

Ramsar National Report to COP14

Section 1: Institutional Information

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

The completed National Report **must be accompanied by a letter** in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP14 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below)

> Letter

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Confirmation Letter AT Ramsar National Report COP14.pdf](#)

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority

> Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

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Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

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Designated National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

Name and title

> A.o. Univ. Prof. Dr. Gert Michael Steiner

Name of organisation

> -

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Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title

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Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

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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)

> The Ramsar site “Mires of Pass Thurn” has been extended (from 190 to 220 hectares). Extension of the National Park Donau-Auen (Danube floodplains) as part of the Ramsar site Donau-March-Thaya-Auen (Danube-Morava-Thaya floodplains) by 260 ha.

2)

> In Styria, the “Unteres Murtal“ (Lower Mur Valley) has been designated as a UNESCO biosphere park (2019). It is to become part of the transboundary UNESCO biosphere park “Mur-Drau-Donau” (Mur-Drava-Danube); Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia are working on a transnational project submission.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.unesco.at/presse/artikel/article/neuer-unesco-biosphaerenpark-unteres-murtal-in-der-steiermark/>

<https://www.unesco.at/presse/artikel/article/neuer-unesco-biosphaerenpark-unteres-murtal-in-der-steiermark/>

3)

> The LIFE project IRIS – Integrated River Solutions in Austria (2019-2027) supports integrated planning approaches as a new way of restoring our water bodies to good ecological status while also improving flood protection

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.life-iris.at>

4)

> Revitalisation of rivers and their surrounding areas within the framework of several LIFE-Nature projects (e.g. Wilderness Wetland Wachau, Lower Morava Floodplains,...). The LIFE-Project Salzachauen (Salzach floodplains, 2015-2020) is the biggest restoration project in the federal province of Salzburg so far

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.salzburg.gv.at/umweltnaturwasser_/Seiten/LIFE-Projekt-Salzachauen.aspx

5)

> Under the INTERREG project ConNat AT-CZ, preparations are underway for a development plan for bogs and mires in the Waldviertel and a bog and mire database, with the aim of bog and mire restoration
Under the INTERREG- project “Small water bodies for the Lake Constance region – connecting the terrestrial habitats” at least 60 small water bodies were created (or restored) in the Lake Constance area
Ramsar site ‘Hörfeld Mire` (Carinthia): creation of 49 small water bodies under the project NaturErLebensRaum (nature theme park and habitat) Hörfeld Mire. Adaptation of wetlands for the whinchat (Saxicola rubetra) under the project “vielfaltleben (living diversity) IV – measures for bird protection”.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.bodensee-stiftung.org/kleingewaesser-fuer-die-bodenseeregion/#1519371281239-3e2498b3-3afa73a4-75ad6c43-43618a98-306a795e-70>

<http://www.naturland-noe/connat>

B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

1)

> 1) Problems identified in all federal provinces are: intensification of the agricultural use of wetlands, new hydroelectric power stations and the strong position of the landowners.

2)

> The Ramsar site ‘Rhine delta´ is threatened by the expansion of the Altenrhein airport in Switzerland

3)

> At the Ramsar site “Untere Lobau“ there exists a conflict of interests over an infrastructure project for crossing the Danube (Danube crossing). The route will cross the National Park “Donau-Auen” at a distance of 1,000 m from the Ramsar site “Untere Lobau” and a depth of nearly 50 metres.

4)

> Many projects face a lack of acceptance among the population when it comes to beavers and their artificial retention activity, and to the impact of the Eurasian otter on fishing ponds.

5)

>) Inadequate national implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive: currently 60 percent of rivers do not meet the minimum environmental standards, which is also the case in Austria. The reasons for this are "largely insufficient financing, slow implementation and insufficient integration of environmental objectives".

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/fitness_check_of_the_eu_water_legislation/documents/Water%20Fitness%20Check%20-%20SWD\(2019\)439%20-%20web.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/fitness_check_of_the_eu_water_legislation/documents/Water%20Fitness%20Check%20-%20SWD(2019)439%20-%20web.pdf)

C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?

1)

> Development of national strategies:

Development of a National Peatland strategy, including regional action plans in the federal provinces, for the conservation and restoration of mire habitats. Placing a focus on the protection of mires as a measure to tackle climate change. Maintaining the sustainable use of fens and wet meadows and stopping the spread of invasive neophytes.

Updating the Austrian Floodplain Strategy 2020+.

2)

> Cross-border administration of the establishment and management of transboundary Ramsar sites should be strengthened and institutionalised to ensure a continuous exchange of expertise.

3)

> Improving water retention in soil (e.g. by preserving natural retention areas in the interest of preventive flood control and by restoring watercourses to a more natural state. Using the instruments of land consolidation.

To avoid all negative human-induced changes, or any changes in the ecological character of the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" that are likely to be caused by a Danube infrastructure project (Danube crossing) and could endanger the protection goals, is an absolute priority for the future implementation of the Convention. The successful implementation of restoration projects on the (New) Danube - "Untere Lobau" by the Municipal Department 45 (Water Management) is the main objective of innovative water engineering and of the future implementation of the Convention as well.

4)

> 4) Updating of inventories (mires and floodplains) and biotope inventories.

5)

> Basic research on wetland management and climate change.

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

> -

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)

> -

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)?

> A regular exchange between the national Ramsar Committee and corresponding implementing bodies of the respective MEAs, e.g. by mutual participation in meetings, forwarding the minutes of meetings etc.

Regular communication and better coordination between the relevant joint country representatives and the National Focal Points of the different MEAs

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?

> Implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and the test project IRIS - Integrated River Solutions in Austria: integrated planning approaches as a new way of restoring our water bodies to good ecological status while also improving flood protection

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.life-iris.at>

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.

> The gender distribution in national delegations in Austria is not yet balanced, e.g. on the National Ramsar Committee there are currently 2/3 men and 1/3 women.

In the Administrative Authority of City of Vienna, in the Municipal Department of Environmental Protection, in the Municipal Department of Forestry and Agriculture and in the Danube Floodplains National Park Ltd. both men and women participate in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research.

I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

> -

J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report

> The Austrian Federal States/Provinces of Burgenland, Carinthia, Lower Austria, Upper Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Tyrol, Vorarlberg, Vienna. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism. Naturschutzbund Österreich. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology. BirdLife Österreich. Forum Umweltbildung. Environment Agency Austria.

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

Please select only one per square.

a) National Policy or strategy for wetland management	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
b) Poverty eradication strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
f) National forest programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

i) National policies on energy and mining	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
j) National policies on tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
k) National policies on urban development	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
l) National policies on infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
m) National policies on industry	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

1.1 Additional information

> In Austria, there is EU and national legislation in place to ensure a careful/sustainable use of water resources. The Austrian Water Act contains basic provisions for the protection, use and management of water bodies.

a) National Policy or Strategy for wetland management

Austrian Wetlands Strategy: Objectives and Measures 2006-2010 (Umweltbundesamt 2005): objectives and measures have been defined for the planning of Ramsar site and wetland management.

Austrian Floodplain Strategy 2020+/Auenstrategie für Österreich 2020+ (2015): objectives, principles and measures, as well as ways of securing Austria's floodplains and riparian zones. Floodplain and river basin management.

The National Flood Risk Management Plan 2015 (BMLFUW 2016) provides for the designation or restoration of retention areas and retention-effective management of river basin areas.

b) Poverty eradication strategies: No relevant

c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans

Austrian National Water Management Plan 2015: The National Water Management Plan (NGP) is a plan for river basins in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive in order to ensure the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water resources. Based on a thorough analysis of the current state of the water bodies, the NGP mentions significant uses and specifies protection and remediation targets and the necessary measures to achieve them. To implement them, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism publishes a National Water Management Plan (NGP) every six years

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-oesterreich/wasserrecht_national/planung/NGP-2015.html

d) Coastal and marine resource management plans: Not relevant

e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan: Not relevant

f) National forest programmes:

In the Austrian Forest Strategy 2020+/Österreichische Waldstrategie 2020+ (BMLFUW 2016) wetlands are mentioned several times, e.g. in the context of the conservation and revitalisation of floodplain forests and their connection with water bodies. The implementation of the Austrian Floodplain Strategy 2020+ is now enshrined as a strategic target. Bog woodlands and bog edge woodlands and other wetland forest sites should be preserved or restored, especially in order to enhance carbon storage.

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/forst/oesterreich-wald/waldstrategie-2020/waldstrategie_paper.html

g) National policies or measures on agriculture

Austria Agri-Environmental Programm - ÖPUL: Promotion inter alia of organic farming and support for water protection, soil protection and groundwater protection measures

h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD:

Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2020+ (BMLFUW 2014): The targets and measures are based on the objectives defined at EU and international level (in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity). The aim of one of the 149 measures is to develop a Wetland Strategy on the basis of the Austrian Floodplain Inventory (BMLFUW 2011).

Austrian Action Plan on Invasive Alien Species (BMLFUW 2004): It contains objectives and measures in four areas of prime importance and attaches particular importance to information and awareness-raising.

i) National policies on energy and mining: Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) for Austria (2019)

j) National policies on tourism: Plan T – Masterplan for Tourism (2019) promotes the sustainable development of Austria as a tourist location.

k) National policies on urban development: e.g. “STEP 2025”, the urban development plan for Vienna: this includes e.g. the wise use of protected areas.

l) National policies on infrastructure: Unknown

m) National policies on industry: “Future. Business. Business Location Austria 2015–2020. Catalogue of Measures“. This only contains references to the nature conservation law

n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries Water abstractions and discharges in aquaculture are subject to the relevant regulations which have been introduced for the purpose of the protection of water bodies (see above: ‘a’) and the Ordinance on limitation of waste water emissions from aquaculture production.

In Austria, fishing falls within the sphere of competence of the nine federal states of Austria; thus there are nine different fishing laws. There are rules applicable for fishing and closed seasons to protect fish species and populations. The Aquaculture Strategy 2020 of the BMLRT is aimed at sustainable aquaculture and an environmentally friendly development of fisheries production.

Great importance is attached to adequate training for fishermen and -women and a scope of professional competence that is as broad as possible. Training offers include seminars on aquatic ecology and introductory courses on sustainable pond management.

o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management

National Water Management Plan 2015 The aim of the NGP (National Water Management Plan 2015) is to protect aquatic ecosystems and directly dependent terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands and their water regime by preventing their deterioration and by improving them in accordance with the Water Act. To achieve this, measures addressing river morphology are implemented to improve lateral connectivity between tributaries and wetlands.

Nitrate Action Programme 2012: The aim is to reduce water pollution caused by nitrates released from agricultural sources and to prevent further nitrate pollution

p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality

First wastewater emission ordinance for municipal wastewater (AEV No 1, Federal Law Gazette No. 210/1996). It defines admissible concentrations of specific wastewater parameters in the effluent of a WWTP for settlements bigger than 50 PE.

This ordinance sets out stricter guidance levels for wastewater treatment for national and international lakes e.g. Lake Constance, Neusiedler See and Attersee.

Austrian Emission Register EMREG: Collection of data on surface water pollution (chemical substances)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-oesterreich/wasserrecht_national/planung/EmRegV-OW.html

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-oesterreich/wasserrecht_national/recht_gewaesserschutz/APNitrat2012.html

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa/fachinformation/ngp/ngp-2015.html>

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/service/publikationen/land/aquakultur_2020.html

https://news.wko.at/news/oesterreich/ZukunftWirtschaft_Massnahmenkatalog.pdf

<https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/strategien/step/step2025/kurzfassung/index.html>

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/tourismus/masterplan_tourismus.html

https://www.bmk.gv.at/themen/innovation/publikationen/energieumwelttechnologie/energie_klimaplan.html

<https://homepage.univie.ac.at/wolfgang.rabitsch/Neobiota%20Engl.pdf>

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/umwelt/natur-artenschutz/biologische_vielfalt/biodivstrat_2020plus.html

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/land/laendl_entwicklung/oepul/oepul2015.html

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/forst/oesterreich-wald/waldstrategie-2020/waldstrategie_paper.html

https://info.bmlrt.gv.at/themen/wasser/wasser-oesterreich/wasserrecht_national/planung/NGP-2015.html

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa/fachinformation/hochwasserrisiko/rmp2015/risikomanagementplan/risikomanagementplan.html>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/service/publikationen/wasser/Auenstrategie-fuer-Oesterreich.html>

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 Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1, VIII.2) ? 1.24.

C=Partially

2.1 Additional Information

> The Lobau water supply station (bank filtration) is situated within the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" and feeds water from the groundwater resources into the Viennese supply system only if required. The hydrological regime of the Lobau depends on the exchange (which depends on the water levels) occurring between the groundwater and the River Danube along the entire stretch of its river banks. This process results in the specific quality of the water filtered through the banks which is used as drinking water (water protection zone for the drinking water supply of the City of Vienna).

Neusiedler See-Gebiet: in Ausarbeitung. (in preparation)

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)

C=Partially

2.2 Additional Information

> In some areas measures are taken, for example:

For the proceedings concerning the infrastructure project for crossing the Danube (Danube crossing) many assessments have been undertaken in relation to the mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau"

2.3 What, if any, initiatives 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.)

A=Yes

2.3 Additional Information

> Coordination of water management requires collaboration with other neighbouring countries. The coordination of issues concerning parts of international river basins that go beyond political borders is based on various agreements:

For Salzburg and Upper Austria, the relevant agreements are the Regensburg Treaty and the Agreement between the Federal Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the Free State of Bavaria on the use of the Saalach for water power.

The Danube River Protection Convention governs cooperation for the protection and sustainable use of the River Danube.

Transboundary cooperation between Austria and Switzerland takes place under the "Rhesi" project which is aimed at flood protection and the ecological restoration of the River Rhine.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://rhesi.org/>

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=Yes

2.4 Additional Information

> In Austria, projects were carried out during the reporting period, especially on rivers and Mires, which demonstrate in an exemplary manner the preservation of ecological functions through water management measures:

Under the LIFE programme, the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action, the projects that have been carried out are mainly river revitalisation projects e.g. LIFE Lech – Dynamic River System Lech (2014-2021) and 'The Salzach Floodplains' (2015-2020).

With their natural resource management activities, the Austrian Federal Forests have contributed to the conservation and improvement of ecologically important habitats in Austria for many years. In many bogs and mires it has been possible to stop progressive loss using structural measures. Under the LIFE project "LIFE Ausseerland – Natural wood lands, bogs and habitat network around Aussee" (finalised in 2019) habitats were created, improved and connected with each other.

Measures for rewetting mires have been carried out successfully e.g. in the federal province of Salzburg in the European conservation areas "Bürmooser Moor" and "Blinkingmoos".

At the Ramsar site Hörfeld mire nearly 50 small water bodies have been created so far, under the project "NaturErLebensRaum (nature theme park and habitat) Hörfeld mire". Under the project "vielfaltleben" (living diversity), scrub was removed from fens to make them arable again.

At the Ramsar site Sablatnig mire the wet meadows which are to the north and northwest of the area are cut once a year, as regulated by a contract established by the federal province of Carinthia. A wet meadow which is to the the southeast of the area is cut by a farmer to prevent scrub encroachment.

Arge NATURSCHUTZ created several small water bodies for the project "Mire and dry grassland management Carinthia". In many mires, scrub has been removed from fens to make them arable again.

Rewetting measures (ditch blocking) are to be carried out in the wetland meadows of the Rhine delta.

The City of Vienna implements measures outside the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" mainly with the aim to achieve the environmental objectives for water bodies, e.g. through the revitalisation of the Liesing river, and cleaning up measures and water management at the Alte Donau.

2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 95.2

2.5 Additional Information

> We do not have a specifically figure for households in Austria - the management report states the percentage of population connected to the sewerage system - this was 95.2% of the population in 2016. Source: Urban Wastewater – Austrian Report/ Kommunales Abwasser - Österreichischer Bericht (BMLFUW 2016)

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (percentage)

> 100

2.6 Additional Information

> Wastewater treatment in Austria has reached a very high quality standard, also by international standards. The rate of connection to municipal sewage treatment plants amounts to 95.2 % in Austria. All settlements with a population of 2,000 or more are directly connected to a sewage system and treatment plant.

Source: Urban Wastewater – Austrian Report/ Kommunales Abwasser - Österreichischer Bericht (BMNT 2018)

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=Unknown

2.7 Additional Information

> Source: Urban Wastewater – Austrian Report/ Kommunales Abwasser - Österreichischer Bericht (BMNT 2018)

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

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

C=Partially

2.8 Additional Information

> Source: Urban Wastewater – Austrian Report/ Kommunales Abwasser - Österreichischer Bericht (BMNT 2018)

2.9 Number of wastewater treatment plants (or volume treated exist at national level)?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (plants)

> 1883

2.9 Additional Information

> Urban centralised wastewater treatment plants >50 PE (Population Equivalent)

Source: Urban Wastewater - Austrian Report/ Kommunales Abwasser - Österreichischer Bericht (BMNT 2018)

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

2.10 Additional Information

> Limit values are prescribed (Emissions Ordinance) for discharges into receiving bodies or seepages in Austria.

Source: First wastewater emission ordinance for municipal wastewater (AEV No 1, Federal Law Gazette No. 210/1996). It defines the admissible concentrations of specific wastewater parameters in the effluent of a WWTP for settlements bigger than 50 PE.

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

A=Good

2.11 Additional Information

> The Austrian legislation stipulates specific treatment technologies and defines specific emission limits for small scale wastewater treatment up to 50 PE.

The relevant Austrian legislation for small scale wastewater treatment up to 50 PE is comprised of two technical standards:

- ÖNORM B 2502-1: Small wastewater treatment plants for facilities up to 50 PE
- ÖNORM B 2505 - Constructed wetlands

The Austrian standard ÖNORM B 2502-1 specifies mandatory biological treatment including different technical process options. Further, it defines admissible maximum concentrations of treated wastewater (emission limits) for suspended solids, organic parameters (COD, BOD5, TOC) and Nitrogen (NH4-N).

The Austrian standard ÖNORM B 2505 specifies the configuration of constructed wetlands which perform biological wastewater treatment. Further, it defines the same emission limits for suspended solids, organic parameters (COD, BOD5, TOC) and nitrogen (NH4-N) as the standard ÖNORM B 2502-1.

2.12 Number of wastewater reuse systems (or volume re-used) and purpose?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 0

2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

Y=Not Relevant

2.13 Additional Information

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

> In Austria, with its abundance of water, only about 3 % of the total amount of freshwater available is abstracted and used.

Source: Data, Facts and Figures 2019/2020 (BMNT 2019)

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

B=No

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

A=Yes

3.1 Additional Information

> • Burgenland: The manager of the Ramsar site 'Güssing fish ponds' accepts and practises the principles of a wise and balanced sustainable use. To compensate at least partially for the resulting economic disadvantages, a funding agreement has been concluded between him and the federal province of Burgenland.

• Carinthia: In Carinthia, a piece of land has been purchased in a mire by Arge NATURSCHUTZ in cooperation with AHP - VERBUND Austrian Hydro Power AG and necessary maintenance work has been carried out. Sablatnig Mire: Information events take place at irregular intervals. During the tourist season guided tours are offered on a regular basis to provide relevant information. To step up public relations, an extension of the visitor centre "Tomarkeusche" is currently being built through a LEADER project. The aim is, among others, to create a modern, barrier-free exhibition space; management in the surrounding wetlands and research activities are to be improved.

• Lower Austria: An important aim of the nature protection measure of the agri-environmental programme ÖPUL is the conservation and improvement of farmland habitats of animals and plant species that are protected under the Habitats and Birds Directive. Nearly nine percent of the areas participating in the nature protection measure (ÖPUL WF) are located within floodplains in Lower Austria and are managed in accordance with habitat requirements and the requirements of endangered animal and plant species. The majority of these areas can be found in the Morava-Thaya floodplains (Ramsar site Danube-Morava floodplains) and along the River Thaya in the Waldviertel (Ramsar site Waldviertel Ponds, Peat Bogs and Floodplains).

• Upper Austria: As agreed with the landowners, the floodplain forests on the alluvial plains of the Lower Inn are not in forestry use.

• Salzburg: Nature conservation contracts under ÖPUL, including advice on nature conservation, and advice provided by the nature conservation officers of the province of Salzburg. A brochure on the clearance of ditches in a way that is compatible with nature conservation interests has been produced. The province of Salzburg charges a fee for the extraction of resources such as crushed stone, rock and gravel. This fee is used to support nature conservation and landscape preservation measures.

• Styria: Extensification of arable production and preservation of land through nature conservation contracts.

• Tyrol: Filzalm pasture in Bavaria: advice for farmers (convertible husbandry with grazing animals)

• Vorarlberg: advice for local restaurants and catering, camping site operators and boat hire businesses.

Consultations with farmers and professional fishermen/-women.

• Vienna: The "Untere Lobau" has been designated under the Birds and Habitats Directives as part of the EU Natura 2000 network. Maintaining of the favourable conservation status of habitats and areas which are protected under the EU Directives is an obligation for all land users.

So far, only a private shepherd has undertaken wise use activities outside the Ramsar site in the Obere Lobau, on Fuchshäufel.

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

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

3.2 Additional information

> 3.2 Additional information:

a) Ramsar Sites

A variety of activities and measures are carried out at the Austrian Ramsar sites by individual business people and/or enterprises, and there are regulations on conservation, sustainable use and management:

• Lake Neusiedl - Seewinkel & Hanság: management measures of the National Park (e.g. control of woody neophytes, grazing projects, land protection), monitoring, visitor management. Implementation of a project for the sustainable use of the reedbeds to provide a harvest of reed that is compatible with the principles for wise use in the future.

• Lafnitztal - Burgenland: Protection of meadows along the River Lafnitz with ÖPUL funds, conflict management for beaver and otter.

- Lafnitztal – Styria: converting farmland to grassland – several farms and NGOs – funded by nature conservation contracts and land acquisition.
 - Güssing fish ponds: sustainable and wise use of the ponds as part of fisheries management.
 - Untere Lobau: not reported
 - Lower Inn Reservoirs: access prohibited in large parts of the area, which is only accessible to visitors in suitable places. In most of the area boat trips are not allowed on the water, in some of the area boat trips are possible with restrictions.
 - Nationalpark Kalkalpen: In the conservation area of the National Park Kalkalpen the mires are fenced off and thus protected. Access to the mires, marshes and wetlands is prohibited, except for scientific purposes and grazing, in accordance with the management plan. Springs in the natural zone are protected under the protection of natural processes strategy, springs in the conservation area fall under the principle that any deterioration of land should be prohibited.
 - Rhine delta: delayed mowing at the Rheinspitz, no trolling in October in the eastern half of the Fussach bay
 - Hörfeld Mire – Carinthia: clearance carried out.
 - Hörfeld Mire – Styria: Pieces of land have been sold to NGOs and the province of Styria for wetland conservation, farmers carry out conservation measures e.g. scrub clearance, small water bodies have been created.
 - Sablatning Mire: The wet meadows are managed by a local farmer. Removal of solitary, stunted young bushy trees. Employment of a biologist for support and the provision of information; electrofishing (Carinthian Institute for Lake Research) and dragon fly analysis to assess ecological status. Improvement of the site's infrastructure mainly through the local community and the nature conservation association Sablatning Mire which was established in 1992 for the purposes of conservation, maintenance and knowledge transfer.
 - Mires and Lakes of Keutschach-schiefling: individual wet meadows and fens farmed by local farmers.
 - autertal – st. Lorenz raised Bog: not reported
 - Upper Drava River: not reported
 - Danube-Morava-Thay Floodplains: wet meadow conservation under ÖPUL WF. Note: The aim of the ÖPUL WF measure is to preserve and develop high nature value farmland and structures and the animal and plant species that depend on them.
 - Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: wet meadow conservation under ÖPUL WF and conservation work with volunteers on peat bogs and floodplains organised by the Lower Austrian network of protected sites.
 - Rotmoos in the Fuscher Valley: measures to support populations of the Chorthippus pullus implemented by land managers
 - Mires of Pass Thurn, Mires of the Sauerfelder Wald, Mires of the Schwarzenberg, Mires of the Überling: biotope conservation and management of the Ramsar sites within the Austrian Federal Forests.
 - Bayerische Wildalm and Wildalmfilz: convertible husbandry with grazing animals, fenced off sensitive mires.
- b) Wetlands in general
- Carinthia: Necessary measures are implemented as part of various projects undertaken by individual companies e.g. Maschinenring (= association under which farms join together for the joint use of e.g. agricultural and forest machinery).
 - Lower Austria: wet meadow conservation under ÖPUL WF
 - Vorarlberg: restoration of the Ursprunger peat bog and Tauglau carried out by Austrian Power Grid AG in the course of compensatory measures. Creation of several small water bodies and improvements of rivers as part of prescribed compensatory measures.
 - Salzburg: donation given by the Sonnenmoor company for restoration measures at the European protected site Weidmoos. Activities of "peat renewal associations" in the European protected areas Weidmoos and Bürmoos.
 - Vorarlberg: delayed mowing to support species protection. Protection of ground breeding bird species. Advice on the management of ditches. Neophyte management.
- Private foundation 'Blühendes Österreich/Blossoming Austria' set up by REWE International - promotes domestic biodiversity. For example, nature conservation areas with endangered plant species were revitalised in the Marchegg nature reserve (Ramsar site Donau-March-Auen.)
- Numerous Activities of 'Naturschutzbund Österreich'/Austrian League for Nature Conservation (a selection of examples): purchase of land, mapping and surveys, participation in international projects, species protection measures, image campaign „Lebendiger Alpenrhein“ (Living Alpine Rhine, Vorarlberg), lobbying and biotope protection as well as wet meadow conservation in almost all of the federal provinces.

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

A=Yes

3.3 Additional information

> Austrian Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020: With its agri-environmental measures and project-based nature conservation measures, compensation payments for disadvantaged areas and education and training measures, the programme is an important instrument for improving the environmental situation in

the agricultural sector.

Contract-based nature conservation (‘Vertragsnaturschutz’)

In the framework of contract-based nature conservation, the administration cooperates with land users.

Voluntary agreements between land users and official authorities about protection and conservation measures help to preserve endangered habitats.

Examples of activities from the federal provinces:

- Burgenland: 2018 saw the start of an EU project “Development of sustainable reed harvesting methods and monitoring – the reedbeds of Lake Neusiedl”.

Under the Interreg project WeCon, development of an ecological network of wetlands in the Austro-Hungarian border region in 2018-2020. <http://biologische-station.bgld.gv.at/forschung/>

- Carinthia: At the Hörfeld Ramsar site, water bodies for amphibians are created and footbridges renovated, monitoring is conducted and awareness-raising measures are implemented, all under the Rural Development programme.

- Lower Austria: revitalisation of rivers and their surroundings as part of several LIFE-Nature projects (e.g. Wilderness Wetland Wachau, Lower Morava floodplains,....)

INTERREG ConNat AT-CZ (2017-2020): preparation of a Waldviertel bog development plan, a bog and mire database, implementation plans, mire restoration and action plan for the safeguarding of wildlife corridors. Important contributions to the protection and wise use of wetlands are provided by the network of protected areas.

- Upper Austria: rehabilitation of mires, e.g. Bayerische Au and Tanner Moor.

In collaboration with the Upper Austrian landscape and development fund, protected sites created to enable the restoration of water courses and provide flood retention areas at the same time.

To protect selected amphibian species that are particularly endangered, all populations currently occurring are recorded, and small water bodies are created or rehabilitated specifically for their protection.

- Salzburg: mapping of grassland breeding populations in the federal province of Salzburg; mapping of the whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*) in the Lungau. Regular maintenance (scrub clearance) of wetlands (also as part of prescribed compensatory measures) in the European protected areas Weidmoos, Bürmooser Moor und Blinkingmoos.

Project “wir tun was”: awareness-raising among farmers <http://www.suske.at/en/projects/all-projects/there-is-something-going-on-management-of-amphibian-migration-routes-along-roads>. Establishment of water bodies and network structures for amphibians under management schemes for protected areas. Nature conservation contracts.

- Styria: creation of more than 50 small water bodies in the Hörfeld to provide spawning grounds/biotopes for amphibians and habitats for water bound bird species. Under the Life+ Project a wetland network was established in the Mitterndorfer Mulde near Aussee <https://www.bundesforste.at/natur-erlebnis/life-projekt-ausseeerland/ueber-life-ausseeerland.html>

In the whole area of the Neumarkter Pass, more than 125 water bodies have been created in the last few years. Around 25 ha of wetland have been restored, 18 ha of them for arable farming. Refugee project in the municipalities Mühlen, Neumarkt and Knittelfeld: wetland and floodplain conservation.

- Tyrol: funding from the federal province of Tyrol for the conservation of the Great Fen Sedge (priority habitat under the Habitats Directive 7210 ‘Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of *Caricion davallianae*’ within the Natura 2000 site ‘Egelsee’: removal of scrub to allow for annual mowing).

Tyrolean Project for the protection of meadow breeders. Funds for fencing off mires. Restoration of the Pigerbach stream in the Gurgl Valley (expected to be completed in 2020).

Monitoring programmes for raised bogs in the Nature Park Karwendel ongoing for more than 10 years: findings e.g. about hydrological changes and climate change.

- Vorarlberg: support for delayed mowing of wet meadows, support for ground breeders and neophyte management

- In Vienna, co-operation took place within a number of workshops, interviews and discussions about basic common core activities and concrete measures for a National Floodplain Strategy 2020.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.salzburg.gv.at/umweltnaturwasser/_Seiten/projektfoerderung.aspx

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

A=Yes

3.4 Additional Information

> Below are some examples of measures that have been taken to remove incentive measures that have a negative impact on the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Within the European protected areas, projects that are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, require permission from the authorities. With this rule it is possible to prevent a potential negative impact as early as at the project level.

Irrespective of the above, environmental impact assessments have to be carried out for plans or projects

listed in Annex I to the Environmental Impact Assessment Act 2000.

As the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" is both part of the Natura 2000 area "National Park Donau-Auen" and of Vienna's part of the National Park Donau-Auen, all projects or measures which might contradict the rules of protection, are to be handled in accordance with UVP-G (Environmental Impact Assessment Act, Law on the assessment of the effects of certain projects on the Environment). In fact, for all assessments where the ecological character of the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" could be endangered, an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) has to be carried out. Against any other possible impacts on wetlands in the City of Vienna, the Viennese Nature Protection Law (Wiener Naturschutzgesetz 1998) appears to afford sufficient protection.

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

A=Yes

4.1 Additional information

> In Austria, 11 aquatic plant species and six fish species were designated as invasive in 2013, another four fish species as "potentially invasive". Seven aquatic invertebrate species are considered invasive, 14 species are considered potentially invasive and 12 species are considered potentially invasive in the context of progressive climate change.

Source: Aquatische Neobiota in Österreich (BMLFUW 2013)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-oesterreich/plan_gewaesser_ngp/umsetzung_wasserrahmenrichtlinie/neobiota-bericht.html

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

C=Partially

4.2 Additional information

> Directive (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species entered into force in 2015 and is directly applicable in Austria.

The EU Member States must eliminate invasive alien species of EU-wide importance or control the spread of already widespread invasive species. The distribution paths of the species must be recorded and action plans drawn up to prevent or contain the introduction and spread of these species.

Surveillance measures and official controls to prevent the introduction of these species are mandatory. The Union list contains 66 invasive animal and plant species, 25 of which occur in Austria.

In most federal states, the laws on nature conservation, hunting and fishing contain information on the handling of non-native species. In some federal states there are state laws on accompanying regulations for the implementation of EU Directive No. 1143/2014.

To transpose Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 into national legislation, a basis is being developed for management measures and national management plans for the control of invasive alien species on the Union list. An Austrian action plan for the prevention of the unintentional introduction and release of invasive alien species of Union concern is under preparation.

At Ramsar Site "Untere Lobau" there are currently no specific guidelines or management programmes in place to mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species. First steps in this direction are laid down in the formal management plan of the "National Park Donau-Auen" for both of the federal provinces, Vienna and Lower Austria. The existing management plans for fishing and hunting prohibit the introduction of alien species. Furthermore, the Viennese Nature Protection Law (Wiener Naturschutzgesetz, 1998) also regulates the introduction of alien species

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.neobiota-austria.at/>

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

A=Yes

4.3 Additional Information

If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the successful management action
> There are project requirements for the control of neophytes in official procedures in connection with soil changes. Inclusion of Ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) and Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiacus*) in the Salzburg hunting law. All projects carried out under the EU-LIFE programme aim for the control of neophytes. The following invasive species, which massively threaten wetland ecosystems, have been controlled by management measures - though only at local level - especially in protected areas and along rivers: Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Canadian goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Canadian goldenrod, Giant goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*, *S. canadensis*), Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) und Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiacus*) in the district of Feldkirch.
It is planned to collect data on neophytes in the water information system Austria (WISA) in the future.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa/daten.html>

4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?

A=Yes

4.4 Additional Information

If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the challenges to management
> The following invasive species pose a high risk to wetland ecosystems in Austria and could not be controlled by management measures:
Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Canadian goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), Riesenbärenklau (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) und Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*); Signalkrebs (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*), god tree (*Ailanthus altissima*) and canadian goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), False acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), Spinycheek crayfish (*Orconectes limosus*), Quagga mussel (*Dreissena rostriformis*) etc.

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

C=Partially

4.5 Additional Information

> In Austria, the effectiveness of programmes to control invasive alien species has been reviewed, particularly in protected areas.

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

C=Partially

5.1 Additional information

> The Austrian Ramsar Plan was published in 1995. Most of the potential Ramsar sites mentioned in it have now been implemented.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/M058.pdf>

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=Yes

5.2 Additional information

> Designating of peatlands ('mires') as Wetlands of International Importance because they are under-represented wetland types.

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 19

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=Exact number (sites)

> 18

5.5 Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 2

5.3 – 5.5 Additional information

> 5.3 – 5.5 Additional information:

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan?

In Austria, 15 of a total of 23 Ramsar sites have been designated as Natura 2000 sites or are part of a Natura 2000 site. For Natura 2000 areas, Natura 2000 management plans must be produced.

1. Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság:

a) Nemeth, E.; Dvorak, M.; Knoll, T.; Kohler, B.; Mühlbacher, S. & Werba, F. (2014): Managementplan für den Neusiedler See als Teil des Europaschutzgebiets Neusiedler See – Nordöstliches Leithagebirge. Studie im Auftrag des Vereins BERTA. BirdLife Österreich, Wien: 245 pp.

b) Suske, W.; Bieringer, G.; Ellmauer, T.; Horvath, K.; Huber, J. & Preisel, H. (2015): Managementplan Europaschutzgebiet Neusiedler See – Nordöstliches Leithagebirge. Wien, 218 pp.

2. Lafnitztal – Bgld: Thurner, B.; Pollheimer, M; Schmitzberger, I. & Frangež, C. (2014): Managementplan Europaschutzgebiet Lafnitztal (AT1122916): I.A. Amt der Burgenländischen Landesregierung, Abteilung 5 – Anlagenrecht, Natur- und Umweltschutz: 186 pp.

Lafnitztal – Styria: Thurner, B. et al. (2014): Managementplan Europaschutzgebiet Nr. 27 – Lafnitztal und Neudauer Teiche (AT2208000). Endbericht.

3. Güssing Fishponds: Holler, C. et al. (2014): Leader Projekt Ramsar-Gebiet Güssinger Fischteiche. Managementplan. ÖNB Burgenland, 93 pp.

4. Untere Lobau: Since summer 2019, a joint management plan has been in place for both the Federal States Vienna and Lower Austria and applicable for the Danube Floodplains National Park (Nationalpark Donau-Auen) to which the Ramsar site “Untere Lobau” belongs. It involves in particular forestry, long-term monitoring and visitor guidance. In addition, management plans for hunting and fishing have been in force since 2009.

5. Lower Inn Reservoirs: Management plan and landscape conservation plan are available.

6. Nationalpark Kalkalpen: The management plan, which includes a separate plan for water bodies and wetland habitats, is in the process of being finalised. It was to be submitted to the owners in June 2020 at the General Assembly.

7. Rheindelta: yes

8. Pürgschachen Moor: management plan in place (produced 2006)

9. Hörfeld-Moor – Carinthia: yes

Hörfeld-Moor – Styria: a partial management plan is under preparation

10. Sablatningmoor: yes

11. Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling: yes

12. Autertal - St. Lorenzener Hochmoor: yes

13. Upper Drava River: yes

14. Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: Large parts of the Ramsar area have also been designated as a European nature reserve (Natura 2000) and as such have a management plan.

15. Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: Large parts of the Ramsar area have also been designated as a European nature reserve (Natura 2000) and as such have a management plan.

16. Rotmoos im Fuschertal: An alpine pasture maintenance plan (“Almpflegekonzept”) has been drawn up for part of the areas.

17. Mires of Pass Thurn: yes (visitor guidance)

18. Mires of the Überling: yes for partial areas

19. Bayerische Wildalm and Wildalmfilz: yes

5.4 Of the Ramsar Sites with a formal management plan, for how many of these is the plan being implemented ?

1. Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: Management plan implemented.

2. Lafnitztal – Bgld: Management plan implemented.

Lafnitztal – Styria: existing management is carried out by the European protected area management.

3. Güssing Fishponds: Management plan implemented.

4. Untere Lobau: For the Ramsar site ‘Untere Lobau’ a formal management plan has been implemented.

5. Lower Inn Reservoirs: implementation in progress (well advanced), evaluation and new development of a management plan scheduled for the next few years.

6. Nationalpark Kalkalpen: Management plan implemented.
7. Rheindelta: management plan implemented.
8. Pürgschachen Moor: management plan is implemented wherever possible.
9. Hörfeld-Moor – Carinthia: yes
- Hörfeld-Moor – Styria: no management plan available, but active management through European protected area management in cooperation with a local association.
10. Sablatningmoor: yes
11. Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling: yes - partly
12. Autertal - St. Lorenzener Hochmoor: yes - partly
13. Upper Drava River: yes - partly
14. Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: Management plan implemented.
15. Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: Management plan implemented
16. Rotmoos im Fuschertal: in the areas included in the alpine pasture maintenance plan (Almpflegekonzept)
17. Mires of the Überling: for the affected sub-areas/sites: yes
18. Bayerische Wildalm and Wildalmfilz: A management plan (ÖBF, WWF, University of Vienna) has already been implemented.

5.5 Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management?

Hörfeld-Moor – Styria: management carried out through the projects designed by the European protected area management.

Rotmoos im Fuschertal: Site management (Flächenmanagement) within the framework the agri-environmental programme of Austria (ÖPUL)

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 exist e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.6 Additional information

> The management plans for the following Ramsar sites have been reviewed to ensure that the conservation and development objectives have been achieved, especially in the Nationalparks with available Personal.

1. Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: National Park, Natura 2000 site

2. Lafnitztal – Styria (Natura 2000 site): The management plan is reviewed partially. The extent of grassland is continuously monitored; monitoring of the indicator species scarce large blue (*Phengaris teleius*) (Trummer 2019); fishing as part of the reviews carried out under the Ordinance on Ecological Quality Objectives for Surface Waters.

3. Untere Lobau (Natura 2000 site): The relevant management plans drawn up in the course of the implementation of EU regulations are in line with the management and monitoring of the Ramsar site. Under the provisions of Articles 11 and 17, a report on management measures, monitoring and the good condition of species and biotopes has to be provided for a period of six years. Specific yearly measures are laid down in annual plans established by the Danube Floodplains National Park Ltd. in co-operation with the local National Park forestry administration. The effectiveness of these measures is checked yearly as well. There already exist permanent plots for the following themes to be monitored in the National Park and the Ramsar site: hydrology (ground water), climate (air pollution); soil (VADOS, heavy metal contamination). Monitoring is carried out by different Municipal Departments of the City of Vienna.

4. Nationalpark Kalkalpen (Natura 2000 site): An evaluation of the management plan will be carried out. The annual programme, which is based on the management plan, is also evaluated annually.

Hörfeld mire – Styria (Natura 2000 site): Ornithological mapping was repeated in some areas in 2019. A survey of amphibians was carried out in selected sections.

Donau-March-Thaya-Auen (National Park, Natura 2000 site): Conservation and development goals are set in the context of projects; there is no standard procedure.

5. Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains (Natura 2000 site): Conservation and development goals are set in the context of projects; there is no standard procedure.

6. Rotmoos im Fuschertal: part of it is a Natura 2000 site

7. Bayerische Wildalm (Natura 2000 site): Yes

8. Pürgschachen mire (Natura 2000 site): Conservation and development goals are defined in the management plan; a review is being planned.

The requirements of the Ramsar Convention are also taken into account in the implementation of NATURA 2000. The Habitats Directive obliges the member states to monitor the conservation status of the respective habitats and species within their national borders. For this purpose, wetland habitats are also surveyed, such as 7110 -Active raised bogs and 71E0-Alluvial forests.

Report in accordance with Art. 17 of the Habitats Directive (2019) - Results of all EU member states:

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/biodiversity/state-of-nature-in-the-eu/article-17-national-summary-dashboards>

5.7 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv

E=Exact number (sites)

> 10

5.7 Additional information

If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites

> In Austria, the following Ramsar sites have a cross-sectoral information exchange:

1. 271 - Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: federal province of Burgenland, Environment Ministry, landowners etc.
2. 1169 - Lafnitztal – Styria: About every two years the Ramsar group ‘Lafnitztal’ organises an exchange of information between the interest groups.
3. 273 - Untere Lobau: There is a cross-sectoral management planning co-operation. Yearly specific measures are laid down in annual plans established by the Danube Floodplains National Park Ltd. in co-operation with the local National Park forestry administration. Furthermore, for the National Park, there exist two advisory boards; a scientific board which has to prepare decisions for the other advisory board, the National Park Advisory Board.
4. 1371 - Nationalpark Kalkalpen: federal province of Upper Austria, Environment Ministry (coordination of measures); Austrian Federal Forests as landowner, landowners, individuals holding easements, tenants under pasture development plans.
5. 275 - Rheindelta: NGO nature protection, hunting, fishing, local municipality
6. 532 - Pürgschachen Moor: partly through the association for the protection of bogs and mires (Mountain and Nature Watch, nature conservation association, municipality of Arding), but coordination with landowners and farmers is proving difficult (especially in the surrounding area)
7. 864 - Hörfeld-Moor – Carinthia: Hörfeld mire nature conservation association; if required: hunting, tourism, ‘Zirbitzkkogel-Grebenzen’ Nature Park
- 864 - Hörfeld-Moor – Styria: Hörfeld mire nature conservation association; if required: hunting, tourism, Nature Park, municipality
8. 558 - Sablatningmoor: Sablatnig mire nature conservation association; regional inspection of fish, fishing and fisheries, municipality
9. 1490 - Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling: Ramsar associations Keutschach and Schiefling; hunting, tourism, school, municipality.
10. 272 - Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: Management Strategy for the Morava-Dyje floodplains (Trilateral Ramsar Platform March-Thaya-Donau-Auen)

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

C=Some Sites

7.1 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Some sites’, please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established

> In Austria, the nine Federal States (Bundesländer) have jurisdiction for nature protection. In case of negative human-induced changes or changes that are likely to endanger the protection goals and the ecological character of a site, there are adequate mechanisms. In this case, the official experts who are in charge of nature protection at the office of the relevant regional government are the first contact persons.

Mechanisms are in place through the EU nature protection network Natura 2000. Many Austrian Ramsar Sites are Natura 2000 sites with site managers. These are in direct contact with the responsible regional authorities, submit information on changes and give advice.

- Carinthia: Another contact person, apart from the official expert for nature protection, is the department manager for protected areas at the Office of the Carinthian regional government.
- Upper Austria: The reservoirs on the Lower Inn are managed as Natura 2000 site by specifically appointed site managers. Within the National Park/Ramsar site Kalkalpen, the National Park Society is responsible for monitoring compliance with the provisions of National Park law. The National Park Society appoints National Park protection bodies which report offences to the district administration.
- Salzburg: as part of protected site management or in case of reported unlawful changes, as well as in the course of the monitoring activities of the Mountain and Nature Watch organisations.
- Styria: There are mechanisms for monitoring at Ramsar sites designated as Natura 2000 sites (European protected areas) through the ongoing presence of and checks conducted by the European protected site managers. Assessment of various projects and the significance of their impact by the European protected site manager or the forest ranger at forest sites.

- Tyrol: Part of the Tyrolean Ramsar site 'Wilder Kaiser' has been designated as the nature reserve 'Kaisergebirge'. Here two site managers are in charge on behalf of the Tyrolean government who are in close contact with the district authorities and the regional government.
- Vienna: The Ramsar site 'Untere Lobau' is characterised as a historical Danube river floodplain with broad-leaved deciduous woodland, meadows (dry grassland, humid grassland and mesophile grassland) and water areas (inland water bodies). Its main characteristics are shaped by the different interactions between natural resources and human impacts. As the Ramsar site is both part of the European protected area (Natura 2000 site) and of the National Park "Donau-Auen", all legal proceedings are in line with the Austrian Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and Vienna's nature conservation law.
- Voralberg: Nature Watch Group Rhine Delta, Nature Conservation Association Rhine Delta, private security surveillance.

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

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 the reporting period 2018-2020 no reports were made to the Ramsar Secretariat.

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

A=Yes

7.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> The "Donau-March Auen" have been on the Montreux list of endangered Ramsar sites since 1990: In the period under review, improvements were achieved in some areas, e.g. through the WWF's wetland meadow management on the March, as well as through smaller projects by the Nature Conservation Department/Lower Austria. The Donau-Auen National Park also carries out many additional projects.

- Nature conservation projects of the province of Lower Austria
- National Park Donau-Auen
- WWF Austria

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.wwf.at/de/march/>

<https://www.donauauen.at/?language=english>

<http://www.noe.gv.at/noe/Naturschutz/Naturschutzprojekte.html>

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]

8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

C=In Progress

8.1 Additional information

> The National Wetland Inventory Austria comprises 889 sites with a total area of 2744 km². It is not complete. Information on the needs of wetland restoration, ecosystem services and potential Ramsar Sites is not available.

Catalogue Floodplain Inventory Austria (2011)

Inventory of floodplain objects in Austria (minimum area 20 ha) and detailed mapping in the provinces of Carinthia and Styria (minimum area 5 ha). 822 floodplain objects with a total area of 95,541 ha

The Austrian Floodplain Inventory 2020+ (2015) encompasses 823 floodplains with a total area of 955 km². Some of these are included in the 'National Wetland Inventory Austria'.

Improving available data on floodplains in Lower Austria

In Austria, 50 % of the floodplain area is situated in Lower Austria. The project focus was on 41 floodplain sites that are not in close vicinity to the large rivers Danube and Morava – floodplains on which hardly any information had been available. A project report was published in 2017.

Mire Conservation Catalogue Austria (Steiner, G. M. 1992): encompasses 1,500 mires

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.data.gv.at/katalog/dataset/1be171f0-7816-4ea9-921a-00ed744c1fc4>

[http://www.noe-](http://www.noe-naturschutzbund.at/files/noe_homepage/anlagen/Projekte/Auen/AuenDatenNOE_Kurzfassung_23052017.pdf)

[naturschutzbund.at/files/noe_homepage/anlagen/Projekte/Auen/AuenDatenNOE_Kurzfassung_23052017.pdf](http://www.noe-naturschutzbund.at/files/noe_homepage/anlagen/Projekte/Auen/AuenDatenNOE_Kurzfassung_23052017.pdf)

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/service/publikationen/wasser/Auenstrategie-fuer-Oesterreich.html>

<https://www.data.gv.at/katalog/dataset/e6853e16-9b44-4987-90d2-2ddc85843710>

<http://www.feuchtgebietsinventar.at>

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

B=No

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

C=Partially

8.3 Additional information

> The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism has commissioned a preliminary study to update the Austrian Bogs and Mires Catalogue and update the inventory of floodplains.

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

A=Yes

8.4 Additional information

> Wetland Inventory Austria: Data are available online (Web-Gis)

Catalogue Inventory of Floodplains Austria 2011

The inventory of flood plains was made accessible by a report: Lazoski, L., Schwarz, U., Essl, F., Goetzl, M., Peterseil, J. & Egger, G. (2011): Aueninventar Österreich. Bericht zur bundesweiten Übersicht der Auenobjekte. Lebensministerium, Wien: 57p. Download: http://www.umweltbundesamt.at/oed_naturschutz

The Mires were made accessible in a report: Steiner, G. M. (1992): Österreichischer Moorschutzkatalog. Grüne Reihe des Bundesministeriums für Umwelt, Jugend und Familie. Graz, styria medienservice.

Report on the Wetlands Inventory of the federal province Burgenland: Michalek, K. G., Lazowski, W. & Zechmeister, T. (2012): Burgenländische Feuchtgebiete und ihre Bedeutung im Naturschutz. Naturschutzbund Burgenland.

Report on Mires in Styria: Matz, H. & Gepp, J. (2008): Moorreiche Steiermark. 389 Moore in der Steiermark. Naturschutzbund Steiermark und Institut für Naturschutz.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.data.gv.at/katalog/dataset/e6853e16-9b44-4987-90d2-2ddc85843710>

<http://www.feuchtgebietsinventar.at>

8.5 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed during the last triennium? {1.1.3}

Please describe on the sources of the information on which your answer is based in the 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 the change(s).

* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	<input type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated
b) Wetlands generally	<input type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated

8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)

> 8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b):

a) Ramsar Sites:

With the exception of eight Ramsar sites (Wilder Kaiser, Mires of Pass Thurn, Mires of the Schwarzenberg, Mires of the Sauerfelder Wald, Mires of the Überling, Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling, Moore am Nassköhr and Güssing Fishponds), all Austrian Ramsar sites have been designated as Natura 2000 sites (or parts thereof). The conservation status of habitat types and species according to the Habitats Directive must be assessed every six years.

Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: The status of various protected sites is monitored through monitoring projects. There have been changes in both directions: positive developments have been achieved for several

grassland habitat types through set-aside of land, and some already extinct bird species have become re-established, or species have successfully established new colonies. Unfavourable developments have been observed in salty habitat types and for animal species that are dependent on small salt water lakes (e.g. ducks, wading birds) as a result of declining water levels which are caused by a drop in the groundwater level. Lafnitztal – Styria: Apart from some animal species (e.g. beaver), the conservation status of the grasslands, the river and the species has mostly been stable: in Styria there has been no significant interference with the river system, and the extent of grassland has been stable over the reporting period.

Hörfeld-Moor – Styria: improvements have been achieved due to the creation of more than 50 small water bodies providing spawning ground biotopes for amphibians and habitats for water bound bird species.

Blocking of former plough furrows at some sites, ground preparation especially at sites with dense scrub for the re-introduction of mowing.

Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: activities carried out on the Morava under the wet meadow management scheme of the WWF; smaller projects organised by the Dept. for Nature Conservation; a large number of projects organised by the National Park Donau-Auen.

Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: activities carried out under the INTERREG project; small-scale projects in the surroundings of the ponds and mires organised by the Department of Nature Conservation of the federal province of Lower Austria.

Mires of Pass Thurn: possible improvement through territorial expansion.

In the Pürgschachen Moor research results have revealed deterioration: due to unfavourable conditions in the surroundings of the protected site on the one hand (active drainage of intensively managed agricultural grassland) and due to a lack of rain and snow in the last few years on the other.

b) wetlands generally

Wetland conditions in Austria have both improved and deteriorated during the last triennium. An overall assessment of all changes is not possible.

The aim of the EU Water Framework Directive for surface waters is to achieve good ecological and chemical status by 2007 (at the latest). The ecological status is thus an important criterion for aquatic habitats.

Deterioration is prohibited. To implement the WFD, measures to improve water morphology have been implemented especially along the major rivers in Austria. E.g. watercourses where water body morphology had been changed have been restored.

https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/umweltkontrolle/2016/ukb16_05_wasser.pdf

- Carinthia: There is a growing tendency to abandon the extensive use of fens or wet meadows and a growing tendency towards intensification.

- Lower Austria: A general assessment of the last three years is not possible as there is no overview; there are only small-scale projects undertaken by the Department for Nature Conservation.

- Salzburg: Improvements have been achieved due to the implementation of restoration projects. E.g. mire restoration measures at the Blinkingmoos at the Wolfgangsee, the Salzach floodplains north of Salzburg, as well as river widening measures along the Mur, Taurach and Salzach Innergebirg etc. A LIFE project on the river Enns is in its planning stages.

Deterioration has been found to occur especially in fens managed as meadows and pastures owing to a slow intensification of agriculture and an associated loss of species.

- Styria: ongoing planning and construction of hydroelectric power stations along rivers (mini power plants, Mur power stations) and, as a result, changes in river dynamics, river flow patterns etc.

Problems with changes in the management of several fish ponds in east and west Styria - away from traditional edible fish production towards use of ponds for sport fishing. The consequences are: drastic decline in aquatic plants and vegetation around the ponds caused by high fish stocking density and active removals, high levels of pressure and disturbance from the continuous presence of anglers, and hardly any small aquatic organisms or small fish due to the high fish densities. Therefore, overall a massive loss of the ecological value of the area, especially as a spawning ground for amphibians and breeding habitat for waterfowl.

- Tyrol: An improvement can be seen in the protected areas. However, a slow deterioration is noticeable in agriculture, with small wetlands (down to the smallest sites) being drained, treated with manure and fertilised and mowed more often than before.

- Vorarlberg: improvements on the Laiblach near the bridge Hörbranz Lindau (fish ladder), improvements on the lower course of the Dornbirner Ach, improvements on the new Rhine are being planned: Project ´Rhesi

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://rhesi.org/>

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.

X=Unknown

8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges)to develop, update or complete a National Wetland Inventory

> An inventory of wetlands in Austria is available, but it is not complete because the areas described have not

been systematically recorded. For example, the areas surveyed in the Austrian Floodplain Inventory have not been included. Thus, the number and extent of the Austrian wetlands is not known. The inventory would have to be technically revised and its contents updated and continuously expanded. This would also require clarification of the question of financing

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://info.bmlrt.gv.at/themen/wasser/wasser-eu-international/europaeische-und-internationale-wasserwirtschaft/feuchtgebiete/feuchtgebieten-inventar.html#:~:text=Das%20%C3%B6sterreichische%20Feuchtgebieteninventar%20beschreibt%20%C3%BCber,und%20Tierarten%20sowie%20%C3%BCber%20Literatur.>
<http://www.feuchtgebieteninventar.at>

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

A=Yes

9.1 Additional information

> For Austrian agriculture, the agri-environmental programme 'ÖPUL' is one of the most important instruments for promoting sustainable, environmentally friendly agriculture. One of the priorities of the support measures is the restoration, conservation and improvement of biological diversity. At the centre of the measures there is e.g. the management of species-rich grassland habitats such as wet meadows. There is also support for not managing moorland.

The nature conservation laws of the nine Federal States (Bundesländer) protect and preserve nature and landscape in general. Certain types of biotopes, e.g. near natural waters, are generally protected. In protected areas, interventions are prohibited or restrictions on use are provided for.

- Burgenland: The Burgenland Nature Conservation and Countryside Protection Law 1990 provides in Section 7 for an ex lege protection of wetlands.
 - Carinthia: In the Carinthian Nature Protection Law, Section 8 provides for an ex lege protection for wetlands.
 - Lower Austria: Section 6 of the Lower Austrian Nature Protection Law 2000; in addition, prohibition of intervention in mires within designated nature conservation areas and two-dimensional natural monuments
 - Upper Austria: Certain measures cannot be carried out without permission in mires, marshes, wet meadows and spring habitats – e.g. soil removal or excavation. A large number of measures in zones along protected banks of lakes and rivers require a permit. Habitat support programme: compensation for the maintenance of ecologically valuable areas to support the conservation of wetlands. Nature conservation contracts for the conservation or improvement of the hydrological conditions of mires.
 - Salzburg: According to the provisions of the Salzburg Nature Conservation Law (Section 24), wetland habitats such as mires, accompanying woody plants along running and standing waters, are considered protected. Large wetlands are afforded additional protection under the regulations for protected areas (e.g. European protected area).
 - Styria: mandatory protection of wetlands if they are located within protected areas (especially Natura 2000 sites, nature reserves). Mires that are at least of regional importance have to be designated as nature reserves. Legal protection of natural standing or running waters and their shores and riparian zones. In addition, indirect protection of wetlands through species protection regulations where these are relevant for the protection and conservation of protected animal and plant species (e.g. water bodies used as amphibian spawning ground).
 - Vienna's nature conservation law protects and conserves nature and landscape in general. Certain types of biotopes, e.g. near natural water bodies, are afforded general protection.
- The protection and sustainable use of wetlands is also anchored in various Austria-wide strategies, such as
- Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreich 2020+/ Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2020+
 - Auenstrategie für Österreich 2020+/ Floodplain Strategy for Austria 2020+
 - Österreichische Waldstrategie 2020+/ Austrian Forest Strategy 2020+

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/forst/oesterreich-wald/waldstrategie-2020/waldstrategie_paper.html
<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/service/publikationen/wasser/Auenstrategie-fuer-Oesterreich.html>
https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/umwelt/natur-artenschutz/biologische_vielfalt/biodivstrat_2020plus.html

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

A=Yes

9.2 Additional information

> In general, the nature conservation laws of the Austrian federal states seem to be sufficient. In some of the federal states, wetlands or certain biotopes, e.g. near-natural water bodies and their river banks are afforded general protection.

The Upper Austrian Nature and Landscape Protection Law 2001 explicitly serves to implement obligations resulting from agreements and conventions under international law (such as the Ramsar Convention).

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=Yes

9.3 Additional information

> The Water Framework Directive is the core instrument of European economic policy.

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}

A=Yes

9.4 Additional information

> With a view to the European Water Framework Directive and the European Floods Directive compulsory public participation is envisaged for individual implementation steps (e.g. concerning important issues of water management, the national water management plan or the flood risk management plan), as well as the opinion of experts on drafts. WISA - Water Information System Austria

The National Water Management Plan (NGP) is a plan for river basins in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive in order to ensure the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water resources. The NGP mentions significant uses and specifies protection and remediation targets and the necessary measures to achieve them. The NGP is updated every six years. A public participation procedure made it possible to comment on the draft NGP.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa/fachinformation/ngp/ngp-2015.html>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa.html>

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

9.5 Additional information

> The Austrian strategy for adaptation to climate change (2012) establishes a framework for action from which specific measures in different sectors can be derived. When it comes to protection against natural hazards, the strengthening of restoration measures for wetlands and rivers is for example mentioned as a recommended action.

The Climate and Energy Fund has initiated a 'Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions (KLAR)' promotion programme to give regions and municipalities opportunities for climate change adaptations e.g. with flood retention basins or semi-natural surface water drainage. Database of climate change adaptation activities: Pressures on rivers may increase if more hydroelectric power stations are built.

A selection of strategies, programmes and projects designed to protect wetlands in view of climate change/climate change adaptation is shown below:

- Protecting mires in Carinthia (MoorPflege Kärnten): a project initiated by Arge NATURSCHUTZ.
- Lower Austrian Climate and Energy Programme 2020 (conservation and improvement of climate-relevant ecosystem services)
- Monitoring of water levels in the raised bogs of Karwendel (Tyrol) for more than 10 years, a "climate detector".
- Die Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in Vorarlberg stipulates the protection of wetlands and mires as well as restoration measures.
- Vienna implements measures for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or adapting to climate change outside the Ramsar Site "Untere Lobau" mainly in the range of water ecological goals, e.g. revitalization of the Liesing river, cleaning of and water management at "Alte Donau". In general, in the City of Vienna, scientific inventories of wetlands are used by the Municipal Department 45 - Vienna's Water (Management) to identify those wetlands, where restoration or rehabilitation is necessary.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.klimawandelanpassung.at/ms/klimawandelanpassung/de/kwa_allgemein/datenbank/

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

C=Partially

9.6 Additional information

> For Austrian agriculture, the agri-environmental programme 'ÖPUL' is one of the most important instruments to promote sustainable, environmentally sound agriculture. One focus of the promotion of measures is the restoration, maintenance and improvement of biological diversity. One of the central measures is the management of species-rich grassland habitats such as wet meadows. In the province of Salzburg, project funding from the Nature Conservation Fund is possible in principle, otherwise there is no other funding except ÖPUL. In Carinthia, there is a Nature Protection Support Programme (NABL: nature protection, species protection, biotope protection, landscape protection) in addition to the agri-environmental programme ÖPUL. In Vienna, there are neither plans nor projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems.

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

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	<input type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) climate change	<input type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) valuation of ecosystem services	<input type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

9.7 Additional information

> The following studies/projects were carried out in Austria to inform policy on wetlands:

a) Agriculture-wetland interactions

- Agriculture and forestry on rewetted raised bogs and fens: paludiculture as a possibility for sustainable use and as an important climate protection measure. Project "PALUS - Potential Analysis for Paludicultures in Austria

- Meadow Breeder Project Vorarlberg

- Flood protection management: agriculture is an important user of sites at risk from flooding, but also of sites that have an influence on the emergence of floods. In 2019, the Environment Ministry produced a guidance document on the development of water maintenance plans within the federal hydrological engineering administration: "Leitfaden für die Erstellung von Gewässerpflegekonzepten" (2019).

b) Climate change

Invasive Pflanzenarten an Fließgewässern - Indikatoren für den Klimawandel? Darstellung anhand ausgewählter Arten mit Schwerpunkt Kärnten und den Alpe-Adria- Raum / Invasive plant species on watercourses - indicators of climate change? Presentation based on selected species with focus on Carinthia and the Alps-Adriatic region

Research was carried out within the Austrian Climate Research Programme and the Austrian STartClim Programm.

The Austrian Climate Research Program (ACRP) focuses on issues of climate change and its impacts, adaptation, mitigation, and their mutual interrelation.

c) Valuation of ecosystem services

Bewertung von Ökosystemleistungen an der Donau östlich von Wien im Zuge der Umsetzung des Maßnahmenkataloges Flussbauliches Gesamtprojekt (2018-2019) / Evaluation of ecosystem services on the Danube east of Vienna in the course of the implementation of the catalogue of measures for the overall river engineering project (2018-2019)

Erfassung und Darstellung von Ökosystemleistungen in Österreich (2019)/ Recording and presentation of ecosystem services in Austria (2019): Selected ecosystem services, e.g. flood retention, were quantified and mapped using indicators, e.g. area for flood retention.

Auswirkungen von Klimawandel auf Alpine Seen: Management von Ökosystemdienstleistungen - CLAIMES (2019-2022)/ Impacts of climate change on Alpine lakes: Management of ecosystem services - CLAIMES (2019-2022)

HyMoCares Alpine rivers are working for us (2016-2019)

ECO KARST - Ecosystem services of karst protected areas - driving force of local sustainable development (2017-2019)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/eco-karst>

<https://www.alpine-region.eu/projects/hymocares-hydromorphological-assessment-and-management-basin-scale-conservation-alpine>

https://forschung.boku.ac.at/fis/suchen.projekt_uebersicht?sprache_in=de&menue_id_in=300&id_in=12900

<https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/REP0693.pdf>

https://forschung.boku.ac.at/fis/suchen.projekt_uebersicht?sprache_in=de&menue_id_in=300&id_in=12419

<https://www.klimafonds.gv.at/call/austrian-climate-research-program/>

<http://www.startclim.at/>

<https://www.klimafonds.gv.at/foerderungen/projektberichte/forschung>

<https://naturwissenschaft-ktn.at/projekte/laufende-projekte>

<https://geoökologie.univie.ac.at/forschung/abgeschlossene-projekte/palus/>

9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10 ?

D=Planned

9.8 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate How many request have been submitted

> The European protected site Lendspitz-Maiernigg has been planned as a Ramsar site/Ramsar City. Klagenfurt is one of the few cities in Europe with a European protected site within its urban area. The eastern bay of the Wörthersee, situated to the west of Klagenfurt, is the lake's nearshore wetland with a wide range of wet meadows and fens.

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

C=Partially

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

If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented

> Project Sutteneich Burgenland (2019-2021): Small temporary ponds in lowland farm- and grasslands provide habitats for many species of the cultural landscape. In Burgenland there are about 450 known water-filled hollows. 150 will be mapped and for the 100 ecologically most valuable hollows a management plan will be developed.

Implementation of the Interreg project 'Small Waters at Lake Constance - Networking of terrestrial habitats' (reed beds with the shallow water zone of Lake Constance)

In Upper Austria, small water bodies are created or rehabilitated specifically for the protection of particularly endangered amphibian species (see also Pt. 3.3).

In Vienna, efforts have been made to conserve small wetlands, e.g. mainly ponds as spawning grounds for amphibians.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.bodensee-stiftung.org/kleingewaesser-fuer-die-bodenseeregion/#1519371281239-3e2498b3-3afa73a4-75ad6c43-43618a98-306a795e-70>

<https://oekl.at/projekte/sutteneich/>

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)

B=No

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 (Resolution VII. 8) (Action 6.1.5)

Please select only one per square.

a) stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous people are represented on National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Preparation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) involvement and assistance of indigenous people's and community-based groups, wetland education centres and non-governmental organizations with the necessary expertise to facilitate the establishment of participatory approaches	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Preparation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

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

B=No

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

C1=Partially

11.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many wetlands and their names

> The 12th State of the Environment Report/Austria (2019) refers to the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services (pls. see Section 3.2.1, only in german language)

Ramsar Site "Untere Lobau": Hunting was the principal use of the Lobau, till 1918 it was one of the most attractive imperial hunting preserves. The area was open only for the austrian imperial family. After several changes in ownership, the site "Untere Lobau" as late as 1973 finally passed to the City of Vienna. Nowadays the area is used as a reservation area for the drinking water supply of the City of Vienna, for timber production limited by management measures conducted by the Danube Floodplains National Park Ltd. (Nationalpark Donau-Auen GmbH), for hunting and small-scale fishing limited by law, for short-time recreation and nature education in correspondence with the aims of the Danube Floodplains National Park, and for scientific research. For example, the ecosystem benefits provided by Ramsar site are essential for the drinking water supply of the City of Vienna

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/ukb_2019/ukb19_03_biologischevielfalt.pdf

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

Y=Not Relevant

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

C=Partially

11.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names

> The socio-economic value of wetlands (e.g. jobs, tourism, visitor management, regional economic aspects, ...) is included in the management planning of some Ramsar Sites:

- Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság, Lafnitztal (Burgenland) and Güssing Fishponds: Economic use and socio-economic aspects (e.g. visitors) were taken into account in the management plan.
- Untere Lobau: Since ancient times, the area has been used by humans for timber production and agriculture of clearly subordinate importance and limited by the frequently devastating effects of flooding. Flood embankments erected in the 19th century cut off the Lobau from the dynamics of the River Danube. As a consequence the flow velocity increased and reinforced erosion of the bed of the River Danube and, thus, lowered the ground water level. Now the area is used as a reservation area for the drinking water supply of

the City of Vienna. To protect drinking water is one of the main goals of Vienna's National Park conservation law and, as a consequence, of the management planning.

- Lower Inn Reservoirs and Mires of Pass Thurn: Nature adventure trails
- Nationalpark Kalkalpen: The theme of water is, among other things, also a focal point in visitor mediation: Guided ranger tours with reference to water, exhibition "Mountain Forest - Water Castle" in the Molln Visitor Centre, theme trail "Wollgras Wasserschwinde" on the Ebenforstalm, theme trail "Von Alm to Alm" with close wetland habitat reference to pools with organisms (dragonflies, amphibians, etc.); the Ramsar logo is also used.
- Pürgschachen Moor: In recent years, the implementation of measures by the Mire Conservation Society has concentrated primarily on making the visitor attractions (e.g. children's playground) and visitor guidance (information boards) more attractive.
- Hörfeld-Moor: The Leader Region 'kärnten:mitte' has included the Hörfeld in its education programme. The Hörfeld is an important part of the Nature Park 'Zirbitzkogel-Grebenzen'.
- Sablatningmoor: In the summer the Sablatningmoor is under the professional management of a biologist who also offers guided tours on natural science. There is close contact and an information exchange with local neighbours. Partly there are collaborative partnerships as there are restaurants and catering establishments based in the immediate vicinity. Future plans are developed and communicated by taking a broad-based approach.
- Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling: e.g. visitor management. The Wörthersee-Tourism Society increasingly adopts awareness-raising measures (Slow-Trail etc.)
- Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: Visitor services in the National Park Donau-Auen
- Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: Visitor services in the Ramsar centre Unterwasserreich
- Rheindelta, Autertal - St. Lorenzener Hochmoor and Upper Drava River: visitor management

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.unterwasserreich.at/en/welcome>

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

C=Partially

11.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names

> At some Ramsar sites, cultural values have been considered in the management plans, or information about cultural values is provided:

- Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: reedbed management, grazing (pastures), fishing
 - Untere Lobau: The Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" was protected first in recognition of her significance for nature protection as part of the "National Park Donau-Auen". This site also serves as reserve for the drinking water supply of the City of Vienna and for flood defense. To protect drinking water and establish flood control is one of the greatest challenges for the nature protection efforts in Vienna's National Park.
 - Lower Inn Reservoirs: Visitor guidance measures; observation platforms for bird watching.
 - Nationalpark Kalkalpen: grazing with old domestic animal breeds, conservation of traditional alpine pasture management (subplan for alpine pastures and meadows as part of the management plan). The conservation of wetlands is on the whole ensured by strict legal protection, as the use of wetland habitats and water is not allowed in most of the area (natural zone of the NP).
 - Rheindelta: in agriculture (reed and litter mowing), fishery, grazing
 - Pürgschachen Moor: One of the theme boards on the circular path provides information about the history of the mire and former uses of the mires in the Enns Valley.
 - Hörfeld-Moor - Carinthia: The agricultural aspects are presented in the museum of farming of the municipality of Mühlen.
 - Hörfeld-Moor - Styria: traditional small-scale use of litter meadows (mowing), an extension of the mowed areas of land is currently under preparation.
 - Sablatningmoor: traditional use of litter meadows ('Sablatning meadows'). Educational trail through the mire and guided tours.
 - Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling: UNESCO World Heritage 'Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps'.
 - Autertal - St. Lorenzener Hochmoor: peat cutting
 - Upper Drava River: Knowledge of timber rafting on the Upper Drava (UNESCO: intangible Cultural Heritage in Austria): The knowledge of this technique of raft lashing and piloting continues to be passed down to younger generations, with six villages annually building one such raft each; these rafts are then piloted down the last remaining free-flowing stretch of the Drava in Austria
 - Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: Fisheries management;
 - Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: Waldviertel Fish Farming
- Other wetlands
- Zillenschiffahrt (Salzburg): Historical boat type. Zillen are simply constructed boats, they have a flat floor

and straight side walls. The Zille is still used today as a working, fishing and recreational boat

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.unesco.at/fileadmin/Redaktion/Publikationen/Publikations-Dokumente/2017_IKE_Verzeichnis_2016_2017.pdf

<http://www.muehlen.at/wanderdorf/kultur-vereine/museen135/bauernmuseum/>

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].

12.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i

C=Partially

12.1 Additional information

> The restoration of 15% of degraded ecosystems is part of the EU Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity as well as the "Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2020+".

The National Water Management Plan 2015 (NGP) provides for the designation of priority (transboundary) waters and water sections in water-dependent Natura 2000 sites with a need for remediation.

Water resource and risk management plans

Austria has been gaining experience in water ecology planning since 1990. These planning instruments for integrated river basin management have been developed further in the last few years and have now become water resource and risk management plans, predominantly produced for water bodies or river basins where there is a need for action on flood risk management and water ecology.

The 'Austrian Floodplain Strategy 2020+' (BMK) stipulates that priority has to be given to the conservation of existing near-natural floodplains and flood zones along Austria's rivers and to the diversity of these areas.

Priority areas to be restored often coincide with Natura 2000 sites (Europaschutzgebiete), e.g. in Vorarlberg. In Carinthia, a large basin has been established in the European protected area 'Tiebelmündung', into which the river 'Tiebel' is fed before it flows into the Ossiacher See. Suspended particles and pollutants are deposited in the basin.

In Lower Austria, priority areas for the protection and improvement of wetlands are in particular national parks, Natura 2000 sites, nature reserves and the areas covered by the „Konzept zum Schutz von Lebensräumen und Arten in Niederösterreich“/‘Concept for the protection of habitats and species in Lower Austria’.

In general, in the City of Vienna, scientific inventories of wetlands are used by the Municipal Department 45 – Vienna's Water (Management) to identify those wetlands, where restoration or rehabilitation is necessary. As a consequence, restoration and rehabilitation projects were conducted for the "Alte Donau", the River "Liesing", "Donaukanal" and the "Wienerwaldbäche" and the project water network Neue Donau - Untere Lobau (National Park „Donau-Auen“) was started.

UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Its aims are the fair use of water resources and the protection and restoration of ecosystems.

In the study "Strategic Framework for Prioritizing Ecosystem Restoration" (in preparation), a strategic framework for prioritizing the restoration of degraded ecosystems or landscapes (including floodplains and fens) will be developed. Areas in which restoration measures are to be primarily implemented should be identified

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-eu-international/wasser_int_recht/UNECE_Helsinki.html

<http://www.noel.gv.at/noel/Naturschutz/Konzept-zum-Schutz-von-Lebensraeumen-und-Arten.html>

12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented?

{1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i

A=Yes

12.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored

> Implementation of the Water Framework Directive

The National River Basin Management Plan is a river basin-based planning based on an integrated approach to the improvement and sustainable use of water bodies. Every six years, the NGP defines significant water uses and the conservation and restoration objectives to be achieved, as well as the measures required to achieve them

The LIFE programme is the EU's financial programme for environmental and climate protection measures. Within the framework of LIFE, restoration measures are currently being carried out on the rivers Lech and Traisen, among others.

Various projects and studies are being carried out in Austria to restore wetlands.

- Carinthia: At the Hörfeld mire, about 50 small water bodies have been established for amphibians etc., and about 7 ha of fallow land in wet meadows have been adapted for the whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*). Like Arge NATURSCHUTZ, the engineering consultancy office ARCHI NOAH organises actions to reintroduce extensive management for fens.
- Lower Austria: LIFE+ Auenwildnis (wetlands wilderness) Wachau, LIFE+ Lower Morava floodplains restoration, INTERREG ConNat AT-CZ
- Upper Austria and Salzburg: The alpine foothills in the federal province of Salzburg and Upper Austria are especially rich in mires. Salzburg has a leading role in mire restoration in Austria: mires are to be preserved as multifunctional landscapes, e.g. the Blinkingmoos. Furthermore, efforts have been undertaken to restore the natural conditions of rivers – e.g. Upper Mur and Taurach – and to improve floodplain forests e.g. along the Salzach.
- Styria: mire restoration projects have been carried out in the Ausseerland; restoration/revitalisation projects in the area of the Neumarkter Pass, measures for amphibians and birds on the Upper Mur after the LIFE project ‘Murerleben’ (2010-2016) was completed.
- Vorarlberg: mire protection plays an important role in Vorarlberg, also with a view to fighting climate change; an action programme for mire protection is in its planning stages; restoration measures are in the process of being implemented or in their planning stages. Project ‘Rhesi. Interreg Project ‘Small water bodies for the Lake Constance region
- Vienna: In 2020 the Municipal Department 45 initiated the “Network Water Ecology”, a committee whose main interest lies in the improvement of the ecological state and the enhancement of biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems. Another purpose will be the evaluation of wetland restoration/rehabilitation/revitalisation projects.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.bodensee-stiftung.org/kleingewaesser-fuer-die-bodenseeregion/#1519371281239-3e2498b3-3afa73a4-75ad6c43-43618a98-306a795e-70>

<https://rhesi.org/>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa/fachinformation/ngp.html>

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?

Please select only one per square.

a) Knowledge of global resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Education and public awareness on peatlands	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) Policy and legislative instruments	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
d) Wise use of peatlands	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

f) International cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
g) Implementation and support	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

12.3 Additional Information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, the progress in implementation

>) Education and public awareness on peatlands

The Federal State Vorarlberg had a strong focus on Peatlands in the year 2019, a lot of publicity was done (leaflets, events etc.). There are a wide abundance of activities to raise public awareness of Peatlands in all Federal States in Austria, including guided tours and NGO activities involving the public (Naturschutzbund Niederösterreich, Arge NATURSCHUTZ etc.).

c) Policy and legislative instruments

Styria is working on a legislation of a general Peatland protection, if and when it will be finalized is uncertain. A task force including government representatives of all Federal States started work (or preparation) on a national Peatland strategy. In the current national agricultural policy protection of Peatlands is the first time included/mentioned.

d) Wise use of peatlands

A slow raise in awareness in regard to the wise use of Peatlands is noticeable, especially in areas focusing on a general public awareness on ecosystem services of healthy Peatlands.

e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity

The platform "IG Moorschutz" connects different national research networks and expertise throughout Austria

f) International cooperation

f.e. INTERREG Project Connecting Nature (AT-CZ)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.at-cz.eu/at/ibox/pa-2-umwelt-und-ressourcen/atcz45_connat-at_cz

<https://igmoorschutz.at/>

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]

13.1 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.3} {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii

A=Yes

13.1 Additional information

> In Austria, in long-term, strategic planning or programmes, the expected significant environmental impacts are recorded and evaluated with the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Environmental aspects are given equal priority with social and economic aspects. SEA is applied in various planning sectors relevant to the environment, for example in spatial planning, transport planning, water and energy management and tourism.

Environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments are used in Vorarlberg, for example, in dedication procedures (Umwidmungen) and road construction procedures.

13.2 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, 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

13.2 Additional information

> In the European Union, environmental impact assessments are regulated by the EIA Directive, in Austria by the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVP-G 2000). The objective of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to examine the potential effects of a project on the environment in advance, i.e. before it

is implemented. Annex 1 of UVP-G 2000 lists 89 project types for which an EIA is to be carried out under certain conditions. These are projects that are likely to have significant environmental impacts. For all other assessments, where the ecological character of Ramsar sites could be endangered, an environmental impact assessment (EIA) has to be carried out. The cases where an EIA has to be carried out are fixed by law (UVP-G 2000).

In all other cases, the Provincial Nature Protection Laws are considered to afford sufficient protection.

Nature impact assessment according to the Habitats Directive

In Austria, most Ramsar sites have been designated as Natura 2000 sites according to the Habitats Directive.

The provision of the Habitats Directive prohibiting the deterioration of these sites requires that any notifiable projects that are subject to permission have to be assessed for compliance with the conservation objectives of the relevant Natura 2000 site. The precautionary principle applies. An impact assessment is not only required when it is certain that a project or plan has a significant effect on a European/Natura 2000 site. The mere probability that the project or the plan might have negative effects is sufficient.

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

A=Yes

15.1 Additional information

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

> Regional initiatives in Austria under the umbrella of the Ramsar Convention:

In order to facilitate cross-border dialogue, there is the "Trilateral Ramsar Platform" in the trilateral Ramsar area "Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence". The platform meets once a year and serves to exchange information between the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Austria.

In Carinthia, local nature conservation associations were founded for the Ramsar areas 'Sabaltnigmoor', 'Hörfeld-Moor' and 'Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling'

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}

A=Yes

15.2 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s)

> Austria has supported the development of more than one country covering wetland training:

Course "Management of Protected Areas"

The course is offered in cooperation between the Alpen-Adria University, E.C.O. Institute of Ecology and international organizations like IUCN, UNESCO, Ramsar or Biodiversity Convention. The training, unique in Europe, is aimed at managers, planners and consultants of protected areas and offers the possibility to complete an academic education while working. Austria has supported the development of training courses for wetlands covering more than one country

Training and guided tours on the subject of wetlands are carried out by the national parks, among others.

Within the framework of the European Project 'Ramsar SKAT - Cooperation in Ramsar management in the March-Thaya floodplains'. At that time nature guides were trained, who now offer excursions on the Austrian and Slovakian side

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.mpa.uni-klu.ac.at>

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

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

Please select only one per square.

a) At the national level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
b) Sub-national level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
c) Catchment/basin level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
d) Local/site level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress

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

> a) national level

The preparatory work for an Austria-wide CEPA action plan was completed.

d) Local/site level

At site level, an action plan for wetland CEPA has been established by the National Park Donau-Auen (floodplain forest, animals and plants of the Donau-Auen).

In the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" excursions are being offered throughout the year. Outside the Ramsar site, Municipal Department 45 - Vienna's Water (Management) plans to offer World Wetlands Day-related activities.

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

E=Exact Number (centres)

> 19

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established?

{4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii

b) at other wetlands

E=Exact Number (centres)

> 13

16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks

> a) Visitor centres/educational centres at Ramsar sites:

- Neusiedlersee - Seewinkel & Hanság: National Park 'Neusiedler See-Seewinkel' Visitor Centre in Illmitz; Ramsar-Centre in Purbach.

- Lafnitztal - Styria: Beaver's lodge of the Austrian Nature Protection Organisation for Young People; Biology Station Lafnitztal run by BiolArge - both staffed only when an appointment has been made.

- Untere Lobau: Located outside the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" and the National Park, a National Park Visitor's Centre, "the wien-lobAU National Park House", including the Vienna Waldschule, has been installed, where education activities, events, seminar facilities and excursions have taken place and will continue to be offered regularly. Outside the Ramsar site, a National Park-Camp for school visits exists as well.

At the Ramsar site "Unter Lobau", 30,000 visitors take part every year in guided tours. There also exists a special teaching programme for National Park guides (Rangers). For information on guided tours and other National Park events, the Danube Floodplains National Park Ltd. and the local National Park forestry administration (Municipal Department 49) can be contacted. Facilities for visitors are arranged in such a way that their impact on the area is minimised. Visitors coming to the National Park and/or the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" for walking, biking and swimming are requested not to leave marked paths or educational trails.

Up-to-date information is offered via: excursions, guided tours, workshops, lectures by experts, folders,

brochures, trail maps, monographs, the National Park Magazine, video and colour slide shows, and interactive media. Furthermore, boat trips are offered starting from the centre of the City of Vienna, and there is the National Park Visitor Centre, "the wien-lobAU National Park House" and the National Park Camp for school visits.

- Nationalpark Kalkalpen: Molln visitor centre, Ennstal visitor centre
 - Rheindelta: Rhine delta house, Spreiter lodge in Rheinholz
 - Hörfeld-Moor - Styria: bird conservation officers for the Furtner-teich (pond) in the federal province of Styria; museum of farming in Mühlen: clubhouse/exhibition room of the Hörfeldmoor association.
 - Sablatningmoor: Information and Research Centre 'Tomarkeusche'
 - Donau-March-Thaya-Auen: SchlossOrth National Park Centre, National Park Information Point Schloss Eckartsau; stork house Marchegg (WWF); Morava-Thaya Centre in Hohenau
 - Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains: UnterWasserReich, NUP Heidenreichstein
- b) Visitor centres/education centres at other wetlands:
- Carinthia: Within the National Park Hohe Tauern there is a visitor centre 'BIOS' in the municipality of Mallnitz. In the 'Austrian House for Bats' in Feistritz an der on the River Gail information on the European site 'Gail in the Lesach valley' is provided.
 - Upper Austria: Natura 2000 information centre on the European Green Belt, water adventure Mini-Danube Engelhartzell, Information Point Natura 2000 in Engelhartzell; Nature Information Centre Saxen
 - Salzburg - at the planning stage: floodplains workshop in the Salzach floodplains
 - Styria: research centre Furtner-teich; National Park Centre Gesäuse; Nature Park Centre Grottenhof
 - Tyrol: Natur Park House Klimmbrücke on the river Lech; Observation Tower and Information at 'Schwemm' (bog area); House of Water (National Park Hohe Tauern)
 - Vorarlberg: Bog & Mire House in Krumbach (Nature Park 'Nagelfluhkette')

16.3 Does the Contracting Party {4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

Please select only one per square.

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

16.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved

> a) Wetlands in general: stakeholder participation

In all Federal States of Austria stakeholders are involved in the preparation of management plans for Natura-2000-sites.

Water Framework Directive

For the implementation of the WFD, interest groups are encouraged to participate in the decision making process for wetland planning and management (public consultation).

a) Ramsar-sites: stakeholder participation

All Ramsar sites work with stakeholder participation. Examples from the federal provinces are listed below:

Lower Austria: relevant stakeholders are involved in the preparation of management plans (e.g. Management Strategy for the Morava-Dyje floodplains).

Carinthia: When nominating new Ramsar sites, information events are organised to include the affected municipalities, landowners and stakeholders in the planning process.

Salzburg: For the preparation of management plans for NATURA 2000 sites, stakeholder interests are examined during a round-table discussion and integrated with the management measures as far as possible.

Vorarlberg: At the Ramsar site Rhine delta, participation of local stakeholders such as fishing clubs, farmers or restaurant owners takes place via the local nature conservation organisation Rhine delta. A management plan for the avifauna of the area, due to be finalised in 2020, is being produced with the involvement of BirdLife and local stakeholders.

Vienna: When creating the legislative measures for hunting and fishing in the National Park, including the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau", the relevant stakeholders were given the opportunity to discuss the regulations and submit their views, which were considered by the legislative bodies.

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

A=Yes

16.4 Additional information

If 'Yes', indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has

> The Austrian Ramsar Committee was first convened in 1990 and usually meets once a year. It is co-chaired by the representative of the Federal Provinces for Ramsar and a representative of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism. The committee is made up of representatives of the nature conservation departments of the provinces, representatives of NGOs (Naturschutzbund Österreich, BirdLife Österreich) and land users (Österreichische Bundesforste AG, Via Donau etc.). The meeting venues alternate between the provinces and take place at or near a Ramsar site. Speakers and participants from adjacent Ramsar areas in neighbouring countries are also invited. Representatives from Liechtenstein, Germany and Switzerland were also present at the 2019 meeting.

The meetings serve to exchange information on current developments, but also on further procedures. In 2017, among other things, visions for the future of the national "Ramsar Committee Austria" were intensively discussed. As an important result it was decided to establish a working group "CEPA Wetland Protection" under the leadership of the Arge NATURSCHUTZ. The results are available in a position paper, which was unanimously adopted by the members in 2018.

The National Ramsar Committee also adopts recommendations, e.g. at the 34th meeting in 2019 the 'Improvement of the implementation of international cooperation between the Ramsar area "Rhine delta" (Austria) and the directly adjacent water and migratory bird reserve "Alter Rhein in Thal" (Switzerland) with the aim of a cross-border joint Ramsar area'.

The 35th meeting took place in Illmitz/Burgenland (16.-17.09.2020) at the Ramsar Site "Neusiedler See-Seewinkel".

16.5 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral body equivalent to a National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

Y=Not Relevant

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 committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and a), b) or c) below? {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi:

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

16.6 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please describe what mechanisms are in place

> a) Ramsar Site managers

Communication between the competent authority and the Ramsar site managers is mostly carried out directly e.g. in Vorarlberg. In Carinthia, Arge NATURSCHUTZ has been tasked with the management of the Carinthian Ramsar sites and acts as intermediary between the different institutions.

At the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" a National Park Council and a scientific committee were set up. The site managers of protected areas (Natura 2000, National Parks) are in direct contact with the respective provincial authorities.

16.7 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 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

16.7 Additional information

> Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out in Austria, here are some examples: Ramsar field day on the Mur: Every year the Mur Protection Committee organises a Ramsar hike along the river Mur (Austria/Slovenia) with up to 1,000 participants.

Press releases are sent out, among others by the province of Salzburg and the Ministry of the Environment; occasionally, press releases are prepared by Arge NATURSCHUTZ.

In the near future, Municipal Department 45 – Vienna´s Water (Management) is planning to offer World Wetlands Day-related activities outside the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau". In addition, excursions to the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" are offered throughout the year.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.arge-naturschutz.at>

<https://www.wasseraktiv.at/wasser-news/1264,welttag-der-feuchtgebiete-2020-das-leben-gedeiht-in.html>

<https://www.generationblue.at/WasserWissen/wasserqualitaet/welttag-der-feuchtgebiete.html>

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}

A=Yes

16.8 Additional information

If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this

> In Austria numerous measures and activities are carried out to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands. Below are some examples:

- Burgenland: Several information events (including a programme for visitors) information material about the National Park Neusiedler See – Seewinkel. Annual event of Pannonian BirdExperience to provide information about the importance of wetlands as habitats for waterfowl.
- Carinthia: The local nature protection organisations (Hörfeld, Sablatnigmoor, Keutschacher Seental) organise different activities on a regular basis (lectures, excursions, action days etc.).
- Upper Austria: NATURSCHAUSPIEL.at offers a wide range of activities in the Upper Austrian landscapes (mires, rivers, floodplains etc).
- Salzburg: On the "Day of Nature", which takes place every year in June in the province of Salzburg, events - bundled together and promoted by the province of Salzburg - are carried out by various supporting organisations. Individual events on wetland topics (e.g. moorland tours, excursions in the Salzachauen etc.).
- Tyrol: The Interreg project "INNSieme" (Switzerland, Bavaria, Austria: 2019-2022) is a cross-border and cross-sectoral river protection initiative. A cross-border action plan for the protection of habitats and species of the Inn River is to be developed by 2022
- Vorarlberg: A magazine about mires and peatlands is sent to every household, advertisements about mires and peatlands, excursions and educational events about moorlands by Inatura, Nature Conservation Association Rhine delta, regional management, nature parks, environmental and climate protection department of the country, NGOs. European protected area day with a focus on wetlands.
- Vienna: Events at the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" are offered by the National Park Information Centre (including Vienna Waldschule), the Lobau Museum and the National Park Camp throughout the year. The range of offers at the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" includes: an educational trail, information points, information panels, observation points, a lookout tower, marked footpaths and bicycle trails.

Water awareness raising is an important issue in Austria. The population is to be made aware of the careful use of water as a resource. At the same time, water as a valuable natural treasure in the form of our beautiful rivers and lakes should be perceived as an important recreational factor and the basis of life. This has been communicated to the public through many projects and campaigns, the most different channels and targeted at the most different groups of the population for many years. Among the most important projects are the youth platform "Generation Blue", the "Neptune Water Prize" and the "Wasseraktiv/wateractive" platform. Danube Day is celebrated throughout the Danube region in Europe. This day is intended to contribute to raising awareness and thus to the protection of the Danube. Danube Day is celebrated also in Vienna.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://danubeday.at>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-oeffentlich.html>

<http://www.naturschauspiel.at>

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]

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

A=Yes

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

B=No

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

A=Yes

17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12

> The Austrian Development Policy is the responsibility of the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Republic of Austria for European and International Affairs. The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) is the operational unit of this Ministry and hence the implementing Agency for the Austrian Development Policy and the combination of the two forms the basis for the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). ADA therefore plans, finances and supports programmes and projects primarily in Africa, Asia, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe and in the Caribbean, as embedded in the afore referred to Three-Year-Programme. Further to this, through other instruments, such as Civil Society grants, private sector and development business partnerships and strategic alliances, as well as delegated cooperation activities and projects for the EC, ADA is active across the entire globe.

The current three-year programme 2019-2021 defines environment and climate change as one of 5 priority areas of the Austrian Development cooperation. The respective chapter inter alia states that 'the conservation, rehabilitation and sustainable use of ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands, arid areas and mountains are keys for sustainable development and make up an integral component of Austrian Development Cooperation'.

While biodiversity and ecosystems are not a specific sector of ADC, ADA follows a mainstreaming approach to integrate environmental and climate considerations throughout its work, for example in the water, energy or food security sectors.

Examples of recent supported programs and projects are:

- Ecosystem-based adaptation, climate-resilience measures and institutional development in the Lower Dniester area (Ramsar site in Moldova 2017-2021);
- Enhancing climate resilience in the Biosphere Reserve 'Prutul de Jos' (Lower Prut) (2019-2022)
- Preserving the ecosystems of the Caribbean coast (Nicaragua 2016-2020);
- Minimum Environmental Flow for Hydropower Projects in Bhutan, Final Phase (Bhutan 2019-2022)
- Growing together: participatory management of forest and water resources (Uganda 2018-2020)
- RESILIENCE FOR PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPES PROGRAMME (REPLAP) IUCN (Eastern Africa 2019-2022) (Overall Objective: Strengthen the resilience of communities to the impacts of increasingly severe and frequent climate disasters within well-managed and functioning river catchments and eco-systems.)
- IIASA- ACCELERATING TRANSITION TOWARDS RESILIENT WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (Eastern Africa 2019- 2022) (improving the resilience of land and water resources and in turn the health of ecosystems and human wellbeing in the Lake Victoria Basin and East African Community.)
- EUSIWM / EU SUPPORT TO INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT (Albania 2018-2021)

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

A=Yes

17.4 Additional information

> As an entity accepted to the Green Climate Fund, ADA applies strict environmental, gender and social safeguards to all its projects and programs, both in cases where ADA acts as a donor but as well in cases where ADA implements 3rd party Funds. Details to the tools, scope and processes can be found in ADA's EGSIM Manual:

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

https://www.entwicklung.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Dokumente/Publikationen/Handbuecher/Environmental_and_Social_Impact_Management/EGSIM_Manual_Juni2018.pdf

17.5 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

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?

B=No

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

D=Planned

18.1 Additional information

> National Focal Points of other international environmental conventions (CBD, CITES, CMS, World Heritage Convention etc.) or multilateral environmental conventions (Alpine Convention etc.) have not yet been invited to the meetings of the Austrian Ramsar Committee. This is planned for thematically relevant topics in the future.

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

A=Yes

18.2 Additional information

> The Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology are in contact with the UNESCO/Programme "Man and the Biosphere (MAB)", International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR), UNEP.

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).

C=Partially

18.3 Additional information

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

> Support from UNESCO in the preparation of a wetland management plan to be submitted for the biosphere reserve "Unteres Murtal".

Birdlife Austria, which currently focuses on agriculture, has a regular professional exchange with BirdLife International.

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}

C=Partially

18.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved

> In Austria there are various networks, agreements and projects to share knowledge and exchange information:

Transnational Ramsar site "Neusiedler See-Seewinkel - Fertö-Hanság": Co-operation between Austrian and Hungarian national park administrators (National park Neusiedler See - Seewinkel).

Trilateral Ramsar site "Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence" (Donau-March-Thaya-Auen /Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republik) The Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" is also part of the Trilateral Ramsar site "Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence" (Donau-March-Thaya-Auen). The Trilateral Ramsar Platform was established in 1995. Consequently, the "Trilateral Ramsar-Platform" was established in order to

enable a cross-border dialogue within the Ramsar Site "Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence", which serves as an information platform for the three neighbouring countries.

International Network of Protected Areas along the Danube River

Already, 2007 the Network of Protected Areas along the Danube River started. It currently consists of 17 Protected Areas from nine Danube countries, all hotspots for biodiversity.

Knowledge exchange is often a goal of projects, e.g. in the INTERREG project "Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems - Integrating protection and development" (2015-2018), in which exchange of experience and knowledge transfer from "best practices" to "best policies" was aimed at.

INTERREG Project "WeCon for the Rába system (Austria/Hungary)": The aim of the project is to conserve biodiversity in the transboundary wetland habitats and develop an ecological network based on coordinated nature conservation measures

INTERREG Project "Cross-border management and environmental education institution for the protected areas on the Lower Inn" (Austria/Bavaria; 2016-2020).

INTERREG-Project „INNSieme: A Cross-border cooperation for the river Inn“(Switzerland, Austria, Germany: 2019-2022).

The international Murschutzkomitee (river Mur protection committee) is an association of more than 90 NGOs. Its members come from the five countries sharing the river - Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia. The "Unteres Murtal" was designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Park in 2019.

Styrian State Bird Protection Agency (´Steirische Landesvogelschutzwarte`): a long-standing educational institution for wetland protection in the region of the Neumarkter Passlandschaft / districts of Murau and Murtal.

European Water Initiative Plus – EUWI+

In the transnational project EUWI+, the foundations for sustainable water resource management in the EU's eastern neighbours have been laid over the past four years. The project will enter its final phase in 2020.

Grenzwässerkommissionen / Border water commissions

Austria has concluded "Water Treaties/Gewässerverträge" with its neighbouring states. These regulate interstate relations in the field of water management.

Water Information System Austria WISA

WISA is a supra-regional data management system for Austria, which serves as an instrument for water management planning, for informing citizens and for "active public participation" in water management planning.

Netzwerk Lebensraum Salzach/Aktionsgemeinschaft Lebensraum Salzach (Living Space Network Salzach/Action Group Living Space Salzach): Interstate cooperation in nature and water protection between the State of Salzburg and the Free State of Bavaria.

The "Rivers Full of Life/Flüsse voller Leben" platform is made up of representatives of various interest groups: WWF Austria, Austrian Fisheries Association and others

Partners from Germany, Switzerland and Austria work together in the Interreg project ´Kleingewässer am Bodensee/ Small Waters at Lake Constance`.

Austria has various educational institutions and training courses for the exchange of information, knowledge and experience: Conservation Academy Lower Austria, Nature Academy Burgenland, Environmental Education Centre Styria, certification courses in nature and landscape education (experiential education and environmental didactics, nature education for different target groups, etc.)

IG Moorschutz' is an association of scientists with the aim, among other things, of facilitating and promoting the exchange and mutual support of people and organisations active in bog conservation and bog research. In 2018 a bog conference was held by IG Moorschutz and the province of Vorarlberg. In 2020 a bog conference with the Styrian Society for Nature Protection is planned to take place in Graz

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://igmoorschutz.at>

<http://www.bodensee-stiftung.org/kleingewaesser-fuer-die-bodenseeregion/#1519371281239-3e2498b3-3afa73a4-75ad6c43-43618a98-306a795e-70>

<http://www.fluesse-voller-leben.at/>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wisa.html>

<https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/wasser/wasser-eu-international/internationale-wasserpolitik/grenzgewaesser.html>

<https://www.euwipluseast.eu/en/>

<https://www.unesco.at/presse/artikel/article/neuer-unesco-biosphaerenpark-unteres-murtal-in-der-steiermark/>

<https://www.innsieme.org/>

<https://www.rmooe.at/projekte/grenz%C3%BCberschreitende-steuerungs-und-umweltbildungseinrichtung-f%C3%BCr-die-schutzgebiete-am>

<https://www.interreg-athu.eu/wecon/>

https://forschung.boku.ac.at/fis/suchen.projekt_uebersicht?sprache_in=de&menue_id_in=300&id_in=10928

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

18.5 Additional information

> Information on wetlands, Ramsar sites and their condition is published in a variety of ways - see below: The platform wasseraktiv.at regularly offers current information and event tips on the topic of water for the interested public.

Information on the Austrian Ramsar sites is available on the websites, e.g. and information on the Ramsar Convention and a description of the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" can also be found on the official website of the Municipal Department 22 - Environmental Protection.

Magazine 'Geschnatter' (cackle) from National Park Neusiedler See- Seewinkel.

Printed media and films of the Ramsar site "Untere Lobau" are presented by the local park forestry administration of the Ramsar site, Municipal Department 49.

Newsletter "Ramsar Blatt Kärnten" about Ramsar sites in Carinthia.

Under the LIFE+ Project 'Ausseerland' the 'Ausseer Naturraumgespräche' (Aussee natural area talks) were carried out with a large number of lectures e.g. on mire ecosystems (2017) and river habitats (living space)/walking routes (2018).

Publications (Selection):

Kunnert, W. (2019), „Das Wasenmoos am Paß Thurn“. Note: The Wasenmoos is located in the Ramsar site "Moore am Pass Thurn".

Muhar, S.; Muhar, A.; Siegrist, D. ; Egger, G. (Eds. 2019): Rivers of the Alps. Diversity in Nature and Culture. Haupt Verlag.

Schröck, Ch. & Pöstinger, M. (2018): Charakterisierung und Bewertung der Hochmoorlebensraumtypen gemäß FFH-Richtlinie Version.

Schröck, C., Pöstinger, M. & Zechmeister, H. G. (2018): LRT 91D0* Moorwälder. – In: GIMPL, G. et al. 2018: Handbuch NATURA2000.Wald – Naturnahe Waldbewirtschaftung für ausgewählte FFH-Schutzgüter im Wald. Schwerpunkt Lebensräume. Kuratorium Wald. Wien, 70-71.

Csaplovics, A., Göttinger, M.A., Lengauer, Ch. L. (2018): Die Salzminerale der Salzlacken im Seewinkel, Burgenland. Mitt. Österr. Miner. Ges., 164, 55 – 64.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://igmoorschutz.at/jart/prj3/igmoorschutz/data/uploads/Mitteilungen-IGM-1-Hochmoore-2.pdf>

<https://www.haupt.ch/Verlag/Buecher/Natur/Erde-Klima-Wasser/Rivers-of-the-Alps.html?cur=1/>

<https://www.bundesforste.at/natur-erlebnis/life-projekt-ausseerland/oeffentlichkeitsarbeit/ausseer-naturraumgespraeche.html>

<https://www.wien.gv.at/umweltschutz/umweltgut/ramsar.html>

<http://www.tiroler-schutzgebiete.at/schutzgebiete/ramsar-gebiete.html>

<http://www.ramsar.at>

<https://www.wasseraktiv.at/>

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

A=Yes

18.6 Additional information

> The protection and uses of transboundary water courses (e.g. Morava, Salzach, Saalach) and international lakes are regulated by Federal Law Gazette No. 578/1996.

The National Water Management Plan (NGP) is a plan for river basins in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive in order to ensure the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water resources.

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

A=Yes

18.7 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place

> In the area of transboundary waters bilateral agreement on evaluation and management processes is a key element of WFD (Water Framework Directive) implementation. Multilateral agreements are negotiated by transboundary water commissions (AT-SK, AT-CZ, ...) and ICPDR (International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River). The German-Austrian Commission for Water for example looks back at many years of good cooperation under the Regensburg agreement.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://www.icpdr.org>

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

A=Yes

18.8 Additional information

> In Austria, there are various campaigns and projects for protecting and for surveying wetland dependent migratory amphibians, birds and fish.

Campaign 'Save the Frogs' in Carinthia

Protection of amphibians along roads - project in Salzburg carried out annually.

Investigation of the breeding population of greylag geese in the Lake Neusiedl area

Survey of meadow breeders in Salzburg: evaluation of implemented measures as a basis for any further measures that might be necessary.

LIFE Project 'Salzach Floodplains' (2015-2020): e.g. measures for the golden oriole, breeding and resting migratory birds and winter guests: abandonment of land use in floodplains and conversion of a large gravel pond into a semi-natural still water body with silty shoreline zones.

Surveys of bird populations in the Weidmoos and Bürmooser Moor to evaluate implemented measures.

LIFE Project 'Sterlet' (2016-2021): Municipal Department 45 - Vienna's Water (Management) is one of the project partners. Main goal is the reinforcement of wild and sustainable sterlet populations (*Acipenser ruthenus*) in different regions along the Danube river.

BirdLife takes action for the whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*), a small migratory passerine bird: protection of habitats of the whinchat (wet meadows, areas on grazing land) is mainly to be achieved by giving advice to farmers individually.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://life-sterlet.boku.ac.at/index.php/home.html>

<https://birdlife.at/blog/unsere-arbeit-1/post/graugans-projekt-im-burgenland-34>

<https://www.amphibienschutz.at/de/startseite/>

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

B=No

19.1 Additional information

> -

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

C=Partially

19.2 Additional information

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

> A large number of education and training courses are on offer in Austria. Here some examples from different areas:

University courses: MA course Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Management (Uni Vienna); BA course

Landscape Architecture and Landscape Planning (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences), BA

course Environment and Bio-Resources Management (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences).

International Postgraduate Master Program "Management of Conservation Areas" at Carinthia University of

Applied Sciences. The aim of this program is to promote biodiversity conservation and regional sustainable

development in Europe and worldwide by educating and training (future) managers of conservation areas

Imparting knowledge about nature: A large number of education and training courses are on offer in Austria.

Programme "Vielfalter Schule" (diversity school) (Vorarlberg): Once a month, the children spend half a day with a nature guide outside in the natural environment.

Education programmes and programmes for schools of the Austrian National Parks

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<https://www.nationalparksaustria.at/de/schulprogramme.html>

<https://www.plattform-naturvermittlung.at/>

<https://www.fh-kaernten.at/weiterbildung/bauingenieurwesen-architektur/management-of-conservation-areas-msc>

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

X=Unknown

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5}

KRA 4.1.iv

b) at other wetlands

X=Unknown

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

B=No

19.4 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring

> The Ramsar National Report gives an overview of the activities in Austria for the protection and sustainable use of wetlands. An evaluation of the implementation of the Convention in Austria based on the report has not yet been considered.

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

1. Contracting Parties can 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 Ramsar Sites Information Service).
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.

A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

Austria

Autertal - St. Lorenzener Hochmoor (1979)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Any additional comments/information about the site

> 11.4.= not reported

Bayerische Wildalm and Wildalmfilz (1489)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Donau-March-Thaya-Auen (272)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Hörfeld-Moor (864)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

C=Partially

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

D=Planned

Lafnitztal (1169)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

D=Planned

Lower Inn Reservoirs (274)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

A=Yes

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Mires of Pass Thurn (1367)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Mires of the Sauerfelder Wald (1368)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Mires of the Schwarzenberg (1369)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Mires of the Überling (1370)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Moor- und Seenlandschaft Keutschach-Schiefling (1490)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Nationalpark Kalkalpen (1371)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Pürgschachen Moor (532)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

C=Partially

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

C=Partially

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

D=Planned

Rheindelta (275)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

A=Yes

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Rotmoos im Fuschertal (719)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Sablatnigmoor (558)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Untere Lobau (273)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

A=Yes

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

A=Yes

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No

Upper Drava River (2208)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Any additional comments/information about the site

> 11.4. = not reported

Waldviertel ponds, peat bogs & floodplains (1013)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

A=Yes

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

A=Yes

Wilder Kaiser (2146)

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 exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

B=No

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?

B=No

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?

B=No

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?

Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?

B=No

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?

B=No