



NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

**National Reports to be submitted to the 10th Meeting
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,
Republic of Korea, 28 October – 4 November 2008**

Please submit the completed National Report, in electronic (Microsoft Word) format, and preferably by e-mail, to the Ramsar Secretariat by **31 March 2008**.

National Reports should be sent to: Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Secretariat (dufour@ramsar.org)

Introduction & background

1. This Ramsar COP10 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Republic of Korea, October/November 2008).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 35th meeting in February 2007, and its Decisions SC35-22, -23 and -24, this COP10 National Report Format has been significantly revised and simplified in comparison with the National Report Formats provided to previous recent COPs.
3. In particular this National Report Format provides a much smaller number (66) of implementation "indicator" questions, compared with the much larger suite of questions on all aspects of national implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 included in previous NRFs.
4. The COP10 NRF indicators include, with the agreement of the Standing Committee (Decision SC35-24), certain indicators specifically requested to be included by the Convention's Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) and CEPA Oversight Panel, in order to facilitate their information gathering and reporting on key aspects of scientific, technical and CEPA implementation under the Convention.
5. The 66 indicator questions are grouped under each of the implementation "Strategies" approved by the Parties at COP9 (Resolution IX.8) in the Convention's "A Framework for the implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 in the 2006 -2008 period" (www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_08_e.htm). The indicators have been selected so as to provide information on key aspects of the implementation of the Convention under each of its Strategies.
6. In addition, for each Strategy the option is provided for a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, to supply **additional information** concerning its implementation under each indicator and, more generally, on implementation of other aspects of each Strategy.

The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention, and are made publicly available through their posting on the Convention's Web site.
8. There are six main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
 - i) provide data and information on how the Convention is being implemented;
 - ii) capture lessons/experience, so as to allow Parties to develop future action;
 - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention through Convention processes;
 - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable against their obligations under the Convention;
 - v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and plan for its future implementation and priorities; and
 - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. In addition, the data and information provided by Parties in their COP10 National Reports now have another important purpose, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation will provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention" currently being further developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for Standing Committee and COP10 consideration.

10. To facilitate the analysis and onward use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis of the information for a number of purposes.
11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
 - i) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each COP on the global and regional implementation, and progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at COP as a series of Information Papers including:
 - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 5);
 - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 6); and
 - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP9 DOCs 10-13);
 - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at COP. Examples at CO9 included:
 - Resolution IX.15, *The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance*, and
 - Information Papers on *Issues and scenarios concerning Ramsar sites or parts of sites which cease to meet or never met the Ramsar Criteria* (COP9 DOC 15) and *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC 25);
 - iii) providing the source of time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention, included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (3rd edition, 2007); and
 - iv) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national-level implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role for the CBD for wetlands.

The structure of the COP10 National Report Format

12. In line with Standing Committee Decisions SC35-21 and SC35-22, the COP10 National Report Format is in three sections.
13. **Section 1** provides the Institutional Information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.
14. **Section 2** is a "free-text" section in which to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.
15. **Section 3** provides the 66 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy, and with a "free-text" section under each Strategy in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of the Strategy and its indicators.

Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP10 National Report Format

IMPORTANT – READ THIS SECTION OF GUIDANCE BEFORE STARTING TO FILL IN THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

16. All three Sections of the COP10 National Report Format should be filled in, in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
17. The deadline for submission of the completed National Report Format is **31 March 2008**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received from Parties after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP10.
18. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
19. Fields with a pale green background  are free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields in the COP10 NRF is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, since it is the experience of the Secretariat that such explanatory information is very valuable in ensuring a full understanding of implementation progress and activity, notably in informing the preparation of global and regional implementation reports to COP.
20. In order to assist Contracting Parties in their provision of such additional information, for a number of indicator questions some particularly helpful types of such information are suggested. However, of course, Parties are free to add any other relevant information they wish in any of the "Additional implementation information" fields.
21. The Format is created as a "Form" in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to, and between, each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information. All other parts of the form are locked.
22. To go to a yellow or green field you wish to fill in, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form, and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
23. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the "Tab" key on the computer keyboard.
24. For a "free-text" field, you can type in whatever information you wish. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow "free-text" box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box. This is because within the "Form" format there is limited facility to make editorial changes within the "free-text" box once text has been entered.
25. For each of the "Indicator questions" in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question asked in the indicator, but are in general of the form: "Yes", "No", "Partly", "In progress", etc.
26. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can provide this in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
27. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box, and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.

28. The NRF is not intended normally to be filled in by one person alone – for many indicators it would seem best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in the same and other agencies within the government who might have fuller knowledge of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the work at any point in the process and return to it subsequently to continue or to amend answers previously given.
29. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP10NRF [Country] [date].
30. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by email, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, email: dufour@ramsar.org. The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
31. When the completed National Report is submitted by the Party, **it must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Administrative Authority, confirming that this is that Contracting Party's official submission of its COP10 National Report.**
32. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP10 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: JAMAICA	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Leary Myers, PhD. P.E., J.P. Chief Executive Officer
Mailing address:	National Environment and Planning Agency 10 & 11 Caledonia Avenue Kingston 5 Jamaica
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Email:	lmyers@nepa.gov.jm or ceo@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Yvette Strong Senior Manager Conservation and Protection
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Email:	ystrong@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	Dale Webber, PhD. Director Centre for Marine Sciences/Senior Lecturer
Name of organisation:	Department of Life Sciences University of the West Indies
Mailing address:	Mona Campus Kingston 7 Jamaica W.I.
Telephone/Fax:	876-935-8835-6/876-977-1033
Email:	dale.webber@uwimona.edu.jm
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	Natalie Fearon Manager Public Education and Corporate Communications
Name of organisation:	National Environment and Planning Agency
Mailing address:	10 & 11 Caledonia Avenue Kingston 5
Telephone/Fax:	876-754-7540/876-754-7594-6
Email:	nfearon@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Keisha Spencer

Name of organisation:	Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust
Mailing address:	Negril Community Centre Negril P.O. Box 2599 Negril Westmoreland
Telephone/Fax:	876-957-3736/876-952-3115
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SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP9 reporting):

A. What new steps have been taken to implement the Convention?

One of the new steps taken by Jamaica has been the implementation of a conservation campaign in the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Areas and Ramsar Site in association with The Nature Conservancy and Rare. The primary objective of this project was to improve the awareness of stakeholders to the values and functions of the area. This project was also important in increasing the buy-in by the stakeholders as to the importance and need for proper management.

As the country continues to make attempts to have a complete inventory of its wetlands, work is being conducted in an effort to describe the extent of wetland resources and to evaluate the status, threats, uses, ecological values and functions across Jamaica. This is inclusive of Ramsar Small Grants Fund (SGF) funded work on the terrestrial wetland areas of the St. Thomas Great Morass, Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) funded work on marine and terrestrial areas in St. Thomas, status and incidence assessments of wetland related species (freshwater turtles, marine turtles and crocodiles), and NEPA's expansion of coral reef monitoring islandwide through its close working relationship with the Jamaica Coral Reef Monitoring Network (JCRMN).

The former Ministry of Local Government and Environment (now the Ministry of Health and Environment) in collaboration with NEPA has hosted a preliminary meeting to determine the mechanism for the development of a comprehensive wetland policy. This meeting which was held at the Ministry on April 19, 2006 was attended by representatives from various government agencies, NGO's, academia and other interested parties. The output of this meeting has provided information for an issues paper being prepared by the Ministry of Health and Environment prior to the drafting of the Wetlands Policy.

The importance of wetlands continues to be highlighted in the review process of the permitting system for development, to ensure the sustainable use and management of Jamaica's natural resources. This system is the primary mechanism used by the Administrative Authority in ensuring that any impact on mangroves, seagrass and corals as a consequence of development is mitigated through a process of relocation, restoration and/or conservation of the resource as necessary. In support of this strategy, the University of the West Indies (UWI) has developed a seagrass relocation methodology which provides technical guidance and outlines the procedures in implementing this process. NEPA continues to strengthen its capacity to enforce and monitor mandatory relocation efforts.

UWI has also established a mangrove nursery at the Port Royal Marine Laboratory. It has provided seedlings for several restoration/rehabilitation attempts over the period 2006-2008 including for a planting project on World Wetlands Day 2008 within the PRRPA-RS. The UWI continues to explore new and innovative ways to restore degraded wetland areas and is currently engaged in research on coral reef restoration at the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory. NEPA will also be hosting a mangrove restoration workshop in March 2008 to train representatives from both Non Government and Government entities.

In recognition of the threat posed by alien invasives to natural communities in Jamaica, there has been increased focus on research with respect to the presence, spread and

effects of invasive alien species in several areas of Jamaica inclusive of the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site and Mason River Protected Area. Jamaica has developed a strategy and action plan for the active monitoring of bird populations for the presence of the West Nile Virus and Avian Influenza.

TNC Jamaica also has a project related to the wise use of river resources entitled 'Waters for life: Eliminating River Poisoning in Jamaica's Rio Grande Valley' that is seeking to address a destructive practice that was identified

During the last triennium 2005-2008 Jamaica in furtherance of its obligations under the Convention designated an additional site of international importance, the Portland Bight Wetlands and Cays, to the Ramsar List. Additionally recognizing that the designation and update of the Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) poses specific challenges, the Administrative Authority has developed clear procedures to govern these.

B. What have been the most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?

There has been significant strides in public education through activities such as the commemoration of World Wetlands Day and the print media (calendars, posters and brochures). The NEPA is also actively involved in school presentations on an ongoing basis that highlights issues regarding environmental management in Jamaica. The University of the West Indies has included the Ramsar Convention as one of the major international environmental agreements in its taught curriculum.

The conservation campaign in the PRRPA-RS represents a significant success in NEPA's efforts to increase buy-in and public awareness in a designated Ramsar Site.

During the triennium, increased attention was focussed on the under-represented wetland type (coral reefs). NEPA with the assistance of the Jamaica Coral Reef Monitoring Network (JCRMN) has sought to facilitate the integration of various international instruments to provide valuable information on this threatened ecosystem. NEPA/JCRMN, using the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)/ International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) developed Reef Check methodology has systematically increased the amount of monitoring sites by more than 200% throughout the country, thereby allowing a greater understanding of the current situation in Jamaica.

C. What have been the greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

The stated goal of the sustainable use of wetland resources continues to pose several challenges as the country strives towards economic empowerment and development. Critical to the implementation of the programmes developed by this Convention is the availability of funds to support the manpower needs for research (e.g. economic valuation and environmental accounting, local values and functions) and monitoring and public education and awareness.

D. What proposals and priorities are there for future implementation of the Convention?

Jamaica recognizes that the sustainable use of wetlands and hence the implementation of the Convention will only be possible in the context of a clear and accepted system for management plans, issuance of policies supporting the retention of wetlands by government and proper land use zoning regulations.

Consequently, the priority areas for future implementation of the Convention include: the development/review of Management Plans for Ramsar Sites, further development of the Sustainable Use and Conservation of Wetlands Policy

inclusive of more detailed research and the preparation of Parish Development Orders within which the land use zoning proposals and policies will explicitly address wetland considerations.

- E. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

Jamaica continues to encourage the Ramsar Secretariat to seek synergies with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The Secretariat also needs to encourage donor agencies to support efforts, particularly by Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to gather the necessary information as well as to develop and implement management plans/strategies for wetland areas especially Ramsar Sites.

Recognizing that the Convention has done a lot of work on the restoration/rehabilitation of terrestrial wetland types, Jamaica encourages the Ramsar Secretariat to research and make available to the Parties any available information on the restoration/rehabilitation of marine wetland types e.g. seagrass beds and coral reefs.

- F. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)?

Jamaica recommends that the IOPs focus some of their efforts on the provision of technical and financial support of the conservation efforts in SIDs and in particular for the sub-region of the Caribbean. Where IOPs are working in other areas, information regarding best practices should be shared.

- G. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the "Biodiversity cluster" (Ramsar, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), CITES, and World Heritage Convention), and UNCCD and UNFCCC?

Jamaica suggests that a harmonization of national report formats will facilitate better implementation and reduce overlap. The MOUs already established between MEAs should be evaluated to determine their effectiveness and where possible additional linkages encouraged. A thrust by educational institutions to use the Conventions as a teaching platform will facilitate a better understanding of how the MEAs compliment each other. It will also promote better planning and use of funds. Jamaica will endeavour to promote institutional collaboration with in-country Conventions' Focal Points.

- H. How can Ramsar Convention implementation be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., sustainable development, energy, extractive industry, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

It is recommended that the Secretariat provide examples of best practices from other countries to guide local implementation of programmes. There is presently a policy on Strategic Environmental Assessments, however Jamaica will seek to provide a more standardized approach to SEAs.

NEPA shall continue to sensitize institutions regarding the obligations under the Ramsar Convention and other biodiversity related Conventions for which they have administrative responsibility and promote the inclusion of relevant provisions of the Convention's programmes in their strategies and policies.

- I. Does the Contracting Party have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

The needs of Small Island Developing States and Economies in Transition should be given priority so as to enable them to effectively implement the Convention. The Convention should therefore encourage such states to conduct self assessments in order to properly determine their needs.

SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Guidance for filling in this section

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on either one or more of the specific indicators for each strategy, and/or for other aspects of the national implementation of this strategy, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions for each Strategy.
3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. So as to assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP9, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP9 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}

GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

STRATEGY 1.1: *Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of the wise use principle.*

Indicator questions:

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1}	C - In progress
1.1.2 Is the wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.3; 1.1.6}	C - Partly
1.1.3 Does your country have information about the status and trends of the ecological character of wetlands (Ramsar sites and/or wetlands generally)? {1.2.2} [if “Yes”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below, from where or from whom this information can be accessed]	A - Yes
1.1.4 If the answer is “Yes” in 1.1.3, does this information indicate that the need to address adverse change in the ecological character of wetlands is now greater, the same, or less than in the previous triennium, for: a) Ramsar sites b) wetlands generally	B - the same A - Greater

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.1.1 – 1.1.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

1.1.1 - Assessment and survey work ongoing include the Morant and Bowden wetlands in St. Thomas (UWI/NEPA, 2007 - ongoing), assessment of wetlands in Negril (excluding the Negril Morass) (NEPA), vegetation assessment in Mason River (IOJ), Canoe Valley

ecosystem assessment (NEPA), invertebrate assessment in Palisadoes-Port Royal reefs (NEPA)

1.1.2

Database exists (for example on wetlands, coral reefs, species status list) but accessibility is currently limited. Attempts are being made to improve this situation.

1.1.3 - Data exists for the Ramsar sites and is accessible on the Ramsar International website through the RIS documents,

- Reef information is available on the JCRMN and Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) websites,
- Information on St. Thomas, Negril, Canoe Valley, Malcolm Bay and Thatchfield are available at the NEPA documentation centre.
- Environmental Impact Assessments are available at the NEPA Documentation Centre and on the website. Information on Mason River is available at the Institute of Jamaica.

1.1.4 A

The Portland Bight Wetlands and Cays and Palisadoes-Port Royal Ramsar Sites (PPARS), both experienced some damage by hurricanes, however there is no evidence to suggest a significant change since the last report.

In the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site, the reported incidence of the invasive *Cranoglamis* sp. (Armored Catfish) and *Cherax quadricarinatus* (Australian Red-clawed lobster) have increased and work is currently being done to assess the resultant changes if any on the ecological character of the area.

1.1.4 B

Coastal development has increased as evidenced by the construction of more than three thousand additional rooms and this has resulted in the conversion of some wetland areas and an increase in the amount of solid waste being generated generally. Additionally, the reports of incidence of invasive species has increased. Due to these and other factors, Jamaica has recognised a need for greater interventions to address the changes to the ecological character of wetlands.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 national implementation:

The relocation/restoration of wetlands associated with development under the environmental permit and licence system has been improved and continues to strive to achieve a no net loss position.

STRATEGY 1.2: *Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supranational policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use principle of the Convention is being effectively applied, where possible specifying the appropriate policy instrument(s) in each Contracting Party which ensures wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

1.2.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {2.1.1}

[If "Yes", please give the title and date of the policy in Additional implementation information]

C - In preparation

1.2.2 Does the National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporate any World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets and actions? {2.1.2}	D - Planned
1.2.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development (including National Poverty Reduction Plans called for by the WSSD and water resources management and water efficiency plans)? {2.1.2}	C - Partly
1.2.4 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed?	D - In progress
1.2.5 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {2.2.2}	C - Partly

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.2.1 – 1.2.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.2.3: [.. additional information ...]”

1.2.1

The Wetland Policy consultation meeting was held in April 2006 and the Ministry of Health and Environment based on these consultations is preparing a comprehensive policy to cover Oceans and Coastal Resources. It is expected that this policy will delve into the matter of wetlands.

1.2.3, 1.2.4

The Jamaica Water Sector Policy (1999) addresses water availability where the amount of water required is calculated as the need arises. While it does not calculate the amount needed by wetlands it has determined that less than 8% of water currently produced is being extracted. It is expected that the calculations for water demands by the wetlands will be conducted.

1.2.5 - There is an active Environmental Impact Assessment policy in force in Jamaica with respect to developments but a Strategic Environmental Assessment Policy is being drafted.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.2 national implementation:

STRATEGY 1.3: *Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defence, climate change mitigation, food security, poverty reduction, cultural heritage, and scientific research, with a focus on under-represented ecosystem types, through developing and disseminating methodology to achieve wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

1.3.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar sites? {3.3.1} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in the Additional implementation information below, the year of assessment and from where or from whom this information can be obtained]	D - In progress
1.3.2 Have wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security plans been implemented? {3.3.4}	C - Partly
1.3.3 Has national action been taken to implement the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)? {3.2.1}	B - No

1.3.4 Has national action been taken to apply the guiding principles on cultural values of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21)? {3.3.3}	C - Partly
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.3.1 – 1.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

<p>1.3.1 Some aspects of the values and functions of the Ramsar sites have been identified but additional work is required on the benefits/services and economic valuation.</p> <p>1.3.2 A National Water Resources Master Plan for Jamaica (2005) has been drafted and lessons learned from the Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) project currently underway, will be replicated in other watershed management units.</p> <p>1.3.4 Efforts are being made by the Jamaica National Heritage Trust to determine the cultural values of the heritage sites inclusive of wetland areas.</p>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 national implementation:

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STRATEGY 1.4: *Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change, all in the context of implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).*

Indicator questions:

1.4.1 Has the Convention’s water-related guidance (see Resolution IX.1. Annex C) been used/applied in decision-making related to water resource planning and management? {3.4.2 – r3.4.xiv}	C - Partly
1.4.2 Have CEPA expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management?	B - No
1.4.3 Has the Convention’s guidance on wetlands and coastal zone management (Annex to Resolution VIII.4) been used/applied in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) planning and decision-making? {3.4.5}	C - Partly
1.4.4 Have the implications for wetland conservation and wise use of national implementation of the Kyoto Protocol been assessed? {3.4.9}	D - Planned

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.4.1 – 1.4.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

<p>1.4.1 Aspects of the Conventions water related guidance is reflected in the Water Resources Master Plan and lessons learned from the IWCAM project being implemented is to be replicated in other watershed management units.</p>
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1.4.3

Integration has been achieved through the development of permits and licence system currently operated by the NEPA.

1.4.4

A project to examine the correlation between the Ramsar Convention and the Kyoto Protocol is currently being undertaken by a masters student at the University of the West Indies.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 national implementation:

STRATEGY 1.5: *Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites.*

Indicator questions:

<p>1.5.1 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {4.1.2} [If "Yes", please identify any major programmes or projects in Additional implementation information]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.5.2 Has the Convention's guidance on wetland restoration (Annex to Resolution VIII.16; Wise Use Handbook 15, 3rd edition) been used/applied in designing and implementing wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects? {4.1.2}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.5.1 – 1.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "1.5.2: [.. additional information ...]"

1.5.1

Rehabilitation projects have been mandated as a part of the granting of development permits. Example of sites where rehabilitation projects have been implemented include in Hunts Bay, Kingston for the Highway 2000 project and the hotel development in Oyster Bay, Trelawny. Additionally NEPA in association with the UWI has conducted replanting of mangroves within the Palisadoes Port Royal Ramsar Site.

Under the permit and licence system selected wetland types (corals and seagrasses) have received 120% restoration/replacement as a standard condition when any damage would occur as a consequence of the development proposed.

1.5.2

The wise use handbook is used in the design/evaluation of mangrove restoration projects being proposed.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.5 national implementation:

STRATEGY 1.6: *Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems.*

Indicator questions:

1.6.1 Have national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive species, particularly in wetlands, been developed and implemented? {r5.1.ii}	C - Partly
1.6.2 Have such policies, strategies and management responses been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organisations/processes? {r5.1.ii}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 1.6.1 – 1.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

1.6.1

Through the permit and licence system introduction of new species is regulated and this has helped to reduce the numbers of potential invasives. Jamaica is expected in 2008 to commence working on an alien invasive species management strategy which shall include wetlands. This was identified as a high priority activity in the National Strategy and Action Plan on Biological Diversity in Jamaica.

1.6.2

An example of this is the ballast water monitoring project which is one of the components under the IMO GloBallast programme. The second phase of the Programme is currently underway through the IMO Focal Point, the Maritime Authority of Jamaica and which seeks to investigate the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species via this media. The UWI is also implementing a ballast water project funded by the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica which is also focusing on ballast water monitoring.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 national implementation:

GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

STRATEGY 2.1 *Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Handbook 7, 2nd edition; Handbook 14, 3rd edition).*

Indicator questions:

2.1.1 Have a strategy and priorities been established for any further designation of Ramsar sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {10.1.1}

[If further Ramsar site designations are planned, please indicate in Additional implementation information, the number of sites and anticipated year of designation]

A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.1.1

The current strategy and action plan for the system of protected areas are being reviewed and revised to inform the development and designation of future sites. Currently however there are additional wetland areas which are within existing protected areas that are being considered. The necessary research is being conducted to inform the completion of the requisite RIS.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.2 *Maintain the Ramsar Sites Information Service and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the Ramsar Sites Database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance.*

Indicator questions:

2.2.1 Have all required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat? {10.2.3}

B - No

2.2.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its database used in national implementation of the Convention concerning Ramsar site issues?

C - Partly

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.2.1 – 2.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "2.2.1: [.. additional information ...]"

2.2.1

The outstanding RIS update for the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site will be finalized by May 2008.

2.2.2

The RIS was used in the gap assessment prior to the implementation of the project to Map critical habitats in the Palisadoes-Port Royal Ramsar Site completed in March 2006.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.3 *Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites.*

Indicator questions:

2.3.1 Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites been defined and applied? {11.1.1}	E - Planned
2.3.2 Have management plans/strategies been developed and implemented at all Ramsar sites? {11.1.2} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate, in Additional implementation information below, for how many sites have plans/strategies been developed but not implemented; for how many are plans/strategies in preparation; and for how many are plans/strategies being reviewed or revised]	D - Planned
2.3.3 Have cross-sectoral site management committees been established at Ramsar sites? {11.1.5} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please name the sites in Additional implementation information]	D - Planned
2.3.4 Has any assessment of Ramsar site management effectiveness been carried out? [if “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the year of assessment and from whom, or from where, the information is available]	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.3.1 – 2.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

2.3.1

An Ecological assessment has been conducted to assist with the development of an ecological monitoring plan for the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area and Ramsar Site.

2.3.2

Management Plans for all three sites have been drafted.

2.3.3

Cross-sectoral site management committees will be established at the three Ramsar Sites.

2.3.4

One component of Jamaica's Protected Areas System Master Plan, which is currently being developed, is the determination of management effectiveness of protected areas which includes two Ramsar Sites.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.4 *Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Secretariat without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.*

Indicator questions:

2.4.1 Are arrangements in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {r11.2.iv} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please summarise the mechanism(s) established in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
2.4.2 Have all cases of change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2,? {11.2.4} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which Ramsar sites Article 3.2 reports have been made by the Administrative Authority to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made]	B - No
2.4.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites have been listed on the Montreux Record? {r11.2.viii} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please provide in Additional implementation information information about the actions taken]	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.4.1 – 2.4.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

2.4.1

The Permit and licence system and the cross-sectoral composition of the National Ramsar Committee will provide a medium through which information can be reported to the Administrative Management.

2.4.2

There are no cases to report at this time.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.4 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.5 *Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.*

Indicator questions:

2.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {12.1.1}	D - Not applicable
2.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (including regional site and waterbird flyway networks)? {12.1.2; 12.2.2} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which wetland systems such management is in place]	E - Not applicable

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.5.1 – 2.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.5.1: [.. additional information ...]”

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 national implementation:

STRATEGY 2.6 *Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.*

Indicator questions:

2.6.1 Has the Contracting Party been involved in the development of a regional initiative under the framework of the Convention? {12.3.2}

[If "Yes" or "Planned", please indicate in Additional implementation information below the name(s) and collaborating countries of each regional initiative]

C - Planned

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.6.1

The subregion of the Caribbean has been discussing potential initiatives for development especially in the areas of migrant birds, alien invasives and twinning of sites. It is hoped that with the Secretariat's help to facilitate meetings and assist with sourcing of funds this initiative can be advanced in the next triennium.

Birdlife International has a global initiative to identify Important Bird Areas (areas of special importance for birds because of endemism, rarity or numbers). The aim is to ensure that all countries identify their highest priority areas for bird conservation and take steps to protect and manage them where necessary. The Jamaica Environment Trust is the implementing organisation for the Important Bird Areas Project and through a group of researchers, the areas are being identified.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 national implementation:

GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

STRATEGY 3.1 *Collaboration with other institutions: Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies.*

Indicator questions:

3.1.1 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)? {13.1.1}	C - Partly
3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {r13.1.iii}	C - Partly
3.1.3 [For African Contracting Parties only] Has the Contracting Party participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD? {13.1.6}	E - Not applicable

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 3.1.1 – 3.1.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “3.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

3.1.1

Currently there is collaboration between several MEA's facilitated by the focal points who are in the same Agency/Ministry. With respect to other MEA's periodic consultations are currently held to facilitate this process as well.

3.1.2

The National Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity is presently represented on the National Ramsar Committee.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 3.2 *Sharing of expertise and information: Promote the sharing of expertise and information.*

Indicator questions:

3.2.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {14.1.3} <small>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the networks and wetlands involved]</small>	C - Partly
3.2.2 Has information about the country's wetlands and/or Ramsar sites and their status been made publicly available (e.g., through publications or a Web site)? {14.1.1}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 3.2.1-3.2.2

3.2.1

There are no twinning arrangements currently but there are projects geared at expertise and information sharing including the CariComp project (reef, water quality, seagrass and mangrove), MACC project in 6 Caribbean countries (reefs only) and GCRMN/JCRMN reef check projects (Jamaica has assisted Turks and Caicos and Haiti).

3.2.2

Through the JCRMN website, Caricomp website, NEPA Documentation Centre and website, Jamaica Clearing-House Mechanism.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 national implementation:

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

STRATEGY 4.1 *Local communities, indigenous people, and cultural values: Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, including women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, including in relation to understanding the dynamics of cultural values.*

Indicator questions:

4.1.1 Has resource information been compiled on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management? {6.1.5}	B - No
4.1.2 Have traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands been documented and their application encouraged? {6.1.2}	C - Partly
4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party promote public participation in decision-making (with respect to wetlands), especially with local stakeholder involvement in the selection of new Ramsar sites and in Ramsar site management? {6.1.4}	A - Yes
4.1.4 Have educational and training activities been developed concerning cultural aspects of wetlands? {r6.1.vii}	C - Partly
4.1.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r.6.1.vi} <small>[if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar sites and their names in Additional implementation information below]</small>	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.1.1 – 4.1.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.1.3: [.. additional information ...]"

4.1.1

Lime Cay is located within the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Areas and Ramsar Site and is extensively used by locals for recreational purposes. In an effort to ensure sustainable use a Recreational Carrying Capacity assessment was conducted by the Tourism Product Development Company Limited. It is envisaged that this document will be used in the determination of any management strategies for this area and will include the incorporation of existing local uses.

4.1.2

Traditional knowledge and uses have been incorporated in the evaluation of development projects and have resulted in efforts to mitigate the impacts of port and harbour developments in Kingston inclusive of the Rackhams Cay coral relocation project, mangrove restoration by artificial propagation and modifications of seagrass replanting methodologies.

4.1.3

This is actively done through the National Ramsar Committee and the permit and license system which requires public consultation.

4.1.4

This has not been done as a specific product but aspects of the cultural components have been incorporated in existing public education materials.

4.1.5

Traditional uses have been incorporated into the development of management plans for Ramsar

sites and the public participatory process is used as a matter of policy by the Jamaican Government.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.2 *Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

4.2.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands? {7.1.1}	C - Partly
4.2.2 Have private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” fora or similar mechanisms been established? {7.1.4} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the private sector companies involved]	B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.2.1 – 4.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.2.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.2.1

The private sector is encouraged through specific conditions as a consequence of the permit and licence system.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.3 *Promote measures which encourage the application of the wise use principle.*

Indicator questions:

4.3.1 Have actions been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	C - Partly
4.3.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.3.1 – 4.3.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.3.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.3.1

The zoning of existing protected areas (for example Montego Bay and Negril) is a priority for the next triennium.

4.3.2

Through the listing of wetlands under the permit and license system any existing perverse incentives are reduced thereby ensuring that any activity that is to be undertaken in a wetland area requires a permit with specific conditions that govern the activity.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.4 Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, the Convention's Communication, Education, and Public Awareness Programme (Resolution VIII.31) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through public participation and communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA).

Indicator questions:

<p>4.4.1 Has a mechanism for planning and implementing wetland CEPA (National Ramsar/Wetland Committee or other mechanism) been established with both CEPA Government and NGO National Focal Point (NFP) involvement? {r9.iii.ii}</p> <p>[If "Yes" or "Partly", please describe in Additional implementation information below the mechanism]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>4.4.2 Has a National Action Plan (or plans at the subnational, catchment or local level) for wetland CEPA been developed? {r.9.iii.iii}</p> <p>[Even if a National Action Plan has not yet been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for national CEPA actions have been established please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4]</p>	<p>D - Planned</p>
<p>4.4.3 Have actions been taken to communicate and share information cross-sectorally on wetland issues amongst relevant ministries, departments and agencies? {r9.iii.v}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.4.4 Have national campaigns, programmes, and projects been carried out to raise community awareness of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {r9.vi.i}</p> <p>[If:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations; and/or b) these have included awareness-raising for social, economic and/or cultural values, <p>please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.4.5 Have World Wetlands Day activities in the country, either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out? {r9.vi.ii}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.4.6 Have education centres been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r9.viii.i}</p> <p>[If any such centres are part of the Wetland Link International (WLI) Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.4.1 – 4.4.6 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.4.3: [.. additional information ...]"

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.5 *Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.5.1 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only] Has funding support been provided from the development assistance agency for wetland conservation and management in other countries? {15.1.1} [If “Yes” or “Some countries”, please indicate in Additional implementation the countries supported since COP9]</p>	<p>D - Not applicable</p>
<p>4.5.2 [For Contracting Parties in receipt of development assistance only] Has funding support been mobilized from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {15.1.8} [If “Yes” or “Some countries”, please indicate in Additional implementation the agencies from which support has been received since COP9]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.5.1 – 4.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.5.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.5.2

The Small Grant Fund that was received to conduct the survey of the wetlands in St. Thomas has facilitated the mobilization of additional funding that is currently being used to do further work on the area. Additionally funding has also been secured to develop an ecotourism venture in the same area that will ensure that sustainable use is practiced.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.5 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.6 *Provide the financial resources required for the Convention’s governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.6.1 {16.1.1} a) For the last triennium have Ramsar contributions been paid in full and in a timely manner (by 31 March of calendar year)?</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>b) If “No” in 4.6.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:</p>	

4.6.2 {16.1.2}	B - No
a) Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund or other non-core funded Convention activity?	
b) If yes, please state the amounts:	

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.6.1 – 4.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.6.1
Jamaica continues to fulfill her obligations to the Convention through the timely payment of the required monies.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.6 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.7 *Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Framework.*

Indicator questions:

4.7.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention? [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information how the Reports have been used for monitoring]	C - Partly
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 4.7.1

The previously submitted national reports have informed the completion of new reports as they become due and they have also assisted with the determination of specific areas for action in the coming trienniums.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.7 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.8 *Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.8.1 Has a review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands been completed? {18.1.1}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information if this has led to proposals for, or implementation of, any changes in institutional responsibilities]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.8.2 Is a National Ramsar/Wetlands cross-sectoral Committee (or equivalent body) in place and operational? {18.1.2}</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please summarise in Additional implementation information its membership and frequency of meetings]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.8.1 – 4.8.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.8.2: [.. additional information ...]”

The NRC is the major institution established for the implementation of the Convention through the Administrative Authority. Since its inception that advisory body has been reviewed for effectiveness and changes have been proposed to enhance its function. These changes will be implemented in the coming triennium.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.8 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.9 *Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention’s International Organization Partners (IOPs*) and others.*

Indicator question:

<p>4.9.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention’s IOPs* in its implementation of the Convention?</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>4.9.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention’s IOPs*?</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	<p>B - No</p>

* The IOPs are: BirdLife International, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Wetlands International, The World Conservation Union (IUCN), and WWF International.

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.9.1-4.9.2

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.9 national implementation:

STRATEGY 4.10 *Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses.*

Indicator questions:

<p>4.10.1 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? [If "Yes", please indicate in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the centre(s)]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.10.2 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention, including in the use of the Wise Use Handbooks, been made? {20.1.2}</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.10.1 – 4.10.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.10.3: [.. additional information ...]"

4.10.1

- a. Jamaica through the University of the West Indies and NEPA has participated in the development and provision of CPACC training for the Eastern Caribbean in St. Lucia;
- b. Jamaica through NEPA as a member of the JCRMN has assisted with coral reef assessments and the delivery of training in Haiti, and Turks and Caicos; and
- c. Through the continued participation of the UWI, Jamaica provides regional trainers in the persons of Dr. D. Webber and Dr. J. Mendes.

4.10.3

The implementation of the SGF project facilitated the training of personnel in St. Thomas some of whom are now involved in the ecotourism venture project currently being developed for that area.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.10 national implementation: