Ramsar National Report to COP14

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 https://www.ramsar.org/search?f%5B0%5D=type%3Aperson#searchcontacts

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 COP14 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below) > Georgia

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

official letter- National report to Ramsar Convention.pdf

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority

> Biodiversity and Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

> Carl Amirgulashvili, Head of Biodiversity and Forest Department

Mailing address

> 6 Marshal Gelovani ave. Tbilisi Georgia

Telephone/Fax

> +995591819613

Email

> Karlo.amirgulashvili@mepa.gov.ge

Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

Name and title

> Mariam Sulkhanishvili, Second Category senior specialist of Biodiversity and Forest Department

Mailing address

> 6 Marshal Gelovani ave. Tbilisi Georgia

Telephone/Fax

> +995598390645

Email

> Mariam.sulkhanishvili@mepa.gov.ge

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

Name and title

> Gia Sopadze, Environmental Expert

Name of organisation

> Union for Sustainable Development - Ecovision

Mailing address

> 42a Vasil Barnovi Str. Tbilisi, Georgia

Telephone/Fax

Email

> info@ecovision.ge

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

Name and title

> Irakli Shavgulidze, Chair of Board

Name of organisation

> Nacres-Biodiversity Conservation and Research Centre

Mailing address

> 29 Besarion Jgenti St, Tbilisi, Georgia

Telephone/Fax

> +995 322 5371 25

Email

> irakli.shavgulidze@nacres.org

Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP13 reporting)

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

1)

> Designation of 2 new Ramsar sites (Madatapa and Bugdasheni Lakes)

2)

> Elaboration of the Draft law on Biodiversity, in which the legal aspects for implementation of Ramsar convention are envisaged

3)

> Identification of new protentional Ramsar sites in Georgia

4)

> Colchic Forest and Wetlands were nominated as World Heritage Sites for UNESCO

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

1)

> Lack of modern and effective tools for data collection

2)

> No active legislation of wetland conservation

3)

> Lack of communication between relevant stakeholders

4)

> Lack of education and public awareness about wetlands

5)

> There is no platform, on which the Data regarding wetland would be published, the existing information is stored on different platforms and is difficult to allocate and analyze it.

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

1)

> Adoption of the daft Law on Biodiversity, in which legal aspects for implementation of Ramsar Convention are reflected

2)

> Elaborate and adopt national guidelines for the management of wetlands

3)

> Improvement of monitoring system of Ramsar sites

4)

- > Nominating additional Ramsar sites to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
- D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?
- > Assistance in awareness raising in society, assistance in elaborating of Ramsar site monitoring system and assistance in capacity building of staff members from administrations of Ramsar sites.
- E. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)? (including ongoing partnerships and partnerships to develop) > Assistance in awareness raising in society, assistance in elaborating of Ramsar site monitoring system and assistance in capacity building of staff members from administrations of Ramsar sites.
- 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)?

- > Harmonization of planning and reporting processes for the multilateral environmental agreements; Implementation of Ramsar Convention is considered as a contribution to CBD
- G. How is the Ramsar Convention 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) and how this could be improved?
- > At this moment Ramsar Convention is not linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies appropriately. Wetland's issue should be taken into account while collaborating strategic documents and establishment of the inter sectoral committees
- H. According to paragraph 21 of Resolution XIII.18 on Gender and wetlands, please provide a short description about the balance between men and women participating in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research.
- > The exact statistics of the balance between men and women is unknown
- I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

 > No comments
- J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report
- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture Agency of Protected Areas
 United Water Supply Company of Georgia
 National Statistics Office of Georgia

Section 3: Indicator questions and further implementation information

Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15]

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.

[Reference to Aichi Target 2]

1.1 Have wetland conservation and the identification of wetlands benefits been integrated into sustainable approaches to the following 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	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes ☑ Y=Not Relevant
b) Poverty eradication strategies	 □ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes ☑ Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes ☑ Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially ☑ B=No □ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant
f) National forest programmes	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially ☑ B=No □ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially ☑ B=No □ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No ☑ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant

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

Target 2

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone. [Reference to Aichi Targets 7 and 8], [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

- [Reference to Alctin largets 7 and 6], [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.5.1]
- 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. \square B=No
- 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)

 □ D=Planned
- 2.3 What, if any, initiatives been taken to improve the sustainability of water use (or allocation of water resources) in the context of ecosystem requirements across major river basins (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12)? (Action 3.4.6.)
- ☑ D=Planned

2.3 Additional Information

- > At present, a new law ``On Water Resources Management`` is drafted. The purpose of drafting the new law is to harmonize Georgian legislation to the EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). The main novelty introduced by the draft law is the establishment of river basin management systems and decentralization of governance in the water sector.
- 2.4 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 Percentage of households linked to sewage system? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 49.3

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ X=Unknown

2.6 Additional Information

- > The length of sewage system is about 4000 km. the technical and sanitary condition of the system is inappropriate, which can cause water infections and illnesses. As of 2017, in big cities (with population more than 140 000) sewage system covers about 93.2%, in black sea coastal touristic cities 32.3% and in other settlings 28.7%.
- 2.7 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine if relevant to your country? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ X=Unknown

2.8 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ B=No

2.9 Number of wastewater treatment plants (or volume treated exist at national level)? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ E=Exact number (plants)

> 4

2.9 Additional Information

- > As of 2020 4 wastewater treatment plants are operating in the country: Adjara-Adlia, Kobuleti, Sachkhere and Tbilisi-Rustavi wastewater treatment plants.
- 2.10 How is the functional status of the wastewater treatment plants? If relevant to your country SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ C=Functioning

2.11 The percentage of decentralized wastewater treatment technology, including constructed wetlands/ponds is?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ Y=Not Relevant

2.12 Additional Information

- > There is no wastewater reuse system in the country.
- 2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ Y=Not Relevant

2.14 Does your country use a wastewater treatment process that utilizes wetlands as a natural filter while preserving the wetland ecosystem?

Target 3

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

[Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

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=Partially

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	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

- 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 \square B=No
- 3.4 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? $\{1.11.2\}$ KRA 1.11.i \square B=No

Target 4

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

{Reference to Aichi Target 91

- 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
- 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
- 4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems? \square B=No
- 4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?

 ☑ B=No
- 4.5 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed? \square B=No

Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 13, 14, 15]

Target 5

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

- 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
 ☑ A=Yes
- 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

> 2

5.4 Of the Ramsar Sites with a formal management plan, for how many of these is the plan being implemented? {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i

☑ E=Exact number (sites)

> 2

5.5 Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

> 2

5.3 - 5.5 Additional information

- > All the Ramsar sites at this moment are protected under the National Protected Areas. The management plan of Ispani Mire and Wetlands of Central Kolkheti are established. The Management plan for Madatapa and Bughdasheni lakes is prepared and will be approved in near future. Before that, the lakes are managed by the temporary regulations.
- 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

 C=Partially
- 5.6 Additional information
- > Management effectiveness has been assessed for 2 sites in Georgia
- 5.7 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv ☑ Y=Not Relevant

Target 7

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

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

☑ A=Yes

7.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established > All the existing Ramsar sites are inside the boundaries of National Protected Areas, on which the actions which can cause the negative impacts on the site are prohibited.

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

☐ A=Yes

7.2 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 > Georgia has made article 3.2 report for the Wetlands of Central Kolkheti

7.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, such as requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.6.3} KRA 2.6.ii
☑ Z=Not Applicable

Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]

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 [Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? $\{1.1.1\}$ KRA 1.1.i \square A=Yes

8.1 Additional information

- > Identification, Delineation and Classification of Wetlands of Georgia, carried out by Ilia State University with financial support of GIZ
- 8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?
 ☑ Y=Not Relevant

8.2 Additional information

- > The Firs National Wetland inventory was completed in 2017

8.3 Additional information

- > The information is maintained by Biodiversity and Forest Policy Department of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture.

8.4 Additional information

- > Yes, anyone who requests the information by letter from the Ministry receive it.
- 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	□ P=Status Improved☑ O=No Change□ N=Status Deteriorated
b) Wetlands generally	☐ P=Status Improved ☑ O=No Change ☐ N=Status Deteriorated

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.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

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 $\ \square$ A=Yes

9.1 Additional information

> It is represented in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Georgia.

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

☑ C=In Progress

9.2 Additional information

- > New Draft law on Biodiversity has been elaborated, on which the legal aspects for implementation of Ramsar Convention are envisaged
- 9.3 Are wetlands treated 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

☑ D=Planned

- 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} ☑ B=No
- 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
- 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 \square B=No
- 9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes
b) climate change	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes
c) valuation of ecoystem services	□ C=Planned ☑ B=No □ A=Yes

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

☑ B=No

9.9 Has your country made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolution XIII. 21?
☑ B=No

Target 10

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

[Reference to Aichi Target 18]

10.1 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)

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

Please select only one per square.

a) stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous people are represented on National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies	□ D=Planned □ C=In Preparation ☑ B=No □ A=Yes
b) involvement and assistance of indigenous people's and community-based groups, wetland education centres and non-governmental organizations with the necessary expertise to facilitate the establishment of participatory approaches	□ D=Planned □ C=In Preparation ☑ B=No □ A=Yes

10.3 Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been documented and their application encouraged (Action 6.1.2) \square B=No

Target 11

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

- 11.1 Have ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands been researched in your country, recorded in documents like State of the Environment reporting, and the results promoted? {1.4.1} KRA 1.4.ii ☑ B=No
- 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 \square B=No
- 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 \square A=Yes

11.3 Additional information

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

> For all 4 Ramsar sites in Georgia: Ispani Mire, Wetlands of Central Kolkheti, Bugdasheni lake and Madatapa
Lake

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19)? {1.4.3} {1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii
☑ A=Yes

11.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names
> For all 4 Ramsar sites in Georgia: Ispani Mire, Wetlands of Central Kolkheti, Bugdasheni lake and Madatapa
Lake

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.} [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

- 12.1 Additional information
- > There is a recommendation in the management plan for Kolkheti protected Areas for the restoration of some areas in Ispani Mire
- 12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented? $\{1.8.2\}$ KRA 1.8.i

12.3 Have the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands and on Peatlands, climate change and wise use (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.11) been implemented including? Please select only one per square.

a) Knowledge of global resources	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
b) Education and public awareness on peatlands	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
c) Policy and legislative instruments	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
d) Wise use of peatlands	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
f) International cooperation	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes
g) Implementation and support	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes

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 [Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

13.1 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 \square A=Yes

13.1 Additional information

- > Environmental Assessment Code has entered into force from 2018, according to which preparation of Strategic Environmental assessment for different sectors for their development plans is required, this is the instrument for sustainable development of these sectors which will reduce negative impact on wetlands.
- 13.2 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

13.2 Additional information

> Environmental Assessment Code has entered into force from 2018, according to which Environmental Impact Assessments are required for the different development projects that may affect wetlands.

Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17]

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
 ☑ B=No
- 15.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {3.2.2}

 ☑ B=No

Target 16

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}
[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 18]

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	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ C=In Progress
b) Sub-national level	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ C=In Progress
c) Catchment/basin level	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ C=In Progress
d) Local/site level	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ C=In Progress

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

a) at Ramsar Sites

☑ E=Exact Number (centres)

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

b) at other wetlands

☑ Y=Not Relevant

16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks > Ramsar sites Madatapa Lake and Bugdasheni lake have the same visitor center.

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	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes

16.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved > Before making decisions there are public discussions held.

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? $\{4.1.6\}$ KRA 4.3.v \square B=No

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

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	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No ☑ A=Yes
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	□ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No ☑ A=Yes

16.6 Additional information

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

> If necessary Administrative Authority and other relevant organizations exchange information by official letters.

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 COP13? {4.1.8}
☑ A=Yes

16.7 Additional information

> The Conference for the school students was hend in the administrative Center of Kobuleti Protected Areas (Ispani mire) in 2019. Students prepared the presentations regarding the services that Wetlands provide

16.8 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP13 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? $\{4.1.9\}$

Target 17

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

- 17.1a Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2018, 2019 and 2020? $\{4.2.1\}$ KRA 4.2.i \square A=Yes
- 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
- 17.3 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management in other countries? {3.3.1} KRA 3.3.i

☑ Z=Not Applicable

- 17.4 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii
 ☑ Z=Not Applicable
- 17.5 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

 Z=Not Applicable
- 17.6 Has any financial support been provided by your country to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?
 ☑ B=No

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

- 18.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.1} {3.1.2} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv
 ☑ D=Planned
- 18.1 Additional information
- > National Ramsar/Wetland Committee is not yet established in Georgia
- 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 \square A=Yes
- 18.3 Has your country received assistance from one or more UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO) or the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.ii.

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

☑ B=No

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

- 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
- 18.6 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i ☑ Z=Not Applicable
- 18.7 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
 ☑ D=Planned
- 18.8 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii

 □ A=Yes

Target 19

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

[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17]

- 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 \square B=No
- 19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes?
 ☑ B=No
- 19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv
- a) at Ramsar Sites
- ☑ E=Exact number (opportunities)

> 0

- 19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv
- b) at other wetlands
- ☑ E=Exact number (Opportunities)

> 0

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

 $\ \square \ A=Yes$

19.4 Additional information

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

> The activities included in previous repots were analized and the future activities were planned accordingly.

Section 5: Optional annex to enable Contracting Parties to provide additional voluntary information on designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites)

Guidance for filling in this section

- 1. Contracting Parties can provide additional information specific to any or all of their designated Ramsar Sites.
- 2. The only indicator questions included in this section are those from Section 3 of the COP14 NRF which directly concern Ramsar Sites.
- 3. In some cases, to make them meaningful in the context of reporting on each Ramsar Site separately, some of these indicator questions and/or their answer options have been adjusted from their formulation in Section 3 of the COP14 NRF.
- 4. Please include information on only one site in each row. In the appropriate columns please add the name and official site number (from the Ramsar Sites Information Service).
- 5. For each 'indicator question', please select one answer from the legend.
- 6. A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

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

Georgia

Ispani Mire (894)

- 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? $\{1.6.2\}$ KRA 1.6.ii
- 5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site? \square B=No
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site? \square B=No
- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

☑ A=Yes

- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
 ☑ A=Yes
- 16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

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

Wetlands of Central Kolkheti (893)

- 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? $\{1.6.2\}$ KRA 1.6.ii \square A=Yes
- 5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site? \square B=No
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- ☑ A=Yes
- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

 ☑ A=Yes
- 16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site? $\Box A Yes$
- 16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

 ☑ A=Yes

Bugdasheni Lake (2434)

- 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii \square B=No
- 5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
 ☑ B=No
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site? \square B=No
- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- ☑ A=Yes
- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
 ☑ A=Yes
- 16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

 □ A=Yes
- 16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
 ☑ A=Yes

Madatapa Lake (2435)

- 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? $\{1.6.2\}$ KRA 1.6.ii \square B=No
- 5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site? \square B=No
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site? \square B=No
- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- ☑ A=Yes
- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
 ☑ A=Yes

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

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