

# 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

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## Between agriculture and pottery, Sebkhet Sejoumi an history to save

Association Réseau Enfants de la Terre

Tunisia

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

Sebkhet Sejoumi is a 2 979 ha Ramsar site since 2007 in the northwestern of Tunisia , without any issue to the sea. Remarkable cultural value with traditional knowledge, local knowledge systems and communities perspectives as noted.

Despite the pressure, local population of sidi Hassine Sejoumi continue their traditional land-use especially olive trees cultivation which enhance carbon storage as emphasized. These lands host numbers of water birds that feed in Sejoumi.



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### EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES

Originally, Sebkhet Sejoumi represented one of the agricultural suburbs of the medina of Tunis, with vineyards and olive groves.

Unfortunately, Sejoumi faces different threats, the most important are: the anarchic urbanization at the expense of agricultural land and pollution.

The RET, through a future CEPF project suggests to stop the infrastructure pressure and improve land-use planning approaches by :

- Involving civil society organizations and relevant stakeholders in the management of Sebkhet Sejoumi.
- Enhancing agricultural and potters heritage by strengthening capacities and suggest innovative eco-friendly activities



### TYPES OF CULTURAL INTERVENION / ACTIVITIES

- Sejoumi rural women play an important role in maintaining traditional heritage and for ecosystem conservation
- Sejoumi farmers are very attached to their land and are aware of their role in protecting wetlands
- Pottery is an endangered traditional activity in Sejoumi only a small group of women continue to practice it
- Agriculture and pottery constitute a culture and heritage of Sejoumi wetland that must be saved



### BACKGROUND-ORGANISATION INFORMATION

Association "Réseau Enfants de la Terre" = "earth children network "RET", an association who aims for sustainable development integrated into the learning and education process and works for sustainable development to promote social justice for the next generation, increase economic growth, preserve natural and environmental resources