

Acronyms in daily use by the Ramsar Convention

AAs	Administrative Authorities, Ramsar implementing agencies
AEWA	African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement
BBOP	Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme
BLG	Biodiversity Liaison Group (CBD, CITES, CMS, Ramsar, and World Heritage)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEC	IUCN Commission on Education and Communications
CEM	IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management
CEPA	Communications, education, participation, and awareness
CI	Conservation International
CICOS	Commission Internationale du Bassin Congo-Ougangui-Sang
CIESIN	Center for International Earth Science Information Network
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CMS	UNEP Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of the Contracting Parties
COP11	11th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
CP	Contracting Party, or member state, of the Convention
CSAB	Chairs of Scientific Advisory Bodies
CSD	UN Commission on Sustainable Development
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of the OECD
DSG	Deputy Secretary General
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EKBY	The Greek Wetland / Biotope Centre
EMG	UNEP Environmental Management Group
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	European Space Agency
EWS	Early warning system
GAPP	Global Action Plan for Peatlands
GBF	Global Biodiversity Forum
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGAP- CoCo	Coordinating Committee for the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands
GISP	Global Invasive Species Programme
GPA	UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities

GRASP	UNEP Great Apes Survival Partnership
GTOS	Global Terrestrial Observing System
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
ICBP	International Council for Bird Preservation (now BirdLife International)
ICDPR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
ICF	International Crane Foundation
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
ICN	Instituto de Conservação da Natureza, Portugal
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
ICZM	Integrated coastal zone management
IEEP	Institute for European Environmental Policy
IHE	UNESCO Institute for Water Education
IHP	UNESCO International Hydrological Programme
IMCG	International Mire Conservation Group
INBO	International Network of Basin Organizations
IOI	International Ocean Institute
IOPs	International Organization Partners of the Convention
IPBES	Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPCC	UN/WMO Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPS	International Peat Society
ISEE	International Society for Ecological Economics
IUCN	IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRB	International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (now Wetlands International)
JAXA	Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency
JLG	Joint Liaison Group (of the Rio Conventions)
KIWC	Kushiro International Wetlands Centre
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MAB	UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MOC, MOU	Memorandum of Cooperation, of Understanding
MR	Montreux Record
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development

NFPs	National Focal Points
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NRs	National Reports prepared by Contracting Parties in advance of each Ramsar COP
NRC	National Ramsar Committee / National Wetland Committee
NWPs	National Wetland Policies (or Strategies or Plans, etc.)
OAS	Organization of American States
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
RAM	Ramsar Advisory Mission
RIS	Information Sheet for Ramsar Wetlands
SBSTA	UNFCCC's Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SBSTTA	CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
SC	Ramsar Standing Committee
SC46	46th meeting of the Ramsar Standing Committee
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SG	Secretary General
SGA	Ramsar's Swiss Grant for Africa
SGF	Ramsar Small Grants Fund
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SRAs	Ramsar "Senior Regional Advisors" for Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Neotropics (based at the Ramsar Secretariat)
SSC	IUCN Species Survival Commission
STRP	Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel
STRP17	17th meeting of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel
SWS	Society of Wetland Scientists
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TOR	Terms of reference
TRS	Transboundary Ramsar Site
TSs	Technical Sessions of the early Ramsar COPs
UNCCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WAZA	World Association of Zoos and Aquariums
WCMC	UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WCPA	IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas
WFF	Wetlands for the Future Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
WLI	Wetland Link International
WRI	World Resources Institute
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002
WWD	World Wetlands Day (2 February annually)
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust