

# NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

National Reports to be submitted to the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Uruguay, 2015

Please submit the completed National Report in Microsoft Word format (.doc, 97-2003), as an electronic file (not a printed copy) and preferably by e-mail, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Secretariat (dufour@ramsar.org) by 1 September 2014.

### The structure of the COP12 National Report Format

The COP12 National Report Format (NRF) is in four sections:

**Section 1** provides the institutional information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.

**Section 2** is a 'free-text' section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

**Section 3** provides the 66 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015, and with an optional 'free-text' section under each indicator question in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of that activity.

**Section 4** is an optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that so wishes to provide additional information regarding any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

General guidance for completing and submitting the COP12 National Report Format

### IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THIS GUIDANCE SECTION BEFORE STARTING TO COMPLETE THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

- 1. All Sections of the COP12 NRF should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
- 2. The deadline for submission of the completed NRF is **1 September 2014**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP12.
- All fields with a pale yellow background \_\_\_\_\_\_ are free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, as it helps us understand Parties' progress and activity more fully, to prepare the best possible global and regional implementation reports to COP.
- 5. The Format is created as a form in Microsoft Word. You are only able to submit replies and information in the yellow or green boxes, as all other parts of the form are locked to ensure that the structure and wording of indicators will remain uniform and comparable for all Parties.
- 6. To select a yellow or green field you wish to complete, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
- 7. To move down through the sequence of fields, you can also use the 'Tab' key on the computer keyboard.

- 8. For a 'free-text' field, you can type in whatever information you wish. Note that there is only limited facility within the Microsoft 'form' format to make editorial changes in the 'free-text' box once text has been entered. Therefore, if you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow 'free-text' box, you should cut and paste the existing text into a separate document, make all the amendments, and then cut and paste the revised text back into the box.
- 9. Certain keyboard characters interfere with the automatic entry of data into the Secretariat's database. For that reason, please **do not use double quote marks ""** in the 'free-text' fields. Please **only use single quote marks "**". For the same reason, please **only use simple text in the 'free-text' fields**: they cannot accept formatting, colours or objects such as tables and images.
- 10. For each of the 'indicator questions' in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question, but are generally of the form: 'Yes', 'No', 'Partly', 'In progress'. This is necessary so that statistical comparisons can be made of the replies.
- 11. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarification, do so in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question. Please be as concise as possible (maximum of 500 words in each free-text box).
- 12. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.
- 13. An NRF is not usually completed by one person alone: for many indicators it is best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in their agency and others within the government and, as appropriate, with NGOs and other stakeholders who might have fuller knowledge of aspects of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the document at any point and return to it later to continue or to amend answers. Compilers should refer back to the National Report submitted for COP11 to ensure the continuity and consistency of information provided.
- 14. After each session, **remember to save the file** in Microsoft Word, .doc, 97-2003 format. A recommended filename structure is: COP12NRF [Country] [date], for example: COP12NRFSpain13July2014.doc
- 15. After the NRF has been completed, please send it in this format to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, preferably by e-mail (dufour@ramsar.org).
- 16. The completed NRF must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP12 National Report.
- 17. If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

#### NATIONAL REPORT TO RAMSAR COP12

#### **SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION**

Important note: the responses below will be considered by the Ramsar Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points, and will be used to update the information it holds. The Secretariat's current information about your focal points is available at www.ramsar.org/contacts en.

#### NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: KENYA

**DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY** 

Name of Administrative

Authority:

**KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE** 

**Head of Administrative** 

Authority - name and title:

William Kibet Kiprono (Director General)

Mailing address: P. O. Box 40241 - 00100, Nairobi

Telephone/Fax: Tel. +254 20 6000800; Fax: +254 20 6003 792

Email: director@kws.go.ke; wkiprono@kws.go.ke

DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS

Name and title: James Gichiah Njogu, Head of MEAs & Reserach Authorization

Mailing address: P. O. Box 40241 - 00100, Nairobi

Tel. +254 20 6000800; Fax: +254 20 6003 792 Telephone/Fax:

Email: jgichiah@kws.go.ke; conventions@kws.go.ke

DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL (STRP)

Dr Samuel Kasiki Name and title:

(Deputy Director, Biodiversity Research & Monitoring)

Name of organisation: Kenya Wildlife Service

PO Box 40241, Nairobi 00100 Mailing address:

Tel: +254 20 600 800, +254 20 604 310, Fax: +254 20 603 792 Telephone/Fax:

**Email:** skasiki@kws.go.ke

DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS (CEPA)

Ms. Jane Macharia, Research Sientist Name and title:

(Coordinator, Wetlands)

National Museums of Kenya Name of organisation:

Mailing address: PO Box 40658, Nairobi

Telephone/Fax: Tel: +254 2 3742 164/1, Fax: +254 2 741 424

Email: jmacharia@museums.or.ke

DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS (CEPA)

Name and title: Mr. Hadley Becha, Director

Name of organisation: Community Action for Nature Conservation

Mailing address: P.O. Box 13642 - 00800, Nairobi

Telephone/Fax: Tel: +254-728 607519

Email: becha.canco@gmail.com

### SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

REMINDER: Please do not use double quote marks " ": use single quotes ' ' instead.

### In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP11 reporting):

- A. What have been the five most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?
  - 1) Tana River Delta was added to the Ramsar List on 12/10/2012. Launching was done in a ceremony that brought together conservation enthusiasts, wetlands experts and local community on January 30, 2014, Tana River County.
  - 2) Completion of Developing Awareness and Educational Materials on Ramsar sites in Kenya, Project code: SGF/06/KE/02. This project was approved in 2007 and had taken time to completion due to several challenges
  - 3) Creation of Ramsar Site committee for Lake Naivahsa, Lake elementaita, Lake Nakuru and Lake Bogoria.
  - 4) The county government of Nyandarua held its debut Lake OI Bollosat 21 kilometre marathon which attracted more than 500 athletes from various counties across the country. The theme of the race was "Discover Lake OI bollosat". The marathon race was to create awareness of the lake through massive tree planting and enhancing tourism.
  - 5) Kenya Wetlands Atlas was compiled and launched July 2013. The Atlas was produced with funding from the Government of Kenya and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and technical support from the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
- B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?
  - 1) Encroachment remains the greatest challenge for the wetlands in Kenya especially for agriculture, urbanization and expansion of human settlements
  - 2) Deforestation of major water catchment areas which then affect the hydrological cycles. In some cases wetlands have dried due to low recharge while in others flooding is the concern.
  - 3) Pollution consisting of industrial effluent and, agricultural and domestic waste in wetlands and proliferation of alien invasive species
  - 4) Overgrazing in wetlands and overexploitation of wetland gods such as fish, plants etc as well as over abstraction of ground and surface water. This coupled with climate change present a major challenges in implementing teh convention
  - 5) Limited local communities knowledge on need for wise use of wetlands and limited resources for the implementation of the convention including coupled with weak policy, legal and institutional arragements
- C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?
  - 1) Enhance institutional capacity with well articulated policy and legal arragements as well as site specific management plans, designation of new sites and update pending RIS (Lake Bogoria and Lake Baringo Ramsar Sites).
  - 2) Local communities and other stakeholders education and awareness creation and enpowering National and Site/wetland/Ramsar committees
  - 3) Rehabilitation of catchments and degraded wetlands
  - 4) Resource mobilization from exchaquer, conservation and development partners
  - 5) Enhance research and monitoring in wetlands and ensure imlementations of Environmental Impact Assessment Environment Managemnt Plan.

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

The Secreatriat may assist in capacity building and resource mobilization. We welcome visitation by the Secretariat for technical support

E. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)? (including ongoing partnerships and partnerships to develop)

Enhance partnerships between the Convention and IOPs to support in resource mobilization and technical support where possible to adress challenges highlighted in 'B', above and in the implemenation of the 2009-2015 Strategic Plan

- F. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the 'biodiversity cluster' (Ramsar, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), CITES, and World Heritage Convention), and UNCCD and UNFCCC?
  - 1. At national level creat likages with the relevant office and where possible have them under one roof
  - 2. Encourage the respective secretariats to enhance synergy and where possible provide for joint innitiatives
- G. How can implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., on sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?
  - 1. At national levels, Ramsar convention needs to be mainstreamed not only on instituions dealing with water but also all relevant sectors that have direct and indirect impacts on wetlands. This should be done through national visions, policy, legal and strategies.
  - 2. At global level mainstreaming in relevant international processes under UN such as UNEP, UNESCO etc and various intergovernmental organizations will add value in decision making and resource mobilization
- H. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?
  - 1. Strong linkage between the Convention Secretariat and AA, and AA with national structures is highly encouraged to enhance technical and decision making as well as implementation
  - 2. Enhance the profile of the Convention among other MEAs
- I. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report:
  - 1. National Museums of Kenya
  - 2. East Africa Wildlife Society
  - 3. Kenya Wetland Forum
  - 4. Nature Kenya
  - 5. National Environment Management Authority
  - 6. Water Resource Management Authority
  - 7. Kenya Watertowers Agency
  - 9. Ministry of Water, Environment and Naturals Resources Directorate of MEAs

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## SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS AND FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

#### **REMINDER:** Guidance for completing this section

1.	For each	ch 'indicato	r question',	pleases	select one	answer	from the	'drop-down'	list in the	yellow
	box.									

- 2. If you wish to add any additional information on a specific indicator, please provide this information in the green 'free-text' boxes below the indicator questions.
- 3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green 'free-text' box, you should cut and paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut and paste the revised text back into the green box.
- 4. Some characters used in the free text box prevent the automatic data entry into our database National Reports. For that reason, please do not use double quote marks "" in the free text boxes. Use single quotes ''. Text in the 'free text' boxes should be simple text only: they cannot accept formatting, colours or objects such as tables and images.
- 5. To help Contracting Parties refer to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP11, for each appropriate indicator a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP11 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
- 6. Where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties implementation in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
- 7. Only Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Strategies and KRAs for which there are significant implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format; those parts of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted.

#### **GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS**

**STRATEGY 1.1 Wetland inventory and assessment**. Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of all types of wetlands as defined by the Ramsar Convention and wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of its provisions concerning the wise use of all wetlands.

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

A - Yes

1.1.1 Additional information:

The Kenya Wetland Atlas, develoed through the support of DANIDA and UNEP is a major milestone. The Atlas captured major wetlands and therefore we acknowledge that there are smaller wetlands that were not captured.

1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii

A - Yes

1.1.2 Additional information:

The Atlas is available and even online

- 1.1.3 Has the condition\* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the last triennium? {1.1.3}
  - a) Ramsar Sites
  - b) wetlands generally

Please comment on the sources of the information on which your answer is based in the green free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please describe the principal driver(s) of the change(s).

- \* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention
- a) P Status improved
- b) O No change

#### 1.1.3 Additional information on a) and/or b):

Ramsar sites in particular Lake Naivasha, Lake Nakuru, Lake Bogoria and Lake Baringo water levels have gone high. This is the highest water marks in the last over sixty years. The implication is that the would be encroachers have been pushed away. However, there are also negative outcomes particularly in reduction of wildlidfe terrestrial area for Lake Nakuru which is fenced off and for the other Lakes, negative experinces related to flooding.

In general, many small wetlands are faced with increasing encroachment and reduction in sizes. However, the situation has remained the same for the last triennium. For some wetlands, site specific management plans have been developed such as for Dunga Swamp, Lakes OI Bolossat, Jipe and Naivasha.

**STRATEGY 1.3 Policy, legislation and institutions.** Develop and implement policies, legislation, and practices, including growth and development of appropriate institutions, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use provisions of the Convention are being effectively applied.

1.3.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {1.3.1} KRA 1.3.i

D - Planned

(If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box)

#### 1.3.1 Additional information:

The policy have basically been finalized but not yet operationalized. However, Kenya Widlife Service has taken lead in conservation and management of wetlands in Kenya and an office responsible for this has been set up in addition to Conventions Office which directly deals with Ramsar Site. In 2012, National Environment Mangement Authority (NEMA) in conjunction with stakeholders developed Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Strategy for Kenya. This is a valuable tool for the management of the wetlands in absence of operationalized Wetland Policy. However wetlands issues in the country continue to be guided by about 77 sectoral statutes, policies and legislation on wetlands inscribed under various sectors' Acts; all relevant to wetland conservation and management. Pointedly these acts are harmonized under Section 42 in the National Environment and Coordination Act (EMCA 1999)

- 1.3.2 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:
  - a) Poverty eradication strategies
  - b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans
  - c) Coastal and marine resource management plans
  - d) National forest programmes
  - e) National strategies for sustainable development
  - f) National policies or measures on agriculture
  - g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD

{1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i

- a) A-Yes
- b) A-Yes
- c) A-Yes
- d) A-Yes
- e) A-Yes
- f) A-Yes
- g) A Yes

#### 1.3.2 Additional information:

Wetlands in Kenya are identified as importanmt resource especially in situation of water stress. It is beacuse of this sectoral nature of wetlands that a unifying stand alone policy have not yet seen the light of the day.

1.3.3 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii

A - Yes

#### 1.3.3 Additional information:

In 2011, NEMA has in collaborations with stakeholder formulated the National SEA guideline and these also address wetlands as key ecosystems.

1.3.4 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, extractive industry) that may affect wetlands,? {1.3.5} KRA1.3.iii

A - Yes

#### 1.3.4 Additional information:

There are clear regulations on EIA and wetlands are generally protected under various legislations. Any development that is likely to compromise the environment including different ecosystem, EIA is mandatory.

1.3.5 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments? {1.3.6}

A - Yes

#### 1.3.5 Additional information:

We have new constitution that recognizes all conventions that Kenya has signed and ratified as part of national law Chapter 1, 1(6) Any treaty or convention ratified by Kenya shall form part of the law of Kenya under this Constitution (Kenya Constitution 2010). The wildlife law recognized wetland ecosystem and all treaties that relate to wildlife (2013).

STRATEGY 1.4: Cross-sectoral recognition of wetland services. Increase recognition of and attention in decision-making to the significance of wetlands for reasons of biodiversity conservation, water supply, coastal protection, integrated coastal zone management, flood defence, climate change mitigation and/or adaptation, food security, poverty eradication, tourism, cultural heritage, and scientific research, by developing and disseminating methodologies to achieve wise use of wetlands.

1.4.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites? {1.4.1} KRA 1.4.ii

C - Partly

#### 1.4.1 Additional information:

Only valuation for Shampole wetlands have been done comprehensively. However, in general the benefits for the Ramsar sites have been documented and shared with local communities particularly where sites specific management committees have been formed and/or im process of being formed. Indeed for all the Ramsar Site this has been achieved.

1.4.2 Have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.4.2} KRA 1.4.i

C - Partly

#### 1.4.2 Additional information:

This has been accomplished in some wetlands such as Yalla Swamp among others where rice is farmed. It is partly because in some wetland this is planned, while in others it has not been done. However, no single wetland that is not used for subsistence and even where clear management plan do not exist, the communities have used the resources sustainably and equitably through local governance system

1.4.3 Have socio-economic and cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii

A - Yes

1.4.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names):

The socio-economic and cultural value for all Ramsar Sites in Kenya have been documented but monetary valuation not done. The Kenya Ramsar Sites included Lake Baringo (314 sqkm), Lake Bogoria (107), Lake Elemetaita (109), Lake Naivasha (300), Lake Nakuru (188) and Tana River Delta Ramsar Site (1,636)

STRATEGY 1.5 Recognition of the role of the Convention. Raise the profile of the Convention by highlighting its capacity as a unique mechanism for wetland ecosystem management at all levels; promote the usefulness of the Convention as a possible implementation mechanism to meet the goals and targets of other global conventions and processes.

- 1.5.1 Since COP11, have you brought the 'Changwon Declaration' (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:
  - a. head of state
  - b. parliament
  - c. private sector
  - d. civil society {1.5.2}

- a. A-Yes
- b. A-Yes
- c. A-Yes
- d. A Yes

#### 1.5.1 Additional information:

All relevant institution at national level were brought to attention of the Changwon Declaration. Kenya was represented at COP11 by the relevant Minister and Permanent Secretary as heads of delegation.

**STRATEGY 1.6 Science-based management of wetlands.** Promote successful implementation of the wise use concept by ensuring that national policies and wetland management plans are based on the best available scientific knowledge, including technical and traditional knowledge.

- 1.6.1 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:
  - a. agriculture-wetland interactions
  - b. climate change
  - c. valuation of ecoystem services {1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

a. A - Yes

b. A - Yes

c. B - No

#### 1.6.1 Additional information:

Valuation of ecosystem services have not been done for wetlands in Kenya. However, numerous ecological and socio-economic research have been done and have been useful in informing management planning and decisions making.

1.6.2 Have all wetland management plans been based on sound scientific research, including research on potential threats to the wetlands? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

A - Yes

#### 1.6.2 Additional information:

Where management plans have been made, we have used a standard procedure and prior research is conducted to inform the planning.

STRATEGY 1.7 Integrated Water Resource's Management. Ensure that policies and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), applying an ecosystem-based approach, are included in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in their decision-making processes, particularly concerning groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and nearshore marine zone planning and climate change mitigation and/or adaptation activities.

1.7.1 Do your country's water governance and management systems treat wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii

A - Yes

#### 1.7.1 Additional information:

The Water Act 2002 in sec.11 (1) requires that a National Water Resources Management Strategy be developed. One was developed in 2007- 2009. The strategy describes how Water resources shall be managed, protected, used, developed, conserved and controlled. It had 7 strategic objectives whose attainment is various levels. These includes: Improve water resources assessment in order to obtain more accurate information on ground and surface water safe yield; Put in place mechanisms that provide equal access to water for all Kenyans; Enhance and strengthen roles of Gender in WRM; Create mechanisms for integrating land and water resources planning and management on a catchment basis; Create mechanisms for catchment conservation and management; Put in place measures to enhance water availability Q&Q, and Put in place strategies that promote production of accurate data on water use

1.7.2 Have Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {1.7.3}

A - Yes

#### 1.7.2 Additional information:

Communty edication has been vital. The Water Act established Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs). The Catchment Management Strategies (CMS) are broad and very varied. In order to provide focus and consistency in the implementation of the CMSs, Water Resource Management Authority (WRMA) developed localized Sub Catchment Management Plans, in collaboration with WRUAs. These are a mirror image of what is contained in the CMS. (both for training and implementation). The WRUAs are supported by the World Bank and other financiers to implement activities identified. This ensures strong stakeholder participation in WRM as they take charge of water issues. WRMA provides technical support and assurance to the financiers

1.7.3 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or adapting to climate change? {1.7.5} KRA 1.7.iii

C - Partly

#### 1.7.3 Additional information:

In 2010, the Government launched the National Climate Change Response Strategy which enhanced understanding of the global climate change regime and the impacts of climate change in Kenya. The Strategy was Kenya's first climate change agenda guide as it provided a basis for strengthening and focusing nationwide action towards climate change adaptation and mitigation. In 2013, the government developed National Climate Change Action Plan. The importance of wetlands is mentioned. However, no stand-alone policies or guidelined for enhancing the role of wetlands in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

1.7.4 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? {1.7.6} KRA 1.7.v

C - Partly

#### 1.7.4 Additional information:

The plans that have been made are specific to wetlands based on agricultural activities.

**STRATEGY 1.8 Wetland restoration.** Identify priority wetlands and wetland systems where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites and systems.

1.8.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

### 1.8.1 Additional information:

Some weltlands have been prioritised for restorations based on the level of degradation. For instance the case of Lake Jipe, and Olborsat among others.

1.8.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

#### 1.8.2 Additional information:

The case of Lake Olborsat with regard to restoration stand out clearly where some work have been done for rehabilitation.

STRATEGY 1.9 Invasive alien species. Encourage Contracting Parties to develop a national inventory of invasive alien species that currently and/or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands, especially Ramsar Sites, and ensure mutual supportiveness between the national inventory and IUCN's Global Register on Invasive Species (GRIS); develop guidance and promote procedures and actions to prevent, control or eradicate such species in wetland systems.

1.9.1 Does your country have a comprehensive national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? {1.9.1} KRA 1.9.i

D - Planned

#### 1.9.1 Additional information:

Invasive species have become a problem in many protected areas including wetlands like Lake Nakuru.

1.9.2 Have national policies or guidelines on invasive species control and management been established for wetlands? {1.9.2} KRa 1.9.iii

A - Yes

#### 1.9.2 Additional information:

The invasive species guidelines being developed under Kenya Wildlife Service are general covering all types of ecosystem. The management of invasive weeds has been a major activity since 2005 active removal has been done in L. Victoria and the associated wetlands. Rehabilitation of Saiwa swamp has continued. Marine and coastal wetland have also been rehabilitated by involving communities in planting mangrove forest. Restricting use of wetland resources has also been used to allow the wetlands to regenerate. River Malewa (Lake Naivasha Ramsar site) Restoration intiatives by WWF and Ministry of water of Kenya and Lake Nakuru Ramsar site Watershed (Mau Catchement forest rehabilitation initiative) supported by USAID, EU and NORAD. Such invasive species management strategies are incorporated in the national wetland policy which is at the cabinet level. The strategy in the policy will help guide management of invasive species in wetlands.

STRATEGY 1.10 Private sector. Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1.10.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in its activities and investments concerning wetlands? {1.10.1} KRA 1.10.i

A - Yes

#### 1.10.1 Additional information:

But this is under guidance of the various institution based on jurisdictions of the wetland and on EIA. All investor near or withing wetlands including local communities must apply the wise use pricipals to ensure sustainable use. In some situation where wetlands occur within Protected Areas, use is not permitted especially for National Park and any construction of tourism facility must be licensed and EIA conducted and in subsequent years undertake EA.

- 1.10.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the wise use and management of:
- a. Ramsar Sites
- b. Wetlands in general

{1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

a. A - Yes

b. A - Yes

#### 1.10.2 Additional information:

It yes for both the case for Lake Elementaita and Lake Naivahsa where the private sector have been proactive to ensure wise use. The same for non-Ramsar site.

**STRATEGY 1.11: Incentive measures.** Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use provisions of the Convention.

1.11.1 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.1} KRA 1.11.i

A - Yes

#### 1.11.1 Additional information:

A Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme has been initiated in the Lake Naivasha catchment area. The large scale horticultural farmers in the lower catchment provide incentives to the small scale farmers in the upper catchment of the lake in order to conserve the riparian land and manage the catchment. This is a means of benefit sharing and ensuring sustainable conservation of the lake catchment area.

1.11.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.2} KRA 1.11.i

A - Yes

### 1.11.2 Additional information:

Grazing of livestock in areas arround Lake Bogoria Nationa Reserve have been used as incentive to support conservation of Lake Bogoria. However, in some part it results into overgrazing hence control. This worked negatively for conservation of the reserve which include the lake and terrestrial areas arround the lake.

#### **GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE**

**Note**: An optional Annex (Section 4) to this COP12 National Report Format is provided so that a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, can also provide additional information separately on each of its designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

REMINDER: In 'free-text' boxes please do not use double quotes " "; use single quotes ' ' instead.

**STRATEGY 2.1 Ramsar Site designation.** Apply the 'Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance' (Handbook 14, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition).

2.1.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i

A - Yes

2.1.1 Additional information:

Four wetlands which meet these criteria have been identified namely: Dunga wetland, Nyando wetland, Yala wetland and Sio Siteko wetland. Some of the information have been compiled in the draft Ramsar Information Sheet and need finalization. In the last COP, Tana Delta which was part of this list by 2012 was nominated.

2.1.2 How many Ramsar Site designations are planned for the next triennium (2015-2018)? {2.1.4} KRA 2.1.iii

1 sites

2.1.2 Additional information (If possible, please indicate the name(s) of the Site(s) and anticipated year of designation):

The list include Dunga wetland, Nyando wetland, Yala wetland and Sio Siteko wetland. Availability of funds to finalize the information sheets and consultations with local communities and stakeholders remains a challenge.

**STRATEGY 2.2 Ramsar Site information.** Ensure that the Ramsar Sites Information Service . . . is available and enhanced as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance and for research and assessment, and is effectively managed by the Secretariat.

2.2.1 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.1} KRA 2.2.ii	A - Yes
2.2.1 Additional information:	

**STRATEGY 2.3 Management planning - new Ramsar Sites.** While recognizing that Ramsar Site designation can act as a stimulus for development of effective site management plans, generally encourage the philosophy that all new Ramsar Sites should have effective management planning in place before designation, as well as resources for implementing such management.

2.3.1 Have all sites being prepared for Ramsar designation (2.1.2 above) had adequate management planning processes established? {2.3.1} KRA 2.3.i

C - Some sites

2.3.1 Additional information:

The process is on going to have the management plan

**STRATEGY 2.4 Ramsar Site ecological character.** *Maintain the ecological character of all designated Ramsar Sites, through planning and management.* 

2.4.1 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i	6 sites
2.4.2 For how many of the Ramsar Sites with a management plan is the plan being implemented?  {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i	6 sites
2.4.3 For how many Ramsar Sites is a management plan currently being prepared? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i	2 sites

#### 2.4.1 - 2.4.3 Additional information:

Four site require updating of the existing management plan which though still being implemented have expired.

2.4.4 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv

6 sites

**2.4.4** Additional information (If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites):

All site have cross-sectoral management committee to include Kenya Wildlife Service, Water Reserces Management Authority, Kenya Forest Service, National Environment Management Authority and Local Communities among others depending on site including other key stakeholders particularly NGO and private sector.

2.4.5 For how many Ramsar Sites has an ecological character description been prepared? {2.4.7} KRA 2.4.v

6 sites

2.4.5 Additional information (If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites):

All the six Ramsar sites in Kenya have their ecological characteristics described. However, only four have their RIS updated with two pending specifically for Lake Bogoria and Lake Baringo. It is planned that within curent financial year 2014/2015, this activity will be undertaken

**STRATEGY 2.5 Ramsar Site management effectiveness.** Review all existing Ramsar Sites to determine the effectiveness of management arrangements, in line with the 'Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance'.

2.5.1 Have any assessments of the effectiveness of Ramsar Site management been made? {2.5.1} KRA 2.5.i

B - No

2.5.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please indicate the year of assessment and the source of the information):

However, three sites Lake Elkemetaita, Lake Nakuru and Lake Bogoria are also World Heritage Sites and have benefited from assessment of the management effectiveness

STRATEGY 2.6 Ramsar Site status. Monitor the condition of Ramsar Sites and address negative changes in their ecological character, notify the Ramsar Secretariat of changes affecting Ramsar Sites, and apply the Montreux Record, if appropriate, and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.

2.6.1 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? {2.6.1} KRA 2.6.i

A - Yes

- 2.6.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established):
- We have Areas Senior Scientist in chage of various site for purposes of research and monitoring. Factors to monitor include human induced or natural phenomena. Human related activities include encroachment, building farming and grazing.
- The Kenyan Administrative Authority (AA), Kenya Wildlife Service has a regular monitoring system in place for Ramsar sites located in protected areas. The information gathered during monitoring is available in a data base. It is used to detect any changes in these sites.
- For Ramsar sites outside protected areas, the AA would liaise with research institutions conducting research in these areas to get information on any changes in the Ramsar site

2.6.2 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? {2.6.2} KRA 2.6.i

A - Yes

- 2.6.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Some cases', please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made):
- The case of Lake Naivasha where some changes have been observed has been reported severally and action taken to make corrections. Flooding, though not clear what is causing it in Lake Elemetaita, Nakuru and Bogoria have also been reported.
- 2.6.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, including requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.6.3} KRA 2.6.ii

Z - Not applicable

2.6.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken):

. . . . . . . . . .

STRATEGY 2.7 Management of other internationally important wetlands. Appropriate management and wise use achieved for those internationally important wetlands that have not yet been formally designated as Ramsar Sites but have been identified through domestic application of the Strategic Framework or an equivalent process.

2.7.1 Has the ecological character of internationally important wetlands not yet designated as Ramsar Sites been maintained? {2.7.1} KRA 2.7.i

A - Yes

2.7.1 Additional information:

There are some wetlands such as Lake Turkana and Lake Victoria among others where there are efforts to maintain their ecological character

#### **GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Note: in 'free-text' boxes please do not use double quotes " ": use single quotes ' ' instead.

STRATEGY 3.1 Synergies and partnerships with MEAs and IGOs. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other intergovernmental agencies (IGOs).

3.1.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.2} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv

A - Yes

3.1.1 Additional information:

Maintainance of Conventions Office in Kenya Wildlife Service (Ramsar AA) ensures coordination of MEAs that it is the focal point and also liaise with focal points for other MEAs. The formation of the Kenya National Ramsar Committee enhances the participation. Further, most MEAs have committee that develop the Kenya position and also support in reporting process. In this respect MEAs coordinators in various government ministries and agencies meet often for respective MEA activities. For instance, the Kenya Wildlife Service Convention Coordinator is involved in all processes of other MEAs and other MEAs office are involved including in finalizing this Ramsar National Report. We also participated (last week 21-25<sup>th</sup> July 2014) in writing the CBD National Report.

3.1.2 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO)? {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv

A - Yes

3.1.2 Additional information:

The National Ramsar Administrative Authority collaborates with UN focal points such as UNEP and UNDP on wetlands

**STRATEGY 3.2 Regional initiatives.** Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.

3.2.1 Have you (AA) been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention? {3.2.1} KRA 3.2.i

A - Yes

3.2.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative):

The Ramsar Centre for East Africa (RAMCEA). The East African partner states include Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi

3.2.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {3.2.2}

A - Yes

3.2.2 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s):

The International Course on Wetland Management - Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute

Regional Training on Ecosystem Based Climate Change Adaptation – African Institute for Capacity Development

**STRATEGY 3.3 International assistance.** Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments.

3.3.1 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management in other countries? {3.3.1} KRA 3.3.i

Z - Not applicable

3.3.1 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP11):

.....

3.3.2 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii

Z - Not applicable

3.3.2 Additional information:

.....

3.3.3 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

A - Yes

3.3.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP11):

World Bank, WWF, IUCN, USAID Germany, Netherlands, Finland, United Kingdom, etc

**STRATEGY 3.4 Sharing information and expertise.** Promote the sharing of expertise and information concerning the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

3.4.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {3.4.1}

B - No

3.4.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved):

We would be interested and planning will be initiated

3.4.2 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made public (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.4.2} KRA 3.4.iv

A - Yes

3.4.2 Additional information:

http://www.kws.org/research/projects/wetlands programme.html

3.4.3 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat for dissemination? {3.4.3} KRA 3.4.ii

A - Yes

3.4.3 Additional information:

Project SGF/06/KE/02 Awareness creation materials developed for Kenyan Ramsar sites has been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat. The development of these materials was supported by the Ramsar Small Grants Fund.

STRATEGY 3.5 Shared wetlands, river basins and migratory species. Promote inventory and cooperation for the management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.

3.5.1 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i

A - Yes

3.5.1 Additional information:

Lake Jipe, Shampole, Lake Victoria, Mara River, Sio Siteko Wetland

3.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {3.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii

A - Yes

3.5.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place):

Sio Siteko Wetland - Kenya and Uganda

Mara River Basin - Kenya and Tanzania

Lake Victoria - East African Community

Lake Jipe - Kenya - Tanzania

3.5.3 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species?
{3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii

3.5.3 Additional information:
Kenya is a party to CMS and AEWA

#### **GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY**

Note: in 'free-text' boxes please do not use double quotes " ": use single quotes ' ' instead.

**STRATEGY 4.1 CEPA.** Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, where appropriate, the Convention's Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness Programme (Resolution X.8) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) and work towards wider awareness of the Convention's goals, mechanisms, and key findings.

- 4.1.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {4.1.1} KRA 4.1.i
  - a) At the national level
  - b) Sub-national level
  - c) Catchment/basin level
  - d) Local/site level

a) A-Yes

b) A - Yes

c) A-Yes

d) C - In progress

(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)

- 4.1.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'In progress' to one or more of the four questions above, for each please describe the mechanism, who is responsible and identify if it has involved CEPANFPs):
- CEPA has been incorporated into sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes particularly in the Wildlife, Fisheries, Forestry, Agriculture, Tourism and other Land sectors.

Thousands of CEPA materials have been produced and disseminated across the country

- 4.1.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii
  - a) at Ramsar Sites
  - b) at other wetlands

a) 2 centres

b) 10 centres

- 4.1.2 Additional information (If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks):
- An education centre established in Lake Nakuru National park and Lake Bogoria provides information for both national and international visitors.
- Though not specifically at the site, we have education centres in PAs that also provide information for wetlands within the site. The case are numerous including Marine protected areas, Mt. Kenya, Abadare National Park, Amboseli among others

- 4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:
  - a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management

a) A - Yes

b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?

b) A - Yes

{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

- 4.1.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved):
- Stakeholders are involved in the consultation process, information generation, fundraising especially for NGOs. Stakeholders also form the Management Committee and also the National Ramsar Committee. In all situation stakeholders are invoved.
- The ecological and global importance of a potential Ramsar site is established based on biodiversity and socio-economic assessments and/or applied research activities conducted in those sites.
- The synthesised information is shared with local stakeholders/ communities as part of CEPA programme.
- Several consultative meetings are conducted while compilation of the Ramsar information sheet continues untill the final submission stage.
- 4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii

A - Yes

4.1.4 Additional information:

This is done at institional level, within Kenya Wildlife Service, National Environment Management Authority among others

4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP11? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

Number of opportunities:

- a) at Ramsar Sites
- b) at other wetlands

- a) 0
- b) 0

**4.1.5** Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training):

. . . . . . . . . .

4.1.6 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee or equivalent body? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

A - Yes

**4.1.6** Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP11; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has):

The national Ramsar Committee membership is composed of representatives from the ministries responsible for forestry and wildlife, water and irrigation, environment and mineral resources, agriculture, lands, culture and heritage,

and fisheries. Other members are from relevant research institutions and Civil Society Organizations.

- 4.1.7 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and:
  - a) Ramsar Site managers
  - b) other MEA national focal points
  - c) other ministries, departments and agencies {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi
- a) A-Yes
- b) A-Yes
- c) A-Yes
- 4.1.7 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please describe what mechanisms are in place):

Through workshop, through formal letters/memos, emails and during international wetland day and during monthly meetings of the members of the Kenya Wetlands Forum

4.1.8 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 February or at another time of year), either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP11? {4.1.8}

A - Yes

4.1.8 Additional information:

Kenya celebrates officially the World Wetland Day every year

4.1.9 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP11 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.1.9}

A - Yes

**4.1.9 Additional information** (If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this):

Awareness creation activities have been on-going within various wetlands sites in the country using material generated through Project SGF/06/KE/02

STRATEGY 4.2 Convention financial capacity. Provide the financial resources necessary for the Convention's governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, within the availability of existing resources and by the effective use of such resources; explore and enable options and mechanism for mobilization of new and additional resources for implementation of the Convention.

4.2.1

a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2012, 2013 and 2014? {4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i

A - Yes

b) If 'No' in 4.2.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:

4.2.2 Has any additional financial support been provided	D. N.			
through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.2.2} KRA 4.2.i	B - No			
, ,				
4.2.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities):				

**STRATEGY 4.3 Convention bodies' effectiveness.** Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support the implementation of the Convention.

4.3.1 Have you (AA) used your previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention? {4.3.1} KRA 4.3.ii

A - Yes

**4.3.1** Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring):

As the focal point I am able to countercheck the national report for monitoring implementation.

**STRATEGY 4.4 Working with IOPs and others.** *Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs\*) and others.* 

4.4.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.iii

A - Yes

**4.4.1** Additional information (If 'Yes' please name the IOP (or IOPs) and the type of assistance received):

Wetlands International

**WWF** 

Birdlife International

These IOP's have supported various conservation projects in terms of providing financial and technical assistance

4.4.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs? {4.4.2} KRA 4.4.iii

B - No

4.4.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' please name the IOP (or IOPs) and the type of

<sup>\*</sup> The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, and WWF International.

assistance provided):		