



## **Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research in the Western Hemisphere**

The Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere aims at promoting research on the management and wise use of wetlands in the Americas. The Centre organizes trainings and develops evaluation, monitoring and communications tools.

### **Main objectives**

The Centre has the following objectives:

1. Promotion of understanding through research on management and wise use of wetlands, taking into account aspects of biodiversity and benefits to people;
2. Capacity building through development of training and educational programmes, seeking to expand theoretical and practical knowledge of wetlands;
3. Implementation of the objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention, promoting scientific and technical cooperation and the exchange of knowledge on the use and conservation of wetlands in the Western Hemisphere and other regions of the world.

### **Endorsement**

Panama's Government, at the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in 1997, submitted a proposal to create a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere.

The VII Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, held in San José, Costa Rica, in 1999, endorsed the Centre with Resolution VII.26.

### **Coordination bodies**

The administrative organ of the Centre is the Board of Directors lead by the Panama's government, and including the regional representatives of North America and the Neotropics in the Standing Committee, the Ramsar Secretariat, a representative of the International Organizations Partners of the Ramsar Convention (currently Wetlands International) and a representative of another global research centre (currently the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute).

## Activities

Besides training programmes, the Centre has supported the development of an inventory of Panama's Wetlands and of a National Wetland Policy for Panama, as well as the formation of the Wetland National Committee.



The Ramsar Secretariat led the Training of Trainers Course on Wetlands for the Ramsar Regional Centre in Panama-CREHO from 2 to 6 December 2013.



Forum "The Relevance of Planning and Environmental Impact Assessment for the Conservation and Wise use of Wetlands" organized by CREHO, ANAM, the Ramsar Secretariat and the City of Knowledge on 6 December 2013.

For more information, visit:  
[www.creho.org](http://www.creho.org)