

**7TH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE RAMSAR
CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
San Jose, Costa Rica, 10-18 May 1999**

Contracting Party: Papua New Guinea

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Full name of the Institution:
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Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 1 To progress towards universal membership of the Convention

1.1

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 2

To achieve the wise use of wetlands by implementing and further developing the Ramsar Wise Use Guidelines

- 2.1 Papua New Guinea does not have a national wetlands policy/strategy/action plan. Whatever wetlands inventory, survey that is done come under the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Management Division's national conservation program.
- 2.2 NA
- 2.3 NA
- 2.4 NA

- 2.5 NA
- 2.6 NA
- 2.7 NA
- 2.8 NA
- 2.9 NA
- 2.10 Yes
- 2.11 No
- 2.12 NA
- 2.13 No

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 3.

To raise awareness of wetland value. S and functions throughout the world and at all levels

- 3.1 No
- 3.2 NA

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 4

To reinforce the capacity of institutions in each Contracting Party to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.

- 4.1 NA
- 4.2
 - a. No
 - b. No
 - c. No
 - d. Yes. A basic wetlands ecology course was run by Wetlands International Oceania Program with funding support from the Ramsar Convention's SGF. The course was targeted mainly on wetlands officers from the Department of Environment and Conservation, Papua New Guinea with a participant from the Federated States of Micronesia.

Ramsar Strategic Plan General Objective 5

To ensure conservation of all sites included in the list of

wetlands of

International Importance (Ramsar *List*).

- 5.1 Of the Ramsar sites in Papua New Guinea, how many have formal management plans:
 - a. being prepared? 2
 - b. fully prepared?
 - c. being implemented? -
- 5.2 NA
- 5.3 No

5.4 NA

5.5 NA

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 6
To designate for the Ramsar List of those wetlands which meet the Convention's criteria, especially wetland types still under-represented in the list and transfrontier wetlands.

6.1 Yes
A national inventory was completed in 1988 and included in the "Directory of Asian Wetlands". An update of this was included in "A Directory of Wetlands in Oceania"

6.2 Yes,
List of "important" wetlands in Papua New Guinea was finalised in 1994 and was included in the Report on "Papua New Guinea Conservation Needs Assessment", Volume 2. Copies of the report are kept within the Departmental Library. Criteria used for listing of these wetlands included high Biodiversity values and the need for conservation.

6.3 NA

6.4 Yes. Recently Lake Kutubu (second site for Papua New Guinea) has been included in the list of Wetlands of International Importance which:
a) met the criteria for fish habitat (Resolution VI.2), d) are peatland ecosystems (Recommendation 6.1)

6.5 NA

6.6 Tonda Wildlife Management Area (included in the Ramsar List) in Papua New Guinea is linked to Wasur National Park in Indonesia and is considered as transfrontier wetlands.

6.7 NA

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 7
To mobilise international cooperation and financial assistance for wetland conservation and wise use in collaboration with other conventions and agencies, both governmental and non-governmental.

7.1 The government of Papua New Guinea and the Government of Indonesia are currently drafting a Memorandum of Understanding to exchange ideas, co-ordinate training programs, and come up with management strategies to address issues such as bushfires, introduction of feral animals and exotic weeds, poaching on both sides of the wetlands, and joint inventory of the wetlands.

7.2 Yes, we have the tri-wetlands site that includes Tonda Wildlife Management Area (Papua New Guinea), Wasur National Park (Indonesia) and Kakadu National Park (Australia).

7.3 Papua New Guinea is also a signatory to the following conventions.
a. Convention on Biological Diversity
b. Framework Convention on Climate Change
c. World Heritage Convention.
Papua New Guinea Ramsar Administrative Authority (Department of Environment and Conservation) is also responsible for the three conventions above.

7.4 Yes. Papua New Guinea is involved in the Pacific Regional Marine Turtle Management Program co-ordinated by South Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP). Papua New Guinea has also included Tonda Wildlife Management Area on the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Network sites for migratory waterbirds.

7.5 NA

7.6 Yes. It is a part of a larger environmental and natural resources management budget.

7.7 No

7.8 NA

Ramsar Strategic Plan - General Objective 8

To provide the Convention with the required institutional mechanisms and resources.

8.1 No

8.2 No

Optional Section - Participation of non-government organisations in the implementation of the Convention.

9.1 NGOs promoting wetlands conservation and wise use in Papua New Guinea include:

a. International

- Wetlands International - Oceania Program
- WWF - US
- Conservation International
- Green Peace

b. Regional

- WWF - South Pacific Program
- South Pacific Regional Environment Program

c. National/provincial

- Conservation Melanesia

9.2 No

9.3 Yes

9.4 No

9.5 No

9.6

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Final Comments:

10.1 Implementation of the Ramsar Strategic Plan in Papua New Guinea is not so effective due to shortage of manpower and funds.