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)

> Republic of North Macedonia

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

letter to Ramsar.pdf

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority

> MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANING

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

> Naser Nuredini

Mailing address

 Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Sq.Presveta Bogorodica br.3 1000 Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

Email

> KABINET-MOEPP@moepp.gov.mk

Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

Mailing address

 Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Sq.Presveta Bogorodica br.3 1000 Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

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

Name and title

> Branko Micevski, University Prof.Dr.Sci., President of MRC

Name of organisation

> Macedonian Ramsar Committee

Mailing address

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Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme

on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title

> Pejo Kirovski State Environment Inspector Secretary Genegal MRC

Name of organisation

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

Name and title

> Branko Micevski, President of BSPSM

Name of organisation

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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)

> Nomination Lake Ohrid as a new Ramsar site

2)

> Proclamation of the Osogovo mountain as a new protected area

3)

> Preparation of first national red list of herpetofauna

4)

> Staring procedure so proclamation of Shara Mountain and Studenticko Blato as new protected area

5)

> Determining ecosystems at the national level.

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

1)

> Preparation of a Management plan for Natural monument Prespa lake 2020-2030

2)

> Lack of financial resources for monitoring of wetlands

3)

> Macedonian Ramsar Committee is still operating without financial support for implementing its annual programme

4)

> Ensure financial resources for preparation of the Study of valorization for Belcisko blato

5)

> Ensure continuous wetland monitoring at the national level

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

1)

> Proclamation of a new Ramsar sites - Ohrid lake

2)

> Preparation and adoption of Management plan for Dojran lake and Prespa lake

3)

> Ensuring financial stability of the Macedonian Ramsar Committee for implementation of development documents

4)

> Reproclaim a Ohird lake as a monument of nature

5)

> Preparation National strategy for protection of wetlands

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

> Better cooperation and coordination with the Macedonian Ramsar Committee

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)

> Better transparency of the work of Macedonian Ramsar Committee

- 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)?
- > with implementation of National Strategy for Nature Protection with Action Plan (2017-2027) and National Biodiversity Strategy with Action Plan for the period (2018-2023)
- 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?
- > with a implementation of Law on water as well river basin management plan
- 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.
- > in the preparation of management plans the are presence of women is sufficient
- I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?
- > Developing countries don't get enough financial support for implementation of the convention
- 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 Environment and Physical Planning Macedonian Ramsar Committee

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
I) National policies on infrastructure	□ X=Unknown □ D=Planned □ C=Partially □ B=No □ A=Yes □ Y=Not Relevant
m) National policies on industry	
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	
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	

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.

☑ C=Partially

- 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) \square B=No
- 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.)

☑ C=Partially

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

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

> 92

2.5 Additional Information

Population coverage (%)Piped sewers 80.8Septic tanks 11.2

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

2.7 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine if relevant to your country? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ G=More than (percentage)

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

☑ A=Yes

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

☑ E=Exact number (plants)

> 24

- 2.9 Additional Information
- > There are 24 WWTPs, with a total capacity of 525,000 pop. eq., which represents 24.5 per cent of the required capacity
- 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.

☑ C=Functioning

- 2.12 Additional Information
- > as at November 2018, it can be estimated that up to 24.5 per cent of wastewater is potentially treated. Most of the wastewater plants only have secondary treatment. Due to the lack of maintenance and other reasons, WWTPs sometimes need to discontinue operation. By providing a clear structure and concentrating responsibilities on singular central bodies, municipalities' access to technical assistance and capital funding in the wastewater sector could be facilitated.
- 2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ R=Agriculture

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

☑ A=Yes

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

☑ A=Yes

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

☑ C=Partially

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

☑ B=No

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
- 4.2 Have national policies or guidelines on invasive species control and management been established or reviewed for wetlands? {1.9.2} KRA 1.9.iii

☑ B=No

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

B=No

4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?

☑ X=Unknown

4.5 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed? ☑ Y=Not Relevant

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
 ☑ C=Partially
- 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

 ☑ D=Planned
- 5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i
 ☑ F=Less than (sites)
- 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
 ☑ F=Less than (sites)
- 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
 ☑ F=Less than (sites)
- 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 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv
 ☑ E=Exact number (sites)

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 > Yes, State environmental inspectorate

- 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
- 7.3 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 D=Planned

- 8.1 Additional information
- > we requesting fund for complete National Wetland Inventory
- 8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?

 ☑ B=No
- 8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained? $\{1.1.2\}$ KRA 1.1.ii \square B=No
- 8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information made accessible to all stakeholders? $\{1.1.2\}$ KRA 1.1.ii \square D=Planned
- 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

8.6 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)

> 71

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.

- > in our country there are 71 km2 of wet habitats (swamps, swamps, ponds, peat, etc.), of which 57 km2 are lowland, and 14 km2 are mountainous (over 1200 m). Glacial lakes, fishponds, reservoirs, rivers, etc. are not included here.
- 8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges) to develop, update or complete a National Wetland Inventory
- > required technical assistance and best practice to define and complete a National Wetland Inventory

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

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

☑ D=Planned

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
 ☑ D=Planned
- 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?
☑ C=Partially

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)
 ☑ B=No
- 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
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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 \square A=Yes

11.1 Additional information

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

- > The condition of the ecosystems at the national level has been determined. The ecosystem services of the basic ecosystems at the national level are mapped, with special emphasis on the protected areas. A report for assessment and mapping of ecosystem services at the local level has been prepared for the Monument of Nature Vevchani Izvori. As part of the implementation of a long-term capacity building plan for all stakeholders, trainings were conducted for stakeholders on issues related to ecosystem services.
- 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
 ☑ D=Planned
- 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 C=Partially
- 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
 ☑ C=Partially

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 \square C=Partially
- 12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i
- ☑ D=Planned

12.2 Additional information

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

> The Prespa Lake Action Plan of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning prepared by the established Expert Working Group (ERG).

The action plan contains measures that are elaborated in detail, with a determined priority and defined time frame of implementation, accompanied by projected finances necessary for their implementation. The action plan is integral and defines all important stakeholders, who will be involved with their specific responsibilities and activities in its implementation.

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
- > SEA and EIA is obligatory according Law on Environment
- 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

Page 13 of 36

13.2 Additional information

> SEA and EIA for infrastrucre projects is obligatory according Law on Environment

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
 ☑ D=Planned
- 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)

> 2

- 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
- 16.3 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

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

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

☑ A=Yes

16.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has

> Macedonian ramsar Committee

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

16.7 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

16.8 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

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 \square 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

☑ B=No

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

☑ Y=Not Relevant

17.5 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

☑ B=No

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

☑ A=Yes

17.6 Additional information

If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities >> annual program for investments in the environment

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
- 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
 ☑ D=Planned
- 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? $\{3.4.1\}$ \square C=Partially
- 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
- 18.6 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? $\{3.5.1\}$ KRA 3.5.i \square A=Yes
- 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 \square A=Yes
- 18.8 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii ☑ D=Planned

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

☑ C=Partially

- 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

☑ C=Partially

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

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

Goal 1

Target 1: Wetland benefits

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

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority
☑ B=Medium

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing
☐ C=Limiting

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Additional Information

> Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Target 2: Water Use

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

Target 2: Water Use - Priority
☑ B=Medium

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Target 3: Public and private sectors

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Target 4: Invasive alien species

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment. [Reference to Aichi Target 9]

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Priority
☑ C=Low

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing
☑ D=Severely limiting

Goal 2

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites

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

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Priority $\ \ \, \square$ B=Medium

Target 7: Sites at risk

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

Target 7: Sites at risk - Priority
☑ A=High

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Goal 3

Target 8: National wetland inventories

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i. [Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Priority \square A=High

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Target 9: Wise Use

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

Target 9: Wise Use - Priority
☑ B=Medium

Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing
☑ D=Severely limiting

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels. [Reference to Aichi Target 18].

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Priority
☑ B=Medium

Target 11: Wetland functions

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

Target 11: Wetland functions - Priority
☑ A=High

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Target 12: Restoration

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

Target 12: Restoration - Priority
☑ A=High

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

☑ C=Limiting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods.[Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Priority $\ \square$ B=Medium

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing
☐ C=Limiting

Goal 4

Target 15: Regional Initiatives

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Priority
☑ B=Medium

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing
☑ B=Adequate

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use

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

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Priority $\ \square$ A=High

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing
☐ C=Limiting

Target 17: Financial and other resources

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

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

Target 18: International cooperationInternational cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority ☑ A=High

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing $\ \square$ C=Limiting

Target 19: Capacity Building

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17].

Target 19: Capacity Building - Priority
☑ A=High

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing
☑ C=Limiting

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.

North Macedonia

Dojran Lake (1735)

- 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 R=No
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site? \square D=Planned
- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

☑ C=Partially

- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
 ☑ C=Partially
- 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

Lake Prespa (726)

- 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?

 ☑ D=Planned
- 11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

☑ C=Partially

- 11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- ☑ C=Partially
- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site? \square C=Partially
- 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