

(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Scientific and technical support for Ramsar implementation in Asia-Oceania

Lew YOUNG Ramsar Convention Secretariat 1196 Gland Switzerland e-mail: young@ramsar.org



Ramsar Contracting Parties in Asia-Oceania



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Future priorities : Wise use



1. Establish and update national wetland inventories To include information on:

- the ecosystem services that the site provides;
- the communities living in and around the site.

2. National wetland policy

- should be harmonized with other relevant national strategies, e.g. for water, biodiversity, sustainable development etc,
- and to implement that strategy.

3. Improve coordination and communication

- Between institutions and stakeholders at all levels so as to avoid duplication of effort and wastage of resources;
- This may include establishing a broad-based national wetland committee or equivalent.



Future priorities : Ramsar Sites (1)



1. Designation of Ramsar Sites

Focus on quantity <u>and</u> quality, i.e. to list priority wetlands, build capacity and provide knowledge and tools for effective conservation.

- Simple handbook on Site management;
- Ecosystem approach to Site management;
- Roll out the 'Ramsar-Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool' (R-METT) (Res XII.15).



Future priorities : Ramsar Sites (2)



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2. Management of Ramsar Sites

- How best to manage Ramsar Sites that are not nationally designated as protected areas;
- Work with local stakeholders to develop and implement the site management plan that incorporates the site's scientific, socioeconomic and cultural values;
- Build the capacity of site managers in the conservation and wise use of the wetland;
- Developing visit programmes.



Future priorities : Ramsar Sites (3)



Consideration of the local community at wetland and Ramsar Sites:

- the Mission of the Convention (Strategic Plan 2016-2024)
 "Conservation and wise use of all wetlands.... as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world."
- Res IX.14, para. 10: to assess "...the economic, social, cultural and livelihood values of individual wetlands and wetlands in general and the benefits/services they deliver,...";
- Res X.3, page 7: to ensure that the "...wise use, management, and restoration of wetlands should help to build opportunities for improving people's livelihoods, particularly for wetland-dependent, marginalised and vulnerable people...";
- Res XII.15, para. 20: to monitor "...the socio-economic status of any indigenous peoples and local communities,..." at Ramsar Sites so as to see if the status has improved as a result of the designation and management of the Site.

Summary



Ecosystem approach to Site management

- 1. Wetland ecosystems services
 - rapid assessment methodology
 - inclusion in wetland inventories
 - inclusion in site management and monitoring plans
- 2. Greater recognition of socioeconomic issues in the management of Ramsar Sites
 - rapid assessment methodology
 - inclusion in wetland inventories
 - inclusion in site management and monitoring plans

Guidance

- 1. Ramsar Handbooks
 - updated
- 2. Index to past Resolutions
 - on particular topics
- 3. Database of case studies and examples
 - National Wetland Inventories;
 - National Wetland Policies;
 - Site management plans, etc.

