France has published an expert report on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) and the preservation of marine turtles in support of the implementation of Resolution XIII.24.

The 13th Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention, held in Dubai in October 2018, adopted Resolution XIII.24 (supported by Senegal and France) on *The enhanced conservation of coastal marine turtle habitats and the designation of key areas as Ramsar Sites*. The Resolution aims to draw the attention of States to the need to conserve the coastal and marine habitats of marine turtles, to establish Ramsar Sites to that end, and implement suitable management plans in existing Sites.

At present, 266 Ramsar Sites include up to ten main habitats for marine turtles such as seagrasses, mangroves, beaches and lagoons. Two French biologists, Jacques Fretey and Patrick Triplet, have analysed all these Sites and have made a region-by-region inventory of the habitats which might be designated as Ramsar Sites with a view to developing a network covering the life cycle of marine turtles across their areas of distribution.

This Resolution and the report on its implementation are an important new achievement for the Convention on Wetlands, which has recently renewed its memorandum of understanding with the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention. The Government of France and the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands are confident that this initiative will promote the protection of these highly threatened species. It is also a great satisfaction and honour to contribute in this way and to commit together to strengthen the network of Sites by following expert inputs.

*The report is published in French:*

*It will be translated by the Government of France into English and Spanish by mid-2021.*