



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) Workplan 2023-2025

The STRP Workplan 2023-2025 was approved by the Standing Committee
on 29 June 2023, Pre-SC62 Intersessional Decision 04.

1. Introduction

About the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) is a subsidiary body of the Convention on Wetlands. The STRP was established by Resolution 5.5 in 1993 to provide scientific and technical guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee, and the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands. [Resolution XII.5](#) defines modalities for STRP, including the process for preparation of its workplan.

About the STRP Workplan

The STRP developed the workplan for the 2023-2025 triennium at its [25th meeting](#) (2 to 5 May 2023).

The workplan encompasses high priority tasks identified in [Resolution XIV.14](#) as well as other requests to the STRP in COP14 Resolutions. Medium- and low-priority tasks contained in the report of the STRP Chair to COP14 (COP14 Doc.12) are not included, bearing in mind limitations in human and financial resources for delivery of STRP tasks.

Each task of the workplan is described outlining scope, contributors, mandate (relevant COP Resolutions), contribution towards the Fourth Strategic Plan, priority level (highest or high), expected outputs, target audience, and estimated costs in Swiss francs (CHF). In addition, for each task a task lead and, where appropriate, co-leads have been identified. An indicative list of contributors is provided for each task; it should be noted that this is not final and additional contributors may join the respective tasks teams.

The indicated budget for the tasks is based on estimated costs associated for layout, design, review, translation, and publication of STRP products as advised by the Secretariat as well as workshops (where critical) or subcontracting of specific foundational elements.

Thematic Work Areas (TWAs)

Five STRP thematic work areas for the 2023-2025 triennium are defined in [Resolution XIV.14](#), Annex 2:

- **Thematic Work Area 1:** Wetlands of International Importance, development of the Site network and application of criteria.
- **Thematic Work Area 2:** Tools for wetland assessment, mapping and monitoring, and development of inventories.
- **Thematic Work Area 3:** Direct and climate-change-related pressures on wetlands, their impacts and responses.
- **Thematic Work Area 4:** Wise use, sustainable management and restoration of wetlands in the wider landscape/seascape.
- **Thematic Work Area 5:** Cross-cutting issues, supporting functions, and synergies with other MEAs.

2. STRP Workplan 2023-2025

Thematic Work Area 1:						
Wetlands of International Importance, development of the Site network and application of criteria						
TWA Lead(s):		Lammert Hilarides (STRP Tech. Exp.)				
Task 1.1: Further guidance on application of criteria for designating Wetlands of International Importance						
Task 1.1. (a)		Guidance on application of Ramsar Criterion 9 for the designation of Wetlands of International Importance				
Description		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare updated guidance on application of Ramsar Criterion 9 for the designation of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites), including advice on sources of technical information and their use, and identification of information gaps that limit the designation of Sites. ● Develop and implement an engagement plan with key actors (including especially IUCN/SSC SGs, CITES, GBIF) in relation to sources of population estimates including Red List assessment data. ● Identify additional and potential data-sources, and provide details on a mechanism for future updates, including an evaluation of the financial implications. ● Propose updates to relevant Convention on Wetlands handbooks (e.g., handbook 13 and 14). ● Propose updates to the Strategic Framework (for consideration in COP15 resolution, as appropriate). ● Update the existing 1% estimates from 2006. ● Develop an online training module for Aas & RIS compilers. ● Prepare a report to SC63 that summarises the outputs of Task 1.1(a), and presents the updated guidance proposed for use in designation of Wetlands of International Importance. 				
Contributors		Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience
Task lead David Stroud (STRP Observer representative, AEWA). Contributors Lammert Hilarides (STRP Tech. Exp.), Stephen Grady (STRP National Focal Point, UK).		Res. XIV.14, Annex 2	Goal 4, Target 14	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report to SC63 ● Training module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties: Aas & RIS compilers. ● MEAs: CMS & CITES. ● IOPs.
						Costs CHF
						0

Task 1.1. (b) Guidance to facilitate application of Criterion 6						
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare guidance, with relevant international partners, on how to address identified gaps in waterbird population data and estimates. ● Engagement with relevant IOPs, flyway initiatives and CITES. ● Propose updates to relevant Convention on Wetlands handbooks (e.g., handbook 13 and 14). ● Develop an online training module for AAs & RIS compilers. ● Ensure that any relevant findings support the development of the technical proposal in task 1.1 (c). ● Prepare a report to SC63 that provides scientific and technical advice in relation to global waterbird population estimates (WPE) with regards to the application of Ramsar Criterion 6. 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Ward Hagemeijer (IOP rep., Wetlands International).</p> <p>Co-task leads Birdlife International.</p> <p>Contributors Brett Sandercock (STRP National Focal Point, Norway), Wetlands International, AEWA, EAAFP.</p>	Res. XIV.18, Para. 15	Goal 4, Target 14	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report to SC63 ● Training module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties: AAs & RIS compilers. ● Secretariat. ● Standing Committee. ● MEAs: Flyway Initiatives & CITES. ● IOPs: Wetlands International. 	10,000

Task 1.1. (c) Technical proposal for resourcing and implementation of Waterbird Population Estimate updates.	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a technical proposal to set out several options for the resourcing and implementation of timely and comprehensive Waterbird Population Estimates updates. ● The technical proposal should identify the requirements for technical support to Contracting Parties in closing identified gaps in waterbird population data and outline opportunities for capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation, and exchange. ● The technical proposal will furthermore address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Synergies between the Convention on Wetlands and the various waterbird-related agreements and flyway initiatives in relation to obtaining the most up-to-date waterbird population estimates. ○ Institutionalising resourcing and a partnership amongst the organisations leading relevant (regional or species-group specific) population status assessments. ○ Opportunities and priorities for capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation, and exchange. ○ Measures to reduce the costs of producing the WPE.

Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Ward Hagemeijer (IOP rep., Wetlands International).</p> <p>Co-task leads Lammert Hilarides (STRP Tech. Exp.), and Birdlife International.</p> <p>Contributors Hugh Robertson (STRP Chair), Brett Sandercock (STRP National Focal Point, Norway), Stephen Grady (STRP National Focal Point, UK), AEWA.</p>	Res. XIV.18, Para. 16, 17	Goal 4, Target 14	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Technical proposal for SC63 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties (AAs). ● MEAs: CMS. ● IOPs: Wetlands International, IUCN & BirdLife. 	5,000

Task 1.2 Global assessment of gaps in the network of Wetlands of International Importance, and synergies with global climate and biodiversity goals						
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Global assessment to identify under-represented ecosystem types and the constituent species and habitats across biogeographic regions (including transboundary wetlands), drawing on site details in the Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS) and other relevant sources. ● Identify a standardised assessment approach (e.g., typologies, regionalisation), and incorporating data on Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) / Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) data & shadow lists. ● Apply a case study approach (IBA shadow list, peatland, mangrove, using NWI for site designation, transboundary). ● Assess whether guidance on under-represented wetland types will need to be updated. ● Identify synergies, e.g., in terms of how addressing gaps in the network of can contribute towards meeting global biodiversity, SDG (6.6.1) and climate goals. ● Undertake analysis of RSIS data, supported by a consultancy, on wetland representation of different types in different bioregions within the Ramsar Sites network. Revisit draft RTR from 2010. ● Provide recommendations for site designation/prioritisation for wetland types and regions. 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Wetlands International (TBC).</p> <p>Contributors</p>	Res. XII.5, Annex 1	Goal 4, Target 14	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing Note 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties ● MEAs ● IOPs 	25,000

<p>Matthew Simpson (Observer rep., Society of Wetland Scientists), Rodolfo Javier Iturraspe (STRP Sci. Exp.), Megan Eldred (IOP rep., Birdlife), Sonam Choden (STRP Reg. Exp.), Sheila Ashong (STRP Sci. Exp.), IUCN, Hugh Robertson, Christian Perennou (TdV), David Stroud (AEWA).</p>	<p>Res. XIV.14, Annex 2</p> <p>Res. XIV.6, Para. 38</p>					
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Thematic Work Area 2:

Tools for wetland assessment, mapping and monitoring, and development of inventories.

TWA Lead(s): Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.)

Task 2.1 Wetland mapping and inventories to catalyse greater use of available methodologies for wetland carbon assessments

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare guidance to support further development and use of National Wetland Inventories (NWIs) in national greenhouse gas (GHG) accounts, and the inclusion of wetlands actions in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). ● Task to be developed in close cooperation with Task 3.2. <p><i>Technical report:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The technical report will provide methodological guidance to produce carbon GHG assessments from NWIs for the different wetland types, including the identification of activity data and emission factors for different wetland types and function of different land use. ● Technical report to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Definition of specific NWIs items for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) assessments. ○ List of data sources, tools and groups that provides the needed products for wetlands GHG assessment. ○ Technical opportunities and limitations of using NWIs for GHG assessment. ○ Relevant case studies of countries using NWIs for NDCs. Derived information and lessons learned from case studies on national application of methodologies of use of NWIs for wetland carbon assessment in NDC context. ● Ensure STRP provides relevant information to support IPCC processes and UNFCCC. Further, the task should be pursued in liaison or cooperation with IPCC and explore opportunities to support, if guided by IPCC, the provision of information to update the wetlands supplement guidelines for national GHG inventories. <p><i>Policy Brief:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare a Policy Brief that summarises the role of wetland mapping and NWIs as tools in enabling and supporting carbon assessment, covering opportunities and limitations.
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Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Stephan Glatzel (STRP Reg. Exp.).</p> <p>Co-task lead Esteban Suarez (STRP Reg. Exp.).</p>	<p>Res. XIII.13</p> <p>Res. XIII.14,</p>	<p>Goal 3, Target 8</p>	<p>High</p> <p>(proposed for 2023-2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Technical report ● Policy Brief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs: UNFCCC, UNCCD ● IOPs. 	<p>25,560</p>

<p>Contributors Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.), Ake Rosenqvist (Observer rep., JAXA), Line Rochefort (STRP Reg. Exp.), Virni Arifanti (STRP Tech. Exp.), Geoff Hilton (STRP Sci. Exp.), Stephen Grady (STRP National Focal Point, UK), Lei Guangchun (STRP Sci. Exp.), Örjan Berglund (Observer rep., IPS), Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.), Hans Joosten (STRP Tech. Exp.) and Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair).</p>	<p>Res. XIV.14., Annex 2</p>					
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Task 2.2: Prepare guidance on inventories and monitoring of small wetlands, and their multiple values for biodiversity conservation, especially in the contexts of landscape management and climate change							
<p>Description</p>	<p><i>Policy brief</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare a Policy Brief to increase awareness of the importance of small wetlands for multiple issues: biodiversity conservation (in particular amphibians and threatened species), maintaining wetland habitat connectivity, and regulating river flows. ● Highlight the fragility of small wetlands and how they are highly impacted by climate change. <p><i>Technical report (if resources permit)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide guidance to support improved identification, mapping, monitoring and assessment, and management of small wetlands. ● The technical report will address the importance of small wetlands for biodiversity, habitat connectivity, water flows, carbon and local and indigenous communities. ● Technical report to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Information on the extent of small wetlands. ○ Case studies illustrating success stories and gaps in including small wetlands in NWIs as well as small wetland conservation and wise use practices. ○ Implications for global and regional estimates of wetland area/extent, wetland loss estimates, contribution to meeting relevant international targets (e.g., protected areas). ○ Synthesis of best available and innovative tools for inventory and monitoring of small wetlands, including Earth Observation and Citizen Science. 						
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF	
<p>Task lead Suelma Ribeiro Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p>	<p>Res. XIII.21, Para. 23</p>	<p>Goal 3, Targets 8, 11</p>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy Brief ● Technical report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs: CBD, UNCCD. 	<p>28,060</p>	

<p><u>Co-task lead</u> Cai Lu (STRP invited expert, Beijing Forestry University).</p>	<p>Res. XI.8, Para. 2ii</p>		<p>(proposed for 2023- 2025)</p>		<p>● IOPs.</p>	
<p><u>Contributors</u> Sonam Choden (STRP Reg. Exp.), Esteban Suarez (STRP Reg. Exp.), Lammert Hilarides (STRP Tech. Exp.), Virni Arifanti (STRP Tech. Exp.), Stephan Glatzel (STRP Reg. Exp.), Line Rochefort (STRP Reg. Exp.), Stephen Grady (STRP National Focal Point, UK), Sheila Ashong (STRP Sci. Exp.), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI), Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.), Rodolfo Javier Iturraspe (STRP Sci. Exp.), Christian Perennou (TdV).</p>	<p>Res. XIV.15, Para. 19</p>					
	<p>Res. XIV.14., Annex 2</p>					

Thematic Work Area 3:

Direct and climate-change-related pressures on wetlands, their impacts, and responses

TWA lead(s): **Siobhan Fennessy** (STRP Vice-Chair) and **Anne van Dam** (Observer rep., IHE Delft)

Task 3.1: Climate change and wetlands – updated information on the current and projected impacts of climate change on the world’s wetlands, and responses

Description

- Synthesis and interpretation of wetland technical information on the current and projected effects of climate change from the IPCC^C 6th Assessment Report and following on from the GWO Special Edition (2021).
- Task to be developed in close cooperation with Task 2.1.
- Briefing Note will be forward-looking and include adaptation measures, management, and policy responses.
- May be pursued in liaison or cooperation with IPCC as a joint product.
- Information from other relevant global reports will be gathered as appropriate.
- Organize an author workshop at an early stage of the project, possibly in collaboration or coordination with the IPCC, to effectively scope the task objectives. This workshop will entail the creation of a workshop report.
- The Briefing Note will extract and synthesize key wetland information from the recent IPCC assessment report (AR6) to provide guidance on climate change impacts, implications, and responses for wetlands.

Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Max Finlayson (Observer rep., IHE Delft).</p> <p>Contributors Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.), Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair), Salimata Tondossama Kone (STRP Reg. Exp.), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI), Anne van Dam (Observer rep., IHE Delft), Hans Joosten (STRP Tech. Exp.), Esteban Suarez (STRP Reg. Exp.), Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p>	Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goals 1, 2 & 3	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workshop pursued in liaison or cooperation with IPCC. ● Briefing Note 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IPCC. ● IOPs. 	16,400

Task 3.2: Blue carbon guidance, data and models, and support for integration of blue carbon in climate change planning frameworks						
Task 3.2. (a)	Development of guidance on prioritizing coastal blue carbon ecosystems for conservation and restoration.					
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of tasks initiated in 2019-2021. • Task to be developed in close cooperation with TWA 2 & 4. • Blue carbon ecosystems (BCEs) addressed will include mangroves, seagrass beds, salt marshes and may include guidance on intertidal mudflats and other blue carbon ecosystems. Mangrove (including mapping) will be used as a case study. • Work will be based on a desktop study covering methods (including rapid methods) and guidance currently in use relevant to the prioritisation of sites for conservation and restoration. • The Briefing Note will cover the prioritization for conservation of BCEs, including, as appropriate, a review and update of existing guidance for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of BCEs. • The Briefing Note may address the economic cost of restoration (in cooperation with Task 5.1). 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair).</p> <p>Contributors Ake Rosenqvist (Observer rep., JAXA), Lei Guangchun (STRP Sci. Exp.), Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.), Daniel Murdiyarso (Observer rep., CIFOR), Lammert Hilarides (STRP Tech. Exp.), Virni Arifanti (STRP Tech. Exp.), Stephan Glatzel (STRP Reg. Exp.), Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.), Kim Fredman (Observer rep., FAO), Brett Sandercock (STRP NFP, Norway), Stephen Grady (STRP NFP UK).</p>	<p>Res. XII.14, Para. 15 (b-d)</p> <p>Res. XIV.14., Annex 2</p>	<p>Goal 4, Target 14.</p>	<p>High</p> <p>(proposed for 2023-2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing Note 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracting Parties. • MEAs. • IOPs. • NFPs. 	<p>0*</p>
Task 3.2. (b)	Compiling and reviewing data and models on carbon stock and fluxes					
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of tasks initiated in 2019-2021. • Task to be developed in close cooperation with TWA 2. • The technical report will review and analyse regional modelling of carbon stocks, greenhouse gas emissions and carbon dynamics in coastal blue-carbon ecosystems using existing databases. Focusing on mangroves, salt marshes, seagrass focus (and summarizing information on other BCEs (e.g., mudflats, kelp)). • The Global Mangrove Watch (GMW) will be used as a case study. • The work may be pursued in liaison or cooperation with IPCC. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information will be provided, as appropriate, to the IPCC to inform future updates to the Wetlands Supplement (in close cooperation with Task 2.1). 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair)</p> <p>Contributors Geoff Hilton (STRP Sci. Exp.), Ake Rosenqvist (Observer rep., JAXA), Lei Guangchun (STRP Sci. Exp), Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.), Daniel Murdiyarmo (Observer rep., CIFOR), Hans Joosten (STRP Tech. Exp.), Virni Arifanti (STRP Tech. Exp.), Brett Sandercock (STRP NFP, Norway).</p>	Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goal 4, Target 14.	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical Report Policy Brief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracting Parties. MEAs. IOPs. 	0*

* Carried forward from the previous triennium (2019-2021).

Task 3.3: Agriculture and wetlands: maintaining and restoring the ecological character of wetlands in agricultural settings	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare guidelines for maintaining, restoring, or creating ecosystem services of wetlands in agricultural landscapes Engage the Ramsar network for information on specific agro-ecosystems and wetland types. Derive suggestions for improving reporting of agricultural-wetland interactions in the RSIS. Organise an author workshop in collaboration with FAO. The Technical Report and Policy Brief will cover the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining, restoring, or creating ecosystem services of wetlands in agricultural landscapes. Responding to drivers of change to enhance the wise use of wetlands. Improvements for reporting to the RSIS. The work will be based on issues outlined in Briefing Note 13 and the GWO Special Edition (2021). The conclusions in the BN13 will be particularly important in structuring the development of the guidelines, including identifying categories of agricultural practices and wetland types to be addressed. The guidelines will be informed by case studies highlighting issues related (for example) to land-use change, water extraction, pollution, etc., all arising from agriculture as key drivers of wetland degradation.

Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Anne van Dam (Observer rep., IHE Delft)</p> <p>Co-task lead Amani Alfarra (Observer rep., FAO)</p> <p>Contributors Geoff Hilton (STRP Sci. Exp.), Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI), Esteban Suarez (STRP Reg. Exp. David Stroud (Observer rep., AEW), Sevvandi Jayakody (STRP Tech. Exp.), Max Finlayson (Observer rep., IHE Delft), Örjan Berglund (Observer rep., IPS).</p>	Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goal 3, Target 9.	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop Technical Report Policy Brief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracting Parties. MEAs. IOPs. 	35,560

Task 3.4: The protection, conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of wetland ecosystems in addressing climate change						
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collate a synthesis of successful nature-based solutions or ecosystem-based approaches for protecting, conserving, restoring, sustainably using, and managing wetland ecosystems to address climate change and achieve other co-benefits. Develop criteria and structure for case study selection, and invite case studies. Involve other partners (e.g., IUCN). Online workshop to select relevant case studies. Review of [6-12] relevant case studies on the application of nature-based solutions or ecosystem-based approaches to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use, and manage wetland ecosystems (1 or 2 per Ramsar Region). 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Esteban Suarez (STRP Reg. Exp.).</p> <p>Co-task lead Line Rochefort (STRP Reg. Exp.).</p>	Res. XIV.17, Para. 14	Goals 1, 2 & 3	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing Note Electronic database for including and detailing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracting Parties. MEAs. IOPs. 	11,400

<p>Contributors Amani Alfarra (Observer rep., FAO), Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.), David Stroud (Observer rep., AEWA), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI).</p>				<p>additional case studies.</p>		
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Thematic Work Area 4:

Wise use, sustainable management, and restoration of wetlands in the wider landscape/seascape

TWA lead(s): **Ritesh Kumar** (STRP Tech. Exp.)

Task 4.1: OECMs as an opportunity in promoting wetland conservation and wise use

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare guidance on wetlands as Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). ● Task to be developed in close cooperation with Task 5.2. ● Guidance to cover locating, recognizing and effective management of wetlands, including Ramsar Sites as OECMs, with the aim to contribute to meeting relevant goals and targets including within the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The Briefing Note will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Relevance of wetlands in relation to OECMs (especially with reference to GBFs), ○ Process for recognition of wetlands OECMs, ○ Available guidance on OECMs and their relevance for recognition and management of wetlands OECMs, ○ Guidance on management and assessing management effectiveness of wetland OECMs, ○ Examples of existing and potential wetland OECMs, ○ Suggested technical guidelines for the Convention on Ramsar Sites and wetlands as OECMs, and ○ Amendments needed in RIS to effect recognition of Ramsar Sites as OECMs. ● Status, trends, emerging evidence and national approaches for recognizing wetlands OECMs would be added as supplementary materials to the Briefing Note.
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Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p> <p>Co-task lead Hans Joosten (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p> <p>Contributors Hugh Robertson (STRP Chair), Harry Jonas (Observer rep., WCPA-OECM), Stephen Grady (STRP Focal Point, UK), Sevvandi Jayakody (STRP Tech. Exp.), Cai Lyu (STRP invited expert, Beijing Forestry University), Megan</p>	Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goal 3, Target 9.	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	● Briefing Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IOPs. 	6,400

Eldred (IOP rep., Birdlife), Amani Alfarra (Observer rep., FAO), UNEP-WCMC.						
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Task 4.2: Develop guidance on the conservation, wise use and management of “working coastal habitats”, including a synthesis of the global pressures on coastal wetlands						
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare guidance on the conservation, wise use and management of sustainable “working coastal habitats”. • Task to be developed in close cooperation with Task 3.2. (a) & (b). <p><i>Technical Report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the information in wise-use Handbook 12 and recommend updates. • The technical report will provide a synthesis of approaches and a framework for conservation, wise use and effective management of coastal habitats. The synthesis will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Framework for ‘working coastal habitat’, including spatial, sectoral and stakeholder linkages and coasts as a social-ecological system, ○ Advancements in Marine Spatial Planning, Blue Economy, Sustainable Aquaculture, SEAs and others, ○ Economic drivers for ‘working coastal habitats’ and ways of influencing these drivers for wetland wise use, ○ Review of different definitions of coastal wetlands (such as IPCC), and ○ Vulnerabilities and adaptation to climate change and impacts. <p><i>Policy Brief</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a Policy Brief to increase awareness of the global pressures on coastal wetlands. 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Sevvandi Jayakody (STRP Tech. Exp.)</p> <p>Contributors Rodolfo Javier Iturraspe (STRP Sci. Exp.), Nick Murray (IOP rep., IUCN), Max Finlayson (Observer rep., IHE Delft), Raghu Kodali (STRP Focal Point, India), Purvaja Ramchandran (Invited expert, NCSCM), Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair), Kim Fredman (Observer rep., FAO).</p>	<p>Res. XIII.20, Para. 45</p> <p>Res. XIV.14., Annex 2</p>	<p>Goal 3, Target 10.</p>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Report • Policy Brief • Workshop report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracting Parties. • MEAs. • IOPs. 	<p>55,600</p>

Task 4.3: Integrating wetland protection, conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management into national sustainable development strategies

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collate and synthesise case studies and tools relating to the integration of national wetland conservation and restoration into national sustainable development (SD) strategies and to develop technical guidelines ● Task to be developed in close cooperation with Task 3.4 & 5.2. ● Develop an electronic database for including and detailing case studies (hosted on Convention on Wetlands website or the WWT Learning hub). ● Technical guidance on integrating wetland restoration, conservation and wise use in national Sustainable Development strategies. The Briefing Note will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprehensive view of wetlands in sustainable development strategies, plans and programmes and not limited to SDGs, ○ Review of wetlands in sustainable development strategies for a mix of economies, ○ Key enablers and underlying enabling conditions which support integration of wetlands in sustainable development strategies, and ○ Review of experiences of other MEAs (such as UNCCD with respect to integration of Land in Sustainable Development Strategies). 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p> <p>Contributors Cai Lyu (STRP invited expert, Beijing Forestry University), Daniel Murdiyarmo (Observer rep., CIFOR), Matthew Simpson (Observer rep., Society of Wetlands Scientists), Geoff Hilton (STRP Sci. Exp.).</p>	Res. XIV.16, Para. 21	Goal 3	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing Note ● Electronic database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IOPs. 	6,400

Thematic Work Area 5:

Cross-cutting issues, supporting functions, and synergies with other MEAs

TWA lead(s): **Hugh Robertson** (STRP Chair) and **Sevandi Jayakody** (STRP Tech. Exp.)

Task 5.1 Financial costs of wetland loss and degradation, and investment required to maintain and restore wetlands (GWO 2025)

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Global Wetland Outlook (GWO) 2025 will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Synthesize information on the financial costs to society from the loss of wetlands and their ecosystems services, including consideration of ‘future loss’ based on available projections and taking into account the potential contribution of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (including case studies). ○ Assess the financial cost of wetland loss and degradation. ○ Identify the scale of financing required (at various scales) (benefits / solutions) to achieve the conservation, restoration and wise use of wetlands, and concurrently to achieve the related elements of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal GBF, the UNFCCC, and other relevant international commitments. ○ Include consideration of IPBES value assessment. ○ Review global wetland baseline mapping available to assess scale of wetland loss and degradation, including small wetlands. ○ Provide recommendations on investment opportunities and mechanisms for wetland management and restoration, including those which are nature-based solutions. ● The GWO 2025 will contribute towards the UN Decade on Restoration. ● The work will consider synergies with UNCCD and possible activities on wetland protection and restoration in degraded landscapes.
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Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<u>Task lead</u> Hugh Robertson (STRP Chair). <u>Co-task lead</u> Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.). <u>Contributor</u>	Res. XIV.14, Annex 2 Res. XIV.6, Para. 45	Goal 4, Targets 17 & 19	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	● Global Wetland Outlook (GWO) 2025	● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IOPs. ● NFPs.	50,000

Ake Rosenqvist (Observer rep., JAXA), Cai Lyu (STRP invited expert, Beijing Forestry University), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI), Christian Perennou (TdV).						
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Task 5.2: Guidance to support global implementation of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) for wetlands

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide advice and guidance to support global implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) for wetlands. ● Task to be developed in cooperation with Task 4.1. ● The task group will seek opportunities for collaboration with other MEAs (e.g., CITES & CMS), and engage with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on appropriate application of wetland measures within the indicators and monitoring framework of the GBF. ● The Briefing Note will provide guidance on national synergies between the Convention on Wetlands and the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). It will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Synthesis of urgent NBSAP-related actions needed to meet the CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) targets from a wetland perspective. ○ Identification of wetland-focused reporting mechanisms (through the Convention on Wetlands) which can feed into the reporting in and tracking progress of implementation against the GBF goals and targets, and taking into consideration the needs and processes for reporting on SDGs relevant to Wetlands, including indicator 6.6.1. ● Prepare a submission on wetland indicators to be made to the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
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Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead Sevvandi Jayakody (STRP Tech. Exp.).</p> <p>Co-task lead Megan Eldred (Observer rep., Birdlife).</p> <p>Contributors Max Finlayson (Observer rep., IHE Delft), Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair), Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.), Cai Lyu (STRP invited expert, Beijing Forestry University), Laurent Durieux (STRP Sci. Exp.), Ake Rosenqvist (Observer rep., JAXA), Hans Joosten (STRP Tech. Exp.), Matthew Simpson (Observer rep., Society of Wetlands)</p>	<p>Res. XIII.5</p> <p>Res. XIV.14, Annex 2</p> <p>Res. XIV.6, Para. 24 & 44</p>	Goal 4, Target 18	<p>High</p> <p>(proposed for 2023-2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing Note ● Submission to CBD ad hoc technical working group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs: CBD. ● IOPs. 	10,000

Scientists), Nick Davidson (Observer rep., Society of Wetlands Scientists), Salimata Tondossama Kone (STRP Reg. Exp.), Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.), Chaturangi Wickramaratne (Observer rep., IWMI), Sonam Choden (STRP Reg. Exp.), Stephan Glatzel (STRP Reg. Exp.), Line Rochefort (STRP Reg. Exp.), Stephen Grady (STRP NFP UK).						
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Task 5.3. Develop an approach to deliver future Global Wetland Outlooks (GWOs)						
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Form a working group that includes representatives from Contracting Parties, IOPs, other Conventions, MEAs and global assessment agencies, with support from the Secretariat. ● Define the purpose of the GWO as a flagship production under the Convention on Wetlands, including in relation to the goals of the Strategic Plan other Conventions and MEAs processes. ● Develop a planning approach to facilitate the delivery of future GWOs, including methodological considerations, timeframes, communication, resource requirements, including financial, and information sources etc., building on experiences from preparation of the first GWO published in 2018 and the Special Edition prepared under the 2019-21 workplan, as well as other relevant global assessments. Review of information sources and processes also to include SDG 6.6.1 ● Clearly link the work and planning approach to the development of the Fifth Strategic Plan, including relevant timelines. ● Prepare a report for SC64 that include a detailed plan and conceptual approach for future GWOs (GWO Terms of Reference). ● The GWO conceptual approach will describe the frequency of production, and content elements, including potential for sub-assessments to be published on ad-hoc basis (e.g., mangrove assessment). 					
Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<u>Task lead</u> Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.) <u>Contributors</u> Lei Guangchun (STRP Sci. Exp.), Sonam Choden (STRP Reg. Exp.), Anne van Dam (Observer rep., IHE Delft), Sevandi Jayakody (STRP Tech. Exp.), Hugh Robertson (STRP Chair).	Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goal 4, Targets 14 & 18	High (proposed for 2023-2025)	● Report to SC64.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IOPs. 	10,000

Task 5.4: Review of policy and legal frameworks for wetland conservation and wise use: scoping study

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepared a technical scoping report to evaluate how different policy and legal frameworks provide for wetland conservation, restoration and use. ● Scoping report to include forward looking policy options, innovations, integrative approaches. ● Where appropriate, to build on guidance and information presented in Handbook 3. ● Prepare a report for SC64 that outlines an approach of how to undertake a review of policy and legal frameworks, including with inputs from Contracting Parties, for implementation in the subsequent triennium.
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Contributors	Resolution	Strat. Plan goal & target	Priority	Output(s)	Audience	Costs CHF
<p>Task lead TBC</p> <p>Contributors Matthew Simpson (Observer rep., Society of Wetlands Scientists), Siobhan Fennessy (STRP Vice-Chair), Ritesh Kumar (STRP Tech. Exp.), Salimata Tondossama Kone (STRP Reg. Exp.), Daniel Murdiyarso (Observer rep., CIFOR), Suelma Silva (STRP Tech. Exp.), Sheila Ashong (STRP Sci. Exp.).</p>	SC57 Doc.8 Res. XIV.14., Annex 2	Goal 3, Target 11	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report to SC64. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracting Parties. ● MEAs. ● IOPs. 	5,000

Ongoing activities and ad-hoc requests

Task	Description
Advice and support to Standing Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair of the STRP participates as an observer to Standing Committee meetings.
Support development of the Fifth Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP to prioritize its participation in the development of the fifth Strategic Plan as part of its Workplan. ● CEPA considered when planning STRP products. ● STRP experts may be called on for capacity building.
Ramsar Regional Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP may be invited to assist in the review of training modules developed by RRIIs.
The new CEPA approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP representative on the CEPA Oversight Panel. ● Better align outputs to support CEPA activities for different stakeholders. ● Ensure that CEPA aspects are considered when planning and developing.
The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secretariat may seek the advice of STRP members.
Wetland City Accreditation of the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP to establish permanent cooperation with the Wetland City Network. ● STRP representative on the Independent Advisory Committee.
Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow and provide inputs to Ad hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
UN Water Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow up to UN Water Conference, Water Action Agenda.
GEO Global Ecosystem Atlas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP to continue engaging with GEO wetlands.
SDG indicator 6.6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STRP to support Contracting Parties to progress national wetland inventories and reporting and RIS updates, including efforts to enable better reporting on SDG indicator 6.6.1. ● STRP to address that RIS for many Wetlands of International Importance are out of date, and Site boundaries are missing for many Ramsar Sites, as an impediment to reporting on SDG indicator 6.6.1.