

Ramsar National Report to COP13

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 <http://www.ramsar.org/search-contact>.

Name of Contracting Party

The completed National Report **must be accompanied by a letter** in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP13 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below)

> GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE (FOREST DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, FORESTRY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[LetterNRBelize.pdf](#)

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

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Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

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Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP12 reporting)

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

- 1)
 - › Continued active conservation management of both Ramsar Sites for the benefit of the surrounding communities
- 2)
 - › Awareness of the importance to retaining wetlands function and its ecological characteristics. A Rapid Ecological Assessment (2016) was done for the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary and the general public was sensitized about the results.
- 3)
 - › Traditional practices of local communities is taken into account in decision-making. A Maya Land Rights Commission (2016) was established to engage in dialogue with indigenous groups on land rights issues.
- 4)
 - › Some key threats such as oil exploration and resource used that were at risk in the Ramsar Sites have been addressed. On the matter of oil exploration, US Capital has officially pulled out of the Sarstoon Temash National Park.
A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Crooked Tree Village Council, Forest Department, Fisheries Department and Belize Audubon Society to provide for the sustainable use of the natural resources of the area by residents of the Crooked Tree Village for traditional purposes through the development of a zonation plan and recommendations to enable the re-designation of the CTWS to a category 2 Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 5)
 - › Incorporating the benefits of Wetlands features in key Strategies, Regulations and Policies. These include: Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2016-2019); Revision of the Mangrove Regulations (2016), National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2020); National Environmental Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2025); Forest Policy (2015); Protected Areas System Act (2015).

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

- 1)
 - › Legal and illegal logging in both Ramsar Sites. In the case of Sarstoon Temash National Park, there is increasing illegal encroachment through (slash and burn farming practices); illegal extraction of primary hardwood such as mahogany and cedar, both from communities adjacent to the property, but now more consistently from Guatemalans coming across the Sarstoon River into the property from the south. In the case of Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary community members and other land owners seeking logging concessions in the boundary lines of the sanctuary which will ultimately affect the sanctuary by encroachment. Some private land owners are also seeking salvage licenses to clear cut their land for agriculture purposes and cattle ranching on the margins of the sanctuary.
- 2)
 - › Illegal hunting (opportunistic and wildlife harassment) and illegal use of gill nets. In the case of Sarstoon Temash which is a trans boundary Ramsar site, there is increased illegal use of gill nets by Guatemalans spanning the entire width of the Sarstoon River, because of the unresolved claims this become a sensitive issue.
In the case of Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary, the practice of artesanal fishing by the villagers is a challenge, gill nets are set at the mouth of the lagoon at night making it difficult to regulate. In addition to that, due to agricultural expansion beyond the boundaries of the sanctuary, there has been an increase in human-jaguar conflict in the area.
- 3)
 - › The needs by buffering communities to the two RAMSAR sites continues to increase and causes a greater demand for resource use which are often found and extracted from the RAMSAR site.
- 4)
 - › The impact of natural disasters on the site evident. There is an increase in droughts and accumulation of fuel wood due to hurricanes which has an effect on the use of the wetland by locals.

5)

> Poor waste management practices and increased use of pesticides has caused an increase in pollution in the sites.

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

1)

> Foster better relationships between the co-managers of the RAMSAR sites and the buffering communities in order to relate the importance of the RAMSAR site to the needs of the communities.

2)

> To enhance the management of Sarstoon Temash RAMSAR site, Belize needs to foster a better relationship with the Guatemalan buffering communities and increase frequent patrols in the area

3)

> Identify priority sites for climate change and biodiversity conservation and recommend as New RAMSAR Sites.

4)

> Conduct assessments on the ecosystem services and vulnerability of both RAMSAR Sites to climate change.

5)

> Develop research program for both sites and institute monitoring programs in the sites

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

> Fast track the implementation of the project entitled "Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands for Climate Change Mitigation and Conservation of their Ecosystem Services" submitted by the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (CARIWET).

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)

> Assistance in the development of a policy kit for policy makers when making recommendations to the managing organizations that can be used for international leverage to sensitize political leaders.

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' (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), World Heritage Convention (WHC), and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)?

> Belize is a signatory to all these above-mentioned conventions, except CMS. The RAMSAR sites, and all other protected areas in Belize, are management tools to implement Belize's planning documents which have incorporated MEAs objectives, targets and indicators.

G. How can implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., on sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

> The Government of Belize's Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS) is our medium term development plan. It has identified 'Sustained or Improved Health of Natural, Environmental, Historical and Cultural Assets' as one of four Critical Success Factors (CSF3). While individual Conventions or agreements are not mentioned specifically in CSF3, the principles of ecosystem management, protected areas and water resource management are three of several necessary conditions for the successful implementation of the GSDS.

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

> The Secretariat can assist in providing better training opportunities specific to Wetlands management in the developing countries. Assist in determining an economic value to RAMSAR sites.

Assist in developing social packages specially to deal with conflict management in buffer communities who depend on the Wetland systems for their livelihoods.

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

> Forest Department
Belize Audubon Society

Section 3: Indicator questions and further implementation information

Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

Target 1

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

1.1 Have wetland issues/benefits been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including: {1.3.2} {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i

Please select only one per square.

a) National Policy or strategy for wetland management	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
b) Poverty eradication strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
f) National forest programmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
i) National policies on energy and mining	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

j) National policies on tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
k) National policies on urban development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
l) National policies on infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
m) National policies on industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

Target 2

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

2.1 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed to support the implementation of the Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1, VIII.2) ? 1.24.

C=Partially

2.2 Have assessments of environmental flow been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands (Action r3.4.iv)

C=Partially

2.3 Have Ramsar Sites improved the sustainability of water use in the context of ecosystem requirements?

A=Yes

2.4 Have the Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12) been used/applied in decision-making processes. (Action 3.4.6.)

A=Yes

2.5 Have projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for

maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands been developed (Action r3.4.ix.)

A=Yes

2.6 How many household/municipalities are linked to sewage system? SDG Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (households/municipalities)

> 9 Municipalities

2.6 Additional Information

> Belize City has the only integrated sewer system in Belize. However, part of the building code in municipalities is the requirement for each household to have an independent sewer system. In rural areas households rely mostly on outdoor latrines and a few on sewer system for their household.

2.7 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country? SDG Target 6.3.1.

X=Unknown

2.8 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine? SDG Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (percentage)

> 72.8

2.9 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? SDG Target 6.3.1.

A=Yes

2.10 How do the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology perform? SDG Target 6.3.1.

C=Functioning

2.11 How many centralised wastewater treatment plants exist at national level? SDG Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (plants)

> 3

2.12 How is the functional status of the wastewater treatment plants? SDG Target 6.3.1.

C=Functioning

2.14 Is there a wastewater reuse system? SDG Target 6.3.1.

A=Yes

2.15 What Is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system? SDG Target 6.3.1.

R=Agriculture

2.15 Additional Information

Please indicate if the wastewater reuse system is for free or taxed or add any additional information.

> Free

Target 3

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}

3.1 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

B=No

3.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the conservation, wise use and management of {1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

Please select only one per square.

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a) Ramsar Sites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
b) Wetlands in general	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

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

B=No

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

B=No

Target 4

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment.

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

B=No

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

C=Partially

4.3 How many invasive species are being controlled through management actions.

C=Partially

4.4 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed?

C=Partially

Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network

Target 5

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}

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

C=Partially

5.2 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

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have an effective, implemented management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i

F=Less than (sites)

> 2

5.4 For how many of the Ramsar Sites with a management plan is the plan being implemented? {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 1

5.5 For how many Ramsar Sites is effective management planning currently being implemented (outside of formal management plans ? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 1

5.3 – 5.5 Additional information

> The Management Plan for Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary is being updated.

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (through formal management plans where they exist or otherwise through existing actions for appropriate wetland management ? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

A=Yes

5.6 Additional information

> Crooked Wildlife Sanctuary METT for 2017

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

18. CTWS_METT_2017.pdf

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

E=Exact number (sites)

> 2

5.7 Additional information

If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites

> For Crooked Tree although there are several buffering communities there is only one village (Crooked Tree) that is directly involved in the management.

Whereas Sarstoon Temash RAMSAR site, all the buffering communities are a part of the management structure (team) and therefore are involved in the management decisions processes (each buffer communities has a park ranger employed to manage the area within that respective buffering community and are in extension representing that community). The participatory management style will be adopted in the near future for Crooked Tree RAMSAR site.

5.8 For how many Ramsar Sites has an ecological character description been prepared (see Resolution X.15)? {2.4.5} {2.4.7} KRA 2.4.v

C=Partially

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

A=Yes

Target 7

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}.

7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.1} KRA 2.6.i

A=Yes

7.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.2} KRA 2.6.i

A=Yes

7.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, including requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.6.3} KRA 2.6.ii

Z=Not Applicable

Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

Target 8

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

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

D=Planned

8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?

C1=Partially

8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii

C=Partially

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

A=Yes

8.5 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed during the last triennium? {1.1.3}

Please describe on the sources of the information on which your answer is based in the 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

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	<input type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved
b) Wetlands generally	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved

8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)

> There is some information available across to various Governmental agencies, therefore making the information difficult to access. The RAMSAR site management lack the human and financial resources to conduct the necessary research to better inform management decisions (internally and external)for the area.

8.6 Based upon the National Wetland Inventory if available please provide a baseline figure in square kilometres for the extent of wetlands (according to the Ramsar definition) for the year 2017. SDG Target 6.6

D=Planned

Target 9

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}.

9.1 Is a Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) that promotes the wise use of wetlands 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

D=Planned

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

A=Yes

9.3 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? {1.7.1} {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii

A=Yes

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

A=Yes

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

A=Yes

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

A=Yes

9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
b) climate change	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
c) valuation of ecosystem services	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned

9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10 ?

B=No

Target 10

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

10.1 Have the guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19) been used or applied?.(Action 6.1.2/ 6.1.6)

A=Yes

10.1 Additional information

> Sarstoon Temash National Park is managed by and Indigenous group.

10.2 Have case studies, participation in projects or successful experiences on cultural aspects of wetlands been compiled. Resolution VIII.19 and Resolution IX.21? (Action 6.1.6)

D=Planned

10.3 Have the guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands been used or applied. (Resolution VII. 8) (Action 6.1.5)

D=Planned

10.4 Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been documented and their application encouraged (Action 6.1.2)

C=In Preparation

Target 11

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.}

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

A=Yes

11.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many Ramsar Sites and their names

> Rapid Ecological Assessment (2016) has been done for the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary

11.2 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

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

A=Yes

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

A=Yes

11.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names

> Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuaries and Sarstoon Temash National Park

Target 12

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.}

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

A=Yes

12.1 Additional information

> Hopkins Wetland and Placencia Lagoon

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

D=Planned

Target 13

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods

13.1 Have actions been taken to enhance sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands?

A=Yes

13.1. Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> Through the Environmental Impact Assessment Review done by the National Environmental Appraisal Committee that is composed of the Government Agencies, National University and Non-Governmental Agencies.

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

A=Yes

13.3 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, extractive industry) from key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries that may affect wetlands?

{1.3.4} {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii

A=Yes

13.3 Additional information

> All major developments must conduct an EIA.

Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

Target 15

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

15.1 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

D=Planned

15.1 Additional information

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

> Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands for Climate Change Mitigation and Conservation of their Ecosystem Services Project

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

B=No

Target 16

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}

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

Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this in the Additional information section below

Please select only one per square.

a) At the national level	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
b) Sub national level	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
c) Catchment/basin level	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
d) Local/site level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned

16.1 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

> The Forest Department is responsible to engage all relevant groups.

16.2a How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii

a) at Ramsar Sites

E=Exact Number (centres)

> 2

16.2b How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii

b) at other wetlands

E=Exact Number (centres)

> None

16.3 Does the Contracting Party {4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

Please select only one per square.

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
--	--

b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
--	--

16.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved
 > Through Environmental Outreach Programs, Bird Clubs, Community Meeting/ Consultations.

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

C=Partially

16.4 Additional information

If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP12; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has

> Specific Groups that help/ assist in the Management of data and sites.

National Bird Group

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

C=Partially

16.6 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and a), b) or c) below? {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi:

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
b) other MEA national focal points	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned

16.7 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 COP12? {4.1.8}

A=Yes

16.7 Additional information

> Belize Audubon Society and Forest Department do joint celebrations for this Day.

16.8 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP12 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

16.8 Additional information

If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this

> Forest Department and Belize Audubon Society, Belize Bird Resuce, Belize Raptor Center

Target 17

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 - 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}

17.1a Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2015, 2016 and 2017? {4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i

B=No

17.1b If 'No' in 17.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment
> Inclusion of payments into national budget.

17.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.2.2} KRA 4.2.i

A=Yes

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

Z=Not Applicable

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

Z=Not Applicable

17.5 [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}

Z=Not Applicable

17.6 Has any financial support been provided by your country to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?

B=No

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

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

A=Yes

18.2 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)? {3.1.2} {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv

A=Yes

18.3 Has your country received assistance from one or more UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO) or the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.ii.

The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, WWF and Wildfowl & Wetland Trust (WWT).

B=No

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

B=No

18.5 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

18.6 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

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

A=Yes

18.8 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

C=Partially

18.9 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory

species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii

A=Yes

Target 19

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

19.1 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii

D=Planned

19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes?

C=Partially

19.3a How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP12? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

a) at Ramsar Sites

X=Unknown

19.3b How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP12? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

b) at other wetlands

X=Unknown

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

A=Yes

19.4 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring

> Update Status, Monitor and Address Threats.

Section 4. Optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on those

Goal 1

Target 1: Wetland benefits

Wetland benefits are featured in national / local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level. Contributes to Aichi Target 2

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority

B=Medium

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

> Improved management and sustainable use of water resources.

Value of ecosystem services is maintained

By 2020, a framework has been designed and adopted to guide the harmonization of policies that positively impact biodiversity, across all Government departments.

By 2025, key ecosystem services are sustainably managed and resilient to threats.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

> Develop the framework to guide the harmonization of policies that positively impact biodiversity.

Mapping of ecosystems and integration of priority ecosystems into development decisions.

Assess ecosystem services and evaluate value and integration into national economy.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Assessment of mangrove and coastal ecosystems.

Mapping of landuse change in mangrove ecosystems.

Target 2: Water Use

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone. Contributes to Aichi Targets 7 and 8 and Sustainable Development Goal 6.3.1

Target 2: Water Use - Priority

B=Medium

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

> Water inventory baselines are established by 2020.

Surface water hydrological observation network.

Improved management and sustainable use of water resources by 2030

Operationalization of National Integrated Water Resources Authority (NIWRA)

Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

> Establish water baselines

Establish NIWRA

Target 2: Water Use - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Setting up of monitoring stations.

Conducting water quality assessments in 17 rivers.

Target 3: Public and private sectors

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}. Contributes to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Priority

B=Medium

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

D=Severely limiting

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

> By 2020, 80% of businesses are monitored in Belize are compliant with environmental standards.

Encourage technological adaptation and innovation within the context of creating an optimal national income and investment climate.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

> Strengthen enforcement of existing and proposed polices and legilsation protecting key ecosystems and ecosystem services

Incorporate climate change considerations in to the EIA process.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Development of financing line in the Belize Development Finance Corporation to promote green technology.

Target 4: Invasive alien species

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment. Contributes to Aichi Target 9.

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Priority

B=Medium

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

> By 2018, Belize has a strengthened system in place for early detection and effective management of invasive species.

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

> Develop and implement an action plan to identify and address prevention and/or management of invasive species

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Identification of alien invasive species, key agencies and challenges in conjunction with a UN funded project.

Goal 2

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}. Contributes to Aichi Target 6,11, 12.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Priority

A=High

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

> Mapping and assessment of RAMSAR Sites.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

> Conduct a thorough assessment of the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary in conjunction with beneficiaries to develop a zonation plan and a management plan

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> A rapid ecological assessment (REA) developed for the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary.

Target 7: Sites at risk

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}. Contributes to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 12.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Priority

A=High

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

> Identify locations in the sites that are affected by encroachment and overuse.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

> Coordinate with users of the area to identify and map those areas that are being impacted due to overuse.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Engagement of beneficiaries/users of RAMSAR site.

Goal 3

Target 8: National wetland inventories

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i. Contributes to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Priority

B=Medium

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

> Map 100% of the wetland system in Belize and identify land tenure status and condition.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

> Conduct a forest inventory for Belize in 2018-2019, including ecosystem mapping and assessment of the condition of ecosystems.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> A preliminary assessment of the extent of wetlands in Belize

Target 9: Wise Use

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}. Contributes to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7.

Target 9: Wise Use - Priority

B=Medium

Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

> By 2020 primary extractive natural resource use in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments is guided by sustainable management plans, with improved biodiversity sustainability.
By 2025 key ecosystem services are sustainably managed and resilient to threats.

Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

> Development of management plans and management effectiveness for 80% of the national protected areas system by 2020.

Target 9: Wise Use - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> 25% of Belize's protected areas have a management plan which is under implementation.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels. Contributes to Aichi Target 18.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Priority

B=Medium

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Resourcing

D=Severely limiting

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

> By 2025, access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge is regulated and benefits arising from utilization are shared in a fair and equitable manner.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

> Engagement of indigenous groups on non-timber forest products through two projects by 2020 to determine the extent of use and to develop plans for use.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> n/a

Target 11: Wetland functions

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4}.
Contributes to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 14.

Target 11: Wetland functions - Priority

B=Medium

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 11: Wetland functions - National Targets

> By 2020, all relevant national development decisions in Belize take into consideration ecosystem services and biodiversity relevance to the national economy.

Target 11: Wetland functions - Planned activity

> Conduct key ecosystem services valuation

Assess best use for long term sustainability based on cost benefit analysis of ecosystem services and development

Socialization of ecosystem services and values to Belizeans

Target 11: Wetland functions - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> n/a

Target 12: Restoration

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.}.
Contributes to Aichi Targets 14 and 15.

Target 12: Restoration - Priority

C=Low

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

D=Severely limiting

Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

> By 2020, Belize is restoring 30% of degraded ecosystems to maintain and improve the status of ecosystems and ecosystem services for increasing Belize's resilience to climate change impacts

Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

> Identify and map degraded ecosystems

Develop and build capacity for, and implement restoration plans to re-establish priority ecosystems

Target 12: Restoration - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Replanting of 100 acres in Forest Reserves with native species.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods. Contributes to Aichi Targets 6 and 7.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Priority

B=Medium

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

> by 2020, all relevant national development decisions in Belize take into consideration ecosystem services and biodiversity relevance to the national economy

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

> Improve information on the value of ecosystem services

Integration of ecosystem services in to landuse and coastal zone planning

Integration of natural capital accounting into national accounting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Valuation of mangrove and coastal ecosystems

Endorsement of coastal zone management plan

Goal 4

Target 15: Regional Initiatives

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Priority

A=High

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

> Assessments on ecosystem services and vulnerability of Ramsar Sites to climate change.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

> Move Forward with the Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands for Climate Change Mitigation and Conservation of their Ecosystem Services Project.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> SDG #14: Life Below Water

REDUCING PRESSURES / SUSTAINABLE USE

GOAL B: Direct and indirect pressures on Belize's marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are reduced to sustain and enhance national biodiversity and ecosystem services.

TARGET B1. By 2020 primary extractive natural resource use in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments is guided by sustainable management plans, with improved biodiversity sustainability (NBSAP)

TARGET B4. BY 2020, Belize is restoring 30% of degraded ecosystems to maintain and improve the status of ecosystems and ecosystem services essential for increasing Belize's resilience to climate change impacts.

(NBSAP)

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}. Contributes to Aichi Target 1 and 18.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Priority

A=High

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

> Recommend at least two more sites as Ramsar Sites.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

> Develop Management from For Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary. Change the designation from Wildlife Sanctuary 1 to 2 for greater use of the natural resources.

Increase Patrol/ Enforcement for both Sites.

Conduction National Bird Count for both Ramsar Sites and the other two we have identified as possible Ramsar Sites.

Increase Visibility and Awareness of Ramsar Sites.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Strengthening the Implementation of NBSAP through prioritized targets to guide the decisions related to biodiversity. the 2016-2020 NBSAP Identifies synergies with other national legislation, policies and plans with similar objectives, for effective mainstreaming implementation of the NBSAP. Synergies also include alignment with SDG goals and Aichi Targets.

Target 17: Financial and other resources

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 - 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}. Contributes to Aichi Target 20.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Priority

B=Medium

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

> Biodiversity Financing Initiative

Selva-Maya GIZ

PACT

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

> BIOFIN

Selva-Maya GIZ

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> CBD BIOFIN office will sustain financing mechanisms for implementing the priority NBSAP Targets and other national policies and frameworks related to biodiversity.

Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

A=High

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

> Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning

Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

> Land Use and coastal and water management plans and sectorial policies that include wetland benefit

Target 18: International cooperation - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Processes for data collection, interpretation, standardization, management and dissemination will be adequate and properly monitor and evaluate the SDG.

Target 19: Capacity Building

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced. Contributes to Aichi Targets 1 and 17.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Priority

A=High

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

> Result Based Budgeting for Ramsar Sites

Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

> Conflict Resolution: Community Level

Greater Awareness of the SDG'S

Target 19: Capacity Building - Outcomes achieved by 2018

Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2018

> Adoption of the SDG Agenda and fully embraced it at all levels and sectors to move the process to move effectively.

Section 5: Optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that so wishes to provide additional information regarding any of all of its designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites)

Guidance for filling in this section

1. Contracting Parties can provide additional information specific to any or all of their designated Ramsar Sites, given that the situation and status of individual Ramsar Sites can differ greatly within the territory of a Contracting Party.
2. The only indicator questions included in this section are those from Section 3 of the COP13 NRF which directly concern Ramsar Sites.
3. In some cases, to make them meaningful in the context of reporting on each Ramsar Site separately, some of these indicator questions and/or their answer options have been adjusted from their formulation in Section 3 of the COP13 NRF.
4. Please include information on only one site in each row. In the appropriate columns please add the name and official site number (from the Ramsar Sites Information Service).
5. For each 'indicator question', please select one answer from the legend.
6. A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

Belize

Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary (946)

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

5.9 If an assessment of the effectiveness of Ramsar Site management has been made please indicate the year of assessment, which assessment tool did you use (e.g. METT, Resolution XII.15), the result (score) of the assessment and the source of the information in the box for additional information.

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Sarstoon Temash National Park (1562)

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

D=Planned

5.9 If an assessment of the effectiveness of Ramsar Site management has been made please indicate the year of assessment, which assessment tool did you use (e.g. METT, Resolution XII.15), the result (score) of the assessment and the source of the information in the box for additional information.

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

C=Partially

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

C=Partially

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes