



Adnan Budieri is a Palestinian/Jordanian environmentalist with family roots that go back to Jerusalem. For more than 20 years he has worked in environmental management areas in protected zones and has been engaged in developing sustainable ecosystems.

Mr. Budieri has worked with various international conventions and organisations, including Birdlife International (as head of its Middle East and Central Asia Division) and Wildlife Palestine. He was involved in the establishment of the Palestine Important Bird Areas programme.

The Important Bird Areas in Palestine (IBA) data was the first of its kind in Palestine and other Arab countries. This data was collected from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and updated in accordance with internationally recognised scientific criteria, through a book produced by the Palestinian Wildlife Society (PWLS) in 1999 in cooperation with Birdlife International Middle East Division. This Palestinian IBA book is the first of its kind in the Middle East and contains a national strategy for the conservation and management of birds and their

habitats in the country. The results and recommendations in the IBA programme of Palestine were compiled in coordination and cooperation with the Palestinian Environmental Authority, and they are compatible with the Palestinian Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan for 1998.

In this study, 13 different habitats and sites have been identified as important areas for conservation. These areas include the Palestinian coast, the Jerusalem mountains, the eastern slopes, and the Jordan Valley, which all differ in climate and bio-geographical location. The areas range from semi-natural to urban and rural, and often include rich agricultural land with high agro-biodiversity.

It is estimated that around 50 percent of Palestine birds are important and vital for agricultural pest management. Although these birds are faced with many threats, Mr. Budieri emphasised that there was no real understanding of their role in integrated pest management. Therefore,



he has updated scientific information and worked on managing, promoting, and protecting these birds. Given that some birds are passing and are totally dependent on agricultural crops due lack of environmental balance, it was also necessary to manage such birds ecologically.

Mr. Budieri has worked nationally and regionally as a member of the Jordanian National Biodiversity Committee. He was a team member in the development of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Jordan and Palestine. He is a team leader in Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area Management and Self Assessment of National Capacity Building Need in Jordan, which is assigned to manage global environmental issues. He served as a MedWet Coordinator at The Mediterranean Ramsar Initiative, where his duties involved documenting and monitoring Ramsar sites that are important wetlands in the Mediterranean region and include Arab Mediterranean countries.

He represented Jordan and the region in several CITES conventions (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) and regional meetings and lobbying for management in trade and traffic of marine resources, such as sharks, whales, and other resources.

In cooperation with many international organisations, Mr. Budieri has been engaged in training many young Palestinian, Iraqi, Yemeni, and Jordanian ecologists and environmentalists in protected-areas management, habitat assessments, biodiversity studies, and management planning.

