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#search-contacts

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)
› LATVIA

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

Dokuments_no_skenera_040220211537.pdf

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

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

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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)
› An inventory of the habitats of EU importance (including wetlands) of Latvia has been completed. The result of the inventory is qualitative and spatial data on the extent and quality of the habitats of the EU importance.

2)
› Establishment of anthropogenic load decreasing infrastructure in wetlands.

3)
› Development, update and implementation of management plans for wetlands (including Ramsar sites).

4)
› Various projects are implemented in connection with the management of wetlands, including measures for species and habitats protection, restoration and recovery of the natural water level.

5)
› -

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

1)
› Insufficient funding for continued and sustainable management planning and implementation in wetlands.

2)
› Conflicting protection objectives between ecological quality and biological diversity of wetlands and water quality and wastewater treatment.

3)
› Economic interests of forestry and peat extraction in wetlands.

4)
› -

5)
› -

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

1)
› Adjustment of the protected areas, their border delineation and zoning, based on the data from habitat inventory mentioned above.

2)
› Development, update and implementation of management plans for wetlands.

3)
› Wetland habitats management.

4)
› Public awareness raising on wetlands.

5)
› Setting of sites specific conservation objectives for protected areas (including Ramsar territories).

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?
› No

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)
› No comment

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)?
› National implementation measures are based mainly on the ecological requirements of the protected species and habitats, irrespectively on the international agreement "in charge". Bigger impact have legal requirements stemming from the EU nature legislation.

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?
› • Wetland protection issues are integrated into Environmental Policy Framework (2014-2020), which foresee the inventory of specially protected species and habitats in the country, and the determination of their conservation targets.
• Wetlands protection issues are incorporated in River Basin Management plans elaborated in accordance to Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).
• Forest and associated sectors development guidelines 2015-2020 foresees to maintain biodiversity at an existing level.

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.
› There are no gender inequalities in the context of participating in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research.

I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?
› No

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 the Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Nature Conservation Agency, The Nature History Museum of Latvia

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

1.1 Additional information

› a) Wetland protection issues are integrated into Environmental Policy Framework (2014-2020), which foresee the inventory of specially protected species and habitats in the country, and the determination of their conservation targets. The Framework prescribes the preparation of the species and habitat distribution maps and development of guidelines for management.
c) Wetlands protection issues are incorporated in River Basin Management plans elaborated in accordance to Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).
d) Maritime Spatial Plan (MSP) for internal sea waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic zone of Latvia 2030 is a national level long-term spatial development planning document that defines the use of the sea, considering a terrestrial part that is functionally interlinked with the sea and co-ordinating interests of various sectors and local governments in use of the sea. MSP is approved in 2019.
e) National long-term thematic plan for the development of public infrastructure on the Baltic Sea coast. The plan is a territorial development planning document for the development of the entire coastal public infrastructure network and attraction of investments until 2030, focusing on one of the most important areas of economic development on the coast - the development of tourism and recreation. Direct impacts to wetlands of the Framework are associated with coastal infrastructure projects that may affect nearby surface water body water quality, as well as groundwater quality and level.
f) Forest and associated sectors development guidelines 2015-2020 foresees to maintain biodiversity at an existing level.
h) Wetland protection issues are integrated into Environmental Policy Framework (2014-2020), which foresee the inventory of specially protected species and habitats in the country, and the determination of their

conservation targets. The Framework prescribes the preparation of the species and habitat spread maps, development of guidelines for management.
j) Latvian tourism development Framework 2014-2020 identifies nature tourism as one of the strategic goal (using a ~ 500 km long coastline as an exclusive Latvian natural resource) Environmental Policy Framework (2014-2020) forsees to ensure good water status and sustainable use.

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]

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
› Within the framework of the project GrounEco financed by the EU funded EST_LAT program, a conceptual model has been developed for ecosystems that depend on groundwater for one object - the Kazu grava spring area (Gauja river basin).

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

› No comment

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.)

☑ A=Yes

2.3 Additional Information
› Member States (please, see https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/use-of-freshwater-resources-3/assessment-4), therefore water resources allocation is not characteristic in our country. Latvian legislation prohibits to change the water level and to promote erosion, within specially protected nature areas. It is also illegal to cause changes in groundwater or surface water level within specially protected nature areas without the consent of the appropriate competent authority. Besides, according to Protection Zones Law protection zones around marshes shall be determined in order to preserve biological diversity and to stabilize the regime of humidity in the zone of contiguity (transition) of the forest and marsh.

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.)

☑ C=Partially

2.4 Additional Information
› Small scale projects at municipal level.

2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
› 100

2.5 Additional Information
› All wastewater is collected and treated either in centralised sewerage systems (used by ~ 77% of population in 2016) or in decentralised sewerage systems (used by ~ 23% of population in 2016).

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

› 77%

2.6 Additional Information
› This is a number of population, which has access to centralised sewerage networks (2016 data).

2.7 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine if relevant to your country?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

› 23%

2.7 Additional Information
› Precise data on the use of various types of decentralised wastewater treatment systems are not available at the moment. In July 2017, new governmental regulations entered into force, which require municipalities to establish registers of decentralised wastewater treatment systems by the end of 2021. Therefore more precise and detailed information will be available as from 2022.

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

2.8 Additional Information
› Constructed wetlands have been used as a wastewater treatment technology by some demonstration projects. However, such use is not a widespread or common practice.

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

☑ E=Exact number (plants)

› 1292

2.9 Additional Information
› This figure includes all those wastewater treatment plants, which discharge above 5 m3/wastewater/ per day and are subject to permitting. Registration of the smaller ones is ongoing; it will be completed by 2022.

2.10 How is the functional status of the wastewater treatment plants? If relevant to your country
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ A=Good

2.10 Additional Information
› No comment

2.11 The percentage of decentralized wastewater treatment technology, including constructed wetlands/ponds is?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
☑ C=Functioning

2.11 Additional Information
› As already mentioned under question 2.8, precise information on the use of different types of decentralised wastewater treatment technologies is not available at the moment.

2.12 Number of wastewater reuse systems (or volume re-used) and purpose?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
› 9

2.12 Additional Information
› Latvia is rich in natural water resources, therefore it s not necessary to use treated wastewater for irrigation, artificial recharge of groundwater or drinking water production. However, industrial water users reuse wastewater, if possible, to reduce their costs, including, to reduce natural resources tax payments (this tax is paid for water abstraction and discharges of pollutants into water; it is not applied to recycled water). According to State Statistical Report on water abstraction and use, ~ 9 % of abstracted water went through recirculation systems in 2019.

2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
☑ T=Industrial

2.13 Additional Information

Please indicate if the wastewater reuse system is for free or taxed or add any additonal information.
› Latvia is rich in natural water resources, therefore it s not necessary to use treated wastewater for irrigation, artificial recharge of groundwater or drinking water production. However, industrial water users reuse wastewater, if possible, to reduce their costs, including, to reduce natural resources tax payments (this tax is paid for water abstraction and discharges of pollutants into water). According to State Statistical Report on water abstraction and use, ~ 9 % of abstracted water went through recirculation systems in 2019.

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

2.14 Additional information: If Yes, please provide an example
› No comment

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

3.1 Additional Information
› The principles of wise management of wetlands are being promoted by involving local people in practical wetland management activities (for example, haymaking, reed and shrub cutting).

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

3.2 Additional information
› Most of existing Ramsar sites are partly uninhabited or representing vast water bodies where the role of private ownership is small. In the same time there are varios activities that are carried out by landowners or local inhabitants:
- in Lake Kanieris and Lake Engure Ramsar site local inhabitants have been involved in reed and shrub cutting and haymaking activities.
- in Lubana Wetland complex local inhabitants and enterprises have been participated in the management of meadows and artificial nests, removal of overgrowth from artificial islands as well as in reed burning acitvities in pounds. Local association “Pie kraujas” has created a nature trail to visit the area.
- in Lake Engure Ramsar site local hunter association has implemented the project on reed fragmentation, grasslands restoration and creation of artificial islands for birds.

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
☑ C=Partially

3.3 Additional information
› The Rural Development Program provides support from EU funds for the maintenance of biologically valuable grasslands, including in the Ramsar sites.

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

3.4 Additional Information
› According to the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers allocation of state and EU funding for building, reconstruction and renovation of drainage systems are not supported in Natura 2000 sites (all LV Ramsar sites are Natura 2000 sites)

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 9]

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

4.1 Additional information
› According to geographical coverage all monitoring programs are created to obtain country-wide data in limited resource conditions, and none of the programs is aimed for monitoring only specific areas.
The fact sheets of EU and national invasive alien species are available, but there is no list of invasive alien species specific for wetlands prepared yet.
In the case of Eriocheir sinensis several research activities have been performed on the species distribution in the territory of Latvia, including coastal marine waters.
The distribution of invasive plant species Sosnowski hogweed Heracleum sosnowskyi has been mapped;
An inventory of marine invasive species has been carried out (mainly in port areas), information is available in the database AquaNIS http://www.corpi.ku.lt/databases/index.php/aquanis
The spread of invasive marine species Neogobious melanostomus and its impact on costal habitats has been studied.

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
☑ A=Yes

4.2 Additional information
› Necessary amendments of national legislation for all invasive species are in process. However changes in policy will apply for whole country not for specific areas. In the future more specific division for areas could be elaborated.
The CN codes listed in Regulation (EU) 2019/1262 of 25 July 2019 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1141 to update the list of invasive alien species of Union concern are included in the TARIC measure specifically created by the European Commission for imports and are integrated into the Latvian national Integrated Tariff Management System (ITV), which is one of the customs information systems.
EU Regulation (No 1143/2014) on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species has been in force since 2014. This Regulation sets out rules to prevent, minimize and mitigate the adverse impact on biodiversity of the introduction and spread within the Union, of invasive alien species.
Of the 66 species of invasive alien species in the EU there are 18 species in Latvia (11 are found in the wild).
Elaboration of the action plans for eradication the most significant invasive alien species (posing the biggest threat to biodiversity and human health) will be done in the nearest future.
Programme for eradication and control of giant hogweed Heracleum sosnowskyi is elaborated and approved.

4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems?
☑ A=Yes

4.3 Additional Information

If ‘Yes’, please provide examples, including the species name and the successful management action
› As national policy as well as management measures will apply for whole country, it is hard to assess them now specifically for wetlands.
Management measures shall be proportionate to the impact on the environment and appropriate to the

specific circumstances, while also minimising the impact on non-targeted species and their habitats and be based on an analysis of costs and benefits.
Several research activities in frame of projects will be performed in future.
E.g. currently the rapid eradication is applied in the case of Trachemys scripta by the “remove from nature” process where other wild species are not affected.
Voluntary observations for Eriocheir sinensis and fishermen activities in by-catch are in use.
The invasive plant species Sosnowski hogweed is the only one that has been subject to large-scale measures to combat and restrict it. It is the responsibility of landowners to restrict the distribution of this species.
Invasive species Rosa rugose is being controlled through management actions in protected nature areas.

4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?
☑ B=No

4.4 Additional Information

If ‘Yes’, please provide examples, including the species name and the challenges to management
› The fact sheets of EU and national invasive alien species are available but there is no list of invasive alien species specific for wetlands prepared yet.
Prioritising of invasive species by high or low impact on the environment is not performed therefore it is hard to assess now.

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

4.5 Additional Information
› As there is no list of invasive alien species specific for wetlands prepared yet therefore it is hard to assess now.
Also applying of management measures started recently therefore the effectiveness could not be evaluated yet.

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
☑ B=No

5.1 Additional information
› No comment

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
› No comment

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

› 4

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)

› 4

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
› Management plans are approved for Pape Wetland complex, Lake Engure, Lake Kanieris and Northen bogs Ramsar sites. Development of management plan for Lubana Wetland complex Ramsar site was started in 2020. For Ramsar site Teici and Pelecare bog management plan is for part of the wetland (for nature reserve “Pelecare bog”).

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
› In the LIFE + project "Protection and management of priority wetland habitats in Latvia" in Northen bogs Ramsar site hydrological regime monitoring has been initiated.
In Lake Engure Ramsar site post project monitoring has been continued (assessment of the effectiveness of management measures in the restored grasslands carried out within the framework of the EU LIFE Project “COASTLAKE”). Monitoring results show that the management measures carried out have been successful and are in line with their objective - the quality of the habitats and their areas has been increased.
In Teici and Pelecare bogs Ramsar site scientific monitoring of meadows takes place every year.

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)

› 6

5.7 Additional information

If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites
› Consultative boards (the aim of the boards are to promote and support cooperation between state and local government institutions, non-governmental and public organizations) are established for Pape Wetland Comlpex (No 1386), Lake Engure (No 738), Teici and Pelecare Bogs (No 740) and Lubana Wetland Complex (No 1384). Consultative Boards of Kemeri National park and North Vidzemes Biosphere Reserve oversee issues related to the Ramsar site Lake Kanieris (No 739) and Northern Bogs (No 1385).

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
› Such mechanism is foreseen in Latvian legislation. Environmental Protection Act states that every person, organizations or groups have the right to provide information to public authorities and local governments on activities that affect or may affect the quality of the environment, as well as information about the negative environmental changes resulting from such actions or activities.

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
› No comment

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

7.3 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, please indicate the actions taken
› No comment

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
☑ C=In Progress

8.1 Additional information
› National habitat mapping field studies completed in 2020, however work on data analysis is still ongoing. The national habitat mapping is carried out within the EU funded project 'Preconditions for better biodiversity preservation and ecosystem protection in Latvia'. The goal of the project is to collect detailed, scientifically-grounded information about Latvia's natural resources, their quantity, diversity, distribution, and condition.

8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?
☑ C=In Progress

8.2 Additional information
› National habitat mapping completed in 2020, but work on data analysis is still ongoing.

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

8.3 Additional information
› All wetland inventory data is available and maintained by Nature ConservationAgency in the Natural data management system ‘OZOLS’ http://ozols.daba.gov.lv/pub

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

8.4 Additional information
› Natural data management system OZOLS is freely accesible for general public. Data management system has open and restricted sections. Data included in the restricted sections are also available to the stakeholders and managers, however, every user of data should obtain special permit to access of data. Information on peat bogs and peat resoures in Latvian is available in the data base (http://www2.meteo.lv/kudras_inovacijas/login.php) maintained by State limited Liability Company "Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre".

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

8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)
› The assessment of the quality of the habitats was made in 2019 (Habitats Directive’s Article 17 report), there is no further evaluation.
The results of the Habitats Directive’s Article 17 report (2019) (http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/lv/eu/art17/envxwalvg/) on the status of species and habitats show that only 11%

of habitat types of the EU importance are in a favourable conservation status in Latvia.
43 % (3 of 7) of bog and fen habitats have a favorable conservation status; the remaining 57 % (4 of 7) have an inadequate conservation status. Bog and fen habitats are threatened mainly by the unfavorable change of hydrological regime, peat extraction, natural succession (including competition, overgrowing with forest), fires, change in agricultural practices, forest clearing, water pollution, trampling and overuse, afforestation, fragmentation and isolation of habitats.
57 % (4 of 7) of freshwater habitats in Latvia have an inadequate conservation status, 9 % (2 of 7) are in an unknown conservation status, and only 14 % (1 of 7) have a favourable conservation status. Freshwater habitats are threatened mainly by hydrological modifications, pollution from agricultural lands and increased surface run-off from forest clear-cuts, arable lands and point sources, eutrophication, expansion of built-up areas and urbanization, tourism, leisure, hunting and fishing pressures.
According to the Article 17 Habitats Directive's report, 90 % (7 of 8) of marine and coastal habitats in the Baltic Sea and Boreal regions in Latvia are in an inadequate conservation status. 10 % (1 of 8) are in an unknown conservation status. The main threats to marine and coastal habitats are tourism and leisure activities, urbanization, expansive and invasive species, overgrowing due to the lack of regular management and changes in agricultural practices, pollution, eutrophication, fragmentation and isolation, changes in sediment flows. The coastal habitats are being affected by natural processes (storms, erosion, and coastal dynamics).

8.6 Based upon the National Wetland Inventory if available please provide a figure in square kilometres for the extent of wetlands (according to the Ramsar definition) for the year 2020 and provide the relevant disaggregated information in the box below. This Information will also be used to report on SDG 6, Target 6.6, Indicator 6.6.1, for which the Ramsar Convention is a co-custodian.
☑ E=Exact Number (km2)

› 5663,7

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
A -- Permanent shallow marine waters in most cases less than six metres deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.	1060,13
B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.	0
C -- Coral reefs.	0
D -- Rocky marine shores; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.	0
E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.	0
F -- Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.	0
G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.	
Ga -- Bivalve (shellfish) reefs.	

H -- Intertidal marshes; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.	
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.	
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.	
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons; includes freshwater delta lagoons.	
Zk(a) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, marine/coastal.	

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands total (km2)

› 1060,13

8.6 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
L -- Permanent inland deltas.	
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.	
N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.	
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.	994.975
P -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.	
Q -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.	
R -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.	
Sp -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.	
Ss -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.	

Tp -- Permanent freshwater marshes/pools; ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.	
Ts -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils; includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.	87,3
U -- Non-forested peatlands; includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.	1087,24
Va -- Alpine wetlands; includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.	
Vt -- Tundra wetlands; includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.	
W -- Shrub-dominated wetlands; shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.	
Xf -- Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands; includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.	
Xp -- Forested peatlands; peatswamp forests.	1278,3
Y -- Freshwater springs; oases.	
Zg -- Geothermal wetlands.	
Zk(b) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland.	

8.6 Inland Wetlands total (km2)

› 3447,815

8.6 Human-made wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
1 -- Aquaculture (e.g., fish/shrimp) ponds.	
2 -- Ponds; includes farm ponds, stock ponds, small tanks; (generally below 8 ha).	

3 -- Irrigated land; includes irrigation channels and rice fields.	
4 -- Seasonally flooded agricultural land (including intensively managed or grazed wet meadow or pasture).	
5 -- Salt exploitation sites; salt pans, salines, etc.	
6 -- Water storage areas; reservoirs/barrages/dams /impoundments (generally over 8 ha).	
7 -- Excavations; gravel/brick/clay pits; borrow pits, mining pools.	
8 -- Wastewater treatment areas; sewage farms, settling ponds, oxidation basins, etc.	
9 -- Canals and drainage channels, ditches.	
Zk(c) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, human-made.	

8.6 Human-made wetlands total (km2)

› 0

8.6 Additional information

Additional information: If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years. Please note: For the % of change in the extent of wetlands, if the period of data covers more than three years, provide the available information, and indicate the period of the change.
› Reference or link: Habitats Directive’s Article 17 report (2019), http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/lv/eu/art17/envxwalvg/
1 Marine and coastal halophytic (brackish) habitats: 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time, 1150* Coastal lagoons, 1170 Reefs, 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines, 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks, 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts, 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand, 1630* Boreal Baltic coastal meadows, 1640 Boreal Baltic sandy beaches with perennial vegetation, 2190 Humid dune slacks;
2Freshwater habitats: 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorellatea uniflorae and/Isoeto-Nanojuncetea, 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp., 3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation, 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds, 3190* Lakes of gypsum karst, 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation, 3270 Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation
3 Mire habitats: 7110* Active raised bogs, 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration, 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs, 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion, 7160 Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and sprinfens, 7210* Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae, 7220* Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Crataneuron), 7230 Alkaline fens;
4 Forest habitats: 9080* Fennoscandian deciduous, swamp forests , 91D0*Bog woodland, 91E0* Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae).
5Grassland habitats: 6410 Molinia meadows in calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae), 6450 Northern Boreal alluvial meadows.
There are no data on the area of human-made habitats in Latvia.

8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges)to develop, update or complete a National Wetland Inventory

› National habitat mapping field studies have been completed, however work on data analysis is still ongoing.

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
☑ B=No

9.1 Additional information
› No comment

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

9.2 Additional information
› Amendments to the Ramsar Convention Law have been adopted in the end of 2020, which envisages the extension of the Lake Kanieris Ramsar site. All Kemeri National park according to the Ramsar criteria is designated as Ramsar site (Lake Kanieris un Kemeri bog).

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
☑ A=Yes

9.3 Additional information
› No comment

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

9.4 Additional information
› No comment

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
☑ C=Partially

9.5 Additional information
› On July 17, 2019, the Cabinet of Ministers approved Latvia's plan for adaptation to climate change for the period until 2030 in order to help the Latvian population and economy to better adapt to the ongoing climate change and thus reduce the losses caused by climate change. One of the strategic goal is to reduced and preserve Latvia's nature and cultural and historical values from negative impact of climate change.

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
› No comment

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

9.7 Additional information
› b) EU LIFE program project ‘’Sustainable and responsible management and re-use of degraded peatlands in Latvia’’ has been implemented (2015-2019); the main goal of the project was the establishment of a decision support system for responsible and sustainable degraded peatland re-use and management in Latvia; one of project objective was to develop a decision support tool for land re-use planning of degraded peatland areas, providing the most optimal balance of the aspects of ecological restoration for biodiversity, benefits for economic growth and GHG emission reduction for long-term mitigation of negative climate change impacts in Latvia.
c) Ecosystem services assessments have been incorporated into various EU planning documents, including the Biodiversity Strategy 2011 – 2020, which requires Member States to identify, map and assess ecosystems and their services. The EU project "Assessment of ecosystems and their services for nature biodiversity conservation and management" (2014-2020) has been implemented, the project main aim was to promote on ecosystem services evaluation based sustainable decision-making in Latvian coastal policy and planning documents as well as to create public awareness regarding ecosystem services.

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
› No comment

9.9 Has your country made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolution XIII. 21?
☑ C=Partially

9.9 Additional information: (If ‘Yes’, please indicate what actions have been implemented)

If ‘Yes’, please indicate what actions have been implemented
› National habitat inventory data are available for public authorities in decision making process as well as for landowners and nature managers. Landowners are informed about the habitats (including small scale wetland habitats) identified in their property.

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)
☑ A=Yes

10.1 Additional information

If yes please indicate the case studies or projects documenting information and experiences concerning culture and wetlands
› In 2018, the scientific research work of the University of Latvia was carried out in Lubana Wetland complex (on the shore of Lake Lubana). The object of the research was the study of sediments in the territories of the Stone Age settlements Asni and Sulagals. The aim of the research was: a) to find out the paleogeographical and paleoecological conditions during the existence of settlements; b) to find evidence of changes in the water level during the development of Lake Lubana.
Within the framework of the joint project “Let's meet to protect” of four local municipalities, a virtual tour - an interactive repository of natural treasures has been created - 360 degree photographs and aerial views of the most significant cultural and historical places of Balvi municipality located in the territory of Lubana Wetland and in its immediate surroundings.

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

10.2 Additional information

If the answer is "yes" please indicate the use or aplication of the guidelines
› No comment

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)
☑ B=No

10.3 Additional information
› Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been used.

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
☑ C1=Partially

11.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many wetlands and their names
› The assessment of Ramsar site/wetland services has not been carried out, however under various projects recommendations have been developed and ecosystem assessment approaches are approbated.
- Life project "EcosystemServicies" (2014-2020) - developed recommendations for applying the ecosystem services assessment approach in municipal decision-making and spatial-planning processes in Latvian coastal areas; approbate ecosystem services assessment approach in the selected pilot areas in Jaunķemeri and Saulkrasti.
- Life project "LIFE Restore" – an assessment of ecosystem services of Lauga bog has been made.

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
☑ C=Partially

11.2 Additional information
› Traditionally for locals is allowed to pick the berries and angle in wetlands for small seasonal incomes.

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

11.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names
› Nature management plans among other things include also description of the socio-economic and cultural values of the territory. Nature management plans have been developed and approved for four Ramsar sites

(Pape Wetland Complex, Lake Engure, Northen Bogs and Teici and Pelecare Bogs) and for large numbers of protected sites.

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
› Nature management plans among other things include also description of the socio-economic and cultural values of the territory. Nature management plans have been developed and approved for four Ramsar sites (Pape Wetland Complex, Lake Kanieris, Lake Engure and Teici and Pelecare Bogs) and for large numbers of protected sites.

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 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i
☑ A=Yes

12.1 Additional information
› In National Conservation and Management Programme for Natura 2000 sites in Latvia have been identified necessary management and habitat restoration measures for all protected areas in Latvia. The restoration measures to be taken are specified during the development of nature management plans.

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

12.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored
› Various types of wetlands management activities are carried out in all Ramsar sites, though funding is not sufficient to carry out all the necessary management activities.
In the same time many activities have been carried out in several protected areas related to wetlands.

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

12.3 Additional Information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please indicate, the progress in implementation
› a) and b) Knowledge of global resources as well as education and public awareness on peatlands is partly promoted in framework of various international projects related to the restoration and management of mire habitats. For example, LIFE Climate Mitigation project “Peat Restore”.
c) Guidelines for the sustainable use of peat 2020-2030, adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers 10.11.2020. The guidelines identify key areas for action. For example, inventory of peat deposits and management and provision of sustainable peat resources, as well as use in the national economy. The guidelines also envisage improving the legal framework for the use of bogs and building institutional capacity, improving the availability of information and promoting scientific research and innovative solutions for peat extraction.
d) The guidelines for the sustainable use of peat for 2020-2030 comprehensively cover the use of peat and are the basis for long-term planning of the use of peatlands.

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
☑ A=Yes

13.1 Additional information
› Requirements for strategic environmental impact assessment are set up in the law ““On Environmental Impact Assessment” and subordinated Government Regulations for implementation of strategic environmental impact assessment. Strategic environmental impact assessment is an environmental impact assessment for a planning documents, the implementation of which may have a substantial impact on the environment, as well as the preparation and discussing of an environmental review, the involving of the public in the preparation of the documents and decision-making. Strategic assessment is implemented for planning documents during their preparation before they are accepted for the approval.

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
› Requirements for procedure for environmental impact assessment in Latvia are established by the law “On Environmental Impact Assessment” and subordinated Government Regulations. These documents are harmonized with the respective EU Directives. The law and its subordinated regulations defines sequence of

implementation of the assessment, explains rights, obligations and liabilities of all concerned parties, as well as describes result of the environmental impact assessment and its influence towards decision-making procedure.
Separate evaluation procedure is set for assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites (all Latvian Ramsar sites are Natura 2000 sites).

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
☑ A=Yes

15.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative
› Latvia participate in the NorBaltWet regional initiative. Collaborating countries are Scandinavian countries, Baltic States and Russia.

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)
› No comment

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

16.1 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

› No comment

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)

› 4

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
☑ E=Exact Number (centres)

› 1

16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks
› a) Information center “Nature school” in Kemeri includes training and educational events in Lake Kanieris Ramsar site. Information Center and observation towers in Lubana Wetland Complex, Pape Wetland Complex and in Teici and Pelecare Bogs Ramsar site are established, North Vidzeme Nature education center.
b) Nature education center “Razna”.

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
› a) Procedure of management plans development for protected territories (including Ramsar sites) involves a public consultation and steering group establishment (with representatives of the local population), promoting stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management.
Pape Wetland Complex consulative board, Kemeri consultative board, Lubana Wetland Complex consultative board foresees to involve stakeholders in decision-making on wetland planning and management.
Voluntary monitoring of river water biological quality raise public awareness and involve people in planning and decision making process at local level.
b) according to national legislation any person or organization may submit a proposal for the creation of new protected site; all landowners and stakeholders are informed about the creation of the site and their interests are taken into account. Locals are involved in Ramsar site management activities.

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

16.4 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has
› No comment

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 COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee

has
› No comment

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
› No comment

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
› During the reporting period there have been organized a lot of Ramsar-branded activities. Most of activities were organized by Nature Conservation Agency and Latvian Museum of Natural History. Various kinds of presentations, lectures, hiking trips, bicycle tours, green afternoons, creative lessons, workshops, reeds sculpture festivals, TV story and interactive games have taken place all over the country, particular in schools, museums, libraries and municipalities around the Ramsar sites.

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}
☑ A=Yes

16.8 Additional information

If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this
› Lubana Wetland Information Center, Nature School Kemeri and Nature education center "North Vidzeme" has organized lot of different events related to wetlands - Bird Days and bird watching events, bicycle expeditions, mushroom cognition events, habitat menagement events, hiking tours, lectures, etc. Lubana Wetland Information Center and Kemeri nature school constantly offers excursion and nature exploration opportunities for groups of students and adults to introduce to nature values of wetlands and their significance. Every year the information centers staff leads 30 - 40 excursions and classes for different audiences.

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
☑ A=Yes

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

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
› No comment

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

17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12
› No comment

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

17.4 Additional information
› No comment

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

17.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12
› No comment

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
› No comment

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
☑ B=No

18.1 Additional information
› No comment

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
☑ C=Partially

18.2 Additional information
› Formal links exist, but there are no close contacts.

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

18.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' please name the agency (es) or IOP (s) and the type of assistance received
› No comment

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

18.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved
› The exchange of experience takes place mainly in the framework of various projects and scientific conferences.

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
› Information about wetlands and Ramsar sites are available on Nature Conservation Agency web site (www.daba.gov.lv) and on Ministry of the Environmental protection and Regional Development web site (www.varam.gov.lv).

18.6 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i
☑ A=Yes

18.6 Additional information
› No comment

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
☑ C=Partially

18.7 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place
› - Latvia and Belarus signed an agreement (2010) on cooperation in the protection and sustainable use of cross-border protected nature territories.
- Cooperation between Latvian and Lithuanian municipalities on joint and mutually tuned management activities mostly deals with water quality issues, to lesser extent as well to the biodiversity issues.

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

18.8 Additional information
› - Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds
- Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats
- Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Aquatic Warbler (Acrocephalus paludicola)

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
☑ B=No

19.1 Additional information
› No comment

19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes?
☑ A=Yes

19.2 Additional information

If you answer yes to the above please provide information on which mechanisms and materials
› Nature protection issues (including the protection of wetlands) are included in general education programms in schools as well as in nature science programms in universities.

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
☑ X=Unknown

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
☑ X=Unknown

19.3 Additional information

including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training
› Special trainings have not been provided, although the employees of the Nature Conservation Agency and wetland managers have been trained in various projects indirectly related to wetlands.

19.4 Have you (AA) used your previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention? {4.3.1} KRA 4.3.ii
☑ B=No

19.4 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring
› No comment