

NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

National Reports to be submitted to the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Wuhan, China, 2021

The purpose of this Microsoft Word form is to help Contracting Parties to collect data for the National Report. However, the data collected through this form must be transferred to the online national reporting system at https://reports.ramsar.org, or the Word form must be sent by email to nationalreports@ramsar.org, by 21 January 2021 for the official submission of the National Report. If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (nationalreports@ramsar.org).

Please note that for Contracting Parties wishing to provide information in the online reporting system on national targets (optional Section 4 of the National Report Format or on the Word form), the deadline is 24 January 2020.

Ramsar COP14 National Report Format (NRF)

Background information

- 1. The COP14 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee at its 57th meeting (SC57) for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention.
- The NRF has been issued by the Secretariat in 2019 to facilitate Contracting Parties'
 implementation planning and preparations for completing the Report. The deadline for
 submission of national targets is 24 January 2020 and the deadline for submission of completed
 National Reports is 21 January 2021 (final dates will be updated once the dates for COP14 are
 agreed).
- 3. This COP14 NRF closely follows what has been used for COP13, to permit continuity of reporting and analysis of implementation progress by ensuring that indicator questions are as far as possible consistent with previous NRFs (and especially the COP13 NRF). It is also structured in terms of the Goals and Strategies of the 2016-2024 Ramsar Strategic Plan adopted at COP12 through Resolution XII.2.
- 4. This COP14 NRF includes 90 indicator questions. In addition, Section 4 is provided as an optional annex in order to facilitate the task of preparing the Party's national targets and actions for the implementation of each of the Targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024 in accordance with Resolution XII.2.
- 5. As was the case for previous NRFs, the COP14 NRF includes an optional section (Section 5) to permit a Contracting Party to provide additional information on indicators relevant to each individual Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar Site) within its territory.
- 6. Note that, for the purposes of this national reporting to the Ramsar Convention, the scope of the term "wetland" is that of the Convention text, i.e. all inland wetlands (including lakes and rivers), all nearshore coastal wetlands (including tidal marshes, mangroves and coral reefs) and human-made wetlands (e.g. rice paddy and reservoirs), even if a national definition of "wetland" may differ from that adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention.

The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

- 7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention and are made publicly available on the Convention's website.
- 8. There are seven main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are:
 - to provide data and information on how, and to what extent, the Convention is being implemented;
 - ii) to provide tools for countries for their national planning;
 - iii) to capture lessons and experience to help Parties plan future action;
 - iv) to identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
 - v) to provide a means for Parties to account for their commitments under the Convention;

- vi) to provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementing the Convention, and to plan its future priorities; and
- vii) to provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
- 9. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention".
- 10. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, the Ramsar Secretariat holds in a database all the information it has received and verified. As for COP13, the COP14 reports will be in an online national reporting system.
- 11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
 - i) provide an opportunity to compile and analyze information that contracting parties can use to inform their national planning and programming;
 - ii) provide the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global, national and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the COP as a series of Information Papers, including:
 - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level; and
 - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance);
 - iii) provide information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP;
 - iv) provide the source data for time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (4th edition, 2010); and
 - provide information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP used the COP10 NRF indicators extensively in 2009 to prepare contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems for consideration by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3). Similar use of COP13 NRF indicators is anticipated for the CBD's post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The structure of the COP14 National Report Format

12. The COP14 National Report Format (NRF) is in five sections:

Section 1 provides the institutional information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.

Section 2 is a 'free-text' section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

Section 3 provides the 90 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention Implementation Goals and Targets in the Strategic Plan 2016-2024, and with an optional 'freetext' section under each indicator question in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of that activity.

Section 4 is an optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on the targets and actions for the implementation of each of the targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024.

In line with Resolution XII.2, which encourages Contracting Parties "to develop and submit to the Secretariat on or before December 2016, and according to their national priorities, capabilities and resources, their own quantifiable and time-bound national and regional targets in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan", all Parties are encouraged to consider using this comprehensive national planning tool as soon as possible, in order to identify the areas of highest priority for action and the relevant national targets and actions for each target.

The planning of national targets offers, for each of them, the possibility of indicating the national priority for that area of activity as well as the level of resourcing available, or that could be made available during the triennium, for its implementation. In addition, there are specific boxes to indicate the National Targets for implementation by 2021 and the planned national activities that are designed to deliver these targets.

Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 shows the synergies between CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Ramsar Targets. Therefore, the NRF provide an opportunity that Contracting Parties indicate as appropriate how the actions they undertake for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets according to paragraph 51 of Resolution XII.3.

Section 5 is an optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that so wishes to provide additional information regarding any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

General guidance for completing and submitting the COP14 National Report Format

Important – please read this guidance section before starting to complete the National Report format

- 13. All Sections of the COP14 NRF should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
- 14. The deadline for submission of the completed NRF is January 21st 2021. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP14.

- 15. The deadline for submission of national targets is by 24 January 2020.
 16. All fields with a pale yellow background _______ must be filled in.
 Fields with a pale green background _______ are free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, as it helps us understand Parties' progress and activity more fully, to prepare the best possible global and regional implementation reports to COP.
- 17. To help Contracting Parties refer to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP13, for each appropriate indicator a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP13 NRF or previous NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
- 18. For follow up and where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties implementation in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
- 19. Only Strategic Plan 2016-2024 Targets for which there are implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format. Those targets of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted in the National Report Format as the information is provided through the Ramsar Sites Data Base or the Work Plan of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (e.g. targets 6 and 14).
- 20. The Format is created as a form in Microsoft Word to collect the data. You will be able to enter replies and information in the yellow or green boxes.

For each of the 'indicator questions' in Section 3, a legend of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question, but are generally of the form: 'A - Yes', 'B - No', 'C - Partially', 'D - In progress'. This is necessary so that statistical comparisons can be made of the replies. Please indicate the relevant letter (A, B etc.) in the yellow field.

For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarification, do so in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question. Please be as concise as possible (maximum of 500 words in each free-text box).

21. In Section 4 (Optional) for each target the planning of national targets section looks as follows (in the example of Target 8 on inventory):

Planning of National Targets

| Priority of the target: | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| | answer | |
| Resourcing: | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely | |
| | limiting; E= No answer | |
| National Targets (Text | [Example text] To have comprehensive inventory of all wetlands by | |
| Answer): | 2021 | |
| Planned Activities | [Example text] To update the existing inventory so as to cover all the | |
| (Text Answer): | national territory, and to incorporate relevant information about | |
| | wetlands, including digital information, when possible | |

| Outcomes achieved by 2021 | [Example text] A comprehensive inventory of all wetlands |
|----------------------------|--|
| and how they contribute to | |
| achievement of the Aichi | |
| Targets and Sustainable | |
| Development Goals | |
| | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| • | |

The input has to be made only in the yellow boxes. For **PRIORITY** and **RESOURCING**, the coded answers are given in the right part of the table (always in *italics*). The answer chosen should be typed inside the yellow box at the left side of the coded options. **TARGETS** and **PLANNED ACTIVITIES** are text boxes; here, Contracting Parties are invited to provide more detailed information in the respective box on their National Targets for achievement in implementation by 2021 and the planned national activities that are designed to deliver these targets.

Please note that only ONE coded option –the one that better represents the situation in the Contracting Party– should be chosen. Blanks will be coded in COP14 National Reports Database as "No answer".

- 22. The NRF should ideally be completed by the principal compiler in consultation with relevant colleagues in their agency and others within the government and, as appropriate, with NGOs and other stakeholders who might have fuller knowledge of aspects of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the document at any point and return to it later to continue or to amend answers. Compilers should refer back to the National Report submitted for COP13 to ensure the continuity and consistency of information provided. In the online system there is an option to allow consultation with others.
- 23. After each session, **remember to save the file**. A recommended filename structure is: COP14NRF [Country] [date], for example: COP14NRFSpain13January 2021.doc
- 24. After the NRF has been completed using the word version (offline), please enter the data in the NR online system at this link: https://reports.ramsar.org or send it by email (nationalreports@ramsar.org) by January 21st 2021. If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice at (nationalreports@ramsar.org).
- 25. The completed NRF must be accompanied by a letter that can be uploaded in the online system or send by email (nationalreports@ramsar.org) in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP14 National Report.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (nationalreports@ramsar.org).

National Report to Ramsar COP14

Section 1: Institutional information

Email:

Important note: the responses below will be considered by the Ramsar Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points, and will be used to update the information it holds. The Secretariat's current information about your focal points is available at https://www.ramsar.org/search?f%5B0%5D=type%3Aperson#search-contacts.

Name of Contracting Party: **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority** Name of Administrative Ministry of Climate Change and Environment Authority: Head of Administrative HE Dr Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi - Minister Authority - name and title: Mailing address: POBOX 1509 Dubai, UAE Telephone/Fax: +971 4 2148 444 /+971 4 2655 822 Email: minister office@moccae.gov.ae **Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters** Name and title: Hiba Obaid Al Shehhi - Acting Director Of Biodiversity Department Mailing address: POBOX 1509 Dubai, UAE Telephone/Fax: +971 4 2148 351 hodarwish@moccae.gov.ae Designated National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) Name and title: Reem Al Mheiri - Biologist Name of organisation: Ministry of Climate change and Environment POBOX 1509 Dubai, UAE Mailing address: Telephone/Fax: +971 4 2148 489 Email: raalmheiri@moccae.gov.ae Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) Nawal Salim Nasir Al Ruwaihi, Head of Awareness & Education Name and title: Name of organisation: Ministry of Climate Change and Environment Mailing address: POBOX 1509 Dubai, UAE Telephone/Fax: + 971 4 2148 331 Email: nsalruwaihi@moccae.gov.ae Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) Name and title: Name of organisation: Mailing address: Telephone/Fax:

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) Further enhancing collaboration with stakeholders. Stakeholders from different sectors are showing an interest in the term "wise use" supporting conservation efforts and the maintenance of the main ecological characters of the site.
- 2) Exposure to best practices among different Ramsar sites
- 3) Benefits from available information (guidelines and handbooks) regarding wetlands and its management.
- 4) Designation of Ramsar Sites within the country
- 5) Increase in public awareness since previous COP. The event has drawn the attention of Decision makers, specialist, public and investor into the value and the role of the wetlands in desert areas, in particular the urban wetlands since most of the emirates have several wetlands that considered as part of the urban areas
- B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?
 - 1) further knowledge on the wise use of wetlands is needed
- 2) Sustainability of wetland areas consideration of wetlands within land use development plans
- 3) Capacity building and availability of manpower specialized in managing sensitive ecosystems
- 4) developing a sufficient database of wetlands
- C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?
- 1) Sustainable land use planning through cross-sectoral collaboration introduce the convention as the foundation for collaboration between different stakeholders.
- 2) Establishing management/scientific committies
- 3) Promoting sustainable tourism and managing public access to the sites
- 4) Further scientific research including species and Habitat assessments
- 5) Inter-emirate collaboration in the implementation of CEPA projects and programs
- D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?
 - Guidance from STRP on the impact of desalination plant on coastal wetlands that incorporates case studies would also greatly serve the region.
 - Further capacity building for wetland management in the Middle East such as technical workshops for wetland managers in the region focusing on the integration of the principles of the Ramsar Convention into protected area plans
- 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)

Capacity building and more defined guidelines and best practices provided in the Arabic language

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)?

synergie between targets and objectives as well as indicators of the multilateral environmental agreements,

- 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 UAE has developed specific environment conservation strategies e.g. water resources management, biodiversity conservation and sustainability of marine and coastal areas. The wetland conservation is linked to these strategies. Most of the issues related to wetlands are covered within these strategies.
- H. According to paragraph 21 of Resolution XIII.18 on *Gender and wetlands*, please provide a short description about the balance between men and women participating in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research

There is a high percentage of female employees (46%) who are working directly or indirectly in wetland related areas as planning, financing, research, and education programs

- I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?
 No
- J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report:

Environmental Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), Dubai Municipality, Environmentand Protected Area Agency (EPAA) Sharjah, Ajman Municipality and Fujairah Municipality

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

| A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; X= Unknown; Y= Not Relevant | | |
|--|---|---|
| a) | National Policy or strategy for wetland management: | С |
| b) | Poverty eradication strategies: | Υ |
| c) | Water resource management and water efficiency plans: | Α |
| d) | Coastal and marine resource management plans: | Α |
| e) | Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan: | С |
| f) | National forest programmes: | С |
| g) | National policies or measures on agriculture: | Α |
| h) | National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD: | Α |
| i) | National policies on energy and mining: | Α |
| j) | National policies on tourism: | Α |
| k) | National policies on urban development: | Α |
| l) | National policies on infrastructure: | Α |
| m) | National policies on industry: | Α |
| n) | National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i: | Α |
| 0) | National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management: | Α |
| p) | National policies on wastewater management and water quality: | Α |
| 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 | А |
|-----|--|--------------|
| | Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for | A=Yes; B=No; |
| | maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution | C=Partially; |
| | VIII.1, VIII.2) ? 1.24. | D=Planned |

2.1 Additional information:

Many water quality monitoring stations are deployed in the UAE waters including some wetlands such as Ras Alkhor and Jabal Ali Ramsar. These stations measure several parameters such as:

- Conductivity, Salinity & Temperature
- PH, DO2
- Oil Detection
- Chlorophyll, Phycoerythrin (Marine Cyanobacteria) Blue-Green Algae

The stations use mobile technology to transfer the data to be stored on the server.

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)

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

2.2 Additional information:

As part of operating procedure and requirements for development permitting, environmental impact assessments must identify mitigation measures for all projects that may affect natural habitats, including wetlands.

2.3 What, if any, initiatives have 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.)

0

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; O= No Change; X= Unknown

2.3 Additional information:

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

- 2.4 Additional information:
- 2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system ? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

Above 70%

2.5 Additional information:

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

G 75%

E=# percent;

F= Less than # percent;

G= More Than # percent;

X= Unknown;

Y= Not Relevant

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
E=# percent;
F=Less Than # percent;
G= More Than # percent;
X= Unknown;
Y= Not Relevant

2.7 Additional information:

More than 30% of the treated water is used in irrigation of landscaping and public lands in addition to municipal uses.

2.8 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

A= Yes, B= No; C= Partially, D=Planned X= Unknown; Y= Not Relevant

Χ

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= 116
E= # plants;
F= Less than #;
G=More than #;
X= Unknown;
Y= Not Relevant

2.9 Additional information:

The 116 wastewater treatment plants doesn't include private sector plants

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

A=Good; B=Not Functioning; C=Functioning; Q=Obsolete; X= Unknown; Y= Not Relevant

2.10 Additional information:

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

C
A=Good; B=Not
Functioning
C=Functioning;
Q=Obsolete; X=
Unknown; Y= Not
Relevant

2.11 Additional information:

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

546.6 million Cubic Meter (74.4%)

2.12 Additional information:

2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

R=Agriculture; S=Landscape; T=Industrial; U=Drinking; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant

R + S + T

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

TSE is used mainly for landscape irrigation by Dubai Municipality (52% of total TSE), sold to other end-users including private development and district cooling plants (33%).

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

B A=Yes; B=No; X= Unknown;

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

3.1 Additional information:

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:

A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned; X= Unknown; Y= Not Relevant

a) Ramsar Sites

b) Wetlands in general

a) A b) C

3.2 Additional information:

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

A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned

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

Ζ

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable

3.4 Additional information:

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 national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? {1.9.1} KRA 1.9.i

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

4.1 Additional information:

The UAE, In collaboration with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the IUCN Species Survival Commission Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), worked to identify the invasive species within the country.

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

4.2 Additional information:

The UAE has developed and published the country's National Invasive Species List as well as developed national plans and projects for the pevention and control of invasive species.

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

A=Yes; B=No; X= Unknown

4.3. Additional information: (If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the successful management actions

in Al Wathbha Wetland Reserve in Abu Dhabi emirate removed the following:

- 1. Asian common toad that were recorded and an extensive survey was done to remove them including a scientific research DNA project to determine their origin.
- 2. A stand of invasive Prickly pear (*Opuntia ficus-indica*) was found in AWWR which was removed
- 4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?

A=Yes; B=No; X= Unknown

4.4 Additional information: (If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the challenges to management)

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not Relevant

C

4.5 Additional information:

UAE National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2020 – 2025 was launced in 2020, effectivness is to be assessed by the end of 2021.

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

5.1 Additional information:

In the past triennium a couple of new Ramsar sites were designated and Dubai Municipality has identified 13 conservation target on the emirate level. Under these conservation targets there are several wetlands habitats (e.g. fresh water eco system, Mangroves and lagoons, sea grass beds and corals) and wetlands dependant species (e.g. fresh water fish, endangered and vulnerable marine species and birds of prey).

| 5.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.1} KRA 2.2.ii | A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned |
|---|--------------------------|
| 5.2 Additional information: | D-i idilleu |
| | F= 3 |

| | | E= 3 |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 5.3 | How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? | E= # sites; F=Less than |
| 5.5 | {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i | # sites; G=More than |
| | (2.4.1) NNA 2.4.1 | # sites; X=Unknown; |
| | | Y=Not Relevant |
| | | E= 1 |
| 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= # sites; F=Less than |
| | | # sites; G=More than |
| | | # sites; X= Unknown; |
| | | Y=Not Relevant |
| 5.5 | Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how | E= 5 |
| | many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through | E= # sites; F=Less than |
| | | # sites; G=More than |
| | existing actions for appropriate wetland management? {2.4.3} | # sites; X= Unknown; |
| | KRA 2.4.i | Y=Not Relevant |
| F 3 | F. F. Additional information. | |

5.3 – 5.5 Additional information:

For two Ramsar sites (site no 2364 and 2368) management plans are developed recently and the implementation is started in 2020. For Ramsar site no 1715 the draft management plan is being developed but not approved yet, several action measures has been taken in the past 10 years to protect the site such as monitoring programs, fencing and tourist management.

| 5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with either a formal management | |
|---|----------------|
| plan) or management via other relevant means where they exis e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management ? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii | A Maria D Alia |
| 5.6 Additional information: | |

| 5.7 | How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv | Υ | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | E= # sites; F=Less than | | | |
| | | # sites; G=More than | | | |
| | | # sites; X=Unknown, | | | |
| | | Y=Not Relevant; | | | |
| 5.7 Additional information (If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site | | | | | |
| or sit | or 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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Sites; D=Planned

7.1 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established):

Any projects or activities that could or might affect the ecological characters of a Ramsar site are requested to inform the MOCCAE (the official focal point of the convention in UAE) and in some cases update and obtain MOCCAE approval.

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Cases; 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):

In Ras Alkhor Wetlands Reserve (Site no. 1715) Dubai Municipality had requested a Ramsar Advisory Mission in 2017 to assess the accumulated impact of the projects in the surrounding area and the buffer zone.

In case of Jabal Ali Wetlands Sanctuary (Site no. 2364), several projects were initiated before the site is declared as a wetland of international importance such as:

- Hassyan 120-MIGD Sea Water Reverse Osmosis (SWRO) Plant
- Hassyan Clean Coal Independent Power Plant

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

Ζ

A=Yes; B=No; 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]

| | | С |
|-------|---|---|
| 8.1 | Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i | A=Yes; B=No; C=In Progress; D=Planned |
| 8.1 A | additional information: | |
| | | |

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

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=In
Progress; C1=
Partially;
D=Planned; X=
Unknown; Y=Not
Relevant

8.2 Additional information:

The last inventory done in Dubai covered only Dubai protected areas and Ramsar sites (All Ramsar sites in Dubai are falling inside a protected area) not the whole emirate and it was done recently in 2018-2019.

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

A=Yes; B=No;
C=Partially;
D=Planned

8.3 Additional information:

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

8.4 Additional information:

8.5 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed N=Status during the last triennium? {1.1.3} Deteriorated; a) Ramsar Sites O=No Change; b) wetlands generally P=Status Please describe on the sources of the information on which your **Improved** answer is based in the green 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 a) P the change(s). b) P * 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention 8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b):

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.

G= 270

E= # Km²;; G=More than # Km²; X= Unknown

8.6

According to the Ramsar definition and classification of wetlands, the disaggregated information on wetland extent is as follows:

| | Total area by category of wetland | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------|
| Marine/Coast al | e.g Coral Reefs: xx Km ² | e.g. Estuarine waters xx Km ² | e.g. Coastal brackish/saline lagoons: xx Km ² | |
| Inland | e.g. Permanent freshwater marshes/swamps: xx Km ² | e.g. Non-forested peatlands (includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens): xx Km ² | e.g. Permanent freshwater lakes: xx Km ² | |
| Human-made | | | | |
| Total | | | | xx Km ² |
| Date of the inventory: | | | | |

Reference or link:

Note:

The minimum information that should be provided is the total area of wetlands for each of the three major categories; "marine/coastal", "inland" and "human-made".

If the data on inventories are partial or not complete, use the information that is available.

Guidance on information on national wetland extent, to be provided in Target 8 "National Wetlands Inventory" of the National Report Form can be consulted at: https://www.ramsar.org/document/guidance-on-information-on-national-wetland-extent

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.

The UAE is working towards developing a full natural habitat map in which the project aims to identify natural habitats in the country. Phase 1 of the project covered over 80% of the country which was completed in Abu Dhabi. Phase one of the project indicates the following for wetland habitats, however for marine wetlands this coverage may include certain areas that are deeper than 6m at low tide and beyond the Ramsar definition of wetlands.

Coral reefs: 311 sqkm

Seagrass beds: 1025 sqkm

Mangroves: 155 sqkm

Intertidal mudflats: 354.7 sqkm

- Lagoons and creeks (including saltmarsh habitat): 1411 sqkm
- Wadis and floodplains * temporary wetlands: 137.52 sqkm (Abu Dhabi) and 127 sqkm (Wadi Wurayah, Fujairah)
- 8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges) to develop, update or 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 (If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box)

С

A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation; D=Planned

9.1 Additional information:

The UAE has developed a National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) as well as National Strategy for Sustainability of the Marine and Coastal Environment. Each emirate within the UAE is also encouraged to promotes wise use of wetlands, for example the Abu Dhabi Biodiversity strategy 2015-2020 addresses habitat conservation priorities including wetlands.

There are also local laws and policies that contribute towards the wise use of natural resources and promotion of protected areas as a tool for preserving different ecosystems including wetlands.

- Dubai Protected Area Policy, an internal document that establish the foundation for the effective management of protected areas in the emirate.
- Local law no. 11 (2003) for the establishment of protected areas in Dubai emirate. It sets the standards for establishing new protected areas and the rules and regulations of protection of species and ecosystem in general including the use of the natural resources.

The Emirate of Sharjah is also promoting guidelines and practices through its activities to promote the wise use of wetlands and its protection

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

A
A=Yes; B=No; C=In
Progress; D=Planned

9.2 Additional information:

Federal law n 24

9.3 Are wetlands treated as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {1.7.1} {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii

A
A=Yes; B=No;
D=Planned

9.3 Additional information:

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}

Α

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

9.4 Additional information:

CEPA activities are incorporated under the management of protected areas and Ramsar sites. Environment department has a dedicated section for public awareness.

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

A=Yes; B=No;

C=Partially; D=Planned

Α

9.5 Additional information:

The UAE has worked on a number of projects that focus on the enhacing the roles of wetlands in mitigating and/or adapting to climate change. For exampe the UAE developed a National Climate Change Plan 2017-2050. Dubai Climate Change Adaptation Strategy has identified wetlands as one of the main sensitive habitats with specific targets for adaptation and conservation of this ecosystem.

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

9.6 Additional information:

9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

a) agriculture-wetland interactions
b) climate change
c) valuation of ecoystem services
{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

A=Yes; B=No;
D=Planned
a) A
b) A
c) A

9.7 Additional information:

Several research monitoring programs for birds monitoring was established in the past few years targeting water birds and birds of prey such as the Greater Spotted Eagle Clanga clanga. Recently our team managed to tag a greater flamingo, the outcome showed the importance of Ras Alkhor Ramsar site for the migrating and breeding population of the flamingo in UAE and how the site is mainly utilised for feeding.

| | D | | |
|---|--------------|--|--|
| 9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City | A=Yes; B=No; | | |
| Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10? | C=Partially; | | |
| | D=Planned | | |
| 9.8 Additional information: (If 'Yes', please indicate How many request have been submitted): | | | |

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

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

The UAE has laws in place and measures to protect areas that have high biodiversity which can be in the form of protected areas. The protection of biodiversity of small wetlands and other areas is a high priority. There is continuous monitoring that is conducted by competent authorities to ensure the wellbeing of the habitat.

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)

D
A=Yes; B=No; C=In
Preparation;
D=Planned

10.1 Additional information: (If yes please indicate the case studies or projects documenting information and experiences concerning culture and wetlands).

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

a) D

a) stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous people are represented on National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies

b) A

b) involvement and assistance of indigenous people and communitybased groups, wetland education centres and non-governmental organizations with the necessary expertise to facilitate the establishment of participatory approaches;

A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation; D=Planned

(Resolution VII. 8) (Action 6.1.5)

10.2 Additional information: (If the answer is "yes" please indicate the use or aplication of the guidelines)

Through wetland centre activities inside the wetland and by cooperating with Ministry of Education and high education institutions as well as awareness programs and educational activities. Annual events during the year are being established as a yearly and seasonally events for all people. Yearly strategic educational plans are setup for education and people's participating in protecting wasit wetland.

10.3 Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been documented and their application has been encouraged (Action 6.1.2)

D

A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation; 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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=In Preparation; C1=Partially; D=Planned; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant 11.1 Additional information: (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many wetlands and their names):

The following paper was published on AWWR:

- 1) Soorae PS, Frankham GJ, Mohamed AA (2020) The first record of the Asian common toad *Duttaphrynus melanostictus* Schneider, 1799 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. BioInvasions Records 9(2): 434–443, https://doi.org/10.3391/bir.2020.9.2.29
- 2) Soorae PS, Sakkir S, Saji A, Khan SB, Al Zaabi R, Shah J, Ali A, Al Omari K, Al Dhaheri A, Javed S, Tubati SR, Ahmed S, Alrashdi Z, Al Dhaheri S (2020) A Review of the Flora and Fauna in the Al Wathba Wetland Reserve in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. WETLANDS https://doi.org/10.1007/s13157-019-01235-x

In Dubai, ecosystem services are partially researched and recorder within the preparation of the management plans of each site. Further studies on ecosystem services on selected sites are initiated recently by MOCCAE within the scope of the natural capital project.

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

Υ

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant

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

С

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

11.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names):

Socio economic values are discussed in both management plans of Hatta Mountain Reserve and Jabal Ali Wetlands Reserve Ramsar 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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

11.4 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names):

Cultural values are systematically considered in the planning and management of protected areas, including wetland sites such as Al Wathba, Mangrove National Park, Wadi Wurayah. For other protected areas it has been planned to include incorporate cultural values into management planning

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].

| | D |
|---|---|
| 12.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} | A=Yes; B=No; C= |
| KRA 1.8.i | Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not |
| | Relevant |
| 12.1 Additional information: | |

| | С |
|--|--|
| 12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i | A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not Relevant |
| | |

12.2 Additional information: (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored):

Wasit Wetland had undergone a rehabilitation program in the beginning of 2005 with the removal of all waste in the area. Water quality was checked regularly along with lake pollution monitoring by water sampling.

| 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? | A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not Relevant |
|---|--|
| a) Knowledge of global resources | Υ |
| b) Education and public awareness on peatlands | Υ |

| c) Policy and legislative instruments | Υ |
|---|----------|
| d) Wise use of peatlands | Υ |
| e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity | Υ |
| f) International cooperation | Υ |
| g) Implementation and support | Υ |
| 12.3 Additional information: (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, the proping implementation: | gress in |

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].

| Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when | Α | |
|--|---|--|
| reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.3} {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii | A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned | |
| 13.1 Additional information: SEAs are required for all masterplans or multi-project development plans, as stated in National permitting requirements. | | |

| 13.2 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, | А |
|---|------------------------------|
| extractive industry) from key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries that may affect wetlands? {1.3.4} {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii | A=Yes; B=No; C=Some Cases |
| 12.2 Additional information. | |

13.2 Additional information:

In the UAE, EIAs are required by law and a standard operating procedure are in place for any development. An environmental permit application is required for all projects listed above.

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

В

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

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

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}

Α

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

15.2 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s):

EPAA had organized a regional workshop "The regional Technical Training of Trainers Workshop for Waterbird Monitoring on the Arabian Peninsula" the workshop focused on monitoring water birds and developing strategies for birdcounting and the best concepts of delivering these information for the educational views.

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=In Progress; D=Planned

- a) At the national level
- b) Sub-national level
- c) Catchment/basin level
- d) Local/site level

(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)

a) D

b) D

c) D d) A

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):

Wasit Wetland Centre, which is run by EPAA, has established a number of CEPA activities and programs and organises a number of educational and awarness programs. These programs are organised in cooperation with local education institutions and other scientific researchers. These include, sustainable programs, biodiversity and wetland programs that are scheduled on an annual, monthly and weekly basis. In general, events are held in cooperation with government and private schools as well as universities and youth centers ,etc.

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
- b) at other wetlands

E= # centres; F=Less than #; G=More than #; X=Unknown; y=Not Relevant; a) E = 5

b)x

16.2 Additional information (If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks):

A number of centres at Ramsar sites welcome the public, such as the Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary in Dubai that has two open bird watch towers for visitors to observe the biodiversity in the sanctuary. These watch towers also provide some information on the wetlands as well as the species within them. At Wadi Wurayah National Park, there is a welcoming facility as part of the water research and learning program.

Wasit Wetland Centre of Sharjah Environment and Nature Reserves Authority is the first of its kind in the Arabian Gulf in terms of the diversity of environmental educational content presented by scientific research departments within the educational centre through educational workshops and scientific experiments. In the external reserve, visitors are also involved in exploring scientific research methods in some locations in the reserve. In addition, walking and guidance tours are carried out by the guidance department of the centre to give an educational atmosphere of nature for the visitors. In the Emirate of Sharjah, where visitors learn in a nature-rich environment, Wasit Wetland Centre is one of the various educational systems and educational resources which are focused on how to preserve migratory birds residing in their different environments. In addition, they provid periodic awareness campaigns towards the conservation of wetlands and natural habitats and to migratory birds both inside and outside the reserve. There are also plans to open further centres in Ramsar wetlands such as the Al Qurm which is in progress.

16.3 Does the Contracting Party:

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management

b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management? {4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

a) A

b) A

16.3 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved):

The UAE promotes and encourages the local competent authorities to involve stakeholders to participate in the planning and management of the wetlands. For example, EPAA is coordinating with some government institutions like the Sharjah municipality, Sharjah Roads & Transport Authority and DPW departments, in planning and managing wetlands.

| | D |
|--|---|
| 16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v | A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not Relevant |
| Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since 13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has): | |

| | | D |
|------|--|---|
| 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; B=No; C= Partially; D=Planned; X=Unknown; Y=Not Relevant |
| 16.5 | Additional information (If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number | of meetings since |

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 | A=Yes; B=No; |
|---|--------------|
| committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines | C=Partially; |
| and other information between the Administrative Authority and: | D=Planned |
| a) Ramsar Site managers | |
| b) other MEA national focal points | a) A |
| c) other ministries, departments and agencies | b) C |
| {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi | c) A |

16.6 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please describe what mechanisms are in place):

the AA communicates directly with Ramsar Sites Managers should any new information be shared or if there are any concerns. The managers are also encouraged to contact each other to share best practices and experience.

MEAs are under the mandate of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, so the work from other conventions are already aligned with that of Ramsar

| 16.7 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 | Α |
|--|-------------|
| 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; B=No |

16.7 Additional information:

World wetland day is celebrated annually across the UAE with all community and public for awarness and education purposes.

World Wetlands Day is annual activity celebrated by Dubai Municipality either through field activities or indoor awarness programs. Below is a brief of the activities of the WWD for the last three years in Dubai:

World Wetlands Day 2018

Dubai Municipality's Environment Department inspired and motivated around 1000 students in the month of February as a part of World Wetlands Day 2018 celebrations by engaging 15 different schools and universities in interactive lectures and guided visits to Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary. The theme for 2018, "Wetlands for a sustainable urban future" highlighted the role of urban wetlands for a sustainable future, as UAE was gearing up to host the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP 13) which was offically sponsored by Dubai Municipality.

World Wetlands Day- February 2019

Dubai Municipality celebrated World Wetlands Day 2019 by organizing series of events under the theme "Wetlands and Climate Change". World Wetlands Day is celebrated on 2nd of February every year with the aim to protect wetlands and promote wise use of the natural resources by organizing activities and involving public participation.

The celebration of Wetlands Day is in line with Dubai Municipality's efforts to strengthen its strategic plan and the strategic pillars of environmental protection and sustainability of natural resources. The celebration was organized at Jabal Ali Wetland Sanctuary which 400 public participants who took part in planting mangrove saplings inside the sanctuary.

World Wetland day - February 2020

Dubai Municipality marked World Wetlands Day 2020 on by conducting various activities including the release of 10 juvenile Arabian Carpet Sharks back into the ocean at the Jebel Ali Wetland Sanctuary. The sharks were released in cooperation with the Lost Chambers Aquarium of Atlantis Hotel where they were raised and nurtured. The sharks were released to enhance fish stocks and conserve biodiversity in the Jebel Ali Wetlands Sanctuary.

The activity was held in the presence of 100 students from various schools in Dubai in addition to a number of marine biologists in Atlantis.

The activities also included planting a large number of mangrove trees in addition to various workshops on the importance of preserving the marine environment and marine organisms.

Through the various activities, students and attendees were taught the importance of nature-based solutions such as planting mangroves, which in turn contribute to protecting the coasts.

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}

Α

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned 16.8 Additional information (If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this):

Beside to the annual celebration of world wetlands day, Dubai Municipality has organised several awarness activities. Below is a brief description of some of the major activities took place in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

2018

World Migratory Bird Day 2018

The Dubai Municipality celebrated the official annual World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) by organizing a series of events in the month of October under the theme 'Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation'. The WMBD events included a symposium of 100 participants, local and international experts, in the field of ornithology and conservation at the Falcon and Heritage Sports Center in Nad Al Sheba. Paws Trails Explorers collaborated with Dubai Municipality and hosted a special display of photographs of the amazing migratory birds from well known photographers in the region. Additionally, as a part of the WMBD celebration, bird watching trips for schools were organized at Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary and Al Marmoom Desert Conservation Reserve from 1st to 3rd October 2018 to educate young students about this year's theme and engage them in fulfilled outdoor activity.

Dubai Municipality organized bird watching trips in Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary and Al Marmoom Conservation Reserve for students of ages 12 and above, as a result of which 180 students were empowered. The activity aimed to instill environmental consciousness among younger generations and provided them an opportunity to understand bird behaviors from a closer view. Opportunities, like these provide students with first-hand experience in the field which will give students an idea on practices followed by conservation professionals and involve them in citizen science activities such as bird counting.

International Coastal Cleanup-November 2018

On 9th November 2018, 500 people from schools and corporate organizations participated in Ocean Conservancy's 33rd International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) organized by Dubai Municipality, the world's largest single-day volunteer effort to remove trash from the coastal areas and water ways. The clean up was organized at Jabal Ali Wetlands Sanctuary, which was recently designated as a Ramsar site on 28th October 2018 by the Ramsar Convention.

Total of 1601.6 kg of trash was collected along a 4 kilometer stretch of beach at Jabal Ali Wetland Sanctuary coastline. Approximately, 69% of the collected waste was material made of plastic; mostly plastic bottles, containers, caps and cigarette lighters. Amongst the other collected materials were rubber tyres, styrofoam, ropes, wood, glass bottles, fishing lines, fishing nets, and personal items such as shoes, shirts, electronic gadgets, toothbrush, fishing gear etc. Altogether, the total items collected in the beach clean-up was 5880.

Additionally, An estimate of 60 kg of trash was also collected by volunteer SCUBA divers which consisted of 60% plastic bottles and 40% glass bottles. The activity demonstrated that protected areas, which are free of any human activities, could also be impacted with the amount of trash from different sources elsewhere which gets carried away through wave and wind action. It is therefore interesting to see that human activities leave signs which are reflected across the boundaries.

The waste recorded was cumulated into Ocean Conservancy's Ocean Trash Index which is the world's largest database of trash found in near-shore environments.

2019

Environmental educational course

Dubai Municipality organized environmental educational course on December 2019 for about 25 different schools. The course included coloring and painting workshop related to the environment and a research work shop around nature in Ras ALkhor Wildlife Sanctuary. The aim of the course was to spread the awareness among the students.

Tolerance year- April 2019

Atlantis-The Palm released Arabian Carpet Shark (Chiloscyllium arabicum) as a part of its ongoing breeding programme. Arabian Carpet Shark is found in the Arabian Gulf and the sharks were released to enhance fish stocks and conserve biodiversity in the Jebel Ali Wetlands Sanctuary.

2020

National environment day - February 2020

Dubai Municipality marked the National Environment Day by conducting various activities including the release of 10 juvenile Arabian Carpet Sharks back into the ocean at the Jebel Ali Wetland Sanctuary. The sharks were released in cooperation with the Lost Chambers Aquarium of Atlantis Hotel where they were raised and nurtured. The sharks were released to enhance fish stocks and conserve biodiversity in the Jebel Ali Wetlands Sanctuary.

The activity was held in the presence of 100 students from various schools in Dubai in addition to a number of marine biologists in Atlantis.

In Sharjah, activities and programs are held all across the year on a seasonal basis. Educational and scientific weeks are organized 4 times a year and 3 awareness campaigns have been established since COP13 with one campaign held before COP. Additional educational, informative and scientific research workshops and activities and held on a daily basis for all public under supervision of educational environmental departments at Wasit wetland centre.

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]

17.1
a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2018, 2019 and 2020?
{4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i

b) 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

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

В

A=Yes; B=No; 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

В

A=Yes; B=No; C= Partially; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant; 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 incountry wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

Ζ

A=Yes; B=No; 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?

R

A=Yes; B=No; Z=Not Applicable

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

В

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

18.1 Additional information:

18.2 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO)? {3.1.2} {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv

C

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

18.2 Additional information:

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; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant

Α

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

The country has worked and continues to work with IUCN, UNEP, and BirdLife.

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}

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

18.4 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved):

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; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

18.5 Additional information:

Information on all shape files of all protected areas of the UAE is published on the Protected Planet website.

- In Abu Dhabi Emirate, information about Al Wathba Ramsar Site is available through the EAD website, and the field guide for the wetland is available for download and is distributed in hard copy to wetland visitors. Information on Mangrove National Park and other marine wetland areas is also made available through published annual reports and through information updated online e.g.: https://www.ead.ae/Pages/Mangrove-National-Park.aspx
- Information on Ras Alkhor Wetlands Sanctuary Ramsar site are made public through a website https://www.rasalkhorwildlife.ae/en/pages/Home.aspx
- All information about Wasit Wetland Reserve and Centre is available on EPAA website
 and social media Instagram page for EPAA. During COP13 adding the site accreditation
 and the Global Agha Khan award in 2019 won by the centre have been published all
 around the media, radio, TV and interviews internationally.

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

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable

18.6 Additional information:

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

Υ

Ζ

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned; Y=Not Relevant

18.7 Additional information (If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place):

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

A A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable

18.8 Additional information:

The UAE takes part in the regional networks and initiatives for wetland dependent migratory species such as the Convention on Migratory Species – Signatory to Raptor MoU, the Dugong MoU and Sharks MoU, as well as IOSEA

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

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

19.1 Additional information:

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

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

In collaboration between the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and the Ministry of Education, the UAE have included all protected areas conservation and wise use issues into the UAE's formal education programmes. The integration of marine and inland wetlands visits and programs into the Sustainable Schools and Sustainable Campus Initiative have also been included.

- 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
 - b) at other wetlands

- a) E=14
- b) F=11

E=# opportunities; F=Less than #; G= More than #; X= Unknown; Y=Not Relevant

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

Α

A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned; Z=Not Applicable

19.4 Additional information (If 'Yes', please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring):

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

Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

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

Additional information:

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]

Planning of National Targets Priority of the target: Α A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No В Resourcing: A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer National Targets (Text TARGET 1.2 By 2021, biodiversity values have been integrated in Answer): national and local development planning and decision making processes. **Planned Activities** Integrate biodiversity considerations into the implementation (Text Answer): of the national policies and plans for education. Review best practices that have been used in other countries to value biodiversity and ecosystem services, and where practicable, develop ways to apply them in UAE. Promote and support, in partnership with the government and private sector, the integration of biodiversity considerations into sustainable land and water management initiatives. Encourage and support sector-led initiatives to effectively incorporate biodiversity considerations in their strategic planning and operational practices, with a focus on the agriculture, forestry, horticulture, fisheries, aquaculture and tourism sectors. Outcomes achieved by Mainstreaming wetlands conservation into all relevant 2021 and how they contribute to achievement Accomplishing various wetland projects and programs with of the Aichi Targets and all stakeholders. Sustainable Development Goals Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

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]

| Priority of the target: | A A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer |
|--|---|
| Resourcing: | B A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text Answer): | TARGET 4.2. By 2021, 50% of government-owned and of non-government-owned areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably to ensure the conservation of biodiversity. TARGET 4.3. By 2021, all land- and water-based pollution would have been brought to levels not detrimental to sensitive ecosystem function and biodiversity. |
| Planned Activities (Text Answer): | Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse impacts of human activities on marine biodiversity and develop habitat restoration programmes where appropriate. Promote eco-tourism as an economic opportunity to sustain UAE biodiversity. Develop, select and use cost-effective methods (including indicators and criteria) for monitoring biodiversity and pollutions sources that have possible impacts on biodiversity. Review the coastal policies and management plans, assess its effectiveness in protecting marine biodiversity, and implement changes accordingly. Clarify and identify concerned parties' accountabilities for monitoring and reporting on biodiversity and agree with partners on developing national pollution standards to reach levels not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity. Promote individual and community awareness of the effects of human activities on biodiversity, and the opportunities and responsibilities to protect and maintain habitats and ecosystems |
| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals | of importance to biodiversity. - UAE has developed monitoring programs for coastal and marine areas - Conduct regular assessment of wetlands Ramsar sites management (METT) |
| Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021 | |

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]

| Planning of National Target | S |
|--|---|
| Priority of the target: | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer |
| Resourcing: | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text Answer): | TARGET 1.1 By 2021, implementing awareness programmes that target all UAE residents, resulting in at least 75% of UAE citizens being aware of biodiversity values, its protection, and sustainable use. TARGET 1.4 By 2021, there has been a 50% increase in the number of government-owned and non-government owned businesses implementing measures for sustainable production and consumption to minimise the impact on biodiversity in UAE. |
| Planned Activities (Text Answer): | Make information about biodiversity available to people and communities, relevant to their local environments (that is, on the extent of management needs of ecosystems, habitats and native species). Develop awareness programmes targeting all society on values of biodiversity and sustainable use of its components. Develop public awareness programmes about ecosystems, habitats and species important for biodiversity conservation. Promote and coordinate the role of environmental education in the conservation and sustainable use of UAE Education Strategy) and encourage the active participation of local authorities, businesses, and environmental and community groups in developing and implementing environmental education activities. Support activities that enhance private sector and community understanding of ways to avoid or minimise the effects of human activities on biodiversity, and encourage community involvement in practical initiatives that help achieve the sustainable management of biodiversity. Incorporate biodiversity values into sector- and industry-based environmental management systems, performance standards, guidelines, environmental policies and codes of practice, with the help, advice and information from government agencies. |
| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals | Implementation of the UAE Green Agenda 2030 and NBSAP which addresses many relevant actions to conserve Wetlands Integration of biodiversity issues in all UAE related policies. Establishment of the Supreme Council for the Environment |
| Note: this field has to be completed when the full | |

| report is submitted in | |
|-------------------------|--|
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |

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]

| Planning | of | National | Targets |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|----------------|
|-----------------|----|-----------------|----------------|

| Priority of the target: | A = High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|----------------------------|---|
| | answer |
| Resourcing: | A = Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | TARGET 4.4. By 2021, all introduced invasive species and pathways |
| Answer): | are identified, and management plans to control the prioritised ones |
| | are developed and implemented. |
| Planned Activities | Enhance border control to prevent harmful species and |
| (Text Answer): | diseases establishing and being spread within UAE's |
| | environment (by practices such as discharge of ballast water and the de-fouling of ship hulls). |
| | Conduct baseline surveys to identify the IAS and assess their |
| | impacts on local environment. |
| | Assess the risks of the introduction of imported species through trade in order to minimize possible imported. |
| | trade in order to minimise possible impacts. |
| | Develop procedures to enhance cooperation between agencies and encourage information sharing on biosecurity issues. |
| | Identify the distribution of exotic species and assess the actual |
| | and potential impacts of these on ecosystems and biodiversity. |
| | Increase pest control and management efforts to levels |
| | congruent with national biodiversity goals and develop new |
| | technologies and techniques to combat existing and emergent threats to biodiversity from pests. |
| | Develop and apply an integrated risk assessment framework |
| | that can be consistently applied for assessing the risks posed to |
| | biodiversity by the importation of new organisms (including |
| | genetically modified organisms). |
| Outcomes achieved by | The UAE has developed and published the country's National |
| 2021 and how they | Invasive Species List as well as developed national plans and projects |
| contribute to achievement | for the prevention and control of invasive species |
| of the Aichi Targets and | |
| Sustainable Development | |
| Goals | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |

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 Target 6,11, 12]

| answer A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer T 3.2. By 2021, 12% of terrestrial and 14% of coastal and a areas are conserved through an effectively managed, ically representative network of protected areas, taking account, as appropriate, connecting areas of particular cance to biodiversity and ecosystem services. T 3.3. By 2021, programmes developed and |
|--|
| limiting; E= No answer T 3.2. By 2021, 12% of terrestrial and 14% of coastal and a areas are conserved through an effectively managed, ically representative network of protected areas, taking count, as appropriate, connecting areas of particular cance to biodiversity and ecosystem services. |
| T 3.2. By 2021, 12% of terrestrial and 14% of coastal and areas are conserved through an effectively managed, ically representative network of protected areas, taking count, as appropriate, connecting areas of particular cance to biodiversity and ecosystem services. |
| e areas are conserved through an effectively managed, ically representative network of protected areas, taking count, as appropriate, connecting areas of particular cance to biodiversity and ecosystem services. |
| nented to improve the conservation status of 70% of s most threatened by extinction. |
| T 4.1. By 2021, at least 70% of important and vulnerable marine resources are managed sustainably. |
| ete a comprehensive national biodiversity survey and ment to identify habitats and ecosystems important for ersity. sh new protected areas important for biodiversity that it represented within the existing protected area or that significant risk of irreversible loss or decline. e legislation related to protected areas to provide basis of otected areas management and establishment. ce protected areas management effectiveness in order rove habitat and species conservation system. op biodiversity management guidelines and code of cet for eco-tourism in protected areas. sh a network of marine and terrestrial protected areas expresent UAE marine and terrestrial ecosystems. rage the designation of declared protected areas in dinternational conventions such as: Ramsar sites, CO world natural heritage, and UNESCO MAP. the private sector and community awareness of tunities to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and tect and maintain habitats and ecosystems of tance to biodiversity. |
| |

| | 10. Boylow national logiciations in terms of their effectiveness in |
|---|---|
| | Review national legislations in terms of their effectiveness in protecting threatened species and ecosystems, taking into account mechanisms under the other relevant legislation. Survey the threatened species and extend them to assess coastal and marine species. Identify and protect threatened species and their key habitats. Implement population management plans for those threatened marine and terrestrial species ranked as high priority. Minimise the loss of indigenous biodiversity through efficient regulation of illegal species trade. Identify the marine and terrestrial migratory species in the country and their classification according to the degree of threat of extinction or change their course. Implement conservation plans for threatened marine and terrestrial migratory species ranked as high priority. |
| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021 | The UAE has conducted management effectiveness evaluation on a yearly basis from 2014 – 2017, and biannually from 2018 - 2020. The tool that was used during the evaluation was the METT and covered a number of topics, from management of the site to the education and awareness. The evaluations helped improve the management and conservation of biodiversity sites as well as address any potential issues that may arise. The UAE is working to develop management plans for all protected areas in the UAE, which include the designated Ramsar sites. |
| Additional information: | |
| | |

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]

| Priority of the target: | Α | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | answer | |
| Resourcing: | В | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely | |
| | | limiting; E= No answer | |
| National Targets (Text | TARGET 3.4. By 2021, the rate of loss of natural habitats, including | | |
| Answer): | critical habitats, is reduced by 25%. | | |
| | | | |
| Planned Activities | Develo | p effective methods of ecosystem classification and | |
| (Text Answer): | mapping biodiversity and for identifying and monitoring key | | |
| | biodiversity issues and threats. | | |
| | Develop and implement rapid survey techniques that identify and assess the threats to key ecosystems. | | |
| | | | |
| | Develo | p a comprehensive government policy objective for | |
| | biodive | ersity management, considering all stakeholder and | |
| | public | interests. | |

| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals | Expand programmes to mitigate the adverse effects of land use on biodiversity, and incorporate biodiversity priorities into programmes for sustainable land use, and related strategies. Review international legislation best practices in the protection of biodiversity and incorporate them in developing new legislations where possible. Encourage community understanding of, and involvement in, programmes and activities to protect, maintain and restore biodiversity through showcase projects and volunteer programmes, and improve access to information, technology, expertise and resources. Programs of restoration and rehabilitation in wetlands National blue carbon project Baseline surveys |
|---|--|
| Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |
| Additional information. | |
| | |

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].

| Priority of the target: | Α | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | answer | |
| Resourcing: | Α | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely | |
| | | limiting; E= No answer | |
| National Targets (Text | TARGET 2.2. | By 2021, the traditional knowledge, innovations and | |
| Answer): | practices of communities related to sustainable use of biodiversity | | |
| | are respected, and taken into consideration when developing | | |
| | national and local legislation and policies. | | |
| | | | |
| Planned Activities | 1. Invento | ry practices and traditional knowledge, innovations | |
| (Text Answer): | related | to the conservation and sustainable use of biological | |
| | diversit | y in the country. | |

| | Review national policies and legislation and ensure respect for the practices and traditional knowledge, innovations related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Encourage local community involvement and partnerships in programmes and participation in projects to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity. |
|--|---|
| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals | All of the management plans for wetlands will be developed according to the wetlands inventories There are ongoing national wetlands inventories being developed by the Ministry of Climate change and Environment. The information for the wetlands will be available online for public use. |
| Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |

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].

| Priority of the target: | Α | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|-------------------------|----|--|
| | | answe <i>r</i> |
| Resourcing: | Α | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | • | TARGET 1.2 By 2021, biodiversity values have been integrated |
| Answer): | | in national and local development planning and decision |
| | | making processes. |
| | • | TARGET 1.4 By 2021, there has been a 50% increase in the |
| | | number of government-owned and non-government owned |
| | | businesses implementing measures for sustainable production |
| | | and consumption to minimise the impact on biodiversity in |
| | | UAE. |
| Planned Activities | 1. | Integrate biodiversity considerations into the implementation |
| (Text Answer): | | of the national policies, strategies and plans for education. |
| | 2. | Review best practices that have been used in other countries |
| | | to value biodiversity and ecosystem services, and where |
| | | practicable, develop ways to apply them in UAE. |
| | 3. | Promote and support, in partnership with the government and |
| | | private sector, the integration of biodiversity considerations |
| | | into sustainable land and water management initiatives. |
| | 4. | Encourage and support sector-led initiatives to effectively |
| | | incorporate biodiversity considerations in their strategic |
| | | planning and operational practices, with a focus on the |

| | agriculture, forestry, horticulture, fisheries, aquaculture and tourism sectors. |
|----------------------------|--|
| Outcomes achieved by | - All marine protected areas, including the designated Ramsar |
| 2021 and how they | sites, have a no take policy. This is supported by the sites |
| contribute to achievement | Amiri decree. |
| of the Aichi Targets and | The management plans of some of the wetlands in the UAE |
| Sustainable Development | have been implemented and new plans for other sites have |
| Goals | been developed. |
| | Action has been taken to restore some wetlands such as |
| Note: this field has to be | Wadi Wurayah |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |
| | |

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].

| Planning of National Targe | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Priority of the target: | B A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | |
| | answer | |
| Resourcing: | A = Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely | |
| | limiting; E= No answer | |
| National Targets (Text | TARGET 2.2. By 2021, the traditional knowledge, innovations and | |
| Answer): | practices of communities related to sustainable use of biodiversity | |
| | are respected, and taken into consideration when developing | |
| | national and local legislation and policies. | |
| Planned Activities | 1. Apply inventory practices and traditional knowledge, | |
| (Text Answer): | innovations related to the conservation and sustainable use of | |
| | biological diversity in the country. | |
| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| | 2. Review national policies and legislation and ensure respect for | |
| | the practices and traditional knowledge, innovations related to | |
| | the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. | |
| | 3. Encourage local community involvement and partnerships in | |
| | programmes and participation in projects to conserve and | |
| | sustainably use biodiversity. | |
| | Sustainably use bloatversity. | |
| Outcomes achieved by | When the UAE develops any policies, action plans and legislation, | |
| 2021 and how they | the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of communities | |
| • | • | |
| contribute to achievement | related to sustainable use of biodiversity (wetlands and other | |
| of the Aichi Targets and | ecosystems and ecosystem services) are respected, and taken into | |
| Sustainable Development | consideration when developing national and local legislation and | |
| Goals | policies. | |

| Note: this field has to be |
|----------------------------|
| completed when the full |
| report is submitted in |
| January 2021 |
| 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].

| Planning of National Targets | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Priority of the target: | A A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | |
| | answer | |
| Resourcing: | | |
| National Targets (Text | TARGET 10. By 2021, the rate of loss of natural habitats, | |
| Answer): | including critical habitats, is reduced by 25%. | |
| | TARGET 11. By 2021, at least 50% of degraded habitats are | |
| | undergoing restoration to help mitigate the impacts of climate | |
| | change and combat desertification. | |
| | TARGET 12. By 2021, at least 90% of restoration plans of | |
| | degraded ecosystems that provide essential services have | |
| | been implemented. | |
| | TARGET 13. By 2021, important genetic resources are | |
| | conserved and protected in the UAE. | |
| | TARGET 14. By 2021, at least 70% of important and vulnerable | |
| | living marine resources are managed sustainably. | |
| | TARGET 15. By 2021, 50% of government-owned and of non- | |
| | government-owned areas under agriculture, aquaculture and | |
| | forestry are managed sustainably to ensure the conservation | |
| | of biodiversity. | |
| | TARGET 16. By 2021, all land- and water-based pollution would | |
| | have been brought to levels not detrimental to sensitive | |
| | ecosystem function and biodiversity. | |
| Planned Activities | Develop effective methods of ecosystem classification and | |
| (Text Answer): | mapping biodiversity and for identifying and monitoring key | |
| | biodiversity issues and threats. | |
| | Develop and implement rapid survey techniques that identify | |
| | and assess the threats to key ecosystems. | |
| | Develop comprehensive government policy objectives for | |
| | biodiversity management, considering all stakeholder and | |
| | public interests. | |
| | Expand programmes to mitigate the adverse effects of land | |
| | use on biodiversity, and incorporate biodiversity priorities into | |
| | programmes for sustainable land use, and related strategies | |
| | Develop and implement nationally based rehabilitation | |
| | strategies, identifying priority areas for restoring biodiversity | |

- and developing opportunities for collaboration, both within and between emirates.
- Promote and support individual and community initiatives to protect, maintain and restore habitats and ecosystems that are important for marine biodiversity.
- Inventory and identify degraded ecosystems, which started implementing rehabilitation plans and review these plans to include new areas.
- Develop a collaborative action plan to manage genetic resources (from both introduced and native species), focusing on effective cooperation between federal government, local authorities, scientific research institutions, as well as share information about collections of genetic resources.
- Develop policies on access to, and the use of, UAE's native genetic resources and the sharing of benefits from their use, taking into account citizen's interest in these resources and providing as much certainty as possible for all parties.
- Identify significant areas of risk in managing genetic resources of UAE's native species that are threatened or in decline (with reference to threatened species recovery programmes), and recommend how these risks can be reduced
- Review coastal policies and management plans, assess their effectiveness in protecting marine biodiversity and implement changes accordingly.
- Clarify and identify concerned parties' accountabilities for monitoring and reporting on biodiversity and agree with partners on developing national pollution standards to reach levels not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.
- Identify the coastal and marine species and habitats that are
 most sensitive to harvesting and other disturbances and put in
 place measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects
 from commercial, recreational and customary fishing activities.
- Improve the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of fishing and other marine and coastal resource use, and integrate these EIAs into fisheries decision making processes (including sustainability measures and fisheries plans) and other marine management resources processes

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

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

- Increase public awareness on wetland functions and benefits
- Increase public participation on project related wetlands such as blue carbon

Additional information:

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].

| Planning of National Targ | ets |
|--|--|
| Priority of the target : | C A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer |
| Resourcing: | E A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| resourcing. | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text Answer): | TARGET 3.5. By 2021, at least 50% of degraded habitats are undergoing restoration to help mitigate the impacts of climate change and combat desertification TARGET 3.6. By 2021, at least 90% of restoration plans of degraded ecosystems that provide essential services would have been implemented |
| Planned Activities | 1. Develop and implement nationally based rehabilitation |
| (Text Answer): | strategies, identifying priority areas for restoring biodiversity and developing opportunities for collaboration, both within and between emirates. |
| | Promote and support individual and community initiatives to protect, maintain and restore habitats and ecosystems that are important for marine biodiversity. |
| | Inventory and identify degraded ecosystems, which started implementing rehabilitation plans and review these plans to include new areas. |
| | Develop plans to maintain or restore the biodiversity of priority sites in the country. |
| | 5. Expand habitat and ecosystem rehabilitation programmes and initiatives (including those on offshore islands, "mainland islands", and other sites within production lands and urban areas) to restore scarce or under-represented habitats and ecosystems to a healthy functioning state. |
| | Promote the use of local native species for rehabilitation projects and programmes. |
| | Investigate ways to increase the biological productivity and function of ecosystem services and the establishment of a system for sustainable use of biological resources. |
| Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and | |

| Sustainable Development | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Goals | |
| | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |
| | |

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].

| Priority of the target: | A = High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|----------------------------|--|
| | answer |
| Resourcing: | A = Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | Limit the environmental impact of all sectors adjacent or within the |
| Answer): | limits of the proclaimed Ramsar sites. |
| Planned Activities | Ongoing stakeholder engagement and maintain communication |
| (Text Answer): | structures between developers and competent authorities |
| Outcomes achieved by | Implementation of the UAE Green Agenda 2030 through the |
| 2021 and how they | establishment of actions according to the five strategic objectives |
| contribute to achievement | which include: |
| of the Aichi Targets and | Knowledge-based economic diversification, |
| Sustainable Development | Action: Financing schemes for green industries, |
| Goals | Social development and quality of life |
| | Action: program on sustainable buildings and |
| Note: this field has to be | construction |
| completed when the full | Sustainable environment and valued natural resources |
| report is submitted in | Action: National Blue Carbon project |
| January 2021 | Clean energy and climate action |
| | Action: Integrated energy and water management |
| | strategy |
| | Green life and sustainable use of resources |
| | Action: Supporting establishment of waste to energy |
| | plants. |
| | |
| Additional information: | |

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.}

Planning of National Targets

| Priority of the target: | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|----------------------------|--|
| | answer |
| Resourcing: | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | |
| Answer): | |
| Planned Activities | |
| (Text Answer): | |
| Outcomes achieved by | |
| 2021 and how they | |
| contribute to achievement | |
| of the Aichi Targets and | |
| Sustainable Development | |
| Goals | |
| | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |
| | |

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].

| Priority of the target: | В | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| | | answer |
| Resourcing: | В | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | By 2021, im | plementing awareness programmes that target all UAE |
| Answer): | residents, resulting in at least 75% of UAE citizens being aware of | |
| | biodiversity | values, its protection, and sustainable use. |
| Planned Activities | UAE Awareness and Education Programs on Biodiversity | |
| (Text Answer): | The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment has developed a | |
| | National Strategy for Awareness and Education 2015-2021 based on | |
| | international standard, guidelines and best practices, as a unified | |
| | road map. The strategy aims to combine and integrate all | |
| | environmental efforts, programs and strategies in the UAE by | |
| | focusing on | six key objectives: |

Educate youth to drive the UAE towards a sustainable future Improve community's commitment to sustainability and environmental protection Encourage the active involvement of businesses & industries in moving towards environmental sustainability Engage key government stakeholders to support environmental sustainability Ensure alignment & effectiveness of environmental education and awareness efforts in the UAE Build adequate capabilities in the UAE to enable delivery of **NEEAS** Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021 Additional information:

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].

| Priority of the target: | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|----------------------------|--|
| | answer |
| Resourcing: | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | |
| Answer): | |
| Planned Activities | |
| (Text Answer): | |
| Outcomes achieved by | |
| 2021 and how they | |
| contribute to achievement | |
| of the Aichi Targets and | |
| Sustainable Development | |
| Goals | |
| | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |

| Additional information: | |
|-------------------------|--|
| | |

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

Planning of National Targets

| Priority of the target: | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No |
|----------------------------|--|
| | answer |
| Resourcing: | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely |
| | limiting; E= No answer |
| National Targets (Text | |
| Answer): | |
| Planned Activities | |
| (Text Answer): | |
| Outcomes achieved by | |
| 2021 and how they | |
| contribute to achievement | |
| of the Aichi Targets and | |
| Sustainable Development | |
| Goals | |
| | |
| Note: this field has to be | |
| completed when the full | |
| report is submitted in | |
| January 2021 | |
| Additional information: | |
| | |

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].

| Priority of the target: | Α | A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | answer | | | | |
| Resourcing: | В | A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely | | | | |
| | | limiting; E= No answer | | | | |
| National Targets (Text | Strengthening the knowledge base and building the capacity for | | | | | |
| Answer): | conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity | | | | | |
| Planned Activities | | | | | | |
| (Text Answer): | | | | | | |
| Outcomes achieved by | | | | | | |
| 2021 and how they | | | | | | |
| contribute to achievement | | | | | | |
| of the Aichi Targets and | | | | | | |
| Sustainable Development | | | | | | |
| Goals | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| Note: this field has to be |
|----------------------------|
| completed when the full |
| report is submitted in |
| January 2021 |
| Additional information: |
| |

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

- Contracting Parties can opt to 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 <u>Ramsar Sites Information Service</u>).
- 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.

Name of Contracting Party: UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

List of indicator questions:

- Has the Ramsar Site been assessed regarding the effectiveness of its management (i.e. sites with either a formal management plan) or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management?
- **5.7** Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
- **11.1** Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
- **11.3** Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
- 11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19?
- **16.3a** Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
- **16.6a** Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

| Ramsar Site number | Ramsar Site name | 5.6 ③ | 5.7 | 11.1 ③ | 11.3 ④ | 11.4 ④ | 16.3a ① | 16.6a ① | Any additional comments/information about the site |
|--------------------------|--|----------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|--|
| 2309 | Al Zora Protected Area | D | A | D | С | С | A | А | |
| 2293 | Bul Syayeef | D | Α | Α | С | С | A | Α | |
| 2142 | Al Wathba Wetland Reserve | А | А | А | С | А | A | А | |
| 2191 | Sir Bu Nair Island Protected Area | D | A | D | С | С | A | А | |
| 2125 | Mangrove and Alhafeya Protected Area in Khor Kalba | D | A | D | С | С | A | A | |
| 1715 | Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary | D | А | D | С | С | А | А | |
| 1932 | Wadi Wurayah National Park | А | А | А | А | A | А | А | |
| 2368 | Hatta Mountain Reserve | D | D | D | С | С | С | А | |
| 2364 | Jabal Ali Wetland Sanctuary | D | D | D | С | С | С | А | |
| 2386 | Wasit Nature Reserve | D | D | D | D | D | С | А | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

① A=Yes; B=No; D=Planned

③ A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; D=Planned

④ A=Yes; B=No; C=Partially; Z=No Management Plan