



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

**National Reports to be submitted to the 13th Meeting
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,
Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 2018**

The purpose of this Microsoft Word form is to help Contracting Parties to collect data for the National Report. However, the data collected through this form must be transferred to the online National Reporting system at [link](#) by xxx 2017 for the official submission of the National Report.

National Report to Ramsar COP13

Section 1: Institutional Information

Important note: the responses below will be considered by the Ramsar Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points, and will be used to update the information it holds. The Secretariat's current information about your focal points is available at <http://www.ramsar.org/search-contact>.

Name of Contracting Party: **INDIA**

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority:	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Mr Anil Kumar Jain, Additional Secretary
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Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

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

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Name of organisation:	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
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Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title:	Ms Manju Pandey, Joint Secretary
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Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title:	Dr K. Sankar, Director
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Name of organisation:	Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON)
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Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges

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

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

1) The Wetlands (Conservation & Management) Rules, 2017 were notified on 26.09.2017 to provide national scale regulatory architecture for wetlands. The rules build on the wetlands wise use approach and call for a devolved institutional structure through the constitution of wetland authorities at the state level. As per the rules, ecological character description would provide the basis for regulation of site. The rules prohibit the conversion of wetland for non-wetland uses including encroachment of any kind, setting up and expansion of industries, waste dumping and discharge of untreated wastes and effluents from industries, cities, towns, villages and other human settlements.

2) 5 regional workshops organised in 2017 to assist wetlands managers in developing and implementing integrated management plans to secure the full range of biodiversity and ecosystem service values.

3) Process for revision of RSIS for 25 sites was initiated. The Ramsar site managers were provided with hands-on training on the use of the electronic system for updating of RSIS.

4) TII (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity India Initiative) was concluded in 2017. The initiative envisioned mainstreaming of ecosystem services and biodiversity values in developmental programming using an evidence building approach for three ecosystem types, namely wetlands, forests and coastal and marine ecosystems. The wetlands synthesis was published in January 2017 and has been proactively disseminated to the state governments for implementation.

5). Management plans for three Ramsar Sites (Ashtamudi, Sasthamkotta, Vembanad-Kol) were updated to determine changes in ecological character and ensure that proposed actions are sufficient to address adverse drivers of change. A model ecological character description and evaluation was completed for Chilika Lake, as part of management review and adaptation.

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

1) The biodiversity centric criteria for site designation are increasingly falling short in considering significance of wetlands in regulating hydrological regimes and thus making landscapes water secure.

2) The Convention does not link to a financial mechanism for supporting management of Ramsar Sites, building capacities for site management, or promoting outreach on wetland values and functions.

3) Regional level mechanisms for monitoring health of designated Ramsar Sites are lacking. It was suggested by India in a theme paper for Asian Regional Meeting to have a team of two to three experts from the neighbouring countries to assess management interventions in Ramsar sites to prevent any adverse change in ecological character.

4) Convention, as of yet, does not provide an efficient mechanism for sharing best practices, lessons and challenges in the implementation of wetland management programmes. Such processes need to be strengthened.

5) A majority of Convention Guidance does not directly address the day to day challenges faced by wetland managers. There is a very limited practical demonstration of concepts and approaches contained in the guidance.

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

1) Promoting integrated management of wetlands, particularly their mainstreaming in developmental planning and decision making. Emphasis will also be placed on creating cross sectoral governance mechanisms at the State level.

2) Enhancing capacity building programmes for wetland managers in designing and implementing integrated wetland management programmes. Participatory and diagnostic approaches for wetland management planning will be promoted.

3) Improving research – management interface in wetland conservation and wise use. Research aimed at improving effectiveness of site management will be made an integral part of implementation of site management plans. Emerging issues as assessing vulnerability of wetlands in changing climate will be commissioned.

4) Assessing management effectiveness for representative wetlands. It is also proposed to put in place a generic mechanism for periodic management effectiveness assessment to inform necessary adaptations in implementation of NPCA scheme.

5) Improving communication and outreach on wetlands. Curricula for school children, teachers and graduate level students are envisaged to be developed as a means of changing societal behaviour towards wetlands and promote conservation stewardship of these 'kidneys of landscape'.

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

A meeting of STRP members can be convened for the wetlands managers. The Convention can also make available best practices and lessons from site management and integration in landscape and seascape scale development planning. The Secretariat can also assist in shaping up of a South Asia regional initiative to cater to the implementation needs of South Asian countries.

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)

Wetlands International South Asia has been providing technical assistance to the Ministry on the implementation of Convention and strengthening overall wetlands conservation programme. It is recommended that the organization pursues implementation of Ramsar Convention commitments with states and further develop implementation capacity.

- 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)?

In line with the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, India has formulated 12 National Biodiversity Targets. Wetlands find direct reference under Target 3 (Strategies for reducing rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss of natural habitats are finalized and actions put in place by 2020), Target 6 (ecologically representative areas on land and in inland waters, as well as coastal and marine zones, especially those of particular importance for species, biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved effectively and equitably), and Target 8 (by 2020, ecosystem services, especially those related to water, human health and livelihoods and well-being are enumerated and measures to safeguard them are identified). Nationally, as Ministry is the focal point for all environment-related MEAs, there are synergies in implementation. However, an analysis of opportunities for integrating wetlands in the strategic plans / implementation plans across all Conventions will be a useful reference point for Contracting Parties.

- 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)?

Under the aegis of Niti Aayog, a process of firming up SDG indicators and implementation plan are in progress. In 2016, the National Disaster Management Plan was released, which calls for proactive actions for risk reduction through measures such as wetlands conservation and restoration. Guidelines for flagship scheme of urban development (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) lay stress on environmental sustainability. The policy framework thus provides several hooks for linking Convention implementation with national strategies. Such synergies can be actualized through better evidence building, proof of concepts, and intersectoral communication.

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

Some of the areas wherein implementation of Convention can be strengthened are:

- a) inclusion of ecosystem services, particularly water-related services as criteria for site designation;
- b) improving interface with Administrative Authorities, particularly on the technical matters related to integrated management of wetlands;
- c) improving exchange of information on best practices and lessons learnt;
- d) emphasis on capacity development of wetland managers to implement wise use.

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

Compilation of the National Report has been supported by information sourced from a number of Ministries, key being Water Resources, Agriculture, Rural Development, Tourism, Pollution Control Boards. Wetlands Inventory information was sourced from Space Application Center. Several State Governments, Wetland Authorities and subject matter experts have also contributed information to the Report.

Section 3: Planning of national targets, indicator questions and further implementation information

Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

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.*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):	A	
Planned Activities (Text Answer):	A	
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets	A	

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		
		A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
a)	Poverty eradication strategies	A
b)	Water resource management and water efficiency plans	A
c)	Coastal and marine resource management plans	A
d)	National forest programmes	A
e)	National policies or measures on agriculture	C
f)	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	A
g)	National policies on energy and mining	C
h)	National policies on tourism	A
i)	National policies on urban development, infrastructure and industry	A
j)	National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	A
1.1 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*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A= High	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
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Resourcing:	A= Good	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT		
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.	A=Yes
		A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
2.1 Additional information: Detailed hydrological regime assessments form an integral part of integrated management plans.		
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)	A
		A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
2.2 Additional information: In Chilika, a specific environmental flows assessment for maintaining ecosystem health was commissioned when a proposal for construction of upstream barrage was being considered. Based on the findings of EFA, it was agreed to maintain the current inflow patterns. Similar assessments have been carried out in Loktak Lake as a part of management plan implementation. In Ashtamudi, the management plan envisages conducting such an assessment to define strategies for integrating water allocation for estuary in the management of upstream hydraulic structures.		
2.3	Have Ramsar Sites improved the sustainability of water use in the context of ecosystem requirements?	C
		A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
2.3 Additional information: Improved sustainability of water use is a component of management plan being implemented for maintaining the site's ecological character. However, in not all cases sustainability can be achieved owing to systemic changes being required to reoperate water infrastructure, and improve operational efficiencies in uses.		
2.4	Has 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.)	C
		A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned

2.4 Additional information: These guidelines have been proactively used in management of 4 sites (Chilika, Loktak, Ashtamudi and Sasthamcotta) wherein water allocation has been core to management.

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.)	C
	A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned

2.5 Additional information: Such projects have been developed for four Ramsar Sites (Chilika, Loktak, Ashtamudi and Sasthamcotta).

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}

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT

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	C=Partly
	A=Yes; B=No;; D=Planned

3.1 Additional information:
The Ministry encourages corporate sector to consider wetland conservation in their areas of operation. The guidelines of Ramsar Convention are a useful reference point. As an example, The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has included wetlands as a part of its CSR management training curriculum offered to Public Sector Undertakings and private sector.

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:	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
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a) Ramsar Sites	a) B=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	b)A=Yes

3.2 Additional information:

There have been some instances of private sector participation in wetlands conservation. The Western bank of the Thane Creek is the single largest mangrove belt in Mumbai. A substantial tract of mangrove land is adjoining the Godrej & Boyce township, Pirojshanagar, in Vikhroli a suburb of Mumbai. The vast area under mangroves has been conserved by Soonabai Pirojsha Godrej Marine Ecology Centre, supported by Godrej. The wetland interpretation centre at Bharatpur has been established with support of Swarovsky. Under the Mangroves for Future Initiative coordinated by IUCN, a wetland restoration initiative is being developed in Gujarat in partnership with Tata Chemicals. It is expected that overall private sector engagement in wetland conservation will increase in the recent times to come

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	A=Yes
	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

3.3 Additional information:

The Union Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments to implement integrated management plans. At the local level, management plans include investments in sustainable livelihood options for communities as a means of promoting local community stewardship. In Chilika, restoration of ecological health has been the basis for evolving community managed ecotourism (at Manglajodi) and undertaking mangrove restoration. States as Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh have introduced species conservation centric incentive mechanisms.

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

3.4 Additional information:

The regulatory regime for wetlands has been introduced to discourage any further degradation of wetlands. The Wetland Rules, 2017 in conjunction with various environment protection and conservation laws proactively inhibit adverse changes in wetland health.

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.*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer

National Targets (Text Answer):	
Planned Activities (Text Answer):	
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets	

COP13 REPORT	
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	C=Partly A=Yes; B=No;; D=Planned
4.1Additional information: The status of plant and animal invasives is documented in several site management plans and research studies. However, a comprehensive inventory is yet to be completed.	
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	B=No A=Yes;; C=Partly; D=Planned
4.2Additional information: While no national policy has been made for invasive species, their management and control is an important aspect of site management. Several models have been tested in this area, which involve regulation of drivers creating enabling conditions for invasion (for example promoting organic agriculture to reduce nutrient loading from agriculture) and economic use (eg. handicrafts from Eichhornia).	
4.3 How many invasive species are being controlled through management actions.	3species
4.3Additional information: (If 'Yes', please indicate the year of assessment and the source of information): Eicchornia, Phragmites, and Ipomoea are some of the dominant invasive species, subject to management actions.	
4.4 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed?	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
4.4Additional information: Assessment is done through a review of management plans outcomes.	

Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network

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.}*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A= High	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A= Good	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
5.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the <i>Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List</i> ? {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
5.1 Additional information: Elements of Strategic Framework for Ramsar List have been incorporated into the guidelines of NPCA, which is used for identification of priority sites. Identification of new sites is currently in progress, and we anticipate completing designation process for keysites by next triennium.	

5.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.1} KRA 2.2.ii	A=Yes A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
5.2 Additional information: The wetlands managers have been imparted specific training on the use of RSIS, with the support of Wetlands International South Asia. Further handholding support is also being provided.	

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i	24 sites
5.4 For how many of the Ramsar Sites with a management plan is the plan being effectively implemented? {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i	24 sites
5.5 For how many Ramsar Sites is a management plan currently being prepared? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i	2 sites

5.3 – 5.5 Additional information: The Ministry is working with the state governments to update management plans for Ramsar Sites, bringing them in conformity with the Resolution VIII.14 (2002) - New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands, as well as guidelines of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

5.6 Have all wetland management plans been based on sound scientific research, including research on potential threats to the wetlands? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
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5.6 Additional information: Management plans for some Ramsar sites need to be updated with definition of ecological character, and evaluation of emerging threats.

5.7 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv	24 sites
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5.7 Additional information (If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites):

Several of the Ramsar Sites, notably Loktak, Chilika, East Kolkata Wetlands and Wular have designated Wetland Management Authorities which serve to act as cross-sectoral management committees representing interests of diverse stakeholder groups. Steering Committees have also been constituted at the level of States. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 require constitution of State Wetlands Authorities, which would ensure cross-sectoral management of wetlands. Such authorities have been constituted for a majority of states.

The NPCA has a specific emphasis on cross-sectoral governance mechanisms. It is envisaged to constitute State / UT level Wetland Authorities in all States as nodal agencies for policy, planning and implementation.

5.8 For how many Ramsar Sites has an ecological character description been prepared (see Resolution X.15)? {2.4.7} KRA 2.4.v	5 sites
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5.8 Additional information (If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites):

A detailed ecological character description has been prepared for Chilika, Loktak, Sasthamcotta, Ashtamudi and Vembanad-Kol wetlands. These descriptions are available as a part of site management plans.

5.9 Have any assessments of the effectiveness of Ramsar Site management been made? {2.5.1} KRA 2.5.i	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Sites
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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 information):

An ad-hoc assessment of management effectiveness of 6 Ramsar sites has been taken up by Wetlands International South Asia. The assessment is currently in progress, and the results would be evaluated for enhancing management of these sites.

Target 7. Sites at risk. Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}.

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.1} KRA 2.6.i	A=Yes
	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 mechanisms available on date are based on periodic reviews and field visits. These are envisaged to be formalized through a reporting mechanism.	
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	N
	A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Cases; Z=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 Ministry has taken cognizance of adverse change in Deepor Beel and Sambhar Lake, and is assisting the respective state governments in putting in place an integrated management plan to address drivers of adverse change in ecological character.	

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	A A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
7.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken): In Loktak Lake, implementation of Short-Term Action Plan has resulted in improved ecological conditions in the wetland. Proactive measures for the implementation of a water allocation plan balancing the water regime needs of wetland ecosystem as well as that of hydropower, are being made in consultation with state government. In Bharatpur, management over the last two decades has led to the containment of the spread of grass species and Prosopis. Arrangements have also been made with the state government to ensure that adequate water is allocated to the National Park for maintenance of waterbird habitats.	

Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

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

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i	A=Yes A=Yes; B=No; C=In Progress; D=Planned
8.1Additional information: The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change sponsored the 'National Wetland Inventory and Assessment' project, which was executed by Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad to map wetlands of the country at 1: 50,000 scale. Using a 19 wetland type classification, State and Union territory wise wetland maps have been prepared. The overall extent of wetlands in India has been assessed to be 15.26 million ha, equivalent to 4.63% of geographical area of the country. The National Wetland Atlas is available in public domain. Atlases on High Altitude Lakes and Wetlands of International Importance and have also been prepared and published in 2012 and 2013 respectively. A further updation of inventory at a higher resolution is being considered.	
8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?	C A=Yes; B=No; C=In Progress; D=Planned
8.2Additional information: Updation of national inventory at higher resolution is envisaged to be initiated in 2018.	
8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	A=Yes A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
8.3Additional information: The national as well state and district level maps and statistics are available in publicdomain and can be downloaded from the Ministry's website. In addition to the national maps, several sites have developed detailed inventories to support management. These inventories are developed in consultation with stakeholders, and efforts made for their proactive dissemination.	
8.4 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the last triennium? {1.1.3} a) Ramsar Sites b) wetlands generally Please comment on the sources of the information on which your answer is basedon the green free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you can, please describe the principal driver(s) of the change(s). *'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention	N=Status Deteriorated; O=No Change; P=Status Improved a) O b)O
8.4Additional information on a) and/or b): In general, there is no significant change in ecological character of Ramsar Sites. Efforts for integrated management of sites as Chilika and Loktak are yielding positive	

results. In Keoladeo National Park, efforts have been made by the State Government to ensure adequate availability of water.

Given the diverse wetland regime within the country, high level of dependence, and increasing needs of food and water security, pressures do exist on some wetlands, particularly those located in urban areas. NPCA includes necessary safeguards to deal with these pressures. The emphasis on integrated management complemented with effective regulatory regimes will ensure maintenance of ecological character of Ramsar Site network. Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change is also proactively engaging with other Ministries, government agencies and civil society to secure conservation and sustainable management of wetlands.

8.5 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	1,52,600 Km ² A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
8.5 Additional information: If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years. Assessments on extent of wetland area change are planned, no estimate is available as of now.	

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.}*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT

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

The National Environment Policy (2006) outlines the policy and priority actions for wetlands. The National Biodiversity Action Plan identifies wetlands as key components of biodiversity and thereby seeks their integrated management as one of the key pathways for achieving national biodiversity conservation objectives. In line with the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, India has formulated 12 National Targets. Aspects of wetlands conservation and wise use are covered under Target 3 (Strategies for reducing rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss of natural habitats are finalized and actions put in place by 2020), Target 6 (ecologically representative areas on land and in inland waters, as well as coastal and marine zones, especially those of particular importance for species, biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved effectively and equitably), and Target 8 (by 2020, ecosystem services, especially those related to water, human health and livelihoods and well-being are enumerated and measures to safeguard them are identified). The National Climate Action Plan identifies Conservation of Wetlands as a component of the National Water Mission, which is one of the 8 missions identified by the government as a response strategy to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

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

A=Yes

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

9.2 Additional information:

The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 integrate wise use commitments in the implementation of site management.

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? {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii

A

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

9.3 Additional information:

The National Water Policy (2012) considers wetlands as natural infrastructure for managing floods.

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)? {1.7.3}

A

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

9.4 Additional information: The management plans for Ramsar Sites are based on a catchment scale planning, and include CEPA as an integral element.

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

A

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned

9.5 Additional information: The National Climate Action Plan identifies Conservation of Wetlands as a component of the National Water Mission, which is one of the 8 missions identified by the government as a response strategy to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

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9.6 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? {1.7.6} KRA 1.7.v	C
	A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
9.6Additional information: Technologies for sustainable aquaculture and system of rice intensification which reduce water and fertilizer intake in production processes are being promoted. The role of inland and coastal wetlands in sustaining capture fisheries is well-recognized within the programmes of Ministry of Agriculture.	

9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on: a) agriculture-wetland interactions b) climate change c) valuation of ecosystem services {1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
	a)A b)A c)A
9.7Additional information: Cases from India were provided in the scoping document on Guidelines for Agriculture Wetlands Interactions. A chapter on wetlands is being drafted for consideration for inclusion under National Communication to the UNFCCC. Aspects of valuation have been covered under TII (The Economics of Ecosystems and BiodiversityInitiative) implemented by the MoEFCC during 2011-2015.	

9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10 ?	D
	A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
9.8Additional information: (If 'Yes', please indicate How many requests have been submitted):	

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.*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
10.1 Have the guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19) been used or applied? (Action 6.1.2/ 6.1.6)	A A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation; D=Planned
10.1 Additional information: Cultural values are systematically assessed and integrated into wetland management plans	
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)	C 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). Cases on Chilika Lake, Loktak Lake and Nalsarovar have been compiled as part of several documentation processes, such as India's contribution to UNFCCC. More systematic documentation is proposed to be undertaken during the coming triennium.	
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)	A 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)

These guidelines are used while drafting and implementing management plans. Specific emphasis has been placed by the Ministry in strengthening community participation in management.

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

C

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

10.4 Additional information:

Site management plans include collation of traditional knowledge and management practices. In several instances, such as in Loktak Lake, these form the basis of management actions such as management of phumdi.

Target 11. Wetland functions. *Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.}*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A	
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT

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

A

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

11.1 Additional information: (If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partly’, please indicate, how many Ramsar Sites and their names):

The TII (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity India Initiative) included ecosystem services assessment for eight wetlands.

11.2 Have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to poverty

alleviation objectives or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.4.2} KRA 1.4.i	A A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
11.2 Additional information: Site management plans tend to harmonize the goals of seeking poverty alleviation and food and water security with that of biological diversity conservation. Such plans are currently being implemented for some wetlands (such as Loktak, Chilika, Bharatpur)	

11.3 Have socio-economic or cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
11.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names): Socioeconomic and cultural value recognition and inclusion form an integral part of site management planning.	

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.}

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
12.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i	A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
12.1 Additional information: The MoEFCC in collaboration with state governments has identified a network of over 150 wetlands for restoration and integrated management. Further sites are being identified as per the programme guidelines of NPCA and Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.	

12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or	A
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projects been effectively implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
<p>12.2 Additional information: (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored): Wetlands restoration programmes are currently under implementation for over 15 sites. Application is on the basis of mainstreaming with developmental programming with the support of an enabling institutional arrangement within states. The effectiveness of implementation is demonstrated in the case of Chilika, Bharatpur, wetlands of Sitapur and others.</p>	

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

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
13.1 Have actions been taken to enhance sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands?	A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
13.1. Additional information:(If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken): The management plans are key instruments through which development sectors linked with wetlands are addressed. In several instances, management plans call for sustainable production processes and adoption of risk screening tools and safeguards to secure full range of wetland biodiversity and ecosystem services values.	
13.2 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
13.2 Additional information: The management plans are encouraged to adopted SEAs as tools to safeguard wetland values. However, enhanced efforts and capacity development is required to ensure wider application.	
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? {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Cases
13.3 Additional information: The existing regulatory framework requires commissioning an EIA for developmental projects which are likely to impact critical ecosystems such as wetlands. Implementation of Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 would further strengthen such processes.	



GOAL 4. enhancing implementation

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.}

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT

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	B
	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):	

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}	A
	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
15.2 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s): India has played a partial role in implementation of work programme of Ramsar Regional Center for East Asia.	

Target 16. Wetlands conservation and wise use. Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}.

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		

Answer):	
Planned Activities (Text Answer):	
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets	

COP13 REPORT	
<p>16.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {4.1.1} KRA 4.1.i</p> <p>a) At the national level b) Sub-national level c) Catchment/basin level d) Local/site level</p> <p>(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)</p>	<p>A=Yes; B=No; C=In Progress; D=Planned</p> <p>a) C b) C c) C d) A</p>
<p>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): A national CEPA plan shall be developed in 2018, in line with Strategic Plan targets. Site level CEPA plans are contained in management plans.</p>	
<p>16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii</p> <p>a) at Ramsar Sites b) at other wetlands</p>	<p>a) 5centres b) 2centres</p>
<p>16.2 Additional information (If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks): Visitor Centers have been constructed at Chilika, Keoladeo National Park, Bhoj Wetlands, Nalsarovar and Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary. Visitor Centers have also been constructed at Khijadiya (Gujarat) and Thane Creek (Mumbai).</p>	
<p>16.3 Does the Contracting Party:</p> <p>a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?</p> <p>{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii</p>	<p>A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned</p> <p>a) A b) A</p>
<p>16.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved): Stakeholder participation is a mandatory criterion for formulation and implementation of all management action plans supported by the</p>	

MoEFCC.

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee or equivalent body? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v	A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
16.4 Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP12; aDnd c) what responsibilities the Committee has): A National Wetlands Committee is being constituted in 2018 to meet the stipulations under Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.	

16.5 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and: a) Ramsar Site managers b) other MEA national focal points c) other ministries, departments and agencies {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi	A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned a)A b)A c)A
16.5 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please describe what mechanisms are in place): The Ramsar implementation guidelines in the form of handbooks and resolutions are shared within the regional consultation workshops.	

16.6 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 February or at another time of year), either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP12? {4.1.8}	A A=Yes; B=No
16.6 Additional information: The Ministry supports World Wetlands Day celebrations. In 2018, the World Wetlands Day was held at Deepor Beel, Assam. In 2017, the event was held at Bhopal Lake.	

16.7 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP12 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.1.9}	A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
16.7 Additional information (If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this): The MoEFCC implemented TII (The Economics of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity India Initiative, with support of GIZ during 2011-2015 to demonstrate the economic values of wide-ranging ecosystem services of nature and consequences of loss of ecosystem services. Wetlands were taken up as one of the three priority ecosystems under the initiative.	

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.}

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
17.1	A
a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2015, 2016 and 2017? {4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i	A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
b) 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	B
	A=Yes; B=No
17.2 Additional information (If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities):	

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	B
	A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
17.3 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12):	
.....	

17.4 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii	Z
	A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
17.4 Additional information:	

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}	A
	A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
17.5 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12): A GEF-funded Full-Sized Project entitled Integrated Management of Wetlands Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services shall support in-country wetlands conservation and management, especially addressing capacity development and knowledge assessment needs.	

17.6 Has any financial support been provided by your country to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?	A
	A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable
17.6 Additional information (If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities): National implementation of Strategic Plan elements is covered under the funding stream of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) and National Programme for Conservation of Mangroves and Coral Reefs. Additional resources are also available through the Green India Mission and National Action Plan on Climate Change.	

Target 18. International cooperation. *International cooperation is strengthened at all levels{3.1}*

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT

18.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.2} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv	D
	A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned

18.1 Additional information: The National Wetlands Committee is under the constitution in line with Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017. Focal points of UNFCCC, CBD and CMS shall form a part of National Wetlands Committee.	
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)? {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv	A
18.2 Additional information:	
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).	A
18.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' please name the agency (es) or IOP (s) and the type of assistance received): Wetlands International South Asia provides regular technical support in implementation of Ramsar Convention. The UNEP is a GEF agency for implementation of IMWBES project, which would support implementation of Convention.	
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}	C
18.4 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partly', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved): A national network of Ramsar site managers exists which meets regularly to assess progress in implementation of Convention, share experiences and knowledge. It is envisaged to formalize the network under IMWBES project.	
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	C
18.5 Additional information: Information on extent of wetlands in the country is available in public domain in the form of a National Wetlands Atlas. Similarly, an Atlas on	

Ramsar Sites has been placed in public domain.

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	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
18.6	Additional information: Information on extent of wetlands has been communicated within the previous national report. With the revision of RSIS, a summary site profile docket is proposed to published containing information on all Ramsar Sites.	

18.7	Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i	A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable
18.7	Additional information: A preliminary assessment of transboundary wetlands has been carried out by Wetlands International South Asia as a part of Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme of GEF.	

18.8	Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {3.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
18.8	Additional information (If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partly’, please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place): Management practices in Indian Sunderbans have been shared with Bangladesh counterparts at bilateral meetings and platforms such as Mangroves for the Future.	

18.9	Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii	A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable
18.9	Additional information: India is an active member of Convention on Migratory Species. The national plan formulation for Central Asian Flyway Action Plan is in progress in 2018.	

Target 19. Capacity building. Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced.

Planning of National Targets

Priority:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No
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		answer
Resourcing:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
National Targets (Text Answer):		
Planned Activities (Text Answer):		
Outcomes achieved by 2018 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets		

COP13 REPORT	
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	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
19.1 Additional information: National workshop of wetland managers and site management plans have been used to elicit specific capacity development needs. A fuller national scale training needs is envisaged under GEF FSP on Integrated Management of Wetland Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IMWBES).	

19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes}.	C A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
Additional information:	
If you answer yes to the above please provide information on which mechanisms and materials.	
Topics related to wetlands conservation and wise use are included in Masters level programmes of select universities. A fuller curriculum is proposed to develop under the aegis of GEF FSP IMWBES project.	

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP12? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv a) at Ramsar Sites b) at other wetlands	Number of opportunities: a) 4 b) 3
19.3 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in training): The MoEFCC has supported four regional workshops during 2017 on integrated wetland management. Besides, state-level workshops have been held during 2015 and 2017 respectively in Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat.	

19.4 Have you (AA) used your previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention? {4.3.1} KRA 4.3.ii	A 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 CoP 12 report have been used a benchmark to assess progress	

achieved during the period leading upto CoP13. Periodic review meetings are conducted within the wetlands division to progress implementation of Convention.

Section 4: Additional information on individual designated Wetlands of International Importance

Guidance for filling in this section

1. A Contracting Party is required to complete this Section 4 Annex as part of its COP13 Reporting.
2. 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.
3. The only indicator questions included in this section are those from Section 3 of the COP13 NRF which directly concern Ramsar Sites.
4. 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.
5. 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](#)).
6. For each 'indicator question', please select one answer from the legend.
7. A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

List of indicator questions:

- 5.3** Does the site have a management plan (or equivalent)?
- 5.4** If you answered yes to 5.3, is the management plan being implemented?
- 5.7** Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
- 5.8a** Has a description of the ecological character of the Ramsar Site been prepared (See Resolution X.15 ?
- 5.8b** Has the RIS of the Ramsar Site been updated according to Resolution VI.13?
- 5.9** Has any assessment of the effectiveness of Ramsar Site management been made?(If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', 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.
- 7.1** Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative changes or likely negative changes in the ecological character of the Ramsar Site, pursuant to Article 3.2?
- 7.2** Have all cases of change or likely negative change in the ecological character of the Ramsar Site been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2?
- 8.4a** Has the condition (ecological character) of the Ramsar Site changed since the last triennium?
- 11.1** Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
- 11.3** Have socio-economic and cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- 16.2a** Has a visitor/interpretation/education centre been established at the Ramsar Site?
- 16.3a** Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
- 16.5a** Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

Ramsar Site number	Ramsar Site name	5.3 ②	5.4 ④	5.7 ①	5.8a ③	5.8b ①	5.9 ①	7.1 ①	7.2 ⑤	8.4a ⑥	11.1 ③	11.3 ④	16.2a ①	16.3a ①	16.5a ①	Any additional comments/information about the site
1570	Hokera	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1572	Rudrasagar	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
464	Sambhar	B			D	D	D	A		O	D	Z	B	A	A	
463	Loktak	A			A	D	A	A		O	A	A	D	A	A	
462	Harike	A			C	D	A	A		O	A	C	A	A	A	
461	Wular	A			C	D	A	A		O	A	A	B	A	A	
229	Chilika	A			A	D	A	A		O	A	A	A	A	A	
1207	Deepor	A			D	D	A	A		O	D	C	A	A	A	
230	Keoladeo National Park	A			C	D	D	A		O	A	C	A	A	A	
1161	Ropar	A			C	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1160	Kanjli	A			C	D	D	A		O	C	C	A	A	A	
1214	Vembanad-Kol	A			A	D	D	A		O	C	A	D	A	A	
1212	Sasthamkota	A			A	D	A	A		O	A	A	D	A	A	
1211	Pong	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1210	Point Calimere	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	A	A	A	
1209	Kolleru	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1205	Bhitarkani ka	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	A	A	A	
1213	Tsomoriri	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1208	East Kolkata Wetlands	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	
1206	Bhoj	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	A	A	A	
1569	Chandertal	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	B	A	A	

Ramsar Site number	Ramsar Site name	5.3 ②	5.4 ④	5.7 ①	5.8a ③	5.8b ①	5.9 ①	7.1 ①	7.2 ⑤	8.4a ⑥	11.1 ③	11.3 ④	16.2a ①	16.3a ①	16.5a ①	Any additional comments/information about the site
1204	Ashtamudi	A			A	D	A	A		O	A	A	D	A	A	
1573	Surinsar-Mansar	A			D	D	D	A		O	D	C	B	A	A	
1571	Renuka	A			D	D	D	A		O	D	C	B	A	A	
2078	Nalsarovar	A			D	D	D	A		O	C	C	A	A	A	
1574	Upper Ganga River	B			D	D	D	A		O	D	Z	B	A	A	

- ① A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned
 ② A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation
 ③ A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; D=Planned
 ④ A=Yes; B=No; C=Partly; Z=No Management Plan
 ⑤ A=Yes; B=No; Z=No Negative Change
 ⑥ N=Status Deteriorated; O=No Change; P=Status Improved