

Reporting on wetland extent and next steps

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Why reporting on wetland extent is important



- The Convention on Wetlands has always recognized the importance of the national wetland inventories (NWI) as a key tool for informing national policies and other measures to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
- It is a priority in the Convention's Strategic Plan and in the triennium.
- Efforts needed to be stepped up to support countries in completing and keeping up to date their national wetlands inventories.
- Main recommendation from the *Global Wetlands Outlook* (2018), the first ever report on the global status of wetlands.



Why reporting on wetland extent is important



- This decision to give priority to inventories is also related to the commitment of Contracting Parties to provide data on the extent of wetlands, drawing from their inventories, as part of their National Reports.
- The Convention is together with the United Nations Environment Programme co-custodian of indicator 6.6.1. of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time, using the same data provided in National Reports.
- Measuring the extent of wetlands is also expected to contribute significantly to the Global Biodiversity Framework being developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Decade on Restoration.



How Parties Report on wetland extent

Goal 3. Wisely using all wetlands

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]

Target 8. National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands

{1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

[Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory?
{1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

A=Yes; B=No; C=In
Progress;
D=Planned

8.1 Additional information:



Guidance on information on national wetland extent
Target 8 “National Wetlands Inventory” for COP13-
COP14



“Extent of wetlands”

Surface area of wetlands. It is measured in km² or hectares

“change in the extent of wetlands”

Percentage change in area of wetlands from a baseline reference. For reporting such change, the previous extent, if known, and the period over which the change has taken place should be specified.



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COP14



The Ramsar definition of “wetlands”

The Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Types

Adopted in 1990. International applicable habitat description

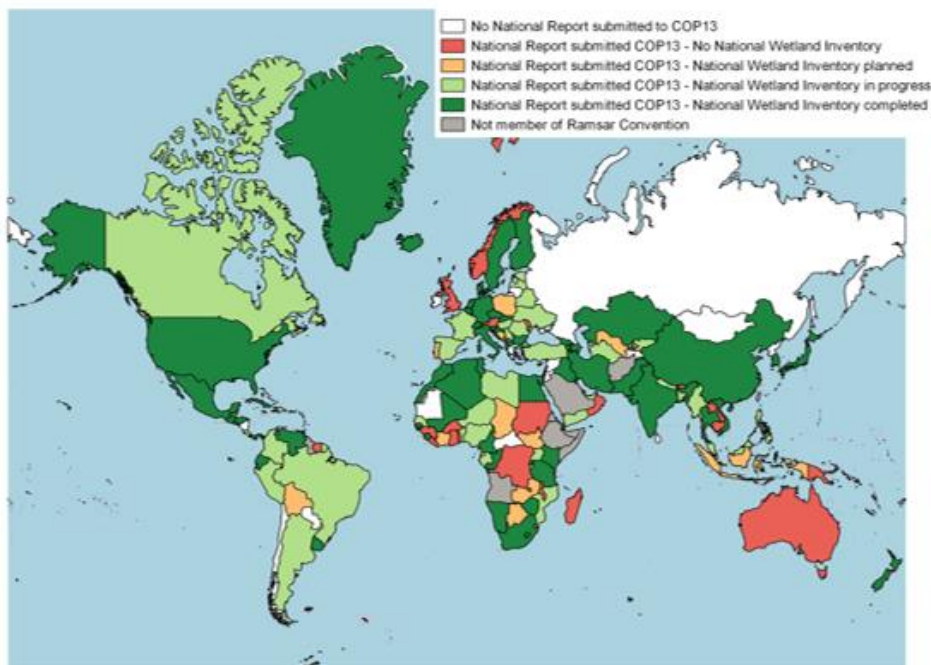
Wetland types are grouped in three major categories: marine/coastal, inland, and human-made wetlands.

It is recommended that Parties use the three major categories. The minimum information that should be provided is the total area of wetlands for each of these three categories.



How Parties Report on wetland extent

Figure 1: World map of National Wetlands Inventory (Source: National Report COP13 - 150 National Reports including late submissions)



150 National Reports to COP13 (including the ten late submissions)

NWI completed	44% (n=67)
NWI in progress	27% (n=41)
NWI planned	9% (n=14)
NWI not undertaken	17% (n=25)
Not answers	2% (n=3)



How Parties Report on wetland extent

National Wetland Inventories status for the Convention's six regions. (Source: National Report COP13 (including late submissions))

	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania
No NWI	22% (11)	15% (4)	12% (5)	14% (3)		33% (2)
NWI completed	36% (18)	40% (11)	57% (24)	41% (9)	67% (2)	50% (3)
NWI in progress	24% (12)	33% (9)	24% (10)	36% (8)	33% (1)	17% (1)
NWI planned	12% (6)	11% (3)	7% (3)	9% (2)		
No answer	6% (3)					
Total	100% (50)	100% (27)	100% (42)	100% (22)	100% (3)	100% (6)



How Parties Report on wetland extent

8.6 Based upon the National Wetland Inventory if available please provide a figure in square kilometres for the extent of wetlands (according to the Ramsar definition) for the year 2020 and provide the relevant disaggregated information in the box below. This Information will also be used to report on SDG 6, Target 6.6, Indicator 6.6.1, for which the Ramsar Convention is a co-custodian.

E= # Km² ;; G=More than # Km²; X= Unknown

8.6

According to the Ramsar definition and classification of wetlands, the disaggregated information on wetland extent is as follows:

Area by type of wetland				Total area by category of wetland
Marine/Coastal	e.g Coral Reefs: xx Km ²	e.g Estuarine waters xx Km ²	e.g Coastal brackish/saline lagoons: xx Km ²	
Inland	e.g Permanent freshwater marshes/swamps: xx Km ²	e.g Non-forested peatlands (includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens): xx Km ²	e.g Permanent freshwater lakes: xx Km ²	
Human-made				
Total				xx Km ²



How Parties Report on wetland extent

150 National Reports to COP13 (including the ten late submissions)

Baseline data on wetland extent (SDG indicator 6.6.1)

54% (82)

Reporting by region

Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania
51% (25)	65% (15)	56% (21)	72% (16)	100 (3)	33% (2)

Wetland Extent by Category

Inland Wetlands

54% (82)

Human Made

19% (29)



How Parties Report on wetland extent

	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania
Wetland inventories with breakdown by wetland category	Algeria	China	Armenia	Brazil	Canada	New Zealand
	Benin	India	Belarus	Costa Rica	Mexico	
	Kenya	United Arab Emirates	Estonia	El Salvador	United States of America	
	Senegal	Philippines	Hungary	Honduras		
	Uganda		Italy	Uruguay		
	Zimbabwe		Spain			
	Wetland Category Inland: 3,667.37 km ² Coastal and marine: 18,541.99 km ² Total wetland area: 22,209.36 km ²					
	Wetland Category Inland: 18,916.39 Km ² Human made: 337 Km ² Coastal and marine: 302 Km ² Total: 19, 555.39 Km ²					
	Wetland Category Inland: 26,416 Coastal and marine: 961 Km ² Total: 27, 377					



Recommendations for next reporting in January 2021



- If the data on inventories are partial or not complete, use the information that is available.
- Use the Convention definition and classification of wetlands.
- The minimum information that should be provided is the total area of wetlands for each of the three major categories; “marine/coastal”, “inland” and “human-made”.
- Date of the inventory/ Reference or link:
- If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years (Hungary, Switzerland, Uganda, USA)



Next steps



- Microsite in the Convention web site with the information of the New Inventories toolkit, NWI, Data on Extent.
- Help desk to support Contracting Parties on Wetlands Inventories, reporting on extent.
(inventories@ramsar.org)
- Fundraising proposal to support the 39 Contracting Parties that have not yet undertaken a NWI.

