



**NATIONAL PLANNING TOOL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS**

**(And the approved format for National Reports to be
submitted for the 9th Meeting of the Conference of
the Contracting Parties, Uganda, 2005)**

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INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION	
CONTRACTING PARTY	
The Slovak Republic	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of agency:	Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Nature and Landscape Protection Division
Head name and title:	Dr. Jozef Kramárik – Director General
Mailing address:	Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Námestie Ľudovíta Štúra 1, 812 35 Bratislava, Slovakia
Telephone/Fax:	++421-(0)2-59562160 / ++421-(0)2-59562533
Email:	kramarik.jozef@enviro.gov.sk
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (OR DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Ms. (Mgr.) Adriána Klindová
Mailing address:	Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Nature and Landscape Protection Department, Námestie Ľudovíta Štúra 1, 812 35 Bratislava, Slovakia
Telephone/Fax:	++421-(0)2-59562106 / ++421-(0)2-59562533
Email:	klindova.adriana@enviro.gov.sk
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title:	Dr. Mikuláš J. Lisický, CSc.
Mailing address:	Institute of Zoology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Dúbravská cesta 9, 842 06 Bratislava 4, Slovakia
Telephone/Fax:	++421-(0)2-59302630 / ++421-(0)2-54789757
Email:	mikulas.lisicky@savba.sk
DESIGNATED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Ms. (Mgr.) Adriána Klindová
Mailing address:	Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Nature and Landscape Protection Department, Námestie Ľudovíta Štúra 1, 812 35 Bratislava, Slovakia
Telephone/Fax:	++421-(0)2-59562106 / ++421-(0)2-59562533
Email:	klindova.adriana@enviro.gov.sk
DESIGNATED NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Dr. Ján Šeffler, CSc.
Mailing address:	Daphne, Podunajská 24, 821 06 Bratislava, Slovakia
Telephone/Fax:	++421-(0)2-45524019 / ++421-(0)2-45640201
Email:	daphne@changenet.sk
SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION (OPTIONAL)	

Please, include a summary on the implementation of Ramsar Convention in your country during the last triennium

Slovakia has 13 Ramsar Sites listed in the List of Wetlands of International Importance. Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic is the central government responsible for environmental issues. Nature and Landscape Protection Division is responsible for wetland issues as Ramsar Administrative Authority.

There are 4 organizations under the coordination of the Nature and Landscape Protection Department: State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC), Slovak Caves Administration, Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology, Zoological Garden Bojnice. First two of them are directly responsible for management of Ramsar Sites: Slovak Caves Administration for 1 RS which is subterranean hydrological karst

system – RS Domica, under responsibility of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic are other 12 Ramsar Sites, including 1 Ramsar Site Tisa River which was designated during the last triennium. 1 Ramsar Site (Demánovská cave system) is planned by COP 9 to designate.

During the last triennium Slovakia was involve in preparation of amendment of national legislative, organizational matters, management plans for protected areas, administrative documents in the field of nature protection. More specifically in these main following activities:

After participating in 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention, Valencia, Spain (November 18 – 26, 2002) Ministry of Environment prepared the basic information to the government about the conference and conclusions.

Ministry of Environment (Nature and Landscape Protection Department) and State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic prepared the amended National Wetland Policy and Action Plan which was approved by the Slovak Government in February 2003.

We organised, co-ordinated and administrated the Trilateral Ramsar Platform Meeting with Austria and the Czech Republic in Bratislava (Slovakia, May 2003) concerning “Trilateral Ramsar Site Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence (Austria, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic)”. 4 NGOs working in the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria) received Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award 2002 on COP 8 in Valencia.

Slovakia (state institutions, universities, institutes, museums, NGOs) hardly work on activities concerning Natura 2000 in transposition process of EU legislative. Activities concerning establishment of the Natura 2000 network in the Slovak Republic according accession process to EU focused on improving the knowledge of the distribution of the natural habitat types and those species whose conservation requires establishment of the Natura 2000 network, developing site selection procedures, developing databases and improving participatory management planning skills and raising awareness among the stakeholders. Prepared Lists, the selected Special Protection Areas of the Birds Directive (SPAs, EU Birds Directive 79/409/EEC) and proposed Sites of Community Interest under the Habitats Directive (SCIs, EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC) timely implemented Slovakia's pre-accession commitments to EU in the nature conservation sector.

Slovakia prepare proposal for the new Ramsar Site Tisa River with involving bilateral cooperation with Hungary.

We update information about all Ramsar sites (Ramsar Information Sheets and maps) and they will be sent to Ramsar Bureau and Wetlands International by COP 9. We focused on preparation and finalization of management plans.

Regional seminars in Ramsar sites and a National Wetland Conference (held in December 2003), where various experts from State Nature Conservancy, Slovak Caves Administration, Nature and Landscape Protection Department of the Ministry of Environment and other institutions, were organized about the status and possibilities of implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Slovakia.

Each year we invited different organizations and media to organized and spread information of activities to support World Wetland Day.

There were several projects concerning wetlands financed in Slovakia. They have been focused on wetland inventories, preparation of wetlands management plans, coordination of cross-border activities, implementation of restoration measures, networking, education activities and cooperation with stakeholders (restoration of Mutnanka River, conservation and management of forests in RS Danube floodplains, restoration of RS/National Nature Reserve Sur, Slovak peatlands and grasslands inventory, preparation of management of Ramsar site Morava River floodplain, establishment of network of Carpathian Ramsar Sites, etc.) and supported by different donors and international agencies, e.g. Slovak-Swiss Revolving Fund, DANCEE – Danish Cooperation for the Environment in Eastern Europe, Wetlands International, JICA – Japan Expert Dispatch Program, Dutch MATRA PIN or KNIP, Norway Government, UNDP/GEF, European Commission/LIFE-Nature, Twinning Phare, British Embassy, etc.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.1: Describe the extent of wetland resources, especially at global and national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Completed and updated national wetland inventory by 2005. Publication and access on a web site on wetlands resources for COP9. Revised and modified forms and software for wetlands inventory used. Priority wetland types surveyed and identified. National and regional wetland policies/programs updated or under development (based on information from wetland inventories).	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Continue with inventory and update of national wetland resources. Publish and access wetland inventory on a web site before COP9. Develop modified wetland inventory forms and electronic database. Include inventory of priority wetland types in work plans of Ministry of Environment organizations and agencies and of scientific institutions. Encourage the use of information from wetland inventories in spatial planning, river basin management plans and development of other strategic planning documents and policies, in EIA process.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.1.1.- Promote and encourage the use of standard wetland inventory methodologies following the *Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6)*, to undertake, update and disseminate national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scientific inventories of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties without completed inventories to have initiated action in line with the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory, and as far as possible to have completed and disseminated comprehensive national wetland inventories.

1.- Country has a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory (<i>if inventory exists, please include the number of sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 539/13
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory	H		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include information on the application of inventory methodologies, the status of the inventory - end date or expected timeframe, contents of the inventory - and other additional comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
<p>Resolution VIII.6 was adopted in 2002 and Inventory of wetlands in Slovakia was realized during the period 1991 – 2000 (through Ramsar’s Small Grant Fund). From 1991 – 1993 the mapping was done mainly by the members of the Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Protectors. In 1994 – 1996 the network of mappers was enlarged to nearly the entire area of Slovakia. From 1997 – 1999, the data about the previously registered and reviewed wetlands were completed. During the inventory of wetlands in 1990 – 1999, 11 sites were designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance. Since then 2 wetlands were designated to above mentioned List (2001, 2004). As a result of further wetland mapping, 4 sites of international importance have been identified. The designation to the List for these sites has not been prepared yet.</p> <p>There is need to update, evaluate national wetland inventory results and to input these data to GISs and to prepare electronic formats. During this process there is need also to verify data in the field because some maps are missing or there are prepared in not sufficient scales (use also GPS tools) or some new developments could occur.</p> <p>During last triennium there were coordinated works focused on inventory of habitats and species listed in Annexes of EU Birds Directive 79/409/EEC and EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, including wetland habitats and water-related species, in goal to prepare and establish Natura 2000 network by May 2004.</p>			

Slovak Daphne NGO with Botanical Institute of SAS, SNC coordinated the project Important Plant Areas in Slovakia. The aim was the identification of the most important and most valuable botanical sites in Slovakia. The project was also carried in 6 other Central and Eastern European countries (07/2002 – 12/2004) funded by Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Fisheries, the Netherlands via Plantlife International.

Slovak SOVS (Society for Bird Protection in Slovakia) NGO – Partner of BirdLife International in Slovakia co-ordinated the project on preparation of SPAs and update inventory of IBAs.

Many results also helped to update partly national wetland inventory.

Action 1.1.2.- Include in national wetland inventories information which identifies: a) potential Ramsar sites; b) wetlands of national, provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party; and c) wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation, with a list of priorities, giving particular priority to inventories of karst and caves, intertidal wetlands, coral reefs, peatlands, sites supporting globally threatened species, and other wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All national wetland inventories initiated after COP8 to include information on wetland importance; potential Ramsar sites; wetlands for restoration; location of under-represented wetland types; and values and functions, in particular in relation to poverty eradication strategies.

See actions 3.2.1, 3.3.1, r4.1.1, and Operational Objective 10.1

Note: if available, please indicate the number of sites under each category:

			N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
1. The inventory assesses and documents potential Ramsar Sites	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	5
2. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i>	nation. – 72 prov. – 467
3. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	E	<i>E = In progress;</i>	
4. The inventory assesses and documents wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	B	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status</i>	
5. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	D	<i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	
6. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	
7. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	D	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i>	
8. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	C	<i>E = In progress;</i>	
9. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	C	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i>	
10. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	D	<i>H = Other status (explain below);</i>	
11.- The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	B	<i>I = No answer</i>	
12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]			

Based on the Inventory of Wetlands in Slovakia 1 wetland was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance: Tisa River (2004, 735 ha). From the further investigations there is under preparation the new 14th Ramsar Site Demanovska cave system.

There have been identified priority wetlands for restoration measures of national importance (and also prepare rapid assessment and basic information on this specific measures) and Ramsar Sites.

Action 1.1.3.- Ensure that national arrangements for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata, are in place and introduce the necessary measures to ensure that this resource is both as comprehensive as possible and readily accessible to the full range of stakeholders.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All wetland inventories to have full data management, custodianship, and metadata records in place.

1. National arrangements established for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic is responsible for the storage and maintenance of the data and information on wetland inventory for the wetlands of international and national importance, inventories of protected areas, and wetland habitats of national and european importance. Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Protectors makes arrangements for updating, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data on all wetlands. Wetland inventory was published in the book (2000) and later on was set up on these following websites for access for wide public, different stakeholders and relevant state authorities:</p> <p>Results of inventory: http://www.sopst.sk/webs/MokrSlov/index.htm</p> <p>Wetlands with international importance: http://www.sopst.sk/webs/MokrSlov/medzinarodzoznam.htm</p> <p>With national, regional and local importance: http://www.sopst.sk/webs/MokrSlov/prehladokresy.htm</p> <p>Also contacts to administrations of SNC in case of furthe information need is provided on the website.</p>		

Action 1.1.4.- Make available a web-based wetland inventory meta-database and encourage the inclusion of a metadata record for all national (including provincial) wetland inventories.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, a Web-based metadatabase in place and populated with information on all national wetland inventories.

1. National (including provincial) wetland inventory metadata record provided for inclusion in Ramsar's Web-based wetland inventory metadatabase	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>National wetland inventory metadata of results were provided on the web, but Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Protectors do not have capacity for its updating (See also answer to Action 1.1.3.). Currently we did not provided it for inclusion in Ramsar's Web-based wetland inventory metadatabase.</p>		

Action 1.1.6.- Encourage the use of relevant information from wetland inventories by decision-makers, wetland managers and wetland users in the development and implementation of national wetland policies and national and local wetland programmes.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties with wetland inventories to have made these available to all stakeholders.

1. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among decision makers	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	B	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	E	(explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among decision makers and wetland managers but not yet to all stakeholders. But during preparation of Natura 2000 network (based on scientific criteria and results from updating inventories) all pSCIs have been discussed with land-owners, land-occupiers and other stakeholders. These include also wetland habitats.

Action 1.1.7.- Give high priority to developing projects for inventory activities for the *Small Grants Fund*.

1. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were funded	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	C	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovakia during last triennium has not submitted to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund inventory projects (it was supported already in 1998).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.2: Assess and monitor the condition of wetland resources, both globally and nationally (or, where appropriate, provincially), in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Monitoring system developed and established in all 13 Ramsar sites, if possible.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Development of the monitoring system in 13 Ramsar sites and its implementation.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.2.1.- Actively contribute to the work of the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* project (<http://www.millenniumassessment.org>) by serving on its Board and Executive Committee and on its various working groups; analyze the MA's methodologies, results and findings at Ramsar COP9, and review the necessary actions, if any, to update and make comprehensive the global assessment of wetland resources and their condition. (Refer also to Action 1.1.5)

1. Contribution made to the work of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment project (MA)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution made to the work of the MA.]

Slovakia did not contribute to the work of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) project by serving on its Board and Executive Committee or on its other working groups. National STRP was contributed in preparation Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) project.

Action r1.2.i.- Make available to Contracting Parties and other interested organizations the findings and guidance developed by the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* for their use, as appropriate, of the MA guidance and methods for sub-global ecosystem assessments in the assessment of wetland ecosystems at the local, national and regional (supra-national) scale, including through international cooperation on the assessment of transboundary aquatic ecosystems. (Resolution VIII.7).

1. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at national scale	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale	C	
3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the use of MA guidance and methods.]</i>		
We did not use any MA guidance or methods for ecosystem assessment up to now.		

Action 1.2.2.- Establish a repository for the contribution by Contracting Parties of summarized national (or, where appropriate, provincial) assessments of changes in the status of wetland resources, as the basis for regular analysis and improved reporting on the status of wetland resources.

1. Repository of assessments of changes in wetland status established	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the repository of assessment of changes in wetland status, its contents and uses.]</i>		
We repositied assessments of the changes in wetlands of international importance and in some larger wetlands of national importance. There have been identified priority wetlands for restoration measures of national importance (and also prepare rapid assessment and basic information on this specific measures) and Ramsar Sites (See also answer to the Action 1.1.2.).		

Action 1.2.5.- Undertake assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character, including their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 20 Parties willing to undertake vulnerability assessments and report to COP9.

1. Assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character were undertaken	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The assessments include impacts of climate change	C	
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	A	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessments undertaken.]</i>		
We undertook assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character in some RSs Danube floodplains, Orava River and its tributaries, Senné – fishponds, Turiec wetlands, Sur.		

Action r1.2.iv.- Continue to document the past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands, including in national wetland inventories, and report on their conservation status in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.4)

1. Past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands documented	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]</i>		
Not applicable (there is no sea in Slovakia).		
3.- Summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands <i>[Please provide here a summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands and provide reference citation to any relevant publication, reports or analysis.]</i>		

Not applicable.

Action r1.2.v.- Update information on mangrove forest cover and conservation status and levels of use of mangroves, and provide this information to the Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.32).

1. Information on mangrove forest cover has been compiled	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Information on conservation status of mangroves has been compiled	A	
3. Information on levels of use of mangroves has been compiled	A	

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information compiled related to mangroves.]

Not applicable (there are no mangroves in Slovakia).

Action r1.2.vi.- Report on the impacts of dams on wetlands in the territory of each Contracting Party, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.2).

1.- The impacts of dams on wetlands have been assessed (if available, please include number of sites affected)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites Not specified
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the impacts of dams on wetlands, sites affected, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Since September 1994 where the Act no. 127/1994 on EIA came into force there are assessed all proposed activities from the annexes of the act. If the proposed activity was in wetland area, it was included to the assessment.

For dams which were obtained building permission before this date (Sept. 1994), SNC and other institutions prepared monitoring studies and specific studies focused on the impacts to the wetland ecosystems of this buildings, e. g. monitoring study of Gabčíkovo hydropower plant (built in 1992) which had significant impacts to changes of water regime and destruction of floodplain forests and other wetland types in RS Danube floodplains. It is possible to find various biodiversity information in English in the national annual reports on monitoring of (natural) environment (since 2000) based on the agreement between Slovak and Hungarian Governments (reports were available on website on <http://www.gabcikovo.gov.sk>, but at the moment website is not working). It has been proposed by Slovak Ramsar Committee to prepare proposal to include RS Danube floodplains to Montreaux Record. It is under preparation.

The study on impact of water reservoir Turiec upstream of RS Turiec wetlands on biodiversity was done in 2001.

3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands [Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]

Impact on biodiversity of the Turiec river is expected soon as the increase of benthic microfauna, as result of organic/bacterial pollution from sediments of the dam, is evident; there is change in mountain type of fauna in the upstream section, increased sedimentation in the middle part, change in temperature regime which have influenced biodiversity of the benthic fauna (Bulánková E., Derka T., Halgoš J., Krno I., Kováč V., Lukáš J., Tirjaková E., 2001: Posúdenie vplyvu a prevádzky VN Turček na biologickú diverzitu riečnych ekosystémov a mokradí ramsarskej lokality a Emerald lokality Mokrade Turca [Impact assessment and operation of Turcek water reservoir on river ecosystem biodiversity and wetlands of ramsar Site and Emerald site Turiec wetlands]. Katedra ekológie Prírodovedeckej fakulty UK, Bratislava, 70 pp. ms). Further monitoring of the impacts is planned.

The impact of hydropower plant on the water regime of the RS Danube floodplains was assessed (Mucha I. et al., 2001: Optimalizácia vodného režimu ramennej sústavy z hľadiska prírodného prostredia, Bratislava; Lisický M. J. – Mucha I. (Eds.), 2003: Optimalizácia vodného režimu ramennej sústavy v úseku Dunaja Dobrohošť – Sap z hľadiska prírodného prostredia [Optimization of the water regime in the Danube River branch system in the stretch Dobrohošť – Sap from the viewpoint of natural environment], Bratislava, Konzultačná skupina

voda s.r.o., 205 pp.). For annual reports of monitoring (see Action r1.2.vi./2).

Action r1.2.vii.- Monitor and assess the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, and on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands, and report this information to the Ramsar Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.35).

<p>1.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands have been assessed <i>(if available, please include number of sites assessed)</i></p>	<p>D</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i></p>	<p>N° wetlands /Ramsar sites 1</p>
<p>2.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands have been assessed</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	
<p>3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on wetlands and people dependent on them, with any other information you consider revelant.]</i></p>			
<p>There have been occurred some damaging floods in Slovakia, but with no impact to wetlands, contrarily in some parts with support to wetlands. There is a problem in Senné fishponds RS with ensure sufficient water level in the area.</p>			

Action 1.2.6.- Assess the contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries, including utilizing information available from the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* and other assessment programmes, and recommend sustainable management practices which can contribute to the WSSD target of, where possible by 2015, maintaining or restoring depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.

<p>1. The contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries has been assessed</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below) ;I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]</i></p>		
<p>Following measures were taken in order to maintain fisheries in Ramsar and other wetlands in favourable conservation status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was assessed effectiveness of preparation of rescue programs for different endangered fish species from Annexes of Bern Convention for planning future actions. • Special guidelines and rules for angling of fish in the Turiec wetlands Ramsar site were prepared by the State Nature Conservancy to maintain the fish population in favourable status.Negotiations with Slovak Anglers Union and Slovak Water Management Company held about building fish pass in 2 barriers in the Turiec River. • In cooperation with Slovak Anglers Union we have proposed detailed Fish Management Plans for the purpose to maintain native species population of fish in the Váh River. • In 2004 we have organized ichthyological research of the Váh River, in 2003 of the Orava River. • We have been preparing the Fish Management Plan of the Morava River floodplains Ramsar site. In 2004 we have finished the fish monitoring of the Morava River. • We have cooperated with Slovak Anglers Union in <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> and other piscivorous bird species research in the Orava region and we did commom controls of keeping of the Fish Act during closed season. • There was financed by Ministry of Environment ichthyological research (including invasive fish species) in enlarged (proposal, still under preparation) Ramsar Site Latorica – Bodrog – Tisa in 2003, proposed 		

management and restoration measures are published in proceedings of regional seminar in Slovak with English summary, Trebisov, 2004 (submitted to Ramsar Bureau).

- There was submitted to European Commission project proposal for LIFE-Nature financing concerning restoration of wetlands of Zahorie region. One of goals and its actions is to solve problem of present barrier (weirs) in Rudava River Ramsar Site by building fish by-pass for migration to spawn upstream the river of some fish species.
- Rescue program for *Umbra krameri* was prepared in 2004 and approved by ministry in 2005, April.
- Slovakia was participated on seminar and will take part on preparation of action plan of Danube sturgeons (by end of 2005).
- Proposal of project: Rivers restoration in Revúca district (county) was submitted to SBB foundation. It has been prepared as followed action of project Restoration program of Muránka river (running in 2004 thanks the frame of program Environment for Europe). This wetland area is also pSCI (Rieka Muránka s prítokmi). One of activity is focused on cooperation with Slovak Water Management Enterprise (SVP) on removal or different technically solve the problem of barriers on the river to ensure fish migration. On the knowledge obtained during this project is planned short workshop to the management of PAs focus on biology, monitoring and management of fish (July 28, 2005 within Twinning Phare project), where results of methodology of catching using electric tools in NP Muranska planina will be presented, also technical aspects of this methodology, possible usage, risks and also followed possible management measures for fish protection.

3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]

Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to the relevant governmental regional and district environmental authorities, Slovak Water Management Company, NGOs (Slovak Anglers Union) and other stakeholders. Responsibility (executive authority) on fisheries is Water Division in Ministry of Environment.

For example the guidelines and rules for angling of fish in the Turiec wetlands Ramsar site were prepared in cooperation with anglers organization and were submitted to the district environment authority for approval.

Action 1.2.7.- Undertake assessments of water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands, to support the implementation of the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1), as a contribution to the WSSD Plan of Implementation.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 50 CPs to have undertaken water quality and quantity assessments.

1. The water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands has been assessed

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]

There are localities and profiles, where samples are regularly taken for assessments of water quality and quantity in the whole area of Slovakia. Slovak Water Management Company, state company (SVP, s.p.) is responsible for assesment of water quantity and Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute (SHMU) for quality. Also some studies sre run by Water Management Research Institute (VUVH).

There are several NGOs which are interested in assessments of water quality and quantity. One of them is Sosna NGO which led the project "We are taking care of our river". The water samples were taken in the Hornád, Torysa, Hnilec Rivers and Sokoliarsky potok creak and the basic chemical parameters such as pH, the concentration of nitrates, nitrites, phosphates, ammonia were assessed.

The NGO Tatry have organized the ground water monitoring and have proposed the sewerage system in

some parts of the Tatry region.

In 2003 was published by Daphne NGO the Slovak – English publication Biodiversity of Abrod – status, changes and restoration based of scientific research of NNR Abrod.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.1. Specify the most appropriate policy instrument(s) to be used in each country to ensure the wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To prepare updated National Wetland Policy, updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Water Management Plan include chapters or sections devoted to wetlands.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Develop updated National Wetland Policy (based on results of COP8 and Ramsar Strategic Plan) and submit it for the consideration by the Slovak Government and during updates in National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Water Management Plan and other strategic documents and processes to enforce chapters or sections devoted to wetlands, if possible.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.1.1.- If not yet done, develop and implement a National Wetland Policy using the guidelines adopted by COP7 for this purpose (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2), and ensure that policy goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument initiated by all Parties not having it, incorporating WSSD targets and actions, as appropriate.

1. A National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible	B	
3. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporates WSSD targets and actions	D	

4- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the status of the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument, its contents, and any other information you consider relevant.]

The Slovak Wetland Management Programme (National Wetland Policy) has 8 strategic goals: Stop increasing destroying and degradation of wetlands and their biodiversity, Create sufficient databases about Slovak wetlands and their up-grading, Ensure restoration of riverine, marsh and lake systems, Develop analyses of economical instruments (sources) and prepare financial proposal of each measures of action plan, Capacity building of institutions responsible for wetland conservation and wise-use, Develop trans-boundary and internationally co-operation for wetland conservation and restoration, Education and public awareness activities.

There were elaborated 2 action plans to this programme for conservation, restoration and wise-use of wetlands. Action plan for the years 2000 – 2002 was assessed and new action plan for the years 2003 – 2007 was developed and approved by the Slovak Government in February 2003 (resolution no. 200/2003).

Action 2.1.2.- Ensure that wetland policies are fully integrated into and harmonized with other strategic or planning processes and documents, in particular those related to biodiversity, desertification, climate change, agriculture, trade in endangered species, water resource management, integrated coastal zone management and environmental planning in general including national strategies for sustainable development called for by the WSSD. When these other documents include chapters or sections on different ecosystems, ensure that one of them is devoted to wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument fully integrated into other strategic and planning processes by all Parties, including poverty eradication strategies and water resources management and water efficiency plans and national strategies for sustainable development in line with WSSD targets.

1. Wetland issues have been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development called for by WSSD	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	C	
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	E	
4. Wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) have been integrated into other sectoral strategic or planning processes and documents at any of the following levels: national, regional, provincial, and local	D	

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]

On national level wetland issues have been incorporated in several sectoral and strategic documents, among them:

- *National Environmental Action Program II* (NEAP II) and proposed NEAP III. followed from the *State Environmental Policy* approved by Slovak Council resolution no. 339/1993 and by resolution of Slovak Government no. 619/1993.
- *National Sustainable Development Strategy* was approved by Slovak Government resolution no. 978/2001. Under preparation is Action Plan to the strategy.
- *Integrated Approximation Strategy in Environment Chapter and its annexes* was approved by the Slovak Government (resolution no. 1138/2001) was prepared for plan of implementation of EU directives in Environment Sector and estimations of financial needs and human capacities for their transposition and implementation to Slovak legislation. 2nd Section, 4th Sector on nature protection is constituted of implementation strategy and plan system (Natura 2000, etc.).
- *National Strategy on Biodiversity in Slovakia* was prepared in accordance with Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) and it is one of the basic documents of nature protection (approved by resolution no. 231/1997 of Slovak Government and then also by Slovak Council in June 1997). Its implementation is ensured by *Updated Action plan for implementation of the National Strategy on Biodiversity in Slovakia for years 2003 – 2010* (resolution of Slovak Government no. 1209/2002). This document includes also Wetland Chapter.
- Within the framework of the *Slovak Spatial Development Perspective – KÚRS* (approved by the Slovak Government in October 2001) the emphasis is put also on the localities of international importance (including Ramsar Sites). There is big natural heritage potential in water and marsh ecosystems.
- *Action Plan for years 2003 – 2007 to the updated Program on Management of Wetlands in Slovakia* (National Wetland Policy) was approved by the Slovak Government in February 2003 (resolution no. 200/2003).
- Wetland issues have been incorporated to the frame of *Rural Development Plan for the years 2004 – 2006*. Specifically 2 measures – measure 3 and measure 5:
9.3. *Measure 3 (Less favoured areas and areas with environmental restrictions)*, within 1 sub-measure:
Less favoured areas and areas with environmental restrictions are following: A. Mountain areas (Article 18),

B. Other less favoured areas (Article 19), C. Areas with specific handicaps (Article 20), D. Areas with environmental restrictions (Article 16).

9.3.4. *Areas with environmental restrictions, Article 16 (indication E)*, to these areas belong the bird areas falling under the protection system NATURA 2000. In 2005, in the system of protected bird areas will be implicated Horná Orava, Malé Karpaty, Sysľovské polia, Dubnické štrkovisko, Lehnice, Poľana, Východoslovenská rovina. In 2006, in the system of protected bird areas will be implicated Dolné Považie, Ostrovské lúky, Morava, Medzibodrožie. (Bird areas cover only a concrete determined part of agricultural land, not the land of the whole municipality). On the areas integrated in less favoured areas with environmental constraints the farmers have to implement the specified procedures (methods) which are defined in the basic scheme of the agri-environmental support.

9.5. *Measure 5 (Agri-environment and Animal welfare)*, within 2 sub-measures:

9.5.1.6. *Protection of biotops of semi-natural and natural permanent grassland* which includes following subject of support: Management of the selected areas of semi-natural and natural grasslands located on the territory of the holding according to defined conditions. To permanent grassland rich in species belongs also B. Mesophillic permanent grassland and C. Hydrophillic and boggy permanent grassland are included. For mesophillic grassland: To mow meadows regularly not more than twice a year, while the first mowing should be carried out on the end of June (the first degree) or on the end of July (the second degree) as set by an expert organisation; For hydrophillic and boggy grassland: The wet meadows not more than twice a year, implementing the first mowing within the term from the end of June to the end of July and the second mowing six weeks after the first mowing; To mow spurry-free meadows once a year within the term from August to September; To mow the boggy meadows once a year within the term July, August (the smallest wetting).

9.5.1.8. *Protection of water and wetland biotops* includes operational objective: Re-establish of the ecological stability in agricultural country by the protection and renewal of the eco stability elements networks. Subject to support: Protection and care for water and wetland biotopes located on the territory of the business according to defined conditions. Water and wetland biotopes are springs, small water flows, channels, reservoirs, gravel pits, lakes, and wetlands.

- There was developed the *Strategy for the implementation of Water Framework Directive in the Slovak Republic* by the Ministry of the Environment, Water Division and approved by Slovak Government. (resolution no. 46/2004).
- For financing from ERDF structural fund *Operation Program Basic Infrastructure* was prepared. Specifically *priority 2 – Environment infrastructure, measure no. 2.4 – Protection, enhancement and regeneration of natural environment*. This is important for integration nature conservation in environmental sector for possibility to obtain EU financing for building of infrastructure and management plans for protected areas. According to this document there are possibilities to invest building of information centers and to fund developing and implementation of the management plans of wetland areas.
- *Policy of nature and landscape protection* as a main document of nature conservation was prepared to determine the main strategic goals for 10 years duration but it is still under approval process by the Slovak Government (2nd submission is expected by June 30, 2005).

Action r2.1.i.- When reviewing land tenure policies consider, where appropriate, wetland tenure systems and user rights in a manner that promotes fair, transparent and sustainable management of wetlands and their resources. (Resolution VIII.34).

<p>1. Wetland tenure systems and user rights have been considered in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland tenure systems and user rights in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management.]

All Ramsar Sites except Tisa overlap with NATURA 2000 sites. In the process of preparation management plans for these sites all the management measures have to be negotiated with owners and users. The first negotiations have started in August 2003. The regional administrations, administrations of national parks and

protected landscape areas of the State Nature Conservancy in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management cooperate with owners and users of wetlands.

There are some few good examples from local level on wetland sustainable management, e. g. in 2003 the owners of Štrkovisko pri Krásnej nad Hornádóm wetland (gravel pit) wanted to heap it on with the waste of the former brickfield. After the negotiations with State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republik the wetland stayed unaffected, etc.

Action r2.1.ii.- Give priority to reviewing legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands and prepare additional national strategies designed to ensure their wise use and conservation, duly integrated into National Wetland Policies, National Biodiversity Strategies, National Development Plans, and other similar instruments. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. A review of legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands has been completed

A

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes;

C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status

(explain below); I = No answer

2. The conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes

A

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken in relation to high Andean wetlands.]

Not applicable.

Action 2.1.3.- Ensure best practice examples of integration and harmonization of policies and legislation are made available to the Ramsar Bureau and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, so as to contribute to the development of good practice guidance to assist Contracting Parties.

1. Examples of best practice related to the integration and harmonisation of policies and legislation have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau/STRP

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There have been transmitted 3 examples of good practices related to the integration of policies and legislation to the Ramsar Bureau (information published also on the Ramsar's web site):

International cooperation under the Danube River Protection Convention (Convention of cooperation and use of Danube River) is good example how to deal with ecological and wetland issues within whole Danube river basin. Several future tasks of Ecology Expert Group (ECO EG) of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) have been proposed to ICPDR Secretariat and Ordinary Meeting (prepared by members of ECO EG/representatives of all Danubian countries by the end of 2004). Example of this cooperation was transmitted to Ramsar Bureau as a text (abstract) and also presented on 5th Ramsar Regional Meeting in Yerevan (Armenia, Dec. 2004) as a good example of integration and harmonisation of wetlands issues into the water sector on basin level (http://www.ramsar.org/mtg/mtg_reg_europe2004_docs1b1.pdf). Reports of the several meetings were published by T. Salathe on the Ramsar's web (e.g.: http://www.ramsar.org/wa/w.n.danube_update_march2004.htm or http://www.ramsar.org/mtg/mtg_icdpr%2Bpebls_2002.htm).

Important Water-related Protected Areas for Species and Habitats of Basin-wide Importance (including map) and other support documents (role of wetlands in the Danube River basin, effects of hydro-morph. alterations on migratory species incl. sturgeon, effects of hydro-morphological alterations on riverine wetlands, Joint Action Programme on wetland restoration projects, etc.) were prepared to the text of Roof Report by all Danubian countries. Slovakia submitted 8 areas included 6 Ramsar Sites to the list of PAs with Basin-wide importance (country code/T – means transboundary cooperation, description of protected area and area are mentioned in the brackets): Niva Moravy (SK4T extended floodplain meadows of the lower Morava, 5,380 ha), Horná Orava (SK45T peatlands of the Western Carpathians, 9,264 ha), Slovenský kras, plus Domica (SK26T transboundary karst caves and subterranean wetland Domica, 36,166 ha), Šúr (SK46 largest preserved,

primeval alder swamp forest in Central Europe, 1,137 ha), Latorica (SK47T lowland floodplain meadows, forests and oxbow system, 4,400 ha), Vysoké Tatry (SK48T alpine headwaters of the Tatra mountains, alpine lakes, 74,100 ha), Slovensky raj (SK49 gorges valleys and caves of the central Slovak mountains, 32,774 ha), Dunajské luhy (SK50T the largest Danube inland delta in Central Europe with artificial hydrological system, floodplain forests, oxbows, 14,488 ha). Within Joint Action Programme 3.3 and Annex 3 'Planned projects for wetland and floodplain restoration' Slovakia reported on 8 wetland planned (estimated costs 2,6165 Mio. EUR), running or already implemented restoration projects.

Wetland biodiversity issues and river basin management is included in the Carpathian Convention (Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians). Good example of integration and harmonisation with Ramsar Convention is established frame of cooperation of Carpathian countries. There was established the Carpathian Wetland Initiative and network of protected areas and Ramsar sites. Example was transmitted to Ramsar Bureau as a text (abstract), included to the Work Plan and also presented on 5th Ramsar Regional Meeting in Yerevan (Armenia, Dec. 2004).

The work of Trilateral Ramsar Platform in Morava – Dyje floodplain Ramsar Site was awarded in Valencia 2002 by Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Award and also promoted in Armeniam (Dec. 2004).

(Both examples included in http://www.ramsar.org/mtg/mtg_reg_europe2004_docs1d3.pdf).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.2. Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supra-national policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the Convention, and especially the wise use principle, is being fully applied

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Legislation amended and modified to implement European Union rules and procedures for wise use of wetlands. Institutions of nature conservation and water management modified. Strategic Environmental Assessment law adopted and applied. In every case of Environmental Impact Assessment of proposed activities ensure assessment of the impacts on wetlands including Ramsar sites.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	During approximation of legislation to European Union consider wise use of wetlands and support modification and capacity building of institutions. Prepare draft of the SEA Act. Through statements, opinions and comments of nature conservation specialists within the existing EIA procedure ensure that the assessment will focus on all important habitats including wetlands.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.2.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for Reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 3) to carry out a review of legislation and institutions and, as necessary, amend or modify legislation and institutional procedures to preclude unwise use of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 100 Parties to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 comprehensive reviews of their laws and institutions.

1. The Party is one of the 100 CPs identified by the Ramsar Bureau to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 a comprehensive review of wetland-related legislation and institutions	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed	B	
3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of legislation and institutions and the amendments made to preclude unwise use of wetlands.]		
<p>During the period 2002 – 2004 following acts concerning the wise use of wetlands (some only partly) were adopted by the Slovak Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Act no. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection (in force since January 1, 2003), and its Order no. 24/2003, - New Act no. 364/2004 on Waters (in force since July 1, 2004), - New Act no. 139/2002 on Fisheries. <p>Rural Development Plan of the Slovak Republic for the years 2004 – 2006 was adopted (See Action 2.1.2.).</p> <p>Under Natura 2000 process the number of employees increased in the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC) from 282 in year 2002 to 414 in 2004. They are dealing partly in their work with wetland management, database and other issues. And also number of rangers of SNC (professional nature guards) increased from 26 in year 2002 to 107 in 2004.</p>		

Action r2.2.i.- Where not already undertaken, initiate intra- and inter-ministerial dialogues including, as appropriate, institutions represented in Ramsar/ National Wetland Committees where these have been established, with a view to enhanced integration of relevant policies related to the conservation of water resources, wetlands and biodiversity. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Intra- and/or inter-ministerial dialogues have been established	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Intra- and inter-ministerial dialogues have been established by the means of Slovak Ramsar Committee for the purpose to enhanced integration of relevant policies related to the conservation of water resources, wetlands and biodiversity. There is need of more closer and more effective cooperation in the future.</p>		

Action r2.2.ii.- Recognize cultural and heritage values relating to wetlands in existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies. (Resolution VIII.19)

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. Cultural and heritage values related to wetlands have been incorporated into existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p><i>Banská Štiavnica town with its surroundings</i> was declared as Cultural World Heritage Site on one of the first Urban Conservation Areas in Slovakia and since this time the town belongs to the international monuments covered under the criteria C (iv) by UNESCO. The urban centre blends into the surrounding landscape, which contains vital relics of the mining and metallurgical activities of the past. There are several water reservoirs in this area which are valuable from both historical and environmental points of view. There are 23 water reservoirs close to Banská Štiavnica town and the largest of them are Počúvadlo, Veľká Richňavská, Klinger,</p>		

Bakomi, Evička, Veľká Vindšachtská, Veľká Kolpašská and Veľká Vodárenská.

Caves of Slovak and Aggtelek Karst Nature World Heritage Site is included bilateral Ramsar Site Domica – Baradla. Management plan and enlargement of protective zone of National Nature Monument Jaskyna (cave) Domica is in the process of approval.

Action r2.2.iii.- Give priority to assessing the conservation status of mountain wetlands, to reviewing the legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on these important ecosystems, and to taking the necessary actions for stopping and reversing such impacts. (Resolution VIII.12)

See action r3.1.i

1. The conservation status of mountain wetlands has been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on mountain wetlands has been completed	B	
3. Actions have been taken for stopping and reversing impacts on mountain wetlands	D	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on assessment, reviews and other actions taken in relation to mountain wetlands.]		

The project on assessment and conservation of mountain wetlands within the Carpathian region was implemented in 2003 and 2004, lead by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, and important mountain wetlands in 7 Carpathian countries were identified and included in the initial map. Further work in assessing the conservation status of mountain wetlands and reviewing the policies and practices is planned.

Action r2.2.iv.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *Guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessment*, as adopted by Decision VI/7 of CBD COP6, with the assistance of the guidance prepared by the STRP and embedded in the text of the CBD Guidelines (Resolution VIII.9); and encourage full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessments. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment annexed to Resolution VIII.9 are being applied	G	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]		
Slovak Act on EIA was adopted already in the time before the adoption of resolution VIII.9. Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annexed to Resolution VIII.9) is planned to include to the existing guidelines, which Nature and Landscape Protection Department and SNC produced during the triennium.		
3. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in impact assessment processes	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessment processes.]		

Local communities and NGOs are involved in the process of Environmental Impact Assessment in several stages:

- they can make comments to the intention of the planned activities,
- they are informed about the extent and timing of Environmental Impact Assessment,
- they can make comments to the report of Environmental Impact Assessment,
- they can take part in public negotiations of the project.

Action 2.2.2.- Apply Strategic Environmental Assessment practices when reviewing national and provincial policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 50 Parties to have in place Strategic Environmental Assessment for policies, programmes and plans impacting on wetlands.		
1. The Party has been identified by the Ramsar Bureau as one having in place Strategic Environmental Assessment in relation to wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands has been completed	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]</i>		
The Act no. 127/1994 is still under amendment process for the purpose to include articles/paragraphs concerning SEA.		
4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the way Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]</i>		
See above answer to 2.2.2.		

Action 2.2.3.- If not yet in place, develop and implement Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation so as to ensure that an EIA is carried out, as appropriate, in wetlands, including Ramsar sites, where adverse impacts may occur due to a proposed development, change in land/water use, invasive species, etc., in line with additional guidance adopted by Resolution VIII.9 and enlisting the collaboration, if required, of the <i>International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)</i> . Ensure that these impact assessments include full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts.
GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have required EIA, as appropriate, for proposed projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands.

1.- Legislation on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) applicable to wetlands is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites the whole area of the SR/13
2.- EIA is carried out for projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		
3.- EIAs have included full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts	B		
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include comments on Environmental Impact Assessment implementation at national level.]</i>			
Act no. 127/1994 on the environmental impact assessment was adopted in Slovakia. All the projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands have to be assessed under this act. Under higher mentioned act must be assessed:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • melioration measures, in particular drainage, irrigation, anti-erosion protection of soil, land arrangement and forest-technical melioration (in protected areas from 10 ha to 500 ha), • interferences with the landscape, which may cause significant changes in the biological diversity, structure and function of ecosystems (without limit), • extraction of peat (screening – up to 200 000 t/yr or from 3 to 20 ha of extraction site, mandatory EIA – over 200 000 t/yr or over 10ha of extraction site). 			

All basic information about present status of environment (including protected areas, protective zones, protected species of animals and plants and their habitats, protected trees, territorial system of ecological stability: local, regional, supra-regional, etc.) at the affected site need to be included in the documentation during EIA process, also with expected impacts of proposed activity on area of interest from nature conservation point of view.

Action r2.2.vi.- Establish contact with the relevant national contact points from within the networks of the *International Association for Impact Assessment* with a view to identifying sources of expertise and advice for assisting with wetland-related impact assessment. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. Experts from the International Association for Impact assessment have been involved in EIA processes in the country	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of IAIA experts in EIA processes in the country.]		
Not applicable.		

Action r2.2.vii.- Provide impact assessment materials relevant to wetlands, including case studies indicating lessons learned, guidelines, sources of advice, and other relevant materials, to the Bureau for incorporation into the *IUCN Biodiversity Economics Web site*. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. EIA materials, including case studies, have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau for loading in the EIA-dedicated Web site	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on EIA materials.]		
Not applicable.		

Action 2.2.4.- Promote the continuing development, wide dissemination - primarily through the Internet-based resource kit (<http://www.biodiversityeconomics.org/assessment/ramsar-503-01.htm>) and application of methodologies to undertake valuations of the economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands, in collaboration with the *International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)*, Ramsar's International Organization Partners, and interested Parties and organizations.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to have made progress on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation, and all CPs with experience in this area to have engaged in the STRP work.

1. Progress has been made in the development and/or application of methodologies for the valuation of economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	I	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.1. Develop and disseminate methodologies to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Wise use concepts included in national guidelines (which are adopted in a law). Principles included in water management bodies guidelines.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Include wise use concept in the national guidelines developed for protected sites, Natura 2000 sites and Ramsar sites. Include principles of wetland management planning in guidelines of the water management bodies and its plans.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.1.1.- Review the wise use concept, its applicability, and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to spearhead process of reviewing and updating guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach, in particular in line with the outcomes of WSSD.

1. Work has been done to review the wise use concept, its applicability and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development	E	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	I	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the revision of the wise use concept and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		
Wise use concept is partly included in adopted law on nature conservation (Act no. 543/2002). There is need to review wise use concept and ensure that it is apply with harmony of Water Framework Directive in water sector.		

Action 3.1.2.- Compile advice, methods and best practice studies for the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, and disseminate these to wetland managers

1. Advice, methods and best practice studies on the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, have been compiled and distributed to wetland managers	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic organized a National Conference on Protection of Wetlands in Slovakia on December 2, 2003. We compiled advice, methods and best practice studies for the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, and disseminated these to wetland managers. All presentations were also burned on CD. There were also regional conferences organised in 2003 in some Ramsar sites (Šúr, Poiplie, Wetlands of Orava Basin, Turiec wetlands, Latorica + proposed Tisa River).		

Action 3.1.3.- Ensure that the principles embodied in the *Convention's new management planning guidelines* adopted by Resolution VIII.14 are applied to decision-making about, and the wise use of, all wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to consider how to adapt and to incorporate, as necessary, into national practice the new management planning guidelines to the wise use of all wetlands.

1. Ramsar's new management planning guidelines (Resolution VIII.14) have been adapted and incorporated into national practice	E	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Management planning guidelines for sites of Natura 2000 and sites of international importance are under development by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and several institutions. Guidelines are still under preparation, final version is expected in August 2005.</p> <p>Manual on favourable conservation status of habitats and species listed in Annexes of Habitats and Birds Directives was prepared by SNC within Twinng Phare project with German partner (published 2005). This will be important to describe the present and target status of the sites in management plans.</p> <p>Catalogue of Slovakian Habitats (Stanová, V., Valachovič, M. (eds.), 2002, Bratislava, 225 p.) was prepared. The building of the Natura 2000 system requires a knowledge of the entire areal extent of protected habitats and taxa. The goal of the Catalogue is to distinguish and describe the mapping units of Natura 2000, and thus also to map conditions in the Slovak Republic. While nationally significant habitats were distinguished, all other habitats located in Slovakia were also described. In describing these units, the authors attempted – to fullest extent – to respect an expert viewpoint and to stick to the main criterion of the 'tried and tested' system of phytocenological units, which have been mapped in the 'Habitats of Slovakia' catalogue. This was the case for the mapping of grasslands and peatlands, and is currently accepted as a means of mapping European habitats.</p>		

Action 3.1.4.- Disseminate and encourage the use of the Convention's guidance on the wise use concept to governments, responsible agencies and bilateral and multilateral donor organizations, in order to assist their development and implementation of sustainable development funding policies that fully address the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. Ramsar guidance on the wise use concept and its application has been made available to appropriate decision-makers, institutions and processes	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Not applicable. There were prepared only some written opinions, proposals, articles on wise use concept and its application.</p>		

Action r3.1.i.- Share information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands, and develop, as appropriate, national, regional or local strategies and plans for their conservation and wise use, particularly with a view to strengthening coordination of Ramsar implementation with work underway in the framework of bilateral and multilateral environmental agreements, especially the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and those agreements dealing specifically with mountains, as well as with the initiatives of international organizations, including the *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, with the Bureau to report on progress to COP9. (Resolution VIII.12)

<i>See action r2.2.iii</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties	B	
3. National, regional or local strategies and plans for the conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been developed	D	
4. Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with other environment-related and mountain-related agreements and institutions	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on information available and strategies developed concerning mountain and high altitude wetlands.]		
Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with the Carpathian Convention, and UNEP. The Carpathian Wetland Initiative was initiated in 2004 by Slovakia. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of Carpathian mountain range have been shared within the Carpathian CPs in the workshop and other activities organised in 2004 within the project "Network of Carpathian Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites" funded by the Norwegian Government. The CD with presentations from the workshop and articles in specialized magazines were produced. The recommendations of the workshop are the basis for further development of the Carpathian Wetland Initiative.		

Action r3.1.iii.- Establish, with the support of IOPs and other partners and collaborators of the Convention, specific work programmes for high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them, in order to preserve their valuable biodiversity, their function as regulators of water, and as living space of many local and peasant communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Specific work programmes for the wise use of high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them have been established	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

Action r3.1.v.- Exchange information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially where this involves the full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially in relation to the participation of local communities and indigenous people, has been exchanged with other Parties and institutions	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.2. Ensure the conservation and wise use of peatlands as a demonstration of the ecosystem-based approach under the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	National peatland inventory completed. Proper management and/or restoration of at least 6 most significant peatland sites ensured. Increased public awareness on peatland issues.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To implement specific projects on peatlands, ensure appropriate management/restoration, wise use of most significant peatland sites as a result of national inventory, also to designate peatland sites as Natura 2000 sites and prepare management plans for them.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r3.2.i.- Establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands and prepare an implementation plan for global action on peatlands. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. The Party has participated in the Ramsar Bureau-led process to establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

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Action 3.2.1.- Implement the *Guidelines for global action on peatlands* as adopted by Resolution VIII.17, noting the priority sought therein for inventories of peatlands, the protection and possible designation of peatlands as Ramsar sites, the transfer of peatland restoration technology, and the maintenance of the cultural significance of peatlands, and implement those actions identified as national priorities.

1. Action has been taken to implement at national level the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There were done following activities concerning:

a) knowledge of global resources: During years 2001 – 2003 there was running DANCEE project Conservation and Sustainable Use of Peatlands in Slovakia concerning the mapping of peatlands. The project was led by Daphne NGO. On base on the information Strategy and Action Plan for Mire and Peatland Conservation in Central Europe within Central European Peatland Project (CEPP) was published by Wetland International (in 2003).

b) education and PA of peatlands: During 2002 – 2004 Slovak Environmental Agency organized several lectures about wetlands for the teachers and students of basic and secondary schools. The exhibition on frog protection was instaled in the Administration of Malá Fatra National Park in 2003. The Administration of Veľká Fatra National Park has installed the information panels in Kláštorne lúky and Rojkovské rašelinisko

peatlands. The Administration of Vysoke Tatry (High Tatras) National Park in cooperation with municipal councils and State Forest Company has built nature trail in Habovka. The Administration of Horná Orava Protected Landscape Area organized together with Euroregion Tatry the conference “The Wetland Conservation in the North Slovakia” in 2003. New nature trail passing by the peatlands was open in Babia hora Mountain in 2004.

c) policy and legislative instruments: Several peatlands were included into Natura 2000 network, management plans are planned.

d) research network: State Nature Conservancy of SR, Institute of Botany Slovak Academy of Science and Comenius University in Bratislava led phytosociological research of peatlands in Muránska planina NP. The Administration of Vysoke Tatry (High Tatras) NP together with Masaryk University in Brno (the Czech Republic) led the project of plant association and mollusc in several peatlands. Underground water level research was led in Klinské rašelinisko, Beňadovské rašelinisko, Mútnianské rašelinisko peatlands in 2002. The monitoring of health state of peatland forests was carried out in NNR Sosnina, NNR Spálený grúnik, NR Tisovnica in 2002. Ichthyological and hydrological research was carried out in the Zazriva River.

e) wise use of peatlands: The IUCN project “The effective communication within the biodiversity conservation in Slovakia” was led by the Administration of Horná Orava PLA in 2002 – 2003. One of the goals of the project was elaboration of the alternative possibilities of ecological sustainable use of Rudné rašelinisko peatland.

f) restoration measures: For some peatlands the restoration plans and management of sites were proposed and some measures implemented, e.g. management of peatlands (mowing) in Wetlands of Orava basin RS, improvement of hydrological regime and restoration measures of peatlands in Zahorie region led by BROZ NGO in 2001 – 2002, 2003 – 2004 (financial support by Netherlands).

Action r3.2.ii.- Identify and make available sources of funds in order that the activities identified in the implementation plan for global action on peatlands can be undertaken. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Funds have been made available at national level for the implementation of the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Funds have been made available from the budget of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic for the implementation of the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands in Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar Site in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Funds have been made available also from other sources:

The project “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Peatlands in Slovakia” led by Daphne NGO was financed by Danish Co-operation for Environment in Eastern Europe (DANCEE) 2001 – 2003.

The project “Restoration of Peatlands in Zahorie Lowland” which has focused on restoration of 7 chosen peatlands in Morava River Basin (e. g. NNR Zelienska) led by BROZ NGO was financed by Dutch MATRA Pre-Accession Programme.

Long-term sustainable use of Suchá Hora peatland within the IUCN project “The effective communication within the biodiversity conservation in Slovakia” was led by the Administration of Horná Orava PLA in 2002 – 2003. See more on: <http://www.soprs.sk/index.php?page=projekty/IUCN/suchahora-index>

In 2004 was prepared by the State Nature Conservancy of SR and submitted to European Commission (LIFE-Nature) project proposal “Restoration of Wetlands at Zahorie Lowland” to support the restoration activities at the project sites located within the Military Training Area Zahorie.

(See also 3.2.1.)

Action r3.2.iii.- Include information on the status and trends in national peatland resources in National Reports to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the *Ramsar Convention*, and other conventions, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Summary of the status and trends in national peatland resources is available	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Status and trends in national peatland resources <i>[Please include information on the conservation status and trends of peatland resources and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>		
Slovakia has summary of the status and trends in national peatland resources. According to the publication Stanova, V. (ed.), 2000: Rašeliniská Slovenska [Peatlands of Slovakia],194 p. there are 288 peatlands in Slovakia.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.3. Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and scientific research

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	List of significant wetlands for reasons of water supply, flood defence, cultural heritage and scientific research. The most significant wetlands designate as Natura 2000 sites and/or protected areas based on scientific research. Recognition of the social and cultural aspects in the spatial planning documents and documents in EIA process. Program on floods mitigation and drinking water sources protection consulted with other sectors and included in the Floods Protection Program of the Government. Wetlands Centre established if possible.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Include significance criteria in the new inventory forms and databases . Designate the most significant wetlands as Natura 2000 sites and/or protected areas. Include and consider social and cultural importance of the wetlands in Territorial System of Ecological Stability documents and other spatial planning documents. Develop wise use wetland program on floods mitigation and protection of the drinking water sources. Establishment of the Wetland Centre, if financial resources will be available.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.3.1.- As part of national (or, as appropriate, provincial) wetland inventories, assess and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research, and, where appropriate, seek to have these sites protected in recognition of these values.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>		
1. Measures have been taken to protect wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
For the purpose of protection of wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply and flood defence several projects were made where Slovakia took part or was leading:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and restoration of middle part of the Danube River Region was financed by PHARE CBC in 2003 – 2004. • Optimisation of the water regime of the Danube River oxbow system, elaboration of the study about optimisation of the water (see Action r1.2.vi). • UNDP/GEF Stengthening the Implementation Capacities for Nutrient Reduction and Transboundary Cooperation in the Danube River Basin (known as Danube Regional Project) financed by United Nations Development Program (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF – PDF A) in 2002 – 2003 (flood protection, pollution reduction, wetland restoration, land-use change). • Conservation by revitalisation: Strategy and Management of Lower Morava River System financed by the Research Institute of Water Management in 2003 – 2005. 		

Action 3.3.3.- Consider using the guiding principles in Annex I of Resolution VIII.19 to promote full recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands, and ensure that this is fully appreciated and taken into account in their wise use and management.

<i>See actions r2.2.ii, 6.1.6</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to promote the recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the on recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.]		
<u>Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar Site:</u>		
The most important cultural values are sacral buildings, for example the church in Zone C – Slanicky Ostrov Island, wayside columns in Bobrov.		
The use of the area if some limits and ways of use are respected does not contradict the sustainability of natural processes and the ecological character of the site.		
<u>Orava River Ramsar Site:</u>		
Archeological finds were discovered in the area. It is a proof that the territory was inhabited in neolit.		

Action r3.3.ii.- Urge public institutions to ensure that a more decisive effort be made with regard to groundwater, placing emphasis on the hydro-geological, social, economic and environmental aspects within the framework of communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) regarding wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Actions have been taken to ensure that public institutions place emphasis on the hydrogeological, social, economic and environmental aspects of groundwater	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Actions have been taken to ensure that public institutions place emphasis on several aspects of groundwater under Protocol on Water and Health under the UN/ECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Helsinki Convention).

Actions are taken with harmony with ensure implementation of EU legislation concerning water protection. New Act no. 364/2004 on Waters to the Slovak law transposed the Directive no. 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (WFD).

Action r3.3.iii.- Within national and legal frameworks and available resources and capacity, consider *inter alia* the compilation and assessment of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water, taking into account, as appropriate, intellectual property rights, customary law, and the principle of prior informed consent, in accordance with CBD and WIPO rules; promoting the appreciation and revitalization of these cultural values among populations close to wetlands, and in general among the wider public; including all relevant aspects of cultural heritage in the design and implementation of wetland management, carrying out such efforts with active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders; and consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen this involvement, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Compilation(s) and assessment(s) of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
2. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water	C	E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated;
3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management	D	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management	F	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]		
Cultural features are considered in management planning guidelines for Natura 2000 and internationally important areas (Ramsar Sites). It is expected to prepare the final draft of guidelines by mid August 2005.		

Action 3.3.4.- Develop and implement wise use wetland programmes and projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans at local, national and regional levels.

1. Wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans have been developed	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
According § 5 of Act no. 364/2004 on Waters there are several categories of areas for possible designation to ensure protection of waters and its sustainable use for identified environmental goals.		
There will be/are designated surface and groundwater water bodies and protected areas (e. g. protected water management areas, protected zones of water resources for drinking water supply, etc.). Only drinking water is used in food industry.		
Within programme of measures of WFD wetlands protection will be included.		

Action 3.3.5.- Promote research, including through the establishment of national and regional research and training centers, into the role of wetlands in water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage.

<i>See action 20.1.8</i>		
1. Research has been promoted on the role of wetlands in any of the following areas: water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Research has been promoted on the role of wetlands in the following Ramsar Sites:</p> <p><u>Morava River floodplain Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ecological carrying capacity of the landscape, ▪ Introductory solution to the restoration of the Morava River, ▪ Biological research and monitoring of re-opened river branches, ▪ Research of the quality of water and sediments from the perspective of the Morava River restoration, ▪ Specification of the terms for adjustment of the Morava River channel implementing rehabilitative water managing – ecological measures, ▪ Water quality in the Danube watershed in the territory of Slovakia, ▪ Conception of sustainable development of recreation and tourism for the region of the lower Morava (1996 - ALLPLAN GmbH), ▪ regular annual reports on the water quality of the Morava River and its tributaries made by the river administrator, ▪ Project „Preparation of Management Plan for the Slovak side of the Morava Floodplain as a part of Trilateral Ramsar site with realisation of necessary measures for preservation of abandoned meadows“ (05/2002 – 06/2003) was financed by Slovak – Swiss Revolving Fund. Project goal is preparation of management plan and realisation of urgent restoration measures. ▪Project will finish in due months. <p><u>Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grasslands mapping, ▪Peatlands mapping (During the peatlands mapping were noting ground water characteristics), ▪Permanent monitoring in the B-zone (the Klinske raselinisko pestland). <p><u>Turiec wetlands Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ soil and hydrogeology surveys, ▪ landscape-ecological survey & evaluation of stream ecosystems, ▪ habitat mapping, ▪ multilevel and multidisciplinary ecological assessment of the Turiec Region, ▪ monitoring of ground water level at NNR Klastorske luky Meadows. <p><u>Danube floodplains Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gabčíkovo dam system impact on ground water and biota. <p><u>Orava River and its tributaries Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ integrated water management study of the Orava River basin. <p><u>Latorica Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ hydrological monitoring is provided by Slovak Hydro-meteorological Institute Bratislava, ▪ Monitoring of surface water quality is provided by the Administration of Bodrog and Hornad Catchment Kosice, ▪ Extensive hydrological monitoring and assesment of Latorica watershed. <p><u>Domica Ramsar Site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ e. g. hydrological monitoring. 		

Action r3.3.v.- Secure the wise use of temporary pools through ensuring, as a high priority, that their management is sustainable, respecting their specific characteristics and addressing root causes of their loss and degradation, taking into consideration the guidance in Resolution VIII.33, and including by:

- i) undertaking, as far as possible, baseline inventory of temporary pools;
- ii) raising awareness of their presence and their specific values and functions;
- iii) ensuring the maintenance of their specific hydrological functioning;
- iv) ensuring that their natural resources are sustainably used and not overexploited;

v) recognizing the commitment to, and importance of, temporary pools to local communities and indigenous peoples, and supporting their management and protection; and
vi) undertaking regular surveillance of temporary pools so as to identify and avert any threat to their values and functions, always considering the traditional uses and management. (Resolution VIII.33)

1. Actions have been taken to secure the wise use of temporary pools

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Administration of PLA Ponitrie together with NGOs secured the wise use of temporary pools close to Čerešňový potok stream by protecting amphibians during their reproduction period in 2003 and 2004.

The Administration of the Vysok Tatry (High Tatras) NP has taken several measures to ensure the protection of amphibians in Pribylina, Račkovský potok and Revúca rivers.

The Administration of Veľká Fatra NP has identified the temporary pools which need to secure sufficient amount of water for reproduction of amphibians and local inhabitants have been involved in the protection of these sites.

The Administration of PLA Kysuce has taken some measures to protect temporary pools as reproduction site for amphibians in Oščadnica. They have initiated negotiations in order to stabilize hydrological regime influenced by the construction of D3 highway. In 2004 they cut the grass in wet meadow in Kysucký Lieskovec, which was identified as frogs reproduction area .

The Administration of Malá Fatra NP made fens around the temporary pools (protection against livestock) to ensure the reproduction of *Rana temporaria* close to Parnica village in 2003.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.4. Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties, and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Wetland conservation, wise use and restoration included in new and updated documents and plans. Financial resources planned from state budget.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Include wetland conservation, wise use and restoration in Territorial System of Ecological Stability, water management plans and other documents and consider funding. Enforce provision of the new Nature and Landscape Protection Act on compensation of loss of protected habitats and species concerning wetlands. Participate in the River Basin Initiative.	

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Action 3.4.2.- Apply the Guidelines in *Integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) and, where appropriate and feasible, participate in the related CBD/Ramsar project entitled the “*River Basin Initiative*” so as to support the WSSD agreement to increase understanding of the sustainable use, protection and management of water resources.

1. The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) have been used/applied

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on application of the Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management.]

In harmony with WFD there will be prepared river basin management plans which have to incorporate wetland protection and conservation.

For Danube River basin is under preparation the management plan for whole basin. There are working groups work on several topics, ECO EG (where Slovakia is a member) is working group under ICPDR responsible for ecological issues (see also answer to the Action 2.1.3.).

Cooperation between water and nature conservation sector has been started. The List of water-related PAs with international and national importance was provided to MoE, water division for the purpose to include these areas to plans for integrated river basin management.

The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) being planned to use/apply.

3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.]

Participation in the River Basin Initiative is ensured by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.

Action r3.4.i.- Ensure that due attention is given to the role of mountain and high-altitude wetlands, and the importance of their conservation and wise use, in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans. (Resolution VIII.12)

1. Due attention has been promoted / given to the role of mountain and high altitude wetlands in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The State Nature Conservancy in some cases has cooperated with The Slovak Water Management Company in preparation of River Basin Hydrological Plans. The comments of State Nature Conservancy have been fully accepted in management plans of the Poprad, Hornád, Morava, Chvojnica and Myjava River catchments.

Action r3.4.ii.- Use, where appropriate, in managing or assessing the impact of dams on sensitive riverine and wetland ecosystems, all available information, including information provided by the World Commission on Dams (WCD), in association with the guidance adopted by the Ramsar Convention, to inform and guide local and national processes for allocation of water resources and decision-making, in order to ensure that wetlands and their values and functions are fully taken into account in decision-making on large dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Wetland values and functions have been taken into account in decision-making on large dams	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Wetland values and functions had not been taken sufficiently into account in decision-making on large dams and there were not proposed measures (or no effective ones) to compensate the loss of wetlands.		

Action r3.4.iii.- Take the necessary steps, wherever possible and appropriate, in order to maintain the migration access for indigenous fish and other species past dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Steps have been taken to ensure that dams are not impeding the migration of indigenous fish and other species	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The State Nature Conservancy takes part in the negotiations before investors receive building certificate for construction of dams. In several cases we did not agree with the construction of dams in very sensitive parts of rivers where free migration of fish would be endangered and it was accepted by decision-making authority (Small Hydropower Plant on the Váh River in Nezbudská Lúčka). We approved of construction of several dams if appropriate technical measures would be taken. In 2003 with regard to Small Hydropower Plant Vozokany construction on the Hron River we insisted on technical adaptations which would restore the water regime in the Nature Reserve of Vozokanský luh. In 2002 we required the construction of fish pass in Small Hydropower Plant Kružlov. We initiated the construction of fish passes on the Popradňanka, Hron Rivers. The Administration of Veľká Fatra NP has proposed measures in order to eliminate existing barriers on streams (Turiec, Blatničianka, Revúca). The increased streamflow was provided in original watercourse of the Váh River under the Krpeľanská priehrada dam (regulations were made in dam handling order). The Administration of vysoké Tatry (High Tatras) NP suggested to build fish passes on Revúca, Váh Rivers (Liptovská Osada, Trnovec, Bohunka, Biely Potok and Ružomberok Small Hydropower Plants).</p> <p>There are still dams without fish by-passes for ensuring free migration of fish species.</p> <p>Problem of present barrier (weirs) in Rudava River Ramsar Site and restoration program of Muránka River are reported also in Action 1.2.6.).</p>		

Action r3.4.iv.- Undertake the systematic implementation of environmental flow assessments, where appropriate, to mitigate socio-economic and ecological impacts of large dams on wetlands, and encourage the development of appropriate centers of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation, and in doing so apply the *Guidelines on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolutions VIII.1, VIII.2)

1. Assessments of environmental flow have been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessments of environmental flow undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams.]			
-			
3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged (if available, please include number of centres)	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =</i> <i>Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [If applicable, please include information on the centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation that have been encouraged.]			

-

Action 3.4.5.- Apply the *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)* as adopted by Resolution VIII.4.

1. The *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4)* have been used/applied

AChoose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r3.4.vi.- Document case studies of good practice in the integration of wetlands into ICZM and make these available to the Convention for review by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) as the basis for preparing further guidance on wetlands and ICZM under the Convention. (Resolution VIII. 4)

1. Case studies of good practice examples on the integration of wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau

AChoose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action 3.4.6.- In decision-making processes related to freshwater resources, apply the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands*, as adopted by Resolution VIII.1.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have made available the guidance on water allocation and management for ecosystems to support decision-making on water resource management in all CPs, as a contribution to achieve the WSSD target on water resources management and water efficiency plans.

1. The *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1)* have been used/applied in decision-making related to freshwater

BChoose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Within preparation of river management plans there wer taken into account ecological functions of streams (before known as hydro-ecological plans/HEPs).

Action r3.4.viii.- Bring the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* and the additional guidance on tools and methodologies to the attention of national ministries and/or agencies (at different levels of territorial organization) responsible for water resource management; encourage these bodies to apply the guidance in order to ensure appropriate allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands in their territory; ensure that the principles contained in the Ramsar Guidelines are incorporated into national policies on water and on wetlands; and include representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies in the membership of National Ramsar/Wetland Committees. (Resolution VIII.1)

See action 18.1.2

1. Representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies are included in National Ramsar/Wetland Committee

BChoose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There are 2 representatives in the Slovak Ramsar Committee: 1 representative is from the Ministry of Environment, Water Division (up to May 2004 from the Ministry of Land Use Management) and 1 from Slovak Water Management Company.

Representative from the Faculty of Civil Engineering of Slovak University of Technology, Department of Land and Water Resources Management is also a member of the Slovak Ramsar Committee.

Action r3.4.ix.- Develop projects and other activities that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands, make such good practice examples available to others through the information exchange mechanisms of the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*, and report to COP9 on the successes achieved and lessons learned from these activities. (Resolution VIII1)

1. Projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands have been developed

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant projects.]

In 2003 with regard to Small Hydropower Plant Vozokany construction on the Hron River we insisted on technical adaptations which would restore the water regime in the Nature Reserve of Vozokanský luh.

The stabilization of hydrological regime in the Lány wetland area (Stará Bystrica) after damage caused by the construction of floodway has been realised in cooperation with local municipal council and NGOs.

The State Nature Conservancy of SR has initiated projects on restoration of the Muránka and Revúca Rivers and develops project on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of Senné fishponds Ramsar site.

The Administration of the Záhorie PLA in cooperation with Austrian partners continue in the optimization of water regime of the Morava River floodplains Ramsar site.

Institute of Landscape Ecology of Slovak Academy of Science, branch Nitra is focused its projects on Pariz creek basin (included Pariz marshes Ramsar Site).

In realisation (led by APOP NGO) is a project focused on Šúr Ramsar Site (financed by EU LIFE – Nature programme) “Restoration of water regime in Sur fen National Nature Reserve”.

REC Slovakia prepared grant scheme within UNDP/GEF DRP and financed several projects on rivers and wetlands.

Integrated river management planning of Tisa River basin was prepared by REC Slovakia and other institutions.

Sosna NGO is run activities focused on restoration of Budov kút oxbow of Hornád River near Cana village (2004), “Networking the river coalitions for healthy watershed”.

Within UNDP/GEF DRP pilot area of output 1.4 is Olsavica valley (Daphne, Slovenský raj NP Administration, Hydromelioration). Project goal is restoration of wetlands in mountain rural area. According to a restoration plan farmers will implement the proposed measures (04/2003 – 12/2006).

LIFE – Nature project Conservation and management of Danube floodplain forests is led by NGO BROZ with co-operation of SNC – Administration of Danube floodplains PLA/Slovakia and Donau-Auen NP/Austria (09/2003 – 10/2007). Goals of the project are conservation, management a sustainable sound forest management.

There was submitted to European Commission project proposal by SNC, BROZ NGO, Slovak Water Management Enterprise for LIFE – Nature financing concerning restoration of wetlands of Zahorie region (see also Action 1.2.6.).

3.- Summary on successes achieved and lessons learned in developing this type of projects [Please provide a summary on the relevant projects, successes achieved, and lessons learned in their development.]

Each administration or leading organisation could provide more information (See Action r3.4.ix.).

Action r3.4.x.- Develop mechanisms to better plan and manage for the wise use of water in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Mechanisms to better plan and manage the wise use of water in the Andean Region have been developed	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r3.4.xi.- Seek to maintain, as far as practicable in countries affected by drought, the continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands, so as to ensure that they can continue to provide their full range of values and functions for people and biological diversity. (Resolution VIII.35)

1. Efforts have been made to maintain continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands in situations of drought	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We tried to solve problems connected to distribution of water in Senné fishponds Ramsar Site, where problems are during the dry summers and the project on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of Senné fishponds Ramsar Site has been developed. "Integration of Ecosystem Management Principles and Practices into Land and Water Management of Slovakia's Laborec-Uh Eastern Lowlands" project was submitted to financing of UNDP/GEF PDF – A. The purpose of the project is to facilitate a sustainable transition by water managers, farmers and other resource managers in Slovakia's Eastern Lowlands from conventional water and agricultural management techniques to integrated ecosystem management practices. In so doing, resource managers will conserve globally significant biodiversity and reduce nutrient loading of Europe's largest transboundary river. Project stakeholders will apply ecosystem management oriented management practices in a wetland area between the Laborec and Uh Rivers in Slovakia's Eastern Lowlands.

There are still problems with simulation of natural floods in Danube floodplains because of Gabčíkovo Water Dam.

Action r3.4.xiv.- Study, from an interdisciplinary point of view and with the participation of civil society, the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of the wetlands in those territories where these impacts exist. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Interdisciplinary studies on the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of wetlands have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In decision-making processes state water management authorities gives permission of extraction of water based on valid Slovak law. We don't have information on interdisciplinary studies on the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of wetlands.

Action r3.4.xv.- Promote proposals for the participation of civil society, both public and private, related to the management of groundwater within the framework of integrated management of water resources. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The participation of civil society in the management of groundwater resources has been promoted	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
With harmony with WFD in Slovakia the preparation of river basin management plans have to be consulted with the public.		

Action 3.4.9.- Ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All relevant CPs to have assessed implications of *Kyoto Protocol* implementation on wetlands (including applying COP8 restoration guidelines).

<i>See action 4.1.4</i>		
1. The implications of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation have been assessed	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
National strategy of implementation Kyoto Protocol was prepared in 2001, and up to now we don't have any information of implications of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol.		

Action r3.4.xvi.- Make every effort, when implementing UNFCCC and, where appropriate, its *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and forest management, afforestation and reforestation, that this implementation does not lead to serious damage to the ecological character of their wetlands, using, where appropriate, strategic and other forms of environmental impact assessment and risk assessment, taking account Resolutions VII.10, VII.16 and VIII.9, as well as Article 4.1 of the UNFCCC and Article 2.1 of the *Kyoto Protocol*, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Efforts have been made to avoid serious damage to the ecological character of wetlands due to the implementation of UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
We don't have information on the implementation of UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol on avoiding damages on wetlands.		

Action r3.4.xvii.- Consider, and use as appropriate, the information on climate change and wetlands in the background papers Ramsar COP8 DOC. 11 and COP8 DOC. 40 when integrating climate change considerations into national policy pertaining to the conservation and wise use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The information provided in COP8 documents related to climate change has been considered and used in national policies pertaining to wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The information provided in COP8 documents related to climate change has not been considered and used in national climate change policy. But the action: The Restoration of unique and representatives peatlands is party dealing with this issue. The Management plans for the Čertižnianske lúky/meadows, Haburské		

rašelinisko/peatland and Jarčiská Nature Reserves were agreed in 2002. Several measures were taken in order to minimize impact of climate changes to the Beňadovské rašelinisko and the Mútňanské rašelinisko Nature Reserves, the Klinské rašelinisko National Nature Reserve (See also Action r4.1.i).

Action r3.4.xviii.- Take action to minimize the degradation, as well as to promote restoration, and improve management practices of those peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon and are considered as mitigation factors, as well as to increase the adaptive capacity of society to respond to the changes in these ecosystems due to climate change. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Actions have been taken to minimize degradation, restore and improve management of peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Following projects have been realized to minimize degradation, restore and improve management of peatlands and other wetland types (see also Actions r3.4.xvii., 3.2.1., r3.2.ii.):

- Conservation and Sustainable Use of Peatlands in Slovakia financed by Danish Cooperation for Environment in Eastern Europe (DANCEE) in 2001 – 2003.
- Ecohydrological Research as a Base for Restoration of Calcareous Fens in Slovakia financed by Dutch Ministry for Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries in 2002 – 2004.
- The Management plans for the Beňadovské rašelinisko, Mútňanské rašelinisko Nature Reserves and the Klinské rašelinisko National Nature Reserve were agreed in 2003.
- Management measures such as mowing, removing of nature seedings, mulching were taken in the Ťaskovka, Tisovnica Nature Reserves and Vtáčí ostrov Protected area. All these localities are part of the Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar Site.

Action r3.4.xix.- Recognize the important role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise, especially in low-lying areas and Small Island Developing States, and plan their management, including required adaptation measures, so as to ensure that mangrove ecosystems may respond to impacts caused by climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Management planning measures have been taken to preserve the role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r3.4.xx.- Undertake, where possible, studies of the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise and make their findings available to the Convention. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Studies on the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise have been undertaken

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r3.4.xxiv.- Contribute information on wetlands and agriculture to the *Wise Use Resource Centre* maintained by the Ramsar Bureau, to the *River Basin Initiative* and to the *Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment*, and future meetings of the *World Water Forum*. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Information on wetlands and agriculture has been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau and others	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>There was a conference of FAO and Wetlands International (Secretariat has been co-organizer) in Hungary: Seminar on Integrated Water Management of the Tisza River Basin, Budapest, Hungary, November 20 – 21, 2003 where some delegates from Slovakia took part.</p> <p>NGOs (SOVS, Daphne) with State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic organized seminars in years 2004 – 2005 for farmers in Natura 2000 sites (including wetland areas) and in 2005 for Regional offices to agro-environment and welfare animals and less-favoured areas in mean to obtain information on possible financing of measures for nature conservation purpose.</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4. RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4.1. Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Wetlands in need of restoration identified in at least national parks, protected landscape areas, Natura 2000 and other important areas. National Wetland Restoration Program prepared.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Include aspects of the wetland restoration or rehabilitation in guidelines for wetlands inventory Make an inventory of wetlands in need of restoration or rehabilitation. Finalize National Wetland Restoration Program in cooperation with water sector.	

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Action 4.1.2.- Establish wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, where feasible, at destroyed or degraded wetlands, especially in those associated with major river systems or areas of high nature conservation value, in line with Recommendation 4.1 and Resolutions VII.17 and VII.20.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs with lost or degraded wetlands to have identified priority sites for restoration; restoration projects underway or completed in at least 100 CPs.

1. Wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes or projects have been developed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The restoration of water regime in NNR Šúr (Ramsar Site): The main goal of the LIFE-Nature project is to supply NNR Šúr by sufficient conveyance of water, restoration of water regime and achievement of favourable conservation status of rare wetland fen forest with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>. The restoration of water regime is decisive and inevitable factor for the preservation of rare animal and plant species which occur on wetland habitats. The short-term objectives are as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to elaborate the Rescue programme for NNR Šúr, 		

2) reconstruction of existing and building new hydrological objects which will improve water regime in NNR Šúr,

3) to increase public information of local communities, owners and other stakeholders about the importance and value of NNR Šúr.

- The restoration of the Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar site: Management measures such as mowing, removing of nature seedings, mulching were taken in the Ľaskovka , Tisovnica Nature Reserves and Vtáčí ostrov Protected area. in 2002. In 2003 mowing, removal of the biomass, restoration of nest conditions of waterfowl, protection against livestock were done in some sites within the Wetlands of Orava Basin.
- Restoration measures (removal of several tree species, mowing...) were taken by the Administration of Muránska Planina NP in fen peats in the Trstie, Rosiarka and Klenovské Blatá Nature Reserves.
- Management plans have been developed for the fen peat meadow Chmúra Protected Area and peatland the Polková Nature Reserve.
- Restoration measures were done in relict peatland of Čierne-Polesie after damage caused by the Slovak Railways. Deposits were removed and the site including small lake has been restored.
- Restoration of Danube floodplain forests (changes from poplar monocultures to natural forests, eradication of invasive tree species, etc.) are on some parts of Danube floodplains RS planned within LIFE-Nature project led by BROZ using also tools as land lease or purchase, etc.
(see also Actions 3.2.1., r3.2.ii., r3.4.ix., r3.4.xviii., etc.)

Action r4.1.i.- Report on progress in implementation of Actions 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 in triennial National Reports to the COP (Resolution VIII.16).

See action 1.1.2

1.- Actions have been taken to restore / rehabilitate those wetlands defined as priority for restoration (if available, please include number of sites)

D

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;
G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

N° wetlands / Ramsar sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The actions have been taken to restore unique and representatives wetlands. The Management plans for the Čertžnianske lúky, Haburské rašelinisko and Jarčiská Nature Reserves were agreed in 2002. The Management plans for the Beňadovské rašelinisko, Mútnňanské rašelinisko Nature Reserves and the Klinské rašelinisko National Nature Reserve were agreed in 2003.
(See also Actions 4.1.2, r.3.4.xviii, 3.2.1, r3.2.ii, r3.4.xvii, etc.).

Action r4.1.ii.- Integrate fully the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) into National Wetland Policies and plans, paying particular attention to issues of legislation, impact assessment, incentive measures, and the mitigation of impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) have been integrated into the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument(s)

E

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;
G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration is planned to use and integrate to the National River Restoration Strategy/Programme.

Action r4.1.iii.- Pay particular attention to the role of wetland restoration in management at the catchment and river basin level in relation to the allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions (Resolution VIII.1), integrating the conservation and wise use of wetlands into river basin management (Resolution VII.18), and transboundary action (Resolution VII.19). (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The role of wetland restoration has been taken into account in river basin management	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The role of important wetland restoration is taken into account in river basin management planning, e.g. on the Slovak Republic territory and in preparation of the Danube River Basin Management Plan (See also Action 2.1.3. – Joint Action Programme on wetland restoration projects).		

Action 4.1.3.- Compile information on new research and methodologies for the restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands and disseminate this information.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Continue to add new case studies and methods to Ramsar wetland restoration Web site.

1. Information and/or case studies on wetland restoration and rehabilitation is available	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
2. Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated	D	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]		
<p>The State Nature Conservancy of SR organized the Conference on protection of wetlands and wetlands restoration on December 2, 2003. Case studies on wetland restoration has been compiled and disseminated to wetland managers.</p> <p>The project Ecohydrological Research as a Basis for the Restoration of Calcareous Fens in the Slovak Republic (01/2002 – 12/2004, led by Daphne) is aimed at assessing the prospects for restoring selected calcareous fens and fen meadows through analyses ecohydrological conditions, soil conditions and biological potential, such as the presence of seed banks and of relic populations of endangered plant species. The main objective is to carry out ecohydrological analyses in order to understand the functioning of the hydrological systems that control ecopedological processes and vegetation development of the selected fens and fen meadows. An exchange of experience on ecohydrology and soil science serves as a very important objective of the project. The project focuses on the following fen areas: fens close to Štrba (Pastierske II.), National Nature Reserve (NNR) Belianske lúky, NNR Abrod, NNR Rakšianske rašelinisko and Popradské rašelinisko.</p> <p>Umbra NGO have projects focused on NNR Klátovské rameno oxbow and Rusovecké jazero lake.</p> <p>Seminar for NGOs was organised with focusing on wetland restoration and reduction of pollution (DEF).</p> <p>LIFE – Nature project Conservation and management of Danube floodplain forests is led by NGO BROZ (09/2003 – 10/2007). Goals of the project are conservation, management a sustainable sound forest management (also preparation of Forest Management Sustainable Strategy based on inventory of last remains of natural floodplain forests and other forest in Natura 2000 sites and RS Danube floodplains).</p> <p>On several web sites, articles in magazines (Ochrana prírody [Nature Protection], Enviromagazin, etc.), project leaflets or books are published with information related to wetland restoration (see e. g. Actions 4.1.2., r3.4.ix. on Sur RS, etc).</p>		

Action 4.1.4.- Apply the guidelines on wetland restoration adopted by Resolution VIII.16 to ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation, do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

<i>See action 3.4.9</i>		
1. The <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been used in the assessment of the implications of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
We have not used the Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration in the assessment of the implications of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation.		

Action r4.1.iv.- Apply the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* when considering the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention, using the guidelines for such provision of compensation adopted by Resolution VIII.20. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been applied in relation to the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
RS borders were not changed, so we did not apply provision of Article 4.2.		

Action r4.1.v.- Ensure, when implementing the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration*, that the cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands being considered for restoration is fully recognized so as to ensure that this significance is maintained, taking into account the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites*, annexed to Resolution VIII.19. (Resolution VIII.16).

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. Cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands has been considered in restoration actions	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Cultural heritage significance of wetlands has not taken into consideration in restoration actions.		

Action r4.1.vi.- Identify, as part of national training needs assessments, training needs in wetland restoration, identify training opportunities and expertise in wetland restoration, and create relevant training modules as part of the *Ramsar Wetland Training Initiative*, once established. (Resolution VIII.16). (Refer also to Action 20.1.5)

<i>See action 20.1.5</i>		
1. Training needs in relation to wetland restoration have been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Training opportunities and expertise in relation to wetland restoration have been identified	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on training needs and opportunities in relation to wetland restoration.]		
Training opportunities have been assessed. Training opportunities and expertise in relation to wetland restoration have been identified. Training courses on wetland restoration for staff members of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic were organized. Slovakia took part in several training courses: international management, restoration and wise use courses organised by RIZA (Netherlands), KIWC and JICA (Japan), DEF, etc.		

Action r4.1.vii.- Investigate opportunities to link poverty relief to wetland restoration, by incorporating the provision of work, skills and opportunities into restoration projects and by focusing on the restoration of ecosystem goods and services upon which communities depend. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. Restoration projects linked to poverty relief have been developed and implemented

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Restoration projects were not linked to poverty.

IUCN project on communication in PAs (see other action of this report) identified (with cooperation with local stakeholders) alternatives for usage of peatland area (tourism, selling of wood artefacts, etc.).

Action r4.1.viii.- Disseminate the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) to community stakeholders who have an interest in wetland restoration; and involve local communities and indigenous peoples in restoring and maintaining wetlands, in line with the guidance in Resolution VII.8 concerning establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* have been disseminated to community stakeholders

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;

F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =

Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities

D

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the dissemination of the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration and the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in wetland restoration.*]

In preparation of management (and restoration activities) in Senné fishponds RS have been organised meetings with local private fishermen company to solve some common problems (see above Action r4.1.vii., or actions reported about Olsavica valley where meetings with local farmers have been organised).

Action r4.1.ix.- Utilise the information and resources of *Ramsar's restoration Web site*, and contribute relevant additional information on wetland restoration projects and experience to this Web site, so as to increase the wide availability of such information, and particularly to provide demonstration projects that illustrate the application of the principles and guidelines adopted by Resolution VIII.16. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The Ramsar Web site on wetland restoration has been used and materials have been provided to it

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of Ramsar web site on wetland restoration and the materials provided to it, if applicable.]

The Ramsar Web site on wetland restoration has been used. There are also available some web sites of organisations dealing with restoration.

Action r4.1.xi.- Prepare guidance on compensation for wetland losses in response to Resolution VII.24, and report on these matters to COP9. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. Contribution has been made to preparation of guidance on compensation for wetland losses, in response to Resolution VII.24

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Contribution has been made on compensation for wetland losses according the Act no. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection:

According § 6 (Protection of Natural Habitats) everyone who affects a natural habitat of European interest or a natural habitat of national interest is obliged to carry out relevant compensatory revitalisation measures resulting mainly from documentation of the nature and landscape protection; this obligation does not apply if referring to common cultivation of agricultural and forest plantation. Such a person is obliged to settle a financial compensation to the extent of a societal value of the affected natural habitat (§ 95) if he is not possible to carry out the compensatory revitalisation measures. The financial compensation is paid to the state budget. In the list of natural habitats of European interest and natural habitats of national interest is established by the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic under a generally binding regulation – Order no. 24/2003 – are listed also wetland habitat types.

According § 8 (Preventive and Corrective Measures of the Nature Protection Body) the nature protection body, after prior notice and before the removal of negative effects, may restrict or prohibit an activity that either might cause a damage or destruction to the nature and landscape or results in such damage or destruction. The nature protection body may order, by decision, anyone whose activities do not require an approval according to this Act, but which damage or destroy the nature or landscape, to remove negative effects of this activity within a specified period and determine conditions for further activity. If the harmful effects are not removed during the specified period, the nature protection body may remove them at the expense of the responsible party.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5.1. Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	D	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To develop National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species and Action Plan. To prepare/update management plans for Ramsar sites.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Identification/mapping of alien/ invasive alien species in wetland systems with focus on Ramsar sites. Assessment of problems of invasion by alien species in wetland systems/Ramsar sites. Alien/invasive alien species issues covered by management plans for 7 Ramsar sites. Development of effective communication and cooperation among national focal points for international/regional conventions.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r5.1.ii.- Work closely with counterpart national focal points for the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *UN Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB)*, the *International Maritime Organization (IMO)*, and others in the development and implementation of national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive alien species, and ensure that prevention, eradication and control of such species are fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans, applying the *Ramsar Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 3) and *Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies* (Ramsar Handbook 2). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. National policy, strategy and management responses to threats from invasive species have been developed and implemented	E	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. Prevention, eradication and control of invasive alien species have been fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans	D	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;
3. Actions related to invasive species have been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organizations/processes	D	G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on incorporation of invasive species matters in national legislation and policies, actions taken, and cooperation in this field.]		
National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species is being developed based on the Global/European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (Bern Convention). The Strategy will address comprehensive measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate invasive alien species in Slovakia. The Strategy will also tackle the policy and legal review process as in Slovakia several ministries/departments and organizations have responsibilities for some aspects of invasive alien species (e.g. prevention, management) and several different laws are relevant (nature conservation, plant and animal health). However, the most important is the Act No. 543/2002 Coll. on Nature and Landscape Protection. Its provisions provide a frame for the protection of natural species composition of ecosystems; they deal with e.g. intentional dissemination of alien species, trade in invasive alien species (CITES Act), elimination of invasive alien species. According to an executive order to the Act on Nature and Landscape Protection compulsory elimination of invasive alien species applies only to 7 plant species (the most problematic ones). As for strategic documents, invasive species matters have been incorporated in the National Biodiversity Strategy (approved by the Government of SR and National Council of SR in 1997). Action Plan for the Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategy was updated and approved in 2002. Cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organizations is not systematic. This <i>ad hoc</i> cooperation should be replaced by the coordination mechanism that needs to be identified within National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species.		

Action r5.1.iii.- Undertake risk assessments of alien species which may pose a threat to the ecological character of wetlands, taking into account the potential changes to ecosystems from the effects of global climate change, and applying the guidance available in Ramsar's *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. Risk assessments of alien species that pose a threat to wetlands have been undertaken	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
In Slovakia is still missing a comprehensive system of risk analysis. However, some studies have been undertaken, e.g. influence of alien fish species on native fish species in watercourses mostly in southern parts of Slovakia (Protected Landscape Areas: Latorica, Dunajske luhy and Zahorie. Protected Landscape Area Latorica fully covers Ramsar site Latorica and Protected Landscape Area Dunajske luhy [Danube floodplains] from major part covers Ramsar site Danube floodplains). Some assessments of risks posed by other animal species (e.g. <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>) and vascular plant species (e.g. <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>) have been done also. Within LIFE-Nature project focused on Danube floodplain forests measures to eradicate invasive tree species (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> , <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> , etc.) are taken (2004) and some others are planned (see other actions of this report).		

Action r5.1.iv.- Identify the presence of invasive alien species in Ramsar sites and other wetlands in the Party's territory, the threats they pose to the ecological character of these wetlands (including the risk of invasions by such species not yet present within each site), and the actions underway or planned for their prevention, eradication or control; for Ramsar sites, report on this to the Ramsar Bureau without delay in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, so that this information may be included in the *Ramsar Sites Database* (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2); and make information provided by Contracting Parties available to the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and others in support of the implementation of the *CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan 2002-2006*. (Resolution VIII.18)

1.- Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed and communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant Article 3.2 of the Convention (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the problems of invasion by alien species, sites affected and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

In Slovakia invasive alien /alien vascular plant species have been mapped in a systematic way since 1997 and since 2003 also some selected alien animal species (major species of concern). Management measures (mostly eradication and control of invasive alien plant species) follow the results of mapping and they are concentrated in protected areas. Mapping of invasive alien species to some extent covers also Ramsar sites and other wetlands. However, identification of the presence of invasive alien species has not been completed fully in any of the Slovak Ramsar sites yet. As for the assessment of threats of invasive alien species they pose to the wetland ecosystems (see also Action r5.1.iii. Protected Landscape Areas and Ramsar sites Latorica, Dunajske luhy [Danube floodplains]).

Action r5.1.v.- Cooperate fully in the prevention, early warning in transboundary wetlands, eradication and control of invasive species concerning invasive species in shared wetlands, river systems, and coastal/marine zones, including examining carefully, prior to moving water between river basins, the potential environmental impacts due to invasive species, and applying the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention* (Ramsar Handbook 9) in recognition that many aquatic invasive species, both inland and coastal and marine species, can spread rapidly and repeatedly throughout entire wetland ecosystems, river basins and coastal and marine zones, such that eradication in one place may not prove effective at preventing further invasions. (Resolution VIII.18)

1. International cooperation related to invasive species in transboundary/shared wetlands and water systems has been agreed and implemented	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovakia has not developed and implemented the prevention and early warning system in transboundary wetlands yet. Intergovernment Commissions (Slovakia and Poland; Slovakia and Hungary) have been established to promote transboundary cooperation. It covers also nature conservation issues including invasive alien species. However, the invasive alien species issue is not only one issue in this commissions to focus. But there are some good examples of transboundary cooperation between nature conservation organizations: control of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* along the Dunajec River (Pieniny National Park in Slovakia and Poland), identification of invasive alien species in selected transboundary areas between Slovakia and Hungary.

Action 5.1.2.- In collaboration with the *Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)*, the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, Ramsar's International Organization Partners, and interested Parties, continue to develop and disseminate practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species, based on case studies and documented experiences from around the world.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Guidance for invasives' management prepared.

1. Practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species has been developed and disseminated	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
According to the executive Order of the Ministry of Environment of SR No. 24/2003 Coll. elimination of 7 invasive alien plant species (the most problematic ones) is obligatory. In 2002 in order to help to implement the law provisions the State Nature Conservancy of SR developed the Guidance for elimination of the 7 plant species (<i>Fallopia japonica</i> , <i>Fallopia × bobemica</i> , <i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i> , <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> , <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i> , <i>Solidago canadensis</i> , <i>Solidago gigantea</i>) using experiences from other countries. Methods recommended in the Guidance are being applied to the other alien plant species as well.		

Action r5.1.ix.- In the development and implementation of national strategies and responses to invasive alien species, recognize that terrestrial invasions by alien species can threaten and affect the ecological character of wetlands, including through the lowering of water tables and alteration of water flow patterns, and ensure that appropriate measures to prevent or control such invasions are in place. (Resolution VIII.18)

1. The impact on wetlands of terrestrial invasions by alien species has been assessed	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
There were some efforts to assess impacts of terrestrial invasions by alien plant species (e.g. impacts of <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> , <i>Fallopia</i> or <i>Solidago</i> species, <i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>).		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6. LOCAL COMMUNITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CULTURAL VALUES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6.1. Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, in particular women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Publications on various wetlands printed and distributed. Visitor centre established at least in 2 Ramsar site. Agreements with land owners signed. Administration of State Nature Conservancy open for public participation Agreements on co-operation signed with local societies and NGOs. Local Ramsar Committees established at least in 8 Ramsar Sites. Cultural features of wetlands applied in management plans of Ramsar sites, protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Inform local communities using various publications, visitors centers, develop agreements with land owners and develop projects on public participation in Natura 2000 sites and Ramsar sites. Develop agreements on management of protected wetlands with land owners. Communicate with Participatory Environmental Management (PMC). Organize or participate at public meetings, contact city halls and societies. Sign agreements on co-operation.	

	<p>Establish local Ramsar Committees. Collect the information on experience from the field and develop a report. Consider cultural features of wetlands in management plans of wetlands.</p>
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Action 6.1.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), giving particular attention to the importance of incentive measures (refer to Operational Objective 8.1), the building of trust, the need for flexible approaches, the exchange of knowledge, capacity building and the continuity of resources and efforts.

1. The guidance for the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management has been applied

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

IUCN international project "Effective communication for the biodiversity protection" focused to strengthen the importance of communication, as an important tool for the biodiversity protection, has been realized since 1998 to 2004. The finance for this project was provided by Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Conservancy and Fishery. In 2002 seminar "the Partnership in Management of Protected Areas" was organized by the State Nature Conservancy of SR. 2 pilot project were the result of the seminar. These 2 projects were run by the Administration of Slovenský raj NP and the Administration of Horná Orava PLA. The participants of the project learned how to closely cooperate and communicate with the owners and the users of land in protected areas. Informative brochure "Communication as an important tool for the biodiversity protection" about the experience gained during the project about the communication with public was published.

On the public meetings with landowners have been discussed several possibilities of cooperation on wetland management (agri-environmental schemes, financial contribution from state budget). There were organised also regional workshops for farmers within Natura 2000 sites.

Action 6.1.2.- In consultation with and with the full support of indigenous people, document and encourage the application of appropriate traditional knowledge and management practices of indigenous people and local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly where wetlands are under the traditional ownership of local communities and indigenous people.

1. Traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands has been documented and its application encouraged

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

During discussions on management plan there is used knowledge of local people in wetland management.

Action 6.1.4.- Promote public participation in decision-making processes with respect to wetlands and their conservation and ensure that there is full sharing with the stakeholders of technical and other information related to the selection of Ramsar sites and management of all wetlands.

1.- Public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands has been promoted

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]

Through the Act no. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection there is ensured that NGOs have possibility to be part in decision-making processes if they would like.

3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the participation of local stakeholders in Ramsar site selection, the sites involved (if applicable), and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Major local stakeholders have been involved in designation and with media have been invited also to celebration with receiving copies of RS certificates (Tisa River RS – May 13, 2005).			

Action r6.1.i.- Implement, where appropriate, Resolution VII.8 on *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* with respect to the planning and operation phases of dams, and extend this principle of participation to wider issues related to water resources management at basin level, utilising Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management*, and Resolution VIII.14 on *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands*. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Local stakeholders have been involved in wider issues related to water resources management at basin level	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
In harmony with WFD there will be prepared river basin management plans which preparation is open to the public. Also according Act 127/1994 public participatio is ensured in EIA process.		

Action 6.1.5.- Elaborate for consideration by COP9 further guidance on the application of the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), based on experiences gained at the field level, and in particular the experience of Pacific Island States and other Small Island Developing States, and working with the CBD and others in line with the *CBD-Ramsar 3rd Joint Work Plan*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Elaborated guidelines, developed jointly with CBD, available to COP9.

1. Resource information on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management has been compiled	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the resources compiled about local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management.]</i>		
All maps and RISs of Ramsar Sites will be updated by COP 9. Site borders are being defined more correctly on cadaster parcels to define owners. Receiving financial contribution for practical site management is possible to landowners (land-occupiers, land-users) whose areas are within Ramsar Sites.		
3. The Party has contributed with case studies and other materials to the elaboration of further guidance on the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]</i>		
Information published on website.		

Action r6.1.iii.- Report on progress and successful experiences in applying Participatory Environmental Management strategies, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.36)

1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied	D	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Summary on progress and successes in relation to Participatory Environmental Management strategies <i>[Please provide here a summary on progress and successes and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Participatory principles were used during implementation of the project on Management plan for Tatra National Park (2002 – 2004) which includes some important mountain wetlands financed by DANCEE.		

Action 6.1.6.- Consider using the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* (Resolution VIII.19), and continue to document case studies on social and cultural values of wetlands and how they can be incorporated into the effort to conserve and sustainably use wetland resources.

See action r3.3.iii

1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]</i>		
-		
3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled	F	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]</i>		
There have been published some articles in Slovakia on cultural aspects and values only. Cultural aspects will be compiling during management plans preparation.		

Action r6.1.v.- Establish appropriate consultation mechanisms at regional or national levels, in order to consider how the list of Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 might be applied in developing and promoting cultural values of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Consultation mechanisms on the application of the guiding principles on cultural values have been established	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
-		

Action r6.1.vi.- Consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders in wetland conservation and wise use, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Cultural values of wetlands are being used to improve local stakeholders' involvement in wetland planning and management	F	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
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Action r6.1.vii.- Consider conducting appropriate joint educational and training activities with regard to the cultural values of wetlands and developing pilot projects for testing on a local, regional and national scale further improvement of the application of and/or integration of the Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 in wetland conservation and wise use. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Educational and training activities have been developed in relation to cultural aspects of wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

Action r6.1.ix.- Undertake the necessary measures to retrieve, assess and document for current use all ancestral practices of indigenous peoples that are compatible with the environment in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. The ancestral practices of indigenous people in the Andean region that are compatible with environment protection have been retrieved, assessed, and documented	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

Action 6.1.7.- Apply the *New guidelines on management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) in such a way as to ensure the full incorporation of the cultural features of wetlands in their sustainable use.

1.- Cultural values of wetlands have been incorporated into the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands (if available, please include number of sites)	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 13
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the incorporation of cultural values into management planning, sites involved, and other comments you consider relevant.]			
Cultural values have been incorporated in management plans guidelines for Natura 2000 and Ramsar Sites.			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7.1. Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Wise use handbooks translated in Slovak for public use. Slovak Ramsar Committee working effectively and Local Ramsar Committees established in at least 8 Ramsar sites. Equipment, staff and educational materials obtained during international project used also for wetland species.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Translate wise use handbooks in Slovak using also some case studies from Slovakia and instruct environmental authorities.	

	<p>Establish local Ramsar committees and support work of the Slovak Ramsar Committee.</p> <p>Support State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic in implementation of CITES and relevant EU legislation; implement results of the Danish – Slovak CITES implementation project.</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 7.1.1.- Encourage the private sector to apply the wise use principle (Ramsar Handbooks 1 to 6) in their activities and investments affecting wetlands.

1. The private sector has been encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Private company in Senne – fishponds RS has been encouraged to apply wise use principles. They have problems with piscivorous waterfowls and there is need to solve this problem.

Action 7.1.2.- Seek opportunities to involve the private sector, national science academies, universities and other professional, scientific, and technical societies of recognized merit in wetland-related decision-making, through vehicles such as National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees, site or river basin management authorities/committees, and outreach activities.

1. The private sector, academia and specialized institutions have been brought into decision-making related to wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

National Slovak Academy of Science, universities and other professional, scientific, and technical societies are brought into decision-making through Slovak Ramsar Committee. There is no representative of private sector.

Action 7.1.4.- Establish, where appropriate, national and local private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forums where companies can seek advice on applying wise use practices in their businesses, and can also identify opportunities for supporting the activities of the Convention.

1. A private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forum or equivalent mechanism has been established

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Some NGOs (e.g. Sosna, Umbra, OZ Tatry, etc. started this approach in some Slovak rivers (see Actions 1.2.7., r3.4.ix.).

Action 7.1.5.- Review, in cooperation with the private sector, domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products, both exports and imports, and as appropriate implement the necessary legal, institutional and administrative measures to ensure that harvesting is sustainable and in accordance with the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)*.

1. A review of domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products has been carried out	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Legal, institutional and administrative measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable harvesting of wetland products	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the measures taken to ensure sustainable harvesting and trade of wetland products.]</i>		
Slovakia has adopted the principles of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) by the Act no. 237/2002 and the Directive no. 346/2002, which also contains domestic and international trade in of wetland-derived plant and animal products, both exports and imports. Executive authority concerning CITES was established within the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic and Expert group concerning CITES exists within the State Nature Conservancy of SR. Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/1997 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein came in force, which means that Slovakia is controlling export and import or re-export with these species apart from others. What is not mentioned in regulation (more restricted measures regarding holding specimens), sanctions and competency of all CITES authorities are included in the Act No. 15/2005 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8. INCENTIVES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8.1. Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use principle, and the removal of perverse incentives

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Legislation updated and amended to EU by 2004 and policies. Institutional capacity improved. Internet-based resource kit used and promoted.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	In approximation process update and amend legislation and policies which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands Increase capacity of staff of wetland managers Communicate and use the kit and publicize it	

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Action 8.1.1.- Continue to review existing, or evolving, policy, legal and institutional frameworks to identify and promote those measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to identify and remove measures which discourage conservation and wise use.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to have identified at least 50 CPs to have reviewed policy and legal and institutional frameworks and sought to remove measures adversely affecting wetland conservation and wise use.

1. A review of positive and perverse incentive measures in relation to the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	B	
3. Actions have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	D	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the promotion and implementation of incentive measures and removal of perverse ones.]		
See Action r11.1.iv., Action 2.1.2., Action r11.1.iv. (Within Rural Development Plan and also financial contribution are took and planned actions to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands.		

Action r8.1.ii.- When reviewing agricultural policies, identify possible subsidies or incentives that may be having negative impacts, on water resources in general and on wetlands in particular, in the territory of a Contracting Party and/or elsewhere in the world consistent with their other international rights and obligations, and remove or replace them by incentives that would contribute to wetland conservation, ensuring that these activities and support measures should not support agricultural policies that are inconsistent with trade-related agreements. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular have been identified	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to remove or replace agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on agriculture subsidies and incentives and their impacts on water resources and wetlands.]		
During the years 2002 – 2004 (pre-accession period) Slovakia had to adapted its agricultural policies to EU legislation. In September 2001 the Codex of Good Farming Conditions was adopted by the Ministry of Land Use of the Slovak Republic. The principles of the Directive no. 676/1991 EEC concernig the water protection from nitrate pollution originated in agriculture sources were included into the mentioned codex.		

Action r8.1.iii.- Review programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater in order to guarantee that those programmes do not lead to negative consequences for the conservation of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater have been reviewed in relation to the negative consequences that they may have on wetland conservation	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ²

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.I. Integrate CEPA processes into all levels of policy development, planning and implementation of the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>To whole OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. Communication, education and public awareness (CEPA): Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, the Convention's Outreach Programme (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 6) [and its update by COP8] for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through public participation and communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA).</p> <p>Wetland Centre established.</p> <p>CEPA strategy developed by 2006, further adopted CEPA action plan and publicized at the web-site.</p> <p>Guidelines included in the CEPA strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>At least one major private sector stakeholder involved in CEPA Action Plan.</p> <p>Network of Carpathians and Danube River Basin Wetlands established.</p> <p>Wetland campaigns implemented.</p> <p>National Clearing House on wetland CEPA organized in co-operation with School of Nature Protection of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, state organisations, Wetland centre and NGOs.</p> <p>At least one substantial CEPA material developed (in co-operation with private sector).</p> <p>Proposal on amendments in curricula submitted.</p> <p>Wetland visitors/education centre established in at least 2 wetland sites.</p> <p>Regular co-operation between wetland managers and environmental centers, botanic garden, universities established in at least 3 regions (counties).</p> <p>Participation in the Wetland Link International network in at least 2 centers.</p> <p>Seek funds for Voluntary Fund for the Ramsar Outreach Programme.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Develop CEPA strategy and Develop CEPA Action Plan by 2005 in co-operation with the School of Nature Protection of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and make it available at internet.</p> <p>Establish the Wetland Centre.</p> <p>Consider Guidelines in development and implementation of CEPA using Danish Partnership in the Varín Environmental Education Centre (School of Nature Protection) Project – Slovak Republic.</p> <p>In CEPA Action Plan include co-ordination of communication between advisory bodies of other environmental conventions.</p> <p>Invite major private sector stakeholders to co-operation.</p> <p>Include communication and co-operation on wetland issues in the Carpathians and Danube Basin initiatives (e.g. Carpathian Convention).</p> <p>Carpathian protected wetlands networking in co-operation with NGOs and using electronic means.</p> <p>Regularly organize WWD campaigns at national and local level (posters, exhibitions, disseminating of publications and brochures).</p>	

² The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

	<p>Activities of School of Nature Protection of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic focus on wetlands issues.</p> <p>Communicate with Ramsar Bureau on CEPA in co-operation with School of Nature Protection of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Wetland Centre and NGOs.</p> <p>Provide all relevant materials used for national CEPA to the Ramsar Bureau.</p> <p>Develop CEPA materials on specific and wider issues (in co-operation with private sector).</p> <p>Communicate with Ministry of Education and State Pedagogical Institute on review the formal education curricula.</p> <p>Establish education wetland education centre in at least 2 wetland sites.</p> <p>Co-operate with universities, museums, botanical gardens and 6 environmental centers of the Slovak Environmental Agency and others managed by NGOs.</p> <p>Ensure participation in the Wetland Link International network.</p> <p>Co-operate with Department responsible on financial supports of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding Ramsar Outreach Programme.</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.i.ii.- Integrate wetland CEPA into all relevant regional (where applicable), national, catchment and local wetland and other appropriate sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes, such as those for biodiversity conservation, water management, fisheries, poverty reduction, etc.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

CEPA strategy is planned to be developed until 2006 according Action Plan for the period 2003 – 2007 of updated Wetland Management Programme of Slovakia approved in 2000.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ³

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.II. Demonstrate that CEPA processes are effective in achieving Ramsar's wetland wise use objectives at the global, national and local levels

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

³ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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Action r9.ii.i.- Develop pilot projects to evaluate a range of approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands, in particular involving those who make a direct use of wetland resources

1. Pilot projects have been developed to evaluate different approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Some activities were run during this triennium period.

Educational programme “White Stork” was prepared by SOVS, book for teachers were distributed to the several schools. Also website for the public <http://www.bociany.sk> was available.

Action r9.ii.ii.- Review existing CEPA programmes and case studies and document the lessons learned regarding effective approaches from these experiences.

1. A review of existing CEPA programmes has been completed

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Lessons learnt in implementing CEPA programmes have been documented

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on implementation of CEPA programmes and information available.]

-

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁴

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.III. Provide national leadership, networks and cohesive frameworks to support and catalyse CEPA for the wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.iii.i.- Contracting Parties (as requested by Resolution VII.9) are urged as a matter of priority to appoint suitably qualified persons to fulfil the roles of national government and non-government Focal Points for wetland CEPA, and to advise the Ramsar Bureau of the persons fulfilling these roles and their contact details.

⁴ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar’s Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

1. A National Government Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
2. A National NGO Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	B	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information about Government CEPA and NGO CEPA Focal Points].		
A National Government and a National NGO Focal Points for wetland CEPA have been established by 2004.		

Action r9.iii.ii.- Establish a national *Wetland CEPA Task Force* (if no other mechanisms exist for this purpose), ensuring suitable stakeholder and NGO representation, to undertake a review of needs, skills, expertise and options, and to set priorities for the implementation of this programme of work.

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

Action r9.iii.iii.- Formulate, drawing upon the *Additional Guidance on reviewing and action planning for wetland communication, education and public awareness (CEPA)* developed for this purpose, a national (and, where appropriate, sub-national, catchment or local) action plan for wetland CEPA which incorporates the conclusions to emerge from Action r9.iii.ii above, and provide a copy of this to the Ramsar Convention Bureau so that it can be made available to other Parties and interested organizations and individuals. (The Additional Guidance document is available in hard copy from the Bureau and in html at http://ramsar.org/outreach_reviewsactionplansI.htm)

1. A National Action Plan for wetland CEPA has been developed	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
CEPA strategy is planned to be developed until 2006 in updated Wetland Management Programme of Slovakia and in Action Plan for the period 2003 – 2007.		

Action r9.iii.iv.- Review and, where appropriate, integrate wetland CEPA into the business of national wetland, biodiversity, forestry, agriculture, irrigation, power generation, mining, tourism, and fisheries committees, and other relevant policy and planning committees where they exist.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into the business of sectoral policy and planning committees	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

Action r9.iii.v.- As part of undertaking actions r9.iii.ii, r9.iii.iii and r9.iii.iv, ensure that attention is given to the efficiency and effectiveness of communication and information-sharing systems between relevant government ministries, departments and agencies, and where necessary develop mechanisms to address any shortcomings.

1. Actions have been taken in relation to communication and information-sharing on wetland issues between relevant ministries, departments and agencies	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We take actions in relation to communication and information-sharing on wetland issues between ministries, departments by the means of the cooperation in Slovak Ramsar Committee.

Action r9.iii.vi.- Collaborate globally and nationally to encourage synergy with the CEPA activities under other international conventions and programmes, including the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme*.

1. Actions have been taken to encourage synergies on CEPA activities among international conventions and programmes

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We are working on establishment of synergies between Slovak national MaB Committee and Slovak Commission on Biological Diversity.

Action r9.iii.vii.- Establish and maintain an on-line searchable listing of expertise in CEPA and of the CEPA Focal Points, one which can be accessed to assist CEPA activities at national and international levels, and promote this service to assist CEPA programmes and activities.

1. A roster (or equivalent tool) on wetland CEPA expertise in the country is available

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁵

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.IV. Transfer, exchange and share CEPA information and expertise that promotes and results in the wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

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Action r9.iv.iii.- Continue to produce, distribute and share resource materials to support wetland CEPA actions

⁵ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

1. Materials to support wetland CEPA have been produced and distributed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Offer lists for children and teachers were prepared by School of Nature Conservation Varin (Educational Centre) of the SNC http://www.soprs.sk/varin/ .		

Action r9.iv.iv.- Maintain, and seek to expand, the Ramsar global e-mail networks to include Ramsar Administrative Authorities, Ramsar national wetland CEPA Focal Points, CEPA professionals, Ramsar site managers, those facilities dedicated to environmental education and awareness raising, and local stakeholders. Establish and support similar national e-groups and the linking of these with the global network.

1. A national email network on wetland CEPA has been established	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
We have established national email network on wetland CEPA including Ramsar Administrative Authorities, Ramsar national wetland CEPA Focal Point, Ramsar site managers, those facilities dedicated to environmental education and awareness raising.		

Action r9.iv.v.- Promote and seek to resource the coordination of the *Wetland Link International* programme of the *Wildfowl & Wetland Trust*, UK, in order to allow it to assist wetland education centres to create a global network and national centres of excellence for promoting CEPA, and to facilitate information exchange between centres in developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are part of the Wetland Link International Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK (if available, please include number of centres or facilities)	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are part of the Wetland Link International Programme, and any other comments you consider relevant.]			
We planned to search possibility to include Environmental Educational Centres and NGO centres to Wetland Link International Programme.			

Action r9.iv.vi.- Promote and seek to resource the twinning of wetland education centres to encourage the exchange and transfer of information and expertise between centres in developed countries and those in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are twinned with similar facilities in other countries (if available, please include number of centres or facilities)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres 0
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are twinned with similar ones in other countries, and further comments you consider relevant.]			
-			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁶

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.V. Improve the individual and collective capacity and opportunities of people to participate in and contribute to using wetlands wisely, through the recognition of the values of wetland resources

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

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Action r9.v.i.- Review the current national needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA, including in relation to the establishment and operations of wetland education centres (see Operational Objective r9.viii) and use this to define capacity-building priorities within the national wetland CEPA action plan (see Action r9.iii.iii)

1. A review of needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA has been completed

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action r9.v.ii.- In collaboration with Ramsar's International Organization Partners, identify sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA in order to facilitate the sharing of expertise and knowledge at the local, national, regional and global levels.

1. Sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA have been identified

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action r9.v.iii.- Seek resources through appropriate mechanisms to support the capacity building identified as priorities through Action r9.v.i, ensuring that key groups such as women and indigenous and rural communities are not overlooked.

1. Resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA have been sought

F

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. Progress in obtaining resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA has been made

C

⁶ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the activities for resourcing capacity building in wetland CEPA.]*

-

Action r9.v.iv.- Review formal educational curricula to ensure that they are incorporating information on the ecosystem services provided by wetlands, promoting the wise use principle, and recognizing the importance of CEPA in pursuing the objective of wise use.

1. A review of formal educational curricula in relation to wetland services and wise use has been carried out

F

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;

F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]*

-

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁷

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VI. Foster sustained national campaigns, programmes and projects to raise community awareness of the important ecosystem services provided by wetlands as well as their social, economic and cultural values

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

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Action r9.vi.i.- Undertake national campaigns, programmes or projects to raise awareness, build community support, and promote stewardship approaches and attitudes towards wetlands.

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

In 2004 – 2005 we organized the Exhibition on Wetlands in Slovakia and displayed it in different places in the Slovakia. Several activities within WWD were organised each year (excursions, public discussions, presentations in schools, articles in magazines, prepared press release to media).

Action r9.vi.ii.- Celebrate *World Wetlands Day* with appropriate national and local events and promotions and the distribution of resource materials, in order to raise awareness of wetland values and functions

⁷ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

1. World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]

Several lectures were carried out by the Administration of High Tatras NP in cooperation with the firm of NEUSIEDLER SCP about the water pollution. The exhibition “ the Wetlands of Tatra Valley” connected with lectures were organized for basic schools. The State Nature Conservancy of SR in Prešov has prepared the lecture “Wetlands and Amphibians” for elementary schools. The exhibition “Protect frogs” was organized by the Administration of Malá Fatra NP. There was a student conference about the wetlands and stork in 2002 and in 2003 there was an exhibition on Ramsar Convention prepared by the Administration of Veľká Fatra NP. In 2004 the Administration of Ponitrie PLA organized lecture about Ramsar Convention for 150 students of secondary schools in Nitra town. A special pannel “ The Wetlands in Štiavnické vrchy PLA” was displayed in different schools in Banská Štiavnica town. Also regional and district environmental offices (based on county units), Slovak Caves Administration, Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology and NGOs have been organized various actions.

Action r9.vi.iii.- Collaborate with the media to inform decision-makers and the broader society about the values and benefits of wetlands.

1. Collaboration with the media has been systematically used to convey the wetland message	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovak Radio, magazines, national and regional newspapers are regularly used information of public about the values and benefits of wetlands and different events organized in this matter.

Action r9.vi.iv.- Promote appropriate *Wetlands of International Importance* as ‘demonstration sites’ for Ramsar’s wise use principle and ensure that they are suitably equipped in terms of capacity, signage, and interpretive materials.

1.- Actions have been taken to promote and equip Ramsar site(s) as demonstration sites for the wise use principle (if available, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) equipped, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

All Ramsar Sites have signposts with names, area, year of inclusion to the List and short text of importance. In some RSs are established educational trails, cycling educational routes, educational panells/boards.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁸

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VII. Support and develop mechanisms to ensure that CEPA processes are incorporated into participatory, multi-stakeholder wetland management

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⁸ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar’s Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:		A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.vii.iii.- Ensure that multi-stakeholder bodies are in place to guide and inform catchment/river basin and local wetland-related planning and management, and that these bodies include appropriate expertise in CEPA.

1. CEPA expertise has been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management tools

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

International Danube Day is organized on June 29, 2004 each year. Various actions connecting to river basin have been prepared also in Slovakia.

Action r9.vii.v.- Where they do not already exist, introduce into site management plans the appropriate strategies and actions for complementary communication, education and public awareness

1.- CEPA strategies and actions have been incorporated into the management plans of Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites
13**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

CEPA actions are planned in management plans of all Ramsar Sites according new guidelines.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁹

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VIII. Promote and support the role of wetland and other education centres as focal points for global, national and local CEPA efforts

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:		A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	See R9.I.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	See R9.I.	

⁹ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.viii.i.- Seek to establish education centres at Ramsar and other wetland sites to provide focal points for local and national CEPA activities.

1.- Education centres have been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres established and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Education centre have been established by the Daphne NGO in the Morava River floodplain Ramsar Site. Partly some educational centres of Slovak Environmental Agency and School on Nature Protection of SNC are covering CEPA activities on wetlands.			
3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres planned and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
A Wetland Centre is being established for the Turiec Wetlands Ramsar Site , Poiplie RS, etc.			

Action r9.viii.ii.- Where wetland education centres exist, review the information they present and ensure that it is serving to promote in suitable ways the *Ramsar Convention* and its wise use principle, and also that the centres are helping to foster communication and, where appropriate, participation, among the local wetland management 'actors' and stakeholders

1. The information provided at wetland education centres has been reviewed to ensure that it is in line with the Convention's principles and goals	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Education centre which have been established in the Morava River floodplain Ramsar Site is run by the Daphne NGO. The representatives of this NGO are closely cooperating with the State Nature Conservancy of SR, Ministry of Environment of the SR in issues dealing with conservation of wetlands. The Head of Daphne NGO is a member of Slovak Ramsar Committee.		

Action r9.viii.iv.- Seek to involve suitable places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens and related institutions) in national CEPA efforts; encourage the development of wetland-related interpretative exhibits and programmes at such venues, and facilitate linkages with wetland-based centres. (see also Operational Objective R9.v).

1.- Places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens, etc.) are involved in national CEPA efforts and activities (<i>if available, please include number of facilities</i>)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F=</i> <i>Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other</i> <i>status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° facilities
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the facilities involved in national CEPA efforts and activities, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Regional museums are used for exhibitions, lectures and other activities related to wetlands (e.g. Slovak			

National Museum – Turiec Museum of Andrej Kmet in Martin), staff members of the Botanical garden of the Comenius University in Blatnica are involved in education activities, and Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology also.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.1. Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Handbook 7)

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		National targets for Ramsar site networks updated. National targets developed in the line with guidelines and priorities. At least one Ramsar site designated or extended. Harmonized management regimes established in at least two trans-boundary Ramsar sites and developed in at least two others (on the borders with Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Austria). Annual contribution to Wetlands International and IUCN paid. Data on birds and other taxa populations in wetlands compiled.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		Update national targets for Ramsar site network based on new results of the national wetlands inventory. Use guidelines and priorities in developing new targets. Consider designation of not protected sites as Ramsar site. Cooperate with Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Austria and the Czech Republic in establishing harmonized management regime in relevant Ramsar sites. Co-operate with Wetlands International, Birdlife and IUCN. Continue implementation of bird censuses and other species research.

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 10.1.1.- Renew efforts to apply the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the Ramsar List* (Resolution VII.11) including, as a matter of priority the establishment of a strategy and priorities for the further designation of Ramsar sites so as to achieve, as soon as possible, the coherent national networks called for in the Vision for the List. (Resolution VIII.10).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Report on implementation progress to the Ramsar Bureau by 31 December 2003, with consolidated Bureau report circulated to all Parties by 31 March 2004. Each CP which has not designated a Ramsar site since accession to the Convention to have designated at least one new site. Designation of a further 55 million ha and 250 Ramsar sites, as progress towards global targets of 2500 sites and 250 million ha by 2010.

1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Inventory of wetlands in Slovakia was realized during the period 1991 – 2000. From 1991 – 1993 the mapping was done mainly by the members of the Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Protectors. In 1994 – 1996 the network of mappers was enlarged to nearly the entire area of Slovakia. From 1997-1999, the data about the

previously registered and reviewed wetlands were completed. During the inventory of wetlands in 1990 – 1999, 11 sites were designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance, 4 more sites of international importance have been identified. Since 1999 only 2 wetlands were designated to above mentioned List, during triennium only Tisa River Ramsar Site was designated in December 2004. By COP9 one more Ramsar Site (Demánovská cave system) is planned to designate.

As a result of further wetland mappings (Mapping of NATURA 2000 sites, grasslands, peatlands, IPAs, IBAs, winter waterfowl census in Slovakia) the designation of other sites to the List is planned to prepare.

Action r10.1.i.- Identify all wetlands which potentially qualify for designation as Ramsar sites, as a concrete output of the strategy and priorities called for in Action 10.1.1, establish targets for future designation in terms of number of sites to be designated, and communicate these targets to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to the Ramsar Bureau. (Resolution VIII.10)

See action 1.1.2

1. All potential Ramsar sites have been identified and targets for future designations have been defined.

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Some potential Ramsar Sites have been identified during National wetland Inventory and further inventories. As a result of further inventories covering also wetland mapping (mapping of NATURA 2000 sites, grasslands, peatlands, IPAs, IBAs, winter waterfowl census in Slovakia) the designation of other sites to the List is planned to prepare.

Action r10.1.ii.- Use the appropriate 1% thresholds contained in *Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition* in identifying and designating *Wetlands of International Importance* under Criterion 6 of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Resolution VIII.11). (Resolution VIII.38)

1.- The appropriate 1% thresholds contained in *Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition* have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 (*if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6*)

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes;

C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status

(explain below); I = No answer

N°
Ramsar
sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and any other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]

Since COP8 Slovakia has designated 1 Ramsar site to the List of Wetlands of International Importance and it was not designated under Criterion 6.

There is plan with SOVS to evaluate other sites on information base and Ramsar criteria from inventories and monitorings of several areas and winter waterfowl census (e.g. enlargement of some RSs were identified include meadows near Senne – fishponds, Hrusov reservoir and other parts to include to Danube floodplains RS, etc.).

Action 10.1.2.- In undertaking Action 10.1.1, give priority attention to the designation sites for each representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory of a Contracting Party, as well as to wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List, including, inter alia, karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, salt marshes, tidal flats, peatlands, wet grasslands, temporary pools, arid-zone wetlands and mountain wetlands (Resolution VIII.12), and in so doing apply the guidelines so far approved by the COP to assist in the designation of some of these wetland types (Resolutions VIII.11 and VIII.33), and report on progress to COP9.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory has been done <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</u>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
Based on the Inventory of Wetlands in Slovakia 1 wetland was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Tisa River, 2004, 735 ha) since COP8. As Ramsar Site is planned to designate karst and subterranean hydrological system of Demanovska cave system by COP 9.			
3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</u>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
As Ramsar Site is planned to designate karst and subterranean hydrological system of Demanovska cave system by COP 9.			

Action 10.1.3.- Give priority to the designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites, as a contribution to the WSSD target of establishing representative networks of marine protected areas by 2012.¹⁰

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites has been done <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</u>.	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites -
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Not applicable.			

Action 10.1.4.- In addition to the priority established in 10.1.2, also assign priority to the designation as Ramsar sites of wetlands hosting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic to the territory of a Contracting Party or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation of Ramsar sites supporting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic, or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species, has been done <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</u>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Tisa River (2004, 735 ha) was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance under Criterion 2. This Ramsar site supports globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic. (Species vulnerable in IUCN Red list: Corn crake <i>Crex crex</i> , Geoffroy's bat <i>Myotis emarginatus</i> , Sterlet <i>Acipenser ruthenus</i>).			

¹⁰ In line with Articles 1.1 and 2.1 of the Convention, which include as Ramsar wetlands areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres, and indicates that Ramsar sites may "incorporate islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands."

Action r10.1.iv.- Collaborate in the identification and designation as Ramsar sites of national and international site networks for migratory species, including migratory waterbirds, as a contribution to other initiatives under related international and regional environmental conventions and programmes, including, *inter alia*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements such as the *African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement (AEWA)*, and other existing arrangements such as the *North American Waterfowl Management Plan*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*. (Resolution VIII.10)

See action 12.2.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that form part of networks for migratory species has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	C	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 0
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
-			

Action 10.1.5.- Designate, as a priority, those eligible sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, as the basis for accelerating the establishment of such regimes, and ensure that this is done soon after designation.

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	B	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Tisa River (2004, 735 ha) was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance since COP8. This Ramsar site is not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime. It is only in 1 st level of protection (as whole Slovakia). Protection measures and management is planned to reach by cooperation with landowners and also by using financial contributions, etc.			

Action 10.1.6.- Consistent with the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), designate the national area of transboundary wetlands as a Ramsar site and invite the concerned neighboring country(ies) to do likewise, with a view to establishing a harmonized management regime for the entire wetland.

1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of the national area of transboundary wetlands has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	B	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Tisa River (2004, 735 ha) was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance since COP8. It is a national area of transboundary wetland with Hungary (Romania and Ukraine were encouraged to plan designation).			

Action r10.1.v.- Identify additional high Andean wetlands for inclusion in the *List of Wetlands of International Importance*. (Resolution VIII.39)

1.- High Andean wetlands have been designated as Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	A	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites -
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Not applicable.

Action r10.1.xi.- Develop, for consideration by COP9, additional Criteria and guidelines for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites concerning their socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity, as listed in Annex 1 of the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, which would be applied on each occasion in conjunction with one or more existing Criteria for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites; and include in this work a full analysis of the implications for Contracting Parties of the implementation of such Criteria for the management of Ramsar sites, including Contracting Party obligations and responsibilities for maintaining the ecological character of any sites so selected in order to ensure that the coherent national networks of Ramsar sites fully incorporate all relevant aspects of the biological diversity of wetlands. (Resolution VIII10)

1. The Party has contributed to the elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action r10.1.xviii.- [The STRP has been asked to] review . . . the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, including their use by aquatic and other water-dependent biota, and prepare guidance for Contracting Parties concerning the identification and designation of such wetlands for the Ramsar List, taking into account the experience gained by Parties that have already done so. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. The Party's experience with the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, and lessons learned, have been communicated to the STRP for inclusion in its review

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action 10.1.8.- Continue to support the work of *Wetlands International* and others in the updating for each COP of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations for the application of Criterion 6 for Ramsar site designation, having first undertaken international scientific consultation on its contents; seek to provide such population information for other wetland-dependent taxa; and apply this information for the designation of Ramsar sites. (Refer also to Operational Objective 12.2.)

1. Contributions have been made to the updating of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made.]

SOVS (Society for Bird Protection in Slovakia) NGO is Partner of BirdLife International in Slovakia and member of Slovak Ramsar Committee has supported the work of Wetlands International in the updating the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations for the application of Criterion 6 for Ramsar site designation through providing information on populations.

3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information provided.]</i>		
-		

Action r10.1.xxi.- Assist *Wetlands International* and *BirdLife International* through the continued collection and supply of population data on waterbirds, including globally threatened species and those species identified by *BirdLife International* in *Threatened Birds of the World* as being data deficient. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>
2. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data	B	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]</i>		
<p>SOVS (Society for Bird Protection in Slovakia) NGO (and partly SNC administrations) has collected regularly population data on waterbirds. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International. This data included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data.</p> <p>Ministry is planning to support the work of Wetlands International in the updating the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations.</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.2. Maintain the Ramsar Sites Database and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A = High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A = Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Ramsar Information Sheets and maps of all Ramsar sites updated and improved.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Improve maps and data of all Ramsar sites and regularly review Ramsar Information Sheets and maps. Recognize newly social and cultural values of listed sites.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 10.2.2.- Ensure that the social and cultural values and features of listed sites are fully recognized in the descriptions of Ramsar sites in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*, as the basis for their incorporation in site management planning.

1. Special care has been taken to include the social and cultural values and features in the 'Information Sheets on Ramsar Wetlands' submitted for inclusion in the Ramsar Database	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Tisa River (2004, 735 ha) was designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance since COP8. Concerning social and cultural values the site is important for landscape values, nature conservation, for legal fishing, regulated recreation, hunting, pastoral agriculture. The other RIS of all RSs is being updated with information of social and cultural values.

Action 10.2.3.- Submit missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites as a matter of utmost urgency, and also ensure that all previously submitted site descriptions are in the format of the approved *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

1. All missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We have sent all Ramsar Information Sheets of Ramsar sites to the Ramsar Bureau. Nevertheless RIS of all RSs is being updated and will be sent to Bureau by COP 9.

Action 10.2.4.- Fully update and submit revised *Ramsar Information Sheets* as frequently as necessary to record changes in the status of sites, and at least at intervals of not more than six years, so that they can be used for reviewing change in ecological character and progress in achieving the Vision and Objectives of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Handbook 7) at each COP.

1. All required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau

G

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We have prepared updated Ramsar Information Sheets on all Ramsar sites in Slovakia and we will submit it to the Secretariat of Ramsar Convention before the Conference of parties will be held.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.1. Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>New guidelines adopted and used for management plans of all Ramsar sites. Ramsar Information Sheets amended. Management plans developed/adjusted for all Ramsar sites by 2005. Management plans of Ramsar sites improved (with possible using knowledge and information from other sites). Information distributed in Slovak language. Zoning of wetlands set up in guidelines and in practice as appropriate. Sensitive wetlands protected. Seek funds for the Small Grants Fund.</p>	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Adopt and use new national guidelines for management of sites of international importance.</p> <p>Include information required in the Ramsar Information Sheets of all Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Develop Management Plans for all Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Study experience and use information on sites whose management plans and implementation fully meet the Ramsar management planning guidelines and use it in national planning processes.</p> <p>Distribute the information.</p> <p>Include wetlands zoning in the national guidelines and use it in large Ramsar sites and reserves.</p> <p>Add new sensitive sites in a network of protected areas.</p> <p>Co-operate with Department responsible on financial issues of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding.</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 11.1.1.- Consistent with Article 3.1 of the Convention, define and apply the measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, using as the basis for this the official definitions of “ecological character” and “change in ecological character” adopted by Resolution VII.10 and the integrated package of Convention tools for site management as presented in Ramsar Handbook 8 as well as the supplementary guidance adopted by COP8, and ensure that this information is included in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

1.- The measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined and applied (if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied).	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 12
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of sites involved and any additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
The State Nature Conservancy of SR is developing management plans for Natura 2000 sites. Except the Tisa River all Ramsar sites are overlapped with proposed Natura 2000 sites. Management plans for all Ramsar sites will contain such measures which will maintain the ecological character of the site. For Tisa is being planned to prepare management plan separately.			

Action 11.1.2.- Apply the Convention’s *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) to develop management plans or strategies for all Ramsar sites.

1. The New Guidelines for management planning have been used in the development of management plans or strategies	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]		
The State Nature Conservancy is developing the Metodology guidelines of the elaboration of management plans for Internationally important sites which includes the principles of New Guidelines for management planning.		
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES		N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place		2
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied		0
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared		11
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated		0

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES	N° Ramsar sites
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites whose management plans fall under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant.]	
-	

Action r11.1.i.- When reviewing and updating existing management plans, recognize that other management planning processes exist, especially where other designations apply to the same areas that are listed as Ramsar sites, and that these may be valid alternatives for delivering management planning where such approaches adequately and fully implement clearly stated conservation objectives to ensure the conservation and wise use of these wetlands. (Resolution VIII.14)

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES (CONT.)	N° Ramsar sites
1.- Ramsar sites in which management plans developed under other processes (e.g., Biosphere Reserves) are being applied	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]	
In some Ramsar sites which are at the same time on the list of proposed Natura 2000 sites (Turiec Wetlands, Morava River floodplain) pilot management plans are being prepared in a framework of the Phare Twinning project on implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives (Slovak – German project).	

Action r11.1.ii.- Utilize all the available Ramsar tools and guidance to assist in management planning processes, including *inter alia* the description and maintenance of ecological character and designing a monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1); the wetland risk assessment and indicators (Resolution VII.10); the guidance on impact assessment (Resolution VIII.9) and on wetland restoration, including identification of sites appropriate for restoration (Resolution VIII.16); and, where appropriate, the *Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands* (Resolution VIII.17). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The full array of Ramsar tools and guidance have been used in the development or updating of management plans for wetland sites	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The most of Ramsar tools and guidance to assist management planning process have been utilised.		

Action r11.1.iii.- Take note of the emphasis in the *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) on ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders in all stages of the management planning process, and utilize the guidelines adopted by Resolution VII.8 on *Establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook no. 5) and the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* annexed to Resolution VIII.19 to assist in this process. (Resolution VIII.14)

1. All stakeholders have been fully involved in the management planning processes	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
All Administrations of the State Nature Conservancy which are responsible for management of protected Ramsar sites and Natura 2000 sites established committees of main stakeholders which are involved in management planning processes. In each administration have been established regional Natura 2000 information centre (together 25 centres).		

Action r11.1.iv.- Take into account, when planning the management of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, the wider management implications of activities within river basins and other catchments, which duly acknowledge the need for appropriate implementation of agricultural practices (Resolution VIII.34), applying Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook no. 4), and the guidance adopted by COP8 on integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4) and on the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The wider management implications (e.g., agricultural practices, river basin management, coastal zone management) have been taken into account in preparing the management plans for Ramsar sites

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In preparation of some Management plans for Ramsar sites (also in Natura 2000 sites) to avoid negative wider implications, measures for nature protection were proposed with consultancy with farmers.

There are planned activities in future programming period of Rural Development Plan to create coherence between approaches of nature conservation and agriculture sectors and to establish closer cooperation, which means that in preparation of management plans also special subsidies from RDP and compensations and financial contributions from state budget are possible.

In harmony with WFD there will be prepared river basin management plans which have to incorporate wetland protection and conservation.

Action r11.1.v.- Include in each management plan for a Ramsar site an objective of maintenance of the ecological character of the site so as to provide a basis for implementation of Article 3.1 of the Convention, in recognition that this greatly facilitates the identification, reporting and resolution of changes in ecological character (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2). (Resolution VIII.8)

1.- Measures to maintain ecological character have been incorporated into the site management plans (if available, please include number of sites)

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites
13**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The State Nature Conservancy of SR is developing management plans for Natura 2000 sites. Except Tisa River Ramsar site all Ramsar sites are overlapped with proposed Natura 2000 sites. Management plans for all Ramsar sites will contain such measures which will maintain the ecological character of the site.

Action r11.1.vi.- Manage wetlands so as to increase their resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events, and reduce the risk of flooding and drought in vulnerable countries by, *inter alia*, promoting wetland and watershed protection and restoration (refer also to Operational Objective 4.1). (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The need to increase wetland resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events has been taken into account in management planning

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We tried to solve problems connected to distribution of water in Senné – fishponds Ramsar site, where problems are during the dry summers and the project on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of Senné – fishponds Ramsar site in order to increase wetland resilience to climate changes and extreme climatic events has been developed.

(See also information in the report on Laborec-Uh UNDP/GEF project: Action r15.1.iii.).

Action r11.1.vii.- Apply waterbird monitoring data, and analyses drawn from them, when appropriate, as a means of providing objective information for site management planning and the evaluation of national or regional wetland policies. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Waterbird data and analysis derived from them have been used in management planning

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There are few management plans already prepared and approved in areas with bird subject of protection. SNC and SOVS are institutions which coordinate this management planning work.

During the triennium SOVS coordinated many projects on Ramsar Sites management focused on bird protection, e. g. projects focused on black storks in Orava region (Ciconia Foundation, Luxembourg, 2001 - 2005), white storks and other waterfowl species in Pariz marshes, Danube floodplains, Senne fishponds (where SOVS made improvements of the status of management plan preparation). There are many small projects coordinated by branch offices, e.g. Zitavsky luh NNR, Oravská priehrada [Orava reservoir] (part of RS Wetlands of Orava basin) because of changes in water level (as in many reservoirs) nesting of waterfowls in littoral zone in flooded areas is not possible, therefore have been prepared 7 floating nests for Sterna, Larus ridibundus (in 2002).

Action r11.1.x.- With the support of Contracting Parties and IOPs, the Ramsar Bureau should identify agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites, and contribute this information to the preparation of the guidelines as requested in Action r11.1.ix and share this information with the secretariats of CBD and the *Convention to Combat Desertification* (CCD). (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Assistance has been provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Assistance was not fully provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices.

After preparation of Trilateral Ramsar Site Morava-Dyje using “Common objectives and principles for establishment of the management plans for the trilateral region – Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence” (which has been endorsed at the last Trilateral Ramsar Platform) will be possible provide further information.

Some of the practices are listed in book “Wet meadows ...” translated from English origin “The Wet Grassland Guide: Managing floodplain and coastal wet grasslands for wildlife”.

Action r11.1.xii.- Identify examples of effective management and exemplary models at Ramsar sites and other wetlands for listing on the *San José Record* and submit nominations for consideration through the approved procedure, once established. (Resolution VIII.15)

1.- Best-practice examples of effective management of Ramsar sites have been identified for possible nomination to the San José Record (if applicable, please include number of sites)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites
0**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites identified and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action 11.1.4.- Promote, as necessary, the establishment and implementation of zoning measures for larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves, and other wetlands (Recommendation 5.3 and Resolution VIII.14) and strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3).

1.- Zoning measures have been established for larger Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 2
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]			
During detailed specification of the borders of the Ramsar sites and protected areas of the Turiec Wetlands and the Wetlands of Orava Basin a strictly protected zones (reserves) and lower level of protection zones (buffer zone of the reserve) were applied and submitted to the environment authority for approval.			
3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity (if available, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 2
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with strict protection measures, and any additional comments you may consider relevant.]			
The Paríž marches (184 ha) and Senné fishponds (425 ha) are the Ramsar sites of the smallest size in Slovakia. Both of them are the National Nature Reserves and they are under the highest level of protection (5 th level). Strict protection measures have been established for these Ramsar sites under the Act.no. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection.			

Action 11.1.5.- Consider as a matter of priority the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, involving relevant government agencies, local community representatives, and other stakeholders, including the business sector.

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	B		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]			
All administrations of the State Nature Conservancy which are responsible for management of protected Ramsar sites and Natura 2000 sites established committees of main stakeholders in 2003 – 2004.			

Action r11.1.xiv.- Give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale; and give priority to projects addressing these issues in the future operation of the *Small Grants Fund*. (Resolution VIII.10)

1. Actions have been taken to develop coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management as a tool for combating poverty	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Support to development of the coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management in the Carpathian region (7 countries) was included in the Carpathian Wetland Initiative and project on Network of Carpathian Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites funded in 2003-2004 by the Slovak and Norwegian governments.

3 twinnings are run by Trilateral Ramsar Platform in Morava – Dyje floodplain (NGOs, state institutions, etc. from Czech Republic, Austria and the Slovak Republic), Turiec (Slovakia) – Lafnitzal (Austria), Danube floodplains RS (Slovakia) within NGO BROZ – Donau-Auen NP (Austria).

(see Action 14.1.3.)

Action 11.1.6.- Continue to give high priority in the *Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund* to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.

1. Project proposals to support management planning of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovakia has submitted to the Ramsar's Small Grants Fund in 2003 following projects (not financed):

- 1) Promotion of sustainable management and public awareness in Danube floodplains Ramsar site,
- 2) Wetland of the crossborder region Gemer – Turňa,
- 3) Wise use of Wetlands of the Orava Basin Ramsar site.

Action r11.1.xv.- Take into account the *General guidance for interpreting "urgent national interest" under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention* (Resolution VIII.20) when invoking the right under Article 2.5 and considering compensation in those cases where the boundaries of sites included in the Ramsar List are restricted or a Ramsar site is deleted from the List. (Resolution VIII.20)

1.- Article 2.5 of the Convention has been invoked to reduce the area of Ramsar sites and/or to delete sites from the List, and Article 4.2 (compensation) has been applied (if applicable, please include number of sites)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites
0**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

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OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.2. Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Bureau without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems

[Go to previous Operational Objective](#)

[Go to next Operational Objective](#)

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Monitoring program established in the site management plans of all Ramsar sites. Partial Monitoring System – Biota extended to all Ramsar sites. Ensure that at Ramsar sites all of proposed developments or changes in territorial	

	<p>and/or water use are assessed using common tools including Environmental Impact Assessment (the process EIA is established by the Law and has its framework).</p> <p>Proposal for inclusion of the Danube floodplains Ramsar Site to the Montreaux Record submitted to the Ramsar Bureau, request for Ramsar Advisory Mission for Danube floodplains Ramsar Site sent to Ramsar Bureau, improved the management of Danube floodplains Ramsar Site according to recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Mission.</p>
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Include monitoring program in the site management plans of all Ramsar sites using the framework for designing an effective monitoring program.</p> <p>Permanently support research activities in Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Extend existing national Partial Monitoring System – Biota for all Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Regulate developments or changes in territorial and/or water use through statements of nature conservancy, transparent decision-making and other administrative proceedings at all Ramsar sites.</p> <p>In cases of activities those are subject to EIA Act assess the impacts on wetlands.</p> <p>In cases that EIA shows significant adverse changes in ecological character of the Ramsar sites may occur, send the information to the Ramsar Bureau.</p> <p>Finalize basic information and data necessary for inclusion of the Danube Floodplains and/or other sites in Montreaux Record, request the Ramsar Advisory Mission to the Danube Floodplains Ramsar Site and after providing Ramsar Advisory Mission implement recommendations and remedial measures, and regularly report to the Ramsar Bureau on the progress made.</p>

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 11.2.1.- Establish for each Ramsar site an effective monitoring programme, ideally as part of the site management plan, which is designed to detect and provide early warning of changes in ecological character. In so doing, use the Convention's framework for designing an effective monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1) and its *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10) (Ramsar Handbook 8).

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Monitoring programmes have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites falling under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant about monitoring programmes.]</i>			
<p>A monitoring programme is under development in the Turiec Wetlands Ramsar Site as a part of the site management plan. There is regular winter mapping of waterfowl in all Ramsar sites. The monitoring of groundwater level is carried out in the Wetlands of Orava Basin, Sur, the Turiec Wetlands and the Morava River floodplain Ramsar sites. The monitoring of fish fauna is regularly done in the Orava River and Morava River floodplain and Poiplie Ramsar sites. The monitoring of health state of peatlands is carried out in the Wetlands of Orava Basin Ramsar site.</p>			

Action 11.2.2.- Ensure that sites on the Ramsar List are used as baseline and reference areas for national, supranational/regional, and international environmental monitoring to detect trends in the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the processes of desertification (Objective 4.1 of the Objectives for the List (Resolution VII.11), and report on status and trends to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

1.- Ramsar sites are used as baseline and reference areas for national environmental monitoring <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

For example in Tisa basin: Tisa river project within 5th EC Frame Program Energy, environment and sustainable development (RTD project, consortium of 11 institutions, 01/2002 – 12/2004) focused not only on Tisa River, but also on significant part of international basin, in Slovakia including Bodrog, Hornád, Bodva and Slaná Rivers basins. Project have 9 logically followed work packages (WP). Research Institute of Water Management, Bratislava in 2003 continued in monitoring activities for WP7. Aquatic vegetation and eco-hydrological studies of wetlands. On some sites – Latorica River oxbows has been provided monitoring of aquatic vegetation and water quality. Result summary from analyses from 2002 and 2003 with hydrological regime of these oxbows ensured by SHMU Bratislava will served as base for restoration of Latorica River.

3.- Status and trends on the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the process of desertification [Please include a summary of the cited issues and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]

e. g. in proceedings: Šimková, A. (ed.): Ochrana a starostlivosť o medzinárodné mokrade [Protection and management of international wetlands]. Proceedings of the regional seminar, November 28, 2003, in Trebišov (Slovakia). Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky – Správa CHKO Latorica [State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic – Administration of Protected Landscape Area Latorica]. (in Slovak with English summary).

Action 11.2.3.- Ensure that at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character may occur as a result of proposed developments or changes in territorial and/or water use which have potential to affect them, an impact assessment is carried out which considers the full range of environmental, social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau, in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned.

See action 2.2.3

1. Proposed developments that may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been subject to EIAs, and the results communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The some developments may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites (they had been subjects to EIA processes). Proposed developments that may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites were subjects to EIAs. For example 2 projects were assessed by EIA in Morava River floodplain: Water gravel excavation in Vysoká pri Morave village (2002), Construction of Bridge Moravský Sv. Ján – Hohenau (2002 – 2004). Several projects were assessed by EIA concerning the water consumption for artificial snowing in winter resorts in the Turiec wetlands Ramsar site. In Orava River Ramsar sites there were assessed by EIA: projects concerning the construction of the sewage treatment plants in the Dolný Kubín town and the Hôrka pri Poprade village, the building of summer resort “Aquapark Tatralandia”, the construction of small water plant in Studený Potok, etc.

Action r11.2.iv.- Put in place, as a matter of high priority in fulfillment of 3.2 of the Convention, mechanisms in order to be informed at the earliest possible time, including through reports by national authorities and local and indigenous communities and NGOs, if the ecological character of any wetland included in the Ramsar List has changed, is changing or is likely to change. (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Mechanisms have been established to collect information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites in accordance with Article 3.2

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Every Ramsar site has its Ramsar manager who is in charge of collecting information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar site. There will be proposed measures in management plans for Internationally Important

Sites (NATURA 2000 and Ramsar sites) which will ensure that the favourable conservation status of the sites (ecological character) will be not changed and further will be monitor.

Action 11.2.4.- In fulfilment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites “where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur” in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	C		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]</i>			
Sur, Senne – fishponds, Turiec wetlands, Danube floodplains RSs.			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]</i>			
We did not include any Ramsar site in the Montreux Record since COP8.			

Action r11.2.vi.- Utilize all appropriate mechanisms to address and resolve as soon as practicable the matters for which a site may have been the subject of a report pursuant to Article 3.2; and once those matters have been resolved, submit a further report, so that both positive influences at sites and changes in ecological character may be fully reflected in reporting under Article 3.2 and in the reporting to all meetings of the COP in order to establish a clear picture of the status and trends of the Ramsar site network at three-year intervals (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Actions have been taken to address the problems that have originated a report to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the actions taken.]</i>			
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Action 11.2.5.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record* request a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* of independent experts, where appropriate, to review the problems affecting the site and offer recommendations for remedial actions.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: For all sites on the *Montreux Record*, and which have not been subject to a *Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM)*, CPs to request such a Mission prior to COP9.

1.- Ramsar Advisory Missions have been requested to review the problems at Ramsar sites included in the Montreux Record, if any <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 0
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Not applicable.			

Action 11.2.6.- Where a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* has been completed for a *Montreux Record* site, take all necessary steps to implement the recommendations, and report at regular intervals to the Bureau on the results of these actions. At the appropriate time, seek the removal of the site from the *Montreux Record*, having provided the Bureau and STRP with details of the site condition using the approved questionnaire (Ramsar Handbook 7).

<i>(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)</i>			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	0
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A		0
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, comments on RAM missions, results of the actions taken, including possible removal of sites from Montreux Record.]</i>			
Not applicable.			

Action r11.2.viii.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record*, regularly provide the Ramsar Bureau with an update on progress on taking action to address the issues for which these Ramsar sites were listed on the Record, including reporting fully on these matters in National Reports to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Resolution VIII.8)

			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	0
2.- Actions taken to address issues at Montreux Record Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	A		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]</i>			
Not applicable.			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.1. Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Inventory of the shared (and near border) wetlands in trans-border areas included in maps and files. Joint management plans for Poiplic/Ipoly trans-boundary wetlands developed. Nature conservationists fully in contact in the trans-border water commissions. Trilateral Ramsar Platform (in Morava-Dyje Floodplains) working. Ecological Expert Group of International Commission for Protection of the Danube River working.	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Realize detailed wetland inventory in the catchment of the Tisa/Latorica/Bodrog rivers.</p> <p>Establish joint management plan for Poiplie/Ipoly trans-boundary wetland and other transboundary Ramsar Sites.</p> <p>Include conservationists and protected wetlands managers in existing trans-border water commissions, if possible.</p> <p>Support the work of Trilateral Ramsar Platform (in Morava-Dyje Floodplains).</p> <p>Support the work of Ecological Expert Group of International Commission for Protection of the Danube River.</p> <p>Continue in work of preparation and implementation of bilateral agreements.</p> <p>Increase use of information sources and distribution of various project results.</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.1.1.- Identify all wetland systems in each Contracting Party shared with other Parties and with non-parties and promote cooperation in their management with the adjoining jurisdiction(s), applying, where appropriate, the *Guidelines on integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook 4, Section A1 of the Guidelines), and the *Principles and Guidelines for integrating wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)* (Resolution VIII.4).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have identified their transboundary wetlands. 50% of CPs to have identified cooperative management mechanisms.

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified (if applicable, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands/ wetland systems 6
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Since COP8 we designated to the List of Internationally Important Wetlands the Tisa River Transboundary Ramsar site (2004). We cooperate closely with Austrian and Czech colleagues and this year we plan to declare the transboundary Morava-Danube-Dyje wetland Ramsar site. There are also Poiplie, Domica, wetlands of Orava basin which are on the borders.

Action 12.1.2.- Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions. (Section A2 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: 50% of CPs with shared basins and coastal systems to be part of joint management commissions or authorities.

1. Cooperative management of shared wetland systems has progressed	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

We cooperate closely with Austrian and Czech colleagues and we approved of the Common principles for establishment of the management plans for the trilateral Ramsar site.

There is bilateral co-operation on transboundary rivers with all neighbouring countries through (bilateral) transboundary commissions. Topic of wetlands is up to now included partly into agenda only in cooperation between Slovakia and Austria.

On multilateral level (ICPDR deals with wetland conservation, management and restoration. Special expert group was set up for this purpose. Representative of Slovakia is member of this group (see this report on other actions, e.g. Action 2.1.3.).

Action r12.1.i.- Cooperatively apply the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1) within the context of the management of water allocations in shared hydrological systems, making use of the Ramsar *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Convention* (Resolution VII.19).

1. The guidelines for allocation and management of water have been applied in the context of shared water systems

H

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

On the level on transboundary commissions with neighbouring countries expert groups are dealing with specific issues of water management. There are exist bilateral agreements on cooperation on transboundary waters which are dealing of several aspects of water management.

(See 12.1.2.- above)

Action 12.1.3.- Where appropriate, engage in joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries that share wetlands, international river basins, or coastal systems, taking note, where applicable, of the terms of the *Espoo Convention on impact assessment* in a European transboundary context.

See action 2.2.3

1. Joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems

H

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovakia is signed and ratified the Espoo Convention (February 17, 2000). If occurring the proposed activities the joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries will be applied in shared wetland systems.

Action 12.1.4.- Ensure enhanced accessibility to information, analyses, good practice examples, and experience-sharing on integrating wetlands and biodiversity into integrated river basin management, including through the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *River Basin Initiative* fully operational.

1. Actions have been taken to ensure accessibility of information, analysis, good practice examples, etc., on integrating wetlands and biodiversity issues into river basin management

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Some publications and brochures was published and also articles in magazines Danube Watch, Vodne gospodarstvo, Enviromagazin, Zivotne prostredie, XXI. storocie. Ochrana priordy, Chranene uzemia Slovenska, some information also available on internet, e.g. www.icpdr.org/danubis (see 12.1.2.- above).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.2. Promote cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Data on species from Natura 2000 process evaluated and used for review. Possible Ramsar sites identified. A project of networking developed and coordinated. New hunting legislation adopted by the government.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Review data obtained during establishment of Natura 2000 network for identification of possible Ramsar sites. Promote Carpathian and Danube Basin initiatives in networking and co-ordinate the process in State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic. Prepare and adopt new hunting legislation consistent with EU directives and wise use principles.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.2.1.- Identify and designate as Ramsar sites all wetlands which satisfy the relevant Ramsar Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species, giving priority in the first instance to waterbirds, fish, and marine turtles, especially those that are globally threatened. (Section B1 of the Guidelines)

1.- Wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites designated)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =</i> <i>Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 0
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Following wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites (Paríž marches, Senné fishponds, Danube floodplain, Morava River floodplain, Latorica, Rudava River valley, Turiec wetlands, Poiplie, Wetlands of Orava Basin, Orava River and its tributaries), but not in this triennium.			

Action 12.2.2.- Continue to promote and support the development of further regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species, as exemplified by the *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)*, the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and others. (Sections B2 and B4 of the Guidelines)

<i>See action r10.1.iv</i>			
1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
Slovakia has developed NATURA 2000 site network. Special Protected Areas (under the Bird Directive 79/409/EEC) represents cca 25% of the territory of Slovakia. Data collected during this period should be evaluated for the purpose of this action.			

Action 12.2.5.- Ensure that national hunting legislation is consistent with the wise use principle for migratory waterbird and other wetland-dependent species, taking into account geographical range, life-history characteristics of species, and research on sustainable harvesting.

1. National hunting legislation is consistent with wise use principle for wetland-dependent species, including waterbirds	G	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The national hunting legislation (Act no. 23/1962 and Order/Regulation no. 407/2002 on hunting) was several times updates and it consists from principles of wise use for wetland-dependent species. But still there are mistakes that some species are included and lead shots problem is not included in the last proposal. There are also no quotas on waterfowl to ensure wise use.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.3. Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Regional project developed and submitted to the possible funding agencies	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Develop regional arrangements within the Carpathians and Danube River basin	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.3.2.- Encourage development of regional arrangements under the Convention similar to *MedWet*, where appropriate, applying the *Guidance for the development of regional initiatives in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands* (Resolution VIII.30) for example in the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, the Caribbean, South America and the Altaj-Sayansky region.

1. Party has been involved in the development of a regional initiative in the framework of the Convention	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Slovakia initiated in 2004 the Carpathian Wetland Initiative under the both the Carpathian Convention (and its Carpathian Network of Protected Areas) and the Ramsar Convention, organized a workshop in Slovakia and encouraged establishment of a working group which set recommendations for further steps.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13.1. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>Coordinated actions of national advisory bodies of relevant MEAs. Project for coordination of activities in Carpathians and Danube regions with UNESCO support developed. National expert group established and participating in the work of relevant conventions. Response and participate in activities of EU and other European bodies and programs.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Coordinate activities of the Slovak Ramsar Committee and Biodiversity Committee and CMS Scientific Councillor, participate in meetings of their members. Co-operate with UNESCO on development of the coordinated activities and networking within Carpathian region and Danube River Basin. Active participation in the Ecological Expert Group of ICPDR under the Danube River Protection Convention. Participate in wetland related activities of EU and other European bodies and programs.</p>	

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Action 13.1.1.- Continue to strengthen cooperation and synergy with the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements, the *World Heritage Convention*, and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, in particular through the vehicles of Joint Work Plans and collaboration among the respective subsidiary scientific bodies of the conventions and the secretariats, and at national level among the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and Focal Points of the different MEAs.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *3rd CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan* fully implemented. *CMS/AEWA Joint Work Plan* in place and being implemented. Joint activities developed with UNCCD and UNFCCC, including through participation in the Joint Liaison Group with UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD.

See action 18.1.1

1. Mechanisms are in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]

The focal point for Ramsar Convention collaborated with the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements at the level of the Ministry of Environment of SR and the State Nature Conservancy of SR.

Action r13.1.iii.- Make renewed efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, including through ensuring their participation in National Ramsar Committees, so as to foster synergies and harmonization. (Resolution VIII.5)

<i>See action 18.1.2</i>		
1. Amongst other efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, focal points of other MEAs have been encouraged to participate in the National Ramsar / Wetland Committee	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]		
Focal points of other MEAs do not participate in the Slovak Ramsar Committee.		

Action 13.1.2.- Maintain and, where appropriate, seek opportunities to further promote cooperation with UNESCO, in particular its *Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)*, especially as regards wetlands within *Biosphere Reserves*, and in the area of the development of curricula to integrate wetland issues.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the National Committees and contacts of UNESCO MAB Programme	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]		
-		

Action 13.1.3.- Give priority to the implementation of the Memoranda of Cooperation or Understanding with the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)*, the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Mediterranean Sea (Barcelona Convention)*, the *Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea*, other regional seas conventions, and the *Danube River Protection Convention*, and seek to establish similar cooperative arrangements with other regional instruments, such as the *Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of the applicable regional seas conventions	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]		
Not applicable.		

Action 13.1.5.- Develop closer working relationships with appropriate regional bodies or programmes which have an interest in wetland conservation and wise use, including the *Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)*, the *Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)*, the *European Union (EU)*, the *Council of Europe*, the *Southern African Development Community (SADC)*, the *African Union (AU)*, and the *Organization of American States (OAS)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and regional bodies or programmes which have interest in wetland conservation and wise use	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the mechanisms in place.]		
Work is based on personal contacts and collaboration. National report to the "Seminar on the role of ecosystems as water suppliers" was submitted to the Water Convention Secretariat and Ramsar Secretariat in 2004 (prepared joint work of national focal points of mentioned conventions from the Nature and Landscape Protection Department and Water Division).		

Action 13.1.6.- Support and contribute to the development and implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement Africa's Wetland Management Strategy under the Environmental Initiative of NEPAD, *the New Partnership for Africa's Development*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: NEPAD's Action Plan to have fully incorporated Ramsar issues and mechanisms, and being implemented by relevant CPs, in lines with WSSD targets.

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD

A

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action 13.1.7.- Continue to contribute, through the application of Ramsar tools and mechanisms, to the implementation of the *Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Review of Ramsar's contribution to the *Barbados Programme of Action*, as a contribution to the WSSD target.

1. The Party has participated in wetland-related activities within the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

A

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action 13.1.8.- Continue the development and implementation of joint work plans under the Memorandum of Cooperation between the *Ramsar Convention* and the *South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)*

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the Ramsar/SPREP Joint Work Plan

A

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r13.1.vi.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *UNEP Guidelines on Enhancing Compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and on National Enforcement, and International Cooperation in Combating Violations, of Laws Implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements* in enhancing and supporting compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, including the *Ramsar Convention*. (Resolution VIII.24)

1. The Party has made use of the UNEP guidelines in relation to Ramsar

B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Development of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians which includes articles on biodiversity and sustainable water/river basin management was lead by UNEP with active participation of Slovakia and other Carpathian countries.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14.1. Promote the sharing of expertise and information

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Nature conservation professionals and wetland managers trained. Wetland education training organized and done. Twinning of Ramsar sites active in at least two wetlands. Trilateral Ramsar Platform training opportunities developed. Internet-based resource kits used, further developed and communicated. Wetland Expert database used.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Involve STRP focal point and governmental CEPA focal point in a work of the Wetland Centre. Use training opportunities for the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Caves Administration, Ramsar Administrative Authority, district and regional environmental offices, water sector staff members and wetland managers and NGOs. Organize training for wetland educators in co-operation with NGOs. Develop twinning of the Turiec Wetlands Ramsar Site (SK) and Lafnitztal Ramsar Site (A) and within additional other Ramsar Sites, if possible. Develop training opportunities in a framework of the Trilateral Ramsar Platform in the Morava and Dyje catchment. Use and develop Internet-based resource kits, translate and advertise materials. Use the Wetland Expert Database in a work of the Slovak Ramsar Committee and wetland managers.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 14.1.1.- Using mechanisms such as the national focal points for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) and for the STRP, promote the sharing of knowledge (traditional, indigenous, and more recently derived technologies and methods) at the global, regional, and national levels. (Section D1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to share knowledge at the global and/or regional and/or national level

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
 E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
 H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Sharing of knowledge was one of the main objectives of the project on Network of Carpathian Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites and the Carpathian Wetland Initiative.

Action 14.1.2.- Recognize training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention and provide access to such training, especially for wetland managers, and wetland educators and those others responsible for implementing the Convention, from other countries that would benefit from these opportunities. (Sections D2 and D3 of the Guidelines).

1. The Party has engaged in international cooperation activities related to training on wetland issues

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
 E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
 H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Slovakia recognized training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention and provided access to training possibilities to wetland managers, who are responsible for implementing the Convention (JICA, RIZA, etc.).

Action 14.1.3.- Develop twinning and/or networks of transboundary wetlands and wetlands sharing common features, as an important mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing training opportunities.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 75 twinning arrangements to be in place and reported to the Bureau for Web publicity on the Ramsar Web site.

1.- Networks among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]

The initial map of the important Carpathian wetlands in 7 Carpathian countries was elaborated during implementation of the project on Network of Carpathian Protected Areas and Ramsar sites and the Carpathian Wetland Initiative.

3 twinings are run by Trilateral Ramsar Platform in Morava – Dyje floodplain (NGOs, state institutions, etc. from Czech Republic, Austria and the Slovak Republic), Turiec (Slovakia) – Lafnitzal (Austria), Danube floodplains RS (Slovakia) within NGO BROZ – Donau-Auen NP (Austria). Within all exchange of knowledge is ensured by excursions and discussions (see also below in this Action).

3.- Twinning arrangements among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training (if applicable, please include number of sites involved)

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
3

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]

Twinning arrangement among wetlands sharing common features have been developed between managers of Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence trilateral region between Austria, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

The collaboration has started between the managers of the Danube floodplains and Ferto-Hanság NP (Hungary).

The co-operation has started between the BROZ NGO, SNC – Administration of Danube floodplains PLA (Slovakia) and Donau-Auen NP (Austria) of the Danube floodplain forests (common LIFE-Nature project: Conservation and management of Danube floodplain forests).

Unofficial twinning arrangements have been developed between managers of the Turiec Wetlands RS (Slovakia) and Lafnitztal RS (Austria).

(see also above in this Action or Action r11.1.xiv.).

Action 14.1.4.- Further review and develop Internet-based resource kits and knowledge and information sharing, including the *Convention's Wetland Expert Database*, on topics including impact assessment, incentives, management planning, river basin management, participation, education and public awareness, and Ramsar sites.

1. Internet-based resource kits for knowledge and information sharing on wetland issues have been developed

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There is information on various wetland issues and projects in Slovakia published on several websites (state authorities, scientific institutions and universities, expert organizations, NGOs): www.enviroportal.sk, www.enviro.gov.sk, www.soprsr.sk, www.sazp.sk, www.vuvh.sk, www.svp.sk, http://www.zoo.sav.sk/oes1_sk.htm, <http://www.fns.uniba.sk/~uzo/kek.htm>, www.changenet.sk, www.daphne.sk, www.sovs.sk, www.broz.sk, www.umbra.sk, www.apop.sk, www.sosna.sk, <http://www.liptov.sk/oztatry/>, www.ludiaavoda.sk, etc.

Action r14.1.i.- Share information and experiences on the management, conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems similar to those of the high Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Actions have been taken to share information and experiences on wetlands in mountain ecosystems

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

A workshop on the Carpathian Wetland Initiative was organized in Slovakia in 2004, CD with presentations of the workshop was distributed to the contact persons in 7 Carpathian countries and further steps were proposed in recommendations of the meeting. Participation of Slovakia in the Mountain Partnership initiative (International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain regions) and its wetland related activities (e.g. Watershed Management Initiative) has been ensured.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.1. Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	D	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>Multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies contacted with project proposals for implementation of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Co-operate with other countries in concrete projects on management plans for Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Seek funds for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund.</p> <p>Wetland Centre and Visitor Centers established in two Ramsar Sites.</p> <p>State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic staff increased, equipped and well-trained in wetland conservation and management.</p> <p>Increase the involvement of the private sector in management of wetlands.</p> <p>Promote environmentally sound trade wetland products on website.</p> <p>Study on feasibility of creating the environmental label for wetland products.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Contact multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies to assist in establishment of the Wetland Centre and other projects for implementation of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Prepare projects on management plans for trans-boundary Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Co-operate with Department responsible for financial matters of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding.</p> <p>Establish the Wetland Centre and visitor centers in two Ramsar sites to provide CEPA and other activities.</p> <p>Include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in national plans.</p> <p>Increase staff numbers in the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, especially in administrations responsible for Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Train the staff in wetland conservation issues.</p>	

<p>Develop common projects of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic in co-operation with private organizations including co-financing from the private sector.</p> <p>Provided database and disseminating information of producers of environmentally sound trade wetland products from all Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Ensure access to web-site for on-line information for support and making entertainment for producers.</p> <p>Published articles for public on wetlands products for promotion private sector.</p> <p>Consider extension of the national environmental labels to wetland products that are produced in environmentally sound manners</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.1.1.- Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies in order to assist developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. (Based on Section E1 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Each CP with a bilateral donor agency to have encouraged it to give priority for funding for wetland conservation and wise use projects in relation to poverty alleviation and other WSSD targets and priorities.

<p>1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Apart from state budget actions on wetlands have been supported by different donors and international agencies, e.g. Slovak-Swiss Revolving Fund, DANCEE – Danish Cooperation for the Environment in Eastern Europe, Wetlands International, JICA – Japan Expert Dispatch Program, Dutch MATRA PIN or KNIP, Norway Government, UNDP/GEF, European Commission/LIFE-Nature, Twinning Phare, British Embassy, etc.</p> <p>Annual Membership Contributions has been paid by Slovak Ministry of Environment to the Wetlands International to support its work (2002 – 2005).</p>		

Action r15.1.i.- Encourage bilateral and multilateral donors to assign priority to supporting wetland inventories in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in recognition of the importance of inventory as the basis for developing and implementing sustainable use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.6)

<p>1. The Party has worked with bilateral and multilateral donors to mobilize funding support for wetland inventories</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Daphne NGO with partnership of other institutions (including SNC) led National Grassland Inventory - Slovakia Project (1998 – 2002, funding: Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Fisheries, the Netherlands). A national grassland inventory continued to be financed by various sources. Central European Grasslands - Conservation and Sustainable Use Project (2000 – 2005, financed by World Bank - Global Environment Facility Medium Size Project) focused on 4 model areas (the River Morava floodplain, Olšavica, Malá Fatra National Park and Slovenský raj National Park), because each representing a different ecological problem relating to grasslands, from lowland to alpine ecosystems. (see also 15.1.1., etc.)</p>		

Action 15.1.2.- Mobilize resources to support the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition. (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)		
1.- The Party has worked with donors to mobilize resources for implementation of Ramsar site management plans (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the sites involved and include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
There are several projects financed during the triennium (see actions in rest of national report) and some others are submitted to various donors, e.g. project led by Daphne NGO „Conservation, Restoration and Wise Use of Rich Fens in the Slovak Republic“ have ensured funding by UNDP – Global Environment Facility in duration: 2005 – 2010.		

Action r15.1.ii.- Encourage Contracting Parties and donor organizations to give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale. Resolution VIII.10) (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)		
1. The Party has worked with donors to mobilize support for the establishment of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Slovak State Nature Conservancy developed and coordinated the project on the Network of Carpathian Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites and mobilized funding from the Norwegian Government in 2003 – 2004. LIFE – Nature project Conservation and management of Danube floodplain forests is led by NGO BROZ with co-operation of SNC – Administration of Danube floodplains PLA/Slovakia and Donau-Auen NP/Austria (09/2003 – 10/2007). Goals of the project are conservation, management a sustainable sound forest management. Project „Preparation of Management Plan for the Slovak side of the Morava Floodplain as a part of Trilateral Ramsar site with realisation of necessary measures for preservation of abandoned meadows“ (05/2002 – 06/2003) was financed by Slovak – Swiss Revolving Fund. Project goal is preparation of management plan and realisation of urgent restoration measures. The restoration of water regime in NNR Šúr (Ramsar Site) – see Action 4.1.2.		

Action r15.1.iii.- Urge multilateral and bilateral donors to ensure that the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands and production potential of wetlands is fully addressed in the design, planning and implementation of river basin and water resource management projects, taking into account the special circumstances and constraints of the concerned countries. (Resolution VIII.1)		
1. The Party has worked with donors to ensure that the ecological functions of wetlands are conserved when designing and implementing water projects	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
“Integration of Ecosystem Management Principles and Practices into Land and Water Management of Slovakia’s Laborec-Uh Eastern Lowlands” project was submitted to financing of UNDP/GEF PDF – A. The purpose of the project is to facilitate a sustainable transition by water managers, farmers and other resource managers in Slovakia’s Eastern Lowlands from conventional water and agricultural management techniques to integrated ecosystem management practices. In so doing, resource managers will conserve globally significant		

biodiversity and reduce nutrient loading of Europe's largest transboundary river. Project stakeholders will apply ecosystem management oriented management practices in a wetland area between the Laborec and Uh Rivers in Slovakia's Eastern Lowlands.

Action r15.1.iv.- Continue support, and, as appropriate, increase this support, for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region and extend it to include capacity building activities. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Financial support provided for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action 15.1.3.- For those Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies, respond to sections E1, E2, E5, E7, E10, E11, E14 and E15 of the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), and especially consider issues such as long-term fund generation mechanisms, appropriate monitoring of projects, training of development assistance agency staff, priority for institutional capacity building, the need for cooperation between development assistance agencies, and the importance of coordination between bilateral development assistance agencies and the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in the donor and recipient countries.

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. Work has been done with the development assistance agency in relation to Ramsar's *Guidelines for international cooperation* (Res. VII.19)

I

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action 15.1.4.- Pursuant to 15.1.3, urge all Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies to report on their performance with regard to wetland-related activities at each COP. (Based on Section E5 of the Guidelines)

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. The performance of the development assistance agency in relation to wetland issues has been assessed

I

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action 15.1.5.- For those Parties involved in the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the *modus operandi* of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies, seek to ensure that wetland conservation and wise use is afforded due attention and priority.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Relevant CPs to report to COP9 on ensuring that multilateral donor agencies afford priority to wetlands within poverty alleviation schemes.

1. The Party has worked with multilateral agencies to ensure that wetland issues receive due attention

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Within communication with Interim Carpathian Convention Secretariat (UNEP) wetland issues received an attention. Slovakia took part in preparation of convention text where biodiversity and river basin management issues are included. Rapid assessment of Tisa Basin was prepared by UNEP, etc.

Also e.g. report to the “Seminar on the role of ecosystems as water suppliers” was submitted to the Water Convention Secretariat and Ramsar Secretariat in 2004 (prepared joint work of national focal points of mentioned conventions from the Nature and Landscape Protection Department and Water Division).

Action 15.1.6.- Provide financial support, preferably on a medium and/or long-term basis, to the operations of the *Ramsar Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, and the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, seeking to have available a minimum of one million US dollars annually for the former and half a million US dollars for the latter. (Based on Sections E4 and E9 of the Guidelines.)

See action 16.1.2

1. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Endowment Fund	C	
3. Contributions have been made to the Ramsar Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme	C	

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on contributions made to support the funds and services indicated above.]

No financial support has been provided to these save funds for Natura 2000 process as priority in the country.

Action 15.1.7.- Mobilize resources to support the development of wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites and the training of wetland educators in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1. Actions have been taken to mobilize resources to support wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

Action 15.1.8.- For those Parties eligible for development assistance, include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in national portfolios and plans for consideration by development assistance agencies, and give priority among these for projects to build institutional capacity. (Based on Sections E8 and E12 of the Guidelines)

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to development assistance agencies	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There were several projects concerning wetlands financed in Slovakia (submitted to the financial donors). They have been focused on wetland inventories, preparation of wetlands management plans, coordination of cross-border activities, implementation of restoration measures, networking, education activities and cooperation with stakeholders and supported by different donors and international agencies, e.g. Slovak-Swiss Revolving Fund, DANCEE – Danish Cooperation for the Environment in Eastern Europe, Wetlands International, JICA – Japan Expert Dispatch Program, Dutch MATRA PIN or KNIP, Norway Government, UNDP/GEF, European Commission/LIFE-Nature, Twinning Phare, British Embassy, etc.

Action 15.1.9.- For eligible Contracting Parties of both the *Ramsar Convention* and the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, develop wetland conservation and wise use projects suitable for consideration by the *Global Environment Facility (GEF)*, as part of the implementation of the Joint Work Plan with the CBD and in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7 of Decision IV/4 of CBD's COP4 relating to inland water ecosystems.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Assistance provided to at least 15 countries in preparing projects for submission to the *Global Environment Facility*.

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Within UNDP/GEF "DRP" is selected Slovak Olsavica valley as pilot area of output 1.4. „Conservation, Restoration and Wise Use of Rich Fens in the Slovak Republic“ (2005 – 2010, ensured funding from UNDP - Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project). The project is aimed at the conservation of Carpathian peatland biodiversity, with a focus on calcareous fens, a unique ecosystem with its center of distribution in Slovakia. In particular, the following will be addressed: 1) drainage of fens, 2) lack of appropriate management of protected fen areas, 3) lack of public awareness and appreciation of peatland biodiversity, 4) low institutional capacity to address threats to fen biodiversity, 5) weak policy environment to ensure adequate protection of fen biodiversity.</p> <p>Within UNDP – GEF Medium-Sized Project “Reversal of land and water degradation in the Tisza basin Ecosystem: Establishment of Mechanisms for Land and Water Management” is planned cooperation of following COUNTRIES: Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Ukraine. This project will build on what has already been achieved through the EU accession process and the EU and GEF support of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) in the implementation of the Environmental Programme for the Danube River Basin (EPDRB) and the Water Framework Directive (WFD). It will also build upon the numerous UNDP sustainable development initiatives and GEF biodiversity projects in the basin, and it will link with activities of the newly established interim secretariat of the Carpathian Convention. It will take the concept of River Basin Management beyond the water sector and co-ordinate the development, management and conservation of land and water resources, and embed rather than retrofit conservation and environmental policy into the national and regional planning framework.</p> <p>“Integration of Ecosystem Management Principles and Practices into Land and Water Management of Slovakia’s Laborec-Uh Eastern Lowlands” project was submitted to financing of UNDP/GEF PDF – A.</p>		

Action 15.1.12.- Pursue involvement of the private sector (including corporations and foundations) in wetland conservation and seek opportunities for private sector funding of wetland projects under Ramsar.

1. Steps have been taken to involve the private sector and private-sector funding in wetland projects	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

Action 15.1.13.- Promote establishment of effective mechanisms to encourage environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites, compatible with international trade agreements.

1. Mechanisms have been established to encourage environmentally sound trade of wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.2. Ensure that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Ensure the guidance for nature protection decision-making bodies in approval of wetland-related projects.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Develop guidelines for decision-making in wetland-related projects approval for the decision makers to increase the amount of funds directed from such activities into wetland management	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.2.1.- Work with international development agencies, including banks, financial institutions and private investors and developers, to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects include environmental safeguards and environmental assessments of possible impacts upon wetlands. (Based on Section G1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to work with investors on possible impacts of their projects on wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Under the Act no. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection the nature protection body, after prior notice and before the removal of negative effects, may restrict or prohibit an activity that either might cause a damage or destruction to the nature and landscape (including wetlands) or results in such damage or destruction. State Nature Conservancy of Slovak Republic works with investors to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects do not have negative impacts upon wetlands. In 2004 we closely cooperated with the Slovak Road Administration on the project “Motorways and expressroads in Slovakia” and assessed possible negative impact on nature (including wetlands). Within Cohesion fund proposal is listed Annex I Declarations by the Authority responsible for monitoring Natura 2000 Sites which ensure harmony and avoid possible effects on Natura 2000 Sites.		

Action 15.2.3.- Review wetland-related project development approval and consider the introduction of mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back to hands-on wetland management in the country. (Based on Section G3 of the Guidelines.)

1. Work has been done to introduce mechanisms to direct resources derived from wetlands back to wetland management	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16. FINANCING OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16.1. Provide the financial resources required for the Convention's governance mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	D	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Annual contributions paid in full and promptly. Seek funds for providing voluntary contributions to support the Small Grants Fund, the Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Outreach Programme, and the Training Service, etc.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Continue with regular and full payments to Secretariat. Co-operate with Department responsible on financial tasks of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 16.1.1.- Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year.

1. Ramsar dues have been paid in full and in a timely manner	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Annual contributions paid in full and promptly to the Secretariat each year.		

Action 16.1.2.- Consider providing additional voluntary contributions to the Convention to support the *Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, and the *Training Service*, regionally-based initiatives such as *MedWet*, the undertaking of *Ramsar Advisory Missions* for sites included in the *Montreux Record* and other Ramsar sites, and other priority activities as determined by the Strategic Plan.

In addition to any contributions listed under Action 15.1.6 above, voluntary contributions have been made:

1. to the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. to support regional initiatives under the Convention	C	
3. for Ramsar Advisory Missions related to Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record	C	
4. towards the development and maintenance of logistics of the San José Record	C	
5. to support the work of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)	C	
6. to expand the internship programme at the Ramsar Bureau	C	
7. in relation to COP9	C	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17.1. Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Bureau are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Strategic Plan

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	National focal points working actively. Information is used and distributed.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Increase activities of nominated focal points. Improve co-ordination and information exchange between relevant focal points within created linkages.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 17.1.6.- Ensure that each Contracting Party has nominated a national focal point for the work of the STRP (as called for by Resolutions VII.2 and VIII.28) and two focal points (one government, one non-government) for the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme* (as called for by Resolutions VII.9 and VIII.31)

See also Action r9.iii.i. concerning CEPA national focal points.

1. The National Focal Point for the work of STRP has been nominated

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]

During triennium and to further period Dr. Mikuláš J. Lisický is nominated as STRP National Focal Point (see page no. 4)

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18.1. Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Study on status and capacity in State Nature Conservancy units and headquarters Agreements signed. Specific issues of wetland conservation and management elaborated in short – term and long-term plans for co-operation. Staff members of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic increased and trained.	

	<p>Slovak Ramsar Committee working effectively. All national focal points working effectively. Summary of National Planning Tool translated and published (also on the web) and transformed in work plans of responsible institutions and organizations.</p>
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Review of status and capacity of the State Nature Conservancy especially in units responsible for Ramsar Sites and Natura 2000 wetland sites. Sign agreements on co-operation with Water Management Research Institute and Slovak Water Management Company. Implement agreements signed between the Ministry of Environment/State Nature Conservancy and Slovak Academy of Sciences, universities and institutes. Include Ramsar issues in annual and long-term plans of co-operation. Increase staff numbers of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and provide sufficient training in wetland conservation/management issues. Support the activities of the Slovak Ramsar Committee, ensure good and timely co-operation information exchange using electronic means. Regularly review the activities of STRP and CEPA Focal points at annual meetings of the Slovak Ramsar Committee and involve other experts and organizations when appropriate. Translate and publish summary of national planning tool and transform it into work plans of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Environmental Agency, Slovak Caves Administration, Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology and other institutions.</p>

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 18.1.1.- Encourage the review of existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and on the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- a) increase cooperation and synergy among institutions with direct or indirect responsibility for wetland issues, especially those responsible for the management of water resources and for biodiversity and wetland conservation and management;
- b) promote enhanced cooperation, and where appropriate integrated approaches, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions, and consider establishing a coordinating committee to ensure that integrated approaches are taken;
- c) promote enhanced contact, and where appropriate close coordination, between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and national professional, technical, scientific and educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including those involved in social and cultural heritage issues; and
- d) provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect.

1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]		
We have completed a review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.		
<i>See action 13.1.1</i>		
3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]		
-		

5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
6. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant professional, scientific or educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including social and cultural heritage issues	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Within Slovak Ramsar Committee.		

Action r18.1.i.- Build and strengthen institutional capacity and synergies between related instruments at the national level in order to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands and report to COP9 on progress on this matter, including achievements and the identification of difficulties encountered (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Work has been done to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Climate change impact on catchment hydrology – case studies (poster only session) was prepared with cooperation of prof. Szolgay (member of Slovak Ramsar Committee) and other experts from other countries - held in April, 24 – 29, 2005 in Vienna		

Action 18.1.2.- Establish National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, relevant government agencies, including national water management ministries and/or agencies, where appropriate, and non-governmental organizations, STRP and CEPA National Focal Points, key stakeholders, indigenous people and local communities, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). When in place, ensure the proper functioning of these Committees.

<i>See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii</i>		
1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].</i>		
Slovak Ramsar Committee (SRV) is cross-sectoral authority. The members of SRV are the representatives of relevant ministries, institutions, universities, agencies and NGOs.		

Action 18.1.3.- Review the designated Ramsar national Administrative Authority (and provincial (sub-national) focal points where appropriate) and STRP and CEPA national focal points in each Contracting Party, with a view to ensuring that these positions are being effective in increasing involvement in the work of the Convention of all relevant agencies and organizations concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. The institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the Convention – including the Ramsar Administrative Authority, National Wetland Committee (or equivalent body) and STRP and CEPA focal points– has been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The work is not so sufficient, because of not enough capacities, different priority task during triennium (accession process to EU) and no active involvement in work. It is planned to improve of the work based on programme preparation only on some specific tasks, etc.		

Action 18.1.4.- Assist in achieving a cohesive and coordinated national effort towards the implementation of the Convention, using Ramsar’s national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) as an ongoing planning and monitoring mechanism. Ideally, this tool should be used by all relevant government departments/agencies and include input from National Ramsar/Wetland Committee members and other stakeholders as appropriate.

1. The National Report Format has been used as a national planning tool for the implementation of the Convention	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
-		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20. TRAINING

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20.1. Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Information at disposal for interested groups. Target groups and needs identified. Provide relevant information for the Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre. Seek funds for providing financial support. Wetland conservation and wise use training program developed and implemented. Managers and other staff trained in at least half of Ramsar sites. Seek funds for providing financial support for training activities. Established a national wetland training and research centre (Wetland Centre) Improved training possibilities.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Communicate with Wetland Training Service. Develop a study of the School of Nature Conservation of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic to identify target groups and needs at all levels. Use Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre and the Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities for information to all Ramsar site and wetland managers. Gather information within the Wetland Centre on the local, regional and national	

<p>training opportunities, publish it on the web page of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and regularly update.</p> <p>Co-operate with Department responsible on financial matters of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding.</p> <p>Develop and implement a national training program for School of Nature Protection of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic for the nature conservancy professionals and other target groups.</p> <p>Establish twinning sites with neighbouring Parties and oversee for at least two Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Use international training courses (e.g. RIZA) for wetland managers and staff.</p> <p>Use national Wetland Centre and School of Nature Protection as a basis for trainings which also collect information about training courses.</p> <p>Co-operate with the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic to find possible funding for training activities.</p> <p>Establish the Wetland Centre within the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>Exchange information and expertise about training possibilities.</p> <p>Use all tools and mechanisms for training in a framework of the Carpathians and Danube Basin initiatives.</p>
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Action 20.1.1.- Implement, and further develop and publicize, the *Convention's Wetland Training Service*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *Ramsar Wetland Training Service in place and fully implemented.*

<p>1. The Party has participated in the development and use of the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>-</p>		

Action 20.1.2.- Identify at national, provincial, and local levels the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Convention and, in particular, use of the *Wise Use Guidelines and Ramsar Handbooks*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *At least half of CPs to have assessed national and local training needs.*

<p>1. An assessment has been completed of national and local training needs in the implementation of the Convention and use of the Wise Use Handbooks</p>	<p>E</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>We assessed capacity, knowledge and further needs for trainings.</p>		

Action 20.1.3.- Identify and disseminate, nationally, regionally and globally, information describing the current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the further development of the *Bureau's Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_index.htm) and the *Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_training_directory.htm).

<p>1. The wetland-related training opportunities that exist in the country have been identified</p>	<p>F</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The wetland-related training opportunities are not fully exist in the country at the moment.

Some wetland tasks were included in NGO training workshop prepared by the DEF in Slovakia on wetlands, or during Distance course on Biological Diversity and Sustainable Development or workshops organized by SNC in Varin (School on Nature Protection).

Action 20.1.5.- Assemble and make available, or develop, new training activities and general training modules as necessary, for the use of the Ramsar Handbooks, with specialized modules including coverage of the following fields:

- a) wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring;
- b) national wetland policies and plans;
- c) integrated catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning and management;
- d) integrated site management planning at the local, provincial or catchment/river basin level;
- e) wetland restoration and rehabilitation;
- f) invasive alien species;
- g) agricultural impacts on wetlands and water resources;
- h) impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment;
- i) impacts of climate change, and adaptive management and mitigation of such impacts
- j) economic valuation of wetlands;
- k) communication, education and public awareness techniques.

1. Training modules and materials on wetland-related issues have been developed

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the development of training modules and materials for the issues listed above, and additional comments you consider relevant.]

For national NGO training workshops has been prepared by the DEF (Danube Environmental Forum) within UNDP/GEF Danube Regional Project (3.1 Support for Institutional Development of NGOs and Community Involvement: Developing the DEF Network) wetlands and nutrient reduction training material: Šeffler & Šibl (eds.), February 2003: Wetlands and Nutrient Reduction – Training materials, 108 pp.

Various scriptum were produced, published and provided to participants of above mentioned distance course (see Action 20.1.3.).

Action 20.1.6.- Provide opportunities for manager training by:

- a) encouraging personnel exchanges for on-the-job training, possibly between twinned sites;
- b) holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites;
- c) siting wetland manager and wetland educator training facilities at Ramsar sites;
- d) obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world;
- e) establishing further regional training initiatives such as the *Wetlands for the Future Initiative* funded by the Government of the USA for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

1. Opportunities for manager training in the country have been provided

D

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

RIZA, JICA, Twinning Phare workshops, excursions within Danube floodplains LIFE-Nature project, etc.

Action 20.1.7.- Continue to encourage the development of projects for submission to the *Small Grants Fund* for support for training activities.

1. Training-related projects have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not training-related projects, but projects on exchange of knowledge and experiences have been partly included in projects which Slovakia has submitted to the Ramsar's Small Grants Fund in 2003.		

Action 20.1.8.- Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and research centres, including a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (Resolution VII.26) and a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia (Resolution VIII.41).

1.- Support has been provided to the development of regional wetland training and research centres (if applicable, please include number of centres)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres 0
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of centres and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
-			

Action 20.1.9.- Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about training for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, the Bureau, *MedWet* and the IOPs of the Convention.

1. The Party has participated in exchanges of information and expertise related to wetland training issues	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Slovakia organized Workshop on the Carpathian Wetland Initiative which was held on 28 – 30 April 2004 in Oravský háj, Slovakia. <u>The representatives of State Nature Conservancy and of Ramsar Administrative Authority took part in:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Meeting of CNPA Partnership Steering Committee (held on May 13 – 14, in Zakopane, Poland). • the European Ramsar Meeting in Armenia, December 5 – 9, 2004. • International Conference November 18 – 19, 2004, Illmitz, Austria, “Management of transboundary Ramsar Sites – Chances and Challenges”. • Trilateral Ramsar Platform meetings. • meeting „New partners, new challenges“, Marchegg, April, 2004. • European Green Belt Conference, September 8 – 12, 2004, Fertő-Hanság National Park, Hungary. • Ecology Expert Group of ICPDR meetings (2002, 2003, 2004). • International trainings organized by Japan JICA/KIWC, Dutch RIZA, etc. 		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	By 2005 establish co-operation with 1 non-Contracting Party on wetland conservation issues. Seek assistance in involvement of non-Contracting Party to wetland conservation activities.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Communicate with non-Contracting Parties during international meetings and conferences about possible joining to the Convention. To show good examples of management and conservation of wetlands, disseminate information and distribute brochures. Invite representatives of 1 non-Contracting Party to visit Slovak wetlands and facilities of State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic. Seek for sources for developing common projects on wetlands issues with 1 non-Contracting Party. Use membership in international committees of other conventions for support.	

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Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

- a) seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties to provide information on the benefits of membership and advice or assistance in overcoming obstacles;
- b) intensifying contacts with the diplomatic representatives of non-Contracting Parties;
- c) seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including the Regional Seas Conventions, and in-country offices of the *United Nations Development Programme*, the *World Bank* and others;
- d) organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties;
- e) providing assistance for the identification of *Wetlands of International Importance* that could be listed as Ramsar sites upon accession;
- f) encouraging attendance by observers from non-Contracting Parties at regional meetings and meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and
- g) publishing and disseminating an accession kit to assist countries in the Oceania region (and Small Island Developing States more generally) through the accession process. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adherence to the Convention of new Contracting Parties

C

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;
E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

-

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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Please include additional comments on the COP9 National Planning Tool, National Report Format. (For instance, adequacy of the questions, the difficulties in completing them, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved)

Explanatory notes were very helpful before starting on work on report.

We have some difficulties in completion of questions and answers which were focused on many different sectors. And also on exact numbers of Ramsar sites or wetlands (affected by questions).

Also some regional problems could be included maybe more separately, because we do not collect information focused for example on poverty alleviation, climate change, etc. sometimes because on capacity or other

<p>priority issues.</p> <p>We would like to suggest to focus not on too wide issues/or focused on less subjects, but real implementation, because we do not have capacity to do so in sufficiently way.</p>		
<p>In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?</p>	<p>D</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>