

- Entrepreneurs for the Planet -

TOUR DU VALAT

*Taking action for
wetland areas and for our future!*



Research institute
for the conservation
of Mediterranean
wetlands

Meeting the challenges of the 21st century



Global warming, biodiversity loss, and natural catastrophes:

when will we reconcile ourselves with Nature?

An increasing number of civil society stakeholders including companies understand how urgent it has become to take action to reconcile People with Nature, and offer future generations a planet that is pleasant for humans and teeming with biodiversity. By studying and protecting wetlands, which are the most productive ecosystems on earth, but also the most highly threatened, the Tour du Valat contributes to this goal and shows the important role played by these extremely rich environments as nature-based solutions: both climate change buffers and floodplains they also provide access to drinking water, food security, and more.

Take action with a world-renowned partner

The Tour du Valat Foundation is based in the Camargue, where it has been striving to preserve wetlands through its research, management, and advocacy activities for more than 65 years. It is a private, international foundation that is acknowledged throughout the world for its research, and works with over 300 public and private partners in the Mediterranean region.

Building partnerships with economic players is in our DNA!

For **André Hoffmann, the President of the Tour du Valat Foundation**, the energy of economic stakeholders must be combined with that of nature: *'Companies are indispensable for the future of humanity, but it is the richness of Nature that supports our system and enables us to live on earth. People will not survive if nature is broken!'* Today more than ever before, establishing partnerships with different kinds of economic players is indispensable if the Tour du Valat hopes to provide realistic responses to the issues facing the Mediterranean region.

Supporting innovative nature-based projects

At the Tour du Valat, we have been building the partnerships for many years that enable us to develop innovative practical projects in areas such as health ecology, agroecology, biodiversity indicators, modelling, and forecasting. We set up the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory whose activities have contributed to our international reputation. Today, our partners contribute significantly to the development of these projects through their philanthropic activities.



BIODIVERSITY • HEALTH ECOLOGY • MODELLING AND
FORECASTING • AGROECOLOGY • SOCIO-ECONOMICS
MANAGEMENT AND EXPERIMENTATION • MEDITERRANEAN

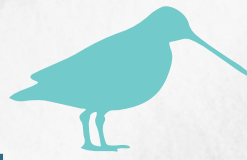
UNDERSTANDING

MANAGING

CONVEYING

CONVINCING

Making our actions meaningful together!



The need for everyone to take action to save the environment has become a veritable preoccupation of society today.

Every act and every concrete engagement count!

Whether your company is an SME or a major industrial group, you can help society meet its future challenges and make a commitment by:

- Making your own contribution and fully meeting your corporate social and environmental responsibilities.
- Responding to the concerns of your clients and staff by proposing them meaningful activities that bring people together.

- **Take action for biodiversity**

Wetlands are very productive habitats that harbour some of the richest biodiversity in the world, but today 36% of Mediterranean wetland species are threatened with extinction. Through its long-term monitoring studies, the Tour du Valat provides indicators on the status and trends of biodiversity at the Mediterranean scale, and it makes recommendations in the framework of the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory and various international forums.

Make a commitment with us and help:

- **Propose solutions to address the climate crisis**
In the current context of climate change, your support for the Tour du Valat will help to ensure healthy wetlands that can provide people and our planet various essential services.
- **Support high-quality, independent research for the common good.**
The Tour du Valat Foundation is a qualified charity, and our members contribute to the activities of several national and international committees of experts that influence public policy.
- **Share our skills and learn from each other:**
The Tour du Valat Foundation is eligible to benefit from 'skills patronage.'



Cattle Egret © Irène Badone

TAX CREDIT

By becoming a sponsor, your company can benefit from a corporate tax reduction of 60%.

up to a ceiling of 0.5% of its annual turnover before tax.

CONVEYING TO AND INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

Since its founding, the Tour du Valat has strived to develop 'integrated' research programmes that link various disciplines and help foster dialogue between researchers, wetland users, and decision-makers. With all the knowledge and feedback acquired from our previous experiences, today's goal is to share this information, convince others to take action, and inspire more people to become conservationists. Today, the Tour du Valat is developing training programmes in more than ten Mediterranean countries to strengthen the capacities of civil society. It also organises cycles of conferences for young scientists, publishes works for general audiences, and organises many events for the general public.



The Tour du Valat, a unique research centre in the Mediterranean

Founded more than 65 years ago by Luc Hoffmann, a visionary naturalist and philanthropist, the Tour du Valat has subsequently developed its **research activities for the conservation of Mediterranean wetlands** with the constant **desire of better understanding wetlands to better manage them**. Convinced that it will only be possible to preserve these areas if **human activities are reconciled with natural heritage protection**, for many years the Tour du Valat has been developing integrated research and management activities that foster dialogue between users and scientists, mobilise a community of stakeholders, and advocate the benefits of wetlands to decision-makers.



6 TO 9
STUDENTS PHD
PER YEAR



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
AND AGROECOLOGY

WETLANDS,
are very productive
yet highly threatened areas:

-35%*

Throughout
the world

-48%*

In the Mediterra-
nean Region

Lagoons, marshes, ponds, deltas, and streams are indispensable wetland areas between land and water. They provide services to millions of people directly and at no cost, in the form of access to drinking water, sources of food, water purification, flood mitigation, and the development of economic and leisure activities. In spite of the services they provide, wetlands are disappearing at an alarming rate.

The Tour du Valat at a glance

- A multi-disciplinary scientific team.
- A **2,700**-hectare estate, 1,845 of which are within a National Nature Reserve.
- **1,550** scientific articles published.
- A documentary resource centre that is unique in the Mediterranean.
- An annual budget of **5.5 million euros**, a significant experience in managing major European and international projects.
- The Tour du Valat is a founding **member of the Mediterranean Wetlands Alliance** which includes some thirty civil society stakeholders.

≈ 80
EMPLOYEES



PROJECTS IN
+ THAN 20
MEDITERRANEAN
COUNTRIES AND
+ THAN 300
PARTNERS



Tour du Valat Estate © J. Jallibert

* Between 1970 and 2015 according to the latest Mediterranean Wetlands Outlook2 (MWO2) and the Ramsar Global Wetland Outlook.



GREATER FLAMINGOS AND THE TOUR DU VALAT: A SUCCESS STORY

At the end of the 1960s, the Greater Flamingo stopped nesting in the Camargue, at that time its only breeding site in France. Based on the knowledge it had acquired, the Tour du Valat decided to build an artificial islet on the Fangassier Lagoon with support from the Salins Salt Group, the Camargue Regional Natural Park, and WWF. The flamingos resumed nesting in 1974 and have been breeding there regularly since that time. In 1977, an annual ringing programme was set up by researchers from France, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Algeria, and

Mauritania. 860, 000 rings have been read within this research programme, which enables us to better understand the species in terms of its movements, life span, breeding frequency, and feeding sites, and therefore to better protect it through targeted actions.

Click here if you would like to support our activities by sponsoring a Greater Flamingo and following its adventures:

www.monflamant.com

They support us!



GET INVOLVED WITH OUR TEAM

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