## 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) > Romania

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

scrisoare transmitere raport COP 14.pdf - Letter of support in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Romania's official submission of its COP14 National Report.

## **Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority**

Name of Administrative Authority

> Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

> Barna Tánczos, Minister of Environment, Waters and Forests

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## **Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters**

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

#### Name and title

> No national focal point designated

#### Name of organisation

> No national focal point designated

#### Mailing address

> No national focal point designated

#### Telephone/Fax

> No national focal point designated

#### Email

> No national focal point designated

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

#### Name and title

> Antoaneta Oprisan, senior adviser

#### 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

> Marius Vlaicu, senior resercher

#### Name of organisation

> "Emil Racovita" Institute of Speleology

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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)

> Designation of a new Ramsar site, Jijia – Iasi Wetlands, in the present Romania has 20 Ramsar sites with a surface area of 1,117,942 hectares.

2)

> Raising public awareness through CEPA and annual celebrations of World Wetlands Day.

3)

> Participation in the BlackSeaWet regional initiative for protection of Black Sea and Azov Sea coastal wetlands.

4)

> Updating of the Romanian Ramsar Information Sheets submitted to the Secretariat.

5)

> Extension of the existing Ramsar site Dumbravita Fish Pond.

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

1)

> To ensure financial support for activities developed in the wetlands.

2)

> Continuing financial constraints and insufficient capacity of conservation staff to survey wetlands.

3)

> Lack of Ramsar National Committee.

4)

> Increasing pressure from the development activities on all types of wetlands.

5)

> Lack of funds/subsidies.

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

1)

> Continuing to update the Ramsar Information Sheets for all Romanian sites.

2)

Development of the international cooperation with Serbia for the transboundary designation between Djerdab National Park and Iron Gates Natural Park.

3)

> Support for regional initiatives and cooperation, coordination and harmonisation with other MEAs.

4)

> To continue implementing the Natura 2000 network (by developing site-specific management plans) together with the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), alongside the national strategy on biological diversity.

5)

- > Development of CEPA activities, wide use of existing materials for education and public awareness on wetlands.
- D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?
- > Support for capacity building activities for managers, more webinars on management of Ramsar sites and

implementation of recommendations adopted by COPs.

- 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) > There is already a good cooperation with Wetlands International and Birdlife International.
- 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)?
- > Close collaboration with CBD on integrating conservation issues into various policy areas, consultation of national focal points on reporting.
- 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?
- > The Ramsar obligations are generally well integrated in national, regional and local policies and strategies, like the implementation of Natura 2000, the Water Framework Directive.
- 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.
- > Equality between men and women concerns access to employment, equal pay, maternity protection, parental leave, social and occupational insurance, social security, the burden of proof in cases of discrimination and self-employment.
- Decisions, projects, research studies related to Ramsar sites take into account the different capacities, needs and aspirations of males and females, respectively, and their equal treatment. It is considered to ensure equal opportunities in terms of involvement of human resources in all activities, in the formation of management teams, in the project implementation process, as well as in decision making.
- The criterion of equal opportunities is respected also in the activities of information and awareness, as well as in those of strengthening the administrative capacity, being a selection without any form of discrimination based on sex, ethnic or racial origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

  > The Ramsar obligations are generally well integrated in policies and strategies (see G). The Ramsar sites in Romania, are well protected sites, designated under Natura 2000. The impact of all these measures on the condition of wetlands can generally however not be observed within a triennium or three years period. This requests long-term monitoring.
- J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report
- > Miistry of Environment, Waters and Forests, National Environmental Protection Agency, "Emil Racovita" Institute of Speleology, National Administration "Romanian Waters"

# 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	
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	
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	

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

> -

#### 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. 
☑ A=Yes

#### 2.1 Additional Information

> Romania like all other EU Member States, has the obligation to implement the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The WFD establishes a legal framework to protect and restore clean water across Europe and ensure its long-term, sustainable use. The directive establishes an innovative approach for water management based on river basins, the natural geographical and hydrological units and sets specific deadlines for Member States to protect aquatic ecosystems. The directive addresses inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater.

- 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)

  ☑ C=Partially
- 2.2 Additional Information
- > Romania put lots of efforts in the decline and mitigation of environmentally harmful substances. Long-term monitoring is carried out to assess the impact of this policy. Results to date reveal that the environmental quality and water quality have improved in natural areas. However, the environmental pressure is still considered too high to ensure an optimum quality of habitat for many species.
- 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
- 2.3 Additional Information
- > Allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands is an integral part of the decision-making process in Romania.
- 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. )

☑ A=Yes

#### 2.4 Additional Information

> The quantity and quality of water available to and required by wetlands, has for decades been an integral part of individual wetland management plans. Maximizing the ecological values is not always the main function. Management plans illustrate a balance between ecology and other functions. http://www.ddbra.ro/en/danube-delta-biosphere-reserve-authority/development-investments-program/danubeparksconnected-project-dtp1-1-005-2-3-bridging-the-danube-protected-areas-towards-a-danube-habitat-corridor-a1953 http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/danube-floodplain

2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 56

#### 2.5 Additional Information

> Approximately 11 million residents are currently connected to wastewater collection systems in Romania. This represents about 56% of the total population. Wastewater collection service coverage is more favorable in the region Bucharest -Ilfov where around 88% of population is connected to a public wastewater collection system, while in other region like South Muntenia, North- Est and South – West Oltenia this percentage is lower.

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

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

> 49

2.6 Additional Information

> -

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

☑ X=Unknown

2.7 Additional Information

> -

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

☑ B=No

2.8 Additional Information

> -

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

☑ E=Exact number (plants)

> 519

2.9 Additional Information

> -

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

2.10 Additional Information

> -

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

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

☑ X=Unknown

2.11 Additional Information

> -

- 2.12 Number of wastewater reuse systems (or volume re-used) and purpose? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
- > Unknown
- 2.12 Additional Information
- > The purpose is for industrial usage.
- 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 additional information.

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

☑ B=No

2.14 Additional information: If Yes, please provide an example

> -

#### 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

3.1 Additional Information

> The methodology of management plans for the Ramsar sites (also Natura 2000 sites) is based on a multistakeholder approach including private parties like the recreational sector, farming and fisheries sector. Sustainable or wise use is the key word.

Individual projects of the private sector in wetland areas – such as industrial plant construction, commercial development or excavations – are subject to the statutory provisions under the Environmental Impact Assessment and Nature Conservation Act. These are designed to prevent or compensate for any adverse ecological impacts that may emanate from such measures.

Recreational and tourism use impairs the ecological functions and the wild fauna and flora of many wetlands.

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

- > Maintaining of or achieving the favourable conservation status of habitats and sites of international importance is an obligation of the land owner and land user, who can be compensated or can be supported by the financial contribution. Some management activities are implemented with the agreement of the land owners or land users.
- 3.3 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands?  $\{1.11.1\}$  KRA 1.11.i  $\square$  A=Yes
- 3.3 Additional information

> -

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

#### 3.4 Additional Information

> Romania nature conservation legislation provides the basis for preventing and eliminating mechanisms with an adverse effect; this also applies to implementation of the relevant EU Directives. The removal of perverse incentive measures is an important objective of the Romanian Biodiversity Strategy.

#### 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  $\square$  C=Partially

#### 4.1 Additional information

> Currently Romania is developing a project "Adequate management of invasive species in Romania in accordance with the EU Regulation no.1143/2014 regarding the prevention and the management of introduction and spread of invasive alien species", which will provide the national inventory of invasive alien species.

The Ministry of Environment issued the Ministerial Order which approach the issues regarding the threats from invasive species, but at general level, not focusing especially on wetlands.

The elaboration of the list of invasive alien species in all 7 Carpathian countries was included in the project Integrated management of biological and landscape diversity for sustainable regional development and ecological connectivity (BIOREGIO Carpathians).

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  $\square$  A=Yes

#### 4.2 Additional information

- > There are measures proposed in the management plans of protected areas and in the Action Plan of the National Biodiversity Strategy to prevent and control invasive alien species.
- 4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems?

☑ X=Unknown

#### 4.3 Additional Information

If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the successful management action > -

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

☑ X=Unknown

#### 4.4 Additional Information

If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the challenges to management  $\rightarrow$  -

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

> -

## 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  $\square$  D=Planned

#### 5.1 Additional information

- > All wetlands of international importance in Romania, among which 20 Ramsar sites, have been designated as Natura 2000-sites under the EU Bird and Habitat Directives. Naming and delineation of the Ramsar sites is exactly the same as for Natura 2000. After several 'designation waves', the designation of further sites is no longer considered a high priority task in the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Romania. Further designations may take place, but are not planned in such number that a strategy or priorities should be identified. Anyway it is planned to establish a national strategy.
- 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

#### 5.2 Additional information

- > No further identification of potential Ramsar sites has been carried out. All wetlands of international importance have already been designated as EU Natura 2000 sites. All Ramsar sites to date are also Natura 2000-sites.
- 5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i

☑ E=Exact number (sites)

> 12

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)

> 10

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)

> 8

#### 5.3 - 5.5 Additional information

- > Almost all Romanian Ramsar Sites have management plans in accordance with valid nature conservation standards. Other site management plans are currently being drawn up in this way.

  During the course of drawing up management plans for the protection of the NATURA 2000 sites under national law, management plans were also drawn up for the sites which meet the criteria of the Ramsar Convention. For some of these management plans the revision process is ongoing.
- 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

#### 5.6 Additional information

- > All Ramsar sites are also designated as EU Natura 2000-sites. A Natura 2000-management plan has a validity of five years. During these five years, the effects of the measures on the realization of conservation goals are monitored. Depending on the outcome of the evaluation, the validity of the management plan may be extended for another five years or a new management plan with new measures will be drawn up.
- 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)

> 5

#### 5.7 Additional information

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

> For all national/natural park administration including Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, exist a Scientific Council and an Advisory Management Council including all the stakeholders acting inside the PAs or being interested in the PAs. (Danube Delta Biosphere reserve, Small Island of Braila National Park, Mures Floodplain Natural Park, Comana Natural Park, Calimani National Park - includes the Poiana Stampei Peat Bog).

#### Target 7

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

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

☑ A=Yes

#### 7.1 Additional information

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

> All the administrations for Ramsar sites are aware and known that is necessary to report to the Administrative Authority, the changes or the likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar sites, pursuant to Article 3.2. as soon as possible. All Ramsar sites overlap with Natura 2000 sites and are subject for monitoring and reporting also to the European Commission.

Compulsory monitoring of and reporting on protected Natura 2000 sites, as well as within the context of the Natura 2000, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), constitute an important basis for identifying changes in the ecological character of wetlands.

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 
☑ O=No Negative Change

#### 7.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some cases', please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made > The specialists of administrators are tasked with monitoring any ecological changes in the Ramsar Sites. Only changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites which are classified as being particularly significant at national level are reported to the Ministry of Environment and Ramsar Secretariat by the Ministry of Environment. In accordance with this procedure, not all impairments have been reported to the Secretariat, because - as described in 7.1 - there are other national mechanisms for investigating and assessing such effects and deciding on how to tackle them.

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

### 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  $\square$  C=In Progress

#### 8.1 Additional information

> Currently Romania is developing a national project focused on updating the existing database and the inventory of habitats and species listed in Annexes of EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC and EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, including wetland habitats and water-related species. New designations were prepared for Natura 2000 network according to the results of the reporting under Habitats Directive. The total number of wetlands attributable to the individual categories cannot be stated at present, since there has been no such evaluation to date

The wetland habitat types defined by the Habitats Directive are subject to systematic monitoring and reporting, and this is used for development purposes in areas whose territory is largely identical to the Ramsar sites.

- 8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?  $\square$  B=No
- 8.2 Additional information

> -

- 8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii  $\square$  C=Partially
- 8.3 Additional information

> -

8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information made accessible to all stakeholders?  $\{1.1.2\}$  KRA 1.1.ii  $\square$  C=Partially

#### 8.4 Additional information

> All data is available to the authorities and other institutions for the purposes of wetland assessment, the designation of protected areas and plans, as well as management and monitoring of the wetland areas. This information is available in the same way for all interested groups and individuals, both via the Internet websites of the environment, nature conservation, water and other specialized authorities at local and ministry level, and for viewing directly at the specialized authorities themselves.

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)

- > a) The national report pursuant to the Habitats Directive provides an important basis for monitoring and evaluation, and contains data on the conservation status of species and habitats in areas which are entirely or partially identical to the Ramsar Sites. All Romanian Ramsar Sites overlap with the Natura-2000 network by at least 90%. Romania submitted two reports under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive (in 20013 and in 2019), including data on the status and trends of Annex I habitats. The condition of the 17 Annex I habitats in Romania that can be considered as wetlands has shown a slightly genuine change (a favorable status), on a national scale, between the two reports (2013 and 2019). The second assessment of the conservation status of habitat types and species under the Habitats Directive was undertaken in 2019. This assessment also provided a basis for the development and future adaptation of relevant management plans. The report on the Habitat Directive (data up to 2019) shows that the conservation status of Habitat Directive species and habitat types has remained more or less stable.
- b) Wetlands are monitored by administration of National/Natural Parks and the National Agency for Natural Protected Areas according to national regulation of management of Pa's. Information concerning changes in wetland areas is collated, supplemented, updated and administered by the administrators for more in-depth analyses, evaluations and reports.
- 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.

  □ X=Unknown

#### 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.	-
B Marine subtidal aquatic beds; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.	-
C Coral reefs.	-
D Rocky marine shores; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.	-
E Sand, shingle or pebble shores; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.	-

F Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.	-
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 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
L Permanent inland deltas.	-
M Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.	-
N Seasonal/intermittent/irre gular rivers/streams/creeks.	ı
O Permanent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.	-
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.	r
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.	-
U Non-forested peatlands; includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.	-
Va Alpine wetlands; includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.	ı
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.	1
Xf Freshwater, tree- dominated wetlands; includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.	-
Xp Forested peatlands; peatswamp forests.	-
Y Freshwater springs; oases.	-
Zg Geothermal wetlands.	-
Zk(b) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland.	-

## 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 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.

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

> There is needed financial contribution in order to develop 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

If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box  $\ \square$  A=Yes

#### 9.1 Additional information

> In Romania, wetlands issues are part of the comprehensive National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAP) that was updated in 2018, outlining visions, targets and measures for the conservation and development of coastal region and sea, lakes, rivers, flood plains and peatlands.

☑ B=No

#### 9.2 Additional information

- > No amendment specifically for Ramsar commitments has been planned as the legislations already cover Ramsar aspects adequately.
- 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  $\square$  A=Yes

#### 9.3 Additional information

> As part of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

The law considers wetlands to be part of the water infrastructure and hence an integral part of water resources management at water catchment area level. In particular, cooperation between central and local authorities and river basin districts, equivalent to nature conservation and water planning authorities, has been intensified thanks to the WFD. In accordance with the WFD, groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems are viewed as indicators of groundwater status. A good status can only be achieved if there is no groundwater-related significant damage to groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems. Under the new water legislation procedures, groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems are generally taken into account with the aim of excluding ecological damage. All affected habitats are subject to appropriate monitoring. Additionally, surface waters fall under the protection of the WFD.

Programmes of measures and management plans for the respective river basins were prepared for water catchment areas in application of the WFD's holistic approach.

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} ☑ A=Yes

#### 9.4 Additional information

> In implementing the European Water Framework Directive, the water legislation requires the information and involvement of the general public in the preparation of management plans for river basins and water bodies. Additionally, the international river basin commissions, such as the International Commissions for the Protection of the Danube, together with a range of environmental protection groups, make valuable contributions to the understanding of such plans through their public relations work and educational courses, as well as by making a range of information materials publicly available.

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

#### 9.5 Additional information

- > Romania's strategy for adapting to climate change recommends promoting synergetic measures for a variety of climate change impacts, which could include measures to improve the watercourse hydromorphology, for example.
- 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 
  ☑ A=Yes

#### 9.6 Additional information

- > The Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 supports habitats of natural and semi-natural grasslands (hygrophilous grasslands) within approved measures and sub-measures.
- 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

> -

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

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

If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented

#### 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

> Management plans:

The Protected Areas Act requires the elaboration of management plans for protected areas. Besides the Act there is also a special regulation which determines a comprehensive procedure related to the elaboration of management plans for protected areas. Management plans are obligatory for all the categories of Pa's. Management plans are developed on the basis of comprehensive socio-economic information, information about cultural and historical heritage, data about the infrastructure within and around the protected areas. Management plans provide zoning of the territories and define specific regimes for use and utilization of the separate zones according to their conservation value. They are agreements between the interested parties, namely the protected area's managers and local population. They are tools for development of opportunities for sustainable development and use of natural resources.

Management plans are developed for a period of 5 years.

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

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)

☑ D=Planned

10.3 Additional information

> -

#### 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 > "Romania was developing through EEA/Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021 a project: Demonstrating and promoting natural values to support decision-making in Romania, that has a component regarding assessment of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by natural protected areas".

11.2 Have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans been implemented?  $\{1.4.2\}$  KRA 1.4.i  $\square$  B=No

11.2 Additional information

> -

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

#### 11.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names > The socio-economic values of wetlands are taken into consideration in planning for nationally protected areas (Romania's Ramsar sites overlap with Natura 2000 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

☑ C=Partially

#### 11.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names > The cultural values of wetlands are taken into consideration in planning for nationally protected areas (Romania's Ramsar sites overlap with Natura 2000 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  $\square$  A=Yes

#### 12.1 Additional information

- > In the River basin management plans, Romania committed to restore about 470.000 ha of floodplain by 2021.
- 12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented?

#### 12.2 Additional information

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

- > Restoring habitats in the Iron Gates Wetlands Restoring 91E0 and 92A0 habitats (planting Salix alba in Iron Gates wetlands); Restoring habitats for priority birds species
- Rehabilitation and conservation of wetlands and floodplain areas along the Danube and their affluents until 2020, project developed by WWF and Coca Cola
- At the Olt-Danube Confluence, 950 hectares of meadows were re-grown within a four-year project. Today, the Gerai Lake is again home to the red duck and the small cormorant, and the locals in the area have begun to enjoy the benefits that such an area can bring with the services offered by nature.
- 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

#### 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

- > The competent authorities regularly review policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon the conservation of wetlands in accordance with the valid legal foundations, such as the regulations on nature conservation intervention, environmental impact assessments (EIA) and strategic environmental assessments (SEA). The strategic environmental assessment directive of the Parliament and the Council of the European Union (2001/42/EC) is implemented by Government Decree no. 1076/2004.
- 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

#### 13.2 Additional information

> Wetlands covered by Natura 2000 are protected in accordance with the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 57/2007 regarding the regime of natural protected areas, conservation of natural habitats, wild flora and fauna, approved with amendments and completions by Law no. 49/2011. This states that projects with the potential, either individually or in combination with other projects and plans, to significantly impair the site must be reviewed for their compatibility with conservation objectives before they can be approved or executed.

Projects that may have an impact on Natura 2000 sites and among them practically all the important wetlands also require an appropriate assessment under the Habitats Directive (in cases when EIA is not required), transposed into Romania legislation by Government Emergency Ordinance no. 57/2007.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Directive of the Parliament and the Council of the European Union (2014/52/EU) is implemented by Law no. 292/2019.

### **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  $\square$  A=Yes

#### 15.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative > Black and Azov Seas Coastal Wetlands Initiative - BlackSeaWet Initiative and Carpathian Wetland Initiative. The implementation of the CWI has been transferred to the Carpathian Convention. Collaborating countries: Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Serbia.

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?  $\{3.2.2\}$   $\square$  B=No

#### 15.2 Additional information

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

#### 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

- > Management plans for wetlands include part with CEPA actions and programme on local/site level.
- 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)
- > 11
- 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)

> 0

#### 16.2 Additional information

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

## 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 > Public participation is included in the national legislation and guidelines for decision making processes and for management planning of protected sites and sites of international importance. Stakeholders have been involved in all relevant projects implemented during the last triennium.

All most important wetlands in Romania are part of the Natura 2000 Network. Pursuant to the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for the development and approval of management plans for protected zones (Natura 2000 sites), prior to final approval by the Minister of Environment, plans are subject to public consultation with the affected community and all stakeholders. Also, according to the current Ordinance on the development of management plans for protected areas, draft management plans for all PA's are subject to mandatory public hearing.

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

#### 16.4 Additional information

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

> The National Ramsar Committee is subject of discussion with the Parliament. It will be headed up by the Ministry of Environment and will be formally composed of representatives from the ministry – biodiversity directorate, National Environmental Protection Agency, National Agency for Natural Protected Areas, National Environmental Guard, research institutions, nature conservation groups and land user groups.

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

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

> Sufficient established communication channels exist between the competent authorities, departments and institutions to facilitate the mutual exchange of information.

National Environmental Protection Agency and National Agency for Natural Protected Areas are the interface between AA and managers, NFPs and other ministries, departments and agencies.

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

> All Ramsar sites managers, the Ministry of Environment, The National Environmental Protection Agency and the local Agencies for Environmental Protection develop activities for celebration of World Wetlands Day, such:

posters, meetings, broadcast, live television, awareness activities for young people and for children.

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?  $\{4.1.9\}$ 

#### 16.8 Additional information

If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this > Different events (World Water Day, Danube Day, European Birds Day, World Migratory Bird Day, World Environment Day, conferences) are used to highlight the themes. The activities include exhibitions, lectures, competitions, excursions for schools on a hiking tour with Natura, other educational programmes for school children and teachers, workshops and seminars.

### 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

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

17.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.2.2} KRA 4.2.i 
☑ B=No

#### 17.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities

17.3 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management in other countries? {3.3.1} KRA 3.3.i

☑ Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12

17.4 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii

☑ Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.4 Additional information

> -

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

☑ Z=Not Applicable

#### 17.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12

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

### 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

#### 18.1 Additional information

- > National focal points of other MEAs are not invited to National Ramsar Committee meetings but are informed of developments. The focal points of relevant MEA's are employees of the Ministry of Environment. In some cases the same person is the focal point for more environmental international agreements.
- 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 
  ☑ A=Yes

#### 18.2 Additional information

> The focal points of MEAs are employees of the Ministry of Environment. In some cases the same person is the focal point for more environmental international agreements. Some specialists are members of several national committees for different conventions.

NFP for Ramsar Convention is as well a NFP for CHM and BCH under CBD.

18.3 Has your country received assistance from one or more UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO) or the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.ii.

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

☑ A=Yes

#### 18.3 Additional information

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

- > Overall, a number of nature conservation groups in Romania contribute to the protection and conservation of wetland areas and waterbodies through local, regional and national projects. These include the Romanian Ornithological Society (SOR), which is a Birdlife Partner at international level; WWF the initiator of the designation of transboundary Ramsar Sites: lezerul Călărași Srebarna, Suhaia Belene, Bistreț Ibisha Island, and also implicated in designation of many of the Ramsar sites.
- 18.4 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features?  $\{3.4.1\}$   $\square$  A=Yes

#### 18.4 Additional information

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

- > It was established international Danube River Network of Protected Areas (DANUBEPARKS).
- 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  $\square$  A=Yes

#### 18.5 Additional information

> Information about the country's wetlands including Ramsar sites and their status are public available through both publications and web sites.

(e.g. On the web page www.ddbra.ro were posted reports on the status of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve and were produced some awareness materials within several projects with EU funds.) Each national/natural park directorate maintains a website on which Ramsar sites is also feature. To raising the awareness both on BlackSeaWet members as an initiative and on the importance and the beauty of the Black Sea coastal wetlands and their biological diversity, MoE Bulgaria published a booklet titled "DISCOVER BLACK SEA COAST, 38 BLACKSEAWETlands to visit". The publication included three parts: Part with information on Ramsar Convention, second part with information on BlackSeaWet Initiative and last part with profiles of each of Black Sea coastal countries - Bulgaria, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine.

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

☑ A=Yes

#### 18.6 Additional information

> Border-region water management committees have been set up with all neighbouring countries and they identified all transboundary wetland systems.

Apart from implementing the Water Framework Directive, the fundamental objectives of the International Commissions set up for most of the river basins are general protection from pollution, improving water quality, coordinating flood protection, and making all aquatic and interlinked terrestrial ecosystems as natural as possible, as well as reinforcing the mutual exchange of information.

As such, transboundary cooperation in waterbody management is one of the most important foundations of an integrative protection strategy and cooperative management mechanism for transboundary river basins.

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 
☑ A=Yes

#### 18.7 Additional information

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

> Agreement of Co-operation in the field of protection and sustainable use of transboundary waters between the Government of the Romania and the Government of Hungary (2003, 2004)

Romania has signed intergovernmental agreements on cooperation on water management in transboundary waters with Ukraine.

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

> Romania is a Contracting Party to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.

Wetland-dependent migratory species are taken into account when coordinating regular nationwide surveys and targeted surveys of specific within the context of bird species monitoring by the specialist local authorities.

#### Target 19

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

[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17]

19.1 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made?  $\{4.1.4\}$  KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii  $\square$  B=No

#### 19.1 Additional information

> No such assessment has been undertaken to date; furthermore, the structures and capacities of the management institutions and responsibilities in the individual Ramsar Sites are very varied.

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

#### 19.2 Additional information

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

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

a) at Ramsar Sites

☑ E=Exact number (opportunities)

> 0

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

b) at other wetlands

☑ E=Exact number (Opportunities)

**>** 0

#### 19.3 Additional information

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

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

#### 19.4 Additional information

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

> The National Report Format was used in analysis of shortcomings, compiling of annual work plans and drawing of the new action plan for wetlands conservation and wise use in Romania.