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

**National Reports to be submitted to the 12th 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.

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.**

**NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: PHILIPPINES**

| | |
|---|---|
| **DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY** | |
| **Name of Administrative Authority:** | **BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU (formerly Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau)** |
| **Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:** | THERESA MUNDITA S. LIM<br>Director |
| **Mailing address:** | BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU<br>NINOY AQUINO PARKS & WILDLIFE NATURE CENTER<br>QUEZON AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY<br>PHILIPPINES 1100 |
| **Telephone/Fax:** | (63) (2) 9246031- 35 |
| **Email:** | bmb@bmb.gov.ph |
| **DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS** | |
| **Name and title:** | MARLYNN M. MENDOZA<br>Chief, Ecosystems Management Specialist |
| **Mailing address:** | BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU<br>NINOY AQUINO PARKS & WILDLIFE NATURE CENTER<br>QUEZON AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY<br>PHILIPPINES 1100 |
| **Telephone/Fax:** | (63) (02) 9246031-35 Local 226 to 228; (63) (02) 9258950 |
| **Email:** | mmmendozapawb@yahoo.com |
| **DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL ( STRP)** | |
| **Name and title:** | ..... |
| **Name of organisation:** | |
| **Mailing address:** | ..... |
| **Telephone/Fax:** | |

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|---|---|
| | ..... |
| **Email:** | ..... |
| **DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS (CEPA)** | |
| **Name and title:** | JOY M. NAVARRO<br>Ecosystems Management Specialist |
| **Name of organisation:** | BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU |
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| **Email:** | joynavarro930@yahoo.com |
| **DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS (CEPA)** | |
| **Name and title:** | AMY LECCIONES, Executive Officer |
| **Name of organisation:** | SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PHILIPPINE WETLANDS |
| **Mailing address:** | UNIT 208 GRAND EMERALD TOWER, F. ORTIGAS JR., corner GARNET STS. 1605 ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY<br>PHILIPPINES |
| **Telephone/Fax:** | (63) (2) 637-2409637-2409 |
| **Email:** | amy_lecciones@yahoo.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) Designated additional Ramsar sites (2012- 2015)

Two (2) Ramsar sites were designated, namely Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) in Palawan (30/06/2012), and, Las Pinas Paranque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area (LPPCHEA) in Metro Manila (15/03/2013).

PPSRNP (Ramsar site no. 2084) connects a range of important ecosystems from ridge to the sea including a limestone karst landscape with complex cave system. LPPCHEA (Ramsar site no. 2124) is an urban wetland important for migratory and resident waterbirds.

2) Governance

a) updated and being implemented the Philippine National Wetland Action Plan 2011-2016 which incorporated CEPA

b) organized an Interim National Wetland Conservation Committee to oversee the implementation of the National Wetland Action Plan 2011-2016

c) caves and wetlands concerns were incorporated in the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016 which is achored on the Philippine President's agenda on inclusive growth (growth shared by all as opposed to the trickle down, jobless growth). Activities included the management of significant caves for socio-economic and ecological values; rehabilitation of important habitats such as wetlands; manage priority wetlands for food production, water conservation,water conservation and disaster mitigation; implement the Updated National Wetland Action Plan for the Philippines (NWAPP) as part of the commitment to the Convention on Wetlands; prioritize the protection of mangroves and management of mangroves, seagrasses, corals and beaches; evaluate management effectiveness of all Marine Protected Areas; implement the Coral Triangle Initiative National Plan of Action; among others.

d) by virtue of Executive Order No. 366 directing the strategic review of the operations and organizations of the Executive Branch, the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) was rationalized. Its mandate and coverage on the conservation of biodiversity expanded. Thus, PAWB was renamed Biodiversity Management Bureau and as such two (2) Divisions with direct concern on wetland management specifically coastal and inland wetlands were created namely: Coastal and Marine Division and Caves, Wetlands and other Ecosystems Division.

e) National Climate Change Action Plan 2011-2028 provides the direction in the implementation of the Framework Strategy and Program on Climate Change (Republic Act No. 9729 in 2009)

f) three (3) critical habitats were proclaimed by the DENR, namely Carmen Critical Habitat in Agusan del Norte, Mindanano for marine turtles (DAO 2012-08), Malasi Tree Park and Wildlife Sanctuary Critical Habitat in Isabela, Luzon for waterbirds (DAO No. 2012-01) and Adams Wildlife Critical Habitat (DAO 2013-23) in Ilocos Norte, Luzon for forest threatened species and four rivers (headwaters of Cabulataan and Bulu Rivers; Baag and Pasaleng Rivers). Critical habitats are designated areas which shall be protected from any form of exploitation or destruction detrimental to the survival of threatened species dependent therein. They are potential Ramsar sites.

3) Support to Ramsar Secretariat activities

a) Hosted the Asian Regional Workshop on the Management of Wetlands and East Asian- Australasian Flyway Sites held on 23-27 September 2013 in Makati City, Philippines. It aimed to enhance the management of wetland site managers through sharing and documentation of lessons learned and best practices in the conservation of wetlands of international importance and migratory waterbirds and their habitats. The major outputs of the Workshop were on the needs of the site managers as follows:

- simple guidance on how wetland should be managed when it becomes a Ramsar site, including measuring effectiveness of management
- call on national authorities to put in place on the job training for protected area staff, especially on wetland management
- hold annual meetings of the national site managers to share experiences
- call on national authorities to review their funding arrangements for Ramsar sites and put in place mechanisms for the site to be adequately funded

They were put forward as recommendations to the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Resource Panel members during the 2013 Asia Regional Workshop on Scientific and Technical Support for Implementation of the Ramsar Convention held on 7-11 October 2013 in South Korea.

b) represented the Ramsar Convention, together with Malaysia, Thailand and Nepal as resource persons in the Ecosystems Services Partnership Conference in August, 2013 in Indonesia.

c) principal proponent (Philippines) of a draft resolution on wetlands and disaster risk reduction for deliberation during the 12th Conference of the Parties

4) CEPA

Symposium on Environmental Concerns and Sustainability in Strategic Design Planning for Urban Wetland Ecosystem - series of architectural discourses held from June 2013 to February 2014 on the importance of resilient and effective structural designs on wetland shores that could contriubte to the solutions to the challenges posed by climate change related calamities. It was attended by professionals and students of architecture. It was organized by the Architectural Students Association of the Philippines and the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands

5) Capacity Building

All Ramsar site managers attended tranings organized by the Ramsar Secretariat or Centers.

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

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| 1) appreciation and understanding of wetlands and wetland ecosystem management within the Department |
| 2) several agencies/ offices have mandates on wetlands or related to wetlands, such as water, river basin, watersheds, etc, which result to uncoordinated or overlapping of unwise activities |
| 3) behavioral change of people on the utilization of wetlands and wetland resources |
| 4) lack of funds for wetland management |
| 5) |

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

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| 1) Designation of additional Ramsar sites |
| 2) Propose through channels a Congress Bill on wetland policy |
| 3) Review, update and implement the National Wetland Action Plan (2017-2027) and Cave Strategy and Action Plan (2017-2027) |
| 4) Nationwide information dissemination on wetlands within the Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR). (DENR is undergoing rationalization. It is expected that new staff will work on wetland management.) |
| 5) Geo-tagging of inland wetlands specifically in mainlands of Visayas and Mindanao, Philippines |

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

The Ramsar Secetariat should continue to extend assistance in the country -

- as resource person/s in local and international conferences to be organized by the Philippines
- as adviser/s on wetland developmental projects
- to monitor designated and visit potential Ramsar sites
- to provide funds for important wetland activities
- to provide special support to Ramsar sites that shows high indications of ecological character change

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)

The IOPs are requested to inform the AA of any in-country projects being proposed or implemented.

They are also requested to extend assistance on the following:

- as resource person/s in local and international conferences to be organized by the Philippines
- as adviser/s on wetland developmental projects
- to monitor designated and visit potential Ramsar sites
- to provide funds for important wetland activities
- to provide special support to Ramsar sites that shows high indications of ecological character change

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?

The Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) is also the focal agency for the CBD, CMS and CITES. Other MEAs in the country are aware of the BMB mandate and as such BMB is being invited to be involved in major biodiversity related activities.

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)?

When invited in important relevant fora, the Ramsar Secretariat, IOPs and or AA should be actively involved to present the Ramsar advocacies.

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:

Architectural Students Association of the Philippines (ASAPhil)
ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)
Department of Environment and Natural Resources Regional Offices
(1 to 12, CAR, NCR, CARAGA)
Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Gaia Exploration Club, Inc. (GEC)
Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA)
Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO)
National Museum of the Philippines (NMP)
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD)
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research
and Development (PCAARD)
Philippine Ramsar site managers (6)
Philippine Speleological Society, Inc. (PSS)
Ramsar Regional Center - East Asia (RRC-EA)
River Basin Control Office (RBCO)
Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands (SCPW)
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SeAFDeC)

References with information gathered from nationwide consultations:
5th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (being finalized)
Philippine National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2027
(being finalized)

# 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.*

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| 1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i | C - In progress |
| 1.1.1 Additional information:<br><br>The current National Wetland Inventory is being updated. | |

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| 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:

bmb@bmb.gov.ph
- List of Classified Caves (2012 and 2014)
- Inland wetlands atlas in mainland Luzon, Philippines (for posting)

Davis, et al. 1990. Directory of Philippine Wetlands (publication - hard copy)
Ong, et al 2002. Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (publication - hardcopy)

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| 1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the last triennium? {1.1.3}<br>a) Ramsar Sites<br>b) wetlands generally<br>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).<br>* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention | a) O - No change<br>b) O - No change |

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

a) needs indepth study to determine if there are changes on the ecological characters of the following:

Tubattaha Reefs Natural Park (incidents were all over the news)
- US minesweeper ship ran aground on an atoll in January 2013 which damaged about 2,300 square kilometers of protected reef
- China fishing vessel got stranded on the reef in April 2013 which damaged about 4,000 square kilometers of centuries old corals

Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary (reflected on the RIS)
- issues on the site include siltation of the marsh, presence of invasive species like the janitor fish, increasing settlements, effluents from mining operations outside the marsh, incresing settlements

**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.*

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| 1.3.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {1.3.1} KRA 1.3.i<br>(If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box) | A - Yes |

1.3.1 Additional information:

Phillippine National Wetland Action Plan 2011 to 2016

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| 1.3.2 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including: | |
| a) Poverty eradication strategies | a) A - Yes |
| b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans | b) A - Yes |
| c) Coastal and marine resource management plans | c) A - Yes |
| d) National forest programmes | d) A - Yes |
| e) National strategies for sustainable development | e) A - Yes |
| f) National policies or measures on agriculture | f) A - Yes |
| g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD | g) A - Yes |
| {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i | |

1.3.2 Additional information:

POVERTY. Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016); Coral Triangle Initiative on coral reefs, fisheries and food security Philippine National Plan of Action (2009-2020); National Wetlands Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016); National Ecotourism Strategy and Action Plan (2013-2022); Cave Action Plan 2011-2016; National Ecotourism Strategy and Action Paln (2013-2022)

WATER. Integrated River Basin Management and Development Master Plan (2006-2025); National Wetlands Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016)

COASTAL & RESOURCES. Philippine/National Biodiversitty Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2017); Coral Triangle Initiative on coral reefs, fisheries and food security Philippine National Plan of Action (2009-2020); National Wetlands Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016);

FORESTRY. National Greening Program.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016)

AGRICULTURE: Philippine National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (2010-2020); Coral Triangle Initiative on coral reefs, fisheries and food security Philippine National Plan of Action (2009-2020); National Wetlands Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016)

BIODIVERSITY: Philippine/National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2027); National Wetlands Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016)

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| 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 | D - Planned |
| 1.3.3 Additional information:<br><br>It is still being developed. | |

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| 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 | A - Yes |
| 1.3.4 Additional information:<br><br>Environmental Impact Assessment System (EIS) in the Philippines, officially referred to as Philippine EIS, was fully implemented after the issuance of Presidential Proclamation 2146 in 1981. | |

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| 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: | |

**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.*

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| 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:<br><br>Recent related studies are as follows<br><br>Jensen, A.E. 2012. Field Report: Monitoring and Inventory of the Seabirds and their Breeding Areas in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park and World Heritage.<br><br>Dolorosa, R.G. 2010. Conservation Status and Trends of reef Invertebrates in Tubbbataha reefs with emphasis on Molluscs and Sea Cucumbers.<br><br>Alibo, V.L.B. 2011. Carbon Storage of the Caimpugan Peatland in Agusan Marsh, Philippines and its Role in Greenhouse Gas Mitigation.<br><br>Primavera J.H. 2013. The Agusan Marsh and the Agusan River Basin: The need for Science-based Development and Management. from Lake Con 2011. 2nd National Congress on Philippine Lakes. | |

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| 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 | A - Yes |
| 1.4.2 Additional information:<br><br>Training on Fundamentals of Organic Agriculture for Livelihood Production thru Natural Farming Systems in Peatland c/o Sustainable Management of Peatland Forests in South East Asia (SEApeat)<br><br>Establishment of demonstration projects to showcase sustainable agriculture in peatlands like floating gardens and raised bed vegetable garden (SEApeat)<br><br>Integrated Coastal Resource Management Project (2009 - 2013) aims to address the critical issues of sustainable management of marine and coastal environment and their resources as well as poverty alleviation.<br><br>Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan Project (2002-2014) strenthening local communities participation in barangay (local district) governance, developing their capacity to design, implement and manage development activities like provision of water supply, that reduce poverty including the prevention of adverse environmental and social impacts | |

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| 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):<br><br>Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary<br>Naujan lake National Park<br>Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park | |

**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.*

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| 1.5.1 Since COP11, have you brought the 'Changwon Declaration' (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:<br><br>a. head of state<br>b. parliament<br>c. private sector<br>d. civil society<br>{1.5.2} | a. B - No<br>b. A - Yes<br>c. A - Yes<br>d. A - Yes |

1.5.1 Additional information:

The Biodiversity Management Bureau disseminated the Changwon Declaration to the different DENR Regional Offices nationwide.

The Society for the Conservation of Philippines Wetlands engaged the following in wetland projects: private sector - Unilever Philippines, United Parcel Service Foundation; international organization - World Food Program; academe - Pampanga State Agricultural University, University of the Philippines(College of Architecture and Human Ecology), Far East Air Transport Incorporated University; youth - Architectural Students Association of the Philippines (UP Diliman Chapter)

**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.*

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

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| 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:<br><br>Available research outputs are used in the preparation of management plans. If information is not available, it is not considered gaps and will be addressed in the management plan. | |

**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.*

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| 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 |

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| 1.7.1 Additional information:<br><br>Integrated River Basin Management and Development Master Plan 2007- 2025 | |

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| 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: | |

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|---|---|
| 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 | A - Yes |
| 1.7.3 Additional information:<br><br>National Framework Strategy on Climate Change 2010-2022 and National Climate Change Action Plan 2011-2028 | |

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| 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 | A - Yes |
| 1.7.4 Additional information:<br><br>Small Water Impoundment Project - mechnical measures to effectively promote the maximum utilization and conservation of soil and water in upland areas. | |

**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.*

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| 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:<br><br>Mangroves, corals, rivers, creeks | |

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|---|---|
| 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:

Mangroves - National Greening Program (Ecosystems Research and Management Bureau)
Corals - Sustainable Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Program (Biodiversity Management Bureau)
Stream bank rehabilitation - River Basin Control Office
Creeks/ river - adopt a creek/ river Program (Environment Management Bureau)

Pasig River Rehabilitation (1996 to present)
Community Based Forest and Mangrove Management Project (2009-2015)
Manila Bay Project to implement the Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy (2000-2015)
National Greening Program - nationawide reforestation including mangroves

**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.*

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| 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 | C - Partly |

1.9.1 Additional information:

- Laguna Lake Development Authority has recently launched an interactive invasive fishes website (llda.gov.ph) which alows the citizens to share insights and reports that will increase their involvement in the efforts of containing invasive species.

- Fishbase Information and Research Group, Inc. (www. fishbase.org)

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| 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 | D - Planned |

1.9.2 Additional information:

The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (includes aquatic species) is still being finalized.

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

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| 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: | |

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|---|---|
| 1.10.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the wise use and management of:<br>a. Ramsar Sites<br>b. Wetlands in general<br>{1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii | a. A - Yes<br>b. A - Yes |

1.10.2 Additional information:

Ramsar site

Tubbataha reefs Nautral Park -
Shell Pilipinas - assisted in the development of its Business Plan
Oris Swiss Watch - assisted in the conservation activites of Tubbataha Reefs
Global Malai - assisted in the enivronmental awarenss and seabird monitoring

Wetlands in general

a) Adopt- an- Estero (creek) Program" is a collaborative undertaking since 2010 between and among the estero community, donor-partner, local government units and the DENR. The donnor/partner maybe a business establishment, an industry association, a non-government organization or any other group that volunteers to ba a major action in cleaning the esteros of Metro Manila. This program is a direct response to the continuing mandamus by the Supreme Court for agencies led by the DENR to clean up Manila Bay, particularly through the esteros and waterways that empty into it. The Supreme Court of the Philippines mandated all concerned government offices to clean and or rehabilitate Manila Bay and upgrade its water quality to acceptable standard.

b) Unilever Philippines, Laguna Lake Development Authority and the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands entered into a 10-year partnership for the program on the "Conservation of Laguna de Bay's Environment and Resources (CLEAR). It is a program that will help ensure the conservation of Laguna de Bay, the largest inland wetland in the country. It has a network of about a thousand high school students from around 100 high schools within and around the Bay who are implementing scholl and village based lake conservation projects.

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

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| 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:<br><br>Gawad Saka Award - pay tribute to farmers and fisherfolks, researchers individuals and groups whose exemplar performance and contributions created great impacts in the development , promotion and sustainability of the agriculture-fishery sectors in the country | |

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|---|---|
| 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:<br><br>Soft measures are being implemented. Example is shame strategy through exposure in social media, to stop negative activities on wetlands like planting of mangrove species on tidal flats or seagrass beds. | |

## 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, 3rd edition).*

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| 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:

Several sites have been identified as potential Ramsar sites. The general process of designation are as follows:

Process 1 - AA identified the potential Ramsar site

a) AA will identify the site as potential Ramsar site

b) AA will conduct CEPA to the local communities about Ramsar Convention, the potential Ramsar site and responsibilities after designation as Ramsar site

c) If the local communities of the potential Ramsar site is interested, the Local Government Unit must submit to AA a letter request to the Biodiversity Management Bureau to recommend the designation as Ramsar site by the Ramsar Secretariat.

Process 2 - Local Government Unit (LGU) identified the potential Ramsar site

a) LGU to invite Biodiversity Management Bureau to conduct CEPA to the local communities about Ramsar Convention, the potential Ramsar site and responsibilities after designation as Ramsar site

b) LGU must submit to AA a letter request to the Biodiversity Management Bureau to recommend the designation as Ramsar site by the Ramsar Secretariat

| | |
|---|---|
| 2.1.2 How many Ramsar Site designations are planned for the next triennium (2015-2018)? {2.1.4} KRA 2.1.iii | 2 sites |

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

Taal Lake National Park in 2017
Negros Wetlands in 2016

**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.*

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| 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.*

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|---|---|
| 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:<br><br>Taal Lake National Park - with existing management plan and management body<br><br>Negros Wetlands - CEPA and management planning process is on-going | |

**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 | 0 sites |
| 2.4.1 – 2.4.3 Additional information:<br>..... | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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):

* Protected Areas Management Board (PAMB) of Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary, Naujan Lake National Park, Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park &Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park. The PAMB is composed of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as chair ith the Provincial planning and Development Coordinator, concerned Municipality/s, concerned barangay/s, ribal community (if appropriate), local NGos, Peoplesorganization and concerned national government agencies.

* Las Pinas Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area Management Council (LPPCHEA MC) - Las Pinas Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area. The Management Council is composed of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as chair with the Philippne Reclamation Authority, concerned local government units, Department of Tourism and Wild Bird Club of the Philippines as members.

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 Ramsar sites in the Philippines have accomplished and submitted their updated Ramsar Information Sheets.

**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'.*

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

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

Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool was used by the following Ramsar sites:

- Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary - 2013 thru the Protected Area Management Enhancement Project of the GIZ
- Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area - 2013 thru the Protected Area Management Enhancement Project of the GIZ
- Naujan Lake National Park - in 2012 by the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau
- Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary - in 2012 by the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau

Management Effectiveness and Assessment Tool was used in the Tubbataha Reef Natural Park

**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.*

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|---|---|
| 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):

There is a system of reporting from the site to the Administrative Authority (AA), either through formal or informal reporting. Formal reporting is a written report from the site which will pass thru channels before it reaches the AA. Informal reporting is thru mobile phone, telephone or social network.

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|---|---|
| 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):

Tubbataha Reef Natural Park - two (2) separate incidences of ship stranding from US and China in 2013

Las Pinas Paranaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area - proposal for the reclamation of adjacent and other nearby coastal areas; process of securing Environment Compliance Certificate is on-going

Naujan Lake National Park - proposal for the establishment of geothermal plant inside the site

| | |
|---|---|
| 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: | |

- Taal Volcano Protected Landscape in Batangas - established as protected area by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 906 which covers approx. 62,000 ha. it has a management body (Protected Area Management Board) that oversees the management of the site.

Mutia, M.T. et al. 2013. Fishery Resource Assessment of Taal Lake, Batangas, Philippines.

Maurita, M.R. et al. 2013. Primary, Chlorophyll, Phytoplankton and the Development to Eutrophic State of Taal Lake, Souter Luzon, Philippines

Mutia, M.T. et.al. Establishment of Fish Reserve Area in Taal Lake, Philippines.

Willete, D.A. 2013. Phylogeography of the Freshwater Sardine (Sardinella tawilis) in Taal Lake, Batangas and Implicationsfor a Sustainable Management Strategy.

## 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:<br><br>The Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) is the Secretariat of the Interim National Wetlands Committee. BMB is the Philippine National Focal Point for the CBD, CMS, and CITES.<br><br>Other MEAs may be are on call by the NWC, that is, depending on the topic for discussion. | |

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| 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:<br><br>The Biodiversity Management Bureau is the focal agency for Global Environment Facility on biodiversity concerns. | |

**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 |

| |
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| 3.2.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative):<br><br>East Asian - Australalsian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) - Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, USA, Malaysia, Bhutan, Thailand, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Cambodia, China, Nepal, Myanmar, Singapore<br><br>Ramsar Regional Center -East Asia (RRC-EA) - Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, USA, Malaysia, Bhutan, Thailand, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Cambodia, China, Nepal, Myanmar, Singapore |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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} | B - No |
| 3.2.2 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s): | |

**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):<br>..... | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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:<br>..... | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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):<br><br>RRC-EA, ADB, USAID<br>WWF, UNDP<br>DANIDA, GIZ<br>UNDB, JICA | |

**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} | A - Yes |
| 3.4.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved):<br><br>Sustainable Use and Protection of Peatlands - Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Philippines<br><br>Coral Triangle Intiative - Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Philippines, Timor-Leste | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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:<br><br>Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau/Biodiversity Management Bureau website (bmb.gov.ph)<br>Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands (psdn.org.ph)<br>Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (tubbatahareef.org)<br>Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (http://www.puerto-undergroundriver.com)<br>Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary (olangowildlifesanctuary.org)<br>Asean Center for Biodiversity (aseanbiodiversity.org) | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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:<br><br>- RIS for all the 6 Ramsar sites<br>- National Management Effectiveness Results on Olango Island<br>- Ships strandings in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park & updates<br>- Proposed Reclamations in Manila Bay | |

**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 | Z - Not applicable |
| 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 | Z - Not applicable |
| 3.5.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place):<br>..... | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 3.5.3 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii | A - Yes |
| 3.5.3 Additional information:<br><br>- Asian Waterbirds Census - nationwide activity of the Philippines done in every January simultaneously with other countries<br>- Turtle Island Heritage Protected Area (Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia) - first transboundary protected area for marine turtles in the world<br>- East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership - migratory birds<br>- Census of the Black-faced Spoonbill | |

## 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<br><br>a) At the national level<br>b) Sub-national level<br>c) Catchment/basin level<br>d) Local/site level<br><br>(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) | a) C - In progress<br>b) C - In progress<br>c) C - In progress<br>d) C - In progress |

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):

A draft National CEPA Action Plan is still being formulated. Subsequent integration into regional and local plans are indicated in the National Wetland Action Plan for the Philippines (2011-2016) (NWAPP), Thematic Area 4 (Enabling Activities). However, some CEPA activities are currently being implemented.

| | |
|---|---|
| 4.1.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii<br>a) at Ramsar Sites<br>b) at other wetlands | a) 5 centres<br>b) 0 centres |

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

Ramsar sites -

Naujan Lake National Park wetland center has recently been constructed.

Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary wetland center is being renovated.

Tubbataha Reef Natural Park wetland center for renovation.

Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park with existing wetland center.

Agusan Mash Wildlife Sanctuary wetland center still needs fund for contruction.

Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat and Tourism Area wetland center still needs fund for construction.

| | |
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| 4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:<br>a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management<br>b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?<br>{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii | a) A - Yes<br><br>b) A - Yes |

4.1.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved):

a) The preparation of site management plans is participatory. Concerned stakeholders are invited to discuss the issues and concerns of the site and how they should be addressed

b) The selection will involve meeting with the stakeholders. They will be informed on wetlands values and other basic information, Ramsar Convention, critieria in the selection of the Ramsar sites and their responsibilities when the site becomes Ramsar site. They will be asked to send a letter of request to the Admnistrative Authority for the site to be designated as Ramsar site and that they are fully aware of their responsibilties for the designated site.

| | |
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| 4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made?<br>{4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii | D - Planned |

4.1.4 Additional information:

Capacity needs assessment for local and national levels are specified under Themeatic Area 4 (Enabling Activities) of the National Wetland Action Plan of the Philippines

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| 4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP11? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv<br>a) at Ramsar Sites<br>b) at other wetlands | Number of opportunities:<br><br>a) 3<br>b) 1 |

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

Ramsar sites:

- four (4) Ramsar site managers participated in the wetland trainings sponsored by Ramsar Regional Center - East Asia
- all Ramsar site managers participated in the sharing and exchanging of experiences in the management of their sites sponsored by PAWB in Puerto Princesa in 2012
- five (5) Ramsar site managers participated in the Asian Regional Workshop on the Management of Wetlands and East Asian Australasian Flyway Sites in 2013

- two (2) Ramsar site staff will participate in the Information Sharing and Training Workshops for Wetland Managers in August 2014 by RRC-EA.

| | |
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| 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):

It is an interim National Wetland Committee (NWC) composed of Department of Environment and Natural Resources as Chair and the National Economic and Development Authority as Co-Chair. Members are Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Tourism, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Public Works and Highways, Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, and Climate Change Commission. The Biodiversity Management Bureau acts as the NWC Secretariat.

The NWC responsibilities are:

- to ensure the establishment, updating, implementation and monitoring of the National Wetland Action Plan;
- to coordinate all efforts in the conservation and wise use of the country's wetlands and wetland resources;
- to review and provide expert inputs on policies and management initiatives related to wetlands;
- to establish linkages and networking with concerned national and international organizations, as well as relevant local government units, to promote information exchange and synergies on wetland conservation;
- to provide assistance in activities related to the compliance of the national commitment to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands; and,
- to submit to the Office of the President the periodic report on the progress of implementation of the National Wetlands Action Plan of the Philippines.

The NWC meets twice a year.

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| 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:<br>a) Ramsar Site managers<br>b) other MEA national focal points<br>c) other ministries, departments and agencies<br>{4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi | a) A - Yes<br>b) A - Yes<br>c) A - Yes |
| 4.1.7 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please describe what mechanisms are in place):<br><br>bmb.gov.ph website. | |

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| 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:<br><br>CBD Day celebration 2012, 2013, 2014<br>Month of the Ocean 2013 celebration Theme: The Coral Reefs are the Forests in the Sea, Let's Protect Them (BMB)<br>Ocean Jam: Mangroves Protect, Protect Mangroves - in celebration of the Philippine Environment Month, June 2014 (BMB)<br><br>Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands (SCPW) led activities:<br>2012 - Wetlands Forum (Launching of Wetlands Caravan in Laguna with the theme 'Viaje Kalikasan'), 02 February 2012 at the University of the Philippines at Los Banos, College of Human Ecology<br><br>2013 - Live Guesting by Ms. Amy M. Lecciones, CEPA NGO National Focal Point on television for the 'ANC Mornings' (ABS-CBN News Channel), to discuss the WWD theme 'Wetlands and Water Management' and to promote WWD activities for the month of February to mark the celebration of World Wetlands Day.<br>- Tawi-Tawi Wetlands Caravan (all Saturdays and Sundays of February 2013 Tawi-Tawi<br>- Symposium on Environmental Concerns and Sustainability in Strategic Design Planning for Urban Wetland Ecosystem (also the launching event of the Design Competition entitled 'Gawin Nating Pasyalan and Ilog Pasig') held on 15 February, 2013 at the University of the Philippines Theatre, Diliman, Quezon City.<br><br>2014 - Symposium on Agriculture, Wetlands and Water - Finding the Right Balance in Pampanga State Agricultural University, Feb. 3, 2014<br>- Symposium on Wetlands and Mariculture: Partners for Growth in Mindanao State University - Bongao, 02 February 2014 | |

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| 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):

World Water Day celebration 2012, 2013, 2014

CBD celebration 2012, 2013, 2014

Month of the Ocean 2013 celebration Theme: The Coral Reefs are the Forests in the Sea, Let's Protect Them

National Caving Congress (April 2012, 2013, 2014) (Philippine Speleological Scoiety, BMB)

Ocean Jam: Mangroves Protect, Protect Mangroves - in celebration of the Philippine Environment Month, June 2014 (BMB)

SCPW led activities:

a) Candaba Wetland Centre Design Competition (SCPW and ASAPHIL)

b) Gawin Nating Pasyalan ang Ilog Pasig Design Competition (SCPW and ASAPHIL)

c) Youth In Action for Lake Conservation (Ecological Camps) for municipalities along Laguna de Bay (SCPW, Laguna Lake Development Authority and Unilever Philippines)

d) Several learning sessions under the project 'Rehabilitation of Arayat Watershed for the protection of Candaba Wetlands'

e) Asian Regional Workhop on the Management of Wetlands and East-Asian Australasian Flyway Sites (SCPW, Ramsar Regional Centre Korea, EAAF Secretariat, Ramsar Secretariat)

f) Learning sessions under the project Capacity Building for Wetlands Conservation (SCPW and The UPS Foundation)

g) Youth In Action for Disaster Risk Preparedness and Reduction: Resilience and Adaptation Strategies by the Youth - Ecological Camps (SCPW and World Food Program)

h) LakeHead Community Forum 2013: Yaman ng Lawa: Adaptive Co-management for Sustainable Use of the Wealth of Laguna de Bay which engaged communities, scientific institutions, environmental experts and practitioners in the discussion of adaptive co-management system to address the major issues on waste management, lake waterquality and fishery resources. November 2013

**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.*

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| 4.2.1<br>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: | |
| . | |

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| 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 | --- |
| 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.*

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| 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):<br><br>Majority of the target priorities mentioned in the National Ramsar Report for the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention (letter D) were accomplished: | |

**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.

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| 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):<br><br>In the preparation of the draft resolution on wetlands and disaster risk reduction the following IOP provided valuable comments from Wetlands International | |

and UNEP

World Wildlife Fund (Philippines)

- Coral Triangle Support Partnership
- Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management clusters for the Live Reef Fish Trade in Palawan
- Management Effectiveness of the two Great Reefs - Tubbataha Reefs and Apo Reef
- Integration Population, Reproductive Health and Coastal Resources Management Actions in Tawi-tawi, Mindanao, Philippine
- Environmental Life Skills Program
- Donsol Whale Shark Research and Ecotourism Sustainability Program

Wetlands International - joined the Dutch Risk Readuction team to assess possibilities of protecing the coastline in and around Tacloban, Leyte devastated by Typhoon Haiyan

IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands (thru Ecosystem Alliance)

- Improving Lake Governance for Sustainable Fisheries in the Philippines: Taal Volcano Protected Landscape

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

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

Wetland International - contributes to yearly waterbird census