

Ramsar National Report to COP13

Section 1: Institutional Information

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

Name of Contracting Party

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

> Environmental Protection Agency, Liberia

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority

> Environmental Protection Agency, Liberia

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

> Anyaa Vohiri, Executive Director

Mailing address

> Environmental Protection Agency
P. O. Box 4024
4th Street Sinkor, Tubman Boulevard
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

Telephone/Fax

> +231 886514013

Email

> vohiri@yahoo.com

Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

Name and title

> Levi Z. Piah, Chief Technical Advisor

Mailing address

> Environmental Protection Agency
P. O. Box 4024
4th Street Sinkor, Tubman Boulevard
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

Telephone/Fax

> +231 880106143

Email

> sehweh@gmail.com

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

Name and title

> Richard S. Sambolah,

Name of organisation

> Farmers Associated To Conserve The Environment

Mailing address

> Farmers Associated To Conserve The Environment
P. O. Box 096 Paynesville, Monrovia, Liberia

Telephone/Fax
> +231 778058448

Email
> sambolah12@yahoo.com

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

Name and title
> Danise Love Dennis, Media & Communication Specialist

Name of organisation
> Environmental Protection Agency

Mailing address
> Environmental Protection Agency
P. O. Box 4024
4th Street Sinkor, Tubman Boulevard
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

Telephone/Fax
> +231 775249430

Email
> danisedennis@yahoo.com

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

Name and title
> Abraham Varney

Name of organisation
> Society of Liberian Foresters (SOLF)

Mailing address
> P. O. Box 096, 1000 Monrovia 10, Liberia

Email
> abrahamvarney52@gmail.com

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)
 - › The drafting and subsequent validation of the National Wetland Policy document
- 2)
 - › Continuous awareness at national and local (community) levels on the importance and protection of Ramsar Wetlands.
- 3)
 - › Mapping of one Ramsar site (Lake Piso Wetlands).
- 4)
 - › Demonstration of political will through Presidential Executive Order for the protection of all wetlands.
- 5)
 - › Straight compliance of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment in the agricultural and extractive industries for sustainable use of wetlands.

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

- 1)
 - › Inability to control waste disposal and construction of infrastructure in wetlands due to migration into and increasing human population growth in wetland communities.
- 2)
 - › Financial constraints to:
 - a) sustain awareness campaign for wetlands protection throughout Liberia.
 - b) develop the institutional and human capacities for wetland management.
 - c) enforce wetland protection, especially at the five Ramsar Sites.
- 3)
 - › Approving and implementing projects within the proximity of wetlands.
- 4)
 - › Uncontrollable agricultural and mining activities in wetlands by locals.
- 5)
 - › Delay in approving and adopting the National Wetlands Policy

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

- 1)
 - › Enforcement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Strategic Plan, which deals with the sustainable use of wetlands and the conservation of protected areas.
- 2)
 - › Working with concessions in the country to protect all wetlands within their areas of operation, especially the agriculture and mining sectors, using the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) as a key tool.
- 3)
 - › Enhance collaboration with other government institutions as well as community-based organizations for the management of all wetlands in the country.
- 4)
 - › Development of wetlands regulations and strategic plan to implement the national wetland policy
- 5)
 - › Creation of wetlands management fund and development of strategies to source funding from public and the private sectors to support the fund.

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

> YES:

1. We recommend:

- a) the provision of support for institutional and human capacity building for the management of wetlands in the country.
- b) support for immediate nationwide assessment of Liberia's wetlands.

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)

> YES:

- a) That the IOPs partner with the EPA in the protection of Ramsar sites through the management of projects aimed at protecting wetlands, especially the Ramsar Wetlands Sites sites and other coastal cities so important for their carbon content.
- b) Support for the creation of at least two marine protected areas in Liberia.
- c) Support for creation of at least one wetland village for tourism.

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)?

> a) Ramsar Convention is already integrated into the biodiversity cluster particularly the Revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of 2017, it National Targets and activities plan and the Rio Conventions.

b) Other linkages include:

- (i) CMS: support awareness initiatives for the conservation of important bird areas (IBAs).
- (ii) CITES: Promote the protection of vulnerable/endangered wetland species.
- (iii) WHC: Support the establishment of at least one heritage site in a selected wetland site.
- (iv) UNCCD: Develop and implement a program for mangrove afforestation in degraded mangrove communities.

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 country's water policy especially water policy guidelines produced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an integral part of the Wetland Policy document and these instruments are being implemented simultaneously by the EPA and other stakeholders, in the government and the private sectors including local and international non-governmental organizations like Conservation International.

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

> The Environment Protection Agency of Liberia, which is the institution of Government responsible for environmental sustainability and all wetland conservation issues, does not have the capacity to fully protect, maintain, and ensure the sustainable management of the Ramsar Sites due to budgetary constraints. There is a need to put into action programs for generating funds for the protection and maintenance of the sites which are threatened by local people seeking livelihood.

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

- > 1. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Monrovia, Liberia
2. Farmers Associated to Conserve the Environment
3. The Society of Liberian Foresters.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	<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
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 type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
i) National policies on energy and mining	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

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

1.1 Additional information

> There are some national policies on some of the above but wetland issues/benefits are not properly and clearly addressed in those policies. Also, there is an urgent need to harmonize institutional policies that impact land and other natural resource uses.

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.

B=No

2.1 Additional Information

> No assessment has been done on water quantity relative to the ecological functions of wetlands.

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)

B=No

2.2 Additional Information

> Data on environmental flow in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands will form a part and parcel of future nationwide wetland assessment.

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

O=No Change

2.3 Additional Information

> This issue will be considered in future wetlands regulations.

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.)

D=Planned

2.4 Additional Information

> The Ministry of Agriculture has developed policy guidelines that consider some issues of Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12

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.)

B=No

2.5 Additional Information

> This will be targeted in future wetlands management planning.

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



=Exact number (households/municipalities)

> L=X

F=Less than (households/municipalities)

> X

G=More than (households/municipalities)

> G=X

2.6 Additional Information

> None

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

E=Exact number (percentage)

> X



=Less than (percentage)

> X

G=More than (percentage)

> X

2.7 Additional Information

> None

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

E=Exact number (percentage)

> E=X



=Less than (percentage)

> X

G=More than (percentage)

> X

2.8 Additional Information

> None

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

B=No

2.9 Additional Information

> None

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

X=Unknown

2.10 Additional Information

> None

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

E=Exact number (plants)

> E=1

2.11 Additional Information

> None

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

A=Good

2.12 Additional Information

> The national water treatment plant is not yet efficient to distribute water supply outside the Capital City of Monrovia.

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

B=Not Functioning

2.13 Additional Information

> None

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

B=No

2.14 Additional Information

> None

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

Y=Not Relevant

2.15 Additional Information

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

> None

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

D=Planned

3.1 Additional Information

> Logistical constraints are limiting factors to implementing the plan

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

3.2 Additional information

> None

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

B=No



3.3 Additional information

> This is provided for in the validated National Wetlands Policy and will be explicit in future wetlands regulations which will be developed when the draft policy is approved and adopted.

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

B=No

3.4 Additional Information

> This is issue  beconsidered in future wetlands regulations which will be developed we the policy is approved and  pted.

Target 4

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

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

B=No

4.1 Additional information

> None

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

4.2 Additional information

> The issue of invasive species is considered in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

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

E=Exact number (species)

> E=X

F=Less than (species)

> F=X

G=More than (species)

> G=X

4.3 Additional information

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

> Not applicable

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

B=No

4.4 Additional information

> None

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

B=No

5.1 Additional information

> None

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

B=No

5.2 Additional information

> None

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



=Exact number (sites)

> E=1

F=Less than (sites)

> E=Y

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



=Exact number (sites)

> E=0

F=Less than (sites)

> F=Y

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

E=Exact number (sites)

> E=0



=Less than (sites)

> F=Y

G=More than (sites)

> G=Y

5.3 - 5.5 Additional information

> None

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

B=No

5.6 Additional information

> None

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

E=Exact number (sites)

> E=0



=Less than (sites)

> F=Y

G=More than (sites)

> G=Y

5.7 Additional information

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

> None

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

E=Exact number (sites)

> E=5



=Less than (sites)

> F=Y

G=More than (sites)

> G=Y

5.8 Additional information

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

> Lake Piso Wetlands (1306), Gbedin Wetlands (1628), Kpatawee Wetlands (1629), Marshall Wetlands (1630) and Mesurado Wetlands (1631)

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

B=No

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

> Not applicable

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

B=No

7.1 Additional information

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

> Not applicable

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

B=No

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

> Not applicable

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

B=No

7.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> Not applicable

Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

Target 8

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

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

B=No

8.1 Additional information

> We have five recognized wetland sites namely: 1. Gbedin Wetlands, 2. Kpatawee Wetlands, 3. Lake Piso Wetlands, 4. Marshall Wetlands and 5. Mesurado Wetlands. Additionally, we have identified two wetlands that we believe are very important and are being recommended for consideration of Ramsar significance. They are Bacculin Wetlands in Grand Bassa County and the Bafu Bay Wetlands in Sinoe County, both in the southeast of Liberia. These are wetlands with unique mangrove ecosystem and rich in biodiversity and noted as breeding grounds for sea turtles. Currently these two site have low human population and low threats from human activities.

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

B=No

8.2 Additional information

> No complete national wetland inventory has been done in the country.

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

C=Partially

8.3 Additional information

> No complete national wetland inventory has been done in the country. However, the sizes (i.e. extents) of the five Ramsar sites were estimated through GIS process using the national map with vegetation and hydrology covers.

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

C=Partially

8.4 Additional information

> Information on wetlands, though scanty, were always inserted in World Wetlands Day celebration brochures and distributed.

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)

> No complete national wetland inventory has been done in the country. Scanty information available are not sufficient to determine change. Baseline data must be established and time-series data collected to be able to determine the change.

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

E=Exact Number (km²)

> E=X

L=Less than (km²)



- > F=Y
- G=More than (km2)
- > G=Y

8.6 Additional information

If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years.
> None

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
 A=Yes

9.1 Additional information

> The draft wetland policy is available and recently signed by the appropriate authority.

9.2 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?
{1.3.5}{1.3.6}
 B=No

9.2 Additional information

> Not applicable

9.3 Do your country's water governance and management systems treat wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {1.7.1} {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii
 A=Yes

9.3 Additional information

> None

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}
 D=Planned

9.4 Additional information

> Ministry of Agriculture is working on this

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

9.5 Additional information

> The Forestry Development Authority is working on this and it is also addressed in the draft Climate Change Policy.

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
 B=No

9.6 Additional information

> Not applicable

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.

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

9.7 Additional information

> None

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

B=No

9.8 Additional information

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

> None

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)

C1=Partially

10.1 Additional information


> Cultural values in conservation is part of the strategies mentioned in the Lake Piso Protected Area Management Plan (Draft).

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)

A=Yes

10.2 Additional information

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

>  Wetlands International and Flora International conducted a study on cultural values in 2012 to determine cultural values in natural resource management and conservation.

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)

B=No

10.3 Additional information

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

> None

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)

D=Planned

10.4 Additional information

> This has been documented for the Lake Piso Wetlands

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

C1=Partially

11.1 Additional information

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

> The TEEB (The Economics and Ecosystem Biodiversity) did assessment on the five wetlands and determined their economic benefits and services of these sites in 2015 and 2017

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

B=No

11.2 Additional information

> None

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

C=Partially

11.3 Additional information

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

> This has been done for Lake Piso Wetlands

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

C=Partially

11.4 Additional information

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

> This has been done for Lake Piso Wetlands

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

C=Partially

12.1 Additional information

> This has been for Kpatawee Wetlands where there were some encroachment.

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

D=Planned

12.2 Additional information

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

> This plan is only for Kpatawee Wetlands for now.

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?

D=Planned

13.1. Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> For example,

A. Forest Sector (Three pillars of the Forest Policy including conservation, commercial, and community forestry affect wetlands).

B. Fishery Sector (This sector updated fishery strategy of the Bureau of National Fishery provide for sustainable management for wetlands' resources).

C. Agriculture Sector (Water Management Policy provide for management of wetlands to provide sustainable underground water supply)

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

A=Yes

13.2 Additional information

> ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) is mandatory for all development projects

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

{1.3.4} {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii

A=Yes

13.3 Additional information

> The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is responsible and currently ensuring strait compliance on all extractive and agricultural industries.

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

A=Yes

15.1 Additional information

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

> Conferences/meetings organize by ECOWAS (Economic Community of West Africa States),  (Mano River Union) and WABICC (West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change) Program

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

B=No

15.2 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s)

> None

Target 16

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

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

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

Please select only one per square.

a) At the national level	<input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
--------------------------	--

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

> None

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

G=More than (centres)

> G=Y

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

G=More than (centres)

> G=Y

16.2 Additional information

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

> None

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

Please select only one per square.

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned

16.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved

> Local communities and other stakeholders have always been involved and will continue to be involve in all future wetlands and Ramsar sites' activities.

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

A=Yes

16.4 Additional information

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

> The committee is chair by the EPA and consists of other government institutions and Non-governmental organizations.

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

B=No

16.5 Additional information

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

> None

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

16.6 Additional information

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

> None

16.7 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 February or at another time of year), either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP12? {4.1.8}

A=Yes

16.7 Additional information

> World Wetland Day (February 2) celebration has been regularly successful in Liberia since 2006.

16.8 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP12 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.1.9}

A=Yes

16.8 Additional information

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

> The Conservation Unit at the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is engaged in regular awareness for wetlands' protection in communities.

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

A=Yes

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

> This has been paid up to 2015. Not sure of 2016 & 2017

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=No

17.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities
> None

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=No

17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12
> None

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

A=Yes

17.4 Additional information

> This is in consonance with the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.

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}

B=No

17.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12
> None

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

B=No

17.6 Additional information

If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities
> None

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

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

A=Yes

18.1 Additional information

> The National Committee of Wetlands is a member of the MEAs and MEAs focal points are always invited to the committee meetings.

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

B=No

18.2 Additional information

> None

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=Yes

18.3 Additional information

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

> None

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

B=No

18.4 Additional information

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

> None

18.5 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made public (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.4.2} KRA 3.4.iv

A=Yes

18.5 Additional information

> Available on the EPA Website

18.6 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat for dissemination? {3.4.3} KRA 3.4.ii

A=Yes

18.6 Additional Information

> Through National Reports

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

A=Yes

18.7 Additional information

> Transboundary wetlands between Liberia and neighboring countries has been identified. Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Cote d' Ivoire

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

A=Yes

18.8 Additional information

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

> Through regional bodies such as the Mano River Union.

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

B=No

18.9 Additional information

> None

Target 19

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

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

D=Planned

19.1 Additional information

> Training need assessment for wetlands management has been planned but depends on funding opportunities.

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

C=Partially

19.2 Additional information


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

> At the higher education level, but not yet at the secondary school level

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

 =Exact number (opportunities)

> E=0

F=Less than (opportunities)

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

E=Exact number (Opportunities)

> E=0

19.3 Additional information

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

> None

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

A=Yes

19.4 Additional information

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

> Follow-up on recommendations from the report

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

Goal 1

Target 1: Wetland benefits

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

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority

B=Medium

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

A=Good

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

> Training of wetland Managers for all the Ramsar Sites and atleast two additional wetland sites..

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

> 1. Assessment of wetlands resources at the five Ramsar sites.

2. National inventory of wetlands.

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

A=High

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

A=Good

Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

> Development of National Water Policy by 2019. (Integrating water policies of the various sectors).

Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

> Monitoring and usage of water base on existing water regulations.

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

A=High

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

A=Good

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

- > 1.Improvement on pipe born water supply system from the main source of water supply (Mt Coffee Dam)
- 2. Quality of water from dam and other sources
- 3. Improving water safety plan for drinking water
- 4. Managing wastewater from industries from getting into the environment including wetlands.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

- > 1.Improvement of laboratories for water testing
- 2. Enhanced monitoring of water quality and standards
- 3. Training of water assessment technicians

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

A=High

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

C=Limiting

