



## **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](mailto: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.

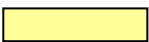
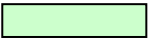
**Section 2** is a 'free-text' section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

**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

<b>IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THIS GUIDANCE SECTION BEFORE STARTING TO COMPLETE THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT</b>
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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.
3. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
4. Fields with a pale green 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](http://www.ramsar.org/contacts_en).

**NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: LEBANON**

#### DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

<b>Name of Administrative Authority:</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:</b>	HE Minister of Environment Mohamad Al Machnouk
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Ministry of Environment, Lazarieh Center, 8th Floor, Block A-4 New, P.O.Box: 11/2727; Beirut-Lebanon.
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+961 1 976555 - ext:405 / Fax: +961 1 976 530
<b>Email:</b>	m.machnouk@moe.gov.lb

#### DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS

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<b>Mailing address:</b>	Ministry of Environment, Lazarieh Center, 8th Floor, Block A-4 New, P.O.Box: 11/2727; Beirut-Lebanon.
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#### DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL ( STRP)

<b>Name and title:</b>	
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	
<b>Mailing address:</b>	
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	

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

<b>Name and title:</b>	.....
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	.....
<b>Mailing address:</b>	.....
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	.....
<b>Email:</b>	.....

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

<b>Name and title:</b>	.....
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	.....
<b>Mailing address:</b>	.....
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	.....
<b>Email:</b>	.....

## 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) Integration of the wetlands concept as an integral part into the National Water Sector Strategy, IWRM-ICZM process and River Basin Management Plans.
- 2) Raising awareness about the importance of wetlands and their important role into the sustainable development of local societies in Lebanon and the Region.
- 3) Development of research related to wetlands through the integration of wetlands concept and definitions into many academic programs especially into courses related to environmental geosciences, watersheds management and IWRM/ICZM in 2 universities in Lebanon as a start.
- 4) Development and strengthening of relations with other regional and international organisations and contracting parties through the participation in many workshops and trainings related to the Ramsar convention and to MedWet regional initiative, as for example the international symposium on water and wetlands that was held in Agadir in February 2012, trainings organized by GLOBWETLAND II Project in Jordan and Germany where we had the opportunity to learn and apply new techniques in spatial analysis related to wetlands mapping and management.
- 5) Revision of the RIS of existing Ramsar sites in Lebanon, in addition to updating all related data in order to be submitted as soon as possible to the Ramsar Secretariat.

**B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?**

- 1) Lack in staff and specialists in order to have a specialized unit working on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention and related issues as IWRM & ICZM. The actual situation is that the big load of work related to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention is depending on few people (one person) who is overloaded with other tasks and responsibilities other than the Ramsar issues.
- 2) Lack in financing, logistics and equipment which made difficult the continuous visiting, monitoring, surveying and managing of the Ramsar sites in order to have a continuous update of the RIS and related geodatabase of each of the existing sites in Lebanon.
- 3) Previous weak cooperation and discontinuous communication with the Ramsar Secretariat and the Secretariat of Medwet.
- 4) Insufficient implementation of the existing management plans in the Ramsar sites.
- 5) Lack in previous baseline data related to the existing Ramsar sites which made the present RIS related to each site weak and incomplete.

**C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?**

1) Creating the Ramsar National Committee and a related research unit in cooperation with other governmental agencies, universities and research institutes in Lebanon and abroad.

2) Working on the updating of the RISs and the management plans and their implementation for each of the 4 Ramsar sites in Lebanon.

3) Creating a complete geodatabase and dynamic maps for all the existing sites and their integration into a GIS-Based system.

4) Creation of a National Wetlands Inventory.

5) surveying of 6 new sites ( oyoun es samak - oyoun orghoch - Afqa/Roueiss sub-basin - Jeita kasrtic system - El Assi watershed [Dardara waterfalls site] - Mansouri Beach) and creating the geodatabase of each of them in order to submit them gradually to the Ramsar Secretariat for official designation.

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

- More basic and advanced trainings and workshops which allow more interaction between specialists and national focal points regionally and internationally.

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)

.....

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?

Through the close cooperation between the national focal points of each convention and especially the cooperation and regular meetings between different national committees in order to coordinate common issues. This being planned to be executed starting 2015 especially after the establishment of the national Ramsar committee in Lebanon.

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)?

The first step in linking the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Lebanon with other policies/strategies has started with the implementation of water policy/strategy through the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the National Water Sector Strategy that is being reviewed in details by a group of experts from the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Energy and Water. In addition, all the other policies and strategies will be linked to the Ramsar Convention through a planned program targeting each of them in details.

H. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

.....

I. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report:

.....



## SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS AND FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

### REMINDER: Guidance for completing this section

1. For each 'indicator question', please 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

B - No

1.1.1 Additional information:

The Ministry of Environment is planning for a cooperation with several national institutions and organisations in order to prepare a team of experts in several fields to work on a national wetland inventory. In addition to the National wetland inventory, the work is focusing on having a GIS-Based system for each existing Ramsar site and for every futur site with a complete set of digital maps, satellite images, numerical models ...



1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	D - Planned
<p>1.1.2 Additional information: As soon as Lebanon (through the Ministry of Environment) starts working on the national inventory, we will have a group of experts working continuously on maintaining and updating all related data and of course all essential data will be made accessible to all stakeholders.</p>	

<p>1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the last triennium? {1.1.3}</p> <p>a) Ramsar Sites b) wetlands generally</p> <p>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).</p> <p>* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention</p>	<p>a) <input type="radio"/> - No change b) <input type="radio"/> - No change</p>
<p>1.1.3 Additional information on a) and/or b): .....</p>	

**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.*

<p>1.3.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {1.3.1} KRA 1.3.i (If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box)</p>	B - No
<p>1.3.1 Additional information: for the time being no national wetland policy is available in Lebanon, but in general the law of the protection of the environment, Law # 444/2002 is applicable until a more specific and precise policy has been issued.</p>	

<p>1.3.2 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Poverty eradication strategies</li> <li>b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans</li> <li>c) Coastal and marine resource management plans</li> <li>d) National forest programmes</li> <li>e) National strategies for sustainable development</li> <li>f) National policies or measures on agriculture</li> <li>g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD</li> </ul> <p>{1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) B - No</li> <li>b) D - Planned</li> <li>c) D - Planned</li> <li>d) C - Partly</li> <li>e) D - Planned</li> <li>f) D - Planned</li> <li>g) B - No</li> </ul>
<p>1.3.2 Additional information: All the above mentioned strategies and processes are being in general taken into consideration, and some more precise and specific applications are being planned gradually to incorporate wetlands issues into all the above mentioned national strategies and planning processes.</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.3 Additional information: the decree # 8213/2012 that deals with the Strategic Environmental Assessment practices is being strictly applied especially when reviewing wetlands related policies or programmes as for exemple the National Water Sector Strategy where the issue of wetlands has been incorporated as an important part of the whole water systems in Lebanon.</p>	
<p>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} KRA 1.3.iii</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.4 Additional information: The decree # 8633/2012 that deals specifically with the Environmental Impact Assessment of any project in lebanon is being strictly applied for all the projects that may affect anything related to the environment in Lebanon and specifically in this case the wetlands.</p>	

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

B - No

1.3.5 Additional information:

for the time being no amendments are being made, but it is important to mention that all the work related to the Ramsar convention, that is being done at the Ministry of Environment (implementing agency of the Ramsar Convention in Lebanon) in cooperation with other national agencies, is focusing and planning to reflect Ramsar commitments. Lebanon has established a strong legal framework to protect, manage and sustain its valuable and vulnerable diversified natural resources (Land and marine resources) from all kind of dangers and threatenings conditions, especially through the applications of Law 444/2002 and decrees 8213/2012 and 8633/2012.

**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

A - Yes

1.4.1 Additional information:

this process has been applied in a major wetland and Ramsar site in South-Lebanon, at Tyre Coast Nature reserve as a part of its management plan, and it is being updated. The same process has been applied also at Ammiq wetland (Ramsar site) where there is a planned of an updated assessment of the whole ecosystem in the near future within the assessment planned for the Shouf Biosphere.

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

B - No

1.4.2 Additional information:

.....

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 management plans of 2 of the 4 Ramsar sites in Lebanon, Tyre Beach Nature Reserve and Ammiq wetlands, have a socio-economic and cultural aspect incorporated.

**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. D - Planned
- b. D - Planned
- c. D - Planned
- d. D - Planned

1.5.1 Additional information:

.....

**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 ecosystem services

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

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

1.6.1 Additional information:

This is very clear and detailed in the management plans of Tyre coast nature reserve and Ammiq wetlands sites where many research have been undertaken. as for the other 2 ramsar sites, research on all levels is being planned in cooperation with national academic and research institutions.

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:

.....

**STRATEGY 1.7 Integrated Water Resources 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:

all the wetlands and Ramsar sites are being considered as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins when it is applicable, and especially recently through the application of the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the National Water Sector Strategy that is being reviewed in Lebanon.

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}

B - No

## 1.7.2 Additional information:

this was difficult due to lack in personnel and financing issues.

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:

The Ministry of Environment has integrated the wetlands issue as an integral part of the National water system into all the guidelines and communications related to the adaptation to climate change.

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

B - No

## 1.7.4 Additional information:

.....

**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

D - Planned

## 1.8.1 Additional information:

.....

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

D - Planned

## 1.8.2 Additional information:

Cooperations with other national and international agencies and institutions is being planned in order to have a strong wetland restoration/rehabilitation programme based on scientific expertise and research.

**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

B - No

## 1.9.1 Additional information:

.....

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

B - No

## 1.9.2 Additional information:

.....

**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

C - Partly

## 1.10.1 Additional information:

This is being developed through the SEA of the National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS) and especially through and during the application of the EIA process for several related projects.

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

a. B - No

b. B - No

{1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

## 1.10.2 Additional information:

.....

**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

D - Planned

1.11.1 Additional information:

Many National workshops will be planned and organized in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental and academic agencies and institutions.

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

D - Planned

1.11.2 Additional information:

.....

## 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

D - Planned

2.1.1 Additional information:  
.....

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

6 sites

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

1) Oyoun es Samak : fresh water springs and hydrological system, located in northern Lebanon in a mountainous area.

2) Oyoun Orghoch: fresh water springs and hydrological system, located in northern Lebanon in a mountainous area.

3) Jeita Karstic System: Cave and Karst system located in Central Lebanon.

4) Afqa/Roueiss Hydrosystem: 2 big springs of water with a rich ecosystem located in the Central Lebanese mountainous region.

5) Dardara waterfalls: waterfalls located on Assi River, in Bekaa region in Lebanon.

6) Mansouri Beach: The last turtles natural nesting beach in Lebanon, Located in South-Lebanon to the south of Tyre Coast Nature Reserve.

**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:

In addition to Ramsar Sites Information Services & its tools, a complete GIS-based system is being prepared in order to integrate all the related data of all existent and futur Ramsar sites in Lebanon.

**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

B - No

## 2.3.1 Additional information:

All the related data and maps are planned to be done in the near futur.

**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

2 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

1 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:

It is important to mention that Lebanon has currently 4 Ramsar sites (Tyre, Ammiq, Ras ech Chaqaa, Palm islands). the first phase will be the implementation of the management plan for the existing sites and in a second phase the work will focus on the establishment of a management plan for each of the proposed futur sites with a complete GIS-based system, detailed maps and spatial data for all the sites.

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

2 sites

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

- Tyre Beach Nature Reserve #980
- Plam Island Nature Reserve #1079

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

2 sites

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

- Tyre Beach Nature Reserve
- Ammiq Wetland

**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):

.....

**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):

.....

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

C - Some cases

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):

.....

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

D - Planned

2.7.1 Additional information:

.....

### 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

D - Planned

3.1.1 Additional information:

A national Ramsar/Wetland Committee is planned to be established in 2015 in cooperation with other governmental and academic institutions.

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:

.....

**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):

Lebanon has been always an active member of all the activities of MedWetCoast.

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):

- International Training of Trainers Course on Wetland management in september 2010, in Wageningen, Netherlands (2 weeks).
- GLOBWETLAND II Project: applications of spatial data analysis and GIS in mapping and managing wetlands and Ramsar sites.

**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}	B - No
3.3.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP11): .....	

**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}	D - Planned
3.4.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved): .....	

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	D - Planned
3.4.2 Additional information:	

.....

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	D - Planned
3.4.3 Additional information: .....	

**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	B - No
3.5.1 Additional information: .....	

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	B - No
3.5.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place): .....	

3.5.3 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii	B - No
3.5.3 Additional information: .....	

## 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) D - Planned
- b) D - Planned
- c) D - Planned
- d) D - Planned

(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 CEPA NFPs):

.....

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) 1 centres
- b) 0 centres

4.1.2 Additional information (If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks):

The Center of Tyre Beach Nature Reserve.

4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:

- a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management
- b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?

- a) D - Planned
- b) D - Planned

{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):

.....

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	D - Planned
4.1.4 Additional information: .....	
4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP11? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv a) at Ramsar Sites b) at other wetlands	Number of opportunities:  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	D - Planned
4.1.6 Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP11; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has): it is planned to establish a National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee in 2015.	
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) D - Planned b) B - No c) B - No
4.1.7 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please describe what mechanisms are in place): .....	
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}	B - No
4.1.8 Additional information: .....	



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}	D - Planned
4.1.9 Additional information (If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this): .....	

**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	B - No
b) If 'No' in 4.2.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment: all arrangements have been taken with the financial department in order to send all contributions as soon as possible	

4.2.2 Has any additional financial support been provided 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): .....	

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

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

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

B - No

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

.....

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 assistance provided):

.....