



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>

>>> Montenegro

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Ramsar_report_letter.pdf](#) - Montenegro

Designated Administrative Authority for the Convention on Wetlands

Name of Administrative Authority

>>> Ministry of ecology, sustainable development and northern region development

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

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

Name and title

>>> /

Name of organisation

>>> /

Mailing address

>>> /

Telephone

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Email

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

Name and title

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Name of organisation

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Mailing address

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Telephone

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Email

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

Name and title

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Name of organisation

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Mailing address

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Telephone

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Email

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

Name and title

>>> /

Name of organization

>>> /

Mailing address

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Phone

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Email

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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)

>>> Adding of additional Ramsar Sites: Montenegro has further reinforced its commitment to wetland conservation by designating additional Ramsar Sites, such as the Tivat Saline (added in 2019). This expands the country's protected wetland areas, contributing to global wetland conservation efforts.

2)

>>> Improving wetland management plans - the country has developed and strengthened management plans for its Ramsar sites, including Lake Skadar, Ulcinj Salina, and Tivat Saline, ensuring better protection and sustainable use of these critical wetland ecosystems. Also, monitoring of invasive species and their control.

3)

>>> Biodiversity conservation and species protection - efforts have been made to protect rare and endangered species in wetlands, for example bird species such as the flamingos at Ulcinj Salina or pelicans at Lake Skadar, aligning with Ramsar's focus on biodiversity preservation.

4)

>>> Climate change adaptation measures - Montenegro has incorporated wetlands into climate change adaptation strategies, recognizing their role in flood control, carbon sequestration, and resilience against climate impacts. The National Adaptation Plan includes wetlands as an important natural solution for climate adaptation. For example: support and establishment of coastal and inland water ecosystems (e.g., coastal wetlands, along key parts of the coastline). Implementation of programs and ensuring that these ecosystems are integrated into plans and policies.

5)

>>> Promotion of sustainable tourism - Montenegro has actively promoted eco-tourism, especially birdwatching at its Ramsar sites. This has helped integrate wetland conservation with socio-economic benefits, boosting local economies and fostering sustainable tourism practices around wetlands.

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

1)

>>> Presence of invasive species which are found in every of three Ramsar habitats in Montenegro. Invasive species in wetland ecosystems are a significant ecological threat by disrupting the balance of these habitats. They often outcompete native species, leading to a loss of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystem services.

2)

>>> Discharge of wastewater, especially in aquatic ecosystems. In the case of Montenegro, this problem is the most present in Tivat Salina. These wastewaters can introduce harmful pollutants, such as chemicals, heavy metals or pathogens that contaminate waterbodies. In the long term this can lead to eutrophication which causes loss of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystem services.

3)

>>> Poaching is also problem that is present in every Ramsar habitat in Montenegro. It poses main threat for endangered species which are native inhabitants here. It leads to decrease, sometimes even extinction of species, disrupt ecosystems and ecosystem services. Besides ecological importance, it also harms local communities.

4)

>>> Inadequate management of protected wetland areas. It can lead to their degradation and loss of protected species. Lack of proper conservation measures and insufficient regulation of human activities can to wetlands being polluted or altered. These types of mismanagement can lead to losing ecosystem services that wetland provide.

5)

>>> A lack of capacity, specifically in terms of resources, expertise and infrastructure is another significant issue. Insufficient financial support, inadequate staffing, and limited technical knowledge can slow down the

implementation of effective policies and conservation strategies. This also can prevent the proper monitoring, restoration, and protection of wetland areas, leaving them vulnerable to degradation. This challenge disables poaching control.

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

1)

>>> One of the key priorities for implementing the Ramsar Convention is the principle of "wise use" of wetland areas. This concept promotes the sustainable management and conservation of wetlands, ensuring that these ecosystems are used in a way that maintains their ecological integrity while supporting human livelihoods. "Wise use" involves balancing the protection of wetlands with responsible activities for example fishing or tourism. Also, it is important to address threats that exists in wetlands such as pollution, habitat destruction, and invasive species. By applying this principle, wetlands can continue to provide essential ecosystem services and to be support for biodiversity.

2)

>>> Another priority for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Montenegro is the establishment of new wetland areas. Expanding the network of protected wetlands is essential for conserving biodiversity, maintaining ecological balance, and enhancing the country's role in regional and global environmental protection. By designating more wetlands as protected areas, Montenegro can safeguard important habitats for migratory birds, aquatic species, and other wildlife. One of these potential habitats in Montenegro is Niksicke akumulacije that is now in really bad condition. Niksicke akumulacije are at risk of drying up unless protective measures are implemented soon.

3)

>>> Another priority is the mapping of all wetland habitats in Montenegro. This is essential in order to accurately determine the extent of these areas and to implement protective measures as quickly as possible. This will allow for the protection of additional endangered species and the restoration of habitats that are close to complete degradation. In this way, a greater number of species can be preserved, and it may also create new habitats for other species. It can also have some economic advantages for the whole country.

4)

>>> Another priority for implementing the Ramsar Convention is the protection of birds and the establishment of feeding grounds at appropriate locations. This helps preserve populations of species that are characteristic of those specific habitats, ensuring that critical areas for feeding, breeding, and migration are maintained and protected. By creating and safeguarding these feeding grounds, the conservation of bird species that rely on wetlands is supported, contributing to the overall health and biodiversity of wetland ecosystems.

5)

>>> Capacity building and public awareness is also important. This implies strengthening the capacity of institutions, local communities, and stakeholders to manage and conserve wetlands effectively. Some examples are trainings for conservation, providing knowledge about wetland resources, and raising public awareness about the importance of wetlands for biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable development.

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

>>> Considering that there are peatland sites in Montenegro that will become future Natura 2000 areas and are also significant carbon sinks, it is important to share experiences and examples of best practices for managing these areas. Providing guidance materials, such as manuals or toolkits, would be valuable to ensure that effective management strategies are accessible to all stakeholders. These resources could help in implementing sustainable practices for peatland conservation, addressing the need for habitat protection, climate change mitigation, and biodiversity conservation.

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)?

>>> Montenegro could benefit from recommendations to organize technical missions in collaboration with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs). These missions would focus on sharing best practices for peatland management, capacity building, and sustainable land use. Partnering with IOPs could also help develop practical guidelines for peatland conservation and provide long-term technical and financial support. This exchange of knowledge would strengthen Montenegro's efforts in managing peatlands and enhance their role in climate change mitigation.

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.

>>> In Montenegro, women are often in leadership roles, particularly in the field of ecology and conservation. For example, at the Skadar Lake protected wetland area, the gender balance is roughly equal, with women primarily responsible for biological research and laboratory work. In the Tivat Salina, women make up the largest proportion of the workforce. However, at the Ulcinj Salina, due to the physically demanding nature of pump operations, men are predominantly employed, while women focus on biological analyses. This demonstrates a gender balance in various wetland-related activities, with women excelling in scientific research.

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

>>> To achieve gender equality in wetland conservation in Montenegro, changes are needed in several areas. These include promoting greater female participation in decision-making and leadership positions and providing targeted capacity-building programs to enhance women's skills in technical and management roles. Additionally, it is important to ensure equal pay and career advancement opportunities. Also, it would be good to do gender-sensitive research in order to create a more balanced and inclusive approach to wetland conservation.

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

>>> In Montenegro, key lessons learned in wetlands and gender equality include the importance of women's leadership in conservation, especially in scientific and administrative roles. However, gendered divisions of labor still exist. Capacity-building programs for women in technical and field roles have proven effective in promoting gender equality. Additionally, integrating gender perspectives into wetland management could lead to more inclusive and sustainable conservation outcomes. It is important to do different adaptations and monitoring in order to ensure continued progress in gender balance.

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

>>> At the national level in Montenegro, gender-related policies, strategies, and action plans specifically targeting wetlands are still in the early stages. Currently, there are no formal action plans or policies that mandate the inclusion of women in the monitoring of wetland sites or similar conservation tasks. Gender equality in the context of wetland management has not yet been fully integrated into environmental policies or frameworks.

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).

>>> In Montenegro, there are no specific strategies or action plans that formally support the inclusion of youth in the implementation of the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan or in wetland management. However, efforts are being made to raise awareness, particularly among young people, about the importance of wetland conservation. It is important to involve students, both from natural and social sciences, in various workshops and activities. This helps them gain insight into the challenges faced by wetlands and allows them to contribute ideas for potential solutions.

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

>>> Ministry of ecology, sustainable development and northern region development.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Poverty eradication strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
e) Integrated coastal zone management plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
f) National forest management plan/strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

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

1.1 Additional information

>>> actions have been taken since COP14 to integrate wetland protection, wise use, restoration, and wetland benefits into other national strategies and planning processes. One notable action is that the CBD strategy is under preparation as part of these efforts. This strategy aims to incorporate wetland conservation and

sustainable use into broader national biodiversity frameworks, aligning with both the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) goals. Additionally, wetland conservation has been integrated into other national plans related to climate change, water management, and sustainable development.

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

>>> The government of Montenegro is aware of the various challenges related to wetland ecosystems, and actions have been taken to address these issues. One example is the ongoing improvement of the hydrological regime in the Ulcinjska Solana, which is a Ramsar site. In addition, regular monitoring of both flowing and stagnant waters is carried out based on coordinated parameters by the Hydro-Meteorological Institute of Montenegro.

Furthermore, while there are several wetland areas in Montenegro that have not yet been designated as Ramsar sites, efforts are underway to manage and maintain these areas. The maintenance of the embankments at Ada Bojana is one successful example of such conservation efforts.

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

>>> In order to maintain stable populations of plant and animal species and ensure a stable environmental flow, protected area managers in Montenegro continuously undertake the eradication and removal of invasive species. Additionally, they monitor and control tourist numbers to reduce pressure on natural resources. These efforts contribute to mitigating the impacts on the ecological character of wetlands, helping to maintain the balance of the ecosystems and support sustainable management practices.

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?

☒ A=Yes

2.3 Additional Information

>>> Yes. One example is the control of water levels in Ramsar sites, ensuring that hydrological regimes are maintained. Additionally, there are measures in place to monitor and regulate wastewater discharge into aquatic ecosystems, as well as controlled pesticide use to prevent contamination. Various action plans are being implemented to ensure that water pollution is minimized and that aquatic ecosystems are preserved, thus supporting the survival of species and maintaining the ecological balance.

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}

☒ A=Yes

2.4 Additional Information

>>> The Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands have been partially implemented in Montenegro. For example, basic principles of the guidelines are applied in the monitoring of Skadar Lake and Ulcinj Salina, where water levels are monitored, wastewater discharge is controlled, and pesticide use is regulated. While the guidelines are not always explicitly referenced, their core objectives are being integrated into national wetland management and water policies.

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

>>> Skadar Lake and Ulcinj Salina: Both Ramsar sites have implemented management practices that align with the principles of sustainable water use. Projects focus on monitoring water levels, controlling wastewater discharge, and regulating pesticide use to ensure that the ecological functions of these wetlands are preserved.

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

☒ C=Partially

2.6 Additional Information

>>> Yes, constructed wetlands are used as a wastewater treatment technology in Montenegro, particularly in the Skadar Lake area. These constructed wetlands help treat wastewater by utilizing natural filtration processes involving plants, soils, and microorganisms to remove pollutants and improve water quality before it enters the lake. This approach contributes to maintaining the ecological integrity of the wetland while addressing water quality issues.

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}

☒ B=No

3.1 Additional Information

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

>>> /

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

3.2 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ B=No

3.3 Additional information

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

>>> /

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

☒ B=No

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.

>>> /

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

>>> Yes, Montenegro is working on a national inventory of invasive alien species (IAS) that impact wetlands. Efforts include a national action plan for managing IAS, monitoring of wetland areas like Skadar Lake and Ulcinj Salina, and collaboration with regional and international networks. While progress has been made, the inventory is still under development, and further work is needed for comprehensive monitoring and control.

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

>>> Yes, Montenegro has adopted national policies and strategies for controlling and managing invasive alien species (IAS), relevant to wetlands. These include the National Biodiversity Strategy, an Invasive Alien Species Action Plan, and relevant environmental protection laws. Montenegro also aligns with international frameworks like the EU IAS Regulation and the Bern Convention.

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

☒ E=# species

>>> 19

4.3 Additional Information

>>> In Montenegro, invasive species in wetland ecosystems have not been fully eradicated, but significant progress has been made in controlling them. The most successful efforts have been carried out in Tivatska solila, where the control of invasive species has been highly effective. Ongoing management actions focus on monitoring and removal of high-risk invasive species, particularly those that threaten the ecological balance of wetlands.

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

☒ C=Partially

4.4 Additional Information

>>> Programs that track majority of species have seen some success, but challenges remain due to the complexity of wetland ecosystems and ongoing monitoring needs. In Montenegro, 19 invasive species have already been recorded in wetlands, with a strict monitoring system in place to assess the effectiveness of control programs. This monitoring tracks whether the control measures are successful in reducing or managing these species, as well as checking for the appearance of new invasive species. The continuous monitoring allows for timely responses and adjustments to management strategies, ensuring that efforts to protect wetland ecosystems are as effective as possible.

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

>>> Yes, Montenegro has established a national strategy for further designating Ramsar Sites, following the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List. The country prioritizes wetlands with significant ecological value, such as Nikšićke akumulacije. This is an important wetland ecosystem in Montenegro, consisting of several water bodies created by reservoirs along rivers and streams near Nikšić. These areas are significant for biodiversity, providing habitats for various bird species, fish, and other aquatic organisms. However, they face challenges such as pollution from wastewater discharge and inadequate water management, which can threaten the ecological functions of the area.

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

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 3

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

>>> 0

5.2 – 5.4 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ A=Yes

>>> 3

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.

>>> Yes, five-year management plans are developed for each protected area, including Ramsar Sites, in Montenegro. These management plans outline the measures and activities for the protection and conservation of the natural resources within these areas. The plans are implemented through annual management programs, and at the end of each year, a progress report on the implementation of the annual program is submitted by the site managers to the Ministry of Ecology by November 30th of the current year, in preparation for the following year. This system helps to assess the effectiveness of management actions and ensure the continued protection of Ramsar Sites.

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

☒ E=# Sites

>>> 1

5.6 Additional information

>>> Skadar lake, which is a Ramsar site, has a socioeconomic forum that serves as an advisory body. This forum assists in developing and drafting new management measures for the following year, taking into account economic, social, and ecological aspects to ensure sustainable management of this important ecosystem.

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

☒ E=# Sites

5.7 Additional information

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

>>> All three Ramsar Sites in Montenegro have an Ecological Character Description (ECD) prepared, as it is a requirement for the designation of a Ramsar Site. The ECD is essential for understanding and monitoring the biodiversity of these sites and plays a crucial role in invasive species control. Additionally, the ECD is included in the management plan, facilitating more effective monitoring and management of the sites. This ensures that the ecological character is maintained, and any changes can be detected and addressed.

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.

>>> Main challenges in updating the RIS, particularly the ecological character descriptions, are insufficient monitoring capacity, data gaps, environmental pressures, and a lack of coordination and resources. Efforts are being made to ensure that in the future these challenges have stronger institutional capacity, more consistent funding, improved stakeholder coordination, and the implementation of long-term, comprehensive monitoring programs to ensure accurate and up-to-date information for Ramsar reporting.

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

>>> It is important to monitor the negative human impact, which is why strict regulations are in place regarding the activities allowed on protected Ramsar sites. These activities are clearly outlined in the management plan for each site. Additionally, monitoring is conducted to ensure compliance with these regulations, and penalties are imposed for violations. This system ensures that human activities do not compromise the ecological integrity of the Ramsar sites.

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}

☒ B=No

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

>>> No, not all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites have been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat. Such cases have typically been reported to the management authorities responsible for the sites, as there has been no change in the status of the sites that would require formal notification to the Ramsar Secretariat. The management authorities are responsible for monitoring and addressing any potential threats or changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar Sites, but these have not necessarily led to status changes that trigger a report to the Ramsar Convention.

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?

>>> Montenegro is currently in the process of developing a National Wetland Inventory (NWI). It is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

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

☒ C=In Progress

8.2 Additional information

>>> The inventory is being continuously developed, and it is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. This project is crucial for mapping and assessing the state of wetlands across the country, supporting more effective management and conservation efforts.

8.3 How often is the NWI updated?

☒ X=Unknown

8.3 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ D=Planned

8.4 Additional information

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

>>> It is planned that the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) will be made publicly accessible once it is completed. The inventory is expected to be available by the end of 2025 or early 2026. This will provide valuable data for wetland conservation and management and will be a key resource for both experts and the general public.

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

>>> The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) will be maintained through a centralized database managed by relevant government bodies. It will be regularly updated based on ongoing monitoring and integrated with other environmental programs. Stakeholders, including local authorities and NGOs, will collaborate to ensure the data remains accurate.

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}

☒ E=# km²

>>> 216

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>.

>>> There are 3 Ramsar sites in Montenegro, two of them are in “human-made” category, Tivat Salina and Ulcinj Salina, and Skadarsko jezero is in “inland” category. As for the area in square kilometers, Tivat Salina is 1.5 km², Ulcinj Salina 14.77 km² and Skadar Lake is 200 km².

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km ²)
A -- Permanent shallow marine waters	
B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds	

C -- Coral reefs	
D -- Rocky marine shores	
E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores	
F -- Estuarine waters	
G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats	
Ga -- Bivalve (shellfish) reefs	
H -- Intertidal marshes	
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands	
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons	
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons	
Zk(a) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems	

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands total (km2)

>>> 0

8.6 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
L -- Permanent inland deltas	
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls	
N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks	
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes	200
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)

>>> 200

8.6 Human-made wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
1 -- Aquaculture ponds.	
2 -- Ponds	
3 -- Irrigated land	
4 -- Seasonally flooded agricultural land	
5 -- Salt exploitation sites	16.27
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)

>>> 16.27

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P=Status improved <input type="checkbox"/> O=No change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status deteriorated
b) All wetlands in your country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P=Status improved <input type="checkbox"/> O=No change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status deteriorated

8.7 Additional Information

>>> Both improvements and challenges were seen. Positive changes include increased protection and awareness, better management of Ramsar Sites. Still, there are more things that has to improve in monitoring and conserving Ramsar sites. Stronger enforcement and integrated management are needed for more effective conservation, and they are still being worked on.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> 5=major improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 4=improvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3=no change <input type="checkbox"/> 2=deterioration <input type="checkbox"/> 1=major deterioration
b) Inland	<input type="checkbox"/> 5=major improvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4=improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 3=no change <input type="checkbox"/> 2=deterioration <input type="checkbox"/> 1=major deterioration
c) Human-made	<input type="checkbox"/> 5=major improvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4=improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 3=no change <input type="checkbox"/> 2=deterioration <input type="checkbox"/> 1=major deterioration

8.8 Additional Information

>>> /

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Wetland delineation methods and approaches	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Habitat classifications	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Standardization in data interpretation methods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Relevant skills	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Data collection and mapping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Collaboration	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Others	<input type="checkbox"/>

8.9 Additional Information

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

>>> a) Access to data and standards: It is necessary to establish clear protocols for data access and create centralized repositories.

d) Standardization in data interpretation: Use uniform methods for consistent data analysis, following global guidelines.

h) Data collection and mapping: Improve mapping and data collection using remote sensing and GIS technologies.

b) Wetland delineation: Adopt standardized approaches for accurate wetland boundary definition, following international guidelines.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Relevant skills	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Data systems and management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Application of NWI information for decision making (climate, biodiversity and sectoral planning/reporting)	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Data interpretation and communication	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Collaboration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Others	<input type="checkbox"/>

8.10 Additional Information

>>> a) Montenegro requires more financial and human resources to implement effective wetland conservation strategies, including the development of management plans and the restoration of degraded wetland areas

c) There is a need to strengthen data systems for monitoring wetlands, improve GIS databases, and enhance the collection, analysis, and sharing of scientific data on wetland ecosystems to inform better decision-making and ensure sustainable management.

g) Enhanced collaboration among various stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, NGOs, and international partners, is essential to implement the Ramsar Convention mandates effectively.

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}

☒ D=Planned

9.1 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ C=In Progress

9.2 Additional information

>>> Since COP14 in 2022, Montenegro has made progress in aligning its legislation with Ramsar commitments,

focusing on strengthening wetland protection through updated nature protection laws and developing management plan for Ramsar Sites. Wetlands have been increasingly recognized in water governance policies. The country has also worked on improving monitoring and reporting systems, with Ecological Character Descriptions (ECDs) for Ramsar Sites.

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}

☒ B=No

9.3 Additional information

>>> No, Montenegro's water governance and management systems do not yet fully recognize wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins, because no Ramsar site or protected wetland area currently encompasses a whole river basin. Wetlands are recognized for their ecological importance, their role as part of a broader river basin water management strategy has not yet been fully integrated into the national governance framework.

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}

☒ D=Planned

9.4 Additional information

>>> /

9.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or adapting to climate change? {9.5}

☒ D=Planned

9.5 Additional information

>>> Wetlands will be recognized as natural infrastructure that can help mitigate the impacts of climate change, particularly through carbon storage, water regulation, and coastal protection. Further development of detailed policies and guidelines specifically focusing on wetlands and climate change is necessary.

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

☒ C=Partially

9.6 Additional Information

>>> They are partially included through the national adaptation plan of Montenegro to climate change, which is in the process of adoption. They are also included through Montenegro's national reports to the UNFCCC, as well as through the biennial updated report of Montenegro to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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}

☒ C=Partially

9.7 Additional information

>>> Montenegro has formulated several policies and plans but only partially. Some policies such as National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (addresses wetland protection and sustainable agriculture in the context of climate change adaptation), National Biodiversity Strategy (NBSAP) (includes actions to preserve wetlands and support biodiversity, which benefits farming systems), Rural Development Programs (promote sustainable land and water management, including practices that protect wetlands while supporting agriculture). Also, Montenegro participates in various national and international projects focused on wetland conservation and sustainable agriculture.

Still challenges remain in fully integrating wetland protection with agricultural development.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

b) climate change	<input type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) valuation of ecosystem services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

9.8 Additional information

>>> So far, policies and plans have been developed that address the relationship between climate change and wetland areas (as mentioned above), but studies on agriculture-wetland interactions are also planned for the future.

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

9.9 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ A=Yes

9.10 Additional information

>>> Montenegro focuses on wetland conservation, including small wetlands, through the management of protected areas (like Tivat Saline), integrated water management approaches, and collaboration with international organizations. However, smaller wetland ecosystems still face pressures from urbanization and agriculture, and further efforts are needed to ensure their long-term conservation.

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?

☒ C1= Partially

10.1 Additional Information

>>> Montenegro does not have specific national legislation exclusively focused on the rights and roles of indigenous communities in wetland management. However, the country has frameworks and legislation that support the involvement of local communities in wetland and site management, particularly in the context of environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources. Local stakeholders, including municipalities, NGOs, and residents, are involved in decision-making processes, especially concerning protected areas.

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?

☒ Y=Not relevant

10.2 Additional Information

>>> /

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}

☒ B=No

10.3 Additional information

>>> /

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}

☒ B=No

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.

>>> /

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

☒ B=No

10.5 Additional information

>>> /

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

>>> All Ramsar sites in the country—Lake Skadar, Ulcinj Saltworks, and Tivat Solila—have been assessed as valuable for ecosystem services. These wetlands provide important benefits such as water filtration, biodiversity support, flood regulation, and carbon sequestration.

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

☒ B=No

11.2 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ B=No

11.3 Additional Information

>>> /

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 considered in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands in Montenegro. The socio-economic impact of wetlands is most notably reflected in tourism, particularly birdwatching. The three Ramsar sites—Ulcinj Salina, Lake Skadar, and Tivat Saline—are home to rare and endangered species, making them highly attractive for birdwatching tourism. This activity contributes significantly to local economies by drawing tourists and supporting related industries such as hospitality and guide services. Additionally, these wetlands play a key role in promoting sustainable tourism while supporting biodiversity conservation.

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

☒ B=No

11.5 Additional information

>>> /

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?

☒ D=Planned

12.1 Additional Information

>>> Montenegro does not have specific national wetland restoration targets. However, related actions are included in:

National Biodiversity Strategy – Includes objectives for wetland protection and restoration.

Ramsar Site Management Plans – Address wetland restoration through habitat rehabilitation and invasive species control.

EU Accession Process – Supports wetland restoration through EU environmental standards.

UNDP/GEF Projects – Focus on wetland restoration and conservation.

These efforts contribute to wetland restoration, although formal national targets are not yet established.

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

☒ D=Planned

12.2 Additional information

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

>>> Niksicke akumulacije have been identified as one of the priority sites for wetland restoration in Montenegro. This area requires restoration due to its ecological significance and the impact of human activities on its natural processes. There is also potential for this site to be designated as a future Ramsar site, which would enhance its protection and conservation efforts.

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

☒ A=Yes

12.3 If applicable provide information on the extent of restored wetland area and types since last COP, in square kilometres

	Restoration planned m2 or km2	Under restoration	Total Restored
Marine/Coastal			
Inland			
Human-made			

12.3 Additional information

Explain/clarify the data/statistics presented in the table above

>>> The rehabilitation of the embankments at Ulcinj Salina is part of ongoing efforts to protect this important wetland area from erosion and other environmental threats. So far, the project has involved strengthening and restoring protective embankments to prevent further erosion and to preserve the functionality of the salt pans, which are critical habitats for birds and other species. The work has focused on reinforcing structures that protect the area from flooding and ensuring the ecological stability of the site. Additionally, the project has included regular monitoring of the area to assess the effectiveness of these interventions and make necessary adjustments.

Also, The restoration of Ada Bojana is part of a project aimed at addressing coastal erosion and protecting the area's beach space. This includes beach nourishment, where previously extracted sand is returned to the shore to replenish the sedimentary basin. As a result, there has been a noticeable increase in available beach space this year. The project also involves constructing a winter protective embankment and spreading artificial protective dunes annually to maintain the beach's condition for the tourist season.

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}

☒ D=Planned

12.4 Additional Information

If “yes” or “partially”, please indicate the progress in implementation

>>> While Montenegro has taken steps toward climate change mitigation, including participation in global agreements like the Paris Agreement, its specific focus on peatlands in relation to climate change is still developing. The role of peatlands in carbon sequestration has not been as prominently featured in national climate policy that much, still. Efforts to integrate peatland conservation into climate change strategies are still developing, and there is a need for more targeted action, data, and awareness on the role of peatlands in carbon sequestration.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Mining	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
d) Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
e) Urban development	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
f) Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
g) Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
h) Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
i) Aquaculture	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
j) Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

13.1 Additional Information

>>> Montenegro has taken some steps to enhance wetland sustainability affected by tourism. These include designating Ramsar Sites and protected areas, promoting eco-tourism, requiring Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for tourism developments, and implementing management plans for protected wetlands. Continued efforts are needed to manage tourism impacts and ensure long-term wetland protection. Also, some measures like regulating fishing practices, or enforcing seasonal bans are in place.

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

☒ C=Partially

13.2 Additional information

>>> SEA practices are applied in Montenegro when reviewing policies, programmes, and plans that may impact

wetlands. The legal framework requires SEA for strategic documents, ensuring that potential environmental impacts, including on wetlands, are assessed and mitigated. Public participation is part of the process. However, challenges include inconsistent implementation and limited capacity for thorough assessments.

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}

☒ C=Some Cases

13.3 Additional information

>>> Montenegro requires Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for development projects in sectors like water, energy, mining, and agriculture that may impact wetlands. The EIA assesses potential environmental impacts, including those on wetlands. Projects like new buildings, roads, and extractive industries must undergo this assessment. The process is aligned with EU regulations and ensures that wetland protection is considered in project planning and implementation.

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.

>>> Montenegro is part of the Ramsar Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet), which is a regional initiative aimed at promoting the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands in the Mediterranean Basin. Through its participation in MedWet, Montenegro collaborates with other Mediterranean countries to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in wetland management. Montenegro's involvement in MedWet also helps strengthen its capacity for wetland conservation, including efforts to address issues such as climate change, water scarcity, and biodiversity loss in Mediterranean wetlands.

In addition to MedWet, Montenegro's participation in various Ramsar-related events and initiatives further supports its engagement in regional and global efforts to preserve wetlands and promote their sustainable use.

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).

>>> Montenegro has participated in projects funded by international organizations, such as the UNDP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which often involve regional wetland research and training programs, especially in the context of cross-border wetland conservation and management.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Sub-national level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) Catchment/basin level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
d) Local/site level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

16.1 Additional information

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

>>> While there isn't a specific wetland CEPA action plan, the government integrates wetland conservation into broader biodiversity strategies and international obligations (e.g., Ramsar Convention).

Regional initiatives, such as protected area management, indirectly address wetland education and public involvement in conservation efforts.

Wetland management is incorporated into water basin and river management plans, with some public participation and awareness programs.

Specific wetland sites like Lake Skadar implement local CEPA actions, focusing on community involvement, sustainable tourism, and habitat protection.

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

☒ Y=Not Relevant

16.2 Additional information

>>> Yes, at all three Ramsar protected areas in Montenegro—Lake Skadar, Ulcinj Salina, and Tivat Saline—visitor centers, educational centers, and information points have been established. These include visitor centers, renewed bridges, birdwatching towers, and outdoor furniture. Montenegro is actively working to raise awareness among both local communities and tourists, particularly those interested in birdwatching. This not only serves an educational purpose but also supports the development of eco-tourism, allowing visitors to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of these wetland areas while promoting conservation.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

16.3 Additional information

>>> Montenegro ensures stakeholder participation in wetland planning and management. This includes public consultations, involvement of local communities and NGOs, and the creation of advisory committees for sites like Lake Skadar and Ulcinj Salina. Stakeholders are consulted on environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and in the development of sustainable wetland management plans, helping balance conservation with local

development needs.

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

☒ A=Yes

16.4 Additional information

>>> This committee includes representatives from various sectors (e.g., environment, agriculture, tourism) and coordinates wetland conservation efforts, ensuring the implementation of Ramsar Convention obligations and integrating wetland protection into national policies and plans.

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

☒ B=No

16.5 Additional information

>>> /

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	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

16.6 Additional information

>>> This mechanism helps ensure that information flows effectively between the central administrative authority and site managers, facilitating coordinated actions for wetland conservation.

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

>>> Montenegro has organized World Wetlands Day events since COP14, led by both the government and NGOs. These events include seminars, public awareness campaigns, and workshops, focusing on wetland conservation and the country's Ramsar commitments. NGOs also organize activities like field trips and local community engagements, particularly around key wetlands such as Skadar Lake and Ulcinj Salina.

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

>>> These campaigns and programs include public awareness campaigns, workshops, and educational programs focused on wetland conservation. Both the government and NGOs have been involved in these initiatives to raise awareness about the ecological importance of wetlands.

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 the status of wetlands is available to the public through official channels. The Ministry of

Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Region Development and the Environmental Protection Agency of Montenegro have published the latest reports, national reports, official documents, and publications related to the status of wetlands and Ramsar Sites on their websites. Additionally, non-governmental organizations provide information on conservation status, management plans, and ongoing projects related to these sites on their websites. Information is also shared through media campaigns, brochures, and educational programs aimed at raising public awareness about wetland conservation and the importance of Ramsar Sites.

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}

☒ Z=Not Applicable

17.1 Additional information

>>> /

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}

☒ Z=Not Applicable

17.2 Additional information

>>> /

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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Z=Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) from non-national or multilateral development assistance agencies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Z=Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

17.3 Additional information

for example from which countries or agencies

>>> /

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.

>>> Montenegro provides financial support from its national budget to implement the **Ramsar Convention. This funding is used for wetland conservation, restoration projects (e.g., in Ulcinj Salina), scientific research, capacity building, and the development of eco-tourism. Additionally, funds are also received through EU pre-accession assistance for wetland protection efforts.

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

>>> Involvement of focal points from other MEAs ensures that the Ramsar-related activities are aligned with broader environmental goals, including biodiversity protection, sustainable development, and climate change mitigation. The collaboration also helps in sharing expertise, resources, and aligning national priorities across different environmental frameworks.

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}

☒ A=Yes

18.2 Additional information

>>> Montenegro has mechanisms in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Convention's Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global/regional bodies. The country actively works with these institutions on wetland protection through joint projects, regional networks and international initiatives. Montenegro participates in global and regional efforts to manage and protect wetlands, ensuring alignment with broader environmental goals and sustainable development.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) FAO	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) UNECE	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) UNFCCC	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Global Environment Facility	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) UNDP	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) UNESCO	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) World Health Organization	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) World Meteorological Organization	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) ITTO	<input type="checkbox"/>
k) The Convention's IOPs	<input type="checkbox"/>

18.3 Additional information

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

>>> /

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}

☒ B=No

18.4 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ D=Planned

18.5 Additional information

>>> Skadar Lake is located on the border between Montenegro and Albania, with part of the lake belonging to each country. It is a key transboundary wetland and a Ramsar Site due to its ecological importance, particularly for bird species and biodiversity.

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

☒ D=Planned

18.6 Additional information

>>> Skadar Lake is part of ongoing cross-border cooperation between the two countries, Montenegro and Albania, with joint management efforts in place, including in the framework of regional initiatives such as the Ramsar Convention. Further formalization and comprehensive management mechanisms are still being developed to fully address the environmental challenges and opportunities at the lake.

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

>>> AEWA (African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds Agreement), under the CMS.

Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP) for wetland and bird conservation in the Mediterranean.

Ramsar Convention, protecting important wetland habitats

BirdLife International for bird and habitat protection.

SEE Wetlands Network, focusing on wetland conservation in Southeast Europe.

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}

☒ A=Yes

19.1 Additional information

>>> Since COP14, Montenegro has made significant progress in building capacity to implement the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan, particularly in wetland management. However, there is still a need for guidance and instructions to develop a national wetland inventory. Assistance is needed in determining the best measures for the conservation and improvement of wetland systems, so that they can be incorporated into our management plans. This would enable managers to more effectively and sustainably manage these valuable ecosystems.

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

☒ C=Partially

19.2 Additional Information

>>> Montenegro has taken important steps to implement capacity development strategies in line with the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan, focusing on training, institutional strengthening, and regional cooperation. However, continued support and further development of specific tools, like a national wetland inventory, are still needed to fully meet the Convention's goals.

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

>>> Wetland conservation and wise-use principles are included in formal education programs in Montenegro, especially in environmental education at schools and universities. These topics are also emphasized through activities in national parks and protected areas. Additionally, NGOs and international organizations support awareness-raising efforts.

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

a) at Ramsar Sites

☒ F=Fewer than #

>>> 3

b) at other wetlands

☒ Y=Not Relevant

19.4 Additional information

>>> /

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

☒ A=Yes

19.5 Additional information

>>> Yes, because these reports have been instrumental in tracking progress, identifying improvements, and highlighting areas where there were previous gaps or challenges. By reviewing past reports, Montenegro is able to focus attention on previous shortcomings and work toward addressing them in future actions.

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

☒ C=Low

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

>>> Wetland ecosystems, in addition to being of great importance for the conservation of rare nesting birds and other wetland species, play a major role in storing CO₂. Therefore, Montenegro's goals will be developed in the direction of protecting wetland ecosystems that do not have national or international protection.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

>>> Activities are planned through the new Interreg project aimed at protecting peatlands and developing management plans for them

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

>>> The embankment in the Ulcinj Salina protected area was restored. The embankment on Ada Bojana, which is a wetland area, was also restored.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ B=Medium

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

>>> At the level of Montenegro, water resources in 2 wetland areas are used to supply households (for drinking water) for which there are managers. However, it is necessary to improve this level of management (Skadar Lake and Mareza). The other two areas (Ada Bojana and Ulcinj Salina) have a partially regulated water regime, the management of which contributes to the sustainability of biodiversity.

Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

>>> There is currently a temporary manager for the Ulcinj Salina, and the Government of Montenegro is currently working on the development of a management plan for this area and the formation of a permanent manager.

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

>>> As we have already stated, a management plan for the Ulcinj Salina is being prepared, which will be based on sustainable development goals and in accordance with the Ramsar Convention. Also, for 2025, it is planned to adopt new ten-year management plans for the Skadar Lake National Park, which will be developed in addition to the above and in accordance with the IUCN guidelines.

Target 2: Water Use - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ B=Adequate

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

>>> NGOs that monitor and study halophytic vegetation; ornithofauna, herpetofauna, etc. work on continuous monitoring of the condition and abundance of species. In addition, the NGO sector monitors the condition of invasive species and the level of threat they pose to protected ecosystems.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

>>> The Center for Bird protection and research conducts research at new locations where wetland ecosystems are present, with the aim of validating the ecosystems for declaration in accordance with Ramsar criteria. Marking of Wetlands Day by the NGO (Green Home) and the public company for maritime affairs that manages the Tivat salt flats.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - 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

>>> /

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ A=Good

Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

>>> Removal of invasive species from protected Ramsar sites.

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

>>> Monitoring the spread of invasive and alien species as well as prescribing measures for their removal, i.e. eradication.

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

>>> Based on the management plan, invasive species are removed every year by mowing the grass on the Tivat Salina and Ulcinj Salina, while removal measures have not yet been prescribed for Lake Skadar and represent a major problem for this area.

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Limiting

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

>>> Management plans have not yet defined measures for the restoration of these ecosystems, and only some of them have measures for monitoring their ecological character.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

>>> New guidelines for preserving ecological character will be defined through new management plans.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - 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

>>> No additional information.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ A=Good

Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

>>> Establishing protected areas on Lake Skadar and controlling the number of invasive species on Tivat Salina.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

>>> /

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

>>> In order to maintain an adequate hydrological regime in optimal condition, embankments have been installed on the Ada Bojana River; invasive alien species are regularly removed.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ D=Not relevant

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

☒ E=No answer

Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

>>> The Government of Montenegro plans to start building a national inventory from January 2025.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

>>> /

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

>>> /

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Limiting

Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

>>> Currently, 2 wetland areas in Montenegro are used as a source of food for the population (fishing), and the other 2 are used for water supply for the population.

Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

>>> It is necessary to intensify tourist offers in protected wetland areas that will be in harmony with ecosystems, such as bird watching, spending time in nature, etc.

Target 9: 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

>>> No additional information.

Target 9: Wise Use - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ B=Adequate

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

>>> Fishing, as one of the oldest and most widespread branches of the economy in these wetland areas, is mostly carried out in a traditional way and represents one of the main ways of feeding the population. Also, in rural, arable areas, the local population is engaged in agriculture.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

>>> Through financing from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, subsidies are provided to the local population in order to facilitate and intensify agriculture in these protected areas, while respecting the measures prescribed by the Ramsar Convention.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - 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

>>> Not familiar with.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Low

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 11: Wetland functions - National Targets

>>> /

Target 11: Wetland functions - Planned activity

>>> /

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

>>> /

Target 11: Wetland functions - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Low

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

>>> The main goal of Montenegro in the coming period will be focused on the development of a national inventory of wetland ecosystems, after which the potential and scope of ecosystem services of these areas will be known. Further activities will be planned accordingly.

Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

>>> After the NWI is established, further measures towards ecosystem restoration will be defined.

Target 12: Restoration - 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

>>> /

Target 12: Restoration - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Low

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

>>> /

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

>>> /

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - 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

>>> /

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Low

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

>>> The only cross-border cooperation we have is related to the conservation of the wetland bird population.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

>>> We plan to raise awareness of the importance of these ecosystems, explore existing and identify new peatland sites that will be used for CO2 storage. We will also work to increase international cooperation towards the successful management and revitalization of the wetland ecosystems that we share with neighboring countries.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - 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

>>> NGO organizations from Montenegro, Bosnia and Hercegovina and Croatia have cross-border cooperation related to the conservation of the wetland bird population. Also, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Albania have cooperated to increase the population and preserve the habitat of the Dalmatian pelican.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ B=Medium

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

>>> Montenegro has 3 protected Ramsar sites that are also protected at the national level, thus providing them with national protection, which includes adopting management plans as well as reporting on the implementation of these plans.

2 Ramsar sites are used as a source of food for the population (fishing), and the other one is used for water supply for the population. It is necessary to intensify tourist offers in protected wetland areas that will be in harmony with ecosystems, such as bird watching, spending time in nature, etc.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

>>> Improvement of management plans and raising awareness of local community about wise use of wetland communities.

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

>>> By declaring these areas protected at the national and international level, we have achieved the preservation of biodiversity, especially halophytic vegetation on the Tivat salt flats and Ulcinj Salina, and floating wetland vegetation on Skadar Lake.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ C=Low

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

☒ C=Limiting

Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

>>> It is necessary to work on increasing capacities as well as securing a larger fund.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

>>> It is necessary to work on increasing capacities as well as securing a larger fund.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - 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

>>> Everything that has been done so far has been at the expense of the Montenegrin budget, and these are very small funds that are allocated only for the preservation of infrastructure and other intangible assets.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Additional Information

>>> /

Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels.

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

☒ B=Medium

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

☒ E=No answer

Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

>>> Better inter-institutional cooperation with neighboring countries through transparent data sharing, joint monitoring and networking of these ecosystems.

Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

>>> Improving interregional cooperation with neighboring countries.

Target 18: International cooperation - 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

>>> Cross-border cooperation within the ORNIBA project: protection of bird species in the Balkans. Joint intervention of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro funded by the EU. The project covered 2 wetland areas Hutovo blato (BiH) and Tivatska solila (MNE). Also, the project "Pelican Conservation, a key biodiversity species of Lake Skadar", which is funded by the Ecosystem Protection Partnership Fund (CEPF) in cooperation with Albania, EURONATUR, Tour du Valat.

Target 18: International cooperation - Additional Information

>>> /

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

☒ D=Severely limiting

Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

>>> Montenegro, on its path to EU accession, is working diligently to preserve and improve the environment through the closure of Chapter 27, where it is planned to increase the number of officials dealing with nature protection. With the increase in the number of officials in the government sector, there will be better coordination and division of labor in the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Development, which is responsible for the Ramsar Convention.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

>>> Increasing the number of employees who will deal with these issues in the coming period.

Target 19: Capacity Building - 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

>>> Improving cooperation between the competent ministry, the non-governmental sector and the managers of these protected areas.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Additional Information

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