

MIGRALION

Complementary methods to characterise the use of the Gulf of Lion by birds and bats



Duration: 48 months | Launch : April 2021 | Total budget : €4,2M

CONTEXT

New anthropogenic uses, in particular the installation of offshore wind farms, are planned in the Gulf of Lion, a biodiversity hotspot in the Mediterranean Sea. However, very little is known about the use of this area by birds and bats, whether sedentary or migratory. Data acquisition is therefore essential to fill these knowledge gaps and ensure the preservation of the species faced with these emerging challenges.



OBJECTIVE

Characterising migration flows, flight altitudes and the functionality of marine areas for marine and terrestrial migratory bird and bat species at the scale of the Gulf of Lion.

SCIENTIFIC CONTENT

- State of knowledge about birds and bats in the Gulf of Lion.
- Deployment of complementary means and technologies (inshore and offshore radars, biologging, at-sea surveys by boat, acoustic monitoring, bird ringing, coastal surveys).
- Combined modelling of the acquired data for an integrative approach



The project develops an innovative method to combine and analyse the heterogeneous data acquired.

EXPECTED RESULTS

MigraLion will provide unprecedented information on the spatial and temporal distribution of terrestrial and marine avifauna and chiropterans in the Gulf of Lion. Foraging areas, preferential routes, flows of individuals, temporality of migratory events, behaviour, and flight altitudes, will enable to characterise the threats faced by these populations, many of which are in decline.

This project will help to improve the implementation of public policies for the preservation of the species and their natural habitats in the context of a growth of maritime uses.

PARTNERS

