



Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of the Plata River Basin

The initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of the Plata River Basin promotes technical cooperation among countries to enhance the conservation and wise use of wetlands located in the Plata River Basin.

The initiative aims at strengthening local efforts through a participative process. It contributes to General Objective 3 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, International Cooperation.

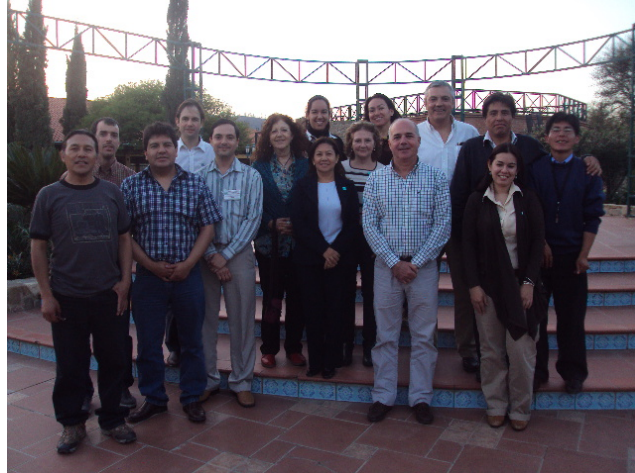
Main objectives:

1. To develop a shared vision of wetlands of the Plata River Basin through coordination mechanisms and the reinforcement of regional capacities.
2. To complete and improve the scientific and technical knowledge to support its conservation and sustainable use.
3. To promote the conservation and wise use of natural and cultural resources of the wetlands of the Plata River Basin through an effective management.
4. To strengthen processes of education and communication to increase public awareness about the importance and value of the wetlands of the Plata River Basin.
5. To support countries in the region to develop coordinated conservation policies.
6. To design and implement a monitoring and evaluation system for the initiative to guarantee its sustainability in the medium and long term at the regional, national and local level.

Endorsement and members

The Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands of the Plata River Basin was endorsed by the Ramsar Standing Committee (SC40) in May of 2009.

The initiative's members include focal points from the five countries that share the Plata River Basin: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Other members are International Organization Partners of Ramsar, WWF, Wetlands International, and the Ramsar Regional Center for the Western Hemisphere (CREHO). The local authorities, non-governmental organizations and wetland specialists from the Plata River Basin also participate at the national level.



Meeting of the members of the initiative and non-governmental organizations

Coordination bodies

The initiative is coordinated by a Follow-up Group including Ramsar Focal Points for Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay and supported by the Ramsar Secretariat. The Follow-up Group exchanges information about the progress of the initiative through an electronic mail forum. Focal Points facilitate the participation of local organizations involved in the initiative.

Representatives of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Plata's Basin (CIC), the Administration Commission of the Uruguay River (CARU) and other multi- or bilateral organizations have been invited to participate in the development of the initiative.

Activities

The initiative has made progress on the development of its governance body (the Follow-up Group), has set priorities and drafted a strategic document with an action plan and regulations for the Initiative's Coordination Committee.

Meetings

The Coordination Committee met in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 15 to 18 October 2009; in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 26 to 30 April 2011; in Montevideo from 2 to 6 December 2012 and Tarija, Bolivia, from 29 September to 4 October 2013.



II Meeting, Montevideo Uruguay



View of the Uruguay River



Participants visiting the Ramsar Site in
Tajzara, Bolivia



Participants in Tarija, Bolivia 2013

Other Documents

[Regulations of the Coordination Committee](#)

[Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands of the Plata River Basin](#)

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