

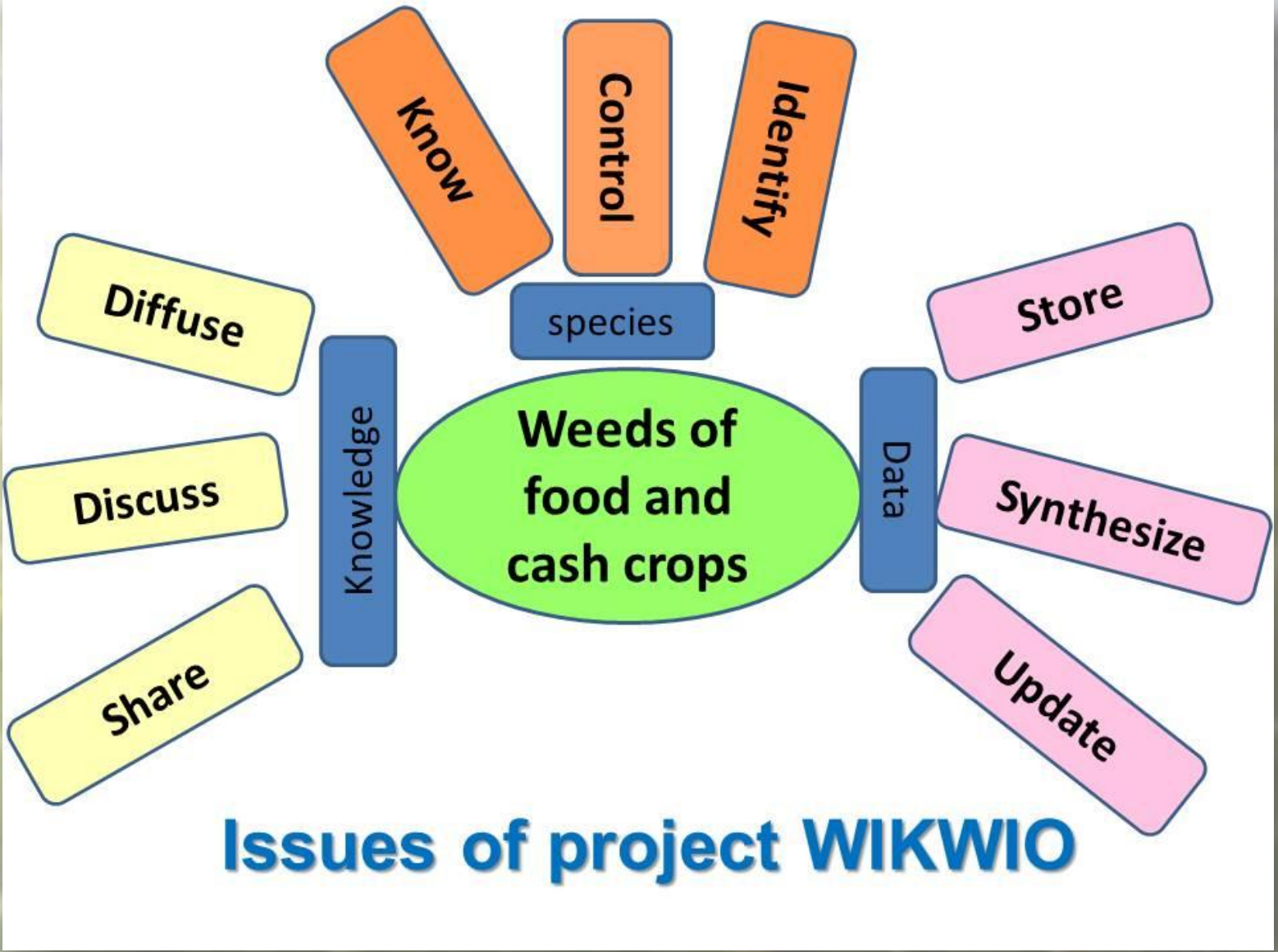


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## Introduction

Integrated weed management is considered to be the most appropriate option in crop protection to enhance production, through a choice of appropriate methods (cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical) to maintain weed below the threshold level. To be effective, integrated weed management should build on knowledge on weed biology and ecology and practices of different stakeholders. The action aims to build and use a network of STI knowledge and weed management methods of weed infestations, which will consolidate existing information and facilitate the sharing of scientific and technological acquisitions. This work is to create a database as complete as possible, on weeds in the Western Indian Ocean region. Furthermore, it will setup a collaborative platform for exchange of information on weeds among stakeholders.



## A network of stakeholders

Weed scientists, researchers, agronomists, extension officers, farmers, students, etc. from countries of the Western Indian Ocean region will participate and contribute to this network, in sharing their knowledge on weeds and weed management.



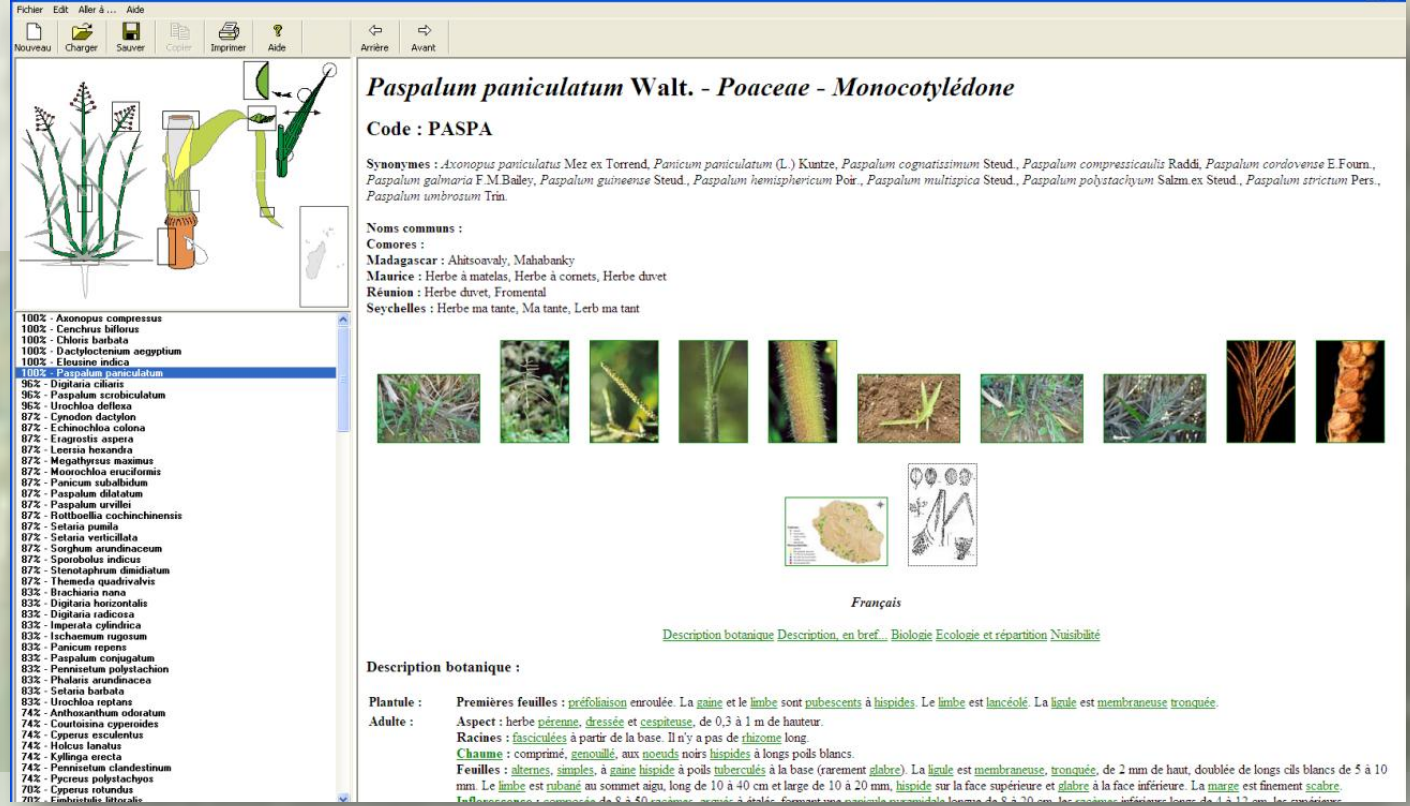
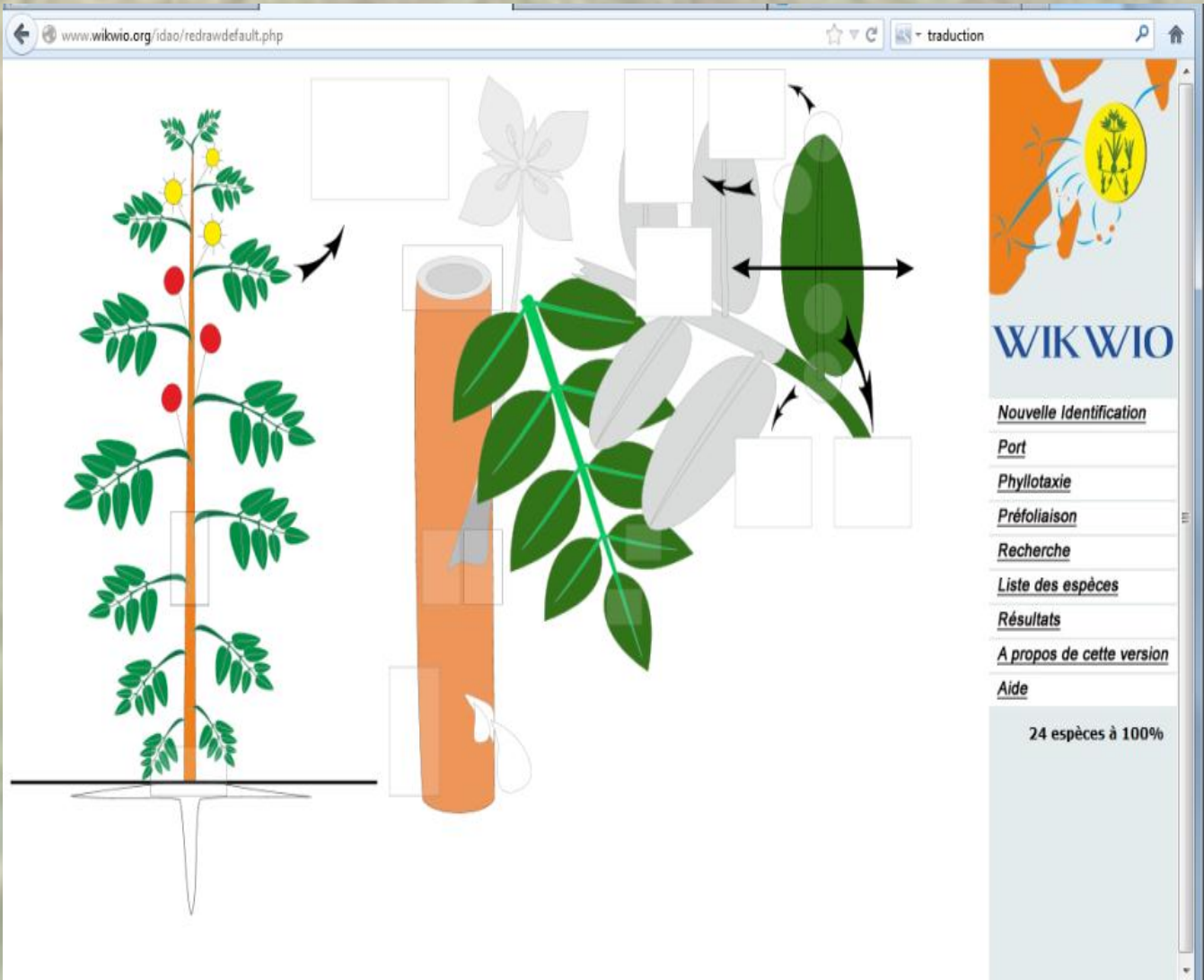
## Weeds of food and cash crops

A list of 320 weed species has been established from 14 cropping systems in the region. This list will be updated throughout the project.



## A Web-2 participatory platform

The **website** is presenting the WIKWIO project, the various activities (e.g. workshops, missions, techniques used), the partners, the project resources <http://www.wikwio.org>. The **participatory portal** is a forum for both public and members to interchange information and will also be available for different devices (computers, tablets and smartphones) <http://www.portal.wikwio.org>



It allows:

- Access or contribution to species information spreadsheets
- Adding weed observations (e.g. field trips, weed control practices, unidentified weeds)
- Uploading maps (the geo-referenced layers can be overlaid)
- Sharing of information, working documents, and checking lists of species
- Access to the IDAO identification tool online
- Create working groups on specific topics
- Creation of working groups on specific topics
- Opened discussions and participations on the platform

## Conclusions

Since no single actor or institution can study everything on weeds, the contribution of all to the knowledge of species is essential. By assisting with the identification of weeds and facilitating the sharing of information between interested parties, WIKWIO will promote sustainable agriculture and will contribute to capacity strengthening of local institutions. This project is funded by ACP S&T programme of the European Union.

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