

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-sampleletter >>> Namibia

Designated Administrative Authority for the Convention on Wetlands

Name of Administrative Authority >>> Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title >>> Teofilus Nghitila, Executive Director

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Designated National Focal Point for the Convention on Wetlands

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

Name and title >>> Piet Beytell, Chief Conservation Scientist, Wildlife Research

Name of organisation >>> Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

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

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Name of organisation >>> Namibia University of Science and Technology

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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)

>>> Identification of the wetlands for listing as wetlands of international importance - two such wetlands have been identified and process was initiated to have them listed as Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance.

2)

>>> Collaborative partnership approach to wetland conservation and management - the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, academia and civil society organizations annually creates awareness about wetlands and water resources conservation

3)

>>> Management and governance of Ramsar Sites - new management plans for the protected areas in which three of the five listed Ramsar Sites in Namibia are located were developed, approved by the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and are being implemented. All wetlands including the Ramsar Sites are zoned as sensitive areas requiring protection.

4)

>>> Inclusion of wetland conservation and management in the national biodiversity strategy action plan for Namibia under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

5)

>>> Continued transboundary collaboration on the shared water and wetland resources between Namibia, Angola, Botswana and South Africa on the Okavango and Orange-Senqu river systems where two out of five listed Ramsar Sites for Namibia are located.

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

1)

>>> The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism lacks dedicated staff members to coordinate and support the implementation of wetland conservation and management programmes.

2)

>>> Lack of national institutional framework to support coordination and implementation of the activities to support wetland conservation work (this includes the wetlands policy and the national level strategic action plan).

3)

>>> Lack of adequate financial resources to support the implementation of wetland activities in Namibia

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

1)

>>> Promoting sustainable utilization of wetlands while creating awareness about their values and importance

2)

>>> Listing of at least two new Ramsar Sites while expanding the boundaries of the Etosha Ramsar ensuring connectivity and integration of neighbouring wetlands

3)

>>> Development of a national strategic action plan aligned with the Ramsar Strategic Plan, and National Wetlands Policy, and establishment of a national wetlands committee to oversee the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Namibia

4)

>>> Develop and implement management plans for Ramsar Sites located outside of formally protected areas to ensure their ecological characteristics are maintained.

5) >>> Promote collaboration between various stakeholders having impacts on the wetlands

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

>>> The AA would require assistance (financial and technical) to develop the national strategic action plan and the national wetlands policy.

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)?

>>> Recommend for the IOPs to support Namibia with capacity building to monitor wetlands and their ecological characters.

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.

>>> More women and children are involved in the wetland's conservation programmes and activities in Namibia.

H. Please describe lessons learnt in the context of wetlands and gender equality work in your country. >>> Women are resource users, and we have learned that for sustainable resource management, it is important that women and youth are involved in all phases of resource management.

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

>>> Namibia has adopted national policies and regulations which call for equal participation of women in all spheres of life. National Affirmative Action Policy and Regulations are in place.

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). >>> Annually at World Wetlands Day and World Water Day, youth and school-going children actively participate in the commemorations.

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 Agriculture, Water and Land Reform National Wetlands and Water Day Celebrations Committee

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

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

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

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

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

Target 1

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

1.1 Have any actions been taken since COP14 to integrate wetland protection, wise use and restoration, or wetland benefits, into other national strategies and planning processes, including: {1.1} *Please select only one per square.*

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

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

Target 2

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

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

2.1 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)? $\{2.1\}$ \square C=Partially

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

☑ A=Yes

2.2 Additional Information

>>> On the Okavango and Orange River Systems where two out of five listed Ramsar Sites in Namibia are located.

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

☑ C=Partially

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

☑ C=Partially

2.5 Have projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands been developed $\{2.4\}$ \square B=No

2.6 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? {2.8} \square A=Yes

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}

3.2 Has the private sector undertaken any activities or actions for the conservation, wise use, and management of (a) Ramsar Sites or (b) wetlands in general? {3.2} *Please select only one per square.*

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

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

☑ C=Partially

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

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

In responding to each of these questions, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide links, references/ upload documents where applicable and relevant. [Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 13, 14, 15]

Target 5

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

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

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

5.1 Additional information

>>> Potential Ramsar Sites were identified for listing. The listing will be done following the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List.

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

☑ E=# Sites

>>> 4

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

>>> 4

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

☑ X=Unknown

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

If "yes", please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites If "partially", please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites If "planned", please indicate the number of Ramsar Sites \square B=No

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

»» 0

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

☑ E=# Sites

»» 1

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.

>>> Lack of dedicated staff had hindered the process of updating the Ramsar Information Sheets.

Target 7

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 3, 4 and 10] 7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? $\{7.1\}$ \square A=Yes

7.1 Additional information

If "Yes", please provide the source links or upload the source documents here describing the mechanisms established >>> Environmental Impact Assessments Reports and the Monitoring work undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and LAnd Reform Staff members under the office of Water Environment

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

7.2 Additional information

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

>>> A report on the likely impact or changes to the Orange River Mouth Ramsar Site's ecological characteristics has been reported to the Secretariat.

Section 3 - Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

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

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

Target 8

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

8.1 Does your country have a National Wetland Inventory (NWI)? {8.1} \square B=No

8.2 If your country has an NWI, has it been updated in the last decade [2014-2024]? {8.2} \square B=No

8.3 How often is the NWI updated? ☑ C=Not updated

8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information publicly available? {8.4} $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ C=Partially

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

Ecological character is the combination of the ecosystem components, processes and benefits/services that characterize the wetland at a given point in time. *Please select only one per square.*

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

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

Please select only one per square.

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

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

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

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

	Ye s
a) Resources	5
b) Relevant skills	5
c) Data systems and management	1
d) Application of NWI information for decision making (climate, biodiversity and sectoral planning/reporting)	V

e) Regulatory framework and governance structure	
f) Data interpretation and communication	V
g) Collaboration	\checkmark
h) Others	

Target 9

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}. [Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Targets 1, 9, 10 and 15].

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

☑ B=No

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

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

☑ A=Yes

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

9.6 Has your country included wetland actions in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other related national policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation? ☑ A=No

9.8 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on: {9.7} *Please select only one per square.*

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes
b) climate change	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes
c) valuation of ecoystem services	□ C=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes

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

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

Target 10

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

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 22]

10.1 Do you have national legislation or equivalent on indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels in wetland management, and/or Site management? \square B=No

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?

☑ B=No

10.3 Have case studies on the participation of indigenous people in projects or successful experiences on cultural aspects of wetlands been compiled? (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21) {10.1} \square B=No

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} \square B=No

10.5 Have traditional knowledge and management practices relevant to the wise use of wetlands been documented and their application encouraged {10.3} \square B=No

Target 11

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

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {11.1} \square B=No

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

11.3 Since COP14 have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to other benefits for human wellbeing been implemented? ☑ D=Planned

11.3 Additional Information

>>> There are plans to develop tourism activities associated with the wetlands on the Okavango to benefit the local communities.

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

☑ B=No

11.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands in general? $\{11.4\}$ \square B=No

Target 12

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

12.1 Have national wetland restoration targets been established? $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ B=No

12.2 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {12.1} $\ensuremath{\boxtimes}$ B=No

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

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

☑ Y=Not relevant

Target 13

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

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

Please select only one per square.

a) Energy	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
b) Mining	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
c) Agriculture	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
d) Tourism	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
e) Urban development	□ D=Planned □ B=No □ A=Yes
f) Infrastructure	□ D=Planned □ B=No □ A=Yes
g) Industry	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
h) Forestry	□ D=Planned □ B=No □ A=Yes
i) Aquaculture	□ D=Planned □ B=No □ A=Yes
j) Fisheries	□ D=Planned □ B=No ☑ A=Yes

13.2 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact wetlands? $\{13.1\}$ \square A=Yes

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

Section 3 - Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

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

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

Target 15

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

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

☑ A=Yes

15.1 Additional information

If "yes", please list the Ramsar Regional Initiatives in which your country is actively involved. >>> SARRI

15.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? $\{15.2\}$ \square B=No

Target 16

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

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 21].

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

Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this in the Additional information section below *Please select only one per square.*

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

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

a) at Ramsar Sites

☑ Y=Not Relevant

b) at other wetlands ☑ Y=Not Relevant

16.3 Does the Contracting Party {16.3} Please select only one per square.

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

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

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

☑ B=No

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

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes
 c) other ministries, departments and agencies 	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No ☑ A=Yes

16.6 Additional information

>>> At

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

16.7 Additional information

>>> Annual World Wetlands Day and World Water Day Celebrations

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

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

Target 17

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

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19]

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

☑ Z=Not Applicable

17.2 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency ("donor countries")] Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed the development of projects by the agency? {17.4} \square Z=Not Applicable

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

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

17.4 Additional information

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

>>> Budget unknown but the ministries are responsible for the monitoring of wetlands through water quality monitoring and monitoring of wetland birds.

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} \square B=No

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

18.4 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} \square B=No

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

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 $\ensuremath{\text{>>>}}\xspace$ AEWA

Target 19

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

[Reference to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 20]

19.1 Has your country conducted any national needs assessment since COP14 to inform capacity building

planning to implement the Convention's Strategic Plan? {19.1} \square B=No

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

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

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

b) at other wetlands ☑ X=Unknown

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

☑ B=No