

WWF - Saving Nature with EU Neighbours

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Event & Date of Presentation





WWF - Saving Nature with EU Neighbours

- Those slides build on **WWF - Saving Nature with EU Neighbours poster**
- This poster aims to illustrate places where **WWF is actively involved** in the neighbouring countries.
- This list is not exhaustive and **does not encompass the whole richness of the zones.**
- **More information is available from our offices.**





What is the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)?

- A **new initiative** from the European Union (2007 - ...)
- Aim : creating **peaceful borders and stronger ties** with Europe's neighbouring countries:
 - Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia
 - Armenia, Azerbaidjan, Georgia,
 - Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine.
- Financed by the **European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)**.
- Even if they are not covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy as such, **Russia and Turkey will benefciate from the ENPI**.





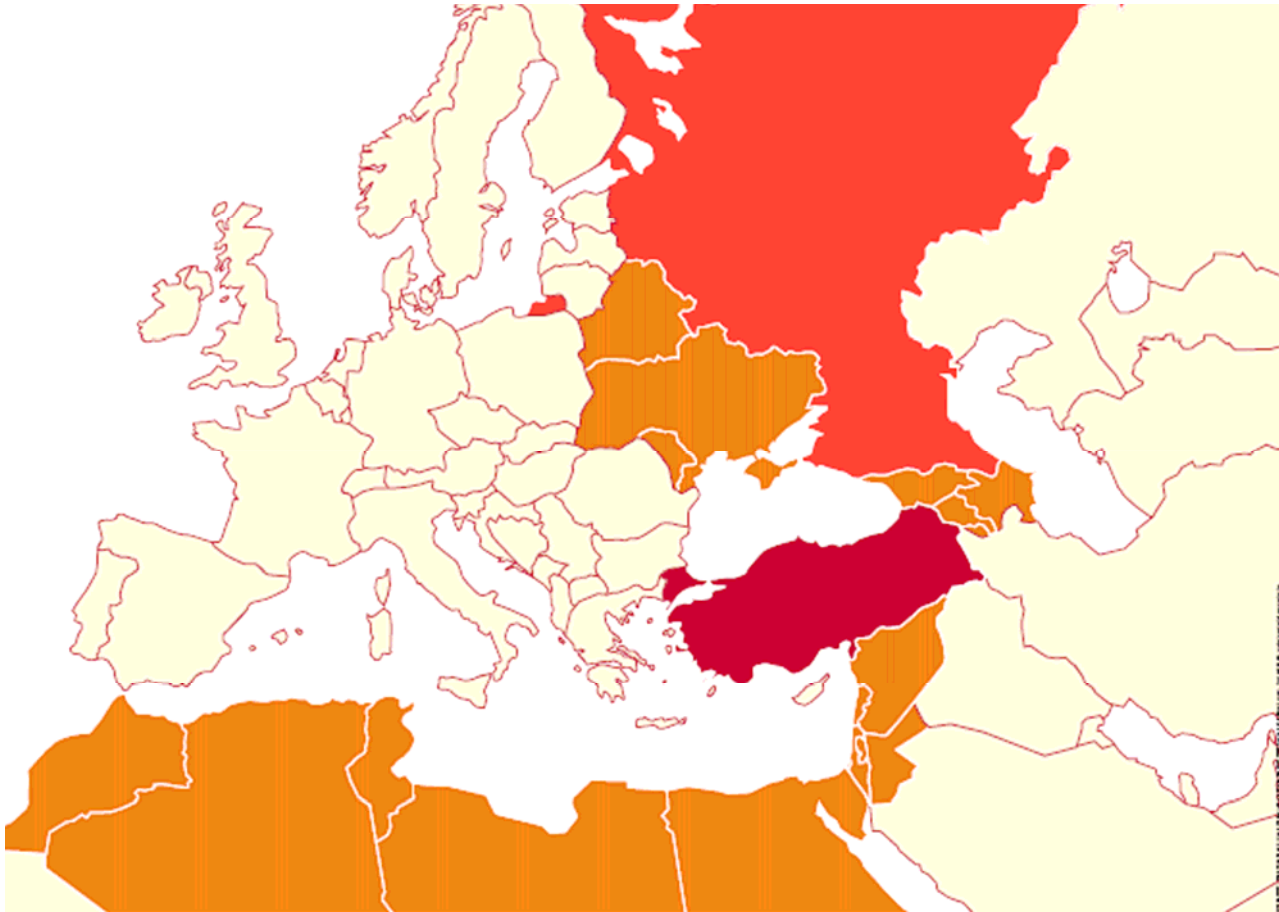
Opportunities to take

- The idea is to offer the countries a chance to join in a **wide range of Community programmes and projects**.
- WWF sees this as a **major opportunity**:
 - to achieve the **conservation of nature** on land as well as the oceans,
 - to **protect natural resources** like forests and freshwater
 - to spread **new environmental technologies**
 - to cut down on **wasteful consumption and pollution**.
- The neighbouring countries bring a **wealth of nature and diversity to the European Union's doorstep**.



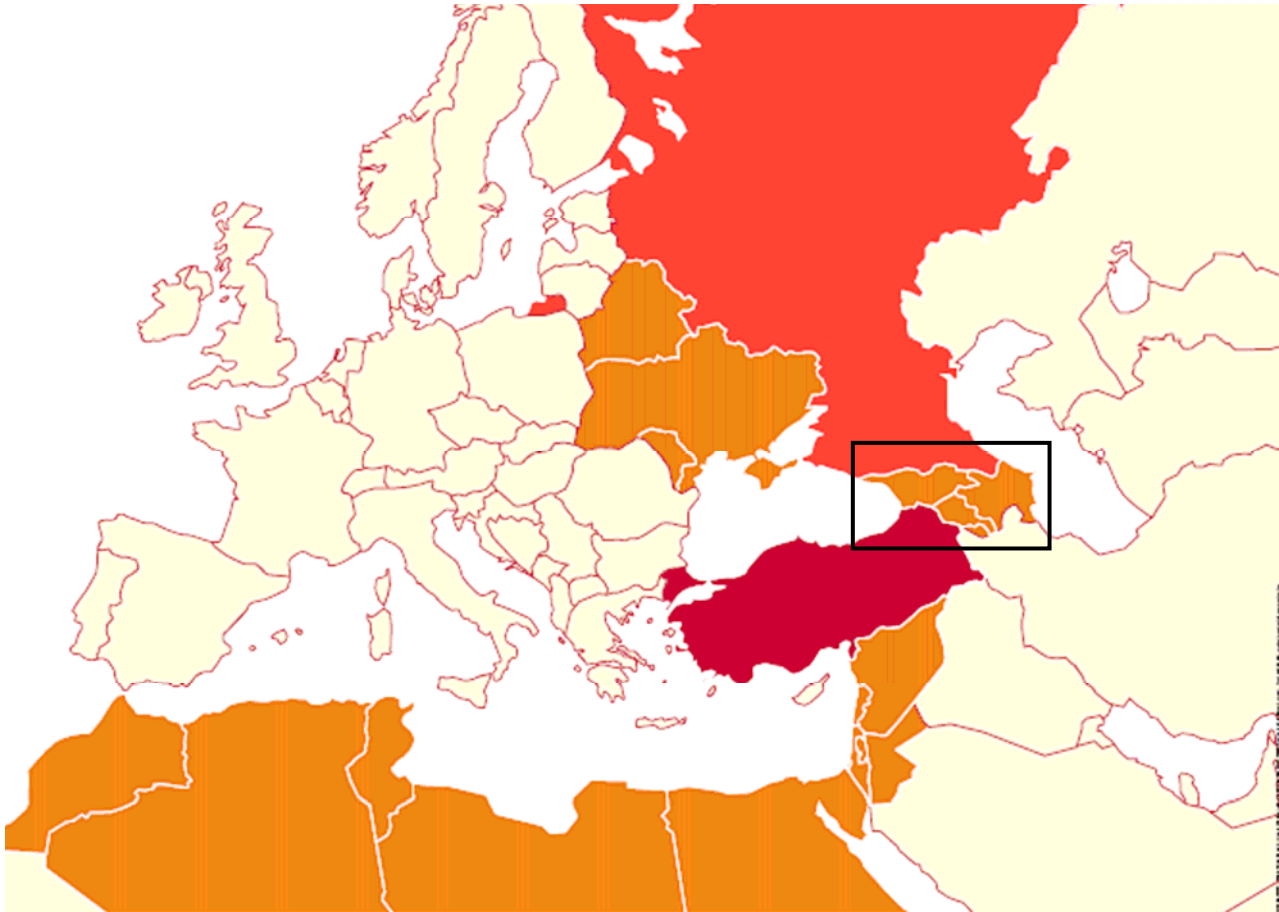


The European Neighbourhood Policy





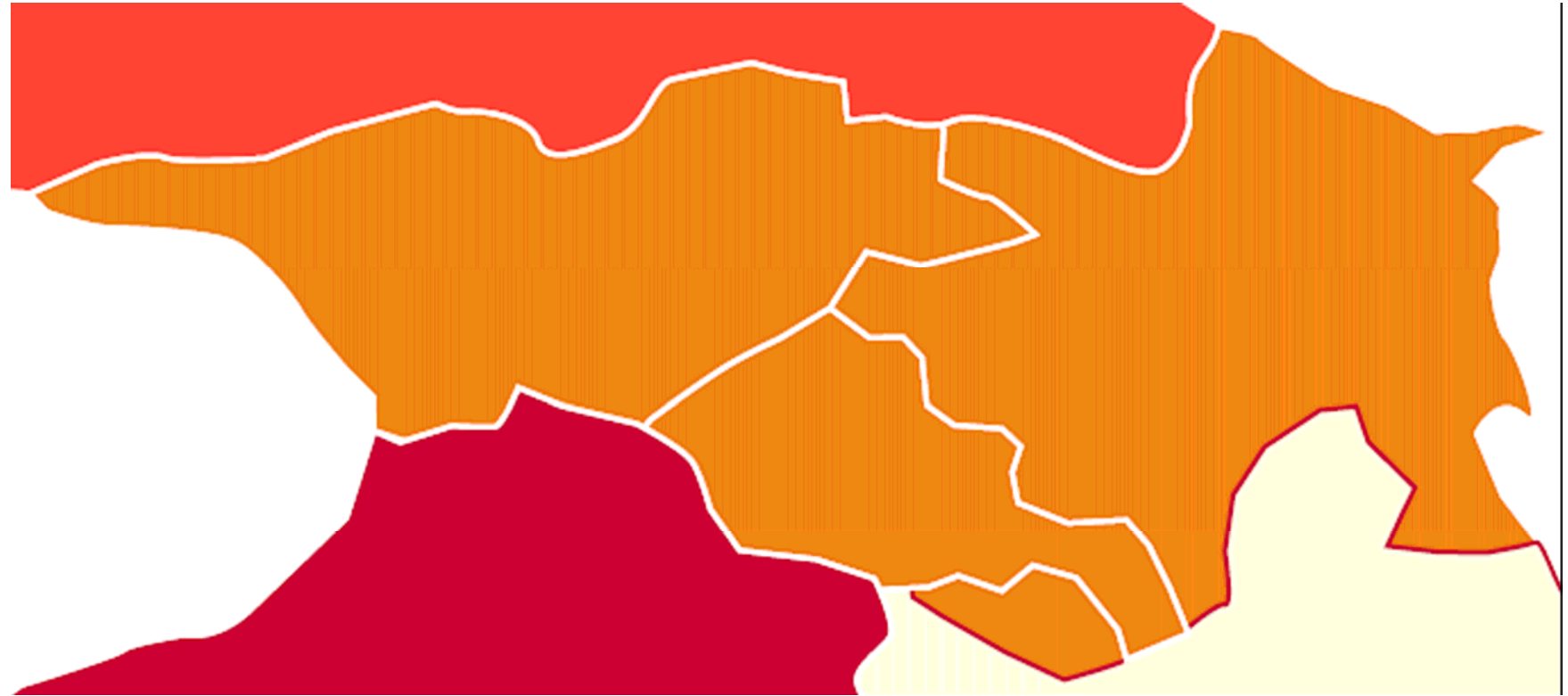
The Caucasus





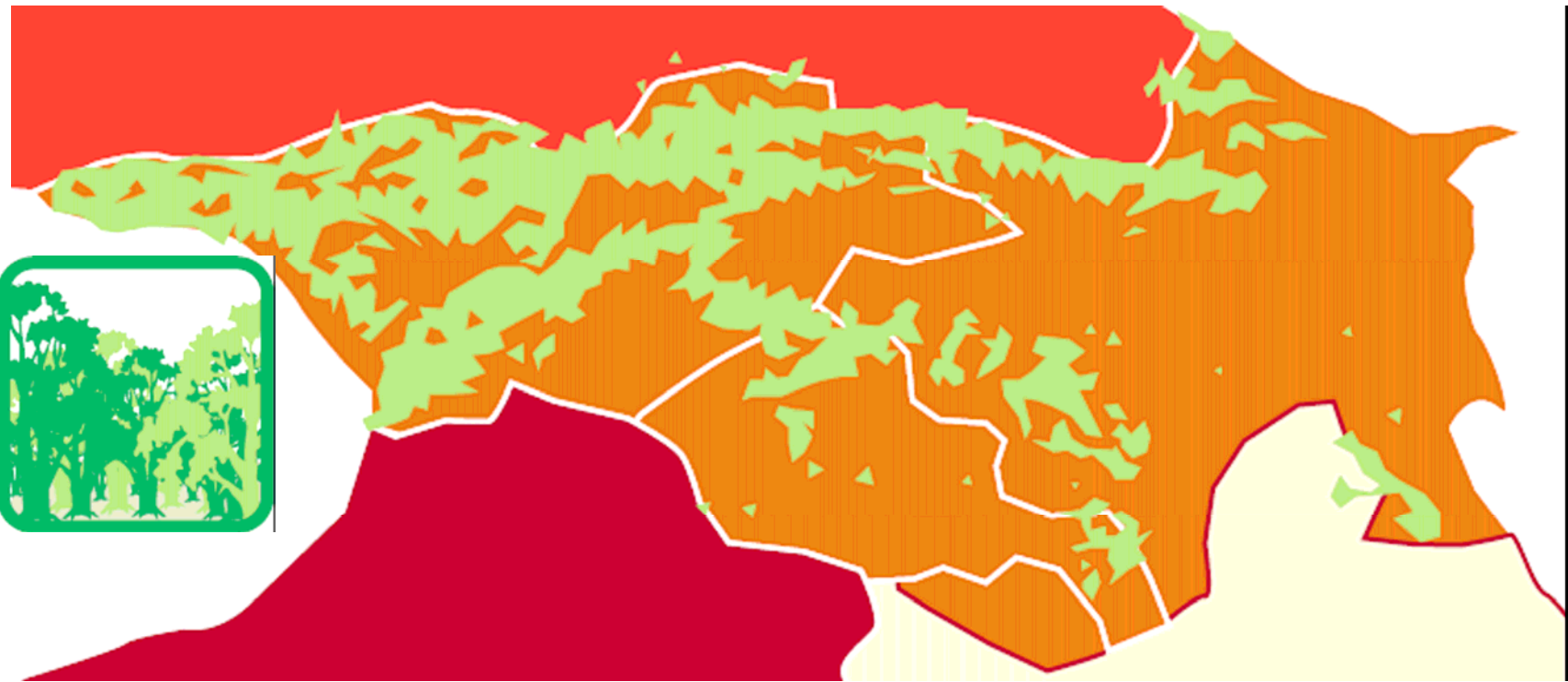
The Caucasus

South Caucasus: Armenia, Azerbaidjan, Georgia





Forests of South Caucasus





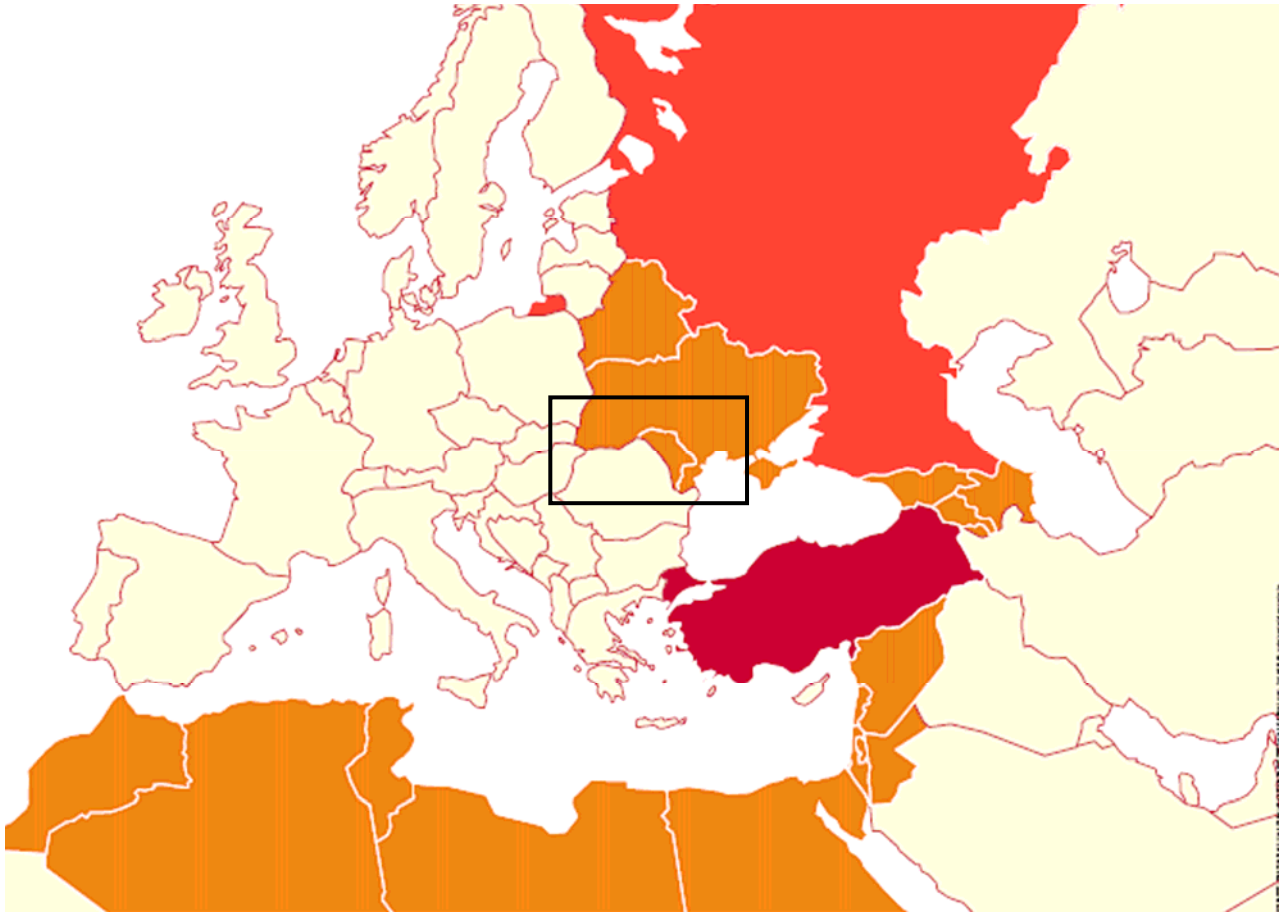
Forests of South Caucasus

- **Forests of South Caucasus**
 - 20% of the territory, largest pristine forest ecosystems
 - Endemic and relict species of woody plants and herbs, rare and endangered animals.
- **Threats:** Unsustainable logging, over-grazing, poor management practice, low institutional capacity.
- **WWF's work:**
 - Strategy for forest conservation and sustainable use, built on Ecoregion Conservation Plan.
 - Aim: halting forest degradation and restoring important forest landscapes.





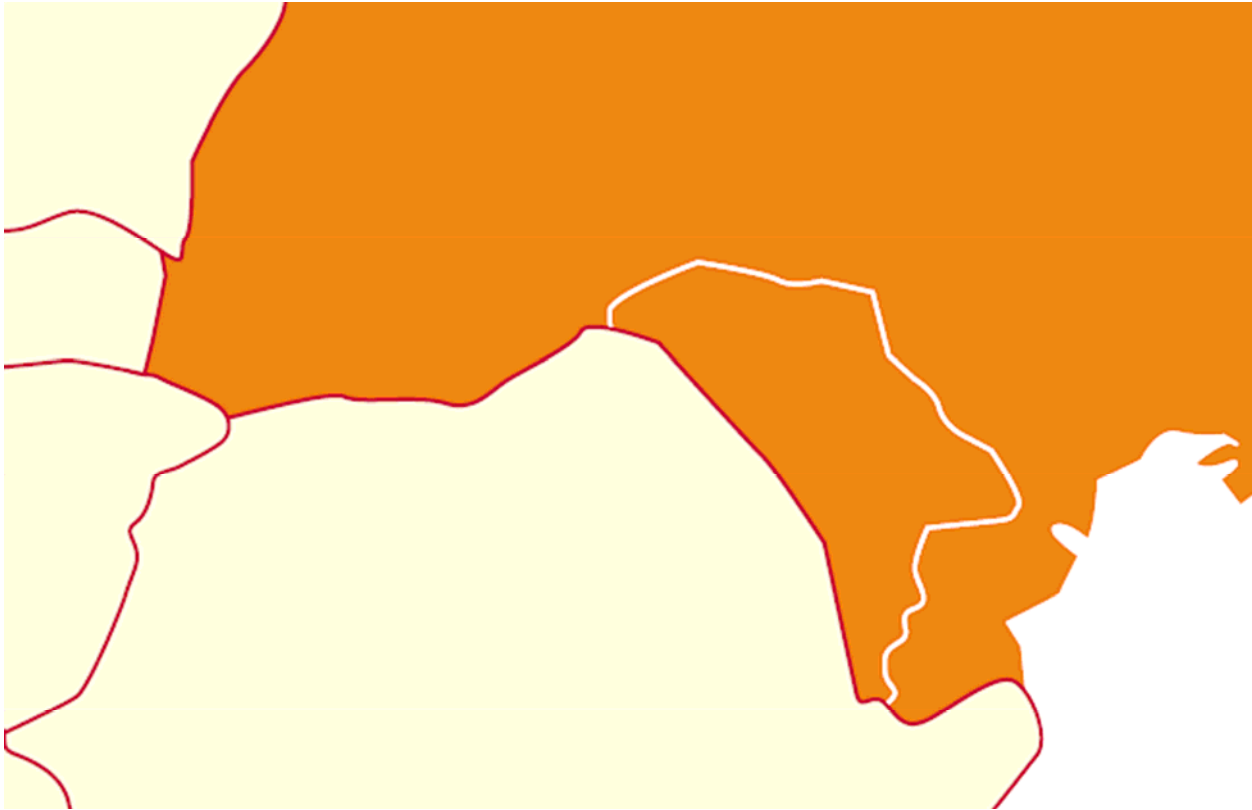
The Danube and The Carpathians





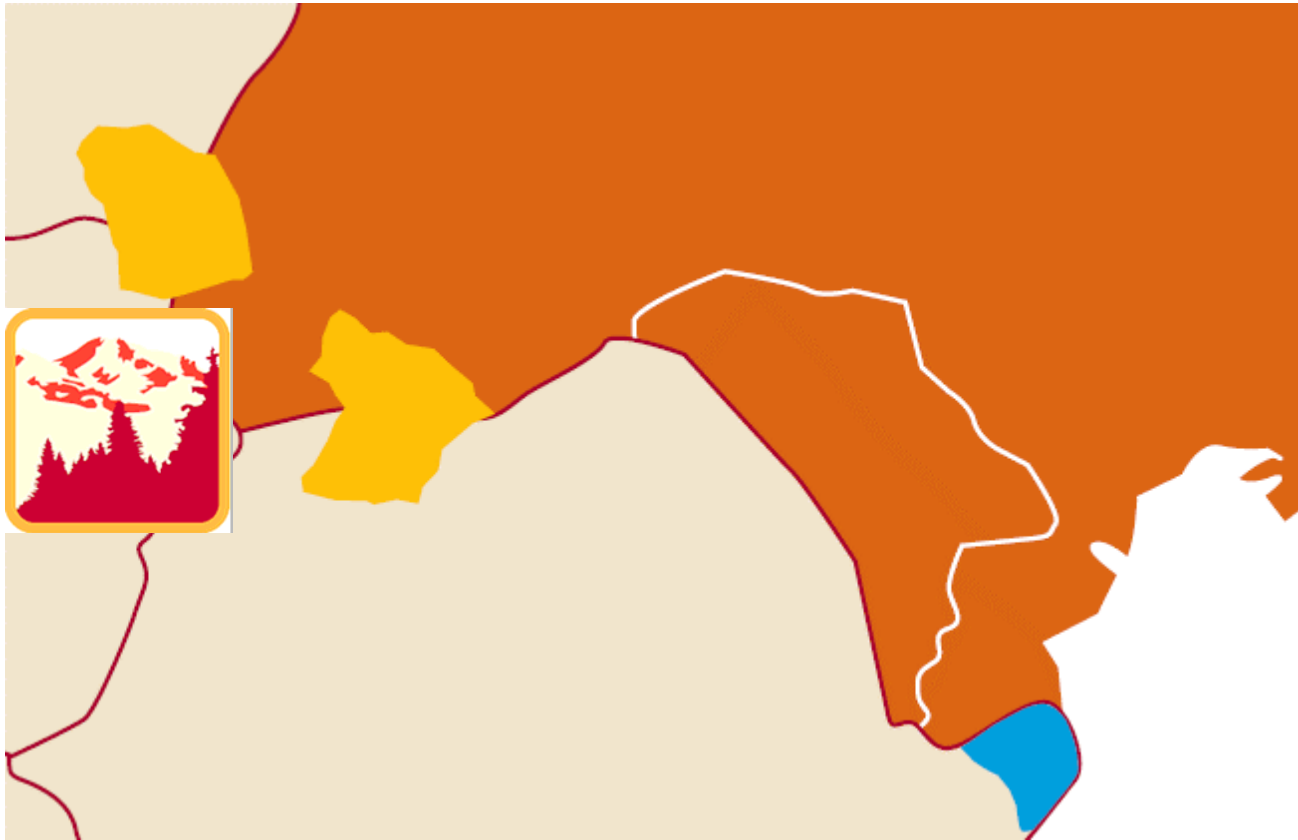
The Danube and The Carpathians

Ukraine, Moldavia





The Carpathian Mountains



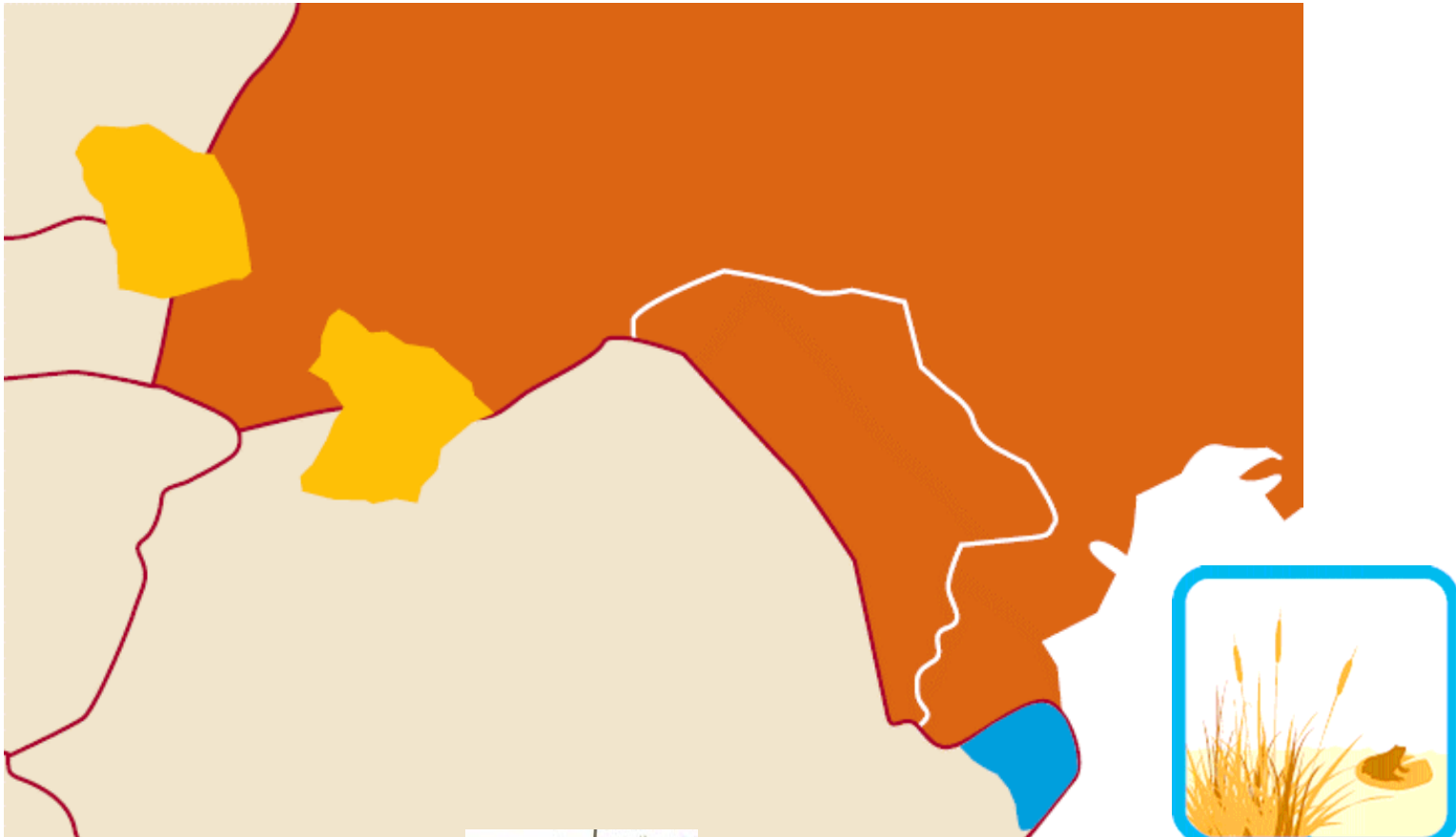


The Carpathian Mountains

- **The Carpathian Mountains, a transnational zone**
- 30 "Priority Areas for Biodiversity" identified in the Carpathians ecoregion.
 - Eastern Carpathians, threats: unsustainable forestry practices, excessive tourism, infrastructures.
 - The Maramureşul de Nord and Ukrainian Highlands, threats: Avalanches, landslides, unstable monocultures
- **WWF's work**
 - The Carpathian Ecoregion Initiative: a platform of NGOs and institutes working for the long-term conservation and sustainable development.
 - WWF supports sustainable forestry, including support for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification and fighting illegal logging.



The Danube delta



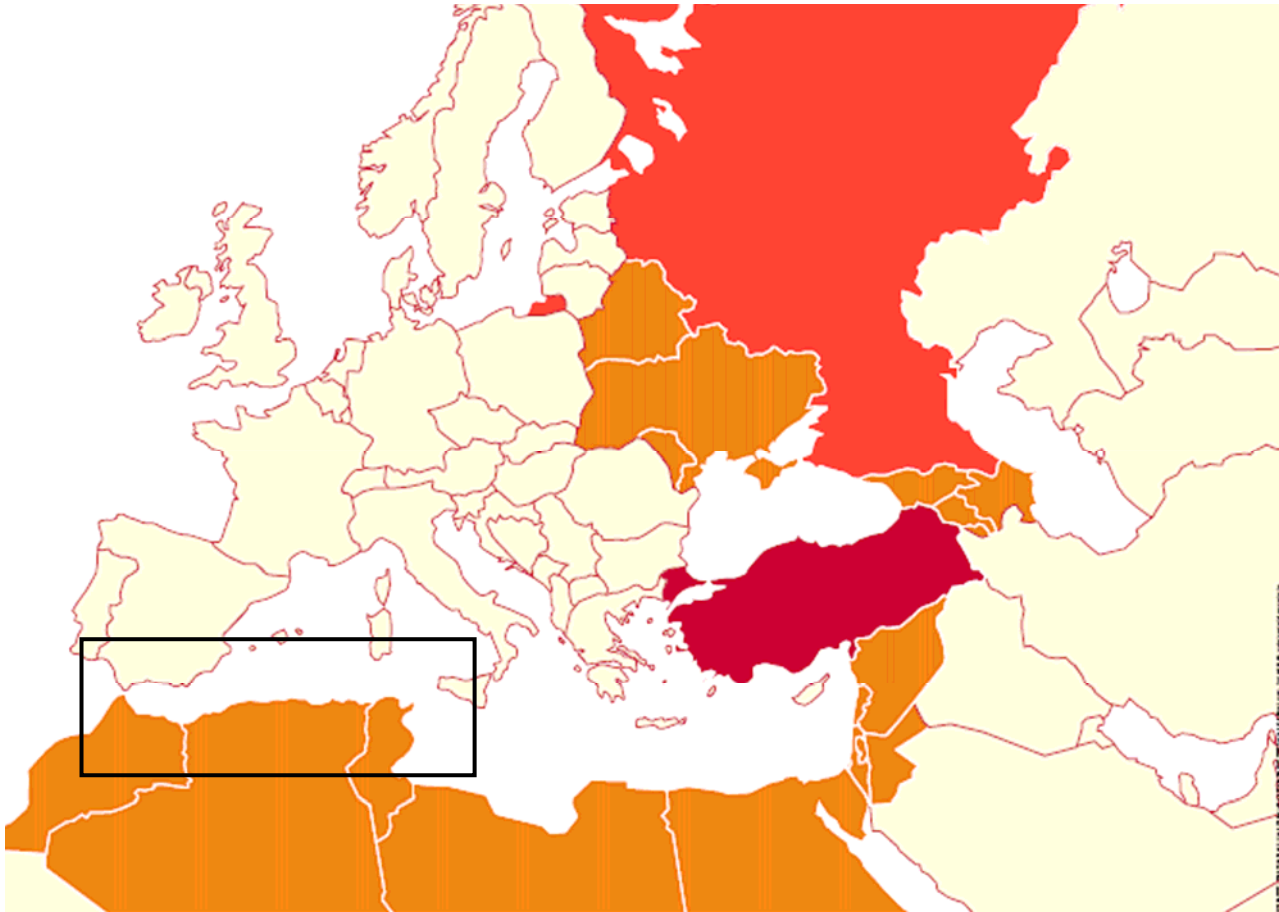


The Danube delta

- **The Danube Delta**
 - Second largest wetland in Europe, largest reedbed in the world.
 - Critically important to a number of globally threatened species (eg. the white pelican).
- **Threats:** Over-exploitation of species, human engineered changes that impede sedimentation, pollution from spills and war.
- **WWF's work:**
 - Ukrainian Danube Delta project to restore wetlands.
 - WWF facilitated the Lower Danube Green Corridor creation, Europe's most ambitious wetland protection and restoration project.



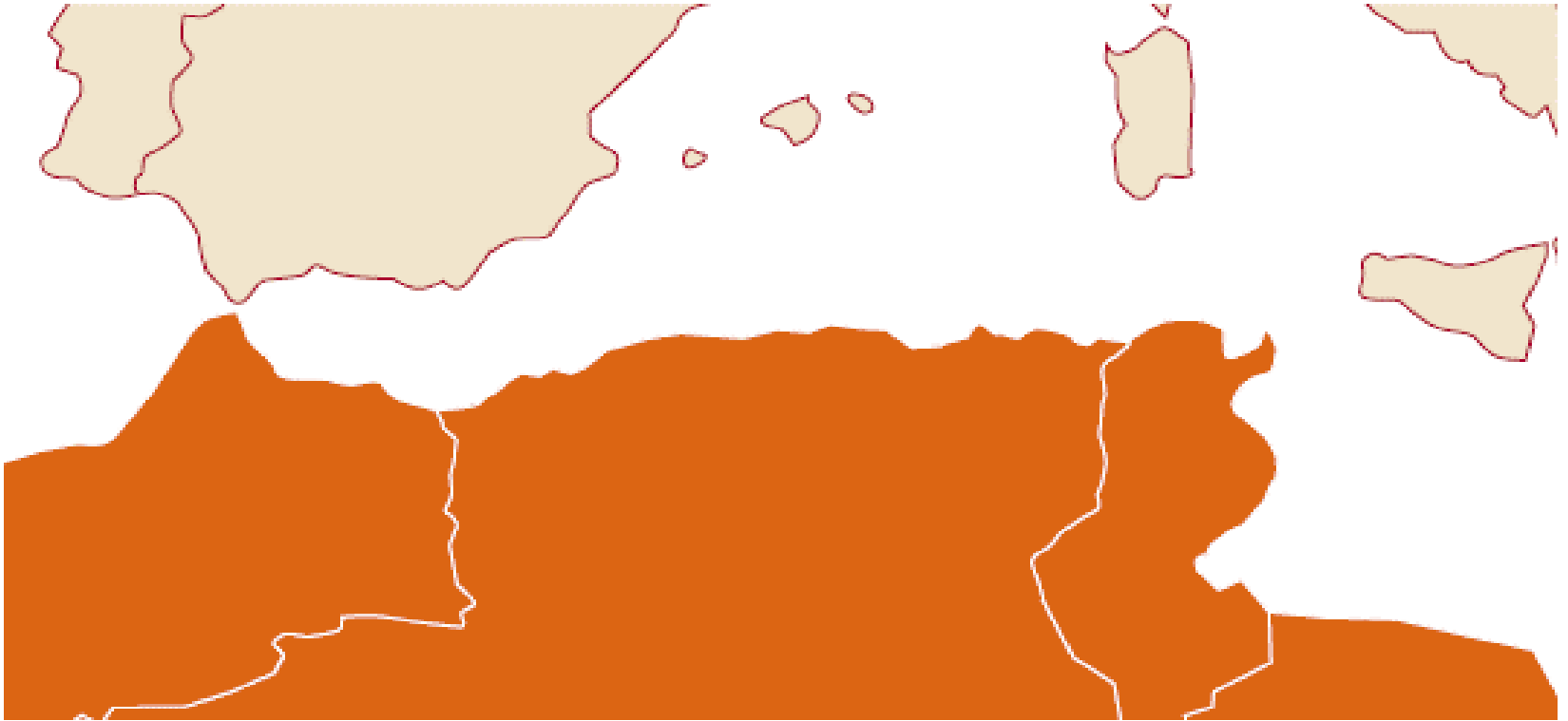
Maghreb





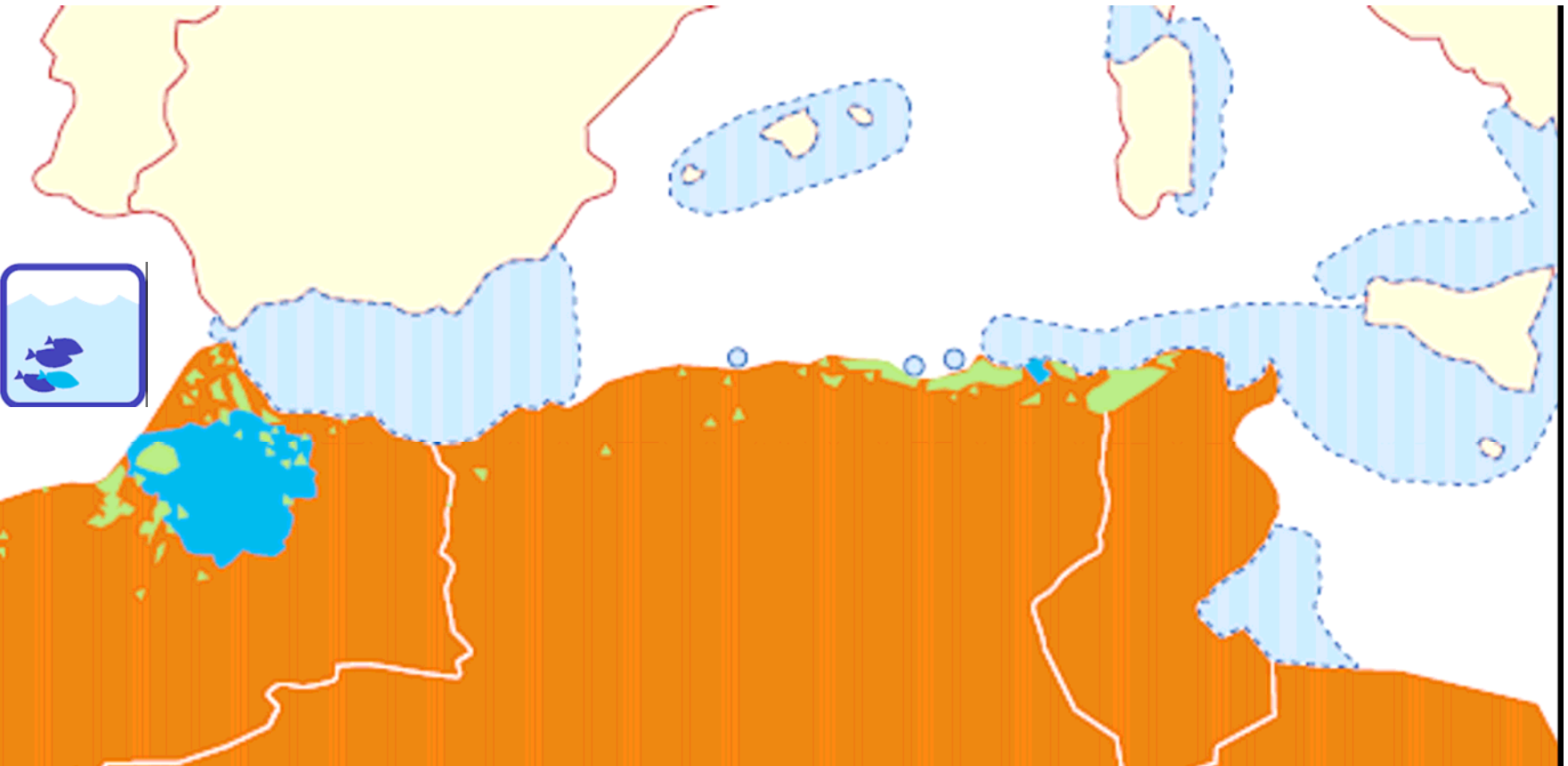
Maghreb

Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria





Alboran Sea and Strait of Gibraltar





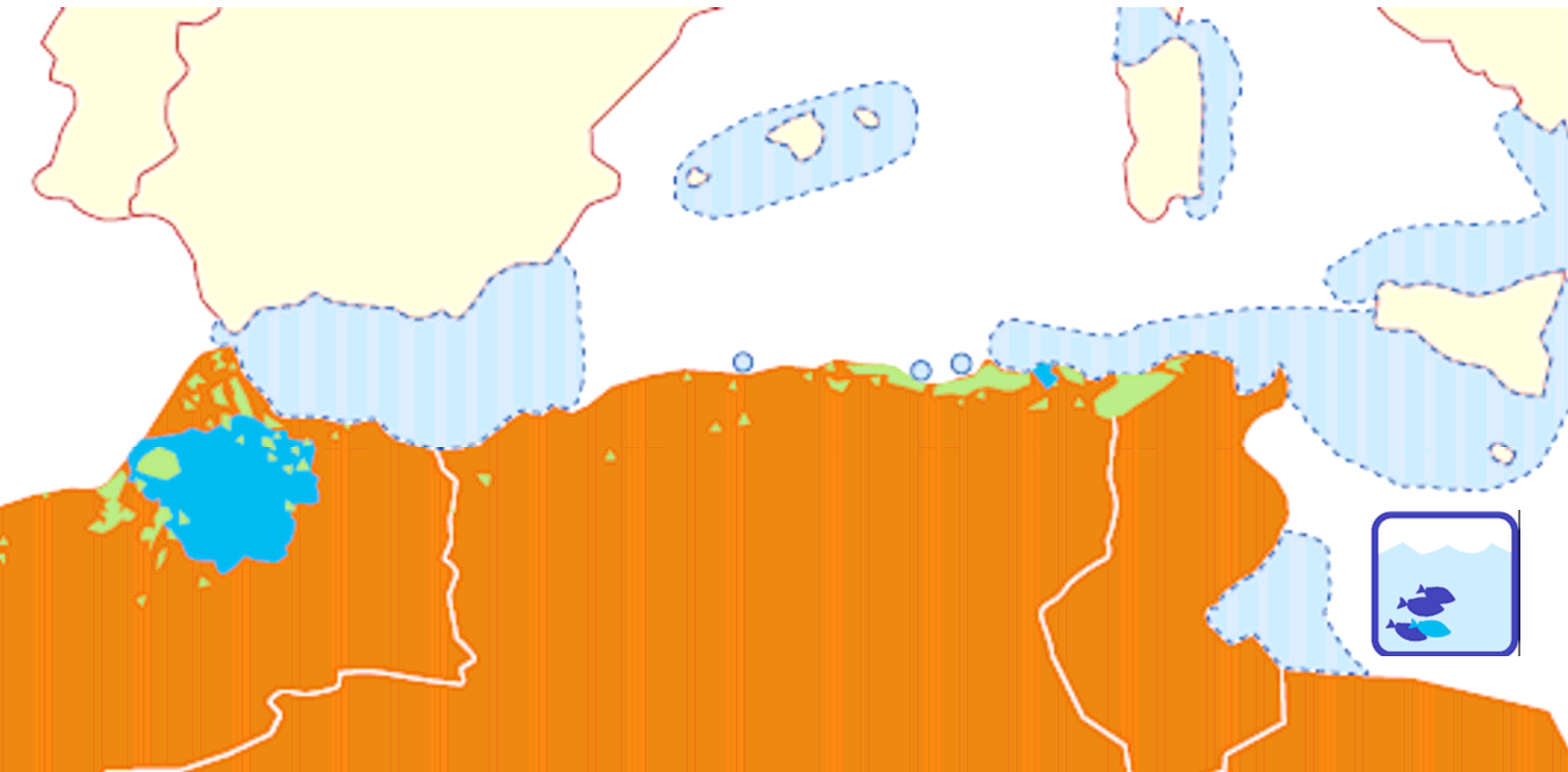
Alboran Sea and Strait of Gibraltar

- **Alboran Sea and Strait of Gibraltar**
 - One of WWF 13 Mediterranean marine areas in need of protection.
 - Alboran Sea seamounts belongs to WWF proposition for a network of High Seas protected areas in the Mediterranean.
- **Threats:** Pollution (industry, oil tankers), unplanned tourism and urban areas, chemicals (intensive agriculture), unsustainable fishing, navigation.
- **WWF's work:**
 - WWF calls to give to the entire Alboran Sea a special status of sustainable management zone.





The Algero Tunisian coast and Sicilian Channel





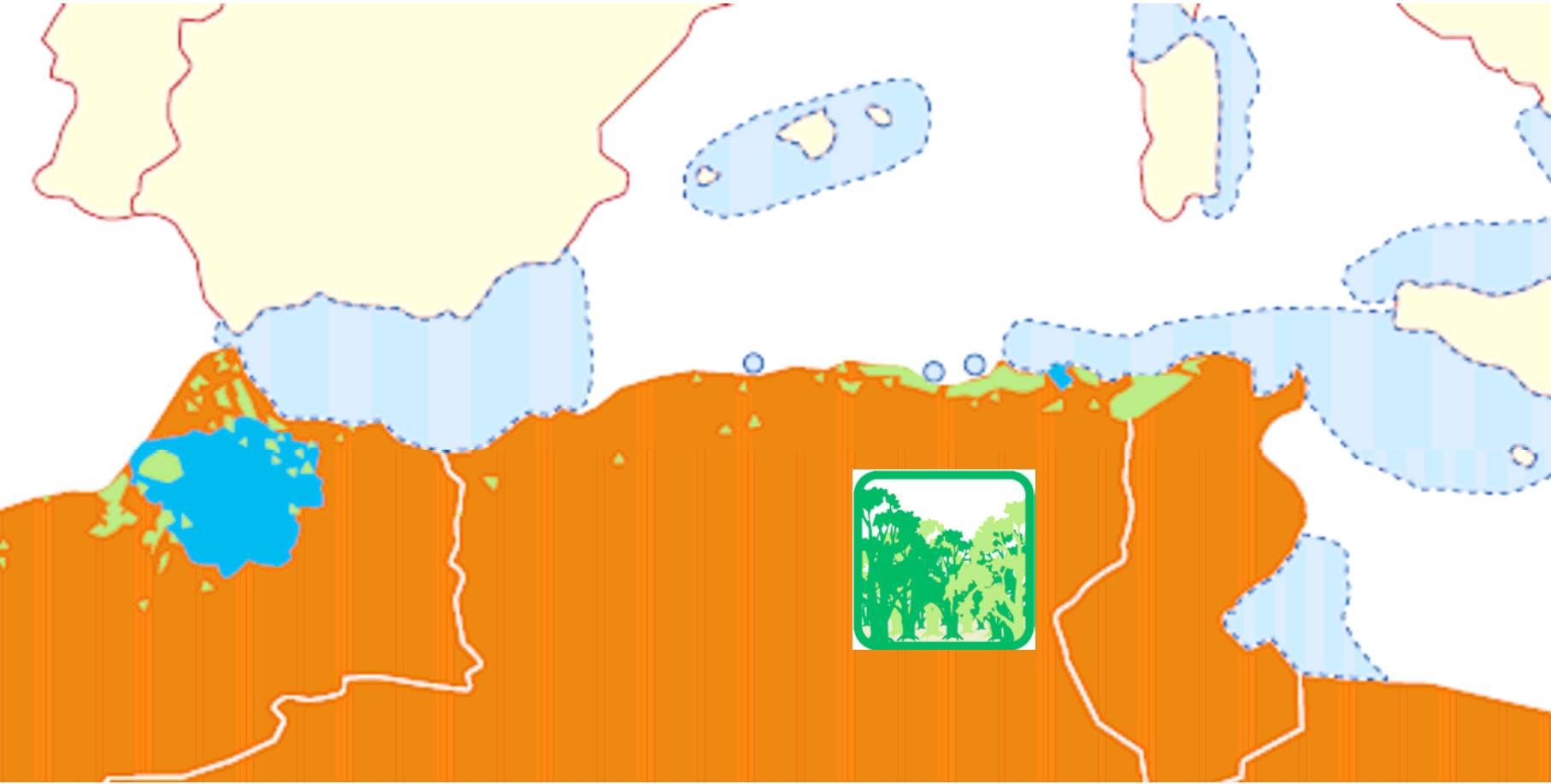
The Algero Tunisian coast and Sicilian Channel

- **The Algero Tunisian coast and Sicilian Channel**
 - One of WWF 13 Mediterranean marine areas in need of protection.
 - Endangered sand dunes habitats, extended Posidonia meadows and red coral formations.
- **Threats:** Agriculture run off from fertilizers and pesticides, untreated sewage from urban settlements, organo-chlorine compounds deriving from oil refineries, solid waste, over-fishing, mass tourism development.
- **WWF's work:**
 - Through a project funded by the European Commission, WWF is assisting local authorities in the development of an integrated coastal zone management plan.
 - WWF advocates the recognition of the Sicilian channel by the International Maritime Organization as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area.





Maghreb Cork Oak Forests



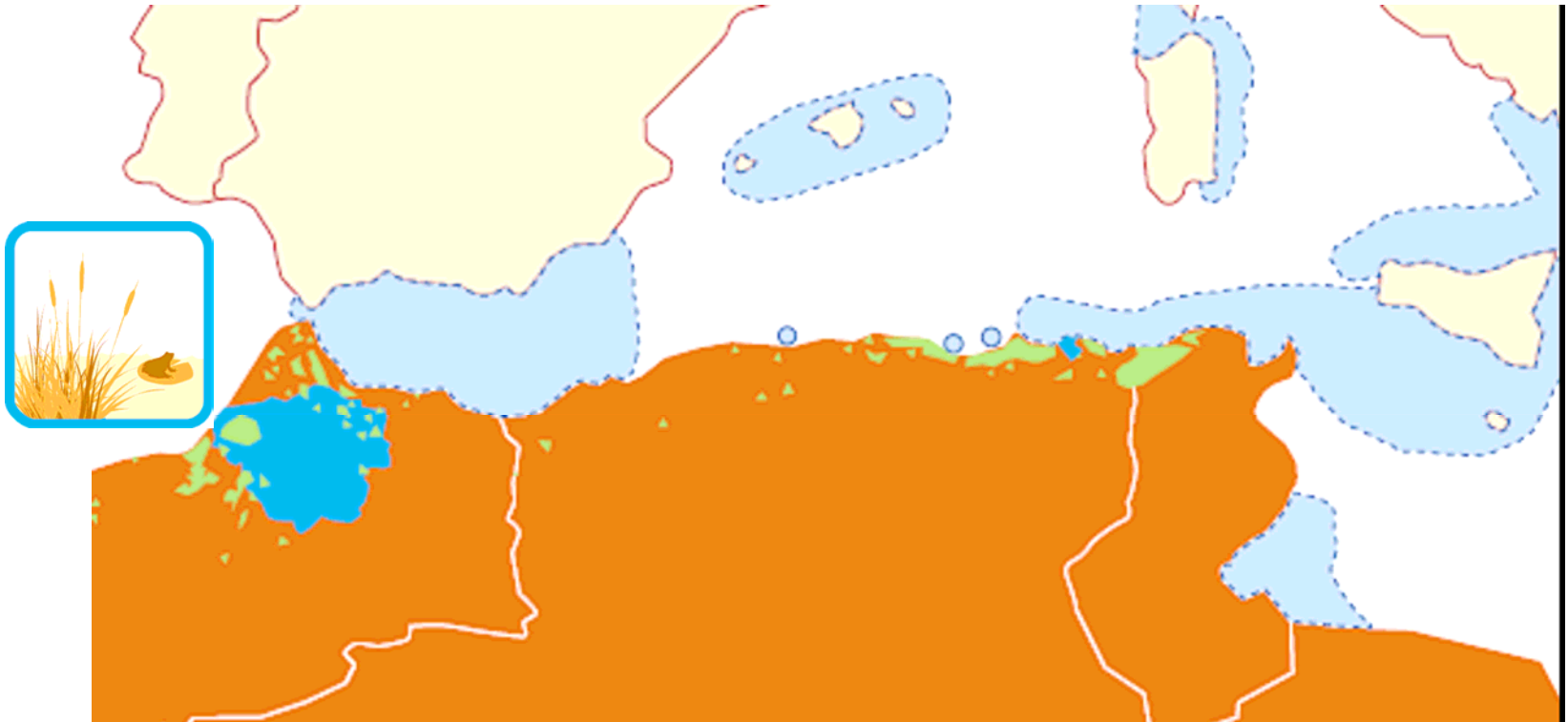


Maghreb Cork Oak Forests

- **Maghreb Cork Oak Forests**
 - Provide environmental services (protection and maintenance of soil and water resources, important habitats)
 - Allow a profitable economic system, based on non timber forest products exploitation.
- **Threats:**
 - Over-harvesting, forest clearance, overgrazing, conversion to other land uses, poor management practices, fires, and market threat linked to the use of non-cork substitutes for cork stoppers.
- **WWF's work:**
 - Programme with local government bodies, NGOs, and communities, to protect, manage and restore those landscapes, to promote sustainable livelihoods, to ensure conservation, and to encourage responsible purchasing attitudes.



Maghreb





Maghreb

Sebou River Bassin

- Oued Sebou is one of Morocco's most important rivers.

Threats:

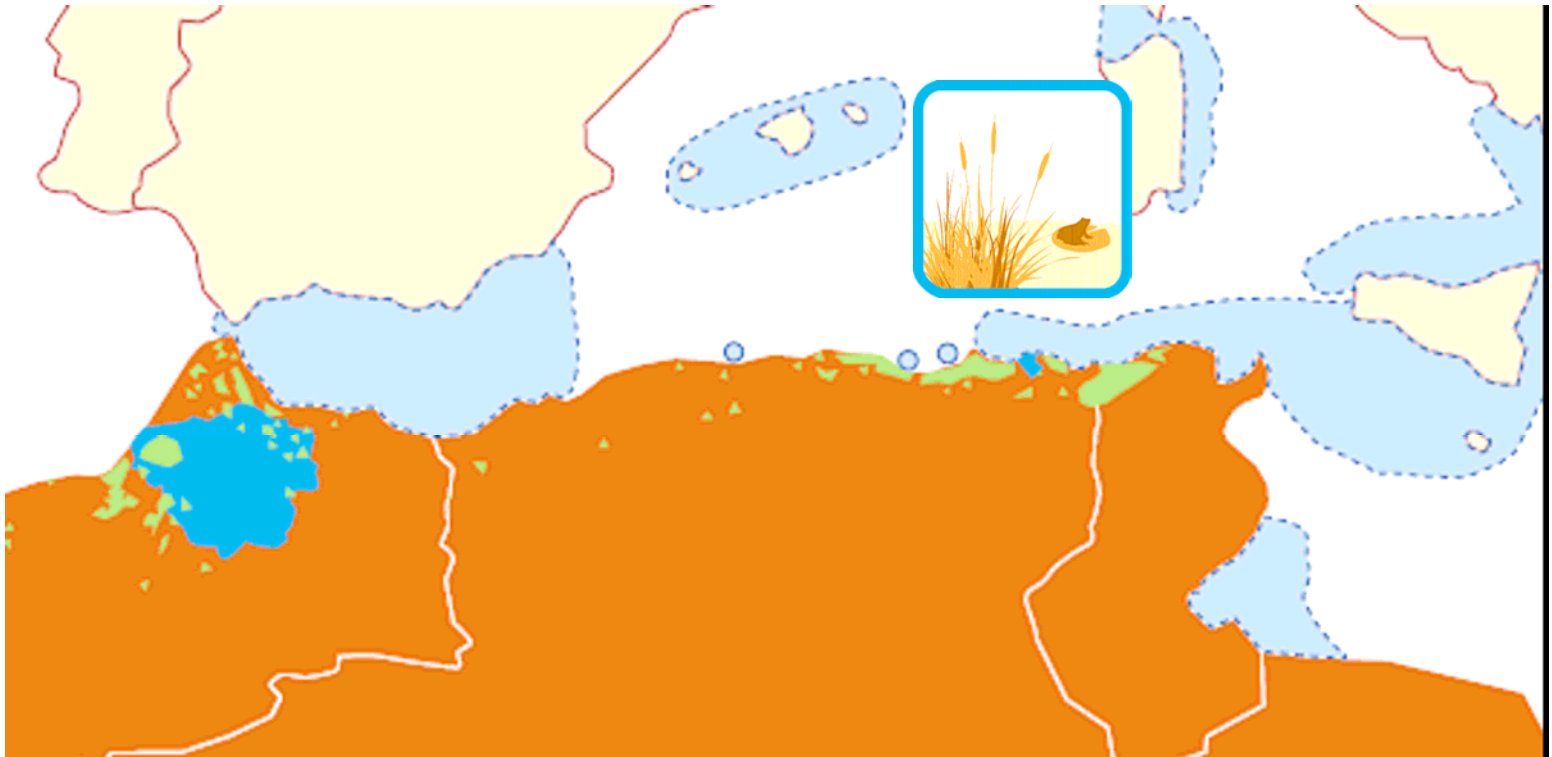
- Agricultural and industrial pollutants, untreated waste from sugar and textiles plants and untreated olive pulp, dams and other water infrastructure.

WWF's work:

- WWF is working with the government and other stakeholders to improve agricultural practices and create conditions for an improved water management at a basin level.



Maghreb





Maghreb

Guerbes-Senhadja wetlands complex

- Supports vegetation which stabilises the shifting landscape and provides diverse and biologically important habitats.

Threats:

- Expanding seasonal cash crops, irrigated agriculture, sand extraction, wastewater from upstream villages, dams and tourist resorts.

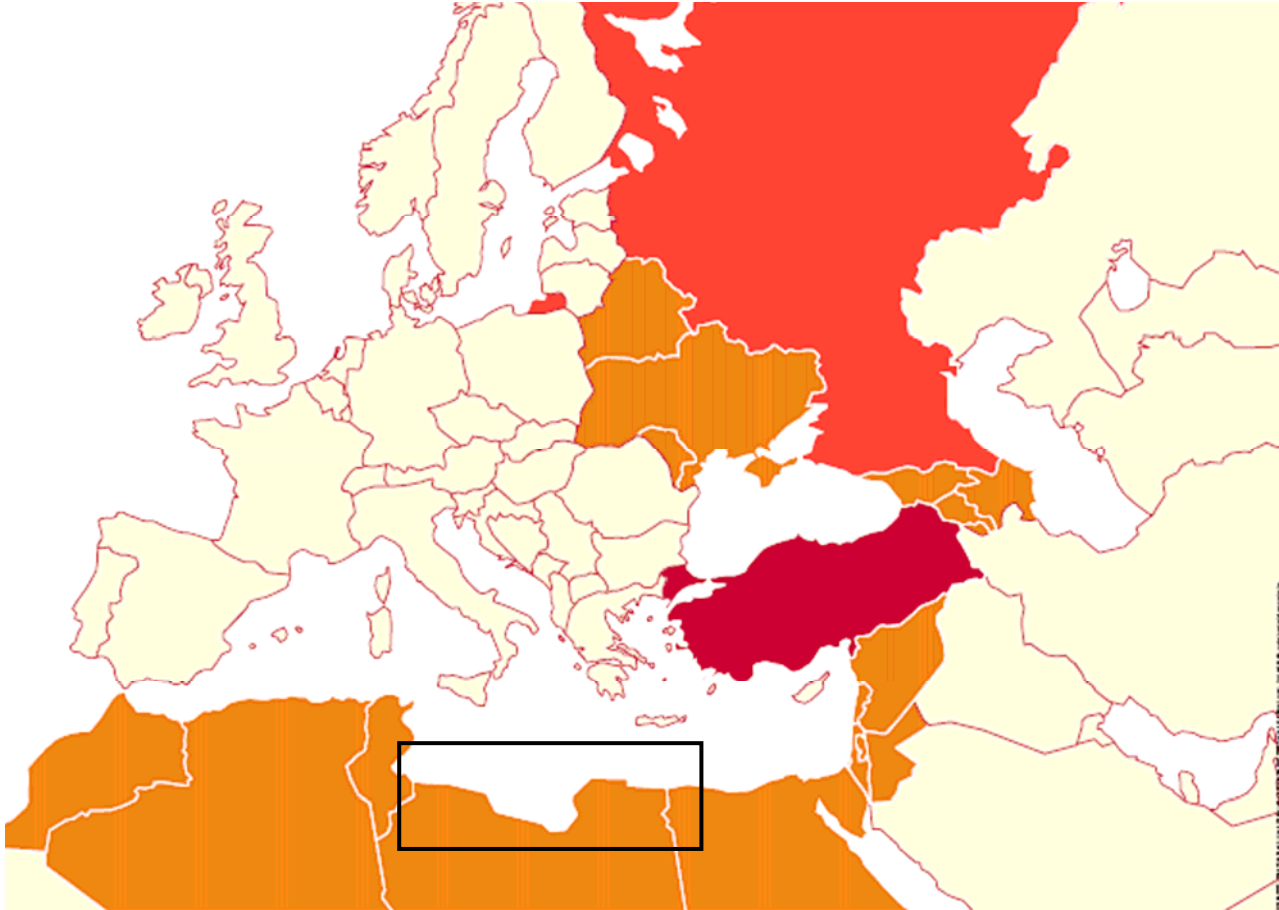
WWF's work:

- WWF is working with the Algerian government and the United Nation Development Programme to ensure a sound management plan.
- WWF is working with a local women's association to increase awareness on wetlands destruction consequences.





Libya





Libya





Libya





Libya

- **Gulf of Sirte**
 - One of WWF 13 Mediterranean marine areas in need of protection.
 - Low and sandy coast, scattered dune complexes.
 - Extended shallow sea bottom area entirely covered by *Posidonia oceanica* meadows.
 - Beaches host numerous loggerhead turtle nests.
- **Threats:**
 - Risk of heavy tourism development.
- **WWF's work:**
 - WWF, IUCN MED and RAC/SPA (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas) are developing an intervention plan with the Libyan authorities to improve the management of protected areas and create new marine reserves.





Libya





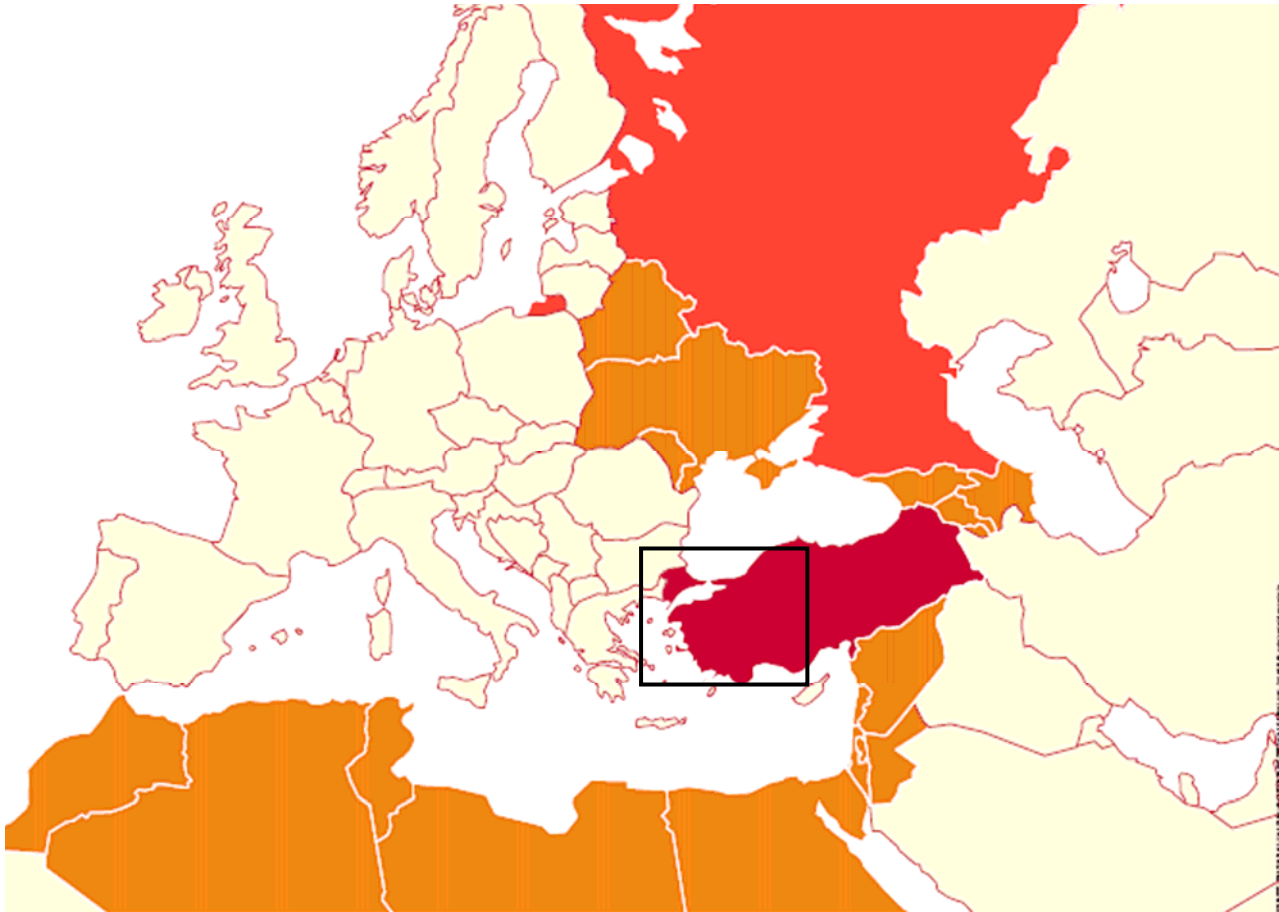
Libya

- **Coast of Cirenaica**
 - One of WWF 13 Mediterranean marine areas in need of protection.
 - rocky coast with high cliffs, some sand dune systems.
 - The sea bottom has a high and continuous presence of biologically relevant areas.
- **Threats:**
 - Risk of heavy tourism development.
- **WWF's work:**
 - IUCN MED and RAC/SPA (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas) are developing an intervention plan with the Libyan authorities to improve the management of protected areas and create new marine reserves.





Turkey



Turkey



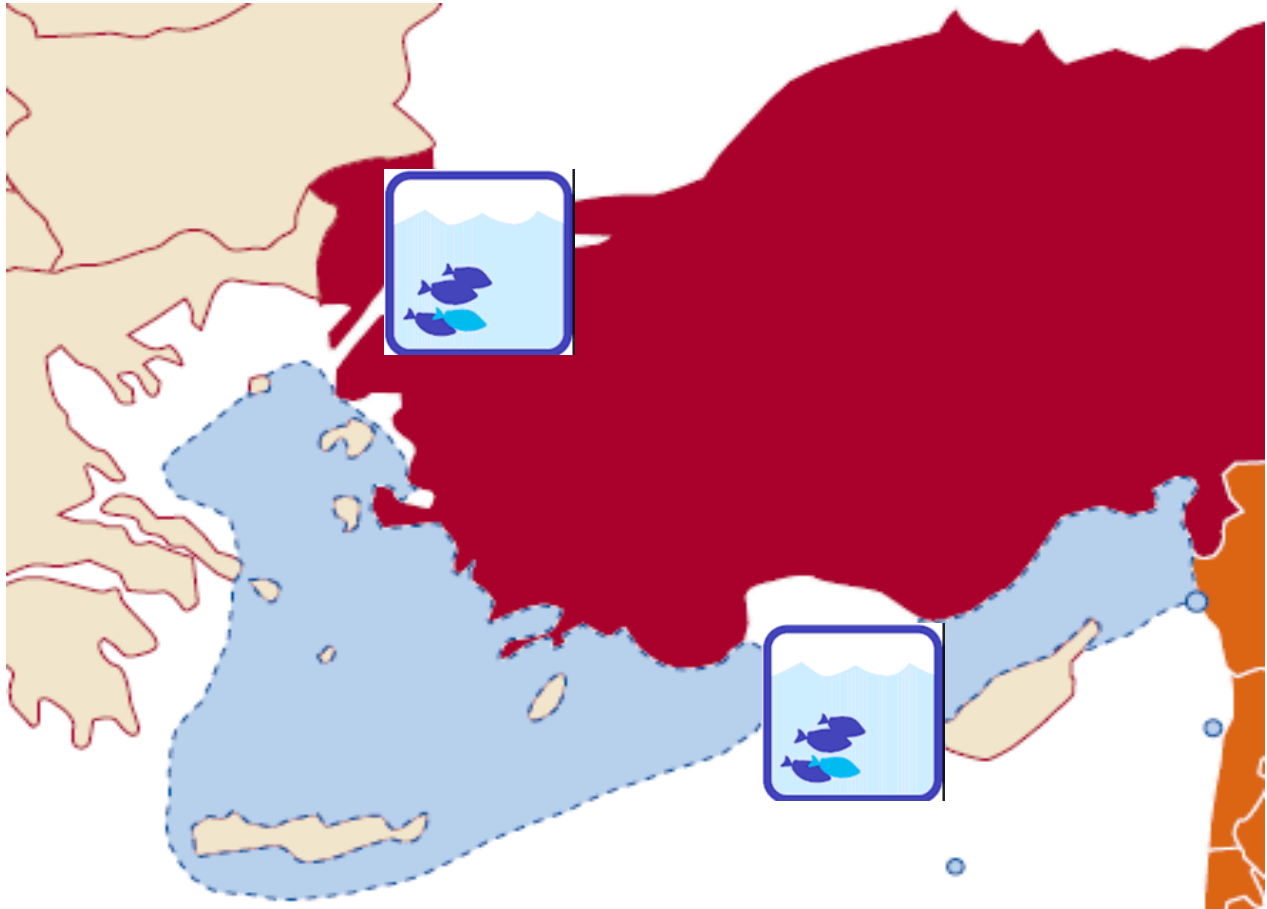


Turkey

- **Istanbul and Northwestern Black Sea**
 - Last wide heathlands of Eastern Europe, large number of globally and regionally threatened species.
- **Threats:**
 - Black Sea coastal highway, and third bridge on the Istanbul Strait.
- **WWF's work:**
 - WWF is actively working to determine the critical natural plant areas around Istanbul.
 - In the Northwestern Black Sea, WWF continues to establish natural protection areas and wildlife protection areas.



Turkey





Turkey

- **Fethiye-Antalya Coastal Highway**

- 300 of the last 500 Mediterranean monk seals are located in the Eastern Mediterranean.

- **Threats:**

- Coastal highway constructions threatens the Fethiye-Antalya coastline
- Threats against the topography and flora of the region, water pollution risk caused by the disposal of construction waste

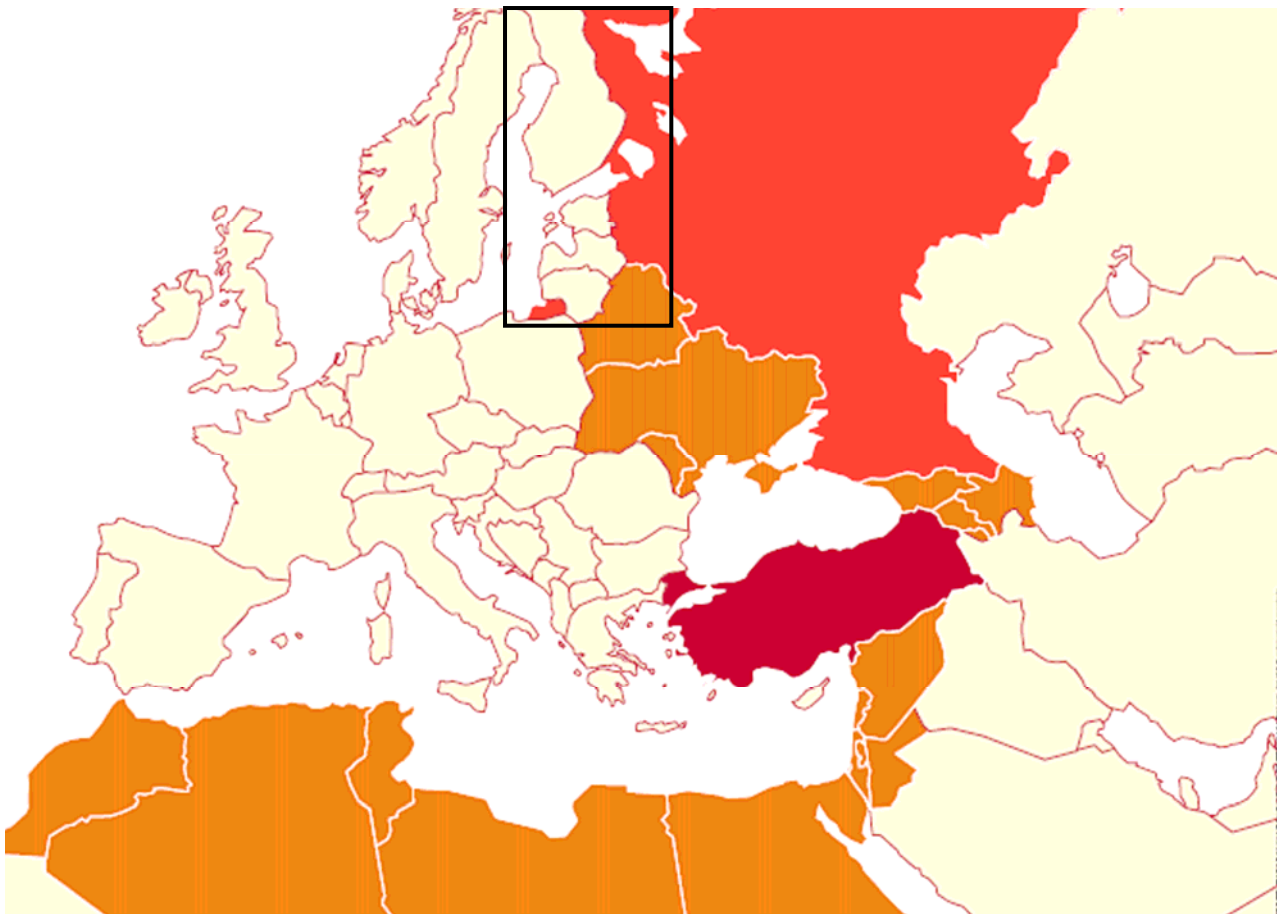
- **WWF's work:**

- WWF is conducting analyses and observations in the area and reporting the results to the Turkish Government.
- WWF is working at increasing the number of protected areas in the region.



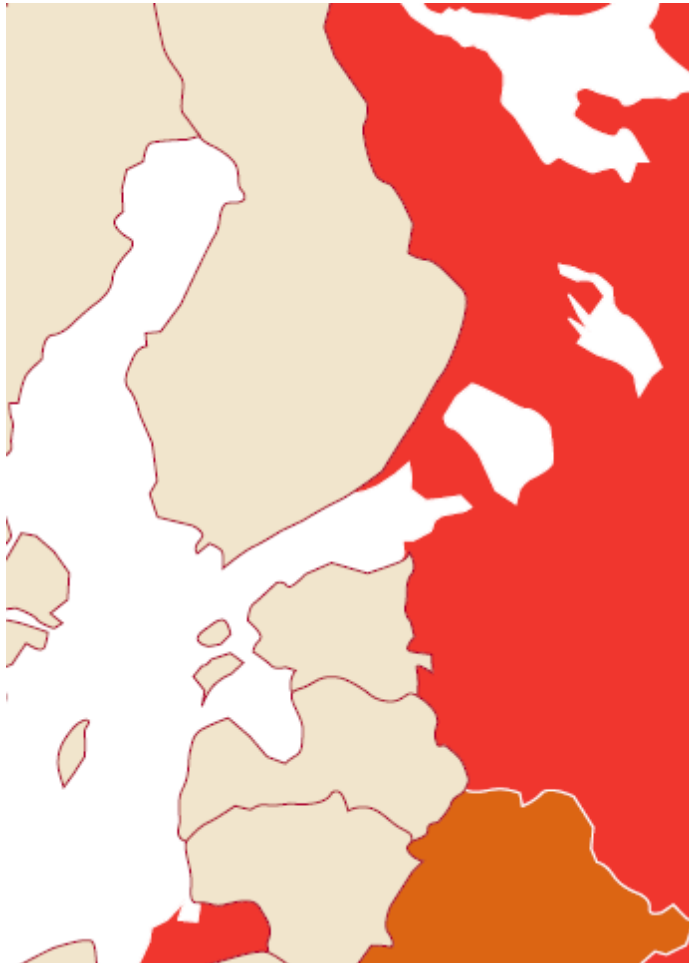


Russia



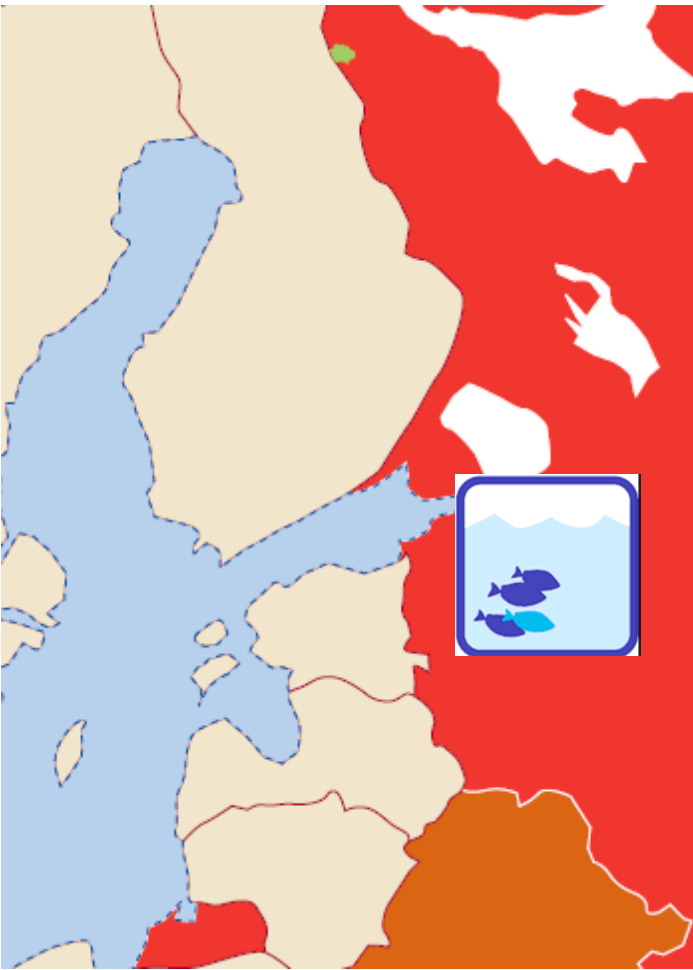


Russia





Russia





Russia

The Baltic Sea

- The largest brackish water ecosystems in the world.
- Particularly vulnerable to ecological change.

Threats:

- Increased sea and land-based transport, overfishing, eutrophication, industrial, municipal and agricultural pollution, continued clearing of forests and drainage of wetlands, risks of oil spills, increased oil transportation from Russia.

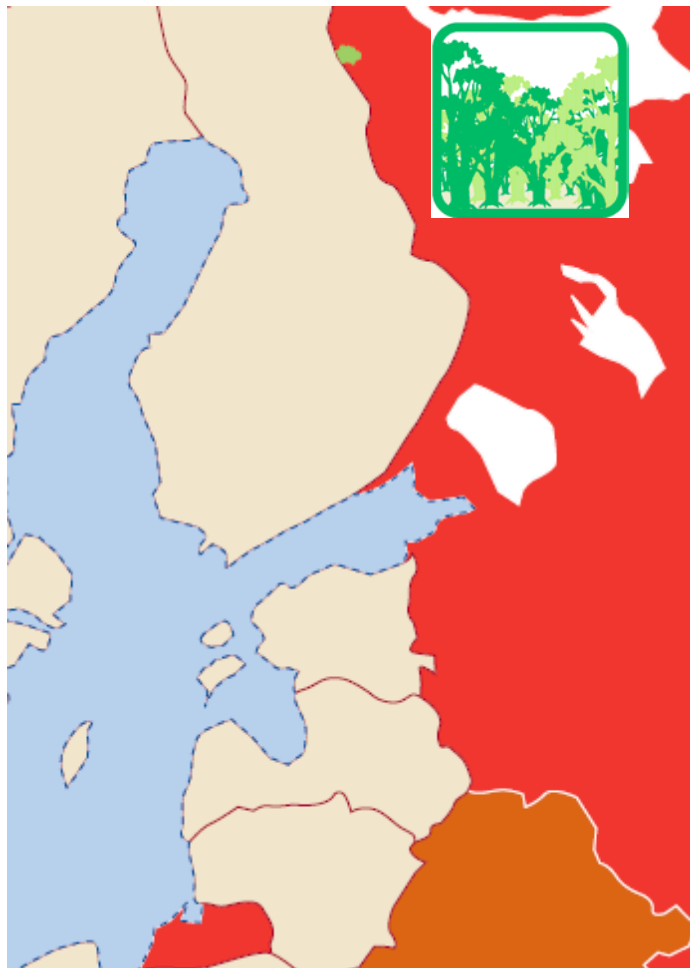
WWF's work:

- to ensure sustainable fisheries
- to establish a network of marine and coastal protected areas
- to reduce eutrophication
- to promote ecologically sustainable maritime transports
- to raise awareness of the threat of hazardous chemicals.





Russia





Russia

Paanajärvi National Park

- Brown Bear, Wild Reindeer, and Wolverine, rare bird species, abundance of vegetation.
- Most of the forest in the Park is completely untouched.

Threats:

- Forestry activities in the neighbouring areas might fragment Paanajärvi from other valuable forests.

WWF's work:

- PAN Parks Certification: WWF founded PAN (Protected Area Network) Parks in partnership with the Dutch leisure company Molecaten.
- Tourism is developed in a way to sustain the natural heritage. Through this tourism development, the 8 certified PAN Parks experience economic benefits and local representatives



Contacts

- WWF Caucasus Programme Office
- WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme Office
- WWF Mediterranean Programme Office
- WWF Baltic Ecoregion Programme
- WWF Finland
- WWF France
- WWF Spain
- WWF Turkey
- PAN Parks Foundation



Thank you,

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