

# Cultural approaches to WISE USE OF WETLANDS – past, present and future

المناهج الثقافية للاستخدام الحكيم للأراضي الرطبة - الماضي والحاضر والمستقبل

Approches culturelles de l'UTILISATION RATIONNELLE DES ZONES HUMIDES - passées, présentes et futures

Enfoque cultural al USO RACIONAL DE LOS HUMEDALES - pasado, presente y futuro

**RAMSAR COP 13 - DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, 2018**  
**مؤتمر الأطراف المتعاقدة COP 13، دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة 2018**

## RAMSAR SITE “OASIS OF TAMENTIT & SID AHMED TIMMI” (ALGERIA) : A LITTLE-KNOWN WETLAND TYPE

Tour du Valat research Institute for the conservation of Mediterranean Wetlands  
FRANCE

### RELATION TO DR ON CULTURAL VALUES INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

DR 18.16 recommends to CPs :  
*§ 19: “...report to Standing Committee on the integration of the cultural values ... into wetland protection and management”;*  
*§ 20. “...mobilize cultural diversity and knowledge systems within wetlands as part of holistic approaches to relevant ... policies”*



### EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES

Threatened agro-ecosystems

Little maintenance (*costs*)  
→ sand overtakes; Rural migration to cities; New agriculture developments (irrigation from deep aquifers (*lowers water table*))

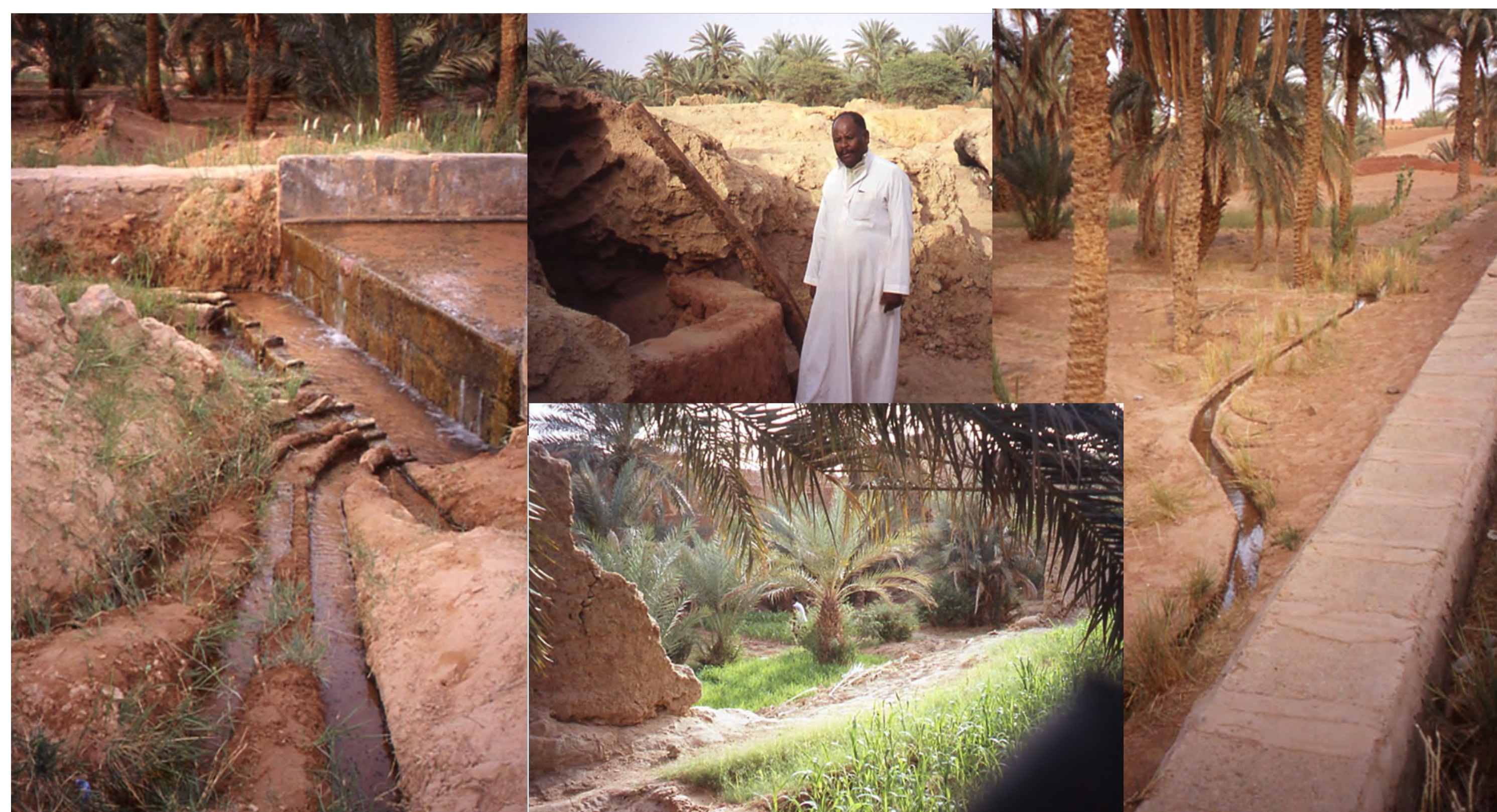


### TYPES OF CULTURAL INTERVENION / ACTIVITIES

Foggaras : ancient system of man-made underground canals sustaining oases :  
up to 12 km long ; dug into porous substrate / aquifer ; water flows to oasis

The Kasria : distributes water between farmers ; fair water-sharing codified (role of Water-sharer)

High value for migrating birds (oasis = stop-overs) ; local culture based on water-sharing ; religious values (old manuscripts; Coranic school providing scientific and technical teaching (incl. water-management)...



### BACKGROUND-ORGANISATION INFORMATION

Tour du Valat, a research institute for the conservation of Mediterranean wetlands, conducts numerous activities with partners to the north and south of the Mediterranean basin, often in partnership with the MedWet Ramsar Regional Initiative.

C.Perennou, perennou@tourduvalat.org