

Report to Standing Committee on Fundraising

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Head of Partnerships



Outline



- a) **SC51-20** “Report on efforts to raise funds for COP12 delegates as per Resolution XII.1”

- b) **SC51-21** “Report on prioritization of fundraising activities to fund non-core budget activities from all sources, with a view to significantly increasing non-Party contributions”

- c) **SC52-22** “Status of and recommendations for the Small Grants Fund”



a) Report on efforts to raise funds for COP12 delegates



Recap on funding situation summarized by Finance Officer:

- Budget and fundraising target: CHF 570,000
- Secured (to date): CHF 422,000
- Cost/spending: CHF 537,000
- Given strengthening of USD, amount now needed to fully replenish the reserve fund: CHF 125,000



a) Report on efforts to raise funds for COP12 delegates



- **Approach:**

The Secretariat developed a list of priority countries to approach, based on DAC list, SRA advice, and past experience.

- **Actions pre-COP:**

SG formal letter sent November 20th, 2014. Over 100 follow up actions were taken by Head of Partnerships, including emails, phone calls, personal communications, etc.

- **Actions post-COP:**

SG formal letter sent on July 15th to all Parties on the original list that had not declined. 20 follow up actions were taken by Head of Partnerships, including emails, phone calls, personal communications, etc.

- **Outcome:** CHF 8,000 gratefully received from the Netherlands



a) Report on efforts to raise funds for COP12 delegates



Recommendation:

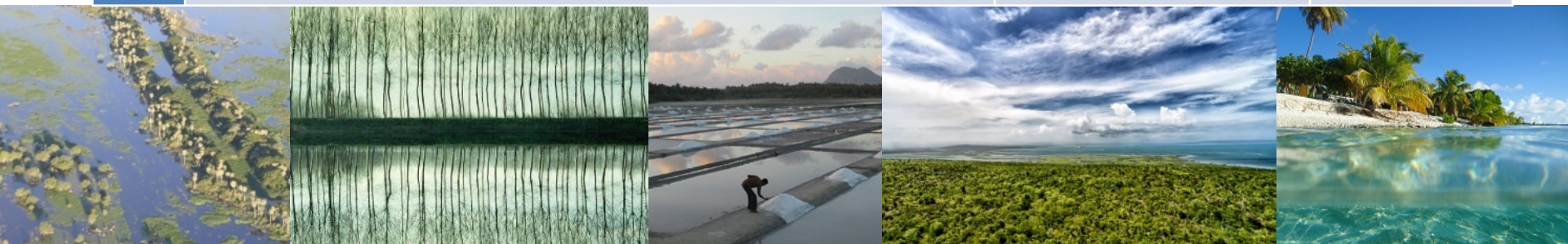
The Secretariat recommends that fundraising for COP 12 is discontinued at the end of 2015, and the sponsored delegates deficit of CHF 125,000 be taken from the reserve fund.



b) Prioritization of Fundraising activities



No.	Non-core budget priorities 2016-2018	3-year funding requirement (CHF)	2016 target
1	Ramsar Advisory Missions for Parties requiring assistance	600,000	200,000
2	STRP 2016-2018 programme of work support	300,000	100,000
3	RSIS, IM/IT (Website) Continuing Development	175,000	58,333
4	Pre-COP13 regional meetings (delegates support and meeting costs for preparatory meetings)	650,000	
5	COP13 (2018) sponsorship to eligible delegates	600,000	
6	Arabic language introduction and translation support	250,000	83,333
7	Small Grants Funds for protection and wise use of wetlands	1,000,000	
8	Regional Initiative Networks and Centres support (priority activities)	150,000	50,000
9	Ramsar CEPA Programme (2016-2021), exclusion of World Wetlands Day	300,000	100,000
10	On-line system for National Reports, reporting and indicators development	175,000	58,333
	TOTAL	4,200,000	650,000



b) Prioritization of Fundraising activities

- **Progress so far:**

Fundraising for Item 1. Ramsar Advisory Missions, is showing strong signs of early success, especially for the Africa region.

Proposed activities and budget need to be clarified for all other items before any progress can be made.

- **Other opportunities:**

Good pipeline of concrete opportunities with Shell International, Christensen Fund, Danone Evian, InforMEA and Global Environment Facility (GEF).

However, while these would lead to funding for actions included in the broader resolutions and SP4 opportunities, these prospective funders have not shown interest in the list of non-core priorities.



b) Prioritization of Fundraising activities

Recommendations:

The Secretariat recommends that fundraising for COP 13 starts in 2016

The Secretariat recommends that for each non-core budget priority item a detailed list of proposed activities, estimated costs, and potential funders, be developed by the Ramsar Secretariat. The proposal must be discussed with the Resource Mobilization Working Group, and then presented to the Standing Committee.



c) Status of and recommendations for the Small Grants Fund

Status:

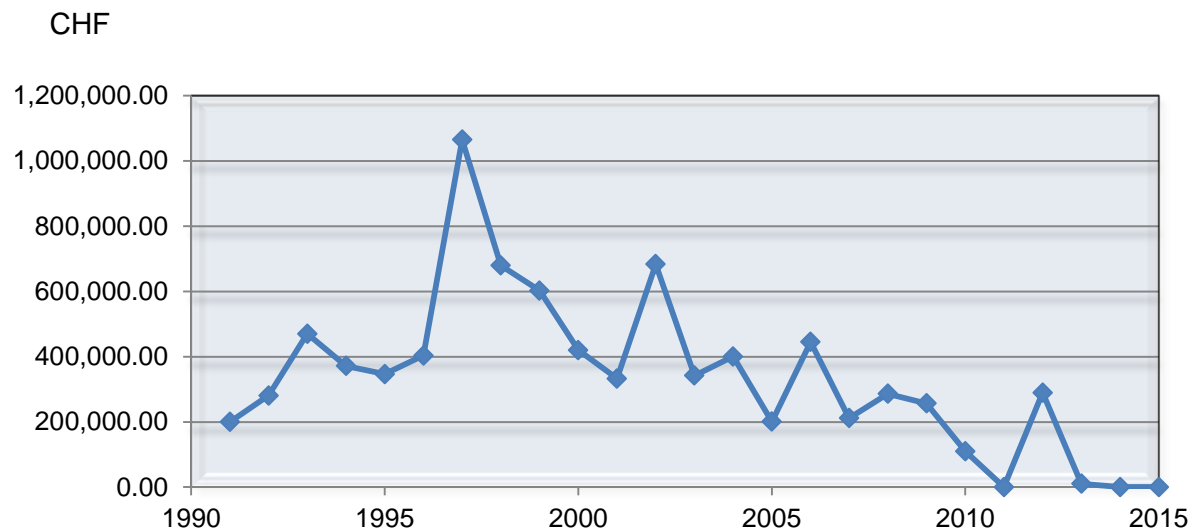


Chart 1. Combined annual voluntary contributions to small grants fund



c) Status of and recommendations for the Small Grants Funds



Challenges	Opportunities
SGF lacks a champion	Great value proposition
Lack of incentives across sectors	Benefit of donors determining investments
Multiple competing views on how to structure	Link and focus on popular and strategic topics (e.g. DRR)
The niche is not well explained	Carry out a review / Position for unlocking greater opportunity



c) Status of and recommendations for the Small Grants Funds

- **Possible next steps:**
- Commission an analysis and report on other SGFs, to help define Ramsar SGF's niche
- Through a consultative process led via the Working Group on Resource Mobilization, develop a proposal for linking SGF with SP4 priorities
 - To address threats, invasive species, or to create opportunity for Disaster Risk Reduction
 - To target shared interests with segments of private sector, such as beverage or energy
 - As seed funding for larger opportunity which appears to be available, e.g. GEF
- Maintain the reform of SGF as a standing item on Standing Committee agendas in order to give it the required attention



c) Status of and recommendations for the Small Grants Funds



Recommendation:

The Secretariat recommends that the Resource Mobilization Working Group and the Head of Partnerships work together in order to develop a written report with specific recommendations on how to evolve the Small Grants Fund so that it appeals to potential funders and links to SP4 priorities.



Thank you!



Annex 1.



- **Contracting Parties**
- Australia: outreach on Jan 8, Jan 20, 5 March, 6 March, 13 March led to 21 April commitment to AUD \$40k.
- Austria: following regional meeting, and outreach by Senior Regional Advisor, EUR5k confirmed.
- Canada: outreach at regional meetings and SC48. CANS\$40k committed on 28 April.
- China: outreach on Jan 6 and Jan 12 led to commitment to cover own costs.
- Czech Republic: outreach on Jan 8, 5 March, 21 April, May 6. No commitment made.
- Denmark: outreach on Jan 20, March 6, March 17, March 30, led to information on April 7 that 'there is no possibility for support' except via country embassies. Secretary General advised not to approach embassies.
- Dubai: outreach by regional team late March, led to result that they were declined. Advised to talk with UAE focal point.
- Finland: outreach at SC 48, Jan 21, Jan 27, March 6 led to pledge of EUR 30k, which was committed on April 9. Confirmation given on May 5 that carry-over funds can also be used.
- France: outreach on Jan 20, and March 5. Declined.
- Germany: outreach on Jan 20, 23, March 16, March 26 and March 27 led to the outcome that Germany 'would like to support the Conference of Parties with an amount of EUR 10k'.
- Iraq: Senior Regional Advisor advised that no funding available.
- Japan: Following outreach to Ministry of Environment on Feb 18, the Secretariat was advised to speak with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A call was held on March 5. Declined.



Annex 1.

- **Latvia:** Outreach on Mar 17, April 24 and May 4. No commitment made before COP12.
- **Namibia:** Official letter received for self-sponsorship.
- **Netherlands:** Outreach on Jan 20 and March 5 led to information that the Secretariat should contact a different individual. Further outreach therefore conducted on March 6 and May 5. No commitment made before COP 12.
- **Norway:** Outreach in January, and on March 6 and April 23 led to the outcome that 300k NOK was confirmed 24 April, and later, on 28 April, the use of 160k NOK carry over funds from 2014 was also confirmed.
- **Oman:** Outreach on Jan 20, 6 March and 17 March, April 2, and May 6th. No commitment made before COP 12.
- **RO Korea:** Confirmed intention to provide support in early March. Confirmed amount of USD 25k on 26 April.
- **Sweden:** Outreach on March 5, commitment confirmed on April 27th.
- **Switzerland:** Discussions at SC48, application by March 15. Confirmed CHF115k in April.
- **UAE:** Outreach on March 17. Advised on April 2 that internal inquiries will be made. Further outreach on April 27 and May 6. On May 11 declined, stating that they will focus on COP 13.
- **United Kingdom:** Letter dated November 26 indicated that the UK will not provide support.
- **United States of America:** outreach by Senior Regional Advisor, led to a decline which was confirmed on 14 April.



Annex 1.



▪ **Other sources**

- UNEP-DELC: outreach at SC 48 and on April 23. Declined.
- UNEP-ROWA: outreach on March 9th. Confirmed USD 19k carry-over.
- The Commonwealth Foundation: Formal letter sent on April 2, followed by outreach on April 27 and May 6. Declined.

