

RAMSAR CONVENTION

Ramsar National Report to COP15

Help desk

If you have any questions or problems, please contact Secretariat staff at national reports@ramsar.org. Use of this email address will facilitate a timely response from the Secretariat.

Link to online tutorials on how to access and use the ORS:

https://www.ramsar.org/document/ramsar-online-reporting-system-tutorial

Find previous reports here: https://www.ramsar.org/search

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

Please read the general guidance section before starting to complete the form.

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-sampleletter

>>> Ministry of Environment

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

Cover letter Republic of Moldova.pdf - Cover letter of the RAMSAR Report Republic of Moldova.

Designated Administrative Authority for the Convention on Wetlands

Name of Administrative Authority >>> Ministry of Environment

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title >>> Mr. Sergiu Lazarencu, Minister

Mailing address >>> 162, Bd. Ștefan Cel Mare Și Sfânt, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, MD-2004

Telephone >>> (+373) 22 204 560; (+373) 22 204 561; (+373) 22 204 587

Email >>> cancelaria@mediu.gov.md

Designated National Focal Point for the Convention on Wetlands

Name and title >>> Serghei Balacci, Principal Adviser, Department for Nature Conservation and Biosecurity Policies

Mailing address >>> 162, Bd. Ștefan Cel Mare Și Sfânt, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, MD-2004

Telephone >>> (+373) 22 204 574

Email >>> serghei.balacci@mediu.gov.md

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

Name and title >>> Liliana Josan, project manager

Name of organisation >>> Biotica Ecological Society

Telephone >>> (+373) 069150557

Email >>> liliana.josan@gmail.com

Designated Non-Governmental Communication, Education, Participation and

Awareness (CEPA) Programme National Focal Point

Name and title

Name of organisation >>> Eco-Tiras International Association of River Keepers

Mailing address >>> 11 A, Teatrala Str., Chisinau, Republic of Moldova MD-2012

Telephone >>> (+373) 22 225 615

Email >>> ilyatrom@mail.ru

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)

>>> During the 1st December 2019 – 30th September 2023, the project "Enhancing climate resilience in the Biosphere Reserve "Prutul de Jos" (Lower Prut)". During the project period were developed the following activities and materials:

- Climate Vulnerability Assessment of the natural protected areas Biosphere reserve "Prutul de Jos" that describes in detail the proposed adaptation measures that are grouped in four clusters:

Measures to exclude/limit non-climate pressure on the environment;

Measures to protect and support vulnerable species and ecosystems;

•Measures to facilitate climate-resilient livelihoods and development;

•Measures to build awareness, capacity, and cooperation for adaptation.

- Sub-Basin Management Plan for the Frumoasa – Crihana River was developed and approved. Lower Prut Lakes Ramsar site overlaps with the Frumoasa-Crihana sub-basin. The management plan lists several measures such as improvement of the monitoring program of surface water bodies, extension and restoration of natural habitats, mitigation of drought and water conservation risks in the agricultural sector, flood risk management.

- The official website https://prutuldejos.md/ was launched, created as part of a project to strengthen climate change resilience and biodiversity conservation

- Information and awareness campaigns, Posters with the birds of the Lower Prut, publications regarding the values of the wetlands and protected areas, International Symposium dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Natural Reserve "PRUTUL DE JOS". The topic of the Symposium was: Wetlands – perennial values with a vital role for humanity, Danube Day, World Wetlands Day celebration.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Ecosystem services of the Lower Nistru Ramsar Area

Frumoasa Crihana Basin Management Plan

2)

>>> During the period: 01 December 2017 – 31 May 2022, the project "Ecosystem-based adaptation, climateresilience measures, and institutional development in the Lower Dniester" was implemented.

- Administrative Council of the Lower Dniester Ramsar Site was established and institutional capacities have been strengthened. The members of the Councils are the representatives of the local public administration, Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Inspectorate, and civil society organizations. In order to be formalized, a regulation on the functionality of the Administrative Council has been elaborated and approved by its members as well. The regulation had a legal character and included information pertaining to the duties of the council, tasks of the Council, members of the Council, activities of the council, and other organizational aspects.

- the website for the LDRS in 3 languages (info on the Ramsar Site, ecology, tourism facilities, other important info) was launched on the domain www.lower-dniester.org.

- a publication was elaborated "Ecosystem services of the Lower Dniester Ramsar Site" that was distributed widely during the local and national meetings.

- the management plan of the Lower Dniester Ramsar Site was updated.

- areas of the LDRS have been rehabilitated through forestation on both riverbanks. Ecosystem services and climate mitigation are enhanced. Within this output protective anti-erosive planting preventing the land degradation and contributing to carbon sequestration was performed in Popeasca and Cioburciu villages, Stefan Voda rayon, the right bank and physical integrity/ functional capacity of water-protective bands in Transdniestria was increased along the Dniester old riverbed – a valuable nature monument of the LDRS. - awareness-raising campaigns were conducted in support of LDRS management, LDRS promotion through external study tours, information tours to the Lower Dniester region and international events, World Wetlands Day celebration.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Environmental strategy

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

1)

>>> Continuing financial constraints and insufficient capacity of conservation staff to survey wetlands

2)

>>> To ensure financial support for activities developed in the wetlands

3)

>>> Increasing pressure from the development activities on all types of wetlands

4)

>>> Lack of funds/subsidies.

5)

>>> Lack of financing to organize the national wetland inventory

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

1)

>>> Environmental Strategy 2024-2030 of the Republic of Moldova established the following targets:

SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Target 6.6. Protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of ecosystems sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainable management of forests, combating desertification, halting and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Target 15.1. Ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of water ecosystems and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests and wetlands

General Objective 5. Protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of biodiversity and natural ecosystems Priority Direction 5.1. Halting biodiversity loss, protection and conservation of biodiversity and natural ecosystems. Degree of restoration of ecosystems and habitats natural habitats – till 2026-20%, till 2030 – 30%;

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Management Plan for the Lower Dniester Ramsar Wetland Area

2)

>>> Implementation of the Danube-Prut and Black Sea River Basin District Management Program, cycle II (2023-2028)

3)

>>> Securing funding and strengthening institutional capacities

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

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)?

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.

>>> Under Law No. 5 of February 9, 2006, on Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, and Government Decision No. 409/2024 on the approval of the Environmental Strategy for 2024–2030, the Republic of Moldova promotes the principle of equal opportunities for men and women in decisions, programs, and research related to wetlands.

This approach includes the following aspects:

- Balanced participation in the decision-making process,

- Equal access to resources and opportunities,
- Consideration of gender perspectives in research and programs,
- Respect for diversity and prevention of discrimination,

- Awareness-raising activities on gender equality.

By adhering to these principles, the Republic of Moldova aims to strengthen gender balance in all aspects related to the management and conservation of wetlands.

*EcoContact conducted a gender-sensitive and socially inclusive climate change and climate vulnerability

assessment for the Biosphere Reserve "Prutul de Jos." The project ensured gender considerations at both the decision-making and management levels. Locally, 9 women are members of the Frumoasa – Crihana Sub-Basin Committee, with eight having voting rights and one serving as an observatory member. These women actively participate in all decision-making processes related to the area.

Gender was also a key consideration during the consultations for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the Frumoasa – Crihana Sub-Basin Management Plan. Over 445 women and 150 girls from local schools benefited from awareness and capacity-building activities.

All project activities were carried out in line with the recommendations from the gender and environment report and the gender appraisal for the project. Also, during consultations in all villages of the Lower Dniester Ramsar sites, the presence of diverse citizen categories was ensured, including socially vulnerable groups, retirees, and people with disabilities, with women representing more than half of the participants.

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

>>> The need to change the perception of the need to be involved in decision making on wetland management.

H. Please describe lessons learnt in the context of wetlands and gender equality work in your country. >>> The citizens and population that live in protected areas need to continue to get information and communication in order to understand the functionality of a such an area, otherwise they are misinformed and manipulated. This specific lesson learned was felt during the consultation process to prepare all documentation for the creation of the Lower Dniester National Park.

Also, it was observed that citizens tend to be more protective and appreciative of the results where they have been involved as well. For example, the forestry activities showed that the citizens are protective of the plantation being involved in their protection, not allowing the grazing etc.

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

>>> 1. National Forest Expansion and Rehabilitation Program for the period 2023-2032 (approved by Government Decision no. 55/2023)

2. ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY for the years 2024-2030 (approved by Government Decision no. 409/2024)

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). >>> It is not the case

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

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
 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 Ø=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

>>> f). National Forest Expansion and Rehabilitation Program for the period 2023-2032 (approved by Government Decision no. 55/2023).

j). The National Tourism Development Program "Tourism 2026" for the years 2022-2026

Target 2

Water userespects 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]

2.2 Have assessments of environmental flow been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands? $\{2.2\}$ \square B=No

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

2.4 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

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

2.5 Additional Information

>>> 1.Climate change adaptation and resilience measures and institutional development in the "Lower Nistru" Ramsar Area

2.Project Improving the management of protected areas in the Republic of Moldova through institutional development, capacity building and habitat restoration.

2.6 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? {2.8} \square B=No

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]

3.2 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

3.3 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? $\{3.3\}$ \square C=Partially

3.4 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which lead to degradation or loss of wetlands? $\{3.4\}$ \square B=No

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}☑ C=Partially

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} ☑ C=En partie

4.2 Additional information

>>> Transposition of Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species and of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/968 of 30 April 2018 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the risk assessment of invasive alien species. Forestry Agency "Moldsilva" has developed and approved by its intern order (2019) the Interim recommendations for the management of stands affected by Acer negundo invasion.

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

4.4 Has the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed?{4.5} \square B=No

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? $\{5.1\}$ \square B=No

5.2 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? $\{5.3\}$ \square E=# Sites

⊻ ⊑*−*#

»» 2

5.3 How many of the Ramsar Sites are actively implementing their management plan? $\{5.4\}$ \square E=# Sites

»» 2

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

☑ E=# Sites

5.2 – 5.4 Additional information

>>> -There is some additional information from the forestry point of view on the following Ramsar sites: - Unguri-Holoşniţa (no. 1500 from the Ramsar Site list): there is a management plan approved by the Order of the Ministry of Environment (no. 93/ 01.12.2014). The wetland is partially included in the Forest Management for the Forestry District (FD) Otaci and General Study of the Forestry Enterprise (FE) Edinet prepared in 2016 with the area of 752.0 ha and partially in the Forest Management for FD Şolcani and General Study of FE Soroca prepared in 2017 with the area of 1725.3 ha, so total area of the wetland makes 2477.3 ha in forest land;

- Nistrul de Jos (no. 1316 from the Ramsar Site list): there is a management plan approved by the Order of the Ministry of Environment (no. 93/01.12.2014). In the framework of the planning works the wetland is partially included in the Forest Management Plan for FD Causeni (207,8 ha), FD Talmaza (5008,4 ha) and FD Olanesti (2859,9 ha) prepared in 2024 and will be included in the the General Study of FE Tighina to be elaborated in 2025, total area of the wetland makes 8076,1 ha in the forest fund of FE Tighina;

- The Lower Prut lakes (no. 1029 from the Ramsar Site list): there is the management plan of the Lower Prut Biosphere Reserve. Once the forest management works for 2024-2025 field phase are implemented, the data will be included in the forest management plans for the Nature Reserve Prutul de Jos (current area 1755,4 ha) and FE Silva-Sud Cahul FD Slobozia (provisional area 1521,5 ha) and FD Cahul (659,6 ha).

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<u> http://</u>

<u>Management plan for the Ramsar Area "Unguri-Holosnita"</u> THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE RAMSAR AREA "LOWER NISTER"

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 \square C=Partially

»» 2

5.6 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {5.7} \square E=# Sites

»» 2

5.6 Additional information

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<u>http://</u>

Board of Directors

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

☑ X=Unknown

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? $\{7.1\}$ \square A=Yes

7.1 Additional information

If "Yes", please provide the source links or upload the source documents here describing the mechanisms established >>> Within the board of directors, there is a person appointed from the Environmental Authority.

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? $\{7.2\}$ \square B=No

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} \square B=No

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. $\{8.6\}$ \square E=# km2

>>> 947,05

8.6 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
L Permanent inland deltas	
M Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls	947,05
N Seasonal/intermittent/irre gular rivers/streams/creeks	
O Permanent freshwater lakes	
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	
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) >>> 947,05

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

8.8 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

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

	Ye s
a) Access to data and data acquisition standards	N
b) Wetland delineation methods and approaches	V

c) Habitat classifications	V
d) Standardization in data interpretation methods	
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	
f) Resources	
g) Relevant skills	
h) Data collection and mapping	V
i) Collaboration	
j) Others	

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.

	Ye s
a) Resources	N
b) Relevant skills	
c) Data systems and management	5
d) Application of NWI information for decision making (climate, biodiversity and sectoral planning/reporting)	Ŋ
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	
f) Data interpretation and communication	
g) Collaboration	\checkmark
h) Others	

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

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer. DECISION No. 665 of 14-06-2007 for the approval of the Framework Regulation of Wetlands of International Importance

9.2 Since COP14 have any amendments to existing legislation or policies been made to reflect commitments under the Convention on Wetlands? 9.2 \square B=No

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

9.4 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)? $\{9.4\}$

☑ B=No

9.5 Additional information

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

DECISION No. 624 of 30-08-2023 on the approval of the National Climate Change Adaptation Program until 2030

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 ecoystem services	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes

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}

☑ B=No

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

☑ C=Partially

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? ☑ B=No

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} \square B=No

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? $\{11.1\}$ \square C1=Partially

11.2 Since COP14, have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to food and water security and hence poverty alleviation been implemented? $\{11.2\}$ \square B=No

11.3 Since COP14 have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to other benefits for human wellbeing been implemented? \square C=Partially

11.4 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? $\{11.3\}$ \square C=Partially

11.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands in general? $\{11.4\}$ \square C=Partially

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? $\ensuremath{\boxdot}$ D=Planned

12.1 Additional Information

>>> It is planned within the framework of the National Biological Diversity Program.

12.2 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {12.1} $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ C=Partially

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

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} \square B=No

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

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

☑ A=Yes

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}

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?? $\{15.1\}$

☑ B=No

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? $\{15.2\}$ \square B=No

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

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

a) at Ramsar Sites

☑ X=Unknown

b) at other wetlands

☑ X=Unknown

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

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral national Ramsar/wetlands committee? {16.4} $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ B=No

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

☑ B=No

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

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} \Box A=Yes

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} \square A=Yes

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)? $\{18.5\}$ \square A=Yes

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

17.2 [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} \square C=Partially

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

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels

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} \Box C=Partially

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	$\mathbf{\nabla}$
b) FAO	
c) UNECE	
d) UNFCCC	
e) Global Environment Facility	
f) UNDP	\checkmark
g) UNESCO	
h) World Health Organization	
i) World Meteorological Organization	
ј) ІТТО	
k) The Convention's IOPs	

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} \Box C=Partially

18.5 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {18.6} $\ensuremath{\square}$ A=Yes

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

18.7 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {18.8} \square B=No

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? $\{19.1\}$ \square C=Partially

19.2 Does your country or institution implement capacity development strategies or actions for the Convention's Strategic Plan? \square B=No

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

19.4 How many training events for wetland site managers have occurred since COP14? {19.3}a) at Ramsar Sites☑ X=Unknown

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

☑ A=Yes

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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 \square A=Good

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 $\ensuremath{\square}$ B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing \square C=Limiting

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ A=Good

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing \square E=No answer

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing \square C=Limiting

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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 $\ensuremath{\square}$ B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing $\ensuremath{\square}$ C=Limiting

Target 18: International cooperation International cooperation is strengthened at all levels.

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

☑ A=High

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing \square B=Adequate

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

☑ B=Medium

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing \square B=Adequate