



RAMSAR CONVENTION

Ramsar National Report to COP15

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Section 1: Institutional Information

Important note: The responses below will be considered by the Convention on Wetlands Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points. All individuals listed below agree that the submitted information will be used to update the information in the Secretariat's contact database and will be published on the public website here Contacts on website.

Name of Contracting Party

The completed National Report **must be accompanied by a letter** in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP15 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below)

Link to sample National Report Submission Letter: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/national-reports-cop15-sample-letter>

>>> Kenya

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

Kenya Ramsar National Rpt COP15 AA Letter.pdf - Kenya Ramsar National Report COP15_AA Submission Letter

Designated Administrative Authority for the Convention on Wetlands

Name of Administrative Authority

>>> Kenya Wildlife Service

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

>>> Prof. Erastus Kanga, Director General

Mailing address

>>> P.O Box 40241-00100 Nairobi

Telephone

>>> +254 20 6000800; Fax: +254 20 6003 792

Email

>>> director@kws.go.ke; wildlifeMEAs@kws.go.ke

Designated National Focal Point for the Convention on Wetlands

Name and title

>>> Prof. Charles Musyoki, Director Wildlife & Community Service

Mailing address

>>> P.O Box 40241-00100 Nairobi

Telephone

>>> +254 20 6000800; Fax: +254 20 6003 792

Email

>>> cmusyoki@kws.go.ke; wildlifeMEAs@kws.go.ke

Designated Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) National Focal Point

Name and title

>>> Dr. Judith Nyunja, Principal Research Scientist

Name of organisation

>>> Wildlife Research & Training Institute

Mailing address

>>> PO Box 872 - 20117, Naivasha, Kenya

Telephone

>>> +254 789 277154; +254 700 000321

Email

>>> jnyunja@wrti.go.ke; judithnyunja@gmail.com; director@wrti.go.ke

Designated Government Communication, Capacity Building, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) Programme National Focal Point

Name and title

>>> Dr. Jane Macharia, Senior Research Scientist

Name of organisation

>>> National Museums of Kenya

Mailing address

>>> P. O. Box 40658 - 00100, Nairobi

Telephone

>>> +254 2 3742 164/1

Email

>>> jmwihaki2000@yahoo.com:jmacharia@museums.or.ke

Designated Non-Governmental Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) Programme National Focal Point

Name and title

>>> Dr Paul Matiku, Executive Director

Name of organisation

>>> Nature Kenya

Mailing address

>>> P.O. Box 44486 - 00100, Nairobi

Telephone

>>> +254 3537568

Email

>>> matiku@naturekenya.org

Designated National Focal Point on Strengthening the Convention on Wetland's Connections through Youth

Name and title

>>> Planned

Name of organization

>>> Planned

Mailing address

>>> Planned

Phone

>>> Planned

Email

>>> Planned

Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP14 reporting)

A. What have been the five main achievements of the implementation of the Convention since COP14?

- 1)
>>> Development of integrated wetlands management plans: Ondiri, Ewaso Narok, Sabaki Estuary Management plan: Assessment of the social economics landuse. land cover changes and biodiversity survey conducted in L.Olbolossat in 2023
- 2)
>>> National and county celebration of World Wetlands Day 2023 and 2024
- 3)
>>> Development and implementation of the National landscape and ecosystem restoration strategy (Towards 15 Billion tree growing)2023-2032- (Direct forest and landscape restoration initiatives in Tana River Delta Ramsar Site supported by GEF-UNEP The Restoration Initiative targeting restoration of 10,000ha of degraded area guided by detailed Restoration Opportunity Assessment Mapping)
- 4)
>>> Updated Ramsar sites Information Sheets for all the Ramsar sites.
- 5)
>>> Continuous monitoring of water birds in Ramsar sites and other wetlands (Annual Water-bird counts carried out - coordinated by Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), National Museums of Kenya (NMK), Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) and Nature Kenya (NK). The long-term data is used to model climate change impacts on waterbird populations.

B. What have been the five main challenges in implementing the Convention since COP14?

- 1)
>>> Limited financial resources have been a major hurdle in effectively implementing the Ramsar Convention.
- 2)
>>> Climate change impacts: Kenya's Rift Valley Lakes which are Ramsar sites (Baringo, Bogoria, Nakuru, Elementaita and Naivasha) and Lake Turkana have experienced extended floods over the last few years. Changes in precipitation patterns, increased frequency of extreme weather events, and rising temperatures have resulted in altered hydrological regimes, impacting both flora and fauna, destruction of road and tourism infrastructure and economic loss.
- 3)
>>> Land use and land use changes: Encroachment and degradation of catchments and wetlands for agriculture, urbanization and expansion of human settlements
- 4)
>>> Integration of the National land use policy into the county governments spatial planning, including the implementation of the wetlands policy
- 5)
>>> Illegal and unregulated water abstraction

C. Please outline five priorities for implementing the Convention in your country during the coming triennium (2026-2028)

- 1)
>>> Designation of additional Ramsar sites including a marine Ramsar site. Such as Lake Ol Bolossat and Msambweni-Vanga Seascape.
- 2)
>>> Enhance resource mobilization from International Organization Partners for developing, reviewing and implementing of the Ramsar sites and other wetlands Management Plans

3)

>>> Accreditation of Kisumu city as a globally recognized wetland city

4)

>>> Devolve implementation of the Ramsar Convention strategic plan from national-level focal points to site-specific committees and promote awareness among local communities.

5)

>>> Restoration of wetlands ecosystems in the country through the establishment and implementation of the Adopt- a wetland and other initiatives (68 institutions of higher learning adopted wetlands by 2024)

D. Does the Administrative Authority have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention Secretariat?

>>> 1. Fundraising for wetlands related projects (including Ramsar sites): management plans development and review and Tools for wetlands resources data collection and monitoring.

2. Capacity Building for Ramsar site managers and committees of other wetlands.

3. Technical support for the accreditation of Kisumu as Kenya's first wetland city and other proposed new Ramsar sites.

4. Resource mobilization to support the process for designation of new Ramsar sites such as the Msamweni-Vanga Seascape and Kisumu wetland city

E. Does the Administrative Authority have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs) (including ongoing partnerships and partnerships to be developed)?

>>> 1. Resource mobilisation through partnerships and capacity building to address the challenges in section C above

2. Joint planning and Implementation of wetlands projects in partnership with IOPs

3. Development and dissemination of Communication, Capacity Development and Education and Public Awareness raising materials to promote wise use and sustainable management of wetlands

F. In accordance with paragraph 21 of Resolution XIII.18 on Gender and wetlands, please provide a short description about the balance between genders participating in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research.

>>> 1. The Government of Kenya has created opportunities for gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment in its development programmes and plans, including the development of the Gender and Development Policy (2019), the Women's Enterprise Fund (2006), the Youth Fund (2006) and the Uwezo Funds (2013).

2. Gender mainstreaming is part of the public service performance contracting. The ministry of environment has developed a Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action plan for Environment and Natural Resources (2014-2018) in Kenya.

3. The Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy, 2015 has also captured gender issues. Therefore women's participation in wetland and water governance structures is supported in cross-sectoral policies and plans at National and County level.

4. There is a need to support women in decision-making processes in conservation and management of wetlands through capacity building, education, and awareness and providing financial mechanisms to implement nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation.

5. Synergy: Establish joint- interministerial committee with representatives spearheading the implementation of the different MEAS.

G. On the basis of your indications above, list possible areas where change is necessary for the achievement of gender equality.

>>> 1. Periodical policy reviews.

2. Monitoring and evaluation of gender mainstreaming into wetlands conservation and management at local and national level.

H. Please describe lessons learnt in the context of wetlands and gender equality work in your country.

>>> 1. There has been effectiveness in the implementation of wetlands conservation activities where gender issues are mainstreamed.

2. Conservation programs must acknowledge and integrate the traditional knowledge and practices of women in wetland management to ensure their active participation and benefit.

3. Establishment of forums for women and youth to foster collaboration and participation in wetlands conservation and management such as Kenya Women Birders Association.

I. If possible, please list gender-related policies, strategies and action plans in place relevant to wetlands in your country.

- >>> 1. The Kenya constitution 2010 Article 27.
- 2. The National Mangrove Ecosystem Management Plan 2017 -2027.
- 3. The Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy, 2015.
- 4. National Environmental Policy 2013.
- 5. Kenya National Policy on Gender and Development (2019).
- 6. Programmes: The Women's Enterprise Fund (2006), the Youth Fund (2006) and the Uwezo Funds (2013).

J. If applicable, identify examples of strategies and actions your country is implementing to support youth participation in the implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan or in wetlands management (Resolution XIV.12 on Strengthening Ramsar connections through youth, paragraph 21).

- >>> 1. Engagement in policy dialogue forums such as youth conservation networks and institutions of higher learning
- 2.The Kenya Youth Biodiversity Network (KYBN) is a youth-led organisation that engages young people in biodiversity conservation and environmental sustainability efforts across the country
- 3.Wildlife Clubs of Kenya - promote conservation awareness for schools
- 4.The Youth for Conservation Initiative is a network of young people dedicated to promoting environmental conservation through grassroots-level actions with a focus on wetland areas such as Lake Naivasha and Lake Victoria
- 5.Wetlands Conservation Organization (WCO) has a network of youth dedicated to promoting wise use and conservation of wetlands in Kenya
- 6.Young Environmentalists of Kenya is an organization focused on empowering young people to become active stewards of the environment
- 7.The Kenya Youth Climate Network (KYCN) is a network of young people working on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies
- 8.The Lake Naivasha Youth Network is a regional youth organization that focuses on the conservation and sustainable management of Lake Naivasha and its surrounding wetlands.
- 9.The International Youth Foundation (IYF) is a global organization with a significant presence in Kenya, focusing on empowering youth to engage in various aspects of environmental conservation, including wetland management.
- 10.First Lady Mazingira Award recognises and rewards environmental protection and conservation through creativity. It targets learners in more than 89,000 schools in all 47 counties of Kenya to create a generation of environmentally conscious citizens.
- 11.Kenya Wetlands Forum has a significant number of youthful members and youth led organizations engaged in wetlands conservation at national and grassroots level.
- 12.Kenya Water Ambassadors a youth led organization founded in 2023 during the 2nd edition of WWF-Kenya's journey of water campaign for River Ewaso Ng'iro.
- 13.Kenya Inter-university Environmental Students Association engages in environmental awareness within universities.

K. Please list the names of the organizations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report.

- >>> 1.Kenya Wildlife Service
- 2.National Museums of Kenya - CEPA Focal Point (Government)
- 3.National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
- 4.Water Resources Authority (WRA)
- 5.East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS)
- 6.Kenya Wetlands Forum (KWF)
- 7.Ministry of Water and Irrigation
- 8.State Department for Wildlife (SDW)
- 9.Wildlife Research and Training Institute, Kenya(WRTI)
- 10.Nature Kenya - CEPA Focal Point (NGO)
- 11.Wetlands International (WI) (IOP)
- 12.County Governments of Nakuru and Baringo
- 13.World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF- Kenya)
- 14.National Environment Trust Fund (NET Fund Kenya)
- 15.Lake Naivasha Riparian Association
- 16.IUCN
- 17.Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
- 18.Kenya Forestry Research Institute
- 19.Kenya Forest Service
- 20.Kenya Fisheries Service
- 21.National Lands Commission
- 22.The Nature Conservancy
- 23.Local communities adjacent to Ramsar sites and other wetlands
- 24.Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change

Section 3 - all goals: Indicator questions and further implementation information

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant.

Section 3 - Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant.

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

Target 1

Wetland benefits are featured in national/local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 14]

1.1 Have any actions been taken since COP14 to integrate wetland protection, wise use and restoration, or wetland benefits, into other national strategies and planning processes, including: {1.1}

Please select only one per square.

a) National policy or strategy for wetland management	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) Poverty eradication strategies	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
e) Integrated coastal zone management plan	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
f) National forest management plan/strategies	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
i) National policies on energy and mining	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
j) National policies on tourism	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
k) National policies on urban development	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
l) National policies on infrastructure	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
m) National policies on industry	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3}	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
q) National policies, strategies or plans on sanitation	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
r) National policies, strategies or plans on food security	☐ Y=Not Relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

1.1 Additional information

>>> National Wildlife Policy 2020

National Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2027

National Landscape restoration strategy 2023-2027

KWS Strategic Plan 2024-2028
 Wildlife Research Training Institute Strategic Plan 2024-2028 A
 RAMCEA Strategic Plan
 Management plans Ramsar site and ecosystems, Water resource Authority, Basin Sub-basin
 and Sub-catchment Management Plans
 Blue economy strategy
 Marine Spatial Planning
 Fourteen County Spatial Plans (CSPs) for Kajiado, Bomet, Lamu, Kilifi, Kwale, Makueni, Kericho, Bungoma,
 Baringo, Nakuru, Meru, Mombasa, Nairobi and Kakamega A
 Lake Nakuru Ecosystem Management Plan 2024- 2029
 National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022 - 2027
 National Human-Wildlife Coexistence Strategy and action plan 2024-2033
 National Wildlife Strategy 2018-2030
 National Tourism Policy 2020

Target 2

Water users respect wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 7, Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

2.1 Have the Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands and the additional guidance on tools and methodologies been brought to the attention of national ministries and/or agencies at different levels of territorial organizations (Resolutions VIII.1, VIII.2)? {2.1}

☒ A=Yes

2.1 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has actively disseminated the guidelines from Resolutions VIII.1 and VIII.2 to relevant national ministries and agencies. The Water Resources Authority (WRA) and the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry have incorporated these guidelines into water resource management policies and practices. Workshops and training sessions have been conducted to ensure that county-level environmental officers and water resource managers are informed about these guidelines, promoting their application in maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands.

2.2 Have assessments of environmental flow been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands? {2.2}

☒ C=Partially

2.2 Additional Information

>>> Environmental flow assessments have been conducted in key wetland areas to ensure that sufficient water flow is maintained to support their ecological character. The Water Resources Authority (WRA) has led these assessments in critical wetlands, including the Tana River Delta and Lake Naivasha, to understand the necessary flow regimes for sustaining biodiversity and wetland health. These assessments help guide water allocation, particularly during dry seasons, and support strategies to mitigate impacts from water extraction and climate variability.

However, the collection and analysis of environmental flow data in most rivers and lakes is inconsistent due to inadequate capacity by the Water Resource Authority (WRA).

WRA plans to initiate natural capital accounting for water at the national level.

2.3 Have the designation or management of Wetlands of International Importance ("Ramsar Sites") improved the sustainable use of water (e.g. reduced drainage, reduced use of pesticides, controlled pollution etc.) in your country?

☒ C=Partially

2.3 Additional Information

>>> The designation and management of Ramsar Sites in Kenya have contributed to improvements in sustainable water use, though progress varies by site. In areas such as Lake Nakuru and Lake Naivasha, management measures have helped reduce pollution levels, control agricultural runoff, and promote practices to minimize pesticide use. Efforts have also been made to restrict drainage and implement community education on sustainable farming practices. However, some challenges remain, particularly in areas affected by upstream water extraction, increased upstream agricultural activities and pollution from surrounding settlements. Continued efforts are needed to fully realize sustainable water use across all Ramsar Sites. There is a need to mobilize resources for implementation of the Ramsar site management plan and the Water Resource Users Associations (WRUA) sub-catchment management plans that have an impact on the Ramsar

sites.

2.4 Have the Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12) been used/applied in decision-making processes? {2.3}

☒ C=Partially

2.4 Additional Information

>>> The guidelines from Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12 have been applied in decision-making processes in certain key areas, particularly within the Water Resources Authority (WRA) and Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry. These guidelines have informed policies on water allocation in specific Ramsar Sites, such as Lake Naivasha and the Tana River Delta, where ecological flow requirements are essential for maintaining biodiversity. However, broader application across all wetland areas is still ongoing, with further integration planned to address all Ramsar and non-Ramsar wetlands in Kenya comprehensively.

The guidelines for allocation of water and management have been used by the WRA to develop wetland site-specific water allocation plans as required by the Water Act 2016.

These guidelines can be applied during Environmental Impact Assessment processes for projects that have an impact on wetlands.

The Water Resources Authority has gazetted several wetlands protection order, 2024 legal notice no. 144 of 2024; Memeroni-Mbaruk Wetland and catchment protection order of 2024, legal notice no 143 of 2024, Kibirong Wetland catchment order, 2024, legal notice no 145 of 2024, FAFli wetland Catchment protection order, 2024 Legal Notice 141 of 2024 and Eneyampuimpui wetland 2024, Legal Notice 142 of 2024. Legal notice 8 of 2013, Lake Naivasha Catchment Area Protection Order of 2012.

2.5 Have projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands been developed {2.4}

☒ A=Yes

2.5 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has implemented several projects aimed at promoting sustainable water allocation and management to preserve wetland ecological functions:

☐ Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund: This initiative focuses on improving water quality and quantity in the Upper Tana River basin by implementing sustainable land management practices, benefiting both wetlands and downstream water users.

☐ Integrated Wetlands Management Plans: Development of management plans for key wetlands, such as the Ewaso Narok Swamp Integrated Management Plan (2022-2032), to guide sustainable water use and conservation efforts

☐ Integrated Water risk assessment programme, resulting in the development of a water allocation plan to guide in regulating both surface and ground water abstraction within lake Naivasha basin.

☐ Enhancing integrated natural resource management to arrest and reverse current trends in biodiversity and land degradation for increased ecosystem services in the Tana River Delta- Funded by GEF-The Restoration Initiative

☐ A management effectiveness assessment was conducted for Lake Ol Bolossat to assess if the management interventions are aligned if the management plan objectives and to identify priority sites.

☐ Common water abstraction points in the river for small holders/community within Lake Naivasha basin e.g river Malewa, co management with WRUAs

2.6 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? {2.8}

☒ A=Yes

2.6 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has implemented the use of constructed wetlands as a sustainable wastewater treatment solution in several areas. These constructed wetlands are used to treat wastewater from agricultural, industrial, and domestic sources, especially in areas lacking conventional wastewater treatment infrastructure. Examples include the use of constructed wetlands in small towns and eco-lodges to improve water quality by filtering pollutants before the water is discharged into natural ecosystems. Constructed wetlands have extensively been used in the horticulture sector for effluent treatment before discharge. This approach has proven effective in both improving water quality and providing habitat for local wildlife. However, the technology is gradually being adopted across the country some challenges notwithstanding.

Target 3

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 7, 10, 15, 16 and 18]

3.1 Has your country put in place policies, including incentives, guidelines or other instruments to

encourage the private sector to apply the wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in activities and investments related to wetlands? {3.1}

☒ A=Yes

3.1 Additional Information

Please specify if it was applied for policy formulation or in implementation of good practice.

>>> ☐ National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2014): This policy provides a framework for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, emphasizing the role of the private sector in implementing wise use practices.

☐ Green Fiscal Incentives Policy Framework: Developed by the National Treasury and Economic Planning, this draft framework aims to attract private sector investment into a low-carbon, climate-resilient, and environmentally sustainable economy, which includes the sustainable management of wetlands.

☐ Kenya Green Finance Taxonomy (KGFT) developed by Central Bank of Kenya intended to serve as a tool to enable market participants classify whether particular economic activities are 'green' or environmentally sustainable.

☐ Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs): Kenya has promoted PPPs to involve private entities in wetland conservation projects, providing incentives such as tax breaks and technical support to encourage sustainable practices.

☐ National Water Harvesting and Storage Policy - recommend increased water storage from 5.3 Cubic meter per capita to 16 cubic metre per capita by 2030

☐ Tana River Catchment and Restoration Project : The project partners with private sector to support communities in restoring forests in the Tana Delta catchment

3.2 Has the private sector undertaken any activities or actions for the conservation, wise use, and management of (a) Ramsar Sites or (b) wetlands in general? {3.2}

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☒ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

3.2 Additional information

>>> a) Ramsar Sites: The private sector has participated in conservation activities in some Ramsar Sites, particularly in Lake Naivasha. Flower farms around the lake have collaborated with local authorities to monitor and improve water quality and reduce pesticide use, aligning with sustainable practices. However, engagement across all Ramsar Sites remains limited.

b) Wetlands in general: The private sector in Kenya has shown greater involvement in the conservation and wise use of wetlands beyond Ramsar Sites. Corporations in agriculture, tourism, and water management have adopted measures like constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment, sustainable land use practices, and support for community-led wetland conservation projects. Examples include eco-tourism companies working to conserve mangrove forests along the Kenyan coast and agricultural firms integrating wetland protection into their operations to maintain water resources for crop production.

The government has initiated several Public- Private- Partnership (PPPs) focused on wetland conservation.

These projects bring together public entities, private companies, and local communities to work towards common conservation goals. Examples include partnerships for the restoration of the Nairobi River Basin and the conservation of the upper catchment of the Tana River.

Upper Tana Nairobi Water Trust Fund brings together public and private downstream users and upstream watersheds such as agricultural land holders through their shared stake in a healthy water future.

Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Schemes exist in Naivasha, Mt.Kenya, Mt. Elgon and ongoing Carbon Projects in Lamu , and Gazi Bay in Kilifi.

3.3 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {3.3}

☒ D=Planned

3.3 Additional information

Please specify the types of incentive measures (loans, tax breaks, or others).

>>> Kenya is endowed with good policy and legislative frameworks that have been developed to support integrated environmental conservation and management while taking cognisance of the important role of wetland ecosystems i.e county spatial plans, County Integrated Development plans, Annual Development plans, Site Management Plans, Participatory Forests Management Plans, Environmental Impact Assessments etc.

Education and Awareness programs to help private land owners understand the ecological and economic value for wetlands

KEFRI has developed guidelines for establishing Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes across various watersheds and wetlands

Government has collaborated with international and local NGO;s i.e WWF, Care Kenya, IUCN, USAID, EU, Wetlands International to implement conservation projects that include financial incentives for sustainable wetlands management

3.4 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which lead to degradation or loss of wetlands? {3.4}

☒ D=Planned

3.4 Additional Information

Please specify the actions that have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures (e.g. removal of subsidies for agricultural expansion) and provide the source links or upload the source documents here.

>>> Revising Land Use Policies: Efforts are underway to amend policies that inadvertently promote wetland conversion for development, ensuring alignment with conservation objectives.

Implementing the National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy: This policy outlines strategies to eliminate incentives leading to wetland degradation and promotes sustainable use.

Review and revision of agricultural policies: Historically, some agricultural policies provided incentives for activities such as drainage and conversion of wetlands to agricultural land. Recent reforms have focused on promoting sustainable agricultural practices that protect wetland ecosystems. The Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) emphasizes the importance of sustainable land management practices.

Reviewing Agricultural Subsidies: The government is assessing subsidies that encourage agricultural expansion into wetland areas, with the aim of redirecting support towards sustainable practices.

Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), 1999: The EMCA provides a legal framework for the protection of the environment, including wetlands. Amendments to this act have strengthened provisions against activities that harm wetlands, thereby removing incentives for unsustainable exploitation.

Proposed revision of Environmental Management and Coordination (Amendment) Bill Act, 2023. The Bill seeks to amend section 47 of No.8 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, 1999 and make provisions for the prohibition of planting of non-native and water intensive species.

Target 4

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 6]

4.1 Does your country have a national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? {4.1}

☒ A=Yes

4.1 Additional information

>>> Information available within different institutions, NMK, KWS, KALRO, Fisheries, KMFRI, CABI, KEFRI, seventh schedule of the Wildlife Act Cap 376, National Strategy and Action Plan for Management of Invasive Species in Kenya's Protected Areas 2013-2018 (Under review). Kenya has made progress in identifying invasive alien species (IAS) affecting wetlands, though a comprehensive national inventory is still under development. The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has initiated efforts to document IAS, focusing on species like *Prosopis juliflora* and water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), which significantly impact wetland ecosystems. Additionally, the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS) provides a checklist for Kenya, offering valuable information on IAS present in the country.

However, a complete and regularly updated national inventory specifically targeting wetland ecosystems is still in progress.

4.2 Has your country adopted any national policies, strategies, or guidelines on invasive species control and management that are relevant for wetlands? {4.2}

☒ A=Yes

4.2 Additional information

>>> The wetlands restoration strategy provides for actions on management and control of invasive species for wetlands.

□ Wildlife Policy 2020: This policy government commitment to restore wetlands, create awareness on wetlands conservation, and implementation of the Convention

□ Seventh schedule of Wildlife Conservation and Management Act (WCMA, cap 376) gives the list of invasive species

□ National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2014): This policy emphasizes the need to prevent, control, and eradicate invasive species that adversely affect wetland ecosystems.

□ National Strategy and Action Plan for the Management of Invasive Species (under review): Developed by the Kenya Wildlife Service, this strategy aims to provide a comprehensive framework for managing invasive species across various ecosystems, including wetlands.

4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems? {4.3}

☑ F=Fewer than #

>>> 5

4.3 Additional Information

>>> □ Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*): In Lake Victoria and Lake Naivasha, the introduction of natural predators, such as beetles, and mechanical removal efforts have significantly reduced the spread of water hyacinth, improving water quality and accessibility.

□ Prosopis (*Prosopis juliflora*): In the Tana River Delta, initiatives have been undertaken to manage the spread of *Prosopis juliflora*, an invasive tree species that threatens native biodiversity and alters hydrological regimes. In Lake Baringo there are efforts to manage *Prosopis* by community utilization.

In Lake Naivasha, common carp, and cray fish that is an invasive species is being managed by encouraging utilization. However, cray fish has since been outcompeted by cat fish in the wetland.

4.4 Has the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed? {4.5}

☑ C=Partially

4.4 Additional Information

>>> In Kenya, some assessments have been conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of control programs targeting invasive species in wetlands, particularly for high-impact species like water hyacinth in Lake Victoria and Naivasha. These assessments have focused on the biological control methods employed, such as the introduction of weevils, and the impact of mechanical removal efforts. Other efforts include management through encouraged utilization

However, comprehensive, systematic evaluations across all invasive species control programs in wetlands are still limited. Plans are in place to expand these assessments to ensure long-term effectiveness, refine management strategies, and apply lessons learned across other wetland sites affected by invasive species.

Section 3 - Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant.

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 13, 14, 15]

Target 5

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective planning and integrated management

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 3 and 5]

5.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {5.1}

☑ A=Yes

5.1 Additional information

>>> Kenya has outlined a plan for the designation of additional Ramsar Sites, guided by the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List. Currently the process of designating Lake Olbollosat as Ramsar site is ongoing with community engagement and biodiversity assessments conducted.

The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy highlights the importance of protecting ecologically significant wetlands and identifies potential sites for designation based on biodiversity value, ecological significance, and community dependence.

Current priorities include expanding the Ramsar network to cover key unprotected wetlands, especially those critical for migratory birds, biodiversity conservation, and water resources. However, comprehensive strategic planning and prioritisation for further designations are still under development, with plans to engage more

stakeholders and secure resources to support the expansion of Kenya's Ramsar Site network.

5.2 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? {5.3}

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 5

5.3 How many of the Ramsar Sites are actively implementing their management plan? {5.4}

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 3

5.4 How many Ramsar Sites are implementing management actions outside of formal management plans? {5.5}

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 1

5.2 – 5.4 Additional information

>>> Ramsar sites with current Management Plans

☐ Lake Naivasha (2015-2025): Stakeholders, including local communities and private sector partners, engage in water quality monitoring and invasive species management, supplementing the existing management framework. Catchment restoration initiatives

☐ Lake Bogoria (2019-2029): Collaborative efforts with local communities address geothermal activity monitoring and sustainable tourism practices, complementing formal conservation strategies.

☐ Tana River Delta (2017-2027): Integrated land-use planning and biodiversity conservation projects are underway, involving multiple stakeholders to support the delta's ecological integrity.

Lake Baringo has no gazetted management plan.

5.5 Have all Ramsar Sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (through formal management plans where they exist or otherwise through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {5.6}

If “yes”, please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites

If “partially”, please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites

If “planned”, please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites

☒ C=Partially

>>> 5

5.5 Additional information

Please provide the source links or upload the source documents here indicating the assessment tool used (e.g. Ramsar Site Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), Resolution XII.15), and the source of the information.

>>> Lake Nakuru and Lake Elementaita Ramsar sites as wildlife Protected Areas have the effectiveness of implementation of their Management Plans assessed using METT as tool used in assessing all Wildlife Protected Areas. There are plans to apply the same tool to assess Tana Delta, Lake Naivasha and Lake Bogoria . In addition, EOH World Heritage Toolkit is being used to assess effectiveness of the management of Lake Nakuru, Lake Elementaita and Lake Bogoria (also designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites).

5.6 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {5.7}

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 6

5.6 Additional information

>>> There are management committees established for each site/ecosystem and with representation from relevant government agencies and key stakeholders within the landscape to oversee implementation of the plans.

☐ Lake Naivasha: Includes stakeholders from local communities, government agencies, and private sector entities, collaborating on sustainable management practices.

☐ Lake Nakuru: A management committee comprising representatives from the Kenya Wildlife Service, local authorities, and community groups focuses on habitat conservation and pollution control.

☐ Lake Bogoria: The Lake Bogoria Community-Based Organization involves local communities, government bodies, and non-governmental organizations in decision-making processes related to the lake's management.

☐ Tana River Delta: A multi-stakeholder forum, including government agencies, local communities, and conservation organizations, addresses land-use planning and biodiversity conservation in the delta.

☐ Lake Elementaita : The Management Plan has been validated and is pending its gazettelement and operationalization of the Management Committee.

☐ Lake Baringo: There is a stakeholder forum which facilitates decision making process awaiting finalisation

and gazettelement of the management plan and establishment of a Management Committee.

5.7 For how many Ramsar Sites has an ecological character description been prepared (see Resolution X.15)?

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 6

5.7 Additional information

For example give the name and official number of the Site or Sites.

>>> Kenya has prepared an Ecological Character Description (ECD) for all the 6 Ramsar site which RIS has been updated. Kenya will continue to undertake continuous monitoring and updating of ECD of the sites.

5.8 Resolution VI.13 urges Parties to give priority to providing the Secretariat with maps and completed Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) for all Sites designated for the Ramsar List, and to revise this data at least every six years. If your country has not updated its RIS as required, describe the challenges in updating RIS, particularly descriptions of ecological character.

>>> The RIS has been updated for all 6 Ramsar sites (2024)

Kenya will continue to undertake continuous monitoring and updating of RIS for the sites.

Target 7

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 3, 4 and 10]

7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {7.1}

☒ A=Yes

7.1 Additional information

If “Yes”, please provide the source links or upload the source documents here describing the mechanisms established

>>> Yes, mechanisms are in place to inform the Administrative Authority of negative human-induced changes or potential changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, in accordance with Article 3.2 of the Ramsar Convention. These mechanisms include:

☐ Site management authority: The Administrative Authority also directly manages two of the Ramsar sites (Lake Nakuru and Lake Elementaita) and as a Wildlife authority has oversight together with the National Environment Management Authority, on management of the other Ramsar sites.

☐ Designated wetland focal points in KWS working with field managers, relevant government agencies and stakeholders to facilitate reporting and enforcement

☐ Regular Monitoring and Reporting: Ramsar Sites are subject to ongoing monitoring to detect any changes in their ecological character. Findings are reported to the Administrative Authority to facilitate timely interventions.

☐ Stakeholder Engagement: Local communities, NGOs, and other stakeholders are encouraged to report any observed negative changes in Ramsar Sites. This participatory approach ensures comprehensive surveillance and prompt reporting.

☐ Collaboration with Research Institutions: Partnerships with academic and research institutions enhance the capacity to monitor ecological changes and provide scientific data to inform management decisions.

7.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2? {7.2}

☒ A=Yes

7.2 Additional information

If “Yes” or “Some cases”, please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has **not** made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat

>>> While Kenya has mechanisms in place to monitor and report negative human-induced changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, all such cases have been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat as required by Article 3.2. Instances where reports have not been submitted include:

☐ Lake Nakuru: Recent urban development activities have led to increased pollution levels, affecting water quality and biodiversity. However, a formal report to the Ramsar Secretariat has not been filed.

☐ Lake Naivasha: Intensified agricultural practices have resulted in nutrient runoff, causing eutrophication and impacting aquatic life. This issue has been identified but remains unreported to the Secretariat. Encroachment and construction of structures on riparian land is an emerging issue that has not yet been reported.

☐ Lake Elementaita: Engagements have been undertaken between the Administrative Authority, energy infrastructure agencies, conservation stakeholders to come up with mitigation measures on impact of energy infrastructure on bird flyways and other wildlife species.

Section 3 - Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant.

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

Target 8

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

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 21]

8.1 Does your country have a National Wetland Inventory (NWI)? {8.1}

☒ C=In Progress

8.1 Additional information

For example, if “in progress” or “planned”, by when will it be completed?

>>> Kenya has established a baseline, which is detailed in the "Kenya Wetlands Atlas" published by the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources in 2012. This comprehensive atlas provides visual evidence of the extent and severity of changes occurring in Kenya's wetlands over a span of thirty years, primarily due to human activities. It serves as a crucial tool for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands in the country.

8.2 If your country has an NWI, has it been updated in the last decade [2014-2024]? {8.2}

☒ C1=Partially

8.2 Additional information

>>> Kenya's National Wetland Inventory, as detailed in the "Kenya Wetlands Atlas" published in 2012, has not undergone a comprehensive update in the past decade. The atlas provides valuable insights into the extent and changes in Kenya's wetlands up to that point. Baseline information 'Kenya Natural resources Atlas 2023' <https://landcommission.go.ke/download/kenya-country-natural-resource-atlas/?wpdmdl=19905&refresh=672dd7d7b73371731057623>

However, to effectively address current challenges and inform conservation strategies, an updated inventory is essential. Initiatives are underway to develop a more recent and comprehensive National Wetland Inventory to support the sustainable management and conservation of Kenya's wetlands.

8.3 How often is the NWI updated?

☒ B=Irregularly ≥ 7 years

8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information publicly available? {8.4}

☒ C=Partially

8.4 Additional information

For example if “partially” or “planned” by when will the data/information be made public?

>>> Kenya's National Wetland Inventory data is publicly accessible through several platforms:

☐ Kenya Wetlands Atlas: Published by the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources in 2012, this atlas provides comprehensive information on the extent and changes in Kenya's wetlands over a span of thirty years.

☐ World Resources Institute (WRI): WRI offers GIS data on Kenya's wetlands, including shapefiles and metadata, facilitating detailed spatial analysis.

☐ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): UNEP provides access to the Kenya Wetland Atlas and related resources, supporting research and conservation efforts.

☐ Kenya Natural Resource Atlas 2023

<https://landcommission.go.ke/download/kenya-country-natural-resource-atlas/?wpdmdl=19905&refresh=672dd7d7b73371731057623>

8.5 Please explain how the NWI data/information is maintained if at all? {8.3}

>>> The Planned digital NWI is being developed by a multiple stakeholders committee both government and non-government organizations. All institutions with a mandate in wetlands management in Kenya will be allowed access to the information.

8.6 Based on the information in NWI, if available, please provide the total area in square kilometres (km²) for the extent of wetlands (according to the Convention on Wetland's definition) for the year of available data and provide the relevant disaggregated information in the box below. This information will also be used to report on SDG 6, Target 6.6, Indicator 6.6.1, for which the Convention is a co-custodian. {8.6}

☒ X=Unknown

8.6 According to the Convention's definition and classification of wetlands, the disaggregated information on wetland extent is as follows

Note: The minimum information that should be provided is the total area of wetlands for each of the three major categories; "marine/coastal", "inland" and "human-made".

If the data on inventories are partial or not complete, use the available information to fill in the form, specifying if it is partial or not complete.

Guidance on information on national wetland extent can be consulted at: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/guidance-on-information-on-national-wetland-extent>.

>>> Marine/Coastal wetlands = 5000 Square Kilometers

Inland wetlands = 7000 Square Kilometers

Human-made wetlands = 2000 Square Kilometers

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km ²)
A -- Permanent shallow marine waters	
B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds	
C -- Coral reefs	1000
D -- Rocky marine shores	
E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores	
F -- Estuarine waters	2500
G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats	
Ga -- Bivalve (shellfish) reefs	
H -- Intertidal marshes	
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands	
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons	1500
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons	
Zk(a) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems	

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands total (km²)

>>> 5000

8.6 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km ²)
L -- Permanent inland deltas	3000
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls	

N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks	
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes	2000
P -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes	
Q -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes	
R -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats	
Sp -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools	
Ss -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools	
Tp -- Permanent freshwater marshes/pools	
Ts -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils	
U -- Non-forested peatlands	2000
Va -- Alpine wetlands	
Vt -- Tundra wetlands	
W -- Shrub-dominated wetlands	
Xf -- Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands	
Xp -- Forested peatlands	
Y -- Freshwater springs; oases.	
Zg -- Geothermal wetlands	
Zk(b) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems	

8.6 Inland Wetlands total (km2)

>>> 7000

8.6 Human-made wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
1 -- Aquaculture ponds.	
2 -- Ponds	2000
3 -- Irrigated land	
4 -- Seasonally flooded agricultural land	

5 -- Salt exploitation sites	
6 -- Water storage areas	
7 -- Excavations	
8 -- Wastewater treatment areas	
9 -- Canals and drainage channels, ditches	
Zk(c) - Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems	

8.6 Human-made wetlands total (km2)

>>> 2000

8.7 How has the ecological character of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since COP14 ? {8.5}

Ecological character is the combination of the ecosystem components, processes and benefits/services that characterize the wetland at a given point in time.

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	☐ P=Status improved ☐ O=No change ☒ N=Status deteriorated
b) All wetlands in your country	☐ P=Status improved ☐ O=No change ☒ N=Status deteriorated

8.7 Additional Information

>>> Wetlands habitat is negatively impacted by increased water levels resulting to changing the ecological character of the wetlands and loss of biodiversity.

Increased human population and riparian encroachment are negatively impacting the wetlands.

8.8 On a scale of **1-5** rate the change in the ecological character of wetlands in your country, overall, since last COP

Please select only one per square.

a) Marine/coastal	☐ 5=major improvement ☐ 4=improvement ☐ 3=no change ☒ 2=deterioration ☐ 1=major deterioration
b) Inland	☐ 5=major improvement ☐ 4=improvement ☐ 3=no change ☒ 2=deterioration ☐ 1=major deterioration
c) Human-made	☐ 5=major improvement ☐ 4=improvement ☒ 3=no change ☐ 2=deterioration ☐ 1=major deterioration

8.8 Additional Information

>>> The ecological character of marine and coastal wetlands has deteriorated due to factors such as pollution, habitat loss from development, and the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels and changing weather patterns.

Inland wetlands have also experienced deterioration, primarily due to agricultural expansion, invasive species, and poor water quality resulting from runoff and pollution from adjacent land uses.

Human-made wetlands, such as constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment, have maintained their effectiveness. However, their potential for improvement in ecological functions has not been fully realized, leading to a neutral assessment overall.

8.9 What are your main needs in developing or updating an NWI to support SDG Indicator 6.6.1 reporting for tracking global wetland status and trends? Please select below. {8.7}

	Yes
a) Access to data and data acquisition standards	☒
b) Wetland delineation methods and approaches	☒
c) Habitat classifications	☐
d) Standardization in data interpretation methods	☒
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	☐
f) Resources	☒
g) Relevant skills	☒
h) Data collection and mapping	☒
i) Collaboration	☒
j) Others	☐

8.9 Additional Information

e.g explain others as referred to in (j)

>>> a.Capacity Building: There is a need for training programs aimed at enhancing the skills of personnel involved in wetland data collection, analysis and management.

b.Public Awareness and Stakeholder Engagement: Increasing awareness of the importance of wetlands among local communities and stakeholders is crucial. Engaging these groups can improve data collection efforts and ensure that local knowledge is integrated into the NWI.

c. Technological Support: Access to modern technology for remote sensing, GIS, and data management systems can significantly enhance the efficiency and accuracy of wetland inventory efforts.

8.10 Please select from the list below the main needs of your country in using NWI results to implement COP mandates, e.g. conservation and wise use of all wetlands (Resolutions X.2, XIII.12, XIII.13, XIII.14, XIII.16, XIV.17 and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)) to achieve sustainable development.

	Yes
a) Resources	☒
b) Relevant skills	☒
c) Data systems and management	☒
d) Application of NWI information for decision making (climate, biodiversity and sectoral planning/reporting)	☒
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	☒
f) Data interpretation and communication	☒
g) Collaboration	☒

Target 9

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 9, 10 and 15].

9.1 Is a national wetland policy (or equivalent instrument) that promotes the wise use of wetlands in place? {9.1}

☒ A=Yes

9.1 Additional information

>>> National Wetlands Management and Conservation Policy 2015. Kenya has a National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy in place. This policy, developed through a rigorous multi-stakeholder consultative process, aims to secure and ensure the benefits of wetlands for posterity. It provides a framework for mitigating the diverse challenges that affect wetlands conservation and wise use in Kenya

9.2 Since COP14 have any amendments to existing legislation or policies been made to reflect commitments under the Convention on Wetlands? {9.2}

☒ A=Yes

9.2 Additional information

>>> Development of the National Wetlands Restoration Strategy 2023-2033. Since COP14, Kenya has undertaken several initiatives to align its legislation and policies with the commitments under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Notably:

1. National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy: This policy, finalized in 2015, provides a framework for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Kenya. It emphasizes the need to mitigate the impacts of human population growth and escalating pressure on land and natural resources.
2. National Report on the Implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: Kenya has consistently updated its national reports, reflecting progress and challenges in implementing the Convention's provisions. These reports serve as a basis for assessing the effectiveness of national policies and strategies related to wetland conservation.

9.3 Do your country's water governance and management systems recognize wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {9.3}

☒ A=Yes

9.3 Additional information

>>> Kenya's water governance and management systems recognize wetlands as integral components of natural water infrastructure within river basins. The National Water Resources Strategy (2020-2025) identifies challenges such as water scarcity, catchment degradation, and encroachment of wetlands. It emphasizes the need for freshwater ecosystem protection and conservation, including innovative mechanisms like payment for ecosystem services (PES) and public-private partnerships.

Additionally, the National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2015) underscores the importance of wetlands in water resource management, aiming to secure and ensure their benefits for posterity. These frameworks highlight Kenya's commitment to integrating wetlands into broader water resource management strategies at the river basin scale.

9.4 Have communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {9.4}

☒ A=Yes

9.4 Additional information

>>> All relevant wetlands legal frameworks have provision for CEPA activities/initiatives. Kenya has incorporated Communication, Education, Participation, and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools into catchment and river basin planning and management. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2015) emphasizes the integration of CEPA into wetland management plans at the basin and site levels. It advocates for the development of multi-stakeholder bodies to guide and inform catchment and river basin planning, ensuring that CEPA processes are central to achieving water and wetland management objectives. This approach aligns with the Ramsar Convention's Resolution X.19, which encourages the inclusion of CEPA in wetland management strategies.

9.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or

adapting to climate change? {9.5}

☒ A=Yes

9.5 Additional information

>>> The Climate Change Act 2016, the 3rd Edition of 5-Year National Climate Change Action Plan (2023-2027) which guides the mainstreaming of climate change into sector functions and National Climate Change Action Plan (2015-2030). Wildlife Sector Climate Change Action Plan (draft). In domesticating the Paris Agreement, Kenya submitted its' Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in December 2020.

9.6 Has your country included wetland actions in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other related national policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation?

☒ A=Yes

9.6 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has incorporated wetland actions into its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and related national policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The updated NDC commits to a 32% reduction in emissions by 2030 compared to the business-as-usual scenario, with significant contributions from the agriculture, forestry, and land-use sectors. These sectors include initiatives for wetland conservation and restoration to enhance carbon sequestration and resilience. For example mangrove ecosystems in Kenya have been included in the NDC.

Additionally, the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) 2023-2027 outlines strategies for integrating wetland conservation into climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

9.7 Has your country formulated policies, plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? {9.6}

☒ A=Yes

9.7 Additional information

>>> Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy 2017-2026. Kenya has formulated policies and plans to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting viable farming systems. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the importance of wetlands in agriculture, highlighting their role in water supply, soil fertility, and biodiversity. Additionally, the National Agricultural Soil Management Policy focuses on sustainable soil management practices, recognizing the critical role of wetlands in maintaining soil health and supporting agricultural productivity.

These policies aim to integrate wetland conservation into agricultural practices, ensuring that farming systems remain viable and resilient.

9.8 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on: {9.7}

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	☐ C=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) climate change	☐ C=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
c) valuation of ecosystem services	☒ C=Planned ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

9.8 Additional information

>>> a) Agriculture-Wetland Interactions

Studies have examined the socio-economic determinants of land use and cover change in wetlands, focusing on the Anyiko wetland in Siaya County. These studies analyze how agricultural activities impact wetland ecosystems and local livelihoods.

b) Climate Change

Research has been conducted on the impacts of climate change on surface water resources, including wetlands. These studies assess how climate variability affects wetland hydrology and the provision of ecosystem services.

9.9 Has your country made efforts to conserve and wisely use urban and peri-urban wetlands in line with Resolutions XI.11 and XIV.10? {9.8}

☒ C=Partially

9.9 Additional information

>>> Yes, Kenya has made efforts to conserve and wisely use urban and peri-urban wetlands in line with Resolutions XI.11 and XIV.10. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the importance of wetlands in urban and peri-urban areas, recognizing their role in providing ecosystem services such as water purification, flood regulation, and biodiversity support. The policy advocates for the integration of wetland conservation into urban planning and development processes to ensure their sustainable use. Kenya also established the Nairobi River Commission that is an Urban rivers program under the ministry of Environment, climate Change and Forestry. Additionally, the Kenya Wetlands Forum has been active in promoting the conservation of urban wetlands through advocacy, research, and public awareness campaigns. These initiatives demonstrate Kenya's commitment to aligning with international resolutions on wetland conservation in urban and peri-urban settings.

9.10 Has your country made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolution XIII.21 and XIII.15? {9.9}

☒ C=Partially

9.10 Additional information

>>> Kenya has made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolutions XIII.21 and XIII.15 of the Ramsar Convention. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the importance of conserving small wetlands, such as springs, ponds, and headwater streams, recognizing their significant roles in hydrological cycles, biodiversity support, and cultural heritage. The policy encourages the inclusion of small wetlands in national inventories and strategies, promoting their wise use and integrated management. Additionally, the Kenya Wetlands Forum has been active in advocating for the conservation of small wetlands through research, public awareness campaigns, and community engagement initiatives. There are initiatives to designate selected wetlands as Ramsar sites such as Lake Olbolossat. These efforts demonstrate Kenya's commitment to aligning with international resolutions on the conservation and management of small wetlands.

Target 10

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 22]

10.1 Do you have national legislation or equivalent on indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels in wetland management, and/or Site management?

☒ A=Yes

10.1 Additional Information

>>> There are site Management committees for all wetlands with a management plan such as Lake Olbolossat, Ondiri swamp and Ewaso Narok wetlands.

Kenya has enacted national legislation that recognizes and integrates the rights and participation of indigenous and local communities in wetland and site management. The Community Land Act (2016) empowers communities to register and manage their communal lands, including wetlands, ensuring their active involvement in conservation and sustainable use.

Additionally, the Constitution of Kenya (2010) acknowledges the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, mandating their participation in environmental governance.

These legal frameworks facilitate the documentation, respect, and integration of traditional knowledge and practices in wetland management, aligning with national legislation and international obligations.

Wildlife Conservation and Management Act (WCMA cap 376) recognises wildlife as a landuse which has facilitated establishment of conservancies in private and community land which has been key in resource use governance and management

10.2 If the answer to question 10.1 is "yes", have the guiding principles for considering the cultural values of wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of Sites (Resolution VIII.19) been used?

☒ A=Yes

10.2 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has utilized the guiding principles from Resolution VIII.19 to incorporate cultural values, including traditional knowledge, into the effective management of wetlands. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the integration of cultural aspects in wetland management plans, promoting the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values among local communities. This approach aligns with the

principles outlined in Resolution VIII.19, ensuring that traditional knowledge and practices are respected and utilized in the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands

10.3 Have case studies on the participation of indigenous people in projects or successful experiences on cultural aspects of wetlands been compiled? (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21) {10.1}

☒ A=Yes

10.3 Additional information

>>> Kenya has compiled case studies on the participation of indigenous people in wetland projects and experiences highlighting the cultural aspects of wetlands. For instance, the study "Approaches to Community-based Conservation in Kenya: Case Studies from Amboseli, Maasai Mara, and Laikipia" examines community-based conservation approaches, emphasizing the role of indigenous knowledge and practices in wetland management.

Additionally, the "Policy Review on Sustainable Use and Management of Wetlands in Kenya: A Case Study of the Kimana Wetland, Kajiado County" explores how indigenous Maasai communities engage in wetland conservation, integrating traditional knowledge with modern conservation practices.

These case studies demonstrate Kenya's commitment to documenting and promoting the involvement of indigenous communities in wetland conservation, aligning with Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21 of the Ramsar Convention.

10.4 Have the guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands been applied? (Resolution VII. 8) {10.2}

☒ A=Yes

10.4 Additional information

If "yes" please list national legislation/policies and actions that consider the needs and participation of indigenous and local communities in wetland management at all relevant levels.

>>> Kenya has applied the guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands, as outlined in Resolution VII.8. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the integration of local and indigenous communities in wetland management, recognizing their traditional knowledge and practices. This policy advocates for the establishment of multi-stakeholder bodies to guide and inform catchment and river basin planning, ensuring that the needs and participation of these communities are central to wetland management strategies.

Additionally, the Community Land Act (2016) empowers communities to register and manage their communal lands, including wetlands, ensuring their active involvement in conservation and sustainable use.

These legislative frameworks demonstrate Kenya's commitment to aligning with international guidelines on community participation in wetland management.

In the process of developing the integrated management plans, the local community is involved in the entire process.

10.5 Have traditional knowledge and management practices relevant to the wise use of wetlands been documented and their application encouraged {10.3}

☒ A=Yes

10.5 Additional information

>>> Kenya has documented traditional knowledge and management practices relevant to the wise use of wetlands and has encouraged their application. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the integration of traditional knowledge in wetland management plans, recognizing its value in sustainable practices. Additionally, the Kenya Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (KENRIK) focuses on documenting traditional ecological knowledge systems, including those related to wetlands, to enhance community development and mainstream indigenous knowledge into national policies.

These efforts demonstrate Kenya's commitment to preserving and utilizing traditional knowledge for effective wetland management.

Target 11

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.}
[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 11, 12 and 13]

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {11.1}

☒ C1=Partially

11.1 Additional information

If "yes" or "partially", please indicate how many Ramsar Sites and their names

>>> Kenya has conducted assessments of the ecosystem benefits and services provided by Ramsar Sites and

other wetlands. Notably, the Tana Delta, designated as a Ramsar Site, has undergone such an assessment. This evaluation highlighted the delta's rich biodiversity and its critical role in supporting local communities through services like water purification, flood regulation, and fisheries support. Additionally, the Yala Swamp, another significant wetland, has been the subject of an ecosystem services assessment, emphasizing its importance in water regulation, agriculture, and biodiversity conservation. These assessments underscore Kenya's commitment to recognizing and documenting the vital functions and services of its wetland ecosystems.

11.2 Since COP14, have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to food and water security and hence poverty alleviation been implemented? {11.2}

☒ C=Partially

11.2 Additional information

>>> Integrated conservation and development project- sustainable management of Tana River Delta ecosystems while promoting community based conservation and development
Since COP14, Kenya has implemented several wetland programs and projects that contribute to food and water security, thereby aiding poverty alleviation. The Kenya Water Security and Climate Resilience Project (KWSCRIP) aims to increase the availability and productivity of irrigation water for beneficiaries, enhancing food security and supporting livelihoods.

Additionally, the Integrated and Climate-Smart Innovation for Agropastoralist Economies and Landscapes (ICSIAPL) project focuses on sustainable agriculture and water management in arid and semi-arid lands, improving food and nutrition security for vulnerable communities.

These initiatives demonstrate Kenya's commitment to leveraging wetland resources for sustainable development and poverty reduction

Kenya is part of the countries that joined the Freshwater Challenge (FWC). This is a country-led initiative that aims to support, integrate and accelerate the restoration of 300,000 km of degraded rivers and 350 million hectares of degraded wetlands by 2030, as well as conserve intact freshwater ecosystems.

11.3 Since COP14 have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to other benefits for human well-being been implemented?

☒ C=Partially

11.4 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {11.3}

☒ C=Partially

11.4 Additional information

If "yes" or "partially", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names

>>> The socio-economic values of wetlands have been incorporated into the management planning of Ramsar Sites and other wetlands in Kenya. For example, the Tana Delta Integrated Management Plan (2017-2027) emphasizes the importance of wetlands in supporting livelihoods through activities such as agriculture, fishing, and tourism. The plan outlines strategies to balance conservation efforts with the socio-economic needs of local communities, ensuring that wetland resources contribute to sustainable development. Similarly, the Sio-Malaba-Malakisi (SMM) sub-basin (of Lake Victoria Basin) Management Plan recognizes the role of wetlands in providing ecosystem services that support agriculture and other economic activities, highlighting the need for integrated management approaches that consider both ecological and socio-economic factors.

These examples demonstrate Kenya's commitment to integrating socio-economic considerations into wetland management planning.

11.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands in general? {11.4}

☒ C=Partially

11.5 Additional information

>>> Kenya has incorporated cultural values into the management planning of Ramsar Sites and other wetlands. The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy emphasizes the integration of cultural aspects in wetland management plans, promoting the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values among local communities. This approach aligns with the principles outlined in Resolution VIII.19 of the Ramsar Convention, ensuring that traditional knowledge and practices are respected and utilized in the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. Additionally, the Kenya Wetlands Forum has been active in promoting the conservation of urban wetlands through advocacy, research, and public awareness campaigns.

These initiatives demonstrate Kenya's commitment to aligning with international resolutions on wetland conservation in urban and peri-urban settings.

Target 12

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation.
[Reference Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 2, 8 and 11]

12.1 Have national wetland restoration targets been established?

☒ A=Yes

12.1 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has established national wetland restoration targets. In May 2023, the government launched the National Landscape Restoration Strategy 2023–2032, which provides to restore and rehabilitate wetlands to enhance climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. This strategy aligns with the broader goal of increasing the national tree cover from 12.3% to 30% by 2032, which includes the restoration of wetlands as vital components of the ecosystem.

These initiatives demonstrate Kenya's commitment to restoring degraded wetlands, prioritizing those significant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods, and climate change mitigation and adaptation

The country has set a target for wetlands restoration at 5000,000Ha by 2032 . The initiative is documented in the National Landscapes and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy 2022-2032.

Further, the country is preparing the Wetlands Restoration Strategy to fast track the restoration activities on wetlands.

12.2 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {12.1}

☒ C=Partially

12.2 Additional information

If “yes”, please provide a list of sites, specifying wetland types

>>> Kenya has identified priority sites for wetland restoration. The National Landscape Restoration Strategy 2023–2032 outlines specific wetlands for restoration, focusing on those significant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Notable priority sites include:

☐ Lake Ol' Bolossat: Located in Nyandarua County, this lake supports over 300 bird species and 200 plant species. Restoration efforts aim to address threats such as over-abstraction of water, sedimentation, invasive species, and climate change impacts.

☐ Gitwe Wetlands in Kibiko Forest: Restoration initiatives led by the National Environment Trust Fund (NETFUND) involve collaboration with various stakeholders to rehabilitate these wetlands, enhancing their ecological functions and supporting local communities

12.3 Since COP14 have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been implemented? {12.2}

☒ B=No

12.4 Have the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.1) and Resolution XII.11 on Peatlands, climate change and wise use: Implications for the Ramsar Convention been implemented? {12.3}

☒ Y=Not relevant

Target 13

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 10 and 14]

13.1 Have actions been taken to enhance sustainability of wetlands when they are affected by key sectors including

Please select only one per square.

a) Energy	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) Mining	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

c) Agriculture	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
d) Tourism	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
e) Urban development	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
f) Infrastructure	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
g) Industry	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
h) Forestry	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
i) Aquaculture	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
j) Fisheries	☐ D=Planned ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

13.1 Additional Information

>>> This has been done through issuance of Restoration orders and enforcement actions by various government institutions.

13.2 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact wetlands? {13.1}

☒ A=Yes

13.2 Additional information

>>> The Environmental Management and Coordination Act, 1999, ensures that SEAs are undertaken for projects affecting wetlands Ecosystems such as the Turkana windmill project.

13.3 Is there a legal requirement in your country to conduct environmental impact assessments for development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, extractive industry) from key sectors (e.g., water, energy, mining and agriculture) that may impact wetlands? {13.2}

☒ A=Yes

13.3 Additional information

>>> The Environmental Management and Coordination Act, 1999, (EMCA Cap 386) ensures that EIAs are undertaken for all development projects.

Section 3 - Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant.

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17]

Target 15

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention.

15.1 Has your country been part of the development and implementation of a Ramsar Regional Initiative?? {15.1}

☒ A=Yes

15.1 Additional information

If “yes”, please list the Ramsar Regional Initiatives in which your country is actively involved.

>>> The country is a member of the Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa (RAMCEA), a regional initiative established to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Eastern Africa. RAMCEA serves as

a platform for collaboration among countries in the region, facilitating capacity building, knowledge sharing, and the implementation of wetland conservation projects.

Through its participation in RAMCEA, Kenya contributes to and benefits from regional efforts aimed at enhancing wetland management and conservation in Eastern Africa.

15.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {15.2}

☒ A=Yes

15.2 Additional information

If “yes”, please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s).

>>> Kenya is a member of the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training, and Research in Eastern Africa (RCGW). Established as a state corporation under the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, RCGW aims to promote regional cooperation in the management of groundwater systems, train water professionals, and support member states in addressing regional needs.

Through its involvement, Kenya contributes to and benefits from regional efforts in groundwater education, training, and research.

Target 16

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 21].

16.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {16.1}

Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this in the Additional information section below

Please select only one per square.

a) At the national level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Progress ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) Sub-national level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Progress ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
c) Catchment/basin level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Progress ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
d) Local/site level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Progress ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

16.1 Additional information

If “yes” or “in progress” to one or more of the four categories above

>>> CEPA has been incorporated into relevant environment related sectoral policies, strategies and plans including Water, Wildlife, Fisheries, Forestry, Agriculture, Tourism and other Land sectors. The same has been adopted by relevant sectors at the devolved county units. CEPA materials have also been produced and disseminated across the country.

●National Level: The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2013) emphasizes the promotion of communication, education, and public awareness among stakeholders regarding wetland conservation. The World Wetlands day is marked annually in the month of February as a way of raising awareness and conservation of wetlands.

●Sub-national Level: The Kenya Wetlands Forum actively engages in CEPA activities to promote wetland conservation and sustainable use across various regions in Kenya.

●Catchment/Basin Level: The Tana Delta Conservation Network (TDCN) has developed local resource use plans and community policy guides to assist in the sustainable management of wetlands in the Tana Delta.

●Local/Site Level: In Lake Naivasha and Yala Swamp, local communities are engaged through educational campaigns and stakeholder workshops aimed at raising awareness about the ecological significance of these wetlands and promoting sustainable resource management practices.

●Other Regions: Community-based organizations in the Lake Victoria basin are also implementing CEPA strategies, focusing on the importance of wetlands for biodiversity and livelihoods.

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) that focus on wetlands have been established? {16.2}

a) at Ramsar Sites

☒ E=# centres

>>> 3

b) at other wetlands

☒ E=# centres

>>> 1

16.2 Additional information

>>> Education centres have been established in Lakes Nakuru, Naivasha and Bogoria Ramsar sites as well as in Saiwa Swamp to provide information to both national and international visitors.

16.3 Does the Contracting Party {16.3}

Please select only one per square.

a) ensure stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

16.3 Additional information

>>> Public participation is entrenched in Kenya's Constitution (2010) therefore stakeholders are involved during consultative meetings while compiling the Ramsar information sheets (RIS)and in the process of wetlands management plan development and implementation. They also participate in the management committees at the National, county and Site level.

Community engagement and outreach plans for Lake Ol Bolossat, County government engagement are ongoing in the process of designating the Lake as a Ramsar Site.

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral national Ramsar/wetlands committee? {16.4}

☒ A=Yes

16.4 Additional information

>>> There is a cross-sectoral National Ramsar Steering Committee in place whose membership is composed of representatives from different sectors including Wildlife, Water, Environment and Forestry, Fisheries, Culture and Heritage, Research institutions and NGOs.

16.5 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral body equivalent to a national Ramsar/wetlands committee? {16.5}

☒ A=Yes

16.6 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share the Convention's implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and: {16.6}

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

c) other ministries, departments and agencies	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
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16.6 Additional information

>>> The Administrative Authority convenes meetings and fora for National Focal points for Ramsar Convention and other wildlife-related MEAs to update the Ramsar Information sheets and discuss wetlands related priorities matters.

There is an established Kenya Wetlands Forum as a cross-sectoral (with over 500 representatives) to discuss matters wetland and development of policy briefs for uptake by the government. Additionally the National Biodiversity Coordination Mechanism was launched in 2024.

16.7 Has your country organized any Convention on Wetlands-branded World Wetlands Day events, whether led by government or NGOs, since COP14? {16.7}

☒ A=Yes

16.7 Additional information

>>> WWD is celebrated every year in Kenya led by the National Government in partnership with the local communities, NGOs, CBOs and civil society organizations. A number of build-up activities are undertaken to raise awareness on the importance of wetlands and why they need to be protected. In 2022 WWD was celebrated in Ondiri Swamp in Kikuyu Kiambu County, in 2023, WWD was celebrated in Enkongu Enkare Wetland in, Narok county while the 2024 WWD was celebrated in Timboroa Dam (Lake Narasha) nestled within the landscapes of Uasin Gishu and Baringo counties. NGOs involved in wetlands management and conservation support and facilitate side events during the WWD celebration.

16.8 Did your country undertake any campaigns, programmes or projects to raise awareness about the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife during the World Wetlands Days since COP14? {16.8}

☒ A=Yes

16.8 Additional information

>>> Buildup activities to create awareness were undertaken during the WWD celebrations. These included, students' essay competitions, community meetings, radio and TV talk shows, exhibition and trade fairs and webinars

16.9 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made public (e.g., through publications or a website)? {18.5}

☒ A=Yes

16.9 Additional Information

>>> Information about Kenya's wetlands and Ramsar Sites, including their status, has been made publicly available through various publications and online platforms. The Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS) provides detailed reports on each Ramsar Site in Kenya, such as Lake Nakuru, Lake Naivasha, and the Tana River Delta.

Additionally, the Kenya Wetlands Forum offers resources and updates on wetland conservation efforts across the country.

These platforms serve as valuable sources for stakeholders and the public to access information on the ecological status and conservation initiatives of Kenya's wetlands.

Target 17

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the Convention's fourth Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 from all sources are made available.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19]

17.1 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency ("donor countries")] Since COP14, has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management efforts in other countries? {17.3}

☒ A=Yes

17.1 Additional information

>>> Kenya has participated in regional collaborations, such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Nile Basin Initiative, which include projects focused on wetland conservation and management. These initiatives demonstrate Kenya's commitment to regional cooperation and support for wetland conservation beyond its borders.

17.2 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency (“donor countries”)] Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed the development of projects by the agency? {17.4}

☒ A=Yes

17.2 Additional information

>>> ☐ Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) provide for environmental safeguards

☐ Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMP's) developed and implemented

17.3 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance since COP14] Has your country received financial support specifically for national wetland conservation and management: {17.5}

Please select only one per square.

a) from development assistance agencies of another country?	☐ Z=Not applicable ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes
b) from non-national or multilateral development assistance agencies?	☐ Z=Not applicable ☐ B=No ☒ A=Yes

17.3 Additional information

for example from which countries or agencies

>>> Dutch Fund for Climate and Development (DFCD): In collaboration with WWF Kenya, the DFCD has supported scalable Bankable Nature Solutions (BnS) addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation. This initiative includes projects related to water and sanitation, environmental protection, forestry, and agriculture, all of which have implications for wetland conservation.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID): USAID has been involved in various water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects in Kenya, such as the Sustainable, Transformational, and Accessible WASH Interventions (STAWI) program, which commenced in 2023. While not exclusively focused on wetlands, these projects contribute to the broader environmental management efforts that can benefit wetland ecosystems.

World Bank: The World Bank has been involved in various water-related projects in Kenya, offering loans, grants, and technical assistance to support the expansion and improvement of water infrastructure, management practices, and community engagement.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): UNEP has been involved in initiatives like the Freshwater Challenge, a country-led initiative aiming to restore degraded rivers and wetlands globally. Kenya is among the countries participating in this initiative, which supports the restoration and conservation of freshwater ecosystems.

African Development Bank (AfDB): The AfDB has funded the Thwake Multi-purpose Water Development Programme, a dam complex on the Athi River in Kenya. While primarily focused on water supply and hydropower, the project has implications for wetland conservation in the region.

17.4 Has any financial support from the national budget been provided by your country to facilitate the implementation of the Convention on Wetlands? {17.6}

☒ A=Yes

17.4 Additional information

If “yes” please state the amounts, and for which activities.

>>> Budgets for management of Lake Nakuru, Lake Elmentaita, Lake Baringo and Lake Bogoria as wildlife Protected Areas are allocated by the government.

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels

18.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the national Ramsar /wetland committee? {18.1}

☒ A=Yes

18.1 Additional information

>>> Some of the National Ramsar Committee members are also drawn from institutions which are focal points of other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

18.2 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Convention on Wetland's Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO)? {18.2}

☒ C=Partially

18.2 Additional information

>>> There are some collaborative projects between the focal points and the UN (UNEP FAO, UNDP)

18.3 Has your country received assistance from any of the following UN or other global and regional bodies and agencies in implementing the Convention on Wetlands since COP14? {18.3}

a) UNEP	☒
b) FAO	☒
c) UNECE	☐
d) UNFCCC	☐
e) Global Environment Facility	☒
f) UNDP	☐
g) UNESCO	☒
h) World Health Organization	☐
i) World Meteorological Organization	☐
j) ITTO	☐
k) The Convention's IOPs	☒

18.3 Additional information

For example describe the support and indicate the amount of funding.

>>> There are joint activities being implemented with different agencies such as
 FAO and NEMA on development and implementation of wetland management plans. \$20,000
 Wetlands International and NEMA on policy wetlands review \$1,000
 WWF and NEMA on Marine ecosystems and Blue economy programs and policy development
 Birdlife International and Nature Kenya, Wetland International and NMK on conservation and monitoring of
 Important Bird Area \$15,000
 Wetlands International, Birdlife International and WWF have also supported the implementation of various
 wetlands conservation projects in the country.

18.4 Has your country established international network(s), such as twinning arrangements, to facilitate knowledge sharing and training related to wetlands that share common features? {18.4}

☒ A=Yes

18.4 Additional information

>>> Kenya and Uganda twinning program through the RAMCEA in 2024.

18.5 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {18.6}

☒ A=Yes

18.5 Additional information

>>> The transboundary wetlands systems have been identified, including Lake Victoria, Lake Turkana, Lake Jipe, Sio Siteko, the Mara River and the Msambweni-Vanga seascape.

18.6 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {18.7}

☒ C=Partially

18.6 Additional information

>>> There are initiatives under the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC),) and the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI),

the agreements do not cover all the transboundary wetlands.

18.7 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {18.8}

☒ A=Yes

18.7 Additional information

If "yes", please list which regional networks or initiatives

>>> CMS-African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA): Kenya is a contracting party to AEWA, which aims to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats across the African-Eurasian flyways.

CMS-Sharks MoU: Kenya is a signatory to CMS-MoU on the Conservation and management of Sharks and their habitats

CMS- IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU.

CMS-Dugong MoU

Target 19

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and its 4th Strategic Plan 2016 - 2024 is enhanced.

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 20]

19.1 Has your country conducted any national needs assessment since COP14 to inform capacity building planning to implement the Convention's Strategic Plan? {19.1}

☒ C=Partially

19.1 Additional information

>>> Kenya's National Report on the Implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands highlights the need to enhance institutional capacity with well-articulated policy and legal arrangements, as well as site-specific management plans.

These assessments demonstrate Kenya's commitment to strengthening its capacity to effectively implement the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan.

19.2 Does your country or institution implement capacity development strategies or actions for the Convention's Strategic Plan?

☒ A=Yes

19.2 Additional Information

>>> Kenya has a National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2014) that emphasizes capacity building for effective wetland conservation. This policy outlines strategies for enhancing institutional capacity, including training programs for personnel involved in wetland management.

Kenya Wetlands Forum also collaborates with various stakeholders to promote wetland conservation through capacity-building initiatives.

19.3 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes (Resolution XIV.11)? {19.2}

☒ A=Yes

19.3 Additional information

>>> The National Wetlands Conservation and Management Policy (2014) emphasizes the integration of wetland conservation into the national education sector strategic plan (4.1.5 Climate change, environmental degradation, and resource depletion underscore the need for sustainability education that equips learners with the knowledge, skills, and values to contribute to a more sustainable future. This includes developing curricula and materials that highlight the importance of wetlands and promote sustainable management practices.

Additionally, organizations like Nature Kenya, Wildlife Clubs of Kenya collaborate with educational institutions to incorporate wetland conservation topics into their programs, ensuring that students are informed about the ecological and socio-economic significance of wetlands; including convening virtual webinars/talks on importance of wetlands.

There are Universities and colleges with technical courses related to conservation and biodiversity economy.

19.4 How many training events for wetland site managers have occurred since COP14? {19.3}

a) at Ramsar Sites

☒ X=Unknown

b) at other wetlands

☒ X=Unknown

19.5 Have you (AA) used your previous National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention?
{19.4}

☒ A=Yes

19.5 Additional information

>>> Updating of the Ramsar Information Sheets for all Ramsar sites was prioritized in the CoP14 reporting and the same was followed through for implementation . Information on all sites was updated and submitted in 2024.

Section 4. Optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on those

Goal 1

Target 1: Wetland benefits

Wetland benefits are featured in national/ local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 14]

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

>>> mainstreaming wetlands benefits in all relevant sectoral legal frameworks by 2030

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

>>> 1.Aligning all relevant public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework

2.Review and update national policies and regulations in key sectors such as agriculture, water management, urban planning, fisheries, and forestry to include wetland conservation and management.

3.Organize workshops, training, and awareness campaigns for professionals in sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and water management to highlight the value of wetlands and their ecosystem services.

4.Amend or create legislation to enhance the protection of wetlands, ensuring they are adequately covered by environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and spatial planning regulations across all sectors.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> Mainstreaming wetlands as a critical component of national and sectoral climate action plans.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Additional Information

>>> These activities contribute to achieving the Ramsar Convention's goal of integrating wetland conservation into all relevant sectors, leading to a more holistic and sustainable approach to wetland management

Target 2: Water Use

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 7, Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

Target 2: Water Use - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

>>> Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution by at least half from all sources, by 2030

Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

>>> water quality and quantity monitoring of all wetlands ecosystem

2. Enhance the capacity of environmental regulatory agencies to enforce pollution standards through regular inspections, penalties, and public reporting of polluting industries.

3. Promote a circular economy model that encourages reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling products to reduce waste generation and pollution.

4. Promote of Pollution-Reducing Sustainable Agriculture Practices

Target 2: Water Use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> Issuance of EIA and Water discharge Licence to entities in compliance to the water quality standards

Target 2: Water Use - Additional Information

>>> Ensure that pollution reduction is embedded within national biodiversity governance frameworks, ensuring accountability and integration of pollution issues in biodiversity conservation efforts.

Target 3: Public and private sectors

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 7, 10, 15, 16 and 18]

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Priority

☒ B=Medium

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

>>> Reduce Harmful Incentives by at Least \$500 Billion per Year, and Scale Up Positive Incentives for Biodiversity

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

>>> 1.Regulation of proposed projects adjacent to wetlands through rigorous EIA process

2.Raise awareness on wise use practices around wetlands ecosystems

Target 4: Invasive alien species

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 6]

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

>>> Reduce the Introduction of Invasive Alien Species by 50% and Minimize Their Impact by at least 50 per cent, by 2030.

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

>>> 1. Identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species,

2. undertake surveys to identify and map invasive species

3. Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

4. monitor and control any introduction and establishment of invasive species

5. Establish invasive species database

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> There are isolated reports on mapping and identification of alien invasive species on wetland areas

Goal 2

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 3, 4 and 5]

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

>>> 70% of all Ramsar sites management plan reviewed, updated and implemented by 2030

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

>>> Develop, Review, update and implement all Ramsar management plans

Target 7: Sites at risk

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 3, 4, and 10]

Target 7: Sites at risk - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

>>> Ensure that by 2030 at least 27.3% of degraded areas are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity. This includes 3.4% of areas of degraded forests, 7.7% of areas of degraded Agro-ecosystems, 13.4% of areas of degraded rangelands, 1.3% of areas of degraded wetlands and water towers, 0.03% of areas of degraded marine ecosystems and mangrove, 1.5% of areas of urban areas and settlements

Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

- >>> 1. Develop integrated water management plans to maintain and restore water towers.
2. Provide training and technical support to government agencies, NGOs, and local communities involved in wetland restoration efforts.
3. Implementation of the national ecosystems and landscapes restoration programme that targets growing 15 billion trees by 2032.
4. Integrate restoration targets into national and county-level development plans and policies.
5. Implement measures to reduce marine pollution and improve water quality.
6. Promote agroforestry, organic farming, and conservation agriculture (SMART Agriculture)
7. Provide training and resources to farmers on sustainable land management practices.
8. Introduce rotational grazing and other sustainable grazing practices.
9. Incorporate green infrastructure and biodiversity-friendly designs in urban development.
10. Secure funding from government budgets, international donors, and private sector investments to support restoration projects.
11. Invest in research and development to identify best practices, innovative technologies, and effective restoration techniques.
12. Enhancing monitoring systems

Target 7: Sites at risk - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> Contribution to global goals: GBF-Biodiversity is sustainably used and its contributions to people are maintained, enhanced or restored.

Alignment with global target: GBF-T02. 30% of degraded areas are under effective restoration

1. Increased national tree and forest cover in Kenya by 2024.
2. 350,507 ha of degraded public natural forest and water towers rehabilitated by 2024.
3. 500,000 ha of degraded water towers, wetlands and riparian areas outside gazetted forests are rehabilitated by 2032

Goal 3

Target 8: National wetland inventories

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 21]

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

>>> Target 21: Enhance availability and access to credible data and knowledge to inform biodiversity action.

1.Develop and implement 47, biodiversity inclusive County Spatial Plans.

2.Develop and implement Marine Spatial Plans

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

>>> 1.Support research programs that generate high-quality data and knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

2.Enhance internet connectivity and digital platforms to facilitate easy access to data and information for all stakeholders.

3.Support educational and training initiatives to build the skills necessary for effective biodiversity monitoring and management.

4.Provide training programs for decision-makers, practitioners, and IPLCs on data management, interpretation, and application.

5.Facilitate community-based monitoring programs that empower local stakeholders to participate in data collection and management.

6.Establish institutional mechanisms, such as a Biodiversity Coordination Committee, to oversee the implementation of data-sharing policies and the integration of traditional knowledge.

7.Enhance awareness campaigns to inform the public about the importance of biodiversity and the role of data in its conservation.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> 1.GBF-T21:Improved accessibility to relevant wetlands data, information and knowledge for decision-making

2.Counties implementing the national spatial plan

3.Land use and land cover (water, marine, forest, grassland, wetlands, wildlife, livestock etc.)

Target 9: Wise Use

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 9, 10 and 15]

Target 9: Wise Use - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

>>> Achieve 20% Sustainable Management in Aquaculture, Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture by 2030

Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

>>> 1.Undertake a baseline of sustainable areas under agriculture aquaculture ,Fisheries (Conduct a baseline assessment to establish current levels of sustainable management and review the 20% target as necessary by 2030)

2.Provide financial incentives, grants, and subsidies to support the implementation of sustainable practices in aquaculture, fisheries.

3.Research and innovation to develop and promote new technologies and practices that enhance sustainability.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 22]

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

>>> Target 22: Ensure inclusive participation in biodiversity related decision-making processes

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

>>> 1.Ensure that conservation efforts do not infringe on traditional knowledge and practices but rather integrate and protect the recognition and respect of cultures and rights of indigenous people and local communities.

2.Ensure Indigenous people and local communities actively participating in decision- making—on biodiversity-related matters

Target 11: Wetland functions

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated.
[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 2, 12 and 13]

Target 11: Wetland functions - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 11: Wetland functions - National Targets

>>> Target 2: By 2030, at least 1.3% of areas of degraded wetlands and water towers and 0.03% of areas of degraded marine are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

Target 12: By 2027, review, update and implement policies to significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas including by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, biodiversity-inclusive research and urban planning, inclusive and sustainable urbanisation, and nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches.

Target 13: By 2027, develop, review and harmonize laws and policies; establish and strengthen effective institutional and administrative frameworks and by 2030 enhance the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources, digital sequence information on genetic resources, and associated traditional knowledge, by, capacity-building and technology transfer measures at national, county and community levels, under applicable international policy instruments

Target 11: Wetland functions - Planned activity

>>> 1. Conduct a comprehensive review of existing policies related to urban green and blue spaces

2. Develop a framework for restoration of degraded landscapes and ecosystems

3. Develop integrated water management plans to maintain and restore water towers.

4. Implement measures to reduce marine pollution and improve water quality.

5. Reviews and update of existing laws and policies related to genetic resources, digital sequence information, and associated traditional knowledge.

6. Kenya will develop and operationalize the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Law and mainstream it to the counties

Target 11: Wetland functions - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> 1. National landscapes and ecosystems restoration strategy 2023-2032 developed

2. National wetlands Restoration strategy development ongoing to actualize implementation of restoration of wetlands ecosystem in the country.

Target 12: Restoration

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 2, 8, and 11]

Target 12: Restoration - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

>>> Target 2: 2030, at least 1.3% of areas of degraded wetlands and water towers and 0.03% of areas of degraded marine under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity

Target 8: By 2030, minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, by reducing Green House Gases Emissions (GHG) by 32% relative to Business as Usual (BAU) while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.

Target 11: By 2030, restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.

Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

- >>> 1. Develop a framework for restoration of degraded landscapes and ecosystems
2. Develop integrated water management plans to maintain and restore water towers.
3. Implement measures to reduce marine pollution and improve water quality.
4. Formulate and implement strategies and policies that prioritize nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches.
5. Initiate and support large-scale ecosystem restoration projects aimed at rehabilitating degraded habitats, such as wetlands, forests, and grasslands.
6. Incorporate nature-based solutions into land use planning, spatial planning, and urban development projects to ensure that ecosystem functions are considered in decision-making.
7. Promote agricultural practices that enhance soil health, water management, and biodiversity, such as agroforestry, cover cropping, and conservation tillage.
8. Integrate nature-based solutions into climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, such as forest conservation for carbon sequestration and wetlands for flood control.
9. Utilize ecosystem-based approaches in disaster risk reduction and management, such as restoring mangroves for coastal protection and enhancing forest cover to reduce landslide risks.
10. Improve water security and resilience against climate-induced droughts and floods
11. Develop and restore natural coastal buffers such as mangroves, wetlands, and coral reefs.
12. Restore degraded ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, and grasslands.
13. Implement the Climate Change Act, Strategies and plans
14. Increase investment in and adoption of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power.
15. Climate policies are integrated across all sectors, including agriculture, energy, transport, and urban planning.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 10, 14 and 15]

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

>>> Target 10: By 2030, ensure at least 20% (to be reviewed after the baseline assessment) of areas under aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, and agriculture are sustainably managed, including through sustainable use, certification mechanisms, the application of spatial planning, and other biodiversity-friendly and innovative approaches and agro-ecological practices; regenerative agriculture, precision farming, integrated pest management

Target 14 -By 2030, biodiversity values have been fully integrated into policies, regulations, planning processes, business strategies, poverty eradication interventions, fiscal and financial flows, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments, and all sectors with significant impacts on biodiversity, both at national and county levels, across public and private sectors.-

Target 15- By 2030, develop legal, administrative and policy measures including a review of Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) regulations and mechanisms, environmental, social and biodiversity safeguards, and others implemented to encourage and enable all businesses, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:

- (a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios;
- (b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;
- (c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to businesses and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

- >>> 1.Develop and enforce legal measures to ensure businesses, especially large and transnational companies and financial institutions, monitor, assess, and disclose their biodiversity impacts.
- 2.Review and update Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) regulations to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.
- 3.Foster collaboration between government, businesses, financial institutions, and other stakeholders to promote biodiversity-friendly practices.
- 4.Engage the public through awareness campaigns and educational initiatives to promote the importance of biodiversity in business practices
- 5.Carrying out a comprehensive biodiversity valuation involves assessing the economic, social, and ecological value of biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides.
- 6.Public-Private Partnerships: Foster collaborations
- 7.Application of spatial planning for areas under agriculture aquaculture ,Fisheries and Forestry
- 8.Undertake a baseline of sustainable areas under agriculture aquaculture ,Fisheries and Forestry (Conduct a baseline assessment to establish current levels of sustainable management and review the 20% target as necessary).
- 9.Promote sustainable use agroecological practices ,regenerative agriculture ,precision farming integrated pest management, certification mechanisms and other biodiversity friendly and innovative approaches.
- 10.Encourage the adoption of agro-ecological practices, such as regenerative agriculture, precision farming, and integrated pest management.
- 11.Provide financial incentives, grants, and subsidies to support the implementation of sustainable practices in aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, and agriculture
- 12.Undertake training programs and capacity-building workshops for farmers, fishers, foresters, and aquaculturists on sustainable management practices and innovative approaches.
- 13.Research and innovation to develop and promote new technologies and practices that enhance sustainability

Goal 4

Target 15: Regional Initiatives

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

>>> SDG 6-Target 6.5: by 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

SDG 17- Target 17.16: Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

>>> 1.Development of proposal for nomination of Lake Victoria (Kenya-Uganda-Tanzania) and Msabweni Vanga Marine Ecosystem Ramsar sites

2.Plan twinning and knowledge-sharing programs within RAMCEA region

3. Implement joint projects/ programs under RAMCEA and target joint resource mobilization.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 21]

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

>>> Mainstream wetland conservation and sustainable use practices in national and county-level environmental policies and sectoral plans.

Promote awareness and capacity building for stakeholders at all levels, including communities, policymakers, and conservation agencies, to strengthen local engagement and knowledge sharing.

Integrate wetland management practices in agricultural, urban, and water resource management policies to reduce habitat degradation, pollution, and unsustainable land-use practices.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

>>> Capacity Development and Training Programs: Implement targeted training programs for government officials, community leaders, and conservation practitioners to enhance understanding of sustainable wetland management practices.

Public Awareness Campaigns: Launch nationwide campaigns emphasizing the value of wetlands, focusing on schools, local communities, and policymakers, to increase awareness and participation.

Community-Based Conservation Initiatives: Develop and support community-led wetland restoration and monitoring programs, ensuring local stakeholders play a leading role in conservation efforts.

Policy Integration Workshops: Conduct workshops aimed at incorporating wetland management strategies into key policy frameworks such as agriculture, tourism, and water management.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2024 and how they contribute to achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in October 2024

>>> 1.Enhanced Capacity and Awareness: Increased understanding and awareness of wetland values, resulting in higher community engagement and local governance of wetland areas.

2.Policy Integration: Wetland conservation integrated into key national and sectoral policies, aiding in the sustainable use of natural resources and alignment with SDG targets (particularly SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation and SDG 15 on life on land).

3.Increased Funding and Partnerships: Formation of new partnerships and funding avenues from international conservation bodies and private sectors, directly supporting SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals.

Contribution to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets and SDGs:

These activities contribute directly to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 21 by fostering a society that understands and values nature through increased public awareness and participation. Additionally, they contribute to SDGs 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 15 by supporting sustainable development, reducing poverty through livelihood opportunities in wetland management, and conserving life-supporting ecosystems.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Additional Information

>>> To ensure the continued success and scaling of these initiatives, Kenya is exploring regional cooperation with neighboring countries to share resources, knowledge, and data on wetland conservation practices, further aligning with the objectives of transboundary environmental agreements and the SDGs.

Target 17: Financial and other resources

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the Convention's fourth Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 from all sources are made available. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19]

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

>>> To ensure the effective implementation of the Convention's fourth Strategic Plan (2016-2024), Kenya aims to increase financial support, foster partnerships, and mobilize additional resources from diverse sources, including government budgets, private investments, and international grants.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

>>> 1. Establish Partnerships: Collaborate with private sector entities, NGOs, and international agencies to secure co-funding for wetland conservation initiatives.
2. Develop Grant Programs: Initiate and expand grant programs specifically aimed at wetland conservation, restoration, and sustainable use.
3. Capacity-Building Programs: Conduct training and capacity-building workshops for local communities and stakeholders to maximize the use of available resources efficiently.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Additional Information

>>> The anticipated outcomes will enhance Kenya's capacity to meet the Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19 and contribute to relevant Sustainable Development Goals, notably by supporting biodiversity, promoting sustainable use of ecosystems, and building resilience to climate change.

Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels.

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

>>> Kenya aims to enhance its participation in international conservation networks, increase collaboration with regional and global partners, and engage in knowledge exchange to adopt best practices for wetland conservation and wise use.

Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

>>> 1.Engagement in Regional and Global Forums – Actively participate in forums such as the Ramsar Convention meetings, African Wetlands Network, and others that foster international dialogue and collaboration.

2.Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements – Develop and implement agreements with neighboring countries for transboundary wetland conservation and sustainable management.

3.Capacity-Building and Knowledge Exchange – Organize joint workshops and training with international partners to strengthen technical expertise in wetland management.

Target 18: International cooperation - Additional Information

>>> Kenya is exploring partnerships with international Organizations, development agencies, and research institutions to address resource limitations and expand support for wetland conservation efforts across borders.

Target 19: Capacity Building

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and its 4th Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 20]

Target 19: Capacity Building - Priority

☒ A=High

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

>>> Kenya's national target is to strengthen capacity at the national and local levels, building expertise in areas such as ecosystem management, monitoring, reporting, and policy implementation related to wetlands and Marine areas.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

>>> 1.Training Workshops: Organize regular workshops for government officials, conservationists, and community leaders on sustainable wetland management practices.

2.Technical Training: Develop technical skills in wetland and marine data collection, ecosystem monitoring, and assessment.

3.Educational Campaigns: Enhance public awareness through educational campaigns, especially targeting youth and local communities living near wetlands.

Partnership Programs: Collaborate with international and regional conservation bodies for training and resources.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Additional Information

>>> Continued efforts to establish partnerships with international entities are in progress to increase access to training and resource-sharing opportunities that enhance capacity-building initiatives.

