

# Ramsar National Report to COP13

## COP13 National Report

### Background information

1. The COP13 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee 52 for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (United Arab Emirates, 2018).
2. The Standing Committee through Decision SC52-07 has also agreed that an online National Reporting format could be made available to Parties by keeping the off-line system and requested the Secretariat to present an evaluation for the next COP regarding the use of the on-line system.
3. The National Report Format is being issued by the Secretariat in 2016 to facilitate Contracting Parties' implementation planning and preparations for completing the Report. The deadline for submission of national targets is by 30 November 2016 and the deadline for submission of completed National Reports is January 21st 2018.
4. Following Standing Committee discussions, this COP13 NRF closely follows that of the NRF used for COP12, to permit continuity of reporting and analysis of implementation progress by ensuring that indicator questions are as far as possible consistent with previous NRFs (and especially the COP12 NRF). It is also structured in terms of the Goals and Strategies of the 2016-2024 Ramsar Strategic Plan adopted at COP12 as Resolution XII.2.
5. This COP13 NRF includes 92 indicator questions. In addition, Section 4 is provided as an optional Annex in order to facilitate the task of preparing the Party's National Targets and Actions for the implementation of each of the targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024 according to Resolution XII.2.
6. As was the case for previous NRF, the COP13 Format includes an optional section (Section 5) to permit a Contracting Party to provide additional information, on indicators relevant to each individual Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar Site) within its territory.
7. Note that, for the purposes of this national reporting to the Ramsar Convention, the scope of the term "wetland" is that of the Convention text, i.e. all inland wetlands (including lakes and rivers), all nearshore coastal wetlands (including tidal marshes, mangroves and coral reefs) and human-made wetlands (e.g. rice paddy and reservoirs), even if a national definition of "wetland" may differ from that adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention.

### The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

8. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention and are made publicly available on the Convention's website.
9. There are seven main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
  - i) provide data and information on how, and to what extent, the Convention is being implemented
  - ii) provide tools for countries for their national planning
  - iii) capture lessons and experience to help Parties plan future action;
  - iv) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
  - v) provide a means for Parties to account for their commitments under the Convention;
  - vi) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementing the Convention, and to plan its future priorities; and
  - vii) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
10. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of

effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention”.

11. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, the Ramsar Secretariat holds in a database all the information it has received and verified. The COP13 reports will be in an online National Reporting system.

12. The Convention’s National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:

- i) providing an opportunity to compile and analyze information that contracting parties can use to inform their national planning and programming.
- ii) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global, national and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the COP as a series of Information Papers, including:
  - \* the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level;
  - \* the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance); and
  - \* the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region;
- iii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP.
- iv) providing the source data for time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (4th edition, 2010); and
- v) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention’s lead implementation role on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP used the COP10 NRF indicators extensively in 2009 to prepare contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems for consideration by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3). Similar use of COP12 NRF indicators is anticipated for the CBD’s next such in-depth review.

### **The structure of the COP13 National Report Format**

**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 92 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation Goals and Targets in the Strategic Plan 2016-2024, 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 has developed national targets to provide information on the targets and actions for the implementation of each of the targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024.

In line with Resolution XII.2, which encourages Contracting Parties “to develop and submit to the Secretariat on or before December 2016, and according to their national priorities, capabilities and resources, their own quantifiable and time-bound national and regional targets in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan”, all Parties are encouraged to consider using this comprehensive national planning tool as soon as possible, in order to identify the areas of highest priority for action and the relevant national targets and actions for each target.

The planning of national targets offers, for each of them, the possibility of indicating the national priority for that area of activity as well as the level of resourcing available, or that could be made available during the triennium, for its implementation. In addition, there are specific boxes to indicate the National Targets for implementation by 2018 and the planned national activities that are designed to deliver these targets. Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 shows the synergies between CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Ramsar Targets. Therefore, the NRF provide an opportunity that Contracting Parties indicate as appropriate how the actions they undertake for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets according to paragraph 51 of Resolution XII.3.

**Section 5** 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 COP13 National Report Format**

All Sections of the COP13 NRF should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).

The deadline for submission of the completed NRF is January 21st **2018**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP13.

The deadline for submission of national targets is by 30 November 2016

To help Contracting Parties refer to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP12, for each appropriate indicator a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP12 NRF or previous NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}

For follow up and 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.

Only Strategic Plan 2016-2024 Targets for which there are implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format; those targets of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted (e.g. targets 6 and 14).

For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarification, do so in the additional information box below the relevant indicator question. Please be as concise as possible (**maximum of 500 words** in each free-text box).

The NRF should ideally be completed by the principal compiler in consultation with relevant 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 COP12 to ensure the continuity and consistency of information provided.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice ([nationalreports@ramsar.org](mailto:nationalreports@ramsar.org)).

## 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)

> Germany

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[letter\\_GE\\_national\\_authority\\_submission\\_of\\_national\\_report\\_2018.pdf](#)

## Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

### Name of Administrative Authority

> Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit (BMUB), Referat / Division N I 4, Internationale Angelegenheiten der biologischen Vielfalt

### Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

> Almuth Ostermeyer-Schlöder, Dr.

### Mailing address

> Postfach 12 06 29, 53048 Bonn

### Telephone/Fax

> +49 228 99 305 2760

### Email

> [almuth.ostermeyer@bmub.bund.de](mailto:almuth.ostermeyer@bmub.bund.de)

## Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

### Name and title

> Frank Barsch

### Mailing address

> Postfach 12 06 29, 53048 Bonn

### Telephone/Fax

> +49 228 99 305 2663

### Email

> [Frank.Barsch@bmub.bund.de](mailto:Frank.Barsch@bmub.bund.de)

## Designated National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

### Name and title

> Bettina Hedden-Dunkhorst, Dr.

### Name of organisation

> Bundesamt für Naturschutz

### Mailing address

> Konstantinstraße 110, 53179 Bonn

### Telephone/Fax

> +49 228 8491 1760 / 1709

### Email

> [bettina.hedden-dunkhorst@bfn.de](mailto:bettina.hedden-dunkhorst@bfn.de)

## Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme

## **on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)**

### Name and title

› Christiane Schell, Dr.

### Name of organisation

› Bundesamt für Naturschutz

### Mailing address

› Konstantinstraße 110, 53179 Bonn

### Telephone/Fax

› +49 228 8491 1710 / 1709

### Email

› Christiane.Schell@bfn.de

## **Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)**

### Name and title

› Stefan Stübing

### Name of organisation

› Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten e.V. (DDA)

### Mailing address

› An den Speichern 6, 48157 Münster

### Telephone/Fax

› +49-175-4026540

### Email

› stefan.stuebing@dda-web.de

## **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)

> Peatland protection: Continuation of the peatland protection programme (restoration of wetlands) to help maintain and improve the ecological status of peatlands, including a number of Ramsar Sites. The purpose of activities is to maintain and recover the ecosystem services of peatlands, particularly with regard to preserving biodiversity, climate protection (relevance to Resolution XII 11: Peatlands, climate change and wise use), water storage (flood protection), water quality etc.

Supporting international cooperation in the field of peatland protection: a) Hosting an international workshop (Vilm, Germany, September 2016) with extensive documentation on the Ramsar Convention website), b) Hosting a side event at the COP23 to the UN Convention on Climate Change (Bonn, Germany, November 2017), c) Supporting bilateral and multilateral projects through the German Environment Ministry's (BMUB) International Climate Initiative (ICI).

2)

> Management plans: Completion of the management plan for the SPA "Donauauen zwischen Lechmündung und Ingolstadt" (2015), which includes the Ramsar Site "Lech-Donau-Winkel". A draft version of the management plan for the SPA "Inn und Salzach" (Ramsar Site "Unterer Inn") is available. In North Rhine-Westphalia, work has begun on drafting programmes of measures for the conservation of wild birds as per the provisions of the EU Birds Directive for the Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Weseraue and Rieselfelder Münster; both plans were completed in 2017. Two of the three Ramsar Sites in North Rhine-Westphalia are located in SPAs - Rieselfelder Münster in the SPA of the same name, and Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg in the SPA Weseraue.

3)

> Networking and implementation measures: Holding events to encourage networking between Ramsar stakeholders in Germany and representatives of other German-speaking countries (at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, BfN).

Improving the situation at various Ramsar Sites - the creation of hunt-free zones on Lake Starnberg and Lake Ammersee, ensuring site management for Bavaria's Ramsar Sites, and the implementation of LIFE+ projects to improve the situation on the Upper Rhine with cofinancing under the EU LIFE Regulation. Continuing the successful cooperation in the transboundary German-French Ramsar Site 'Oberrhein - Rhin supérieur' with joint events and ongoing public relations work, plus coordinated transboundary censuses of overwintering waterbirds.

4)

> Publications: Publications with direct reference to the objectives of protected Ramsar Sites, such as a comprehensive analysis of dynamics and development of waterbirds in the Chiemsee region ("Vögel des Chiemseegebiets", Lohmann & Rudolph 2016).

Publication of the annual status report "Vögel in Deutschland" (Birds in Germany) (joint publication by the Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten (Federation of German Avifaunists), Länderarbeitsgemeinschaft der Vogelschutzwarten (Working Group of German State Bird Conservationists LAG VSW) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)). The 2017 edition is devoted to recording resting waterbirds with a direct reference to the Ramsar Convention, while the preceding two editions focused on an extensive appraisal of the populations of breeding and resting birds.

5)

> Monitoring: In August 2016, the Bavarian State Minister of the Environment and Consumer Protection, together with representatives of ornithological associations, volunteers, and nature conservation authorities, attended an official ceremony to mark the 50th international waterbird census. As of the 2016/17 census season, data can now be entered via the Internet. Not only can monitoring data be entered quickly and easily via the online portal [www.ornitho.de](http://www.ornitho.de); the work by the DDA also means that current data and census results can now be retrieved immediately.

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

1)

> Within the context of national nature and environmental protection legislation, and also in compliance with EU regulations, Germany does not view implementation of the Ramsar Convention in isolation. Rather, the challenge is to combine it with implementation of other related European Directives (specifically, the Natura

2000 network and the Water Framework Directive (WFD)) as well as the EU Flood Risk Management Directive (FRMD) in a profitable way. Conflicts of interest can arise, for example, because the Water Framework Directive's aspiration of a 'good status' requires watercourses to be freely passable for migratory fish species, and therefore proposes the removal of dam structures and the avoidance of impoundment.

2)  
> Implementing measures at national level can be a complex process, since under the federal system, each Land also has its own nature conservation legislation alongside EU and national German law. This is further exacerbated by the limited availability of manpower in the face of other pressing tasks (such as Natura 2000).

3)  
> It has proven extremely difficult to implement nature conservation-related requirements (as formulated in the protection and conservation objectives of the sites and/or in the management plans) in terms of gaining the acceptance of those directly affected (users) and the general public. In this connection, there are wide variations in the participation of NGOs. In North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), the authorities, the biological station, land owners, land users and conservation groups have been engaged in an extensive cooperation process since 2014 to draw up a programme of measures to protect birds in the SPA Weseraue, which includes the Ramsar site Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg. Their aim is to accommodate competing interests from agriculture and leisure use, and to harmonise these with the defined objectives for the SPA. This process was completed in 2017 with the adoption of a programme of bird protection measures by the NRW Environment Ministry.

4)  
> In compliance with existing EU regulations, competing demands e.g. for the utilisation of space within and in the immediate vicinity of protected areas must be taken into account. Gaining stakeholder acceptance usually entails a very intensive and time-consuming public information and PR campaign as part of the management plan drafting process. It is often difficult to encourage interest in this topic.

5)  
> It is often extremely difficult to implement measures to protect breeding waterbirds, and attempts to manage predatory mammals are not always sufficiently successful. Furthermore, discharges of nutrients and pesticides are adversely impacting the status of wetlands due to a lack of riverbank buffer zones.

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

1)  
> To support international wetland protection by continuing to promote bilateral and multilateral research and development projects.

2)  
> To continue implementing the Natura 2000 network by developing site-specific management plans, the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), the EU Flood Risk Management Directive (FRMD) and the national strategy on biological diversity. The requirements of the Ramsar Convention are pivotal to the implementation of NATURA 2000 and biodiversity strategies. Specific examples include plans for further peatland restoration projects, surveys and peatland protection, as part of the Bavarian government's 2050 climate programme.

3)  
> To complete the remaining management plans for wetlands of international importance (Ramsar Sites). For those Natura 2000 sites and designated Ramsar Sites which already have management, maintenance and development plans and/or formulated protection and conservation objectives in place, to make a more concerted effort to implement these plans. In Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, for example, the management plans required by the Habitats Directive will be complete in 2019, and the management plans for two SPAs are already in place.

4)  
> To forge ahead with the implementation of visitor management concepts, the expansion of quiet zones in protected areas, and the renaturation of coastal flood plains. In Schleswig-Holstein, implementation of the revised Maritime Navigation Ordinance (Befahrensverordnung für die Schifffahrt) is pending. There are currently no sustainable approaches as such for the shipping and raw materials mining industries.

5)  
> With management plans complete, the focus turns to implementation. For example, programmes of bird protection measures have been complete for the SPAs Weseraue and Rieselfelder Münster (which include the Ramsar Sites Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg and Rieselfelder Münster), and attention is now focused on the implementation process. Regular implementation meetings are held with the authorities, biological stations,

land owners, land users and environmental organisations to assess the status of implementation and agree implementation priorities. Other habitat-improving measures, such as the development of reed beds, small waterbodies and flood trenches, are also under preparation.

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

> Overall, communication between the Ramsar Secretariat and the German federal government authorities is considered very good.

We would appreciate early availability of the national reporting format (making it easier to incorporate information and coordinate with the Federal Länder; this would not only facilitate a more in-depth report in the long term, but would also allow permanent cooperation and the sharing of content and links between Ramsar Sites and other types of protected areas).

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

> The IOPs make a valuable contribution towards implementation of the Convention. Germany's environmental organisations are integrated into the social environment in numerous different ways, and are active at many different levels. However, in Germany the three relevant IOPs active in this regard (NABU as Birdlife Partner, IUCN, WWF) do not function as IOPs. This NGO work is supported at a national and international level by the German government; and its involvement in wetland and river basin-related bodies is highly valued.

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)?

> Close links with other agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the World Heritage Convention (WHC), the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – including the Kyoto Protocol's clean development mechanism (CDM), with its links to the World Commission on Dams (WCD) – are desirable, and should be coordinated via the "Biodiversity Liaison Group". Overall, Germany favours even closer links between the biodiversity-related conventions, particularly in the area of harmonised reporting and the work of CEPA.

Germany's collaboration with the World Heritage Convention has become more important since the Wadden Sea became a World Natural Heritage Site in 2009. The Wadden Sea includes five German Ramsar Sites, which have been combined with the neighbouring Ramsar Sites of Denmark and the Netherlands to create a "Transboundary Ramsar Site".

Germany has close ties with the relevant international agreements via EU environmental law. As a Party to the CBD and CITES, for example, the EU translates these Conventions directly into valid law for all EU Member States by adopting EU Regulations. Decisions made in connection with national implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) likewise serve to protect wetlands and waterbodies, as well as their habitats and species. One recent example is Germany's biodiversity strategy, which incorporates an extensive range of objectives and approaches relating to water protection and wetland conservation.

Furthermore, the majority of Germany's Ramsar Sites and other wetlands have close ties with the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA Agreement), given their importance as breeding, resting and overwintering sites for migratory birds. Other migratory species that inhabit our wetlands and waterbodies also have links with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). Coastal and marine wetlands are closely interlinked with the Helsinki Convention (Baltic Sea) and the OSPAR Convention (North Sea). Wetland conservation is also intertwined with the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, which now became an international treaty, and the UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, both of which have been ratified by Germany.

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 Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and the EU Flood Risk Management Directive (FRMD) provide the basis for an integrated water policy in the EU. Implementation of these Directives will ensure that water is used and managed sustainably. River basins, i.e. all rivers with their tributaries, coastal waters and groundwater, are viewed as complete ecosystems that transcend national boundaries. Wherever possible, the conservation and use of water should be harmonised; this also extends, for example, to hydropower and the mining industry. The aim of these Directives is to achieve a good status throughout all waterbodies. Unlike their earlier counterparts, these two Directives prioritise water ecology, and also consider other protected areas that rely on waterbodies. Implementing these Directives therefore

helps to preserve biodiversity. The joint implementation strategy of the European Commission and EU Member States offers practical assistance in the form of 'Horizontal guidance on the role of wetlands in the WFD'. In the international arena, Germany's involvement in a wide range of development cooperation projects is helping to develop integrative water resources management (WRM) policies, which in the long term can help to conserve natural resources and reduce poverty.

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

> Implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Germany entails complex legal regulations and procedures. Corresponding mechanisms are not usually tailored to wetlands specifically, but instead focus on the services provided by nature and environmental values in general, and have evolved over several decades. In this connection, we would also like to mention the 'Flyway Vision' of the 'Vision Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative' highlighting the transboundary nature of the Wadden Sea's protected areas, which was signed at the 12th Trilateral Government Conference on the Protection of the Wadden Sea in 2014. This forms the basis for cooperation between the three littoral states (Denmark, Germany, Netherlands) in the Transboundary Ramsar Site "Wadden Sea". The principal aim of the trilateral Wadden Sea collaboration is to ensure the joint protection and collaborative management of the Wadden Sea.

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

> Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection, Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection, Brandenburg Ministry of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection, Bremen Senate for the Environment, Building and Transport, Hamburg Department of Environment and Energy, Hessian Ministry for the Environment, Energy, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Consumer Protection of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Lower Saxony Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Protection, Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Consumer Protection of North Rhine-Westphalia, Ministry for the Environment, Agriculture, Nutrition, Viniculture and Forestry - Rhineland Palatinate, Saarland Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection, Saxon State Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment for Saxony-Anhalt, Ministry for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein, Free State of Thuringia Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Nature Conservation, Bavarian State Office for the Environment, WWF Germany, Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. (Friends of the Earth Germany), Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. (Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union), Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern (LBV) e. V., Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten (Federation of German Avifaunists, DDA), together with various individuals entrusted with site management.

## 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 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) Poverty eradication strategies	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency 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
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 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
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	<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
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
l) National policies on infrastructure	<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
m) National policies on industry	<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
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	<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
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	<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
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	<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

### 1.1 Additional information

> Germany is committed to implementing the United Nations' global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including goal 6 (clean water and sanitation) and goal 14 (life below water), and supports their achievement across all Länder.

The Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan sets out a coordinated, comprehensive management plan for the Wadden Sea region at multi-lateral level.

Germany's federal structure means that the requirements of waterbodies and wetlands, as a subsection of water protection and nature conservation, are addressed at national, regional and local level, both in separate sectoral planning procedures, and in plans for the region as a whole. Most RAMSAR Sites are entirely or predominantly Natura2000 sites, and therefore generally require the preparation of Natura2000 management plans. Poverty eradication is a factor in all development cooperation projects with relevance for wetlands.

National: Under German water legislation, programmes and plans for water extraction are aimed at the sustainable use and conservation of water resources. Due consideration is given to wetland conservation and protection aspects. For example, plans to implement the Water Framework Directive (WFD) address wetland aspects. Germany has a "National Strategic Plan for the Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture". The Climate Action Programme 2020 and the Climate Action Plan 2050 provide for the agreement of peatland protection targets between the Federation and Länder, which determine how peatlands in Germany are managed. This is already in progress. Furthermore, the Climate Action Plan 2050 also stipulates the drafting and implementation of a strategy to "preserve peatlands (organic soils)".

Länder: The Lower Saxony regional planning programme includes the conservation and development of protected marine habitats. Coastal protection measures in Mecklenburg-West Pomerania include the restoration and improvement of wetlands. The Free State of Thuringia's forest programme highlights the outstanding importance of water as a protected natural resource in selected forest regions. The Thuringian biodiversity strategy also calls for significant improvements to the ecological and chemical status of waters in line with the WFD by 2020. The rural development initiative in Thuringia sets out framework conditions for agro-environmental measures relating to the preservation of wet grassland and populations of meadow

waders.

The government programme 'Long-term ecological forest development in Lower Saxony' includes guidelines aimed, inter alia, at avoiding drainage measures, restoring and developing wetlands, watercourses and stagnant waters, and protecting particularly sensitive areas.

The Federation's 2007 biodiversity strategy has set the goal that until 2020 5% of Germany's total forested area is under natural forest development and 2% of the total national territory is developed as large-scale wilderness reserves (including forested raised bogs, fens and floodplains). Potential sites for the development of natural forests are currently being selected in the Federal States.

Motivated by the need for climate action, adaptation to climate change, water resources management, and species and landscape conservation, our long-term goal is to restore our peatlands, most of which have undergone extensive anthropogenic changes, to a semi-natural state wherever possible. All Länder with significant marshlands have regional strategies to protect their peatlands, which generally also include a reference to climate change mitigation.

Many Länder have given extensive consideration to the relevant requirements of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands when formulating their biodiversity strategies; Saxony-Anhalt is a typical example. The protection and development of wetlands is also a top priority in the Mecklenburg-West Pomerania 2012 biodiversity strategy.

The Ems 2050 Master Plan is dedicated to the ecological and economic improvement of the Ems region, and also addresses the conservation status of and measures needed to preserve and improve the Ems estuary as part of the Ramsar Site "Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer und Dollart". The integrated management plan for the Weser aims, inter alia, to preserve the Weser estuary as part of the Ramsar Site "Wattenmeer, Jadebusen und westliche Wesermündung" in harmony with the region's economic, cultural and social interests. The integrated management plan for the Elbe estuary aspires to coordinate and harmonise the needs of endangered species and habitats, including the Ramsar Site "Niederelbe, Barnkrug-Ottendorf", with the interests of comprehensive sustainable (economic) development.

The revised act on the Hamburg Wadden Sea National Park in 2017 defined specific protection goals in accordance with EU guidelines, including more specific targets for waterbird species.

In 2015, the Environment Ministry of North Rhine-Westphalia adopted the NRW Biodiversity Strategy within the context of implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The strategy includes a wide range of preventive measures to improve wetland protection in North Rhine-Westphalia.

## 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 2.1 Additional Information

>

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)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 2.2 Additional Information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially

- D=Planned
- O=No Change
- X=Unknown

### 2.3 Additional Information

>

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.)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 2.4 Additional Information

>

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. )

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 2.5 Additional Information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- E=Exact number (households/municipalities)

>

- F=Less than (households/municipalities)

>

- G=More than (households/municipalities)

> 99

- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.6 Additional Information

> Please consult the publication "Wasserwirtschaft in Deutschland", October 2017, <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/wasserwirtschaft-in-deutschland-grundlagen> (soon available in English)

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

*Please select only one option*

- E=Exact number (percentage)

>

- F=Less than (percentage)

>

- G=More than (percentage)

> 99

- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.7 Additional Information

>

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

Please select only one option

E=Exact number (percentage)

>

F=Less than (percentage)

> 3

G=More than (percentage)

>

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 2.8 Additional Information

>

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

Please select only one option

A=Yes

B=No

C=Partially

D=Planned

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 2.9 Additional Information

>

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

Please select only one option

A=Good

B=Not Functioning

C=Functioning

Q=Obsolete

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 2.10 Additional Information

>

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

Please select only one option

E=Exact number (plants)

>

F=Less than (plants)

>

G=More than (plants)

> 7000

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 2.11 Additional Information

>

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

Please select only one option

A=Good

B=Not functioning

C=Functioning

Q=Obsolete

- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.12 Additional Information

> Please consult the publication "Wasserwirtschaft in Deutschland", October 2017, <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/wasserwirtschaft-in-deutschland-grundlagen> (soon available in English)

### 2.13 The percentage of decentralized wastewater treatment technology, including constructed wetlands/ponds is? SDG Target 6.3.1.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Not Functioning
- C=Functioning
- Q=Obsolete
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.13 Additional Information

> Please consult the publication "Wasserwirtschaft in Deutschland", October 2017, <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/wasserwirtschaft-in-deutschland-grundlagen> (soon available in English)

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.14 Additional Information

> Wastewater reuse-discussion is ongoing at EU level. A EU Directive to address this issue is planned. The topic is particularly relevant for water-poor states, not for Germany, even thou there are pilot projects.

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

*Please select only one option*

- R=Agriculture
- S=Landscape
- T=Industrial
- U=Drinking
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 2.15 Additional Information

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

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 3.1 Additional Information

> In Lower Saxony, voluntary eco-friendly management practices for agricultural land are eligible for grants under selected agro-environmental and climate mitigation schemes.

The national parks management has a wide range of measures in place to ensure the balanced use of the

Wadden Sea in Schleswig-Holstein, Lower Saxony and Hamburg by the private sector. Examples include the revised version of the Maritime Navigation Ordinance or saltmarsh management measures.

As a rule, activities are confined to those wetlands not under the absolute protection of the Federal Nature Conservation Act (BNatSchG), where ecosystem-compatible uses are admissible.

Individual private-sector projects in wetland regions – such as industrial plant construction, commercial estates or excavations – are subject to the statutory provisions for example under the Environmental Impact Assessment law, Construction law, Excavations law, mining and Nature Conservation law, which are designed to prevent or compensate for any adverse ecological impacts.

Application of the wise use principle by farmers is crucial for many wetlands; management contracts under EU agricultural funding programmes and the EU Agricultural Fund for Rural Development aimed at extensification, alongside special usage contracts between nature conservation authorities and farmers, can help to achieve sustainable, eco-friendly management practices in wetlands. Examples include salt meadows in the Wadden Sea and on the Baltic Sea coast, extensive use of grassland, and organic farming in flood plains. The Länder have devised targeted programmes and mechanisms for specific landscape characteristics.

For example, Bavaria operates a contract-based nature conservation programme, whereby owners and authorised users receive financial compensation for loss of earnings and the additional costs associated with the provision of voluntary services in managing valuable wetlands. The North Rhine-Westphalian cultivated landscape programme is organised along similar lines, providing financial support for the management of agricultural land in accordance with conservation principles.

Most of these financial incentives and compensation payments for wise use provide the basis for successful, sustainable wetland management.

Recreational and tourism use impairs the ecological functions and the wild fauna and flora of many wetlands. Germany is collaborating with tourism organisations and providers to implement the wise use principle with the aid of geographical and temporal access restrictions, comprehensive signposting, and other visitor guidance measures designed to provide information and support.

### 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.

a) Ramsar Sites	<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
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

### 3.2 Additional information

> The following projects are cited as examples for Schleswig-Holstein: Brent Geese Days are organised with the involvement of the Halligen Biosphere Reserve, NABU Schleswig-Holstein e. V., National Parks Administration in the Coastal Defence, National Parks and Marine Conservation Agency, "Schutzstation Wattenmeer" & the WWF Wadden Sea Office. At various locations along the west coast, the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU), Jordsand Association, "Schutzstation Wattenmeer", the WWF, National Parks Service, Katinger-Watt Nature Centre, Wiedingharde Information Centre, Elpersbüttel conference centre and Multimar Wadden Forum organise a range of excursions, Wadden walks and boat trips for nature lovers and amateur ornithologists under the heading "Westküsten-Vogelkiek" (West Coast Birdwatching). Similarly, "Geese Weeks" are held in the Hamburg Wadden Sea National Park, organised by the Jordsand organisation in collaboration with the Hamburg Wadden Sea National Park administration. Each year since 2009, the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park administration has organised "migratory bird days in the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park", comprising more than 250 events, spread over nine days, highlighting the importance of the Wadden Sea for East Atlantic bird migration. (cf. <http://www.zugvogeltage.de/>). The "migratory bird days" are a joint collaboration between private and government agencies and NGOs.

In Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, the private sector is extensively involved in site management. For example, management of the SPA 'Wismar Bight' has been taken over by 'Regionalvereinigung Segeln Wismar Bucht e.V.', and management of the SPA 'Greifswalder Bodden' by the WWF. The Jordsand Association manages Galenbecker See (Lake Galenbeck); it is tasked with controlling use, particularly for tourism and leisure purposes. In the Müritz National Park area, visitors can take advantage of a 'crane ticket', thanks to a collaboration between the National Parks association, a tourism company and a public local transport company.

In the wetland of international importance 'Unterer Niederrhein', the gravel industry is involved in a number of projects, e.g. in Orsoyer Rheinbogen and Diersfordter Waldsee. However, excavations on the Lower Rhine are generally rated as problematic for the Ramsar Site. In Weseraue (with the wetland of international importance 'Westerstaustufe Schlüsselburg'), excavations have an important function for selected target species, and are purposely remodelled to encourage nature and species conservation after industrial use has been discontinued.

The Kyffhäuser nature park administration regularly holds 'crane days' on the Helgestausee Berga-Kelbra reservoir. NAJU also held a crane camp there in 2014.

North Rhine-Westphalia has a network of biological stations which operate at administrative district level. They are tasked with managing protected areas, many of which are wetlands. In many places, they engage in contract-based nature conservation at administrative district level on behalf of the regional landscape authorities. Lower Saxony is also establishing a network of ecological stations to manage protected areas (primarily wetlands and three Ramsar Sites) at administrative district level. Existing ecological stations are recruiting additional staff and stepping up their training programmes, including the Wetlands of International Importance 'Dümmer', 'Diepholzer Moorniederung' and 'Steinhuder Meer'. The stations provide active, on-site support to protected areas, and contribute to their maintenance and development.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 3.3 Additional information

> The existing financing measures to ensure that wetlands are protected and sustainably managed through eco-friendly farming practices – such as management contracts for water meadows, or hardship compensation – are continually updated to reflect the latest ecological findings and economic situation. The EU funding programmes for agricultural extensification and the structural fund for rural development are particularly relevant where wetlands are used agriculturally.

Essentially, the mechanisms are based on financial support (including support for sideline uses), tax concessions for selected operating structures, the realignment of the EU system of farming subsidies at national and regional level, and the development of compensation models for specific biotope types on agricultural land.

The MEKA agro-environmental programmes and landscape management guidelines in Baden-Wuerttemberg include incentives for the protection and balanced use of wetlands.

Occasionally, the benefits from these mechanisms are enhanced by local initiatives for the conservation or renaturation of certain areas, such as the redevelopment programme for Upper Swabian lakes in Ravensburg (Baden-Wuerttemberg), the Hallig Islands programme in the Wadden Sea (Schleswig-Holstein), and the diversion feeding programme for resting cranes in the Ramsar Site 'Helgestausee Berga-Kelbra', designed to minimise damage to agricultural crops.

Lower Saxony has incorporated wetland protection incentives into two of its action programmes, one for aquatic landscapes and one for moorland landscapes. The realisation that wetlands on organic soils rely on high water levels to preserve the peat, necessitating sustainable wet management, prompted the development of the "paludiculture" concept (wet cultivation of organic soil to preserve peat and protect the environment). Having explored the opportunities and risks of paludiculture, the nature conservation authorities of the Länder and federation published a joint position paper. However, the framework conditions will need to be adjusted and suitable incentives created if paludiculture is to become established on a significant scale in wetlands.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 3.4 Additional Information

> Germany's nature conservation legislation provides the basis for preventing and eliminating perverse incentive mechanisms; this also applies to implementation of the relevant EU Directives. For Natura 2000 sites, Article 6 (2) of the Habitats Directive prohibits the deterioration of natural habitats, and obligates the Member States to actively prevent deterioration where necessary. The designation of nature conservation areas, restricted walkways, visitor and user guidance systems, as well as resting zone concepts and other voluntary support mechanisms, can all achieve positive effects. Educational and public relations work should

also be as broad as possible, including a focus on user groups. In Germany, the Wadden Sea's status as a National Park, and since 2009 respectively 2014 as a World Cultural Heritage Site, additionally helps to protect the region from possible adverse factors.

Based on this legislation, furthermore, landscape, regional and town planning offer various options for defining specific usage restrictions and exclusion zones on the one hand, and priority areas on the other, and allow for binding commitments at every phase of the political agreement process. In addition, the German Impact Mitigation Regulation and the Regulation on Protected Biotores are applied nationwide. In the context of Natura 2000 sites, there is also an obligation to carry out an FFH compatibility assessment. For larger projects, it is also obligatory to carry out an environmental impact assessment.

In case of critical uses and projected projects in particularly valuable or sensitive areas, the protected area regulations as well as the instruments of the German Impact Mitigation Regulation and the Habitats Directive Assessment (HDA) to avoid or to compensate adverse effects.

In the past, peat harvesting and the use of river sediment have posed a particular problem in wetlands. Certain agricultural subsidies continue to adversely affect wetland areas. In particular, the incentives for cultivating bioenergy crops have created new, additional perverse incentives. For example, maize cultivation in fenlands for biogas extraction (e.g. Friedländer Große Wiese, Mecklenburg-West Pomerania) is still incentivised with acreage premiums. Agricultural use of the steep slopes on the west bank of Krakower Obersee has recently been intensified for maize cultivation, leading to increased nutrient emissions into this wetland of international importance, and reducing the river bank buffer zones from 7 metres to 3 metres.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 4.1 Additional information

> In implementing the new Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species, which entered into force on 2 February 2015, the competent authorities will have established a system for monitoring invasive alien species of Union-wide importance, or will have integrated it into their existing system, by February 2018, thereby ensuring that invasive alien species in the environment are identified through surveys, monitoring or other techniques and their spread into or within the European Union prevented. The relevant list of (currently 49) invasive alien species with Union-wide significance (Union list), includes several invasive species which could influence the ecological conditions of wetlands (such as Nuttall's waterweed (*Elodea nuttallii*), the spinycheek crayfish (*Orconectes limosus*), the bullfrog, the common slider (*Trachemys scripta*), the Egyptian goose and the raccoon). Invasive species on the Union list occurring in a Member State for the first time must be eradicated. Where invasive species on the list are already widespread, measures must be devised and implemented to prevent the further spread of such species. The Länder are currently working on the establishment of an environmental monitoring system as provided for in Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014.

Along the entire coastline, populations of invasive or potentially invasive species of aquatic bird species (this includes the Nile Goose listed on the Union list and the Canada Goose, which, however, according to the EU Birds Directive (included in Annex II) is considered a naturally occurring European bird species and not listed in the Union list) are recorded in the two-week spring tide censuses. In Lower Saxony, systematic surveys are currently only conducted for fish in inland waters. The three Lower Saxony Ramsar Sites in the Wadden Sea also carry out monitoring under the Marine Strategy Directive in multiple ports, as well as monitoring marine and terrestrial species throughout the entire area. The Wadden Sea Quality Status Report 2017 includes a report on invasive species.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 4.2 Additional information

> The necessary provisions for the implementation of EU Regulation No. 1143/2014 in German law can be

found in §§ 40a ff. BNatSchG. In addition, § 40 BNatSchG contains general legal provisions regulations on the application of plants and animals.

The Länder and (in the case of the EEZ) the Federation are responsible for taking suitable measures to avert any threats to ecosystems, biotopes and species from non-native or invasive fauna and flora species. In accordance with the three-phase CBD approach on the handling of invasive species, the emphasis is on the precautionary principle (preventing the introduction of species by imposing comprehensive bans) and the early detection of new invasive species, with an obligation to remove them immediately. For those invasive species of the Union list that are already widespread, the competent authorities under Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 must have effective management measures in place by February 2018 to minimise their impacts on biodiversity and the associated ecosystem services, as well as any potential effects on human health and the economy.

The German Species Conservation Ordinance (BArtSchV) also prohibits the ownership and marketing of certain invasive species, while the Federal Hunting Act contains provisions on the release and colonisation of alien species.

Article 22 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), which states that Member States must ensure that 'the deliberate introduction into the wild of any species which is not native to their territory is regulated so as not to prejudice natural habitats within their range or the wild native fauna and flora' and Article 11 of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), which states that 'Member States shall see that any introduction of species of bird which do not occur naturally in the wild state in the European territory of the Member States does not prejudice the local flora and fauna', sets out the EU legal framework.

The Berne Convention's strategy on invasive species (cf. <http://www.coe.int/de>) provides guidance but is not binding in Germany. The same applies to other international treaties such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (particularly the guiding principles on invasive species) and the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

As previously mentioned, invasive species on the Union list appearing in a Member State for the first time must be eradicated. For invasive species on the list that are already widespread, the Member States must devise and implement measures to prevent their further spread.

We do not have access to specific data on the occurrence and management of invasive species for all Ramsar Sites. As examples, we would like to mention hunting of the Egyptian goose in the wetlands of international importance 'Unterer Niederrhein' and 'Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg', and predator control in the coastal bird breeding grounds and in the nature conservation area 'Krakower Obersee' (which includes eradication of the invasive species mink, raccoon dog and raccoon from coastal bird breeding grounds). Several regions have local initiatives, primarily NGOs, which carry out small-scale measures to inhibit neophytes such as the giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) in the biosphere reserve 'Thüringische Rhön' on the River Ulster, south of Pferdsdorf.

Various stakeholders (botanical gardens, landscape gardeners) have also developed voluntary codes of conduct for dealing with invasive species.

Monitoring and management measures have been established for the Ramsar Sites in the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea. In Ramsar Site 84 (Elbauen Schnackenburg-Lauenburg), the measures focus on selected occurrences of neophytes and raccoons, which are particularly invasive here.

A Wadden Sea-wide "Alien Species Management and Action Plan" (MAPAS) is currently being drawn up with the involvement of the Wadden Sea National Park administration of Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg, under the auspices of the trilateral Wadden Sea cooperation and in cooperation with the Netherlands and Denmark.. Comprehensive and actual information about Neobiota in the Wadden Sea are available in the Wadden Sea Quality Status report: <http://qsr.waddensea-worldheritage.org/reports/alien-species>.

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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact number (species)

>

F=Less than (species)

>

G=More than (species)

>

C=Partially

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

#### 4.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the year of assessment and the source of the information

> In Germany, invasive species are controlled by management measures, but there is currently no overview of the precise number of affected species. As far as the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation is aware, there are currently some 180 invasive and potentially invasive species living in the wild, more than 100 of which can be considered established. Management measures for the prevention, elimination, control and

use/disposal of most of these species were listed in the two-volume "Management handbook on the handling of alien species in Germany", published by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation as part of its "Naturschutz und Biologische Vielfalt" (Nature Conservation and Biological Diversity) series, and assessed to gauge their implementability. An average of ten particularly expedient measures to protect biodiversity are cited for each of the species listed.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

#### 4.4 Additional information

> One of the aims of national marine neobiota monitoring is to assess the measures implemented. However, the programme has not yet been running long enough to be able to make a definitive statement. We are unaware whether the competent Länder authorities have assessed effectiveness of wetland invasive species control programmes, but expect them to do so in future. For the invasive species on the Union list in line with the guidelines in the new Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 on invasive species, improved knowledge is expected in future. Member States have to monitor the effectiveness of immediate measures to eradicate invasive species on the Union list which are in an early invasion phase, and to notify the EU Commission of the results. Furthermore, for those invasive species on the Union list that are already widespread, the monitoring system to be implemented by February 2018 must be able to gauge the effectiveness of eradication, population control and containment measures with regard to minimising the impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and where applicable, human health and the economy. Where applicable, monitoring should also assess the impacts on non-target species.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 5.1 Additional information

> Having completed the nomination process for Natura 2000 sites, we can conclude that 3,077 of a total of 4,617 Natura Sites of Community Importance (SCI) in Germany contain wetland habitat types. Of these, 125 sites cover an area in excess of 5,000 ha. (see Petersen & Ssymanck 2007: Die Feuchtgebiete internationaler Bedeutung und das Schutzgebietsnetz Natura-2000 in Deutschland, Natur und Landschaft 11/2007, p. 494 ff). This existing site data could be used to assess potential Ramsar Sites. As well as their representativeness for the country as a whole and their uniqueness, the main criteria would be to prioritise wetland types which are under-represented on the Ramsar List, such as peatlands, alluvial waterbodies, alluvial forests and mountain waterbodies, as well as considering the principal fish populations. Some Länder are intending to pursue this with a wetland conservation strategy which reflects the objectives of the Ramsar Convention's strategic framework plan. In Saxony-Anhalt, for example, in addition to the three existing Ramsar Sites, at least nine further sites have been identified that satisfy the Ramsar Convention criteria (Sudfeldt, C., D. Doer & J. Wahl (2002): Important Bird Areas und potenzielle Ramsar-Gebiete in Deutschland. Berichte zum Vogelschutz 39, 119-132.). Most of them are already protected under the NATURA 2000 regime, and for this reason, have not yet been explicitly registered as Ramsar Sites.

In 2011, the LfU in Bavaria proposed three further sites of international importance to mark the 40th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention

#### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No

D=Planned

## 5.2 Additional information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact number (sites)

> 27

F=Less than (sites)

>

G=More than (sites)

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

### 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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact number (sites)

>

F=Less than (sites)

> 27

G=More than (sites)

>

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

### 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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact number (sites)

>

F=Less than (sites)

> 27

G=More than (sites)

>

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 5.3 - 5.5 Additional information

> Almost all German Ramsar Sites have management and/or maintenance and development plans which reflect current conservation standards. Similar management plans are currently being drawn up for other sites.

An overview of Ramsar sites in seven Länder shows the following picture:

Schleswig-Holstein: A trilateral management plan exists for the Wadden Sea as a whole, together with management plans for parts of the Ramsar site 'S-H Wattenmeer' within the framework of Natura 2000.

Bavaria: All eight Ramsar Sites in Bavaria are simultaneously SPA sites, and some of them are also Sites of Community Importance (SCI), whose new management plans as Natura 2000 sites (and in some cases, other plans such as waterbody development concepts) fulfil this function. Management plans are currently being drawn up for parts of Ammersee, Donauauen, Bayerische Wildalm, Schwäbische Donaumoos and Unterer Inn. The management plan for the SPA "Donauauen zwischen Lechmündung und Ingolstadt" (DE 7231-471), which includes the Ramsar Site "Lech-Donau-Winkel", was completed in 2015.

North Rhine-Westphalia: A management plan is in place (LANUV 2011) for the SPA 'Unterer Niederrhein', large parts of which overlap with the Wetland of International Importance 'Unterer Niederrhein', and in the process of being implemented. In numerous sub-regions which are also designated Sites of Community Importance under the Habitats Directive, the measures for the SPA are specified in greater detail. Under the provisions of the EU Birds Directive, special bird conservation programmes for the SPAs 'Weseraue' and 'Rieselfelder Münster' were drawn up and completed in 2017. Two of the three Ramsar Sites in North Rhine-Westphalia are located in SPAs: Rieselfelder Münster (in the SPA of the same name) and Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg (in the SPA Weseraue).

Hamburg: The Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan forms the basis for management in the 'Hamburgisches Wattenmeer' National Park site. The integrated management plan for the Elbe estuary in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg and Lower Saxony, which also covers the Mühlenberger Loch, is available since 2012.

Lower Saxony: For the Ramsar Sites 'Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck', 'Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung' and 'Wattenmeer, Ostfrisches Wattenmeer & Dollart', the Wadden Sea Plan agreed between the Netherlands, Denmark and Germany includes a comprehensive definition of trilateral objectives for the entire Wadden Sea. Additionally, management plans also exist for sub-areas or individual components of the Wadden Sea. The Ramsar Site 'Niederelbe Barnkrug - Otterndorf' is covered by the integrated management plan for the Elbe, and included in its implementation. The Ramsar Site 'Elbauen Schnackenburg - Lauenburg' is located in the Niedersächsische Elbtalau biosphere reserve, and covered by the biosphere reserve plan. Mecklenburg Western Pomerania For the wetlands of international importance 'Ostseeboddenengewässer Westrügen-Hiddensee-Zingst' and 'Ostufer der Müritz', the respective National Park plans function as management plans. Krakower Obersee is part of the Site of Community Importance 'Nebeltal mit Zuflüssen, verbundenen Seen und angrenzenden Wäldern', for which a confirmed management plan has existed since 2014. A programme of measures for the WII 'Galenbecker See' was drawn up as part of the Life project. Saxony-Anhalt: In Saxony-Anhalt, management plans are available for all Ramsar Sites. A maintenance and development plan is available for the Ramsar Site 'Niederung der Unteren Havel / Gülper See / Schollener See'. Updated regulations on protected areas and a revised management plan for the Ramsar Site 'Aland-Elbe-Niederung & Elbaue Jerichow' were adopted in 2009, and the management plan for the Ramsar Site 'Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra' was completed in 2013.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 5.6 Additional information

> The available Natura 2000 field surveys and derived programmes of measures for many protected wetlands reflect best practice, and consistently apply the very latest findings on sites, habitat types and species.

For the Wadden Sea in Schleswig-Holstein and the SPA and WII 'Unterer Niederrhein' in North Rhine-Westphalia, for example, the various influencing factors (e.g. hydrological regime) were analysed in depth when designing the concept of measures, and existing scientific studies in this field were also reviewed.

Management, maintenance and development plans for Ramsar Sites in Saxony-Anhalt were likewise based on thorough scientific data surveys (particularly with regard to species and habitat types), including a number of hydrological appraisals and studies of watercourse morphology and retention areas.

Alongside the Natura 2000 field surveys, maintenance and development plans for other projects in Bavaria drew on the latest findings for those sites in line with regional standards.

UNESCO biosphere reserves are reviewed every 10 years to verify compliance with the designation criteria and assess how the area has developed. In 2005 and 2015, the Wadden Sea in Schleswig Holstein passed the reviews, and was found to have made positive progress, particularly thanks to the expansion of the development zone. The review team explicitly praised collaboration between the various stakeholders in the region.

An actual Quality Status Report was prepared in 2017 for the Wadden Sea (Wadden Sea Quality Status Report 2017) within the context of trilateral cooperation in the Wadden Sea.

Despite this, many of the population trends in the Wadden Sea, for example, cannot be adequately explained, due to a lack of sufficient knowledge about the ecology of species, their population dynamics, and the status of habitats in the breeding, resting and overwintering sites

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

*Please select only one option*

- E=Exact number (sites)

>

- F=Less than (sites)

>

- G=More than (sites)

>

- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

#### 5.7 Additional information

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

> In accordance with German law, all departments, land users, interested and affected parties are usually involved in the discussions surrounding the drafting and implementation of management plans in Ramsar

Sites. Alongside conservation and environmental departments, representatives from the water industry, agriculture and tourism sectors are also consulted in most cases. Site Management Committees are used by some Ramsar Sites to inform and involve the various interest groups and affected parties about site maintenance and development measures. There are also a number of interdisciplinary task forces responsible for drawing up waterbody development plans (e.g. in the Ramsar Sites Chiemsee, Ammersee and Starnberger See).

#### 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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact number (sites)

>

F=Less than (sites)

>

G=More than (sites)

>

C=Partially

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

#### 5.8 Additional information

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

> Virtually all completed and outstanding management plans incorporate an ecological character description. For example, field surveys have been carried out for bird sanctuaries and Sites of Community Importance (SCI) within the context of Natura 2000 management. The field survey is linked to a comprehensive inventory of Natura 2000 habitat types and species, and an assessment of the current conservation level.

The ecological conditions in selected sites are also described in reports under the Water Framework Directive, site descriptions for nomination as a World Cultural Heritage Site, and in publications (e.g. Mammen et al. (2013) on the European bird sanctuaries of Saxony-Anhalt).

The Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) are currently being updated and completed for numerous sites.

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

C=Some Sites

#### 5.9 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please indicate the year of assessment, which assessment tool did you use (e.g. METT, Resolution XII.15, and the source of the information

> To date, there has been no analysis of effective management practices in Ramsar Sites. The monitoring of Natura 2000 sites that are identical to or overlap with Ramsar Sites allows conclusions to be drawn regarding the success of management, and any required corrections to be identified based on the observed conservation status. Furthermore, in the Wadden Sea National Parks, for example, conclusions regarding management effectiveness may be drawn from the Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme (TMAP) and from the evaluation of the National Park by Europarc Germany.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

C=Some Sites

D=Planned

#### 7.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established

> The competent authorities of the Federal Länder are tasked with monitoring any ecological changes in the Ramsar Sites, and where necessary, reporting them to the Federal Ministry, which then decides whether they

should be notified to the Ramsar Secretariat pursuant to Article 3.2. Generally speaking, there are mechanisms in place at all administrative levels for pursuing any reports of threats or impairments to the site and, where necessary, forwarding them to a higher authority.

In future, compulsory monitoring of and reporting on protected Natura 2000 sites, also within the context of the Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme (TMAP), Natura 2000, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and - coming soon - the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), will provide an important basis for identifying changes in the ecological character of wetlands. Structures such as the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies (CCME) allow a rapid response in case of unforeseen incidents (such as shipping accidents).

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Some Cases
- O=No Negative Change

### 7.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some cases', please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made

> The competent authorities of the Federal Länder are tasked with monitoring any ecological changes in the Ramsar Sites. The Länder only report changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites which are considered particularly significant at national level to the Federal Government and Ramsar Secretariat. In accordance with this procedure, not all impairments were reported to the Secretariat, because - as described in 2.6.1 - there are other national mechanisms in place for investigating, assessing and tackling such effects. No German Ramsar Site has been added to the Montreux Record (MR) in recent years.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- Z=Not Applicable

### 7.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> The damming of part of the Ramsar Site 'Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart' (WII 82), approved by a planning decision in 1985 to protect a storm flood-proof dyke, prompted Germany to add the 121,620 ha site to the Montreux Record on 4 July 1990.

A 1991 ruling by the European Court of Justice declared the plans and procedures lawful, because adequate compensation measures had been adopted with legally binding effect. In particular, the ECJ asserted that the ecological character of the region would not be degraded as a result of the planned measures; rather, the ecological quality of the site would be improved in conjunction with the defined compensation measures. All compensatory and substitution measures for the coastal protection project 'Leybucht' were completed by 2005. The dyked site is protected as the nature conservation area 'Leyhorn' and as the EU bird sanctuary DE2508-401 'Krummhörn'. Land outside of the dyke is included in the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park and simultaneously the EU bird sanctuary DE2210-401 'Niedersächsisches Wattenmeer & angrenzendes Küstenmeer'.

Long-term monitoring of visiting bird populations indicates that Leybucht, as part of the wetland of international importance 'Wattenmeer: Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart', has retained its outstanding function as a resting, migration and overwintering site. Even when considered in isolation, a number of species in Leybucht continuously meet criteria 5 and 6. Populations of species that inhabit the unused salt meadows (such as the redshank) have risen sharply, while those species which used to benefit from more intensive use or intermediately from construction work (such as the avocet) are in decline.

From an avifaunist perspective, Leybucht, as part of the Ramsar Site 'Niedersächsisches Wattenmeer und angrenzendes Küstenmeer', has retained its outstanding importance as a resting, migration and overwintering site for waterbirds.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Progress
- D=Planned

#### 8.1 Additional information

> A National Wetland Inventory exists in Germany; however, it was not developed systematically in a single process, but rather has evolved over several decades. Today, it comprises various sub-inventories of wetland types (e.g. peatlands, lakes, watercourses, wet meadows, coastal inlets, Wadden Sea) which are continuously extended, supplemented and updated. The precise number of inventoried wetlands is not known. The competent Länder authorities collate data on the various wetland types (watercourses, lakes, peatlands, wet meadows, alluvial meadows etc.) using a range of criteria (biotope protection, water protection, flood protection, water supply) and methods (e.g. on-site biotope mapping, colour infrared aerial picture or satellite image evaluation), and process the information with the aid of databases and geographical information systems (GIS).

The total number of wetlands in each category cannot be stated at present, since there has been no such evaluation to date.

The wetland habitat types defined by the Habitats Directive are systematically monitored in selected random sample areas, and reporting used to develop those areas whose territory is largely identical to the Ramsar Sites.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Progress
- C1=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

#### 8.2 Additional information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 8.3 Additional information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 8.4 Additional information

> All data is available to the authorities and other institutions for the purposes of wetland assessment, the designation of protected areas and plans, as well as management and monitoring of the wetland areas. This information is also accessible to all interested groups and individuals, both via the websites of the environmental, nature conservation, water and other competent authorities at Land and Federation level, and for viewing directly at the premises of the relevant authorities themselves.

### 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 type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved

### 8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)

> a) The national report required by the Habitats Directive provides an important basis for monitoring and evaluation, and outlines the conservation status of species and habitats in areas which are entirely or partially identical to the Ramsar Sites. All Ramsar Sites in Germany overlap with the Natura-2000 network by at least 75%. The conservation status of habitat types and species under the Habitats Directive was assessed for a second time in 2013, providing a basis for the development and future adaptation of relevant management plans.

The national report required by the Habitats Directive indicates that the inland waters of the Atlantic and Continental zone are in a bad to inadequate conservation status. The peatlands of the Atlantic and Continental zone were likewise assessed as being in a bad to inadequate conservation status. In the Alpine zone, both freshwater habitats and peatlands were mainly classed as favourable but partly also as inadequate. For alluvial forest types, the conservation status in the Atlantic to Continental zone is classed as bad, and only the Alpine zone has a favourable assessment. These assessments do not refer to individual sites, but to habitat types in those biogeographical regions.

Overall, the picture is a heterogeneous one: As well as those Ramsar Sites whose status has not noticeably changed, and those which have shown a positive development, there are also some areas whose ecological status has deteriorated (reasons given: more intensive farming, lowering of the groundwater level, neophytes, the growing popularity of water sports).

b) Information concerning changes in wetlands is collated, supplemented, updated and administered in databases by the specialised authorities of the Federal Länder for more in-depth analyses, evaluations and reports. This information cannot be held for all wetlands in Germany; instead, data collation focuses primarily on surface waterbodies and wetlands which are protected / meriting protection.

The ecological status of limnetic habitats is being considered more widely as a decisive criterion when implementing the WFD. Associated measures tend to lead to an improvement in ecological status.

The LfU report on 'Monitoring of resting aquatic birds' (waterfowl census) in Bavaria, compiled since 2013, is still being prepared, and will continue to be evaluated after every future census season.

Joint status descriptions and assessments ('Quality Status Reports', QSR) are prepared at regular intervals for the Wadden Sea and the Ramsar sites it contains, in collaboration with the Netherlands and Denmark within the context of trilateral government collaboration to protect the Wadden Sea. The next Quality Status Reports 2017 was published in an online-portal.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

E=Exact Number (km<sup>2</sup>)

>

F=Less than (km<sup>2</sup>)

>

G=More than (km<sup>2</sup>)

>

A=Yes

B=No

C=Partially

D=Planned

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

### 8.6 Additional information

If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years.

> See. 8.1.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=In Preparation  
 D=Planned

9.1 Additional information

> In Germany, a national wetlands strategy is part of a wider nature conservation policy at Federal and regional level. Wetland protection plays a central role in nature conservation legislation, protection programmes and projects at national, regional and local government level. There are stand-alone protection strategies in place for certain wetland types, such as the Wadden Sea within the context of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and OSPAR Convention, the Baltic Sea in collaboration with the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), and rivers including their catchment areas such as the Rhine, Elbe and Danube within the framework of the International Commissions for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR), the Elbe (IKSE) and the Danube (IKSD), for example as part of the compiled international management plans of the WFD. The Länder have regional strategies and action programmes in place to protect watercourses, peatlands, lakes, floodplains, wet meadows and other types of wetland.

Wetlands are also a key aspect of the 2007 National Strategy on Biodiversity, outlining Germany's visions, targets and measures for the conservation and development of coastal regions and seas, lakes, rivers, flood plains and peatlands. In October 2009, the Federal Environment Ministry (BMU) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) published a national Floodplain Status Report, summarising the loss of flood plains and the status of alluvial meadows nationwide. This report is an important source of data for improving floodplain and flood protection in Germany.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=In Progress  
 D=Planned

9.2 Additional information

> Current legislation adequately reflects Germany's Ramsar commitments.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

9.3 Additional information

> By law, wetlands are considered part of the water infrastructure and hence an integral part of water resources management at river basin level. The river basin management cycle outlined in Annex Ci to Resolution IX.1 is structured along similar lines to the basic planning law procedure applicable to land and water use, e.g. in implementing the Water Framework Directive (WFD). In particular, the WFD has encouraged more intensive cooperation between regional and local authorities and river basin districts, equivalent to nature conservation and water planning authorities. In line with the WFD, groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems are viewed as indicators of the quantitative groundwater status. A good status depends on the absence of significant groundwater-related damage to groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems. Water legislation for the approval of groundwater extraction includes groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems with a view to excluding ecological damage. All affected habitats are subject to appropriate monitoring. Additionally, surface waters likewise fall under the protection of the WFD, which obliges that a good ecological and chemical status has to be ensured. The ecological status includes the typical animals and plants that live in these waters.

The WFD prescribes the development of Programmes of measures and management plans for the river basin districts, including the main river stream, the inflows with associated groundwater bodies, coastal waters and estuaries, not limited by national borders.

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}

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

#### 9.4 Additional information

> In implementing the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Federal Water Act and the water legislation of the Länder state that the general public should be informed and involved in the preparation of management plans for river basins.

Additionally, the international river basin commissions, such as the International Commissions for the Protection of the Danube, Elbe, Oder and Rhine, as well as many environmental groups, make valuable contributions to the understanding of such plans through their public relations work and educational courses, as well as by making a range of information materials publicly available.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

#### 9.5 Additional information

> Germany's strategy for adapting to climate change advocates the use of synergetic measures for a variety of climate change impacts, such as measures to improve watercourse hydromorphology. Waterbody, floodplain and peatland protection are among the Government's funding priorities.

In Lower Saxony, a new peatlands programme integrates the objectives of climate change mitigation into existing peatland protection policy, thereby reflecting the requirements of climate change mitigation and adaptation in respect of the highlands and fens.

The strategies of the International Commissions for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) and the Rhine (ICPR) also take on similar aspects.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

#### 9.6 Additional information

> In Hesse, for example, the HIAP (integrated agro-environmental programme) applies a contract-based nature conservation approach to wetlands, which has succeeded in significantly reducing the levels of fertiliser and pesticide pollution in stagnant waters and watercourses, as well as in groundwater. Extensive grazing projects have also been introduced in a number of protected wet grassland areas in Hesse (including grazing with robust cattle breeds, water buffalo, Heck cattle, horses etc.) as part of a management approach which aims to combine extensive agricultural management with the creation of biodiversity.

As part of a peatland landscapes programme unveiled to the general public in summer 2016, the government of Lower Saxony is pursuing a raft of protection, development and utilisation concepts in its peatlands to mitigate the effects of climate change. An inventory of 'Soils with high carbon contents' prepared by the State Authority for Mining, Energy and Geology (LBEG) provides an overview of the distribution and land use of carbon-rich soils in Lower Saxony, which will be used to delineate regional priority areas for climate and peatland protection measures. Greenhouse gas emissions can be effectively reduced by raising the water levels, but this inevitably restricts or prevents agricultural use of the affected land. This approach relies on cooperation with local farmers, since it usually necessitates full access to the land. In the current EU funding period 2014-2020, therefore, plans and measures for the climate-friendly agricultural management of peatland soils are supported under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) measure 'climate protection through peatland development'. A new measure, "land management for climate and environment", has also been introduced, aimed at preserving carbon-rich soils in conjunction with farmland consolidation. With the involvement of local farmers, the measure aims to identify peatlands with the capacity to store large quantities of carbon. The farmers benefit from structural improvements to improve their financial position, and the environment benefits from the rewetting of selected peatlands. This participatory tool can make an important contribution to climate protection through rural development.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, the aforementioned LIFE projects in the WII 'Unterer Niederrhein' also include aspects with the same objective.

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

### 9.7 Additional information

> A) In Thuringia, there are measures in place to protect the common crane (*Grus grus*) in the vicinity of the Helmestausee reservoir resting place near Kelbra. The research project aims, inter alia, to successfully divert common cranes away from newly sown fields. It is hoped that it will culminate in a crane-friendly management concept with a list of recommendations for farmers.

Practical model projects for the conservation and climate-friendly use of peatlands are also underway in Lower Saxony. This includes developing and trialling options for peatland management while retaining conventional agricultural use. Paludiculture is also being trialled and promoted at peatland sites, and suitable use concepts developed.

b) Regarding climate change, firstly, research is ongoing at national level, e.g. into reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and improving local hydrological regimes through peatland renaturation, and into the impacts of climate change on waterways and navigation (KLIWAS, <http://www.kliwas.de>). Secondly, a number of regions are involved in wetland research projects. The NRW State Agency for Nature, Environment and Consumer Protection (LANUV) conducted research into the impacts of climate change on sustainably managed groundwater supplies and the hydrological regime of the soil in NRW.

In Hesse, research includes a project on the impacts of climate change on sustainable groundwater management (AnKliG) and a series of projects by the Center for Environmental Systems Research (CESR) under the heading of 'INKLIM-A' (interdisciplinary research on climate change, impacts and adaptation in Hesse).

In Schleswig-Holstein, various activities and other projects were carried out in the Wadden Sea under the auspices of the task force on Coastal Protection and Sea Level Rise.

In Lower Saxony, the climate impact and adaptation research alliance KLIFF was set up to create a vital knowledge base. Key areas of research include a differentiated spatial and temporal analysis of climate change and its effects, taking into account ecological and social references, and building on this, the development of appropriate and feasible adaptation strategies. The consequences of climate change for water resources management in Lower Saxony are currently being researched by the 'KliBiW' project (Global Change - Impacts on Inland Water Resources Management). Lower Saxony is also involved in the cross-Länder research projects KLIMZUG - north and north-west 2050.

In summer 2015, as part of the research project "Bavaria's still waters in climate change - influence and adaptation", the Chair of Aquatic Systems Biology at TU Munich undertook a survey of the underwater vegetation of Lake Chiemsee on behalf of the Bavarian State Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection, with a view to recording any changes along its shoreline.

c) In a case study on ecological flood protection on the Middle Elbe it was shown that the overall economic benefits of relocating of dikes and restoration of floodplains are three times higher than their costs (cf. Grossmann, M., Hartje, V. and Meyerhoff, J. 2010: Ökonomische Bewertung naturverträglicher Hochwasservorsorge an der Elbe. NaBiV 89). In addition, as part of the project "Natural Capital Germany - TEEB DE" an estimation of the costs and benefits of different uses of drained fens, showed clear benefits of rewetting in comparison to the utilisation for renewable energies for biogas production and dairy use. There is also a socio-economic monitoring programme in the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea (SÖM Watt). The peatland protection programme also evaluated the current status of peatlands vis-à-vis their storage capacity and emission response compared with 2008, as well as the success of rewetting projects at reducing emissions and increasing C storage capacity. The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation also supported the research and development project "Peatland protection in Germany - Optimising peatland management with a view to protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services" (BfN-Skript 462, 2017). Its aim was to develop practical tools and indicators for optimising peatland management in terms of protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services.

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

## 9.8 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate How many request have been submitted

>

### 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)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Preparation
- C1=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

## 10.1 Additional information

>

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)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Preparation
- D=Planned

## 10.2 Additional information

If yes please indicate the case studies or projects documenting information and experiences concerning culture and wetlands

> For example, the "50 farms" (50-Höfe-Projekt) project by Allgäuer Moorallianz.

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)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Preparation
- D=Planned

## 10.3 Additional information

If the answer is "yes" please indicate the use or application of the guidelines

>

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)

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Preparation
- D=Planned

## 10.4 Additional information

>

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=In Preparation
- C1=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 11.1 Additional information

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

> To date there has been no comprehensive analysis of the services provided by wetland ecosystems. The assessment of individual services, such as drinking and service water supply, flood protection, climate action, hydropower, shipping, fishing, bird-watching, fishing and recreational value, is included in area-specific plans, as well as in sectoral plans by the Länder e.g. on the use of raw materials.

The Federal Environment Agency regularly publishes statistics on water supply. Information on importance to tourism tends to be recorded on a regional basis. In recent years, furthermore, flood protection has become an increasingly important consideration, prompting a growing interest in the retention capacity of wetlands, river meadows and riparian forests.

Extensive socio-economic studies have been carried out in Germany's major Wadden Sea National Parks. For the Ramsar Sites 'Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck', 'Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung' and 'Wattenmeer, Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer & Dollart', the most recent assessment of services was an evaluation report on the UNESCO biosphere reserve Lower Saxony Wadden Sea dated 25 February 2014 (see chapter 3.1 in this report, 'Updated information on ecosystem services and the beneficiaries of these services'). cf.

<http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/sites/default/files/downloads/whs-final-dossier08-01-16.pdf> and

<http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/management/whs/whs.html>.

Some rewatering projects in peatlands have calculated the achieved or anticipated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Against the background of climate reporting and the anticipated involvement of the LULUCF (Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry) group in EU climate policy (LULUCF credits can be offset against agreed EU-wide emission reduction targets), the peatland-rich Länder are currently considering a systematic survey of greenhouse gas emission reductions achieved through peatland protection projects.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 11.2 Additional information

> Developing and promoting the sustainable use of wetlands in Germany is part of a comprehensive nature conservation and environmental policy, large parts of which also serve to enforce EU legislation. Programmes to promote individual projects and utilisation forms therefore originate from various sectors, including nature conservation (LIFE), flood protection, agriculture (e.g. cultural landscape and extensification programmes) and the development of rural regions by the EU and Federal Government, and to an even greater extent by the individual Länder. The Länder have developed specific programmes and funding mechanisms depending on the landscape characteristics, with a particular attention focus on peatlands.

In Bavaria, a number of LIFE projects focusing on peatland protection have already been completed, together with the LIFE projects 'Donautal mit Hängen' and 'Aue und Oberes Maintal', completed in 2014. Bavaria's climate programme 2020 (KLIP 2020) has made some 14 million euros available since 2008 to restore the function of peatlands as natural carbon dioxide sinks, while at the same time ensuring the species diversity of these threatened habitats. There are currently some 273 projects in Bavaria focusing on wetland protection under the auspices of BayernNetz Natur.

In Brandenburg, projects to develop waterbodies from former mines (e.g. LENAB, SUBICON) contribute to wetland development.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 11.3 Additional information

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

> For centuries, inland wetlands in Germany have been influenced by man and shaped by cultural development. For the SPA and WII 'Unterer Niederrhein', the authorities were keen to promote the opportunities for experiencing nature as an important aspect of development.

In Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, socio-economic aspects were also incorporated into phased management plans and coordinated with users in line with the available financing options (e.g. various funding options for local producers). These are likewise incorporated into renaturation plans within the framework of the peatland protection programme. Peatland renaturation projects in Germany generally allow for the aforementioned aspects at the planning stage, provided they are relevant.

The Ramsar Sites 'Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck', 'Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung' and 'Wattenmeer, Ostfrisches Wattenmeer & Dollart' are located within the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park. As in Schleswig-Holstein, the National Parks Act includes the incorporation of regional requirements. Alongside developing the world natural heritage site, a trilateral tourism strategy has also been drawn up for the protection and sustainable use of the Wadden Sea.

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 11.4 Additional information

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

> For centuries, inland wetlands in Germany have been influenced by man and shaped by cultural development. Cultural heritage is considered when formulating protection strategies and when implementing management plans. As protected resources, cultural assets must by law be included in every environmental impact assessment, and the significance of any planned impairments is considered in the decision-making process. Because the participation of various interest groups and public institutions is already guaranteed by existing legislation on nature conservation, water and planning, cultural values are taken into account in the relevant wetland area.

Protecting long-established cultural landscapes (including elements such as pollarded willows, and abandoned peat workings) is a key objective for inland wetlands.

For the SPA and WII 'Unterer Niederrhein', the authorities were keen to promote the opportunities for experiencing nature as an important aspect of development.

Cultural aspects have likewise been incorporated into the management plans for Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-West Pomerania (National Park plans, nature park plans, Natura 2000 management plans).

The Ramsar Sites 'Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck', 'Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung' and 'Wattenmeer, Ostfrisches Wattenmeer & Dollart' are located within the Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park. The incorporation of regional interests is one aspect of the National Parks Act. In conjunction with developing the world natural heritage site, a trilateral tourism strategy has been drawn up to ensure the protection and sustainable use of the Wadden Sea.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

## 12.1 Additional information

> Programmes of measures by the Länder to implement the Water Framework Directive (WFD) include measures for the river basins and sub-basins. The overarching foundations are generally drawn from the nationwide floodplain status reports (cf. NaBiV 87) and reports on the system of interlinked biotopes (cf. NaBiV 96), from which recommendations may be derived, but the German Government does not designate priority sites. The planning of bird protection measures for the Natura 2000 network also entails a degree of prioritisation.

Priority sites for wetland restoration have been identified, for example in the Ramsar Site 'Niederung der Unteren Havel / Gülper See / Schollener See', and when extending retention areas along the River Elbe, as well as all Ramsar Sites in Lower Saxony. Priority restoration sites have also been defined under the protection and use concept for the peatlands of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania (peatland protection programme), which prioritises the coastal peatlands for revitalisation measures. Numerous measures are implemented as part of other nature conservation projects, particularly in fen regions (such as the Isar Valley), including land procurement, a contract-based nature conservation programme, and the Landscape Maintenance and Nature Parks Policy (LNPR). However, peatland restoration relies on improvements to the hydrological regime, and these are currently only being attempted on a small scale. Examples include the climate programme in Bavaria (cf. 1.3.2), which incorporates countless renaturation projects in peatlands. There is also a demand for such projects outside of existing Ramsar Sites. The maintenance and development plan (PEPL) for the large-scale conservation project 'Swabian Danube Valley' has identified priority areas for renaturation (primarily rewetting), with measures scheduled for implementation over the next few years.

The concept for the SPA 'Unterer Niederrhein' (LANUV 2011; largely overlaps with the wetland of international importance 'Unterer Niederrhein') includes identifying areas where action to improve the soil humidity conditions is a top priority.

Salt meadows in Ramsar Sites in Schleswig-Holstein have been rewetted during the course of coherence measures.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

## 12.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored

> As mentioned in Germany's previous report, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) has numerous projects and programmes designed to protect nature conservation areas of national importance, predominantly in wetlands (watercourses, alluvial meadows, wetland forests, peatlands and wet meadows), which are still ongoing. Large-scale projects for the conservation and restoration of wetlands are currently ongoing in eight Länder, with an average funding period of 10 years and project budgets of up to 15 million euros. Their main aim is to restore and permanently improve the ecological functions of wetlands. One such large-scale conservation project supported by the BMUB as part of the funding program "chance.natur-Bundesförderung Naturschutz" is the renaturation of the River Havel in the Ramsar Site 'Niederung der Unteren Havel/Gülpersee/Schollener See' in Saxony-Anhalt and Brandenburg.

The majority of Länder have numerous projects and funding mechanisms dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands of regional and local importance. Below, we outline a few examples indicative of the level of commitment to this topic among the Länder:

In Bavaria, examples include various LIFE projects, peatland restoration schemes under KLIP 2050, and peatland redevelopment under the 2020 climate programme.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, the measures included in the 'Unterer Niederrhein' concept, the former LIFE project 'Rieselfelder Münster' and the Schlüsselburg dam on the River Weser are continuing. In addition, various programmes (contract-based nature conservation) make an important contribution to wetland protection; meadow breeding birds and white stork protection programmes are just two examples.

In Lower Saxony, programmes to promote conservation make an important contribution towards wetland protection. Current highlights include the peatland protection programme, which is being integrated into the new 'Lower Saxony Peatland Landscapes' programme, the watercourse programme, and the LIFE+ project 'Meadow birds' (2011-2020). The latter covers the top 12 meadow bird protection areas in Lower Saxony, some of which are also Ramsar Sites. Nature conservation investment grants under the EAFRD also support the objectives of the Ramsar Convention in Lower Saxony by supporting targeted projects for the conservation, development and restoration of watercourses and their floodplains, in peatlands and wetlands. EU conservation investment grants focus on the "Natura 2000" network of protected areas, and therefore also implement the objectives of the Ramsar Convention.

In Saxony-Anhalt, the Elbe dyke is being relocated in the Steckby-Lödderitzer Forst nature reserve as part of the BMUB financially funded "chance.natur" programa large-scale conservation project in the Middle Elbe region. The affected areas are currently outside of a Ramsar Site but within the NATURA 2000 corridor. A LIFE project is also underway in the Middle Elbe region (duration: 2010-2018) at the Elbe floodplains near Vockerode, aimed at expanding retention areas and increasing the dynamics of an alluvial meadow. Projects in Thuringia include measures to upgrade bird habitats with a focus on wetland areas.

## 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?

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

### 13.1. Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> Many such measures are being implemented as part of the management plans for the Ramsar Sites.

Examples include a scheme to minimise the potential disruption from anthropogenic uses in the 'Lech-Donau-Winkel' region, and modified regulations on mussel fishing in the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 13.2 Additional information

> The competent authorities of the Federation, Länder and regional and local government regularly review any policies, programmes and plans that may impact the conservation of wetlands in accordance with the valid legal foundations, for example as the strategic environmental assessments (SEA) requirements. Within the context of implementing the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), a strategic environmental assessment is undertaken when developing programmes of measures pursuant to § 45 h of the Federal Water Act (WHG).

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Some Cases

### 13.3 Additional information

> The EIA and SEA Directives under European law have been transposed into a number of national laws (including the Construction Code (BauGB) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVPG)). Wetlands covered by Natura 2000 are protected in accordance with §§ 33ff of the Federal Nature Conservation Act (BNatSchG), which states that projects with the potential, either individually or in combination with other projects and plans, to significantly impair the site must be reviewed for their compatibility with conservation objectives before they can be approved or executed.

## 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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

15.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative  
 > Germany is intensively involved in a range of regional initiatives, which include both wetlands in general and Ramsar Sites, but which are not explicitly under the umbrella of the Ramsar Convention.

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}

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

15.2 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s)  
 > In October 2003, the trilateral Wadden Sea Collaboration joined forces with nature protection organisations to create the still functioning "International Wadden Sea School" (IWSS, <http://www.iwss.org>) to celebrate 25 years of international cooperation. The aim and task of the IWSS is to inspire appreciation of the Wadden Sea as part of our shared natural and cultural heritage among visitors to the Wadden Sea and coastal residents, and to broaden understanding of long-term, transboundary protection. It provides a platform for networking environmental education providers, provides extensive educational materials and organizes environmental education activities and workshops.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input 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 type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" 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 German Wetland CEPA Action Plan has been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat.

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

Please select only one option

E=Exact Number (centres)

> 56

F=Less than (centres)

>

G=More than (centres)

>

C=Partially

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

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

Please select only one option

E=Exact Number (centres)

>

F=Less than (centres)

>

G=More than (centres)

>

C=Partially

X=Unknown

Y=Not Relevant

## 16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks

> A 2001 publication by Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (German Federal Environmental Federation, DBU) identified more than 500 environmental, nature conservation and educational centres in Germany, many of them in wetlands, particularly on rivers and in peatlands. We do not have any more accurate figures at present.

Germany's 34 Ramsar Sites are home to at least 56 permanent information or educational centres, and educational work is also carried out on a project-specific basis. Ramsar Sites within large nature reserves are supported by the educational and information centres of those areas (such as the Wattenmeer, Ostufer Müritz and Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft National Parks. Niedersächsische Elbtalaue, Mittlere Elbe, Schaalseegebiet, Peenetal and Stettiner Haff are examples of Ramsar Sites served by the visitor centres of the relevant biosphere reserves and nature parks).

Various wetlands of international importance operate nature conservation facilities with the support of the respective Land government, such as National Parks buildings and centres in the Wadden Sea, nature conservation stations in the Untere Elbe, Dümmer and Steinhuder Meer regions, and the government nature conservation centre Obere Donau in the transboundary Ramsar Site 'Oberrhein-Rhin supérieur'.

Conservation groups also provide essential educational work, such as the NABU nature conservation station at Kranenburg (WII 'Unterer Niederrhein'), the biological station in Wesel (WII 'Unterer Niederrhein'), the BUND nature conservation centre Möggingen, the NABU nature conservation centre Radolfzell (WII 'Bodensee Wolmatinger Ried & Mindelsee'), the NABU centre Rheinauen (WII 'Rheinauen bei Eltville und Bingen') and the Wartaweil nature conservation and youth centre on Lake Ammersee (WII 'Ammersee').

Educational work is not confined to existing centres, but also includes a range of lectures, guided tours and exhibitions for local residents, tourists, schools and other interested groups prompted by renaturation projects, annual conferences (e.g. WWD) and special seasonal events.

The ICPR has just published a map with corresponding visitor centers for the river basin of the Rhine, also in English, see <https://www.iksr.org/en/visitors-center/> A flyer has also been compiled

## 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  
 > The general public is involved in decision-making processes affecting wetlands, waterbodies and their protection; this is in fact a legal requirement under German law. The respective participation procedures are legally binding and include, inter alia, that the competent authorities are required to ensure that the general public is suitably informed about the opportunities for participation.

### 16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 16.4 Additional information

If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP12; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has  
 > A National Ramsar Committee has existed in Germany since 1993. It is headed up by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and is formally composed of representatives from the BMUB, the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the nature conservation ministries of the Länder, and relevant research institutions, conservation groups and land user groups. Given the current priorities in European nature conservation, the national Ramsar Committee plays only a subordinate role at present. As the Länder are tasked with implementing nature conservation under Germany's federal structure, in future the Ramsar Committee could help to improve communications and link the networks of Natura 2000 and Ramsar sites together.

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

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 16.5 Additional information

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

### 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
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## 16.6 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please describe what mechanisms are in place

> An adequate number of established communication channels exist between the competent authorities, departments and institutions to facilitate information sharing. With the ongoing implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD), these are assisted by new management structures, based on river basin districts, as well as new communication channels and working methods.

## 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}

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No

### 16.7 Additional information

> Selected Ramsar Sites have been organising events for many years, some of which have a local theme and are relevant to the Ramsar Convention.

Examples include events on the Upper Rhine, where a specialist annual conference to mark Ramsar World Wetlands Day is hosted in alternate years by France and Germany, addressing current issues in the German-French Ramsar Site Oberrhein / Rhin supérieur. The biosphere reserve Mittlere Elbe, which includes the Ramsar Site Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow, likewise regularly holds events to mark World Wetlands Day (in 2017, for example, two migratory bird-themed excursions).

In recent years, numerous press releases have also been published by various large organisations and institutions.

## 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}

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

### 16.8 Additional information

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

> In 2010, the sustainable development college Akademie für Nachhaltige Entwicklung Mecklenburg-Vorpommern launched a communications and educational project highlighting the importance of intact peatlands for climate change mitigation and biodiversity. "MoorFutures" were developed as an alternative financing mechanism for peatland protection, by placing a value on the ecosystem and climate action services provided by peatlands. This environmental investment vehicle quantifies the ability to store carbon, in order to compensate for climate-damaging activities. 1 MoorFuture is equivalent to 1 tonne of carbon dioxide. In September 2016, the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, the Danish Nature Agency and the Greifswald Moor Centrum held an international workshop on the island of Vilm entitled "Peatland protection is climate change mitigation".

Other examples of recent national and regional information campaigns designed to raise awareness of wetlands and their significance in Germany include the following: In November 2017, the BfN organised a side event entitled "Towards a new compact on peatlands for climate protection" as part of UNFCCC during COP 23.

- The importance of wetlands for human beings and their ecosystem services is a recurrent theme in public relations work by the three National Parks administrations of the German Wadden Sea. The network of National Park partners (<https://nationalpark-partner-sh.de/>) is constantly expanding, and currently includes more than 150 partners. In Schleswig-Holstein, 2016 was named "National Parks Theme Year" focusing on "saltmarshes". Schools and nurseries that include the Wadden Sea National Park as a focus of their lessons or educational projects can apply to the national parks administration to become a "national park school" (since 2011) or "national park nursery" (since 2015). Some 20 schools and 4 nurseries are currently collaborating with the national parks administration as part of this project.
- In Bavaria, Ramsar Sites with site managers have conducted numerous information campaigns as part of their PR work. Each year, a range of excursions is offered by ARGE Donaumoos highlighting the importance of wetlands. The museum in Bächingen also offers regular horse-drawn carriage rides to Moos and holiday programmes for children and young adults.

In August 2016, the Bavarian State Minister for the Environment and Consumer Protection, together with

representatives of ornithological associations, volunteers and representatives of the nature conservation authorities, held an official ceremony to mark the 50th international waterbird census.

• In recent years, the environmental college 'Landeslehrstätte für Naturschutz und nachhaltige Entwicklung Mecklenburg-Vorpommern' has organised a number of wetland protection-themed events (including water retention and peatland revitalisation in forests - theory and practice; colloquium on the protection of peatlands in Mecklenburg-West Pomerania - status and perspectives; the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) - 10 more years to good status; symposium on the European marine strategy - clean, healthy oceans by 2020; coastal and meadow bird protection, current developments and predation; species protection and nature conservation in waterbody maintenance; practical workshop on new approaches to waterbody maintenance; workshops on coastal bird-friendly management on Kirr island; the monetary value of intact vs. impaired nature).

## 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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

Z=Not Applicable

17.1b If 'No' in 17.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment

>

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

### 17.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities

> Transport was provided for attendees at Ramsar events.

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

Z=Not Applicable

### 17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12

> The winners of the "UN Climate Solutions Awards", presented to 19 projects at the UNFCCC COP23, include a German-Russian project by Wetlands International and the Michael Succow Foundation, focusing on the preservation and rewetting of peatlands, initially in the Moscow region, and later extended to include other areas, such as Oblast Twer. With over 35,000 hectares of rewetted peatlands, it is now one of the most successful projects of its kind.

The German Environment Ministry's International Climate Initiative (ITI) has funded or is funding a number of projects in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Mali, Ethiopia, Panama and South-East Asia.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ) has its own water division, tasked with achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Germany is the world's second-largest bilateral donor in the water sector, with an annual spend of around 350 million euros on bilateral measures in 28 priority countries. Of this, 2% is allocated to water resource conservation, 9% to water resources policy and administration, 0.3% to river development and regulation, 26.7% to the basic supply of drinking water and wastewater disposal, particularly in rural regions, and 1% to education and training on water supply and disposal. Just under half of the funds benefit rural systems, with 56% being channelled into large-scale water and wastewater systems, generally in urban areas ([www.bmz.de](http://www.bmz.de)).

As part of its commitment to preserving biodiversity, BMZ also supports numerous projects worldwide for the protection and sustainable management of wetlands.

Development cooperation is divided into two areas: financial cooperation provided by Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Reconstruction Loan Corporation, KfW,) and technical cooperation provided predominantly by Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

The projects, such as the "Management of the Sundarbans Mangrove Forest to Conserve Biodiversity and Improve Adaptation to Climate Change" in Bangladesh, which covers over 10,000 square kilometers of UNESCO World Heritage Site and Ramsar Wetlands, promotes a sustainable development and the conservation of ecological functions of wetlands (<https://www.giz.de/de/weltweit/37949.html>). With the financial cooperation Germany supports 5,468 km<sup>2</sup> of wetlands worldwide (current projects, as of 2016: [https://www.bmz.de/de/mediathek/publikationen/reihen/infobroschueren\\_flyer/infobroschueren/Materialie240\\_biologische\\_vielfalt.pdf](https://www.bmz.de/de/mediathek/publikationen/reihen/infobroschueren_flyer/infobroschueren/Materialie240_biologische_vielfalt.pdf)). Of particular importance for conflict prevention over water resources are projects such as the "Cross-Border Water Cooperation in the Nile Basin" to strengthen the Nile Basin Initiative as an example of integrated cross-border water resource management; the project has been supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) since 2002 and is implemented by GIZ (<https://www.giz.de/de/weltweit/14940.html>).

In total, around one-third of the BMZ budget is allocated to multilateral development cooperation, whose objectives include the achievement of MDGs and the eradication of poverty. Within this framework, the BMZ and the German Government collaborate closely with international organizations, including the 'Water and Sanitation Program' (WSP) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

As well as development work under the direct control of the Federal government, BMZ, KfW and GIZ also fund projects to promote wetland protection and develop integrated water resource management mechanisms. Participation is a basic principle of Germany's development cooperation. For all projects supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) relating to wetland protection, co-management is an important consideration.

To ensure that protected wetlands continue to be politically, socially and globally relevant to global biodiversity conservation, they must be managed effectively and in a socially responsible manner and integrated ecologically and socio-economically into the surrounding landscape. Co-management of these areas is an important element to fully promote social justice in nature conservation.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.4 Additional information

> Since 2011, the implementation of an Environmental and Climate Impact Assessment (ECIA) has been a binding element in the planning and implementation of BMZ development policy strategies and measures. The aim of the ECIA is to ensure that planning and implementation of policies or measures, adverse effects on the environment and the climate are avoided or reduced, (additional) potentials for improved environmental quality and avoidance of greenhouse gases is achieved in all sectors / programs. Climate change impacts and adaptive capacities are increased. The ECIA guidelines should be applied in the development of country strategies as well as partner-related sector strategies and bilateral programs.

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}

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.6 Additional information

If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 18.1 Additional information

> The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) coordinates the various activities at national level.

Until now, the national focal points of other MEAs have not been invited to participate in the National Ramsar Committee. It is perfectly possible that the focal points of other regional or international MEAs will be invited to participate in future work on thematically relevant issues.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 18.2 Additional information

> There are no defined mechanisms, but collaboration takes place as and when necessary.

The Focal Point for the UNECE Water Convention is in contact with representatives of the Ramsar Secretariat who regularly attend events of the Water Convention. From time to time reports are jointly elaborated, e.g. the second assessment of the status of transboundary waters in the UNECE region, including statements on Ramsar sites, see <http://www.unece.org/?id=26343>

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).

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 18.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' please name the agency (es) or IOP (s) and the type of assistance received

> Germany has not received any support from the mentioned UN and other global, worldwide and regional organizations (bodies and agencies). Germany is a member of IUCN and Wetlands Internationale and financially supports their work for the protection of wetlands.

Many national conservation groups in Germany help to protect and conserve wetlands and waterbodies by implementation of local, regional and national projects. These include the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU), which is a Birdlife Partner at international level. WWF Germany also focuses on the protection and conservation or restoration of wetlands, and the management of water catchment areas. This is visible, firstly, in diverse projects by its offices throughout the North and Baltic Sea coast and in the Wadden Sea, and in innovative large-scale conservation projects on the Middle Elbe and Lake Schaalsee in Schleswig-Holstein. Secondly, the WWF also promotes integrated waterbody management at national and European level through its involvement in the River Basin Commissions for the Elbe, Rhine, Danube and Oder, for example.

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}

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 18.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved

> Since reunification, Germany has made a particular effort to step up its cooperation with eastern and south-eastern European countries in the field of nature conservation. To this end, the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation's (BfN) international conservation academy on the island of Vilm organises seminars, workshops and expert meetings to encourage the exchange of information and experience. The Länder's nature conservation academies, including those in Bavaria (ANL), North Rhine-Westphalia (NUA) and Lower Saxony (NNA), are likewise engaged in training specialist conservation personnel in Germany and in eastern Europe. LIFE nature projects encourage expert exchanges at a regional/local level through conferences and excursions. Cooperation arrangements and multilateral agreements exist in the transboundary Ramsar Sites ('Wattenmeer', 'Oberrhein', 'Unterer Niederrhein', 'Unteres Odertal', 'Unterer Inn', 'Bayerische Wildalm') and other wetlands (such as Saar-Moselle, Danube, Oder-Neiße, Elbe) and provide a framework for the intensive exchange of information. Examples of transboundary cooperation include Germany's cooperation with Austria in the EuRegio Salzburg/Berchtesgadener Land/Traunstein: 'Moor & Torf' and is part of the INTERREG project 'Moor & More am Wilden Kaiser'. Networks also exist with other wetlands in Europe and further afield which are organised autonomously by individuals, nature conservation groups and scientific institutions. The following twinning arrangements are still ongoing:

- The trilateral Wadden Sea collaboration is coordinated through the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS - [www.waddensea-secretariat.org](http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org)) with The Wash-Northern Norfolk, Guinea Bissau, Mauretania and South Korea.

-The Interred-project PROWAD project highlighted the opportunities and prospects of sustainable socio-economic development in the Danish-German-Dutch Wadden Sea region associated with its recognition as a UNESCO world natural heritage site. The project also analysed the potential for sustainable tourism, and stakeholders from the conservation and tourism sectors attended regional workshops to develop a vision and shared goals and principles for sustainable tourism in the Wadden Sea ([www.prowad.org](http://www.prowad.org)).

- Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft National Park with the Lahemaa National Park in Estonia

- Unteres Odertal National Park with the Biebrza National Park in Poland

- Ramsar Site Rieselfelder Münster with the Donaudelta National Park in Rumania, Kamanos reserve in Lithuania and Djoudj National Park in Senegal ([www.rieselfelder-muenster.de](http://www.rieselfelder-muenster.de)).

In 2012, the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI) launched two monitoring and capacity-building projects in close collaboration with the 'Conservation of Migratory Birds (CMB)' project. Various seminars on capacity-building and monitoring have been held in West Africa (Ghana, Angola, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania & Senegal). In the Netherlands, the 'Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative' is supported by the 'Programma naar en rijke Waddenzee' and Germany's BMUB, and coordinated by the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS) in coordination with the WSFI steering group.

German conservation groups also continue to support wetlands in Europe and other continents through their project work, e.g.:

- EURONATUR ([www.euronatur.de](http://www.euronatur.de)) is committed to the protection of wetlands for migratory birds and coastal regions, with projects primarily in the Save, Drau and Mur river basins, the Narew region (Poland) and Lake Skadar in Montenegro.

- Global Nature Fund is involved in a number of projects to protect and manage European wetlands and lakes assisted by EU funding. ([www.livingwetlands.org](http://www.livingwetlands.org) and [www.livinglakes.org](http://www.livinglakes.org)).

- At national level, WWF Germany operates primarily in the Elbe river basin, especially the large-scale conservation project on the Middle Elbe. At European level, the WWF also assists with the development of integrated river basin management and renaturation work. WWF Germany's international priorities are to promote nature conservation and natural resources work, including technical training in various river basin districts ([www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)).

#### 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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 18.5 Additional information

> The status of all designated wetland areas with protected status, as defined by the protection categories of the Federal Nature Conservation Act, is published in the official journal of the Länder / Gesetz- und

Verordnungsblatt (Länder Gazette) / Ministerialblatt (Ministerial Gazette) or in the Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) (with reference to the National Parks Act, the Act or regulation on Biosphere Reserves, and Ordinances on the Nature Conservation Act).

For the majority of protected wetlands, including less-protected sites, public relations work includes publishing and distributing information materials about their conservation status, objectives and measures, drawn up by the competent institutions or NGOs that manage them, either as printed publications or websites.

Many of Germany's 34 Ramsar Sites have their own website, which is maintained either by the administration body or a conservation group (e.g. [www.ramsar-bw.de](http://www.ramsar-bw.de), [www.wattenmeer-nationalpark.de](http://www.wattenmeer-nationalpark.de), [www.naturschutzring-duemmer.de](http://www.naturschutzring-duemmer.de), [www.bskw.de](http://www.bskw.de), [www.ramsar-ammersee.de](http://www.ramsar-ammersee.de), [www.nationalpark-mueritz.de](http://www.nationalpark-mueritz.de), [www.unteres-odertal.de](http://www.unteres-odertal.de), [www.nabu-rheinauen.de](http://www.nabu-rheinauen.de), [www.nabu-wollmatingerried.de](http://www.nabu-wollmatingerried.de), [www.lbv-starnberg.de](http://www.lbv-starnberg.de), [www.weseraue.de](http://www.weseraue.de)). All Ramsar Sites are presented under various categories, but not always with an explicit reference to their status as wetlands of international importance. There is currently no joint Internet presence for all Ramsar Sites in Germany. WWF Germany's website provides an overview of the Convention and Germany's Wetlands of International Importance.

Most of the Länder, who are responsible for the implementing nature conservation in Germany, have their own websites for the Natura-2000 sites, whose territory includes the relevant Ramsar Sites. (e.g. [www.ramsar-bw.de](http://www.ramsar-bw.de), [www.natura2000-bw.de](http://www.natura2000-bw.de), [www.umwelt.nrw.de](http://www.umwelt.nrw.de), <http://www.naturschutz-fachinformationssysteme-nrw.de/natura2000-meldedok/de/start>, <http://www.mu.sachsen-anhalt.de/start/fachbereich04/schutzgebiete/main.htm>, [http://www.nlwkn.niedersachsen.de/naturschutz/natura\\_2000/downloads\\_zu\\_natura\\_2000/downlo\\_ads-zu-natura-2000-46104.html](http://www.nlwkn.niedersachsen.de/naturschutz/natura_2000/downloads_zu_natura_2000/downlo_ads-zu-natura-2000-46104.html)).

Some Länder provide information on all protected areas and are planning a dedicated website for their Ramsar Sites, or offer more in-depth information on wetlands, such as the landscape programme Gutachtliches Landschaftsprogramm Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (<http://ikzm-oder.de/download.php?fileid=456>).

Various publications on protected areas also cover Ramsar Sites (e.g. Mammen et al. (2013) on European bird sanctuaries in Saxony-Anhalt).

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

18.6 Additional Information

>

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned  
 Z=Not Applicable

18.7 Additional information

> The existing transboundary river basins and water catchment areas in Germany were identified in previous years within the context of implementing the WFD. There are ten relevant river basins in Germany, of which eight have an international character. International agreements exist for the vast majority of these river basins, and their management is coordinated within this framework. Apart from implementing the Water Framework Directive, the International Commissions set up for most of these river basins have established fundamental objectives: general protection from pollution, improving water quality, coordinating flood protection, and making all aquatic and interlinked terrestrial ecosystems as natural as possible, as well as reinforcing the mutual exchange of information.

As such, transboundary cooperation in waterbody management is one of the key foundations of an integrative protection strategy and cooperative management mechanism for transboundary river basins.

Intensive relationships have existed for many years in the transboundary Ramsar Sites - 'Wattenmeer', 'Unterer Niederrhein', 'Unterer Inn', 'Wildalm', 'Unteres Odertal' and 'Oberrhein' - to coordinate protective measures and facilitate management. The Wadden Sea has a range of multilateral mechanisms and management plans, including the trilateral government cooperation, the Joint Declaration on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, a joint Wadden Sea Secretariat, the trilateral Wadden Sea Plan (WSP) and the Trilateral Monitoring & Assessment Programme (TMAP). Since 2016, the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea National Park has been part of a transboundary Ramsar Site. The Declaration of Tönder from 2014 laid the foundations for developing one large, transboundary "Wadden Sea Ramsar Site".

The maintenance and development requirements of all transboundary protected areas, including those which

incorporate inland wetlands or coastal sections, are also covered by a BfN project.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned
- Y=Not Relevant

#### 18.8 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place

> Multilateral agreements and conventions have been concluded and river basin district commissions are in place for the protection, management, monitoring and sustainable management of the Wadden Sea, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea, together with all major river basins which Germany shares with neighbouring countries. They owe their effectiveness primarily to transboundary, and in some cases trans-sectoral, cooperation.

There are coordinated management arrangements in place for the German-French Ramsar site 'Oberrhein'. Transboundary cooperation exists in the Wadden Sea, the Upper Rhine, Lake Constance and the Lower Inn for international waterfowl censuses.

In developing management plans for Natura-2000 sites, joint development and conservation concepts will also be devised for other wetlands of international in proximity to national borders: 'Unterer Niederrhein', 'Unterer Inn zwischen Haiming und Neuhaus', 'Unteres Odertal bei Schwedt' (German-Polish Commission for the River Oder) and 'Bayerische Wildalm'.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 18.9 Additional information

> Wetland-dependent migratory species are taken into account when coordinating regular nationwide (and regional) surveys (waterbird censuses) and targeted surveys of specific species (e.g. censuses of whooper and Bewick's swans, lapwings and golden plovers, cormorants) as part of bird species monitoring by the competent Länder authorities.

At regional level, the bird monitoring agreements between the BfN and the Länder includes the monitoring of resting waterbirds, which is carried out by Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten e.V., relevant associations, and the ornithological stations of the Länder.

In Hesse, a number of official and/or voluntary conservation networks and organisations are dedicated to migratory species and improving their conservation status. Examples include guardian networks for species such as beavers, European pond terrapins and the salmon project 'Lachs 2000'.

In Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, a transboundary network of government authorities, NGOs and scientists are involved in a project to reintroduce the sturgeon in the Oder river basin.

The Wadden Sea region is covered by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

#### 19.1 Additional information

> No such assessment has been undertaken to date; the structures and capacities of the management institutions and responsibilities in the individual Ramsar Sites also vary considerably.

A comprehensive German-language information campaign about Ramsar Sites, their implementation and their benefits could inspire fresh interest, for example in the tourism sector.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

### 19.2 Additional information

If you answer yes to the above please provide information on which mechanisms and materials

> Not systematically. However, this topic is often addressed in schools, for example in project weeks etc.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- E=Exact number (opportunities)

>

- F=Less than (opportunities)

>

- G=More than (opportunities)

>

- C=Partially
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- E=Exact number (Opportunities)

>

- F=Less than (Opportunities)

>

- G=More than (Opportunities)
- C=Partially
- X=Unknown
- Y=Not Relevant

### 19.3 Additional information

including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training

> a) There are currently no education and training programmes for the managers of Germany's Ramsar Sites specifically dedicated to implementation of the Ramsar Convention's tasks and targets. However, each year, various organisations hold events relating to the Ramsar Convention.

b) Furthermore, the nature conservation academies of individual Länder regularly stage educational events for personnel working in protected wetlands, site managers and other interested parties. These tend to focus primarily on management issues in the relevant landscapes. For example, twice a year the National Parks administrative authorities hold training events for site managers. Regional certification courses for nature and landscape guides (ZNL) in based on the uniform nationwide standard include basic knowledge of ecology and environmental correlations. Certified nature and landscape guides must also practice regular continuing professional development (CPD), and the annual curriculum offered by the 'Landeslehrstätte für Naturschutz und nachhaltige Entwicklung' college in Mecklenburg-West Pomerania is a popular choice, as it offers a wide range of specialist events, including some on wetland management. There is also interest in specific events and courses on the Ramsar Convention in the German language, which could be a way of sharing content and approaches for particular applications.

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned
- Z=Not Applicable

#### 19.4 Additional information

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

> The National Report Format is a helpful instrument in documenting and planning activities associated with the Ramsar Convention. The drafting process and associated agreements with and between the Länder and national government authorities permits the assessment of activities; however, the report does not have a monitoring function.

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

##### Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

##### Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

>

##### Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

>

##### 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

>

##### Target 1: Wetland benefits - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

>

### Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 2: Water Use - Additional Information

>

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

#### Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

#### Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

>

#### Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

>

#### 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

>

#### Target 3: Public and private sectors - Additional Information

>

#### **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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

>

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

>

##### 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

>

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

#### Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

#### Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

>

#### Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

>

#### 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

>

#### Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

>

### Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 7: Sites at risk - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

#### Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

#### Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

>

#### Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

>

#### 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

>

#### Target 8: National wetland inventories - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

>

### Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 9: Wise Use - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

>

### Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 11: Wetland functions - National Targets

>

### Target 11: Wetland functions - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 11: Wetland functions - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

>

### Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 12: Restoration - Additional Information

>

### 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

#### Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

#### Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

>

#### Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

>

#### 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

>

#### Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

#### Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

#### Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

>

#### Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

>

#### 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

>

#### Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

>

### Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

>

### Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 17: Financial and other resources - Additional Information

>

## Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

### Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

>

### Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 18: International cooperation - Additional Information

>

## 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

*Please select only one option*

- A=High
- B=Medium
- C=Low
- D=Not relevant
- E=No answer

### Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing

*Please select only one option*

- A=Good
- B=Adequate
- C=Limiting
- D=Severely limiting
- E=No answer

### Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

>

### Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

>

### 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

>

### Target 19: Capacity Building - Additional Information

>

## **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.

### **Germany**

#### **Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow (1307)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder

involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Ammersee (93)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No

D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> see #90

### **Bayerische Wildalm (1723)**

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

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.

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

C=Partially

D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

C=Partially

Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

C=Partially

Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

### **Bodensee: Wollmatinger Ried - Giehrenmoos & Mindelsee (89)**

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

*Please select only one option*

A=Yes

B=No

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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Chiemsee (95)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> see #90

## **Diepholzer Moorniederung (86)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> See #85

## **Donauauen & Donaumoos (90)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> Wherever possible, socio-economic and cultural values are incorporated into the Natura2000 management plans.

## **Dümmer (85)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> On-site management activities for protected areas are closely coordinated with the competent nature conservation agencies, with the involvement of relevant local stakeholders.

## **Elbauen, Schnackenburg-Lauenburg (84)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> On-site management activities for biosphere reserves by the administrative body are closely coordinated with the local nature conservation authorities, with the selective involvement of relevant local stakeholders.

## **Galenbecker See (177)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Hamburgisches Wattenmeer (501)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra (176)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> An SPA management plan exists for the portion of the wetland of international importance located in Saxony-Anhalt. A management plan is being drawn up for Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) in Thuringia that overlap with a wetland on the Ramsar list.

## **Ismaninger Speichersee & Fischeichen (92)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> Wherever possible, socio-economic and cultural values are incorporated into the Natura2000 management plans.

(Re 5.9: Waterfowl and habitat monitoring every 2-4 weeks, annual status report)

Re 11.3: Not addressed by the Ismaning management concept, but structural socio-economic benefits associated with secondary clarification of the purified water that feeds into the pond).

## Krakower Obersee (171)

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## Lech-Donau-Winkel (91)

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> see #90

## Mühlenberger Loch (561)

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Niederelbe, Barnkrug-Otterndorf (83)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Niederung der Unteren Havel/Gölper See/Schollener See (173)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Oberrhein / Rhin Supérieur (1809)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Ostseeboddengäwasser Westrügen-Hiddensee-Zingst (170)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> Cultural values are outlined in the National Parks plan. Stakeholders are involved in national parks planning by the NLP administration.

## **Ostufer Müritz (172)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Peitzer Teichgebiet (175)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Rheinauen zwischen Eltville und Bingen (88)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

>

## **Rieselfelder Münster (277)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> 11.1, 11.3, 11.4: Covered by the programme of measures for the SPA that includes the Ramsar Site.

16.6: Covered by cooperation between the Land government, district administration and county on the one hand, and the on-site biological station responsible for managing the SPA on the other.

## **Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea and adjacent areas (537)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

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## **Starnberger See (94)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site  
> see #90

### **Steinhuder Meer (87)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site  
> see #85

### **Unterer Inn, Haiming-Neuhaus (96)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No

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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> see #90

## **Unterer Niederrhein (279)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> 5.7: No formal management committee, but the relevant stakeholders convene at regular intervals during the course of implementing the programme of measures for the SPA Unterer Niederrhein (which includes most of the Ramsar Site).

11.1,11.3, 11.4: Covered by the programme of measures for the SPA Unterer Niederrhein, which includes large parts of the Ramsar Site.

16.3: Covered by the programme of measures for the SPA Unterer Niederrhein, which includes large parts of the Ramsar Site.

16.6: see #277

## **Unteres Odertal, Schwedt (174)**

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

Please select only one option

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

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## **Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck (80)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes

- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

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## **Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung (81)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- C=Partially
- Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes
- B=No
- D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

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## **Wattenmeer, Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer & Dollart (82)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

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## **Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg (278)**

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 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.

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 C=Partially  
 Z=No Management Plan

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

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

*Please select only one option*

- A=Yes  
 B=No  
 D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site

> 5.7: No formal management committee. However, a programme of bird protection measures for the SPA Weseraue (which includes the Ramsar Site) has been prepared in a cooperative process between stakeholders since 2014.

11.1, 11.3, 11.4: Covered by the programme of measures for the SPA Weseraue, which includes the Ramsar Site.

16.3: Covered by the programme of bird protection measures for the SPA Weseraue (which includes the Ramsar Site).

16.6: see #277