Overview of the ASI
Results in the Mediterranean Sea

TOTAL AERIAL EFFORT

The different blocks and sub-blocks with planned transects (in grey) and effort achieved (in blue).
DATA COLLECTED & ANALYSIS PROCESS

Cetaceans

1,672 sightings
22,652 animals in total

Other Vertebrates

1,245 sightings
11,431 animals in total

Species composition of sightings of cetaceans collected on effort during the aerial survey, in percentage of sightings and of individuals (L).
ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES

- 1,500 sperm whales (CV 51%)
- 26,700 Risso’s dolphins (CV 29%)
- 6,000 long-finned pilot whales (CV 40%)
- 66,000 common dolphins (CV 40%)
- 3,700 beaked whales (CV 36%)
FIN WHALES – 1,700 (CV 28%)
STRIPE DOLPHINS - 425,000 (CV 14%)
BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS - 76,000 (CV 21%)
ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES

OTHER VERTEBRATES
Spinetail devil ray - 25,500 (CV 13%)
Loggerhead turtles - 313,500 (CV 5%)
Swordfish - 20,500 (CV 11%)
• Five survey vessels & 100 scientists.
• 17,000 km of track over 1.3 million km².
• 385 sightings of 2,939 animals.
• First systematic surveys of Egyptian, Lebanese & Syrian waters.
• High priority for deep-diving toothed whales.
• Can detect whales >20 km away.
• 249 sperm whales detected (but only 10 sightings).
• Total abundance estimate of 4,600 sperm whales.