ NECCA: Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency
- ▲ RESEDA-Flore – Network of Stakeholders for the Conservation of Mediterranean Flora
- ▲ UNICA-CCB: Botanical Conservatory of the University of Cagliari, Sardinia (Italy)



PIM INITIATIVE

PIM Initiative is an international NGO dedicated to promoting and supporting the management of Mediterranean island areas. Launched in 2005 by the Conservatoire du littoral, PIM became an independent NGO in 2017. PIM continues to build on the project originally led by the Conservatoire and benefits in particular from the latter's expertise in the management of coastal natural areas.

Its objective is the preservation of islands smaller than 1,000 hectares through the implementation of concrete conservation measures on the ground, and the networking of managers and experts at an international level. The NGO stands out for its approach, which involves supporting all stages of the creation and development of island protected areas.



This approach involves:

- **Improving knowledge** and long-term **monitoring of ecosystems** using simplified and standardised protocols, regular field surveys, data collection and analysis, and the consolidation of information and knowledge;
- **Capacity building** through workshops and training courses that encourage the sharing of experiences between international and multidisciplinary stakeholders;
- **Ecological rehabilitation** through restoration and the mitigation of the impacts of global changes on the balance of island ecosystems (e.g. eradication or control of invasive species);
- **Support for the management of island natural areas**, by supporting their managers whilst involving a range of partners to encourage collaboration: public institutions, research institutes, NGOs, etc.; and through the direct management of protected sites (Île du Grand Rousseau, France);
- **Advocacy and communication** in favour of enhanced protection for small islands at national, regional and international levels, highlighting their essential role as refuges for biodiversity.

An NGO,
projects and
international
partnerships for
the preservation
of small islands
in the
Mediterranean
and Macaronesia





*Scopoli's shearwater (Calonectris diomedea) on the Frioul Islands, September 2025
(Calanques National Park, France)*

For over 10 years, PIM Initiative has drawn on a panel of multidisciplinary experts, site managers, coastguards, institutions and NGOs from the Mediterranean basin, who share and exchange their ideas and experience, and who put their expertise at the service of protecting these areas. The NGO stands out for its ability to bring together public institutions, scientists and civil society actors to **strengthen the management and conservation of small islands in the Mediterranean.**

PIM Initiative is currently the leading Mediterranean organisation working to preserve small islands and their biodiversity. Today, through the various projects led by PIM, around twenty archipelagos are the subject of management and/or restoration activities, for which their managers are trained and supported, notably thanks to previous projects led by PIM.



Eco-guards from Grand Rouveau Island recruited by the PIM Initiative in 2025, thanks to the Southern Region's Regional Marine Guard scheme © Lara Balais

Pilot sites 2025



CAIPIM sites

- **Aire (Balearic Islands, Spain)**
- **Antimilos (Greece)**
- **Boa Vista Archipelago (Cape Verde)**
- **Essaouira (Morocco)**
- **Galite (Tunisia)**
- **Grand-Rouveau (Corsica, France)**
- **Gargalu (Corsica, France)**
- **Katič and Ulcinj (Montenegro)**
- **Kuriat (Tunisia)**
- **Riou (France)**
- **Zembra (Tunisia)**

Knowledge-gathering and ecological restoration missions

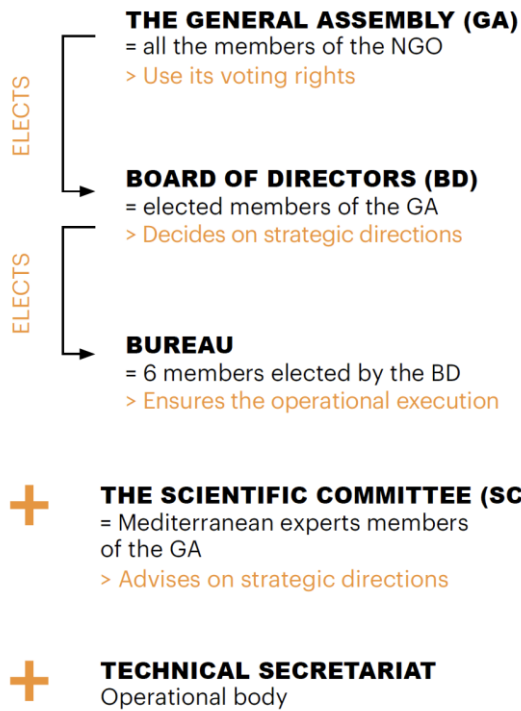
- **Astypalea (Greece)**
- **Cavoli (Sardinia, Italy)**
- **Galite (Tunisia)**
- **Levant (France)**
- **Lipari (Sicily, Italy)**
- **Saint-Honorat (France)**
- **Gargalu (Corsica, France)**
- **Calanques National Park (France)**
- **Port-Cros National Park (France)**
- **Sanguinaires (Corsica, France)**

Co-management PIM Initiative and support for co-management

- **Grand-Rouveau (France)**

Governance

The governance structure of PIM Initiative, an association governed by the French law of 1901, comprises four bodies: an Executive Committee, a Board of Directors, a General Assembly and a Scientific Council, all of which ensure that all the countries in which the NGO operates are represented.



The Board of Directors ensures the operational implementation of the project’s strategic guidelines. These are defined by the Board of Directors, relying on the scientific Council’s advice.

The **Scientific Council** (formerly the Advisory Committee) was renamed as such at the 11th meeting of the Board of Directors held in Marseille on 6 February 2024; it is the body that monitors and approves the secretariat’s day-to-day activities.

The General Assembly comprises all members of the NGO who are entitled to vote. It elects the Board of Directors, which in turn elects the members of the Scientific Council.



Field trip during the Board of Directors’ meeting in Palma (Mallorca, Spain), on 3 October 2025



Bureau and Board of Directors



Joan Mayol
President
Former Environment Manager,
Balearic Islands Government
Spain



Awatef Abiadh
Assistant treasurer
Medfund / CEPF
France



Pascal Gillet
Treasurer
Port-Cros National Park
France



Aida Abdennadher
Vice-President
Seaconvergence
Tunisia



Alain Mante
Secretary
Calanques National Park
France



Flavio Monti
Assistant Secretary
CNR-IRET
Italia



Hocein Bazairi
Administrator
Mohammed V University
Morocco



Frédéric Médail
President of the Scientific Committee
IMBE
France



Roger Estève
Administrator
SMILO - Ex Conservatoire du littoral
France

The Scientific Council

To benefit from advice and guidance on the scientific, technical and management aspects of the islands, the PIM Initiative has established a multidisciplinary and international **Scientific Council** comprising **23 Mediterranean experts**, specialised in a wide range of fields (entomology, botany, international law, archaeology, etc.). Its roles are to:

- **Advise the Board of Directors and the Technical Secretariat** on the association's priority areas and themes of action. More specifically, it may highlight gaps in knowledge regarding small islands where inventory missions may be organised;
- **Offer scientific expertise**, particularly regarding decision-making on the management of pilot sites;
- **Provide expertise and advice** on initiatives aimed at pooling information, such as the development of the Encyclopaedic Atlas of Small Mediterranean Islands.

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL



Frédéric Médail
IMBE
France



Elsa Bonnaud
Paris Saclay University
France



Georgios Karris
Ionian University
Greece



Adrien Cheminée
Septentrion Environnement
France



Gianluigi Baccheta
UNICA-CCB
Italia



Abdeljebbar Qninba
Mohammed V University of Rabat
Morocco



Claudia Corti
University of Florence
Italy



Salvatore Pasta
CNR, IBBR, UOS Palermo
Italy



Michel Delaugerre
Conservatoire du littoral
France



Lina Emmanouilidou
DREAL PACA
France



Pietro Lo Cascio
Associazione Nesos
Italy



Brigitte Marin
French School of Rome
Italy



Luis Costa
Nature Returns
Portugal



Philippe Ponel
IMBE
France



Barbara Terrasa
UIB
Spain



Louis Dutouquet
HELP SARL
France



Zakher Bouragaoui
ATVS
Tunisia



Vincent Rivière
Agir Ecologique
France



Anna Traveset
IMEDEA
Spain



Ahmed Gadhoum
Archaeologist
Tunisia



Piere Boissery
Water Agency RMC
France



Denis Ody
WWF
France



Nicola Baccetti
ISPRA
Italia

Technical Secretariat

It ensures the running of the association and the operational implementation of projects. Following several recruitments and changes in roles, by the end of 2025 the team consisted of four permanent staff members, supported by two project officers and an intern on a work-study contract.



Eva Tankovic
Directrice



Jeanne Chaumont
Chargée de mission CAIPIM -
Responsable scientifique



Gwennaëlle Daniel
Chargée de mission LIFE EMM -
Gestion des espaces insulaires



Karelle Bassolé
Chargée administratif et
événementiel



Anaële Sacchettini
Chargée de mission RESCOM -
Communication



Maxime Trentesaux
Chargée de mission PACA-Corse



Alexia Soler
Ambassadrice PIM



Margot Boniart
Alternante Bachelor GPMML



Part of the Technical Secretariat team in January 2026

Financial partners in 2025



Ministry for Ecological Transition
www.ecologie.gouv.fr



French Global Environment Facility
www.ffem.fr/en



Southern Region
www.maregionsud.fr



RMC Water Agency
www.eaurmc.fr



Var Department
www.var.fr



Conservatoire du littoral
 Technical/institutional support
www.conservatoire-du-littoral.fr



French Biodiversity Agency
ofb.gouv.fr



Co-funded by the European Union

European Union
cinea.ec.europa.eu



François Sommer Foundation
fondationfrancoissommer.org



1% for the Planet
www.onepercentfortheplanet.fr



Turquoise Voyages
turquoise-voyages.fr



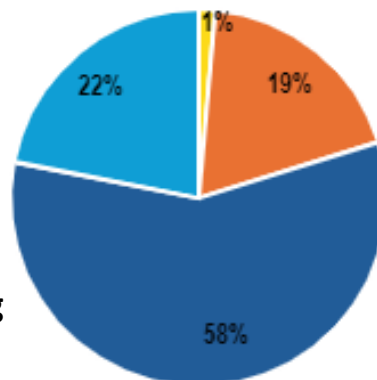
City of Marseille
www.marseille.fr



Be Right™

HACH France
fr.hach.com

Breakdown of funding sources 2025



- Memberships and donations
- European funds
- French public funds
- Private funds

Memberships of the association



SMILO
www.smilo.org



Lérins Abbey
www.abbayedelerins.com/



Ecologie Sans Frontières
<https://www.facebook.com/AESF.DZ>



Calanques National Park
calanques-parcnational.fr



Var Department
portcros-parcnational.fr



Conservatoire du littoral
Technical/institutional support
www.conservatoire-du-littoral.fr



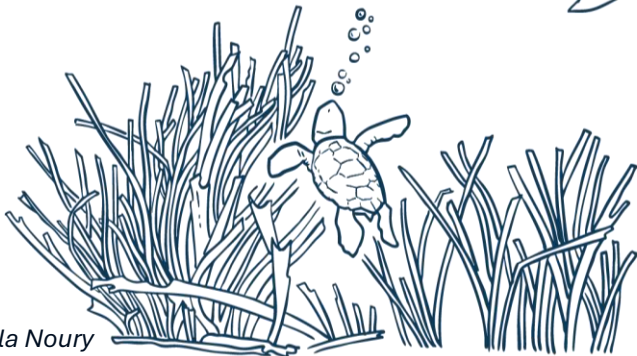
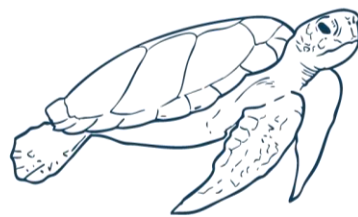
ID-îles
www.id-iles.fr



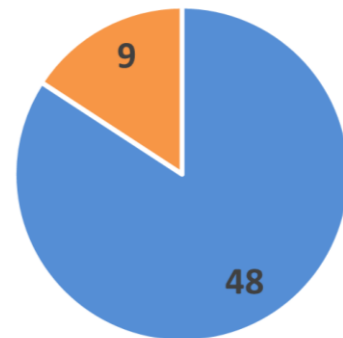
Fundación Hospital de la Isla del Rey
www.islahospitalmenorca.org



Island Conservation
www.islandconservation.org



© Pola Noury



- Physical members
- Legal entities



MAJOR PROJECTS AND REVIEW OF ACTIONS 2025



Terra cognita: Exploratory missions and knowledge acquisition

PIM Strategy

Since its inception, PIM Initiative has been working to improve knowledge of the little-known or overlooked islands and islets of the Mediterranean Basin. More than 200 support and expert missions have been organised since 2009, thanks to the mobilisation of over a hundred Mediterranean experts, enabling the consolidation and promotion of naturalist data. In particular, some sixty naturalist notes and mission reports have been produced and disseminated through PIM missions, contributing to the creation of a body of grey literature made available to all stakeholders in Mediterranean conservation. This goal **to acquire knowledge** forms part of a **strategy to develop new partnerships in the eastern Mediterranean and Macaronesia**, through exploratory missions covering multiple biological sectors. Knowledge regarding certain emblematic species of high conservation importance is also being consolidated through dedicated monitoring missions. This commitment **to expanding the partnerships and territories covered by the PIM Initiative's scope of action** helps to **strengthen the association's role as a Mediterranean network of small islands**, centralising knowledge of Mediterranean island ecosystems, particularly in the context of global change. This will also enable, in the future, **better-coordinated action across the basin**, focusing on shared species or local resources.

Greece



As part of its activities to improve knowledge of the small islands of the Mediterranean, its strategy to develop new partnerships in the eastern Mediterranean, and to develop the CAIPIM project, PIM Initiative organised and funded a third expedition in May 2025 to gather knowledge about the small **islands of the Milos archipelago** (Cyclades). This mission follows on from a first expedition organised in 2023 to the islets of the Ionian Sea and a second mission to the islands of the Saronic Gulf in 2024. In 2025, the multidisciplinary team assembled for the occasion set the objective of gathering and updating knowledge on the outlying islands and islets of Milos (Antimilos, Mikro and Megalo Akradi, Glaronisia, Agios Efstathios, Agios Georgios, Paximadi, Manolonisi Kimolos, Poliegos), and to identify the best site to be the pilot site for the CAIPIM project (Know, Act and Innovate to Protect the Small Islands of the Mediterranean) launched in 2024.

This expedition brought together a team of 12 people, including local experts from the Universities of Athens, the Ionian Islands and Oxford, the National Museum of Natural History of Crete, as well as NECCA managers and members of the Scientific Council and the technical secretariat of PIM. It enabled the study of various biological components: avifauna, invertebrates, herpetology and flora. A naturalist report presenting the detailed results has been initiated. **In total, nine islands and islets were surveyed, in addition to the main island of Milos.**



Islets surveyed during the May 2025 mission in the Milos archipelago

The surveys enabled us to supplement existing inventories and to acquire unrecorded data on islets about which very little is known. On this occasion, Pietro Lo Cascio, a member of the Scientific Council of PIM Initiative, together with two Greek entomologists (Leonidas-Romanos Davranoglou and Nikolaos Manolas), described two new species of beetles discovered on the islets of the Milos Archipelago (Cyclades, Greece) ([Lo Cascio, P. et al. 2025](#)). It is an honour for PIM Initiative to have had one of the two species named after it: *Amphimallon pim*. The other beetle, *Amphimallon claudiae*, was named in honour of Claudia Corti, a long-standing member of the PIM Initiative Scientific Council.



Gathering data on the islet of Megalo Arkadi, Greece, 2025



Figure 6. Habitus of holotype of *Amphimallon claudiae* n. sp. (dorsal and left lateral view; scale: 5 mm.). Figure 7. Head of of *A. claudiae* n. sp. from left lateral view (not to scale). Figure 8. Habitus of holotype of *A. pim* n. sp. (dorsal and left lateral view; scale: 5 mm.). Figure 9. Head of of *A. pim* n. sp. from left lateral view (not to scale).

First observation of *Amphimallon pim* on the islet of Paximadi
(P. Lo Cascio et al, 2025)



Eleonora's falcons

Falcons of La Galite Island (Tunisia)

Flavio Monti (CNR-IRET), a member of PIM Initiative Board of Directors and expert ornithologist responsible for fitting Eleonora's falcons with GPS tags during the mission to the Galite archipelago in September 2024, presented a poster setting out the initial results of tracking the falcons' movements at the [14th European Vertebrate Management Conference](#) (EVMC) in Ankarana, Slovenia, from 12 to 16 May 2025. The title of the poster was: *Seasonal movements of GPS-tracked Eleonora's falcons Falco eleonora from the Galite archipelago, Tunisia*. At the end of 2025 (one year after the mission), the results of the data analyses on the migration and wintering of the GPS-tagged falcons were published in the *African Journal of Ecology*. Among the interesting findings, a new migratory route for the species across the Arabian Peninsula was described.

The article resulting from this work is available [by clicking here](#).



Flavio Monti, at the 14th European Conference on Vertebrate Management

Eleonora's Falcons in Essaouira (Morocco)

Regular monitoring of the Eleonora's Falcon colony in Essaouira was initiated in Morocco in 2010 jointly by the National Agency for Water and Forests (ANEF) and the Conservatoire du littoral. The census operations are carried out by the Scientific Institute (Mohammed V University of Rabat) and supported by the PIM Initiative. Thanks to this support, a census mission covering the two Moroccan Eleonora's Falcon populations (the Bouknadel colony north of Salé, the only colony established on non-island cliffs, and the Essaouira colony) was organised in September 2025.



Eleonora's Falcon from the Essaouira colony © A. Qninba



Eleonora's falcons from the Essaouira colony, taking a sand and dust bath in open areas of the Oued Ksob riverbed, 9 September 2025 © A. Qninba

Despite difficulties in accessing the island of Essaouira, the mission yielded an interesting discovery regarding the falcons of this colony, which migrate upstream along the Oued Ksob every year to hunt insects before the breeding season begins: on 9th of September 2025, during the team's survey of the Oued Ksob, several Eleonora's falcons from the Essaouira colony were observed taking sand and dust baths in open sandy areas within the riverbed. This is rather unusual behaviour, which had never been reported before in the Moroccan literature! For more information, see the dedicated article: <https://leam-lab.ma/documents/13-septembre-2025-bains-de-sable-chez-le-faucon-deleonore/>



FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL



MOHAMMED V UNIVERSITY-AGDAL
Rabat - Morocco



©Original photo: Cherkaoui Imad

CAIPIM, CAIPIMP: Assessing and mitigating the impact of global changes...



...On the islands of the Mediterranean and Macaronesia (CAIPIM)

CAiPiM

The small islands of the Mediterranean and Macaronesia are subject to significant pressures associated with global change, and their conservation suffers from a lack of scientific data, a deficit in management and governance, and insufficient recognition of the scale of the challenges at national, regional and international levels. To address this need, PIM Initiative and the Conservatoire du littoral, alongside their scientific partners, including the Mediterranean Institute for Biodiversity and Ecology (IMBE, Aix-Marseille University), have launched the CAIPIM project (Know, Act, Innovate to Protect the Small Islands of the Mediterranean and Macaronesia), an ambitious and innovative project for research and the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Co-funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), the Rhône-Mediterranean-Corsica Water Agency, the François Sommer Foundation, the French Office for Biodiversity, the French Southern Region and Expertise France, the CAIPIM project began in July 2024 and is due to be completed by the end of 2028.

The project aims to strengthen and structure scientific knowledge, work towards the good ecological status and management of the small islands in the biodiversity hotspot and promote their ecological role and function as a refuge for coastal biodiversity at national and international levels. To achieve this goal, it plans to collect existing scientific data and supplement it at local level across around ten small islands in the Mediterranean and Macaronesia, using simple and robust protocols, and to build the capacity of site managers (through field training and thematic workshops).



These managers will be trained and then supported in applying these protocols in the field (thereby enabling them to manage these monitoring activities independently in the future). The ten ‘sentinel’ islands of the project were selected based on various criteria (existing links with a strong network of local stakeholders, geographical representativeness, accessibility, etc.).

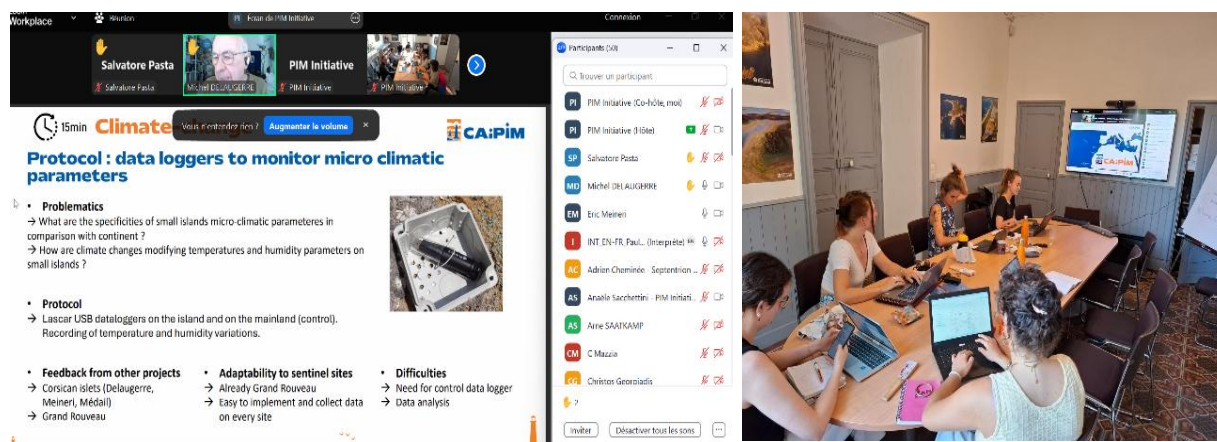


Location of the Mediterranean and Macaronesian sentinel sites for the CAiPIM project

Activities and missions 2025

Working groups to develop a set of standardised monitoring protocols for tracking global changes

In January, February and June 2025, several partners responsible for managing Mediterranean and Macaronesian islands, along with experts in ecology, botany, ornithology, entomology, mammalogy and herpetology, met via videoconference during a series of working groups. These discussions enabled the joint development of a list of simple, replicable protocols to ensure rigorous and harmonised monitoring of global changes at the pilot sites selected under the CAiPIM project.



Online working group meeting on 20 June 2025, with teams from PIM and the Conservatoire du littoral meeting in Aix-en-Provence



Development of a partnership in Montenegro

As part of the development of PIM Initiative's partnerships, a joint mission with the Conservatoire du littoral was carried out in Montenegro in November 2025. This trip provided an opportunity to meet local stakeholders involved in the management of Montenegro's Marine Protected Areas, and to present PIM Initiative, the Conservatoire du littoral and the CAIPIM project they are jointly undertaking. The consultation meetings led to the identification of a new pilot site for the project. At the end of the mission, the islands of Katič and Stari Ulcinj were designated to join the CAIPIM network of pilot islands.



Presentation of CAIPIM to the Advisory Committee for the Marine Protected Areas of Katič and Stari Ulcinj in November 2025

The Area (Menorca), Balearic Islands, Spain

The PIM Initiative Board of Directors meeting held in Majorca in October 2025 provided an opportunity to visit the pilot site of Aire, in Menorca, and to meet with the site managers. This field visit led to reflection on how to implement the CAIPIM protocols in line with local characteristics, and enabled to update knowledge on the island's flora.



Visit to the island of l'Aire and discussion of the CAIPIM protocols with partners from the Balearic Islands Government's Department of the Environment (October 2025)

...On the islets of Corsica and the South region (CAIPIMP)

Pursuing the same objectives as the CAIPIM project, CAIPIMP is its extension across five sentinel islands in Corsica and Provence: Gargalu, Mezu Mare, Riou, Grand Rouveau and Saint-Honorat.

The inclusion of these five pilot sites forms part of existing partnerships with local managers: they have all confirmed their interest in joining the project and the network of sentinel islands, to continue and harmonise existing monitoring protocols, thereby enabling comparisons between sites and the integration of collected data into broader analyses.

The project envisages **one naturalist mission per year** at each pilot site, **for a period of three years**, organised by PIM Initiative. These missions may be supplemented by actions carried out directly by the managers. The taxa studied will shed light on changes in biodiversity, the impacts of global changes and the effectiveness of management measures (reproductive success of seabirds, the abundance and composition of plant communities, the abundance and composition of soil entomofauna, etc.). Consideration will also be given to **studying the microclimatology of the islets**, to expand upon studies begun on islets off Corsica in 2021, or on the Grand Rouveau since 2022.



The island of Saint-Honorat at dusk, November 2025



Activities and missions 2025

📌 Mezu Mare (Sanguinaires Archipelago – Corsica)

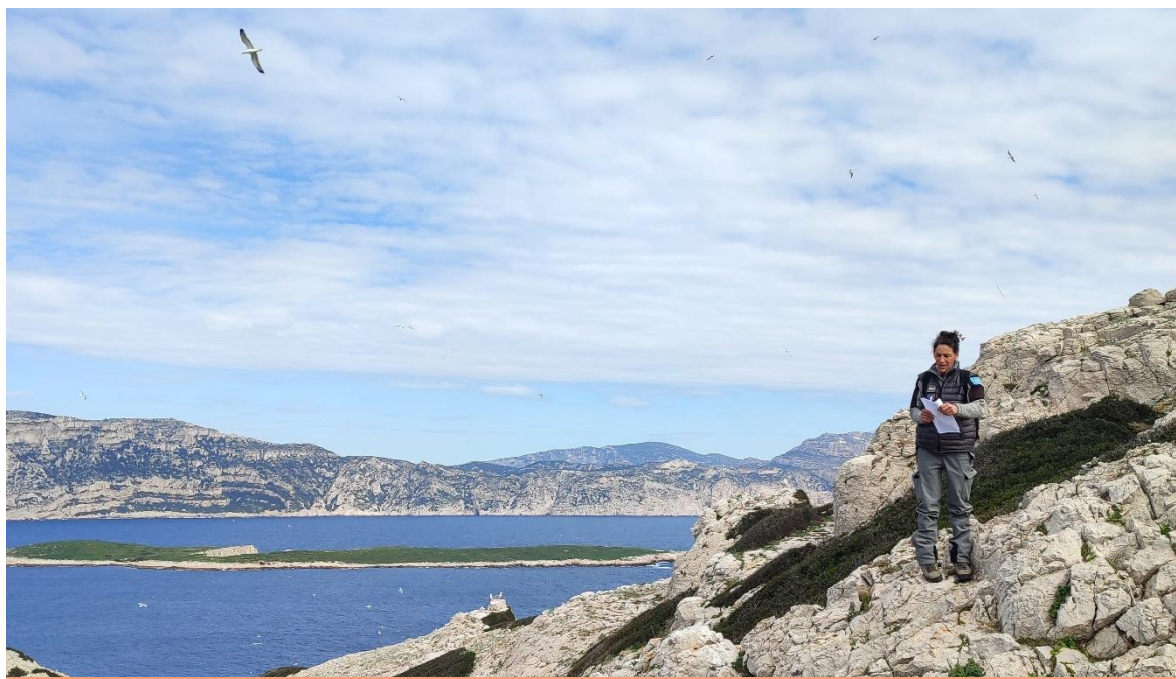


Following the feasibility study on the eradication of the black rat carried out in 2020–2021 by HELP for the Communauté d'Agglomération du Pays Ajaccien, the manager of the Natura 2000 site, the operation has been scheduled for 2025 as part of the Life Espèces Marines Mobiles project, of which PIM Initiative is a partner.

In 2025, monitoring continued in order to complete the assessment of the ecosystem's initial state prior to the intervention and to establish a baseline for long-term monitoring. The protocols cover several biological groups: [breeding seabirds](#) (notably Procellariidae), Crested Cormorant and Yellow-legged Gull, breeding passerines (including several heritage warbler species and swifts), [reptiles](#) (European Green Toad, Tiliguerta Lizard, Green and Yellow Snake), arthropods and flora.

📌 Riou (Calanques National Park – Marseille)

The Calanques National Park is a long-standing partner of PIM Initiative, having contributed to numerous initiatives across the archipelagos, particularly in management of invasive species. The island of Riou, situated at the heart of the National Park, is of major importance for the conservation of seabirds (breeding colonies of four species of seabirds endemic to the Mediterranean). The island is also home to the largest breeding colony of Mediterranean gulls in France. In 2025, the partnership between PIM Initiative and the Calanques National Park was formalised through a framework agreement, enabling Riou to join the CAIPIM sentinel islands network. Several monitoring schemes and protocols have been identified, some of which have already been implemented, as part of the upcoming management actions for Riou and the CAIPIM project. Besides, PIM Initiative, in collaboration with Agir écologique, has supported the establishment of a monitoring system for European Leaf-toed Gecko, using artificial roosts, as on the Grand Rouveau, as well as the forthcoming installation of a microclimatic monitoring system on the island in partnership with AMU-IMBE.



Joint mission between PIM Initiative and staff from the Calanques National Park, Riou Island, March 2025

Grand Rouveau (Embiez Archipelago, Six-Fours-les-Plages)

PIM Initiative is a co-manager of Grand Rouveau Island, where biodiversity monitoring protocols have been in place since 2012. The island also offers numerous opportunities to test the implementation of protocols prior to their replication, as well as for organising training sessions or work-camps. The 2025 nature surveys helped to support the marine components, with monitoring of Posidonia seagrass beds, nurseries for juvenile fish and adult fish via transects.



View of Les Embiez from the Île du Grand Rouveau

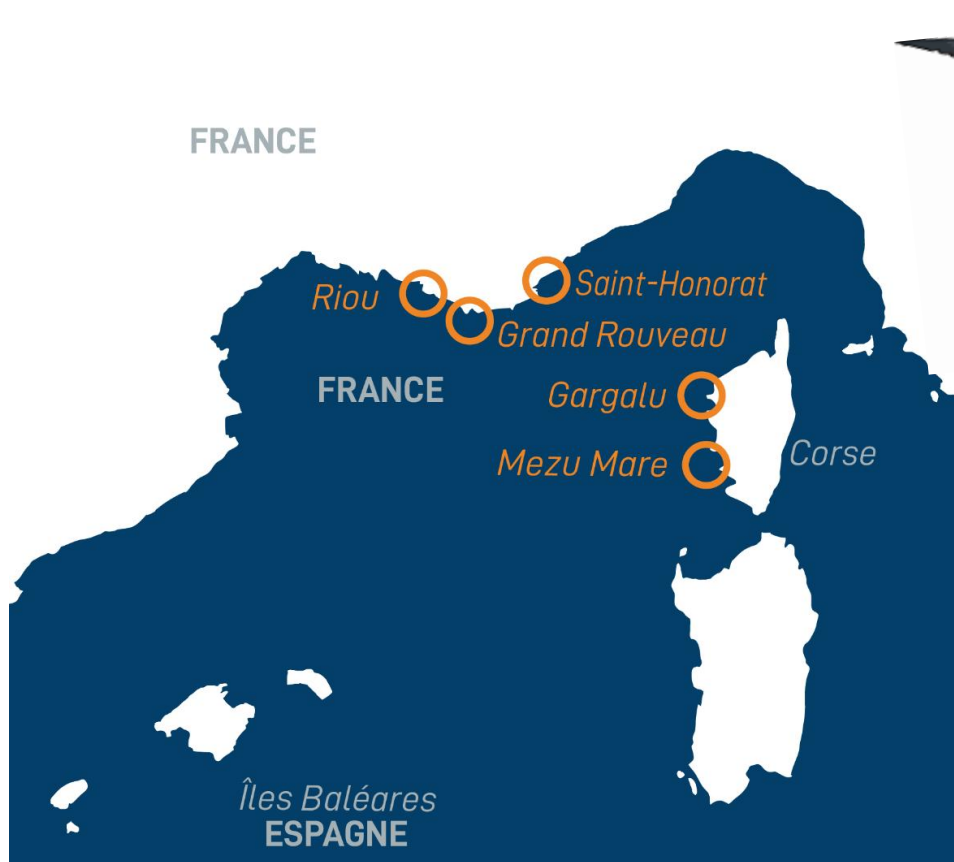


Région
Provence
Alpes
Côte d'Azur



Programmes to combat invasive alien species on the outlying islets of Corsica and the South Region

Invasive alien species are a key issue for island ecosystems. PIM Initiative was therefore commissioned by the French Office for Biodiversity (OFB) to draft a [strategy to combat invasive species](#) affecting heritage seabird species on the islands and islets of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PACA) region in 2018, followed by [a strategy for 2022–2023 covering the outlying islets of Corsica](#). These strategies are in line with the objectives set by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and are based on the island database created by PIM Initiative, on data compilation work previously carried out as part of the Atlas project, on exchanges with, in particular, the National Parks of the Provençal coast and managers in Corsica, and on assessments and monitoring carried out in the field. They are now being rolled out in Corsica and the South Region.



©Yann Souche

📌 Sanguinaires Archipelago: Rat eradication on Mezu Mare and the surrounding islets



Biosecurity checks on Mezu Mare in the Sanguinaires Archipelago (Southern Corsica, France)

Teams mobilised by PIM Initiative and supported by local managers from the Joint Management Authority for the Grand Site of the Sanguinaires Islands and Pointe de la Parata jointly carried out naturalist surveys on the Sanguinaires Archipelago in May and then in autumn 2024, to prepare for the future rat eradication operation scheduled for 2025. **This operation on the Sanguinaires Islands, funded by the Life Espèces Marines Mobiles project coordinated by the OFB, was carried out in the field by HELP Sarl over a six-week period, from 22 August to 5 October 2025** (detailed report available [online](#)). Based on a network of several hundred bait boxes, The operation, was supplemented by an anti-reinfestation biosecurity system and deployed at various strategic points across the archipelago. Regular checks of this system will be carried out by agents from the Sanguinaires Islands Joint Authority to prevent any recolonisation; these agents have been trained by teams from PIM Initiative and HELP Sarl to enable them to independently verify the absence or presence of rats.

Naturalist monitoring missions aimed at assessing and monitoring the impact of the rat eradication on the local ecosystem. It continued in September and October 2025, notably with the renewal of bioacoustic monitoring ([Biophonía, 2026](#)), vegetation monitoring (CBNC, 2026) and reptile monitoring ([Delaugerre, 2026](#)) on the island. A review of the consistency with *Carpobrotus* monitoring alongside the rat control programme, in partnership with the National Botanical Conservatory of Corsica.





**Pour protéger les oiseaux marins des îles :
DÉRATISATION EN COURS !**

Les îles offrent des sites privilégiés pour la biodiversité locale et la reproduction des oiseaux marins.

Des opérations de dératisation sont actuellement organisées pour restaurer l'équilibre des écosystèmes uniques et fragiles de Mezu mare.

Les rats noirs, introduits sur les îles, s'attaquent aux œufs, aux poussins et à d'autres proies.

Les conditions seront alors plus favorables à la survie des oiseaux marins et en particulier l'accueil du Puffin Yelkouan. Cette espèce, parmi les plus menacées de France, ne niche plus que ponctuellement en Corse.

L'opération sera un succès si vous y contribuez :

- Suivez les chemins balisés
- Tenez votre chien en laisse
- Ne nourrissez pas les animaux
- Rapportez vos déchets alimentaires
- Ne touchez pas aux pièges
- Veillez à ne pas transporter de rat

📌 Riou: Support for discussions on establishing pre- and post-deratization monitoring

The presence of protected and endangered seabird species is one of the major ecological challenges facing Riou Island, given the threat posed by introduced mammal species. The site is currently overrun mainly by the black rat (*Rattus rattus*) and, to a lesser extent, by the European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*). PIM Initiative has held several discussions with officials from the Calanques National Park to support the **development of several scientific protocols**. These protocols will aim to assess the impacts of: i) a potential future rat eradication programme on the island's ecosystem; ii) overall changes on the island (notably through the installation of microclimate stations) as part of the CAIPIM project, led in partnership with the Conservatoire du littoral and launched in January 2025, Riou being one of the pilot sites.

The protocols will be implemented both before and after the eradication to establish a baseline of the island's biodiversity prior to the removal of the introduced mammals and to monitor the effect of the intervention on this biodiversity. Most of the protocols will be similar to those established on Grand Rousseau, Gargalu and the Sanguinaires Islands in order to obtain comparable data across sites. They will be implemented by staff from the Calanques National Park, who will initially receive support from experts within the PIM Initiative network or external stakeholders: consultancy firms, depending on staffing requirements and the skills needed.

📌 Saint-Honorat (Lérins Islands, Cannes): a comprehensive island restoration project

Lérins Abbey formalised its collaboration with PIM Initiative through the signing in 2025 of a three-year partnership agreement, notably as part of **the island’s SMILO certification process, to strengthen the management of introduced species (Colchis pheasant and black rat) and promote the exchange of experiences among stakeholders on Provençal islands.**

Located in the Lérins archipelago and belonging to the monastic community, the island of Saint-Honorat is home to the **last insular population in Provence of the Western Green Lizard (*Lacerta bilineata*)**, whose distribution could be affected by the presence of the Colchis Pheasant. This was, among other things, the focus of the mission to update the [naturalist inventories](#) in June 2024 with experts from the PIM network, including the consultancy firm AGIR écologique.

Between a coordination meeting for the ‘PH’ILOTS’ project with the Museum National d’Histoire Naturelle (MNHN) in Nice and the City of Antibes on naturalist monitoring and the management of the black rat, and a working group on the European leaf-toed bat and its long-term monitoring, PIM Initiative secured funding from the Blue Endowment Fund, via the SMILO Islands Fund, to carry out a preliminary assessment for a project to combat invasive species. In this context, HELP carried out an inventory of small mammals and a feasibility study for rodent control on Saint-Honorat and its surrounding islets in late May 2025 ([HELP, 2025](#)).

This work confirmed the presence of the black rat (*Rattus rattus*) on the island, identified the presence of the house mouse, validated the effectiveness of the proposed baiting methods, and enabled the scale of the operation required to eradicate the black rat (*Rattus rattus*) from the island to be determined. A feasibility study on the removal of the Colchis pheasant population from Saint-Honorat also began in 2025. Discussions with AGIR écologique, the DREAL PACA, the N2000 coordinator and Lérins Abbey led to the conclusion that it was necessary to develop a more comprehensive renaturation project for Saint-Honorat as a first step. The project was discussed at the meeting of the Regional Scientific Council for Natural Heritage (CSRPN) on 27 November 2025 and received a



Participants in the May 2025 mission to Saint-Honorat (PIM Initiative, HELP Sarl, AGIR écologique, Monastic Community of Lérins Abbey)

favourable opinion. It will be necessary to consider continuing the actions across the archipelago, and discussions will be initiated with the managers of Sainte-Marguerite in 2026.

Scandola Nature Reserve: biosecurity checks on Gargalu and Garganellu



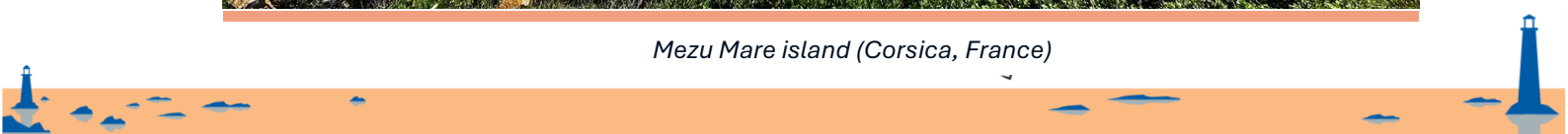
Scandola Nature Reserve (Corsica, France)

Following the rat eradication programme on the islets of Gargalu and Garganellu in the Scandola Nature Reserve in 2023 ([HELP, 2023](#)), a biosecurity monitoring mission was organised with the support of the managers of the Corsica Regional Nature Park in October 2025 to check for any potential return of rats. **On Garganellu, no trace of rats was detected.** On Gargalu, in line with the objectives of the 2023 operation, rats are still present but kept away from the nesting areas of the Scopoli's shearwater thanks to the biosecurity measures. Monitoring missions to track the reproduction of the Scopoli's shearwater colony were carried out by the Corsican Environment Agency (OEC) between June and September 2025. **The breeding success rate was established at 80%**, compared to 68% in 2024 (following rat control), 17% in 2023 and 23% in 2022 (before rodent control). **The positive effect of the rodent control carried out since 2023 was confirmed in 2025**, although the population size remains too small to identify a statistically robust trend. Opportunities for new nesting remain low due to the site's configuration, which limits burrowing possibilities. The use of artificial nesting boxes would help increase the chances of colonisation. Discussions are ongoing with site managers, particularly within the framework of the LIFE Mobile Marine Species (EMM) project.

Eventually, herpetological surveys were carried out by Michel Delaugerre at Gargalu and Garganellu in October 2025 ([Delaugerre, 2025](#)), notably to study populations of the European pond frog using artificial roosting sites. On Gargalu, three years after the shelters were installed, **an increase in the total number of European tree frogs occupying the shelters has been observed** (from 9 in 2022 to 27 in 2025). On Garganellu, night-time monitoring has revealed a change in the behaviour of the island's *Phyllodactylus* geckos. Indeed, **following the rat extermination carried out in September 2023, gecko sightings have been significantly more frequent.**



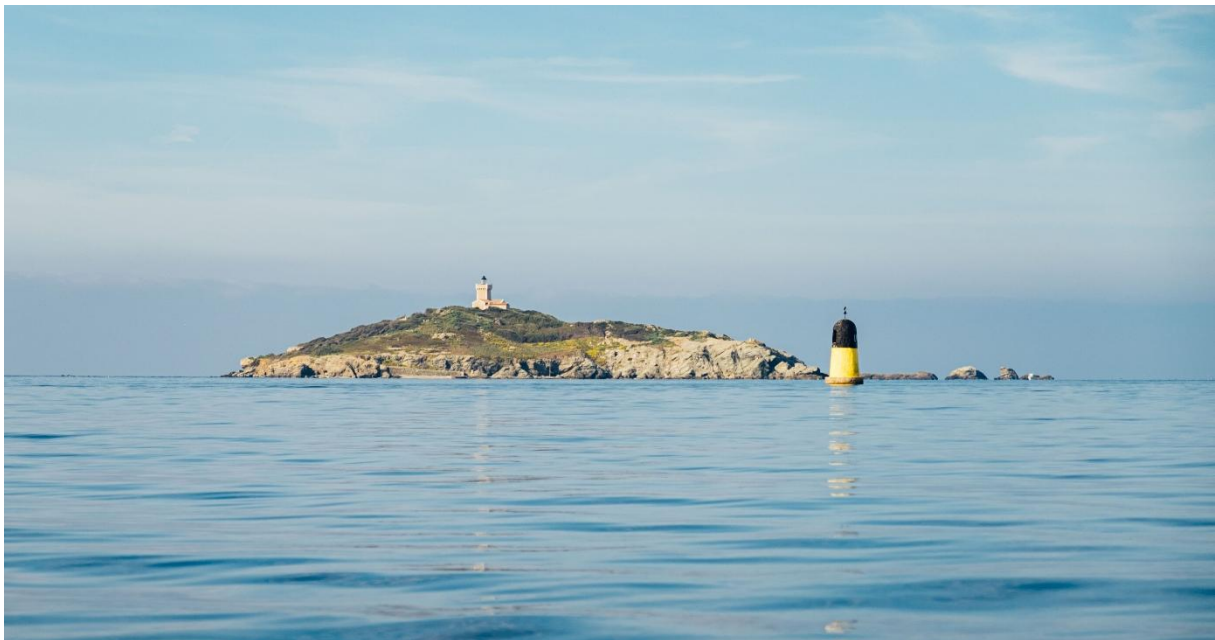
Mezu Mare island (Corsica, France)



Grand Rouveau Island: 5th year of Co-management of the site!



Located in the Embiez archipelago in the Var, **Île du Grand Rouveau** is a flagship site for the PIM Initiative association. It was acquired in 2000 by the Conservatoire du Littoral, which appointed the Six-Fours-les-Plages town council as manager in 2005 to strengthen the local community's commitment to the island's preservation, and then PIM Initiative as co-manager in 2021. An activity report dedicated to Île du Grand Rouveau is available [online](#) for further details on the actions carried out on the site.



Grand Rouveau Island (Var, France) © Hedi Chouchane

Renewal of the Grand Rouveau's ASPIM status: Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance

The Île du Grand Rouveau and its associated Maritime Public Domain are covered by the 'ASPIM' designation, which promotes marine protected areas under the ASP-DB protocol stemming from the Barcelona Convention. This status is renewed every five years. In February 2025, teams from PIM Initiative and the Conservatoire du littoral welcomed the delegation assessing the renewal application for Le Rouveau to present the island to the assessors, and are delighted to have been able to jointly sign the renewal of ASPIM status for a further five years!



Regional Marine Guard

The surveillance and awareness-raising missions around the island of Grand Rouveau are a scheme established in 2017 thanks to the Permanent Centre for Environmental Initiatives (CPIE) and the Six-Fours-les-Plages city council. Since 2021, this initiative has been coordinated by PIM Initiative, largely supported by the Regional Marine Guard scheme funded by the Sud Region.



Awareness-raising boat patrols carried out by the PIM Initiative eco-guard team in 2025: Mari Bourhis and Maxime Trentesaux. Photo credit, left: Lara Balais, Région Sud

The main objective is to meet and engage with boaters to raise their awareness of the points of interest within the Brusc Lagoon Natura 2000 (N2000) area, of which the Grand Rouveau belongs, particularly regarding issues related to the protection of Posidonia seagrass beds. The monitoring programme also ensures a greater presence on site during summer (June to September), the busiest period. In 2025, two eco-guards were recruited from May to September and spent two to three days a week at sea or on land carrying out awareness-raising patrols. In total, **more than 600 recreational boaters were made aware of the issues over the season: 529 at sea and 122 on land** at the ports of La Coudoulière and Le Brusc (Six-Fours-les-Plages).

Nature monitoring and biosecurity

Since 2012, PIM Initiative has been working with various specialists and experts to carry out naturalist surveys of terrestrial biodiversity in the Grand Rouveau. Floristic, ornithological and herpetological surveys are therefore conducted every year. In 2025, 11 naturalist surveys were carried out, including workshops organised with students and their supervisors during school field trips.

European leaf-toed frog:

The island of Grand Rouveau has been subject to **regular monitoring of the European leaf-toed bat (*Euleptes europaea*) population since 2014**, in partnership with the consultancy firm AGIR écologique. This rare and protected species, which forms a preserved population on Grand Rouveau, is counted at least twice a year (in early spring and autumn) using artificial roosts, in which the birds take refuge. Other protocols complement the monitoring of the shelters: Capture-Mark-Recapture (CMR) analyses, studies of the microclimatology of the shelters, etc.

The year 2025 also marks a turning point in scientific research on European Phyllodactylus. As part of Julie Quessada's PhD thesis (AGIR Ecologique – CNRS), which began in late 2024, individuals were collected from the island to study their biology (behaviour, reproduction, etc.) at the CNRS-SETE laboratory (Moulis, France), before being released back onto the island three months later. This study,

which is the first of its kind concerning this still little-known species, is strictly governed by regulations and specific exemptions granted to researchers working on the island. A better understanding of the European phyllodactyl would thus enable the implementation of more effective conservation measures.



Figure 1 : Vincent Rivière (AGIR écologique) measuring a European phyllodactyl (handling of protected species is restricted to scientific monitoring and subject to special authorisations)

Flora

A vegetation monitoring protocol using permanent plots was initiated by the IMBE in 2012, the year marking the start of the witch's claw eradication campaign. The annual inventory of these 18 circular plots of 100 m² aims to **monitor the recolonisation of vegetation following the ecological restoration programme**.

In 2025, the survey was carried out from April 28 to 30 by Daniel Pavon and Noé Fleury-Frouart, who were undertaking a Master's internship at PIM Initiative. This internship also provided an opportunity to make a more precise identification of the habitats present on the Grand Rouveau and to measure the progress of vegetation recolonisation in the areas studied. The results show that **plant communities are becoming more similar to the island's preserved habitats**. Following their removal, witch's claws have given way to native structuring species on the island . A manuscript is currently being drafted for the publication of the results.



False laburnum



Greasy-leaved ragwort



Glaucous sow thistle

Photos: Noé Fleury Frouart

Marine monitoring

All marine naturalist monitoring was carried out by the BTS GPN 2 students from the Lycée des Calanques as part of the schoolwork camp from September 22 to 26. Supervised by Septentrion Environnement, the CFPPA of Marseille and PIM Initiative, the students monitored juvenile fish nursery areas, counted adult fish and mapped the Posidonia seagrass beds around the island. For further information, please consult the [BTS work-study programme report](#).

Biosecurity: post-eradication monitoring of the black rat and a second round of weeding of the witch's claw

Students in the BTS GPN programme at the Lycée des Calanques and the Valabre campus had the opportunity, during a work-study project on Grand Rouveau, to inspect the biosecurity measures implemented on the island to prevent re-colonisation by the black rat (*Rattus rattus*), which has been eradicated from the island since 2018. All the anti-reinfestation boxes were inspected during the two schoolwork camps in 2025, with no sign of rats observed.

To combat the spread of the witch's claw (*Carpobrotus edulis*), an invasive alien species, weeding campaigns took place from 2012 to 2016 to eradicate it from Grand Rouveau. These campaigns have enabled the gradual return of the island's native vegetation and Mediterranean scrub. Since 2016, annual follow-up missions have been carried out each summer to remove regrowth. New plants appear every year due to the seed bank already present in the soil, and possible introductions from the mainland via yellow-legged gulls.

The 50th anniversary of the Conservatoire du littoral celebrated at the site

Established in 1975, the Conservatoire du littoral (CdI) celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2025. This public body, owns more than 80 sites in the PACA region, including the island of Grand Rouveau. To mark the occasion, PIM Initiative, the Conservatoire du littoral and Phares & Balises joined forces to organise a guided tour of the Grand Rouveau lighthouse, which is usually closed to the public. Around fifty people were thus given the chance to discover this iconic monument on the island. On the agenda: a journey through the building's history, an exploration of local biodiversity, an insight into the nature conservation initiatives carried out at this unique site, and lively discussions on ecological challenges and nature monitoring.





Visit to the Grand Rouveau lighthouse, organised by PIM Initiative, the Conservatoire du littoral and Phares & Balises

Find out about the activities carried out on Grand Rouveau in 2025 in the [dedicated activity report](#).



RESCOM: Towards enhanced ecosystem resilience in the Mediterranean



C O N S O R T I U M
M É D I T E R R A N É E N
B I O D I V E R S I T É

The first initiative of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Consortium (MBC), a coalition of regional environmental organisations launched in 2021 in partnership with the Conservatoire du littoral, the RESCOM project aims to improve the environmental and social resilience of the Mediterranean basin through the implementation of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) via an integrated, multi-stakeholder and multi-ecosystem approach. Launched in 2023 with financial support from the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) and the MAVA Foundation, the RESCOM project has benefited from the support of the French Development Agency (AFD) since 2025. The signing of a formal partnership agreement in June in Nice confirmed an extension of the project's budget and duration, which has now been extended until the end of 2029. Training and capacity-building (CB) initiatives, activities rolled out at regional level (sharing of experiences, calls for small-scale projects, early warning systems), and concrete measures at nine pilot sites in Albania, Egypt, Italy (Sardinia), Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia, and Turkey - are being developed in close collaboration with natural site managers and other national and local partners. The project is structured around three specific objectives:



- **To strengthen the capacities** of managers and partners at the project's pilot sites regarding SfN and other protection and resilience measures;

- **To promote the exchange of experience and best practice** on the application of the SfN concept within a Think & Do Tank, an informal regional think tank, leading to the roll-out of small-scale projects and advocacy activities across the Mediterranean;

- **Define and implement demonstrative SfN at several pilot sites**, in close collaboration with the national and local partners involved in site management.

www.medconsortium.org



RESCOM project steering committee at the Patara pilot site (Turkey), June 2025

Main activities carried out by the PIM Initiative as part of RESCOM in 2025

Design of a training programme

The second half of 2025 saw the integration of three new pilot sites in Libya, Egypt and Morocco, for which a consultation process was carried out to explore ways of adapting the training programme's content to the needs of the new partners. As co-leader of the project's training component alongside Medwet, PIM Initiative also organised several exchange sessions and working meetings throughout the year to finalise the training programme, the first version of which was finalised following the Steering Committee meeting in June, with the catalogue distributed to CMB members and pilot site partners. The first national training sessions took place as planned in November at the Sardinian site and in December at the Albanian site. The organisation ran smoothly, and feedback from both facilitators and participants has been very positive overall!

📌 Training on photogrammetry applied to the monitoring of coralligenous communities, from November 11 to 14 (Sardinia, Italy):

Organised by PIM Initiative and Septentrion Environnement, the four-day training course, which took place from November 10 to 14 in Villasimius, aimed to teach the basics of photogrammetry applied to the monitoring of corals and coralligenous ecosystems. This technique, based on taking underwater photographs, enables the seabed to be modelled in 3D, allowing it to be monitored and studied, thereby enhancing our understanding of the impacts of climate change and invasive alien species. It was led by two experts: Majorie Roscian (Septentrion Environnement) and Fabio Menna (University of Sassari) and benefited the four marine biologists from the management team of the Capo Carbonara Marine Protected Area (AMPCC), as well as the expert in charge of Posidonia seagrass restoration projects (MedSea).



Application of photogrammetry in the field, RESCOM training, November 2025 (AMPCC, Sardinia)

📌 Training on the ‘One Health’ concept applied to lagoons, from December 2 to 4 (Albania)

This interactive training session on the “One Health” concept and the lagoon environment was led by experts from the Tour du Valat for members of a local NGO (PPNEA), representatives of the municipality of Divjakë and staff from the Regional Agency for Protected Areas (RAPA) as part of the RESCOM project (16 people in total). The aim was to propose and test a dynamic training format combining icebreakers, traditional presentations, games reinforcing the theoretical aspects, and field trips for an audience consisting mainly of protected site managers. For more information, see [the dedicated article on the MBC website.](#)



RESCOM “One Health” training in Divjakë-Karavasta, December 2025 (Albania)

Finalisation of the conservation programme for endangered endemic plant species on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara

An agreement between UNICA-CCB (Botanical Conservatory of the University of Cagliari) and the PIM Initiative enabled the launch in 2024 of a study aimed at identifying the most threatened endemic plant species on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara, and ensuring their *ex-situ* conservation at the Botanical Conservatory of the University of Cagliari (UNICA-CCB). In September 2024, the Unica-CCB team completed the collection of all seeds from endemic species and those of phytogeographical interest on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara, and finished collecting in the coastal areas of Capo Carbonara. The study and germination protocol were finalised at the end of 2025, and a joint mission between the facilitation (TdV) and the PIM Initiative in Sardinia in November enabled the completion of the actions planned under the agreement with UNICA-CCB.

Naturalist monitoring and restoration of Posidonia seagrass beds in the Capo Carbonara Marine Protected Area (AMPCC)



Restoration of the Posidonia seagrass bed (Posidonia oceanica) in the AMPCC, Sardinia, 2025. ©AMPCC

A partnership between PIM Initiative, acting as the CMB's representative for the Sardinian pilot site, and the municipality of Villasimius, as the manager of the AMPCC, has enabled the implementation of measures since 2024 that contribute to the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of the site. **Monitoring** of the Yelkouan shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouan*), Scopoli's shearwaters (*Calonectris diomedea*) and Tyrrhenian lizards (*Podarcis tiliguerta*) have been resumed on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara, to monitor the success of the rat eradication operation carried out in 2019 and to assess its impacts on the local ecosystem.

The restoration of damaged Posidonia seagrass beds in the Campulongu area was launched during the summer of 2025. These operations, supervised by the Medsea Foundation and carried out with the support of the team of marine biologists – who also manage the site – had enabled the rehabilitation of approximately 200 m² of seagrass beds by the end of 2025. Around 160 Posidonia plants were naturally uprooted were recovered and replanted in the affected areas. This method, which has a success rate of around 80%, will be repeated in spring 2026 when weather conditions are suitable. The installation of two new mooring buoys in the area will help to strengthen the protection of the restored seagrass beds.

The joint mission organised in November 2025 by the PIM Initiative team responsible for RESCOM activities in Sardinia and the RESCOM project coordination team (Tour du Valat) enabled several coordination meetings to be held with those responsible for terrestrial monitoring on the one hand, and those in charge of marine restoration activities on the other. To find out more, read [the dedicated article on the CMB website](#).



The AMPCC management team at the landing stage on Cavoli Island, November 2025



ICO SOLUTIONS: International training courses for the conservation of islands, coasts and oceans

A decorative illustration featuring a light blue circle containing stylized white clouds and two white birds in flight.

Launched in 2021 by the Rhône – Mediterranean – Corsica Water Agency, the Conservatoire du littoral and the Aix-Marseille-Provence Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, under the patronage of the Ministry for Ecological Transition, the ICO Solutions (Islands, Coasts, Oceans) initiative takes the form of various activities:

- **Workshops for reflection and sharing experiences:** in the form of themed webinars,
- **Training in the conservation and management of islands, coasts and oceans:** the COGICO MOOC.

ICO is an initiative aimed at supporting and stimulating the definition and implementation of concrete solutions to the major challenges facing islands, coasts and oceans in terms of conservation and sustainable development. ICO also embodies a commitment to bringing together expertise and perspectives by involving all stakeholders concerned with ecosystem conservation: public bodies, associations, experts, scientists and economic actors.

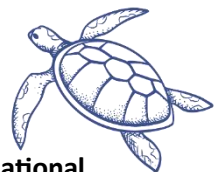
Activities carried out in 2025

Webinars: sharing experiences and expertise internationally

In 2025, as part of the ICO Solutions initiative, PIM Initiative supported the **Europe and International Delegation of the Conservatoire du littoral** in organising these international webinars to share experiences and expertise on the theme:

- **Soft solutions for coastal protection**, a series co-organised with the RECOS project (Resilience of Indian Ocean Coastal Zones): three episodes addressed the topic of coastal erosion, defining the concept, its origins, and various soft solutions, featuring feedback on experiences such as success and failure factors, as well as the concepts of monitoring and evaluation and the issue of acceptability.

A total of more than 318 people from 28 different countries took part in these various webinars. In 2026, new workshops will be organised on topics agreed with our partners. In the meantime, recordings are available on the [ICO](#) website.



The COGICO MOOC: training environmental professionals in the conservation and management of islands, coasts and oceans

As part of ICO Solutions, 31 learners from the professional world of French-speaking protected natural area management undertook a 10-day intensive training course with the aim of completing a programme of over 100 hours of online training delivered via the COGICO MOOC in 2024 (www.cogico.fr). The programme combined field visits of several iconic sites of the Conservatoire du littoral, to workshops, practical scenarios and round-table discussions. The participants also benefited from a field trip to the island of Grand Rouveau to learn more about the ecological restoration and knowledge management initiatives implemented at this site, which is co-managed by PIM. Over 40 experts spoke on a variety of practical topics: mapping, ecotourism, sustainable fishing, agriculture, visitor management, food security, and more. To conclude this mission, the COGICOPS network was established, bringing together professionals committed to implementing sustainable conservation projects in their respective region. This network now serves as a dynamic pool of practitioners on the ground, fostering future synergies and cooperation.

COGICO: the MOOC

▲ 3,200 registrants

▲ 62 countries

Face-to-face COGICO:

▲ Over 180 applications

▲ 31 learners selected

▲ 16 countries

▲ 10 days of training: classroom-based & fieldwork

▲ 40 trainers



Face-to-face session of the COGICO training course, May 2025



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MONDIAL



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Supported initiatives

Gatvaire Project (Balearic Islands, Spain): Conservation efforts for the Nursehound continue!

The President and Director of PIM Initiative were on a mission to the Balearic Islands at the end of March 2025 to develop partnerships with local stakeholders in the Balearic Islands (Mallorca and Menorca) as part of various projects, notably the one the association has supported since its inception in 2021. The ‘Gatvaire’ (or ‘Acción Stellaris’) *in-situ* conservation project, is led by the organisations Save the Med, Palma Aquarium Foundation, Sharkmed and Mallorca Preservation Fund, and supported by the Balearic Islands Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Its goal is to promote the breeding of Nursehound (*Schyllorhinus stellaris*) in the aquariums of Palma and Cabrera, and to release individuals born in captivity into Cabrera National Park, the Toro and Malgrats Islands Marine Reserve and the Freu de Sa Dragonera Marine Reserve in the Balearic Islands (Spain).

Eva Tankovic was thus able to take part in the release of forty Nursehounds in Cabrera National Park, accompanied by five park rangers and the President of PIM, Joan Mayol. The sharks were tagged with a transponder to enable their identification incase they would be recaptured by fishermen participating in the scheme. More than 150 specimens of this endangered species were born thanks to this initiative, and have been fitted with small transmitters, which enable them to be geolocated and identified during a capture. Launched in April 2024 in the Balearic Islands, the second phase of the Gatvaire project involves fishermen in the conservation of the Nursehound (*Scyliorhinus stellaris*). Volunteers undertake to report accidental catches and to release the animals after receiving training. Nearly 200 boats have been contacted. On the way back, an injured turtle was discovered by park rangers and transported to the Palma Aquarium to receive care.



Support missions in the islands of the Calanques National Park

PIM Initiative teams mobilised to support the Calanques National Park on various missions in 2025. On the 3rd of March, a multidisciplinary team comprising staff from the Calanques National Park, experts (AGIR écologique, IMBE) and PIM Initiative employees spent the day surveying the island of Riou, with the aim of refining the naturalist monitoring protocols to be implemented across various biological sectors (seabird colonies, flora, reptiles, invertebrates, etc.), as well as in June, to install nesting boxes designed to shelter populations of European phylloctyls.

In addition, in late September, several members of the team accompanied staff from the Calanques National Park and the City of Marseille – the co-managers of the Frioul archipelago – to assist them with monitoring the Scopoli's shearwaters (*Calonectris diomedea*) that nest there. The programme included: i) Ringing chicks born during the summer and about to take flight on their long migration south, so that they can be recognised and counted when they return from their long journey across the South Atlantic; ii) Checking biosecurity measures designed to prevent the return of the black rat, which threatens the reproduction of seabirds. These activities and landing on some of these islets are subject to special authorisations under scientific programmes.



Ringling of young Scopoli's shearwaters on the Frioul Islands, September 2025, Marseille (France)



Other events

UNOC 2025: PIM Initiative took part in the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice



Co-organised by the governments of France and Costa Rica, **the third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC 3) took place in Nice from June 9th to 13th 2025. It brought together representatives from member states and civil society for a range of events aimed at strengthening ocean conservation strategies.** A delegation from PIM Initiative took part in various meetings and conferences, including those organised by the NGO SMILO on the creation of the Alliance of Small Islands, and a 'side-event' organised with the French Southern Region, during which Eva Tankovic spoke to present PIM Initiative. PIM also held bilateral meetings with various stakeholders in small island conservation, leading to the establishment of partnerships such as the one with the American NGO Island Conservation. The team also took part in an event organised by the NGO Wild Legal, founder of an alliance for eco-centred rights, as well as in the **signing ceremony for the agreement between the French Development Agency and the Mediterranean Consortium for Biodiversity** (represented on the day by the Director of the Tour du Valat, Jean Jalbert), at the Mediterranean University Centre in Nice.



“Mediterranean Islanders” meetings on November 4 and 5, 2025, on the island of Saint-Honorat (Cannes, France)



Participants at the Mediterranean Islanders event, Saint-Honorat Island, November 2025

The Mediterranean Islanders network brings together stakeholders involved in the conservation, management and sustainable development of small islands. Organised at regular intervals, the Islanders’ meetings aim to ensure the commitment and participation of local, national and regional stakeholders from the islands in identifying conservation challenges and priorities, in order to develop a common strategy for the protection of island heritage across the Mediterranean. The 2nd Mediterranean Islanders’ Meeting, held on November 4 and 5, 2025, was co-organised by PIM Initiative, SMILO and the Abbey of Lérins, in the inspiring setting of Saint-Honorat Island, bringing together **a wide range of stakeholders committed to the Mediterranean’s small islands**. These two days provided an opportunity to **share practical experiences and strengthen ties between regions**, focusing on key themes such as island governance, the fight against invasive species, and adaptation to climate change. This type of meeting is essential for fostering a collective momentum, **generating relevant conservation projects and building effective long-term strategies** across the Mediterranean. To view the event proceedings, including photos and presentations, [click here](#).



16th International Congress of Zoology and Ecology of Greece and Neighbouring Regions



In July 2025, two members of PIM’s technical secretariat and three members of the Scientific Council attended the [ICZEGAR Congress on Zoogeography](#) in Athens, Greece, organised by the Hellenic Zoological Society and WWF Greece. These meetings and conferences enabled the team to **present the association and the results of the exploratory nature surveys carried out by PIM in Greece since 2023** (islands and islets of the Ionian Sea, the Saronic Gulf and the Milos archipelago). Partners and experts from NECCA (the Greek nature conservation agency) also presented a [poster](#) showcasing the herpetological findings of these surveys.

13th National Meeting of the ‘Seabirds’ Network (RESOM) in Bonifacio (Corsica), 15th–17th of October

As part of the strategies to combat invasive species negatively impacting seabirds on the outlying islets of Corsica and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region, funded by the OFB, the PIM Initiative contributed to the hosting and discussions at the 13th National Meeting of the Seabird Network (RESOM), held in Bonifacio from October 15 to 17. It was an opportunity to **present the challenges associated with operations to control introduced mammals for the restoration of puffin and shearwater habitats along the French Mediterranean coast**, using examples of ongoing operations, through a presentation, and to discuss with partners and other stakeholders the prospects for joint missions on national monitoring and censuses of seabirds.





PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS





1% for the Planet

In 2024, PIM Initiative joined the '1% for the Planet' network, a platform that connects businesses and organisations committed to environmental protection. Each year, member companies of 1% for the Planet pledge to donate 1% of their turnover directly to accredited organisations of their choice.

Find out more: www.onepercentfortheplanet.fr

The MedFund



The MedFund is a private, non-profit organisation based in Monaco that provides sustainable funding for the conservation of marine biodiversity. This conservation trust fund mobilises and invests financial resources, the interest from which is used to award grants to NGOs and national management authorities of marine protected areas across the Mediterranean. This financial tool, which is set to become a key player in the Mediterranean landscape, needs to stay up to date with the needs of protected area managers and their constraints, and to identify potential future beneficiaries. The PIM Initiative fulfils this role alongside the other members of the MedFund. themedfund.org

The Mediterranean Biodiversity Consortium (MBC)

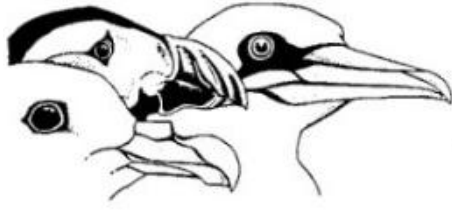


C O N S O R T I U M
M É D I T E R R A N É E N
B I O D I V E R S I T É

To safeguard a Mediterranean basin with healthy ecosystems that are properly managed, valued and protected, in order to tackle the climate emergency and the sixth mass extinction of species: this is the shared commitment of the six international member organisations and partners of the Consortium.

MedWet, MedPAN, the PIM Initiative, the Tour du Valat, the AIFM, the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, the Conservatoire du littoral and WWF France officially launched the Mediterranean Biodiversity Consortium in 2021. These stakeholders in the conservation of forests, islands, the sea, wetlands and the coastline are joining forces in a complementary manner to tackle globale changes, whilst providing sustainable goods and services for the well-being and good health of current and future generations. www.medconsortium.org

The Scientific Interest Group for Seabirds (GISOM)



A French initiative aimed at promoting seabird conservation projects, pooling data and coordinating monitoring operations across France, has identified the PIM network as the local coordinator for the Mediterranean coast of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. The PIM initiative is therefore contributing to the national data-sharing effort.

Small Islands Organisation (SMILO)



A partner NGO, which was also incubated within the Conservatoire's Europe and International Delegation, SMILO (Small Islands Organisation) supports small islands of less than 150 km² in their pursuit of sustainable development and the sustainable management of their resources. It supports the integrated management of island territories in the sectors of water and sanitation, waste, energy, biodiversity, landscapes and cultural heritage. The "Sustainable Island" label recognises positive local initiatives and sustainable practices. Currently, 20 islands are engaged in this certification process. SMILO provides additional support through the Islands Fund, which finances concrete and sustainable projects on the ground. To strengthen cooperation and solidarity between islands, SMILO also coordinates an international network of islands and island partners located in Europe, the Mediterranean, West Africa, the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

PIM Initiative is proud to be a member of SMILO's Board of Directors and to participate in this innovative initiative. www.smilo.org

PATACLET



PATACLET
S'ENGAGER CONCRÈTEMENT
POUR PRÉSERVER NOTRE LITTORAL

Following several months of deliberation and various workshops with representatives from associations and businesses in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, the Conservatoire du littoral and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of Aix-Marseille-Provence have officially launched the PATACLET initiative. Through a web-based directory platform, events and meetings, PATACLET will facilitate financial, skills-based and/or equipment-based sponsorship for conservation projects with a regional focus. By targeting small and medium-sized enterprises based in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, and by facilitating the identification and monitoring of short-term projects (maximum 18 months) carried out in the region's island, coastal and marine natural areas, PATACLET aims to forge links between the worlds of conservation and business. Around forty businesses and as many environmental associations and NGOs attended the first 'PATACLET Meetings', held on November 26, 2024 at the Palais de la Bourse in Marseille, with the support of the MMA Foundation for Entrepreneurs of the Future and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region. pataclet.org

RESEDA-Flore



Established in 2018, RESEDA-Flore – the Network of Stakeholders for the Conservation of Mediterranean Flora – brings together scientific, conservation and management organisations with the aim of improving cooperation to enhance the conservation of species and ecosystems. This cooperation is based on closer

links between fundamental research organisations and those involved in the practical management of natural environments. This network drives a collective dynamic formalised by the signing of a cooperation charter that is unprecedented in the Mediterranean region.

By pooling the knowledge, skills and experience of its members, RESEDA-Flore develops reference frameworks and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of Mediterranean biodiversity, intended for natural area managers, local authorities and government departments.

reseda-flore.eu

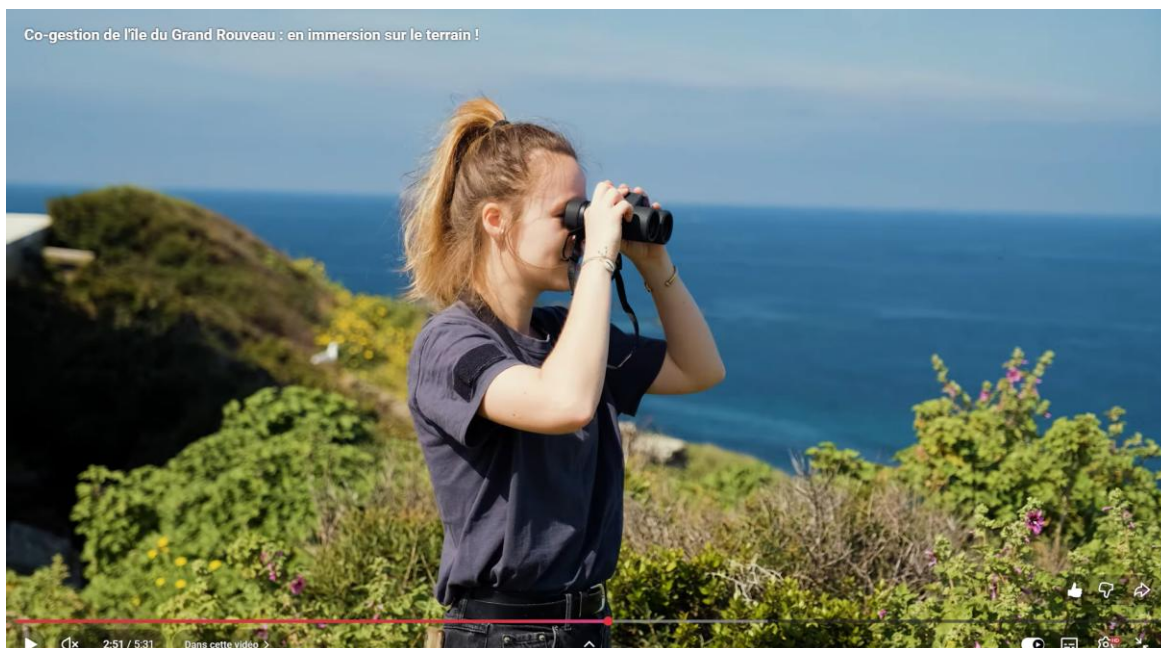


PIM expedition to the Greek islets, 2025

PUBLICATIONS

Watch

- 1 [Corporate video presenting PIM Initiative's activities on the island of Grand Rouveau. Hedi Chouchane, April 2025](#)



Immerse yourself in the island of Grand Rouveau with this brand-new video directed by Hedi Chouchane, who followed some of the teams from PIM Initiative and the Town of Six-Fours-les-Plages at work in the field in April 2025. You will discover the main activities carried out at this protected site, owned by the Conservatoire du Littoral and co-managed by PIM and Six-Fours-les-Plages Town Hall. Enjoy the video! [Watch the video \(available on PIM Initiative's YouTube channel\).](#)



The co-management teams from Six-Fours-les-Plages and PIM Initiative who took part in the video shoot on 10 April 2025, © Hedi Chouchane

📌 [A series of videos produced by the Medpan team, who followed PIM Initiative’s eco-guards on the island of Grand Rouveau during their daily patrols. Medpan, April 2025](#)



The MedPan association is a long-standing partner of PIM Initiative. Based in Marseille, MedPan brings together a large network of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean. Matthieu Medori and Noé Swynghedauw therefore visited Grand Rouveau to highlight the initiatives implemented by PIM Initiative. As part of a field mission from August 19 to 20, 2025, Matthieu and Noé produced a video presentation on PIM Initiative’s involvement in the co-management of Grand Rouveau Island. This interview with the island’s two eco-guards (Mari Bourhis and Maxime Trentesaux) describes PIM’s activities and the work carried out on Grand Rouveau: nature monitoring, ecological restoration, schoolwork camps, and water and land patrols to raise awareness and monitor the island. This documentary was accompanied by an article published on the MedPAN website and shared on MedPAN’s social media channels.



Interview with the PIM teams by MedPan on Grand Rouveau. August 2025, © Medpan

- 📄 [Read the article: ‘Living the life of a lighthouse keeper whilst protecting a jewel of the Mediterranean’](#)
- 📄 [View the series of reports: “Protecting and restoring: the work of eco-guards on the island of Grand Rouveau”](#)

Miscellaneous, worth a read!

- 1 [“The small islands of the Mediterranean. Last refuges of coastal biodiversity”, article by Frédéric Médail and Marc Cheylan \(EPHE\), published in issue 58 \(Islands special\) of the journal Espèces, December 2025](#)



“With 11,000 islands and islets, 250 of which are inhabited, the Mediterranean is home to one of the largest archipelagos in the world. Its islands form a unique constellation of ecosystems harbouring many rare or endangered species. As such, these isolated and relatively unvisited territories play a vital role in the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity. [...]”

To read the full article, visit our website: initiative-pim.org/ressource/les-petites-iles-de-mediterranee-derniers-refuges-de-biodiversite-littorale

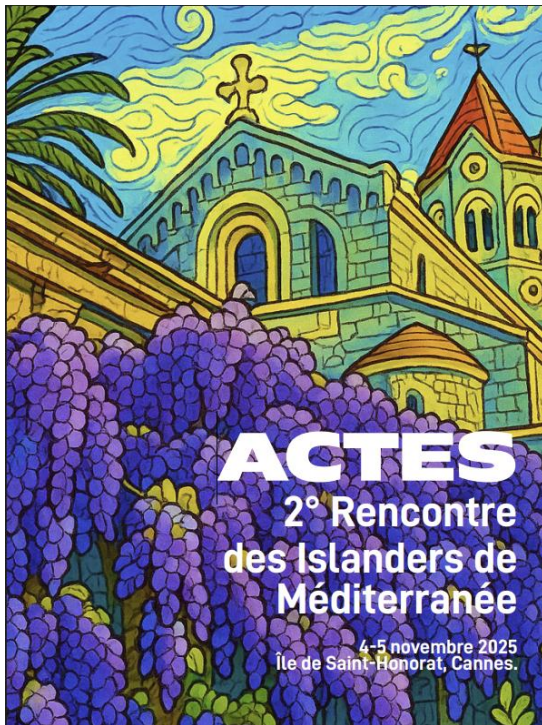
- 1 [Guide to the Management of Mediterranean Islands, by the Conservatoire du Littoral and PIM Initiative](#)



For several years now, the Conservatoire du Littoral and the NGO PIM Initiative have been working actively and in close collaboration to improve the conservation and management of islands. With a view to sharing the knowledge and best practices gained, this document aims to build on and highlight the experience of the many conservation and management initiatives carried out in recent years on small Mediterranean islands. Thanks to the support of the Balearic Islands Government, the book was published in Spanish in 2025.

The book is available online: [IN ENGLISH](#) / [IN SPANISH](#)

📌 [Islanders 2025: Proceedings of the event held in November on the island of Saint-Honorat](#)



On November 4 and 5, 2025, the 2nd Mediterranean Islanders' Meeting brought together, in the inspiring setting of the island of Saint-Honorat, **a wide range of stakeholders committed to the small Mediterranean islands.**

These two days provided an opportunity to **share practical experiences and strengthen ties between regions**, focusing on key themes:

- ▲ Island governance and cooperation between stakeholders,
- ▲ The fight against invasive species,
- ▲ Adaptation to climate change sharing concrete feedback.

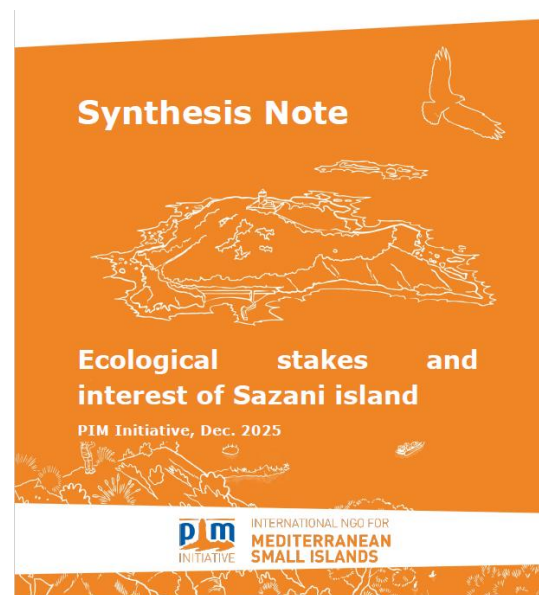
This type of meeting is essential for fostering a collective dynamic, **generating relevant conservation projects and building effective long-term strategies** across the Mediterranean.

To view the event proceedings, which include photos and links to the presentations, visit our website: initiative-pim.org/islanders-de-mediterranee-lile-de-saint-honorat-accueille-la-2-edition-les-4-et-5-novembre-2025

📌 [PIM Initiative summary note on ecological issues on Sazan Island, December 2025](#)

Located within the Karaburun-Sazani Marine Protected Area, Sazani Island is Albania's largest island (570 ha, 4.8 km long and 2 km wide), with a maximum elevation of 337 metres. The island's wealth - with its splendid landscapes, high-quality habitats and biodiversity, both on land and at sea, as well as its history and built heritage - gives it strong potential for various types of conservation activities. This brief aims to summarise the biodiversity of interest (at European and national level) present on Sazani Island and to highlight the importance of protecting this site.

[Click here](#) to read the summary note.





[Internship report by Noé Fleury-Frouart \(supervisors: IMBE & PIM Initiative\): 'Temporal response of the vegetation on the island of Grand Rouveau \(Var, France\) to the removal of Carpobrotus edulis: 10 years of monitoring'](https://initiative-pim.org/ressource/reponse-temporelle-de-la-vegetation-de-lile-du-grand-rouveau-var-france-a-larrachage-de-carpobrotus-edulis-10-annees-de-suivi)

To read the report, visit our website: initiative-pim.org/ressource/reponse-temporelle-de-la-vegetation-de-lile-du-grand-rouveau-var-france-a-larrachage-de-carpobrotus-edulis-10-annees-de-suivi

[Internship report by Tom Lagraulet \(supervised by Agir écologique and PIM Initiative\): Study of the thermal ecology of the European leaf-moth \(Euleptes europaea, Gené 1839\) on the island of Grand Rouveau. Determination of the thermal parameters favourable to the occupation of artificial roosts by the European leaf-moth](https://initiative-pim.org/ressource/etude-de-lecologie-thermique-du-phyllodactyle-deurope-euleptes-europaea-gene-1839-sur-lile-du-grand-rouveau-determination-des-parametres-thermiques-favorables-a-loccupation-des-gites-artif)

To read the report, visit our website: initiative-pim.org/ressource/etude-de-lecologie-thermique-du-phyllodactyle-deurope-euleptes-europaea-gene-1839-sur-lile-du-grand-rouveau-determination-des-parametres-thermiques-favorables-a-loccupation-des-gites-artif



Fish monitoring at Grand Rouveau, August 2025 ©Noé Swynghedauw, Medpan

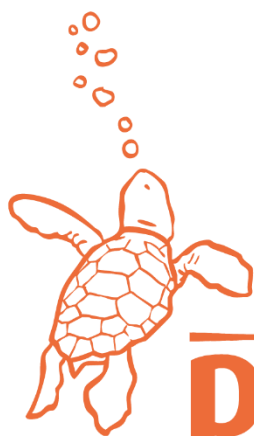
Naturalist notes, reports and scientific publications

- ▲ [Anthus, 2026. Monitoring of Calonectris diomedea and Puffinus yelkouan populations and the presence of the black rat Rattus rattus on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara, carried out within the RESCOM project – Strengthening the resilience of ecosystems in the Mediterranean](#)
- ▲ [Biophonia, Baron, V., Lois, T., Linossier, J., 2025. PIM Sanguinaires Islands bioacoustic study – LIFE Mobile Marine Species. Pre-deratisation assessment, 2025.](#)
- ▲ [Bourhis, M., Soler, A., Trenteseaux, M., 2025. Activity report – Île du Grand Rousseau 2025](#)
- ▲ [Cherchi F. 2026. Monitoring of Podarcis tiliguerta on the islands of Cavoli and Serpentara](#)
- ▲ [Delaugere M-J, 2026. Monitoring of the herpetofauna of the islands of Gargalu and Garganellu \(Scandùla, Southern Corsica\) in 2024 and 2025](#)
- ▲ [Delaugere M-J, 2026. Monitoring of the herpetofauna of the Sanguinaires Islands \(Ajaccio, Southern Corsica\) in 2024 and 2025. Final report.](#)
- ▲ [Delaugere M-J, 2025. Contributing to the breeding phenology of a temperate nocturnal gecko](#)
- ▲ [Faggio G. et al. 2025. Update on the status of the osprey Pandion haliaetus on the central-western coast of Corsica from 2020 to 2023](#)
- ▲ [Frau F. 2026. Coordination service for the action “Ecological Restoration of Posidonia oceanica meadows” within the RESCOM project](#)
- ▲ [HELP sarl, 2025. Inventory of small mammals and feasibility study for rodent control on the island of Saint-Honorat \(Cannes, France\)](#)
- ▲ [HELP sarl, 2025. Attempt to eradicate the black rat \(Rattus rattus\) on the Sanguinaires archipelago \(Ajaccio, Corsica\)](#)
- ▲ [Karris et al. 2025. Aspects of breeding performance of Scopoli’s shearwater \(Calonectris diomedea\): The case of the largest colony in Greece](#)
- ▲ [Lo Cascio et al. 2025. Two new Amphimallon Latreille, 1825 from the tiny islets of the Milos archipelago, Cyclades, Greece \(Coleoptera Scarabaeidae Melolonthinae\)](#)
- ▲ [Lo Cascio et al. 2025. Breeding seabirds of the Sicilian islands: distribution and abundance within the Marine Strategy Framework Directive monitoring programme](#)
- ▲ [Médail F., 2025. Terrestrial vascular flora of the small islands of Saint-Féréol and Tradelière \(Lérins Archipelago, Cannes, Alpes-Maritimes\)](#)
- ▲ [Monti et al., 2025. Coast to Coast: Annual Cycle Movements, Habitat Use and Ranging Behaviour of GPS-Tracked Eleonora's Falcons \(Falco eleonora\) From the Galite Archipelago, Tunisia](#)
- ▲ [Ponel, P. et al. 2025. A glimpse into the terrestrial invertebrate communities of Sazani Island, Albania \(arthropods, molluscs\)](#)
- ▲ [Simantiris, N. et al. 2025. Breeding seabirds of the Sicilian islands: distribution and abundance within the Marine Strategy Framework Directive monitoring programme](#)

[To view all our publications and articles related to the biodiversity of small islands, visit the PIM Initiative online resource centre!](#)



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2026