



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.

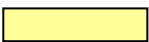
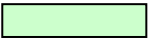
Section 2 is a 'free-text' section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

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: THAILAND

DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

Name of Administrative Authority:	The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning.
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Dr. Kasemsun Chinnavaso Secretary General
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Telephone/Fax:	..(+662)2656502/ (+662)2656503
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DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS

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

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

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Name of organisation:	.The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Plannin
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Telephone/Fax:	66 2656636
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DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS (CEPA)

Name and title:	Mr. Hanarong Yaowalers
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Telephone/Fax:	.66-899226706, 66-2-9251315
Email:	hannarongwft@gmail.com



SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

REMINDER: Please do not use double quote marks “ ”: use single quotes ‘ ’ instead.

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

A. What have been the five most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?

1) To increase effort to enforce the Cabinet resolution of 3 November 2009 by policy agencies such as Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning, Department of Water Resources, Department of Provincial Administration, Department of Local Administration, and local conservation groups, e.g. Mae Rampeung peat swamp conservation group, and Bang Pakong basin conservation group.

2) To increase understanding and awareness of communities to select, by themselves, more local areas for Ramsar Site designation. Bang Pakong and Khao Khram communities are the examples of this matter.

3) To increase awareness of how to protect a wetland by claiming its Ramsar Site status. Krabi estuary community is the example of this matter.

4) To increase skills of wetland managers by a workshop on wetland management at the Ramsar Regional Center-East Asia (RRC-EA) in South Korea. 30 participants attended the workshop.

5) To increase business engagement. The followings are the business organizations involving in implementation of the Convention with some of their activities. PTT Public Company Limited by PTT Exploration and Production Public Company Limited held a project on forest restoration against global warming. The Siam Cement Public Company Limited built 50,000 weirs for communities in a sustainable manner. Bangchak Petroleum Public Company Limited held a project on Lampatao watershed restoration. Eastern Water Resources Development and Management Public Company Limited run a project on water conservation, Charoen Pokphand Foods Public Company Limited held a mangrove reforestation project.

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

1) It is difficult to motivate agencies and private sectors relevant to development projects in wetland areas to understand that it is necessary to maintain ecological roles of wetlands such as reservoirs and fishery resources.

2) Wetland ecosystems have not been protected by any laws or even by the constitution, which means there are no agencies responsible for wetland conservation while many agencies are making use of wetlands. The Cabinet resolution of 3 November B.E.2552 (2009) is considered as soft law so it does not have legally binding force. In many cases where wetland damage occurred, civil society organizations, instead, had to bring charges against government agencies that did not comply the Cabinet solution.

3) People, government authorities, industrial sectors and politicians do not have knowledge and understanding on values and importance of wetlands. For instance, when flood water inundates floodplains as usual, it is always considered by related government agencies as flood problem. Dykes are ordered to be built to tackle the problem. This indicates that ecosystems are not included when it comes to solving water problems. From government's point of view, wetlands seem to be wastelands.

4) Land encroachment on local public wetlands for growing economic crops is facilitated by government authorities in issuing certificates of title.

5) The National Focal Point has been short of budget and appropriate manpower for 22 years but capable of implementing the obligations of the Convention. The outstanding outputs of the National Focal Point are the Cabinet resolution of 3 November B.E.2552 (2009), wetland inventories and plenty of academic documents. The organization structure of the National Focal Point must be revised and appointed to be a division in order to obtain appropriate budget and manpower to implement the obligations of the Convention and respond to increasing civil society's needs in this matter.

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

1) Review the Cabinet resolution, difficulties and achievements to formulate a wetland law, promote important wetlands to have legal protection and support wisely use of wetlands. In addition, it is necessary to propose revision of the organization structure of the national focal point to be a wetlands division with sufficient manpower to cover all the wetland work such as policies, wetland problem solutions, awareness-raising and Ramsar sites work.

2) Develop national strategies and plans for conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

3) Formulate management guidelines, wetland conservation and tourisms guidelines, guidelines on traditional heritage with effective wetland conservation.

4) Put effort to have more wetlands learning centers in order to demonstrate wetland conservation, to gather and disseminate wetland research, and to incorporate wetland knowledge into activities of related sectors such as CSR activities of business sectors, wetland-related curriculum in academic institutions, tourism and wetlands and wetland-based poverty reduction.

5) Collaborate with agencies relevant to identifying wetland boundaries in wetland inventories, to determine buffer zones and take back wetlands trespassed on.

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

It is advisable that guidelines on effective Ramsar sites management are necessary to be formulated.

- 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 Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) of IUCN, it is advisable that budget increment is needed for communities that implement wetland-related conservation activities and workshops for such communities on guidelines on wetland conservation, restoration, monitoring and reporting are also necessary.

- 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?

- It is advisable that the Wetland management committee should also be comprised of representatives from the national focal points of above-mentioned agreements.

-It is advisable that the wetland management plan should be incorporated into NBSAP.

-There are attempts to establish synergy between all the reports of other MEAs and the report of national state of environment.

- 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)?

Propose conservation and sustainable use of wetlands to be a national agenda and develop a pilot project in wetland or basin systems.

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

The world communities are now focusing on climate change. Therefore, budget from around the globe is ready for global warming related activities especially greenhouse gas reduction or increasing carbon sinks. It is advisable that the Secretariat of the Convention in collaboration with STRP should formulate frameworks or guidelines on project proposal preparation to obtain financial support from such funding sources or the Secretariat may develop a regional programme proposal on wetland-based promotion of greenhouse gas reduction and carbon sink increase.

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

Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Department of Water Resources, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Sirindhorn International Environmental Park, Land Development Department, Department of Fisheries, Krabi province, Pathalung province, Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Agriculture, Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning, Pollution Control Department, Mahidol University, Kasetsart University, Royal Forest Department, Thammasart University, Department of Provincial Administration, Department of Local Administration.

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

A - Yes

1.1.1 Additional information:

Surveys on certain types of wetlands have been further conducted. For instance, peat swamps, north-eastern freshwater marsh and northern freshwater marsh have been surveyed in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively. In 2014, status surveys on Ramsar Sites, some internationally important wetlands and highly important wetlands for Ramsar Site designation will be carried out.

In addition, Surveys on and inventory of vulnerable inland wetlands caused by climate change have been carried out to tackle the problem and promote area-based adaptation. In 2012, it was found that 9 marshland and peat swamps were highly at risk. Moreover, Land Development Department categorized region-based wetlands and updated database of locally important wetland status by using aerial photograph with GIS

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
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1.1.2 Additional information:

Thailand's database of wetland inventory and information is being improved and will be accessible to all stakeholders at <http://wetland.onep.go.th>.

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

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

* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention

- a) O - No change
- b) N - Status deteriorated

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

ONEP in collaboration with Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research is conducting a survey and study on status Ramsar Sites and internationally important wetlands in Thailand. The updated Ramsar Information Sheet will be submitted to the secretariat by March 2015.

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

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

1. There are two Cabinet resolutions regarding wetlands, namely the cabinet resolution of B.E. 2543 (2000) on internationally and nationally important wetlands designation and measures on wetland conservation and the Cabinet resolution of B.E. 2552 (2009) on the revised version of measures on wetland conservation that updated wetland inventories and improved measures to cover wetland in all levels.

2. A wetland management plan was included in NBSAP B.E.2551-2555 (2008-2012) under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Wetland-related issues were incorporated in the NBSAP as follows.

Strategy 1 Protect the components of biological diversity

Ecosystem Conservation Action Plan

Measure 1.2 Protect wetland ecosystems and promote sustainable use.

Strategy 4 Promote research, training, education, awareness raising and connection among biological diversity networks.

Biological Diversity Research and Survey Action Plan

Measure 4.3 Give first priority to biological diversity survey.

Strategy 5 Build Thailand's capacity to implement biological diversity-related international agreements

Action Plan on Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Measure 5.2 promote the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the synergy among conventions related to biological diversity.

3. Thailand has developed (draft) Master Plan on Integration of Biological Diversity Management B.E. 2556 -2564 (2013 – 2021). This master plan is composed of 4 strategies and 11 measures under which wetland related issues are included in measure 2 and 3 under strategy 2.

Strategy 2 Conserve and restore biological diversity

Measure 2 Conserve and restore biological diversity at provincial, local and community levels by supporting relevant sectors in developing management plans on wetlands of international and national importance along with motivating related agencies to incorporate such plan into provincial, local and community policies and plans.

Measure 3 Reduce threats to biological diversity

3.3 Control and protect marine and coastal resources wetlands and fragile ecosystems that may be affected by expansion of communities, pollution, overfishing and climate change.

3.4 Make effort to incorporate biological diversity into criteria of environmental impact assessment in order to protect wetlands and biological diversity hotspots and to balance development with conservation of national biological diversity.

3.5 Make effort to implement the cabinet resolution of 3 November 2009 on list of Wetlands of international and national importance and wetland conservation measures.

In addition, issues on conservation and wisely use of wetlands have been incorporated into plans or policy of relevant sectors such as case study on formulating guidelines and measures on land management.

1.3.2 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:

- a) Poverty eradication strategies
- b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans
- c) Coastal and marine resource management plans
- d) National forest programmes
- e) National strategies for sustainable development
- f) National policies or measures on agriculture
- g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD

{1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i

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

1.3.2 Additional information:

- According to article 37 of the Enhancement and Conservation of National Environmental Quality Act B.E.2535 (1992) stipulating it shall be the duty of the provincial governor to formulate an action plan for environmental quality management at provincial level. Under such action plan the governor can propose a wetland-related project for government funding.

- According to Environmental Quality Management Plan B.E. 2555 – 2559 (2012- 2016), it stipulates that biological diversity shall be conserved by protecting and preserving wetlands in sustainable manner along with supporting in selecting important wetlands for Ramsar Site designation including formulating management plans with public consultations.

- According to the draft Climate Change Master Plan B.E.2556-2559 (2013-2050), conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands are incorporated into its adaptation strategy.

- According to Department of Water Resources Strategic Plan and Action Plan for Fiscal Years B.E. 2558 – 2561 (2015 – 2018), wetland-related issues were included as follows.

- Strategy 2 Conserve, restore and develop water resources and wetlands in order to increase efficiency of water reserve and drainage including maintaining ecosystem balance.

Strategy 2.5 Conserve, restore and develop water resources and wetlands in order to increase efficiency of water resources and mitigate flood and drought problems, to restore abundance and maintain ecosystems.

- Principal missions of Department of Marine and Coastal Resources are to survey, research and restore coastal wetlands. Consequently, the department has developed work plans and projects relevant to coastal wetlands, such as wetland management in Don Hoilod, Ko Kra, and Ko Ra-Ko Prathong, mangrove forest conservation and restoration, and 3 year assessment of mangrove forest.

- According to the strategy for strengthening the agricultural sector under the Eleventh National Economic and Social Development Plan (2012-2016), it stipulates the development guidelines for agricultural development and for wetland management that can be summarized as the followings.

- Environment-friendly freshwater aquaculture
- Building artificial reefs
- Green and cool agriculture
- Eliminating illegal fishing
- Research and development of aquacultures of rare and endangered species
- Promoting sustainable agriculture

- Draft Action Plan on Biodiversity Management B.E. 2559-2563 (2016-2020) includes a wetland action plan in Strategy 2 Conservation and Restoration of Biodiversity.

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

A - Yes

1.3.3 Additional information:

ONEP has developed the guidelines on Strategic Environmental Assessment. The National Environment Board has agreed on the guidelines and made a decision that the Office of National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) and other government agencies be responsible for making appropriate policies and plans. Thailand has implemented Strategic Environmental Assessment projects related to wetlands such as Area-based environmental assessment project: case study of 5 coastal provinces (Surat Thani, Nakohn Si Thammarat, Krabi, Phangnga, Phuket), Strategic environmental assessment of Tha Chin basin for sustainable development of water resources, Water management system analysis of Mae Nam Yom basin, and Strategic environmental assessment of water network system project in 19 water critical areas.

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:

According to the Enhancement and Conservation of National Environmental Quality Act, B.E. 2535 (1992), it specifies that projects or activities, undertaken by government agencies, state enterprises or private entities, likely to have environmental impact, shall have the legal duty to submit reports of environmental impact assessment. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Notification under this Act stipulates 34 kinds of types and sizes of such projects or activities that require EIA such as mining, petroleum development, industrial estates, certain types of industries (cement, pulp, sugar, iron, power plants), motorways, highways, piers, large buildings, dams and etc. But the Ministry's Notification does not included any development projects in wetlands because those deveopment project in wetland are small . In this regard, the Cabinet has agreed as of 3 November 2009 on the revised version of Measures on Wetland Conservation specifying any development projects that are likely to have environmental impact to internationally and nationally important wetlands shall submit EIA report.

At present, Thailand has finished a study for specifying types and sizes of the above-mentioned projects and the results of the study will be disseminated to all relevant sectors. Moreover, the preliminary Guidelines on environmental impact assessment for biological diversity hotspots have also been developed.

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:

Efforts were taken to revise the Measures on Wetland Conservation which were agreed by the Cabinet as of 3 November 2012 but remain unsuccessful.

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

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

C - Partly

1.4.1 Additional information:

In 2010, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources conducted an economic assessment of beach ecosystems using Mae Rampeung beach in Rayong province as a case study. In 2012, the Department also conducted a study on economic values of seagrass ecosystems in order to build financial mechanisms for sustainable management. The followings are the Ramsar sites that have richly diverse seagrass ecosystems in Thailand: Had Chao Mai Marine National Park - Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area - Trang River Estuaries in Trang province, Krabi Estuary at Sriboya island in Krabi province, and Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong in Phang Nga province.

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:

Department of Water Resources has initiated projects related to conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands as follows: Conservation and restoration of small canals and community way of life in Amphawa, Samut Songkhram province, and Conservation and restoration of water resources by eliminating weeds and removing sediment in water resources such as marshes.

Thailand's Environmental Fund has granted funding to any projects concerning conservation and restoration of vulnerable wetlands or wetlands with ecologically dominant characteristics. During 2012 -2014, The Environmental Fund has provided financial support, in amount of baht 23,200,000, to five non-governmental organizations working in collaboration with communities to run five projects aiming to strengthen communities in conservation and wisely use of wetlands for their food resources, water resources and lifelong learning sources for sustainable poverty reduction. Some wetlands under the projects are wetlands in Surat Thani province, namely Kanthulee peat swamp, Chaiya bay, watershed and wetlands in mountain areas of Tambon Klong Cha-oon, and Ban Don bay, Kaeng Lawa wetland in Kon Kaen province, and Lam Sebai wetland in Yasothon province.

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):

- People of Don Hoi Lod, who make use of the area, will organize a making merit ceremony annually on 22th of April. On this day, the people will abstain from aquatic life capture in order to raise community's awareness of conservation.

- A management plan for Kaeng Lawa wetland is being formulated. It will also include, as part of the plan, Dharma Yatra--an annual Buddhist-related ceremony, and traditional way of life in making use of aquatic life in order to promote sustainable use of Kaeng Lawa wetland.

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

1.5.1 Additional information:

Changwon Declaration, such as climate change adaptation and water management, has been implemented in relevant agencies, civil society organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

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:

- agriculture-wetland interactions

- ONEP conducted a research on Biodiversity in the paddy field that finished in March 2012. The objective of this research were composed of 2 parts, to study on agricultural biodiversity in rice paddy field and biodiversity of 3 different agroecosystems: semi-organic, normal farmer practice and integrated management. The result showed that the rice ecosystem has been changed from the past obviously. The total of 11 plant species and 89 animal species were not found and the severe cases were occurred in the species of birds and insect predators. The biodiversity of 3 different agroecosystems was performed in farmer's rice paddy field at Pikor don, Muang district, Pisanulok province. The result showed that the most complexity and richness of organisms composed of insect pests, insect natural enemies, animal pests, animal natural enemies and weeds were found in of semi-organic rice ecosystem followed by integrated management and farmer rice ecosystem, respectively.

- Climate change

- In 2012, ONEP has implemented a project on Assessment of risk and vulnerable areas for climate change impact of inland water ecosystems in order to tackle climate change, prevent severe impact and promote area-based adaptation. According to the project, it was found that there were nine wetlands, namely Bueng Kalo, Bung Kreng Kra Wia, Thale Noi, Nong Kom Koa, Tung Sam Roi Yot, Phru Ang Ka Luang, Nong Jam Rung, Phru Kantulee and Phru Kam Chanode were vulnerable to climate change impact in terms of hydrology, wildlife, forest and aquatic plants, fishes and soil fauna, soil, land use, agriculture, water quality, algae, planktons, eutrophication, natural disaster and socio-economics.

- Department of Marine and Coastal Resources conducted a study on climate change impact to coral bleaching and sea turtles in terms of sex ratio and spawning rate. Greenhouse gas emission from mangrove forest was also studied.

- Valuation of ecosystems services

- A study on economic values of marine and coastal resources using Mae Rampeung beach as case study in 2010.

- A study and analysis on economic benefits of seagrass ecosystems to be used for developing financial mechanisms and sustainable management in 2012.

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:

Apart from scientific data, it is necessary to consider traditional ways and means of sustainable use as well as customs and cultures that support conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

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.*

<p>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</p>	A - Yes
<p>1.7.1 Additional information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Issue 2 Conserve, restore and develop water resources and wetlands to increase efficiency of water reserve and drainage, including balancing ecosystems. - Strategy 5 Conserve, restore and develop water resources and wetlands to increase efficiency of water resources in mitigating flood and drought and restoring richness of ecosystems. 	
<p>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}</p>	A - Yes
<p>1.7.2 Additional information:</p> <p>Sirindhorn International Environmental Park has formulated a plan on research and development and knowledge management on small basins integrated management and climate change: a case study on Sirindhorn International Environmental Park and adjacent areas. The case study aimed to conduct a research into change and restoration of three connected ecosystems, namely forest ecosystem, agricultural ecosystem and coastal ecosystem.</p> <p>To the west of Sirindhorn International Environmental Park is located Huay Sai Royal Development Study Center, initiated by His Majesty the King in 1983 to be a venue for research and development in reforestation and agricultural production to meet the needs of the local people.</p> <p>The result of the study has been used as an instance for systematically management of basin ecosystems.</p>	
<p>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</p>	A - Yes

1.7.3 Additional information:

-National Strategy on Climate Change Management B.E. 2551-2555 (2008-2012) has incorporated issues regarding conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands into its implementation guidelines, namely capacity building for adaptation to climate change impact, and prevention of and mitigation for natural resources damage with restoration of water resources, mangrove forest and coasts to maintain balance of ecosystems and biological diversity.

- Draft National Master Plan on Climate Change B.E.2556-2593 (2013-2050) has incorporated issues regarding conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands into Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change. The strategy specified guidelines on preservation, conservation and restoration of natural resources and ecosystems, under which deteriorated natural resources and ecosystems shall be restored, especially risk areas to climate change and severely affected areas. Also included are sustainable protection and preservation of wetlands in terms of selecting important wetlands for Ramsar Site designation and formulating sustainable management plans with participation of all relevant sectors.

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:

Kung Krabaen Bay Royal Development Study Centre has been established by Department of Fisheries as of 28 December 1981, in the areas of Kung Krabaen National Reserved Forest and Kaemnu bay. The center has served as a training and demonstration center for sustainable shrimp farming with mangrove forest restoration and marine resources conservation, run by the following agencies, namely Royal Forest Department, Department of Fisheries, Chantaburi province, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, and Cooperative Promotion Department, with initial members of 113 families provided with 728 rais (116.48 ha) of degraded mangrove areas around Kung Krabaen bay.

Currently, the center has 208 shrimp farming members running farms surrounding Kung Krabaen bay with a total area of 1,083.50 rais (173.36 ha) and yield of approximately 3,000-5,000 tons a year, worth 4,000-5,000 bahts.

The shrimp farmers have learned from the center how to operate their farms along with taking care of the environment. Every shrimp farm has its own sludge collecting unit and an additional area behind its shrimp ponds for mangrove restoration. Moreover, the farmers are also encouraged to conserve nearby mountainous forest and 610 rais (97.60 ha) of mangrove forest around Kung Krabaen bay.

A 1,793 meter boardwalk has been built into the mangrove forest to allow visitors to experience a “living natural museum”—learning about mangrove ecosystems. This trail has been developed and maintained by Royal Forest Department and Department of Fisheries.

In 1995, there were 128 kinds of mangroves in Kung Krabaen bay mangrove forest, of which 49 are local, making it the richest mangrove forest in Chantaburi province. In 2011, biomass of the forest was 24 tons/rai and reserved 11.52 tons of carbon/rai, earning carbon credits worth 14,671.64 bahts/rai.

Annually mangroves are grown in the area, bringing the total area of mangrove forest up to approximately 690 rais (110.40 ha). The mangrove forest is used to absorb organic matter and nutrients of water discharged from the shrimp ponds and to be a venue for mangrove ecosystems study.

The Seagrasses in Kung Krabaen bay have been also conserved and managed to be healthy nursery areas for young marine life. They cover around 690 rais (98.72 ha) under the bay and also absorb organic matter and nutrients from the shrimp farms. The seagrasses in fine fettle are good feeds for dugongs. Dugongs have returned to Kung Krabaen since 2006.

The center has developed oyster cultivation in Kung Krabaen bay, aiming to use cultured oysters for reducing increasing numbers of marine planktons resulting from organic matter and nutrients from the shrimp ponds. The shrimp farmers can get young cultured oysters out of the oyster culture venues in the bay to raise, by means of hanging culture methods, in their water discharged canals. This can create extra income as well as provide another way of reducing pollution released to the bay.

Habitats for marine life have been built and coral reefs have been conserved in Kung Krabaen bay and nearby areas to increase the habitats for sea creatures.

Kung Krabaen Bay Royal Development Study Centre has developed seawater irrigation for shrimp culture around Kung Krabaen bay since 1999. The irrigation system separates seawater for shrimp culture from one discharged from shrimp ponds in order to prevent water-borne disease of shrimps and to facilitate expansion of shrimp farming areas.

Shrimp sludge is comprised of rich organic matter and nutrients and can be transformed into fertilizer. This is another way to protect the bay from pollution arising from surrounding shrimp culture.

Khao Hin Sorn Royal Development Study Centre was founded in Chachoengsao province, aiming to increase incomes of farmers living in Huay Jek and Huay Joan basins covering an area of 56,000 rais (8,960 ha) in Khao Hin Sorn and Ko Kanun districts, and to be a demonstration site for local development.

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

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

A - Yes

1.8.1 Additional information:

The Cabinet has made the resolution of 3 November 2009 on a list of internationally important and nationally important wetlands that are necessary to be restored. Under the list there were 20 wetlands, of which 8 are conserved areas according to the law.

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:

There are 4 sites that are going to be addressed as follows:

1. Nong Luang and Nong Lom in Chiang Rai province are nationally important wetlands. They were considered to be restored as they were trespassed and used inappropriately. However, the committee on wetland management at its first meeting of 2014 agreed to establish the sub-committee on wetland management in Chiang Rai province to determine guidelines and activities for wetland restoration and promotion of wise use of wetlands.
2. Songkhla Lake is a seriously deteriorated wetland. ONEP has implemented Songkhla Lake basin development project to formulate the master plan on Songkhla Lake basin development with amendment B.E. 2556-2559 (2013 – 2016). This master plan was developed from its previous version in consideration of the change of environmental state and public participation of all stakeholders.
3. Nong Kom Ko in Nong Kai Province is nationally important wetlands. The Department of Civil Works and Land Use Planning already developed the Development Plan of Nong Kom Ko and will implement in the Year 2015 - 2017. The Development Plan of Nong Kom Ko includes land use planning, action area plan and site design concept.

Therefore, the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources in collaboration with various agencies organizes mangrove reforestation activities annually. The mangrove forest in a total area of 506 hectares was restored during 2011-2012.

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

A - Yes

1.9.1 Additional information:

According to the Cabinet resolution of 28 April 2009, the Cabinet agreed on Measures on Prevention, Control and Eradication of Alien Species. The measures, serving as frameworks for relevant agencies' implementation, are comprised of 4 principal measures, namely alien species management, prevention and monitoring of alien species, promotion of alien species research and study, and communication, education and public awareness of alien species. In this regard, 4 lists of alien species were developed, namely alien species considered invasive, alien species with invasion potential, alien species considered invasive in other countries and non-invasive in Thailand, and invasive alien species outside Thailand.

The followings are agencies conducting studies and surveys on alien species in freshwater and coastal wetlands.

Chulalongkorn University in collaboration with Department of Marine and Coastal Resources and UNESCO studied invasive alien species in marine and coastal ecosystems, under Coastal Marine Biodiversity and Conservation in the Western Pacific Project. According to the study, 6 alien species were found, of which 4 were in control and eradication type, namely *Mytilopsis sallei*, *Litopenoeus vannamei*, *Cichlasoma urophthalmus*, *Tetilla japonica*.

In the Cabinet Resolution dated 28 April 2552 (2009) already approved the list of invasive alien species. We identified the invasive alien species into 3 categories as follows :

- 1 list of invasive alien species that already established and invaded
 - 2 list of potential species that will become to be invasive alien species in the future
 - 3 list of species that already invaded in other countries but not invade in Thailand
- The 4 mentioned species are in the list of the category 1 and the other two are in the list of category 2.

Prince of Songkla University studied alien species in Songkhla Lake. Four alien species that should be controlled and eradicated were found, namely *Pomacea canaliculata*, *Mytilopsis sallei*, *Pterygoplichthys spp.*, *Poecilia verifera*.

Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research studied alien species in 25 peat swamp areas over the country. Seven alien species that should be controlled and eradicated were found, namely *Chromolaena odorata*, *Eichhonia crassipes*, *Mimosa diplotricha*, *Lantana camara*, *Pennisetum setosum*, *Pennisetum pupureu*, *Gomphrena globosa*.

According to the above-mentioned studies, ONEP has made a list of 14 kind of alien species in wetlands.

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

A - Yes

1.9.2 Additional information:

The Cabinet has agreed on Measures on Prevention, Control and Eradication of Alien Species as of 28 April 2009. The measures have served as frameworks for relevant agencies to carry out this matter. In this regard, ONEP has tried to motivate local agencies to implement the measures by selecting pilot areas of the following provinces namely Nakhon Pathom, Udon Thani, Nan, Payao, and Nakhon Ratchasima. The selected provinces had to identify invasive alien species in their areas and determine appropriate measures or activities to control, eradicate or make use of those invasive alien species identified as well as to communicate with local communities and agencies about this matter. The results of this activity were the followings.

Nakhon Pathom Province identified water hyacinth as most invasive alien species. Activities on communication, education, eradication and making use of water hyacinth were determined and incorporated into its provincial action plan.

Udon Thani Province identified golden apple snails as alien species in its area. Communication and education activities on this alien species were determined. A campaign on buying golden apple snails has undertaken. The snails from the campaign were transformed into bio-fermented juice.

Payao Province identified *Mimosa pudica* and golden apple snails as invasive alien species in its area. The provincial committee on prevention, control and eradication of alien species was established and chaired by Provincial Governor. A campaign on eradication of *Mimosa pudica* and golden apple snails has been undertaken by collaboration of all relevant agencies in the province.

Nakhon Ratchasima Province identified golden apple snails as alien species in its area. Activities for eradicating the snails have been undertaken, namely a pilot project on "changing golden apple snails eggs for fishes" initiated by the Provincial Fishery Office, producing bio-fermented juice from eggs of the snail, and demonstration of using the snail as duck feeds.

Nan Province could not identify plants or animals in its area as alien species. Therefore the Provincial Natural Resources and Environmental Office developed guidelines on alien species management in terms of communication and education.

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

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

A - Yes

1.10.1 Additional information:

PTT Public Company Limited has undertaken mangrove reforestation in mangrove areas around Pranburi estuary in Prachuab Khiri Khan province, under the project on reforestation of million rai in honour of His Majesty the King. PTT in collaboration with Royal Forest Department has established Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Forest Ecosystem Learning Center, aiming to be a training center for PTT's employees, government agencies, students and nearby people. The center has been run by a committee consisting of PTT's representative, representatives from relevant agencies and community leaders. The budget for construction and all activities of the center has been funded by PTT Public Company Limited.

1.10.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the wise use and management of:

a. Ramsar Sites

b. Wetlands in general

{1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

a. A - Yes

b. A - Yes

1.10.2 Additional information:

..

Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Forest Ecosystem Learning Center is the first learning center in Thailand about mangrove forest restoration from abandoned shrimp farm areas. It is located in Pa Klong Kao - Klong Toei National Reserved Forest in Pranburi district, Prachuab Kiri Khan province.

This mangrove forest has been restored in accordance with the advice of Their Majesties, the King and Queen when they paid a royal visit to Pranburi district in 1996. Royal Forest Department terminated concession of the abandoned shrimp farm area in response to the advice. The area was incorporated into Estuary Forest Royal Development Project and was restored under "Project on Reforestation of One Million rai on the Occasion of His Majesty the King's 50th Accession to the Throne" in 1996 with cooperation of PTT Public Company Ltd.

On 16 November 2002, His Majesty the King along with Her Royal Highness Princess Sirindhorn paid a royal visit to the site to preside over the delivery ceremony of 1,000,000 rai of reforested areas to the King. In this event, the King gave an advice that people should also receive benefits from this project. In 2004, On occasion of Her Majesty's 72th birthday, PTT established Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Forest Ecosystem Learning Center, in accordance with His Majesty's advice given at the deliver ceremony of one million rai forests, in order to provide a center for learning about conservation and sustainable use of mangrove forest ecosystems in national and regional levels. Her Majesty the Queen named the center "Sirinart Rajini" which means the great sanctuary. The center has been administered by PTT and maintained by a committee comprising representatives from all sectors in Pak Nam Pran sub-district, namely local administrative organization, academic institutions, relevant agencies, tourism business, hotel business, fishery groups, local communities and PTT.

SCG Chemicals built a hundred of pyramidal fish habitats and installed them in appropriate places under the sea in Rayong province under the project "Beautiful Beaches and Fishes return". The pyramidal fish habitats were assembled from water pipes which were made from polyethylene plastic residuals. Proven by VTT Institute in Finland, those pipes were safe for sea water and can last 100 years.

Pharmacomet Public Co.,Ltd in collaboration with WWF Thailand, Foundation for Environmental Education for Sustainable Development (Thailand), Tourism Australia, Ecotourism Australia, Qantas Airways Limited and True Music brought the volunteers of Tea Tree Heart Project to Royal Thai Marine Corps Sattahip in Chon Buri province to participate in Coral Plantation Programme aiming to help restore marine ecosystems.

Chevron Corporation Thailand provided funding, in amount of baht 100,000, to Marine and Coastal Resources Research Center, The Central Gulf of Thailand in Chumphon province in order to support a project on restoring coral reefs in Ko Kai in honour of His Majesty the King.

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

<p>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</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.11.1 Additional information:</p> <p>.Green Globe Award Institution and Sustainable Energy Foundation annually organizes Green Globe Award contest, aiming to praise for individuals or groups of people who have dedicated themselves in conservation of natural resources and the environment. In 2014, the 16th Green Globe Award contest will be held under the title of "Sufficiency way, share, relations, soils, water and forest".</p> <p>15th Green Globe Award of 2013</p> <p>Community type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ban Chao Lao fishery group, Klongkud, Tamai, Chataburi province: Beach forest restoration, building artificial coral reefs, seagrass conservation, Blue Crab Bank and mangrove reforestation in areas degraded by shrimp farming. - Ban Yang Ngoi community, Srisongkram district, Nakorn Phanom province: Conservation of wetlands and fresh water flooded forest, building habitats for fishes along Songkram river. - Ban Klong Yang community, Ko Lanta, Karbi province: Establishing mangrove forest conservation group, determining regulations for making use of mangrove forest, establishing a committee for restoration of mangrove forest and Melaleuca forest. - Individual type <p>Mr Wisut Nuamsiri: the core leader for making bamboo embroidery of 9,700 meters in length to prevent coastal erosion in Ban Bang Bo Lang, Samut Songkram province, growing mangroves in private and public lands with a total area of 244 rais, founding a natural mangrove forest learning venue collecting mangroves from all over the country, building nature study trails, establishing mangrove crab conserved areas and study center of mud crab, as well as blue crab bank.</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>D - Planned</p>

1.11.2 Additional information:

Removal of intensive measures for economic crops such as rubber trees and oil palm tree has been proposed to NBSAP for Years 2016 – 2020 as wetlands have been invaded by expansion of economic crop farming.

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).*

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:

According to the Cabinet resolution of 1 August 2000 and 3 November 2009, it stipulated that internationally important wetlands and highly important wetlands should be selected for Ramsar Site designation. Currently, most of those wetlands have been designated as Wetlands of International Importance, except for Bueng Boraphet wetland in Nakhon Sawan province and Had Tai Meung wetland in Pangnga province.

Moreover, all the wetlands agreed by the Cabinet to be internationally important wetlands and nationally important wetlands can be selected for Ramsar Site designation. However, that depends on preparedness of responsible agencies and people in the area.

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

5 sites

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

Top five priority sites include Talay Noi Non-Huntin Area, Bangpu wetland in Sumut prakan, Mae Rampueng peat swamp and Pranburi forest park-Pran estuary in Prachuab Khiri Khan province, Had Tai Mueng in Pangnga province, Bangpakong river and Bangpakong estuary in Chachoengsao province.

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:

The potential Ramsar Sites are listed in 2.1.2. They are Talay Noi Non-Hunting Area, Bangpu wetland in Sumut prakan, Mae Rampaeng peat swamp and Pranburi forest park-Pran estuary in Prachuab Khiri Khan province, Had Tai Mueng in Pangnga province, Bangpakong river and Bangpakong estuary in Chachoengsao province.

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

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

C - Some sites

2.3.1 Additional information:

Certain sites have prepared guidelines for making use of wetlands. For instance, Mae Rampaeng peat swamp has determined routes for ecotourisms and Bangpakong rive have started formulating guidelines on land use.

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

9 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

5 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:

The Ramsar Sites that have wetland management plans are Krabi Estuary in Krabi province, Nong Bong Kai Non-Hunting Area in Chiang Rai province, Had Chao Mai Marine National Park - Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area - Trang River Estuaries in Trang province, Kaper Estuary - Laemson Marine National Park - Kraburi Estuary in Ranong province, Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong Archipelago in Pang Nga province, Ko Kra Archipelago in Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Don Hoi Lot in Samut Songkram province, Kut Ting Marshland and Bung Khong Long Non-Hunting Area in Bueng Kan province.

However, the management plans of some wetlands such as those of Had Chao Mai Marine National Park - Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area and Trang River Estuaries have to be improved and updated.

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):

Don Hoi Lot in Samut Songkram province, Nong Bong Kai Non-Hunting Area in Chiang Rai province, Pang Nga Bay Marine National Park in Pangnga province, Kut Ting Marshland and Bung Khong Long Non-Hunting Area in Bueng Kan province, Krabi Estuary in Krabi province.

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

0 sites

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

.....

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

A - Yes

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

In 2013, ONEP conducted a survey, monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of 6 Ramsar, namely Kuan Ki Sian of the Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area in Phattalung province, Krabi Estuary in Krabi province, Had Chao Mai Marine National Park - Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area - Trang River Estuaries in Trang province, Bung Khong Long Non-Hunting Area in Bueng Kan province, Pang Nga Bay Marine National Park in Pangnga province, Don Hoi Lot in Samut Songkram province. As a result, ONEP drafted "The Management Standards of the Wetlands of International Importance". Currently, the wetland technical working group have agreed on the measures and will propose them to the sub-committee on wetland management for consideration.

Moreover, Thailand in collaboration with RRC-EA and the Ramsar Secretariat held a workshop on Developing Management Criteria and a Management Effectiveness Evaluation Process for Ramsar Sites. The meeting developed draft decisions on this matter and determined guidelines for formulating Ramsar Site management manual as well as agreed on using METT as a tool for evaluating effectiveness of Ramsar Site management.

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):

In 2014, ONEP in collaboration with Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research has studied and surveyed ecosystems as well as improved RIS of 12 wetlands of international importance.

In addition, Ramsar secretariat received a complaint about ecosystem change of Kuan Ki Sian wetland in Phattalung province and likely change of Krabi Estuary in Krabi province. Two discussions were held in each area as the followings.

Thale Noi

The first discussion was held during 29-30 March 2014. It was reported that birds moved their nests from Kuan Ki Sian to Tia Nai Kleun. Therefore it was agreeable to expand the area of the Ramsar Site to cover all Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area.

The second discussion was held during 28-29 June 2014. ONEP along with Dr Lew Young surveyed the non-hunting area and found that it was in good condition. All problems according to the complaint were resolved. For instance, the irrigation office in the area was informed to maintain water level of the wetland to prevent forest fire. As a result, the forest fire problem has been gradually declined.

Krabi Estuary in Krabi province

The first discussion was held on 21 April 2014 to discuss with local agencies. The second discussion was held during 29-30 June 2014. ONEP along with Dr Lew Young surveyed the area of the wetland that would be used for pier and conveyor belt construction project. The community was informed of the richness of the ecosystem and concerns of the project.

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
<p>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):</p> <p>There is no clear evidence of negative human-induced change. As for Kuan Ki Sian and Krabi Estuary cases, an official letter will be submitted to inform the secretariat of the matter in due course.</p> <p>Moreover, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has provided a complaint system. Any complaints about negative human-induced change of Ramsar Sites can be submitted through the Ministry's complaint system which will forward those complaints to ONEP consecutively.</p>	
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	B - No
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
<p>2.7.1 Additional information:</p> <p>According to the measures on wetland management agreed by the Cabinet as of 3 November 2009, it stipulates that internationally important wetlands and national importance wetland shall have implementation of the measures such as awareness-raising, education and sustainable use of wetlands in all relevant sectors, formulate wetland management plans, provide pollution source control, and require EIA from any development projects likely to cause change of internationally important wetlands and nationally important wetlands.</p>	

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

C - Partly

3.1.1 Additional information:

Representatives from Land Development Department, the UNCCD National Focal Point, and the CBD National Focal Point were invited to participate in the National Committee on Wetland Management. Further, the Ramsar National Focal Point has been working in close collaboration with the CBD National Focal Point as they are under the same division. Therefore synergy between the two National Focal Points has been established.

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

B - No

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):

Thailand has become a Party to East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership and has been selected as a member of the Management Committee of the Partnership in MOP 7 meeting.

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):

Thailand is a member of the Steering Committee of RRC-EA.

Thailand is a coordinator of University Network for Wetland Research and Training of Mekong Region.

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

A - Yes

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

A workshop on wetland ecology and Mekong region management is held annually by a rotating member of University Network for Wetland Research and Training of Mekong Region. This activity helps in building wetland network and developing research potential of university lecturers and students.

In 2014, Thailand, by Mahasarakham University, hosted the workshop during 31

May to 17 June 2014 with participation of 18 member universities. According to the objectives of the workshop, the participants were expected to learn and understand wetland ecosystem management, to be capable of disseminating guidance from the workshop to others in their academic institutes with an aim of biodiversity conservation, and to design methods for studying, surveying and analyzing threats as well as researching on wetland conservation and management. The objectives also included education guidance, wetland curricula design and management, and wetland-related community training.

Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, offers 3 master degree scholarships to students from developing countries and leased developed countries for Environmental Management and Technology Programme under which a subject on wetland management technology is included.

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	---
3.3.2 Additional information:	

3.3.3 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}	A - Yes
3.3.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP11): . Thailand has received funding support from the Global Environment Facility to implement the following projects. *Maximising Carbon Sink and Conserving Biodiversity through Sustainable Conservation, Restoration, and Management of Peat-Swamps Ecosystem" , the components and outcome of the project are as follows:- - Component 1 : Expanding protection of high conservation value peat-swamp forests and demonstrating their sustainable use within broader landscape - Outcome : Integrated approach to peat-swamp forests management implemented - Component 2 : Implementing technologies to avoid peat-swamp forest degradation and restore degraded peat-swamp forests - Outcome : Avoided degradation of high nature value peat-swamp forests, preventing emission of CO ₂ from peat oxidation and peat fire. - Component 3 : Improving policies, strategies and enforcement mechanisms for conservation and sustainable use of peat-swamp forests - Outcome : Effective national policy framework for management of peat-swamps addresses degradation threats and stipulating ecologically optimal management regimes for all peatlands in Thailand.	

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):

The network are as follows: University Network for Wetland Research and Training of Mekong Region and International Network for Water and Ecosystem in Paddy Fields.

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:

Information about wetlands in Thailand is made public through publications and a website <http://wetland.onep.go.th>.

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:

Thailand has made national reports which were the conclusion of its implementation of wetland management, apart from the national reporting determined by the secretariat. Those national reports were distributed in COP8, COP9 and COP10.

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

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

A - Yes

3.5.1 Additional information:

According to the survey for inventory development during 1996-1999, it determined that Mekong river, which flows through Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, a wetland of international importance and that Salawin river and Kraburi river, located between Thailand and Myanmar, international importance wetland.

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

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

A - Yes

3.5.3 Additional information:

1. Thailand has become a Party to East Asian Australian Flyway Partnership and proposed Krabi estuary for Flyway Site Network. According to the Cabinet resolution of 20 July 2010, internationally important wetlands of Thailand comprising of 6 principal wetlands and 9 wetlands in the inner Gulf of Thailand such as Aeng Chiang Saen-Wiang Nong Lom in Chiang Rai province, Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area - Trang River Estuaries in Trang province, Huai Talat Reservoir Non-Hunting Area, Huai Chorakhe Mak Reservoir Non-Hunting Area, Sanambin Reservoir Non-Hunting in Buri Ram province were agreed to be proposed for Flyway Site Network.
2. Thailand has signed Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia and Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Dugong (Dugong dugong) and their Habitats throughout their Range.

In addition, Thailand has implemented activities regarding status monitoring and conservation of marine turtles and their habitats and nesting sites. For instance, Ko Kram and Ko Kra islands, nesting sites of sea turtles, have been promulgated as conserved areas under responsibility of Royal Thai Navy. Important seagrass areas have been designated as protected areas. Relevant information has been made public through publications for raising awareness and understanding.

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

Note: in 'free-text' boxes please do not use double quotes “ ”: use single quotes ‘ ’ instead.

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

4.1.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {4.1.1} KRA 4.1.i

- a) At the national level
- b) Sub-national level
- c) Catchment/basin level
- d) Local/site level

- a) A - Yes
- b) A - Yes
- c) C - In progress
- d) A - Yes

(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):

Thailand has developed The Implementation Guidelines on CEPA in response to the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011 -2020 in order to provide guidelines for all relevant sectors at all levels (national, regional and provincial level) to draw public attention to biodiversity and communicate values and importance of biodiversity with the society. The guidelines comprise 3 strategies and 7 implementation strategies as follows.

Strategy 1 Promote implementation of public communication on biodiversity.

Strategy 2 Provide knowledge on biodiversity to students and youth through education systems.

Strategy 3 Increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of public on biodiversity.

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) 11 centres
- b) centres

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

At Ramsar Sites (14 sites)

There are 4 Visitor centers at Had Chao Mai Marine National Park in Trang province, Laemson Marine National Park in Ranong province, Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park in Prachuab Kiri Khan province, Mu Koh Ang Thong Marine National Park in Surat Thani province.

There are 3 Research and nature study centers under the Department of National Park Wildlif and Plant Conservation at Sirindhorn Peat Swamp Research and Study Center in Sirindhorn Wildlife Sanctuary in Narathiwat province, Khao Sam Roi Yot Nature Study Center in Prachuab Kiri Khan province, and Thale Noi Nature and Wildlife Study Center in Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area in Phatthalung province.

There are 4 Learning centers located in the office of the following non-hunting areas: Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area in Phatthalung province, Ta Libong Island Non-Hunting Area in Trang province, Nong Bong Kai Non-Hunting Area in Chiang Rai province, Bueng Kong Long Non-Hunting Area in Buengkan province.

Krabi Estuary Mangrove Forest Study Center and Undersea Learning Park implemented by Department of Marine and Coastal Resources.

Ranong Mangrove Research Center located in Ramsar Site Kaper Estuary - Laemson Marine National Park - Kraburi Estuary, which is Biosphere Reserve, in Ranong province. This center is under the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources.

Klong Kon Sub-District Mangrove Forest Conservation Center established by Klong Kon Mangrove Forest Conservation Group in Samut Songkram province. Klong Kon sub-district is where Don Hoi Lot is located.

At other wetlands. (15 sites)

Six Mangrove Forest Resources Learning and Development Parks established by Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, in Trad province, Samut Sakhon province, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Phangnga province, Ranong province, and Satun province.

Mangrove Forest Ecosystem Conservation and Study Center of Bang Taboon School in Phetchaburi.

Klong Wan Nature Study Center supported by the following agencies in the area, namely Klong Wan Sub-District Administrative Organization, Ko Lak Sub-District Administrative Organization, Mangrove Forest Development Station 8, Air Force Base number 5 and Jong Ang Suek Infantry Regiment. The center has been maintained by Foundation for Environmental Education for Sustainable Development.

Bangpu Nature Education Centre, maintained by WWF.

Marine National Park Nature Study Center implemented by Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation.

Yaring Mangrove Forest Nature Study Center in Pattani province, implemented by Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation.

Kung Krabaen Royal Development Study Center, maintained by Department of Fisheries, serving as a demonstration center for coastal resources sustainable management, sustainable aquaculture, and restoration of mangrove forest and seagrass ecosystems.

Ban Klang-Ban Bang Pat Mangrove Forest Study Center, initiated by surrounding communities. The center has implemented conservation and restoration of mangrove forest degraded by mining. Her Majesty Queen Sirikit granted private funding to the center to build boardwalks in the mangrove forest.

Nature and Agricultural Ecosystem Study Center in Pathum Thani province, implemented by WWF. The Golden Jubilee Museum of Agriculture Office—a learning center for central floodplain wetlands, marshland ecosystems, impact of floodplain use, sustainable agricultural ecosystems and New Theory Agriculture.

Sirinart Rajini Ecosystem Learning Center in Pranburi, Prachuap Kiri Khan province

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) A - Yes

b) A - Yes

{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

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

Since 2010, Thailand has adjusted the process and procedure for selecting wetlands for Ramsar Sites designation. ONEP, Ramsar National Focal Point used to be the agency responsible for selecting wetlands for Ramsar Sites designation and having selected sites consulted with relevant central and local agencies as well as local communities. Currently, such process and procedure shall be carried out by the responsible agency or community of that area. For example, Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong Archipelago in Pang Nga province and Ko Kra in Nakhon Si Thammarat province were selected for Ramsar Site designation by Department of Marine and Coastal Resources. Certain wetlands such as Mae Rampeung peat swamp in Prachuab Kiri Khan province, Bangpakong river in Chachoengsao province, and Thapom peat swamp-Klong Song Nam wetland in Krabi province were selected by local communities for internationally important wetland and Ramsar Site designation.

4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii	A - Yes
<p>4.1.4 Additional information:</p> <p>According to the monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of Ramsar Site management by Monitoring and Evaluation Division, capacity building suggestions were formulated for relevant agencies in order to increase effectiveness of Ramsar Site management.</p>	
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	<p>Number of opportunities:</p> <p>a) 1 b) 2</p>
<p>4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training):</p> <p>Training for domestic relevant agencies. For instance, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plants Conservation held training on waterbird population estimates for wetland sites managers and staff. Also, site managers were sent to attend regional training.</p> <p>Wetland site managers regional training held by the Ramsar Site Regional Center-East Asia (RRC-EA) in collaboration with ONEP during 27-31 August 2012 at Maruay Garden Hotel, Bangkok, aiming to exchange working experience in nationally and internationally important wetlands and Ramsar Sites and strengthen wetland conservation network. Wetland site managers of Thailand were sent to participate the training.</p> <p>Moreover, Thailand sent Ramsar Site managers and managers of internationally important wetlands that were planned for Ramsar Sites designation to participate in the following regional training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RRC-EA Information sharing and training programme for wetland managers on 24-28 September 2012, at Changwon Republic of Korea - International Asia workshop on migratory waterbird protection and wetland management at Beijing, on 7-27 June 2013 - Asian regional workshop on the management of wetlands and East Asian-Australasian Flyway sites, which will be held on 23 - 27 September 2013 at the Asian Institute Management Conference Center in Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines. 	

<p>4.1.6 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee or equivalent body? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.1.6 Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP11; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has):</p> <p>The Nation Environment Board established the National Committee on Wetland Management as of 1 July 1993. The National Committee was comprised of government agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts, and was chaired by Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment. Office of Environmental Policy and Palnning served as the secretary to the National Committee.</p> <p>According to the governmental agency reconstruction in 2002, the component of the National Committee on Wetland Management was revised to designate Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment as chair and Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning as secretary. The revised National Committee is responsible for determining national policies and plans that support, steer and monitor implementation of the obligations of the Ramsar Convention, raising awareness, education and research, and cooperating with related agencies and organizations in national and international levels.</p> <p>In addition, the National Committee on Wetland Management established National Wetland Technical Working Group, comprising relevant technical advisors from government agencies, NGOs and academic institutions, to provide technical advice regarding wetland management of Thailand to the Natioanal committee who will consider wetland management plans of each area and provide comments and technical information.</p>	
<p>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:</p> <p>a) Ramsar Site managers b) other MEA national focal points c) other ministries, departments and agencies</p> <p>{4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi</p>	<p>a) A - Yes b) A - Yes c) A - Yes</p>
<p>4.1.7 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please describe what mechanisms are in place):</p> <p>Organizing World Wetlands Day activities, an important mechanism for disseminating information and knowledge on wetlands to related parties and the public.</p> <p>Information dissemination through facebook.com/wetland.thai</p> <p>Wetland-related publications distributed to relevant agencies and academic institutions' libraries.</p>	

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:

ONEP, National Focal Point to Ramsar Convention, annually holds a conference in celebration of World Wetlands Day under the theme specified by the Convention. Moreover, other government agencies and communities also organize World Wetlands Day activities in their area. The World Wetlands Day activities held during 2013 -2014 are summarized as follows.

Year 2013

- World Wetlands Day Conference under the theme “Wetlands Take Care of Water”, organized by ONEP in collaboration with Department of Water Resources, comprising of lectures on implementation of COP 11 decisions and wetlands and low carbon tourisms as well as discussion on “wetlands take care of water”.
- World Wetlands Day activities held in provinces by Water Resources Regional Office in cooperation with local government agencies, local administration agencies, NGOs, and local communities as follows.
 - World Wetlands Day activities in Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area, Phattalung province.
 - Nong Kham Luang Water Resource Restoration activities in Lampang province.
 - World Wetlands Day activities in Sok Kam sub-district, Bueng Kan province.
 - World Wetlands Day activities in Kaeng Lawa, Khon Kaen province.
 - World Wetlands Day activities in Chachoengsao province, Suphan Buri province and Phitsanulok province
 - World Wetlands Day activities held at a tourism pier in Krabi Estuary by Krabi Provincial Administrative Organization. The activities consisting of wetland exhibition and a painting contest.
 - World Wetlands Day activities held at Bueng Samnak Yai Botanical Garden in Rayong province, by the Botanical Garden Organization in celebration of His Majesty the King’s 85th Birthday. The activities comprising His Majesty the King’s 85th Birthday exhibition and a seminar on Thai traditional knowledge and Bueng Samnak Yai community.

Year 2014

- World Wetlands Day workshop held by ONEP under the theme “Wetlands and Agriculture”: Partners for Growth. The activities comprising presentation on agriculture and wetlands, lost wetlands and extinction, wetlands and adaptation to climate change and wetlands and socio-economics of Thailand, discussion on Ramsar Site management standards, Thailand’s wetland inventory revision, and a seminar on model communities and wetland conservation.
- World Wetlands Day activities held in provinces by agencies and organizations, namely the Botanical Garden Organization, Rayong Province, Walai Rukhavej Botanical Research Institute Mahasarakham University, Krabi Provincial Administrative Organization and King Mongkut Memorial Park of Science and Technology.

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):

In 2013 Thailand had two new Ramsar Sites, namely Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong Archipelago in Phannga province and Ko Kra Archipelago in Nakhon Si Thammarat province. Therefore, ONEP held a workshop, presided over by Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, to celebrate the title “Mother of Biodiversity” of Her Majesty the Queen and deliver Ramsar Site certificates to the provincial governors of the Ramsar Site areas.

In 2014, ONEP held a conference to mark International Day for Biological Diversity under the theme “Island Biodiversity”. The conference had seminar on islands and Ramsar Site designation.

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

4.2.1

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

A - Yes

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

A Ramsar contribution is yearly allocated in the annual budget plan of ONEP.

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):

Thailand's previous Ramsar national reports have been used during 2012-2014 for developing projects and allocating budget for implementation of the Convention. Those projects were surveys of marshland in the central and eastern regions of Thailand, determination of types and sizes of projects requiring wetland environmental impact assessment, and revision of Ramsar Information Sheets.

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

A - Yes

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

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund which is maintained by IUCN has supported Developing a Conservation Data Management Tool for the Inner Gulf of Thailand Project for Bird Conservation Society of Thailand (BCST) to develop a GIS-based conservation data management tool and a bird conservation status report for the Inner Gulf of Thailand thus generating a greater understanding of the use of the gulf by people and by its internationally important waterbird populations. Further financial support will be leveraged to ensure sustainability of the database and capacity to

maintain, update and disseminate policy-relevant data.

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):

ONEP's representative has become a member of the National Working Group of the Mekong Water Dialogue Phase Two implemented by IUCN.