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BUCHAREST 2012

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The Ramsar 40th Anniversary Message for November


Key Message 10: "Healthy wetlands mean healthy people and sustainable livelihoods"

Healthy wetlands mean healthy people. In contrast, wetlands degraded through human activities – especially those that reduce water quality and availability – often have reduced capacity to deliver ecosystem services, which can directly and indirectly affect human health with impacts such as the loss of food production and local livelihoods. Degraded wetlands can also result in the emergence of infectious diseases and the resurgence of water-related diseases, again compromising human health, and they may reduce the availability of wetland plants and animals that have medicinal values of particular importance to indigenous people and local communities.


Intact, healthy wetlands deliver ecosystem services for the benefit of people: food security; water security; "insurance" through the formation of natural buffers to storm damage; as well as spiritual, recreational and educational value. For many communities, hunger, malnutrition, and a lack of access to clean water are among the root causes of poor health, and that health and well-being are closely linked to people's livelihoods and to the basis for reducing poverty and vulnerability to poverty.

» [Follow the link here](#) to see our key message for this month and additional tools to expand on the message.


» Ramsar 40th anniversary celebrations



Fisherman. Photo: Nathalie Rizzotti, Ramsar



Ramsar Sites of the world



Wetlands connect us all

» [Ramsar Sites Info Service](#)

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www.ramsar.org/cop11

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The 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties



The 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (Ramsar COP11) will be held in Bucharest, Romania, from **19 - 26 June 2012**, with the 14th meeting of Standing Committee planned for 17 June 2012.

The Convention today
Number of » [Contracting Parties](#): **160**
Sites designated for the » [List of Wetlands of International Importance](#): **1,960**
Total surface area of designated sites (hectares): **190,174,223**

Useful links
» [Upcoming events](#)
» [SC43 documents](#)
» [40th anniversary booklet](#)
» [Factsheets on Wetland Ecosystem Services](#)
» [All News](#)

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 - » Transboundary Ramsar Sites
 - » CEPA Programme
 - » Rules of Procedure
 - » Memoranda of Cooperation
 - » Culture Working Group
 - » Wise Use Resource Library
 - » Speeches
 - » Work Plans
 - » Changwon Declaration



The 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (Ramsar COP11) will be held in Bucharest, Romania, from **19 - 26 June 2012**, with the 44th meeting of Standing Committee planned for 17 June 2012, and an additional day of regional meetings on 18 June, as requested by many Contracting Parties.

The Standing Committee agreed that the broad theme for World Wetlands Day 2012 and COP11 is "**Wetlands, Tourism and Recreation**".

As more information becomes available it will be posted on this page.

Official Documents

- [Provisional agenda for COP11](#)
- [National Reports submitted by the Parties](#)
- Proposed [Draft Resolutions](#)
- Information Documents (includes Secretary General reports, STRP, CEPA reports, etc)
- Reports from [Standing Committee 43](#)

Pre-Registration

- Online Pre-Registration will available in March 2012

Event Information

- Airport Info - Bucharest International Airport
- Banking
- Exhibitions Area
- Field Trip Information
- Flights
- Host Country Information

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