



COP14  **2022**

14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

**“Wetlands Action for People and Nature”
Wuhan, China, and Geneva, Switzerland 5-13 November 2022**

Resolution XIV.7 Part A

Ramsar Regional Initiatives

1. RECALLING that Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs) under the Ramsar Convention, which include regional centres for training and capacity building and regional networks to facilitate cooperation, are intended as an operational means to provide effective support for improved implementation of the Convention and its strategic plan in specific geographic regions, through voluntary international cooperation on wetland-related issues of common concern;
2. RECALLING that the Conference of the Contracting Parties has recognized the importance of RRIs in promoting the objectives of the Convention;
3. ALSO RECALLING that at its 13th meeting (COP13), the Conference of the Contracting Parties instructed the Secretariat’s Legal Advisor to conduct a review of relevant Resolutions, Recommendations and Decisions, identifying those that were inconsistent with Resolution XIII.9 on *Ramsar Regional Initiatives 2019-2021* and relevant Decisions, and propose which should be repealed; and
4. FURTHER RECALLING that at COP13, the Conference of the Parties through Resolution XIII.9 re-established the Ramsar Regional Initiatives Working Group and instructed it to draft new operational guidelines for RRIs, as well as a draft resolution on RRIs which *inter alia* incorporated the aforementioned list of Resolutions, Recommendations and Decisions to be repealed, and that both were endorsed by the Standing Committee at its 59th meeting (SC59);

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

5. EXPRESSES its gratitude to the Ramsar Regional Initiatives Working Group for its work on drafting new operational guidelines for RRIs;
6. ADOPTS the *Operational Guidelines for Ramsar Regional Initiatives* contained in Annex 1 of this Resolution to support the implementation of the Convention, which will serve as a reference to assess the operation of Regional Initiatives and their success, and which supersede the operational guidelines adopted in 2016 through Decision SC52-16 and contained in document SC52-22;
7. REAFFIRMS the effectiveness of regional cooperation through networks and centres, grouped under the term RRIs, in supporting improved implementation of the Convention on Wetlands and its Strategic Plan and Resolutions;

8. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties, working with partner organizations, to establish RRIs in parts of the world where no such Initiatives exist yet and they would present opportunities to increase implementation of the Convention;
9. REQUESTS the Secretariat, working with the International Organization Partners (IOPs), to identify opportunities for promoting the establishment of RRIs in parts of the world where there are currently no RRIs and where there is currently limited wetland management capacity, and to provide a report to each COP;
10. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties, as appropriate, to invite, for example, regional intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations, organizations of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and transboundary river and groundwater basin organizations, to participate in or collaborate with RRIs;
11. RECOGNIZES the potential cooperation within the framework of RRIs in wetlands ecosystems or watersheds shared by Contracting Parties that allows a comprehensive vision of the territory, favouring dialogue, coordination and cooperation between the parties involved;
12. DECIDES that all RRIs will comply with the following criteria based on Resolution XIII.9 to be formally recognized as an RRI under the Convention:
 - a. Develop written terms of reference which are consistent with relevant Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) and Decisions of the Standing Committee. These terms of reference cover their own rules of procedure, structure, governance and membership, including the status of the Convention Secretariat's participation in an advisory role in the RRI;
 - b. The governance and financial structures and activities of RRIs are transparent, accountable, compliant with relevant laws and consistent with relevant Resolutions of the COP and Decisions of the Standing Committee;
 - c. Undertake tasks related to the implementation of the Convention and its strategic plan in their region and can speak in their own name only, using their own logo, to avoid any confusion between RRIs, Ramsar Administrative Authorities at the national level and the Secretariat at the international level;
 - d. New RRIs submit to the Standing Committee through the Secretariat, in accordance with the format in Annex 2 of this Resolution, the *Template for proposed new Regional Initiatives*, to be endorsed either by the Standing Committee, or the COP; and
 - e. RRIs submit a brief annual report to the Standing Committee through the Secretariat on their progress and operations, and specifically on their success in fulfilling the *Operational Guidelines*, according to the format in Annex 3 of this Resolution approved by the Standing Committee.
13. DECIDES that RRIs that satisfy the *Operational Guidelines* are endorsed by the COP or the Standing Committee as operating within the framework of the Convention for the period between two meetings of the COP, and receive the status of a Ramsar Regional Initiative or, if already recognized, will have their status confirmed.

14. INSTRUCES the Secretariat to provide the COP and Standing Committee a summary of the information obtained from the annual reports to assist these bodies in their reviews of RRI and decisions regarding funding;
15. INSTRUCES the Secretariat to remind RRI that do not submit their annual report to do so;
16. FURTHER REQUESTS the Standing Committee to consider withdrawing its endorsement of RRI that do not fulfill the criteria in paragraph 12 of the present Resolution;
17. NOTES that RRI that have been endorsed as operating within the framework of the Convention are eligible for start-up financial support from the core budget of the Convention and RECOMMENDS that the start-up financial support is to be provided for up to six years, according to decisions on budgetary matters;
18. DECIDES that the levels of financial support from the Convention core budget to eligible RRI will be determined annually by the Standing Committee, based on the information submitted by RRI to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 15 (e) of this Resolution, and informed by the specific recommendations made by the Subgroup on Finance to the Standing Committee;
19. DECIDES that a newly established RRI requesting core funds should include a rationale about how the RRI supports Contracting Parties in implementing the Convention and its Resolutions and guidance, according to the format in Annex 2 of this Resolution;
20. URGES RRI that receive financial support from the core budget to consider using part of this support to achieve financial sustainability funding through financial support from other sources, including donors that are willing to support RRI through specific projects and cooperation programmes, particularly during the last years in which the RRI qualify for such support;
21. FURTHER ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties and potential donors to consider giving financial support to RRI or their specific activities;
22. INVITES the Convention's IOPs and other stakeholders to partner with and support RRI in their undertakings, including in particular through capacity-building and fundraising efforts;
23. REAFFIRMS the decision taken by the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties through Resolution XIII.9 that *"requests the Secretariat, within its existing legal framework and mandate, to assist Contracting Parties, as appropriate, in the administration of non-core funded projects, including, but not limited to, successful fundraising for RRI; and further instructs Secretariat staff in positions identified in Annex 4 as supported with core funds not to be involved in the day-to-day administration of non-core funded projects, these being the responsibility of any Secretariat staff in positions supported with non-core funds for that specific purpose"*;
24. REQUESTS the Secretariat to focus its advice to RRI on how to reinforce their capacity and effectiveness, including in relation to the alignment of RRI with the Convention's Strategic Plan and communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) Programme;
25. ENCOURAGES RRI to develop proposals for strengthening their capacities, in particular in cooperation with other RRI on specific geographical and thematic issues, and INVITES RRI to maintain active and regular contact with the Secretariat;

26. FURTHER REQUESTS that the Secretariat continue to publish on the Convention's website information provided by the RRI, including information on ongoing projects and reports on their successes and workplans, and other relevant information on RRI as appropriate;
27. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to open calls for proposals for new RRI, to be endorsed by the COP or intersessionally by the Standing Committee, which follow the template in Annex 2 of the present Resolution; and
28. ENCOURAGES the Standing Committee to consider recommending significant amendments to the COP based on the report by the Secretariat.

Annex 1

Operational Guidelines for Ramsar Regional Initiatives to support the implementation of the Convention

1. Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs) under the Convention on Wetlands are intended as operational means to provide effective support for an improved implementation of the objectives of the Convention and its Strategic Plan.
2. The Operational Guidelines are an effort to ensure that the RRIs are actively supporting Contracting Parties with a common interest in a particular area, region or ecosystem, to protect wetlands in the Convention on Wetlands framework.
3. The RRIs have various types of governance and coordination approaches, as well as operational and financial management practices. RRIs can be regional centres or networks, or a mixture of both, can be cooperation networks without a legal status or established organizations with their own legal status, and can have different kinds of governance and coordination approaches.
4. The Operational Guidelines aim to ensure that the Contracting Parties at meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) provide greater recognition and a stronger formal endorsement to well-performing RRIs. This type of recognition will facilitate the efforts of RRIs to mobilize resources and obtain more support from third parties, including donors willing to fund regional projects for improved implementation of the Convention in the various regions. Additionally, it is as important that the COP is made aware of challenges faced by some RRIs.
5. The Operational Guidelines should be considered as a guide for the sustainability of RRIs, allowing them to ensure their long-term effectiveness.
6. Those proposing new regional initiatives must apply to the Standing Committee or the COP through the Secretariat to become an RRI. The application will follow the template in Annex 2 of this Resolution.
7. RRIs complying with all requirements should receive a certificate for the endorsed period by the COP or the Standing Committee.

Chapter 1: The aim and scope of RRIs

8. RRIs should support the operational implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in the geographical area they are covering. RRIs improve implementation of the Convention through international cooperation within the region on wetland-related issues of common concern, involving relevant stakeholders.
9. RRIs could either be physically established centres that have a regional training or capacity building programme, regional cooperation networks with no physical centre, or a combination of both.
10. Geographical regions to be covered by RRIs are defined according to the wetland-related needs of the relevant actors in their region. RRIs are intended to provide lasting structural and operational support to facilitate and improve the implementation of the Convention in the region concerned.

Chapter 2: Governance and operation of the RRIs

11. Contracting Parties have the main responsibility to create, manage, develop, supervise and coordinate the operation of an RRI and establish its coordinating body. This responsibility may be delegated through any appropriate arrangement.
12. All Contracting Parties that are members of a given RRI are encouraged to participate in the activities carried out during the year, according to the established workplan. When this is not the case, the coordination body of the RRI will lead a process to promote the active participation of the Contracting Parties.
13. RRIs establish their own governance and advisory mechanisms in order to provide leadership, coordination, guidance and accountability in a transparent and equitable manner. This requires the establishment of a governing body made up of the participating Contracting Parties and other relevant stakeholders, and a coordination body. The institutional arrangements of each RRI are defined in its operative rules and should encourage the active participation of all Contracting Party members of the Initiative.
14. The governing body meets regularly, guides the RRI, defines its mandates, rules and principles of procedure, decides on how different work tasks for the activities of the RRI are to be distributed, monitors its activities, work programme and its resources, and provides all its members with relevant information. The operational procedures are made available to the public, for example at the individual RRI website or the RRI's webpage on the Convention website.
15. All Contracting Parties which are members of an RRI are encouraged to contribute to the RRI, by financial and/or in-kind resources for each triennium as appropriate.
16. RRIs may request advice from the Secretariat in order to strengthen their capacity and effectiveness, including for the mobilization of additional resources. The Secretariat will inform the COP of the support activities provided during the triennium.
17. RRIs are encouraged to use the best tools such as the existing Convention documents, in particular the technical annexes of the Resolutions, manuals, guidelines, methods, etc. They are encouraged to cooperate with National Focal Points for the Convention, including communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) and Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) Focal Points.
18. The Secretariat and the STRP may be invited to assist in the review of training modules developed by RRIs to ensure quality and that contents are aligned with approved global tools and are well adapted to regional contexts. The RRIs can also seek assistance from wetland experts, as well as wetland practitioners, for the review of training modules and related publications. On other capacity-building activities, details about the number of individuals or organizations that have benefitted from the undertaken activities, and results of any evaluations undertaken, will be included in the annual reports, to enable assessment of their impact.
19. RRIs are encouraged to work in synergy with other initiatives, including programmes of other international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory

Species of Wild Animals, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Chapter 3: Status of the RRI

20. Ongoing RRI are endorsed by the COP.
21. New RRI are endorsed at the COP or intersessionally by the Standing Committee, provided that their establishment is justified as a response to the needs of the region concerned and that they comply with existing Resolutions and Decisions on RRI in accordance with the format of Annex 2.
22. RRI are a part of the implementation mechanism of the Convention. They are not to be considered as regional offices of the Convention or as spokespersons or representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention.
23. The RRI are encouraged to establish their own identity, which specifies their independence, their status and role. They apply relevant provisions of national legislation and, if needed, seek to obtain a formal recognition in their host country.
24. RRI can only act by mandate of their constituents. They do not form part of any national or local authority or organization that may provide them with support or hosting arrangements.
25. RRI are requested to adopt their own logo and are encouraged to have a website. RRI can use the Convention logo in combination with their own logo. They have to apply Convention rules on the convention logo.

Chapter 4: Participation in RRI

26. RRI are encouraged to establish a coordination body to organize periodic meetings, ensuring timely planning and full involvement of Contracting Party members.
27. The coordination body is encouraged to organize meetings for the purpose of exchanging experiences, which involve relevant stakeholders, such as Ministries, governmental organizations, International Organization Partners (IOPs) to the Convention, other non-governmental organizations and civil society, universities, local communities and the private sector, as well as CEPA and STRP National Focal Points of the Convention.
28. Effective partnerships with IOPs and other relevant regional or global organizations should be promoted. The coordination body should develop an annual workplan and its strategic plan in consultation with relevant partners.

Chapter 5: Relation between the Secretariat of the Convention and the RRI

29. Effective and frequent communication between the RRI and the Secretariat is important.

Chapter 6: The role of the RRI in implementing the Strategic Plan of the Convention

30. The workplan of each RRI is aligned with the approved Strategic Plan of the Convention.

31. RRIs that implement their workplan ineffectively in a given triennium might not be endorsed as RRIs in the succeeding triennium by the COP.
32. RRIs are encouraged to include specific activities related to CEPA in the annual work programme and/or projects. RRIs are invited to engage CEPA experts for advice and make use of existing material from other RRIs.

Chapter 7: Financing of the RRIs

33. RRIs have their own systems for accounting and presenting reports, overseen by their governing bodies, unless they are part of one or several of the Contracting Parties' accounting and reporting systems.
34. All participating Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide assistance to RRIs, and donors are encouraged to provide funds for their activities, for example through financing provided for specific projects or programmes.
35. The financial section of the annual report includes information on: the number of Contracting Parties contributing in-kind or financial resources to the implementation of the Initiative; the number of other partners contributing to the Initiative; expenditures against individual activities and results; as well as the amounts of the financial contributions.
36. RRIs take the necessary measures to establish financial sustainability with resources allowing for the development of their activities over the long term.
37. If they lack reliable resources, RRIs are encouraged to prepare a resource mobilization strategy to facilitate the implementation of their annual workplans. RRIs can request the support of the Convention Secretariat to help their effort to find external financial resources.
38. The RRIs which receive core budget funds from the Convention are requested to submit a financial report to the Standing Committee as part of the annual report.
39. Each COP establishes a core budget line to support new RRIs over the coming triennium. The Standing Committee allocates these funds annually, in response to specific requests, to new RRIs that fulfil the Operational Guidelines.
40. RRIs are expected to be financially self-sufficient after receiving financial assistance provided from the core budget of the Convention. RRIs may support the Contracting Parties in the development of project proposals in line with their respective workplan and the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

Chapter 8: Reporting and evaluation of the RRIs

41. RRIs are requested to submit to the Standing Committee through the Secretariat annual financial and progress reports regarding the implementation of their workplan, following the format in Annex 3.
42. RRIs will submit their annual report in accordance with the deadline that the Secretariat has provided.

43. The annual report and workplan will be approved by the governing body of the RRI, prior to submission to the Secretariat.

Annex 2

Template for proposed new Ramsar Regional Initiatives

1. Name of the proposed Ramsar Regional Initiative (RRI).
2. Contracting Parties which are members of the proposed initiative will provide letters of commitment from Contracting Party members, indicating their financial contribution to the proposed initiative, as well as designating the official in the Government that will be the focal point for it during the following triennium.
3. Description of the expected coordination body and potential host.
4. Type of RRI: regional centre or regional network, or a combination thereof, with a brief description.
5. Objectives of the RRI and rationale about how the RRI supports Contracting Parties in implementing the Convention and its Resolutions and guidance.
6. Describe the main objective to be reached with this RRI, indicating the geographical area, region and/or ecosystems to be covered.
7. Please clearly identify the Goals and Targets of the Convention's Strategic Plan that will be supported through the RRI.
8. Please include names of relevant International Organization Partners and other NGOs that would like to participate in the initiative.
9. Please name other potentially relevant partners and describe how they have participated in the preparation of the workplan and what role you expect them to assume if the RRI is endorsed.
10. Potential sources of funding for the RRI.
11. A workplan and budget for the following three years (Swiss francs (CHF) / year) – in accordance with Annex 3.
12. Confirm whether you plan to open an independent bank account for the initiative.

Annex 3
Reporting format for Ramsar Regional Initiatives

Template, Annual report and workplan

(Please do not change the format)

Annual report for year XXXX and workplan for year XXXX
(6 pages maximum)
Submission deadline: XX XXXX

NOTE – to complete this template, please refer to the explanatory notes below

1. General information

- a. Name of Ramsar Regional Initiative (RRI):
- b. Have the terms of reference (TORs) or equivalent documents been updated? Yes / No
(If yes, please provide the web link to the PDF version for the updated document(s).)

NOTE: Following [Resolution XIII.9 paragraph 8](#), TORs or equivalent documents must be developed, which contain rules of procedure, structure, governance and membership, including the status of the Convention Secretariat's participation in the RRI, and which should be consistent with the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties.

- c. Is the RRI eligible for core funding from the Convention?
Yes / No

2. Work and activities undertaken during year XXXX

Provide a summary of the work undertaken by listing in the table below the Initiative’s activities, the results achieved, verifiable indicators, sources of information to verify achievements, and relevant Goals in the Ramsar Strategic Plan to analyse tasks in relation to the implementation of the Convention ([Resolution XIII.9, Paragraphs 8, e](#)).

Objectives	Activities	Results/ outcomes	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification / source of information	Relevant Ramsar Strategic Plan Goals
1. Objective one	1.1 Activity undertaken	Completed / Not completed Outcomes:			
	1.2 Activity undertaken	Completed / Not completed Outcomes:			
2. Objective two					

3. Key achievements / results during year XXXX

- a. Please describe briefly the two or three main achievements / results during year XXXX (max. 200 words).

- b. For those RRI receiving funding from the Convention in XXXX, if there were changes to the workplan for year XXXX, including postponement or delay, please indicate the reasons (max. 200 words).

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- c. Please describe briefly the two or three main challenges, and lessons learned and planned measures to overcome the challenges / apply the lessons (max. 200 words).

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4. Financial report for year XXXX

Provide financial information on income and expenditure. If a currency other than Swiss francs (CHF) is used, please write each income or expenditure in the currency used and use the current exchange rate to convert the total sum to CHF.

For those RRI receiving funding from the Convention in XXXX, please provide the necessary information in the table below.

Total planned budget for year XXXX: _____ (CHF) (as submitted in last year's plan)

Details of sources of income and amounts:

Sources of income	Income received
Convention core budget	amount
Other sources (please be specific, such as donor's name, project name)	Amount
Total (CHF)	(Total amount should be in CHF)

Detailed expenditure:

Budget Items	Planned expenditure	Actual expenditure	Sources of income
1.1 activity			
1.2 activity			
Administration			
Total (CHF)	(Total amount should be in CHF)	(Total amount should be in CHF)	

Certified by (person in charge of financial management) on (date)

Financial balance at 31 December XXXX:

Total amount of unspent and/or uncommitted balance to be carried over to YYYY (the coming year), or deficit: _____ (CHF)

(Please remove either unspent and/or uncommitted balance or deficit as applicable)

- a. If there is an unspent and/or uncommitted balance, please explain how it will be used for the coming year.
- b. Please explain how the funding has been spent or committed, and compare this to the plan on which the funding request was based. Explain any significant changes in scope or timetable.

For those RRIs not receiving funding from the Convention in XXXX, please provide the necessary information in the table below.

Total planned budget for year XXXX: _____ (CHF) (as submitted in last year's plan)

Details of sources of income and amounts:

Sources of income *	Income received
Name of income sources	amount
Total (CHF)	Total amount should be in CHF

Detailed expenditure:

Budget Items	Planned expenditure	Actual expenditure (CHF)
1.1 activity		
1.2 activity		
Total (CHF)	Total amount should be in CHF	Total amount should be in CHF

Certified by (person in charge of financial management) on (date)

Total amount of unspent and/or uncommitted balance to be carried over to YYYY (the coming year), or deficit: _____ (CHF)

(Please remove either unspent and/or uncommitted balance or deficit as applicable)

**If the RRI cannot disclose financial details, please share with the Secretariat the audit reports or financial reports which were submitted to the governance bodies. Please note that the Secretariat needs to provide such information to the Standing Committee and the Conference of Contracting Parties to ensure the recognized RRI's financial accountability, in accordance with [Resolution XIII.9 paragraph 8.d.](#)*

5. Work and activities planned for (coming year YYYY)

Provide a summary of the work planned by listing the Initiative's activities, the results expected, verifiable indicators, sources of information to verify the achievement, and relevant strategic goals according to the format below:

Objectives	Activities	Expected results/ outcomes	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification / source of information	Relevant Ramsar Strategic Plan Goals (link)
1. Objective one	1.1 Activity planned				
	1.2 Activity planned				
2. Objective two					

6. Financial plan for coming year YYYY

Provide financial information on forecasted/budgeted expenditure and income. If a currency other than Swiss francs (CHF) is used, please write each income or expenditure in the currency used and use the current exchange rate to convert the total sum to CHF.

For those RRIs receiving funding from the Convention in XXXX, please provide the necessary information in the tables below.

Total planned budget: _____ (CHF)

Details of planned income sources and amount:

Sources of income	Forecast / budgeted income
Ramsar core budget	amount (currency)
Other sources (please be specific if possible, such as donor's name, project name)	amount (currency)
Total (CHF)	Total amount should be in CHF

Details of planned expenditure:

Activities	Planned expenditure	Sources of Income
1.1 activity	amount (currency)	

1.2 activity		
Total (CHF)	Total amount should be in CHF	

This report is certified by (responsible person for your RRI) on (date)

For those RRIs not receiving funding from the Convention in YYYY, please provide the necessary information in the table below.

Total planned budget: _____ (CHF)

Details of planned income sources and amount:

Sources of income	Forecast / budgeted income
Name of income sources	amount (currency)
Total	Total amount should be in CHF

Details of planned expenditure:

Activities	Planned expenditure	Sources of income *
1.1 activity	amount (currency)	Name of sources
1.2 activity		
Total (CHF)	Total amount should be in CHF	

This report is certified by (responsible person for your RRI) on (date)

Explanatory notes

1. Terms of reference of RRIs

Following [Resolution XIII.9](#) paragraph 8, RRIs must develop terms of reference, which cover their own rules of procedure, structure, governance, membership, including the status of the Convention Secretariat's participation in the RRI, and which should be consistent with the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of Parties (Resolution XIII.9). Equivalent documents must cover the same items.

2. Eligible for core funding from the Secretariat

Following the Operational Guidelines, financial assistance to an RRI from the core budget is provided for a limited period of time, in principle only for a period corresponding to Resolution XIII. 9 paragraph 8.g).

3. Items in activity tables

To fill out the table for undertaken activities and planned activities, please make sure that "Objectives", "Activities", "Results/outcomes", "Verifiable indicators" and "Means of verification / source of information" are consistent with the submitted plan for the year.

- Objectives: Please indicate a specific statement narrating a desired accomplishment or outcome (e.g. to improve capacity of the RRI members in the management of wetlands).
- Results/outcomes: Please indicate whether planned activities are completed or not. If you organized a workshop/seminar/training course, please specify the number of attendees including gender information (e.g. XX trainings were organized, XX people attended (XX women, XX men)). This information will enable assessment of achievements and results.
- Verifiable indicators: Indicators are to measure progress and achievement. Please include indicators to verify to what extent progress is being made towards results/outcomes and how those results/outcomes are achieved (e.g. the number of training courses, the number of publications).
- Means of verification / source of information: Please add means of verification, which show how the information about the indicator can be obtained (e.g. training reports, modules).
- Relevance to the Strategic Plan: Please indicate which of the goals of the Convention's Strategic Plan each of the objectives most contributes to.

Resolution XIV.7 Part B

Ramsar Regional Initiatives – List of the RRI endorsed as operating in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands for the intersessional period of COP14-COP15

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

1. DECIDES the endorsement of this list; and
2. DECIDES that this list is to be valid until replaced by a new one for the COP15-COP16 period at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP15).

RRIs endorsed for the intersessional period of COP14-COP15 are:

Four regional Ramsar centres for training and capacity building:

- Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa (RAMCEA)
- Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO)
- Ramsar Regional Center in Central and West Asia (RRC-CWA)
- Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA); and

Sixteen Ramsar networks for regional cooperation:

- Ramsar Regional Initiative for West African Coastal Zone Wetlands (WaCoWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Niger River Basin (NigerWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Senegal River Basin
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of High Andean Wetlands
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of the Plata River Basin
- Caribbean Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (CariWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Amazon River Basin
- East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for Central Asia
- Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative
- Mediterranean Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (MedWet)
- Carpathian Wetland Ramsar Regional Initiative (CWI)
- Nordic-Baltic Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (NorBalWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative on Black and Azov Seas Coastal Wetlands (BlackSeaWet)
- The Southern African Ramsar Regional Initiative

3. RECOGNIZES that the Mediterranean Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (MedWet) is financially independent of the Convention and has its own provisional budget for the next triennium, which is annexed to the present Resolution for information purposes in response to a request by MedWet without establishing a precedent for RRI;

Annex 1

MedWet budget for the 2023-2025 triennium

Table 1. Budget for the operations of the MedWet Initiative for 2023-2025
(MedWet/COM15, 6 November 2022)

Budget line	2023	2024	2025
EXPENDITURE			
MANAGEMENT			
Coordinator	57.600,00	57.600,00	57.600,00
STAFF COSTS			
Administrative & financial officer	52.500,00	53.300,00	54.100,00
EXPERTS & CONSULTANTS			
Communication team	30.000,00	30.000,00	30.000,00
Policy & Advocacy expert	30.000,00	30.000,00	30.000,00
STN Coordinator	25.000,00	25.000,00	25.000,00
Ramsar Site Managers Network Facilitator	15.000,00	15.000,00	15.000,00
Restoration expert	15.000,00	15.000,00	15.000,00
Others	30.000,00	25.000,00	45.000,00
OFFICIAL TRAVEL			
MedWet Secretariat	6.000,00	8.000,00	6.000,00
MedWet/Com and MedWet/SG	5.000,00	10.000,00	5.000,00
COMMUNICATION SERVICES			
Web sites and dissemination	6.400,00	6.400,00	9.500,00
Communication tools	2.000,00	4.000,00	5.777,00
OFB grants	9.500,00	9.500,00	9.500,00
OFFICE COST			
Office management	14.000,00	14.000,00	14.000,00
VARIOUS			
Miscellaneous expenses	8.677,00	9.077,00	6.000,00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	306.677,00	311.877,00	327.477,00
INCOME			
Medwet country contributions	110.000,00	110.000,00	110.000,00
OFB	50.000,00	40.000,00	40.000,00
UE REST-COAST	31.677,00	38.877,00	42.477,00
UE RESTORE4C	90.000,00	90.000,00	90.000,00
RESCOM	25.000,00	25.000,00	25.000,00
Fondation Prince Albert / TDV		8.000,00	20.000,00
Funding from other donors			
TOTAL INCOME	306.677,00	311.877,00	327.477,00

Table 2. MedWet members' contributions

Member	UN 2022 All Countries	UN 2022 Med Countries	Euro	Percentage
Albania	0,01	0,06	1.000,00	0,62%
Algeria	0,11	0,87	1.283,62	0,80%
Andorra	0,01	0,04	1.000,00	0,62%
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0,01	0,10	1.000,00	0,62%
Bulgaria	0,06	0,45	1.000,00	0,62%
Croatia	0,09	0,73	1.071,65	0,67%
Cyprus	0,04	0,29	1.000,00	0,62%
Egypt	0,14	1,11	1.636,91	1,02%
France	4,32	34,57	51.500,00	32,06%
North Macedonia	0,01	0,06	1.000,00	0,62%
Greece	0,33	2,60	3.827,31	2,38%
Israel	0,56	4,49	6.606,52	4,11%
Italy	3,19	25,53	37.554,72	23,38%
Jordan	0,02	0,18	1.000,00	0,62%
Lebanon	0,04	0,29	1.000,00	0,62%
Libya	0,02	0,14	1.000,00	0,62%
Malta	0,02	0,15	1.000,00	0,62%
Monaco	0,01	0,09	1.000,00	0,62%
Montenegro	0,00	0,03	1.000,00	0,62%
Morocco	0,06	0,44	1.000,00	0,62%
Portugal	0,35	2,83	4.157,05	2,59%
Serbia	0,03	0,26	1.000,00	0,62%
Slovenia	0,08	0,63	930,33	0,58%
Spain	2,13	17,08	25.130,69	15,64%
Syrian Arab Republic	0,01	0,07	1.000,00	0,62%
Tunisia	0,02	0,15	1.000,00	0,62%
Turkey	0,85	6,76	9.951,00	6,19%
Tour du Valat			500,00	0,31%
WWF			500,00	0,31%

Note: Annual contributions from the countries participating in the MedWet Initiative are calculated using the UN Scale of Assessment 2022. When the UN Scale of Assessment will be updated through adoption by the UN General Assembly, the countries' contributions will be modified accordingly. France confirmed its current contribution of 51,500 instead of 50,850 Euro.