

GYMNASIUM KERAMOTIS

Keramoti - Kavala – Greece

“AFTER - SCHOOL CLUBS to INCREASE MOTIVATION and PREVENT DROPOUT”



2018 - 2020

Wetlands:



Wetlands are the areas with the biggest biodiversity.

Wetlands: Why we should care about them



In which way wetlands are
determinants of our future

Ramsar Convention

- Transnational contract for wetlands
- The members must guarantee that:
 - Use their wetlands with prudence
 - Define suitable wetlands for accession to the Wetlands of International Importance list (Ramsar List)
 - Cooperate in cross-border wetlands and in common species



What do we call a “wetland”?

- Flooding land areas, either periodically or permanently
- Internal wetland kinds:
 - Swamps, ponds, lakes, rivers, flood plains, peat lands
- Coastal wetland kinds:
 - Estuary systems, lagoons, salty swamps, mangroves- even coral reefs
- Ponds, fish farms, salt pans and paddies are also included in anthropogenic wetlands



What do we gain from wetlands?

- Wetlands help in water purification and in the substitution of its underground repositories, in which, humanity depends
- Plants in wetlands help in the limitation of water pollution
 - They absorb certain harmful fertilizers, pesticides, heavy metals and toxins that end up in wetlands
- They are food production areas
 - The rice that is being developed in flooded fields is the main species
 - The 2/3 of the commercial fish kinds depend on coastal wetlands | some part of their lives



What do we gain from wetlands?

- 61.8 million people live directly by fishing and fish farming
- The sustainable management of our wetlands provides :
 - Logging
 - Vegetable oils
 - Medicinal plants
 - Branches and leaves for various constructions
 - Fodders



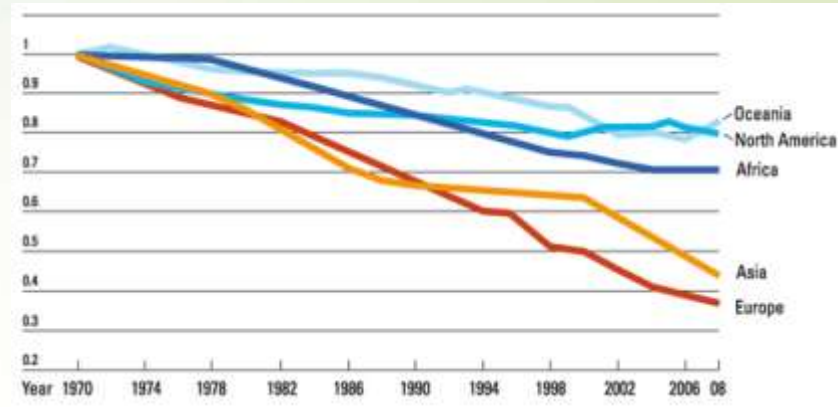
Wetlands overflow with biodiversity

- They are natural habitats for more than 100,000 species only for fresh water
- Incredibly important for various amphibians and reptiles, as well for the reproduction and immigration of several bird species.
- Certain wetlands often facilitate endemic species
 - Life forms exclusively limited in one and only area.



A future without wetlands?

- 64 % of wetlands internationally has been extinct since 1900
- Their rapid decrease means
 - Access to water becomes problematic for one in two people internationally
 - Coastal areas are more exposed in severe weather conditions



- Biodiversity is also influenced
 - Populations of sweet water fish have decreased per 76% between 1970 and 2010



What leads to wetland loss and their downgradation

- Massive changes to the uses of land, especially:
 - Crops
 - Stock raising
 - Logging
- River deflection via barriers, embankments and alteration of course
- Infrastructure development, especially in river plains and inshore areas
- Air and water pollution,



How can we reverse this tendency?

- Careful use of the wetlands that are left
 - Combination of human needs with the conservation of biodiversity and with other services that are provided
- Restoration of wetlands that have been downgraded
- Educate everyone about the benefits wetlands provide



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION***

