

**Combined annual reporting and forward planning format
for Ramsar Regional Initiatives (Annex I of DOC. SC41-13)**

Annual Summary Report for Year 2015 and Plan for Year 2016

(4 pages maximum)

1. Title of your Regional Initiative:

RAMSAR CENTRE FOR EASTERN AFRICA (RAMCEA)

2. Work and activities undertaken during Year 2015

Provide a simple summary on your work undertaken by listing your activities, the results achieved and your indicators of success according to the format below:

Objectives	Activities	Results/outputs	Indicators
	Activity to be undertaken	Achievements	verification of success
To promote and ensure best practices on sustainable wetlands management in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents and case studies that demonstrate best practices • Facilitate the participation in Regional Wetlands Forum/Symposia on Wetlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community based Wetland Biodiversity Project Lessons Learnt document updated and disseminated to Consortium members • Pre Ramsar COP meeting held in Kigali, Rwanda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications • Minutes and Record of Discussion
To determine the status and trends of wetland resources in the region to guide decision making	Finalize, Publish and disseminate a regional wetlands research strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder consultations and field exercises conducted • Draft Research Strategy Framework in place 	Publication
To Enhance the knowledge base and stakeholder awareness on sustainable wetland management in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate a regional platform to coordinate implementation of CEPA activities by partner states • Hold 1 regional CEPA dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAMCEA Website launched and operationalized • Dialogues held with CEPA Focal Point present during Kigali, Rwanda and COP 12 meetings 	Regional CEPA Platform Partner States Portal
	Conduct orientation training for National Ramsar Committees of Partner States	Not undertaken	Training Reports, TORs and list of National Ramsar Committee members
	Conduct refresher course for the pool of 10 trainers in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of TOTs in the region established • Face to face curriculum in place • Proposal on Refresher course on wetlands, climate change and food Security developed with UNESCO IHE, the Center for Development 	Database of Trainers of Trainers Proposal

		Innovation of Wageningen UR,	
	Conduct training of Ramsar Site Managers	Not undertaken	Training Reports
To support wetland policies and institutional processes in the region to enhance wetland management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate operations of TEEB Regional hub Facilitate Wetland Policy Processes in Partner States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact Point for TEEB designated Draft Policy enhancement mechanism by Uganda 	Technical reports
To develop and maintain a regional network of Ramsar sites and other wetlands that provide important ecosystem services	Carry out consultations for twining of r three Ramsar sites namely Lake Natron (Tanzania), Lake Nakuru (Kenya) and Lake (Uganda) Ramsar sites and sign memorandum of cooperation	Not undertaken	Reports MOC
To facilitate the operations of the RAMCEA Regional Advisory Council and Secretariat	Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Advisory Council and 1 meeting of the RAMCEA Technical Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RAMCEA Governing Council meeting took place in Kigali Rwanda Draft MoU with Birdlife International developed and shared No meeting of the Technical Committees held 	Minutes, Reports and approved work plan and budget
	Provide operating costs for RAMCEA Secretariat pay staff salaries provide office facilities	RAMCEA Secretariat launched	Functional RAMCEA Secretariat

If felt useful, you may add narrative text to specify further your achievements, improvement of Ramsar implementation in the region, etc.

In addition to the planned activities, the following achievements were also realized;

- RAMCEA hosted the Ramsar Convention Secretary General during World Wetlands Day celebrations 2014. During the same visit the Secretary General interfaced with His Excellency the President of Uganda. Furthermore the RAMCEA Office and website were formerly launched;
- Two projects (1) Critical Wetlands Project and (2) Globe Wetland Africa Capacity Development on wetland assessment and provision on date and information management
- A memorandum of Understanding was prepared and shared with Birdlife International on collaboration and support in institutional strengthening and resource mobilization.
- Collaboration enhanced with ARCOS and RAMCEA specifically conducted one of the training sessions during the session for Policy Makers and Conservation Practitioners;
- Increased the visibility of the Ramsar Convention and RAMCEA during the UNFCCC COP 21 in December 2015 and African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in March 2015
- Development of a partnership with the Japan International Corporation Agency for; scaling up the National Wetlands Project activities in the Region, (2) Hosting a mini pre-COP 13 Wetland symposium in Uganda
- Participated in the Ramsar Convention COP12 in the main Conference, Side Events and also co-hosted a side event with the Ramsar Regional Center for Central America (CREHO) and the Ramsar Regional Center for East Asia (RRCEA)

3. Financial report for Year 2015

Provide a summary of income and expenditures. If you use another currency than Swiss Franc (CHF), please provide an average **exchange rate to the CHF**:

Activities	Planned expenditures	Real expenditures
	amount (currency) CHF	amount (currency)CHF
High level launch RAMCEA Strategic Framework	35,000	0
Operationalise the RAMCEA website	25,000	3,500
Hold follow up training of Ramsar site managers	20,000	1,000
Document and disseminate best wetland management practices	25,000	1,000
Prepare and disseminate a regional wetlands research strategy	15,000	7,500
Facilitate a regional platform to coordinate implementation of CEPA activities by partner states	15,000	7,500
Create a data base/ network hubs and portals of Experts, Focal Points and other Partners	10,000	2,000
Facilitate the operations of the RAMCEA Regional Advisory Council	35,000	16800
Facilitate the operations of the RAMCEA Secretariat	20,000	6,000
Total	200,000	45,300

sources of income (donors)	income received
donor name	amount (currency)
Government of Uganda	UGX 45,443,000 (CHF 13,800)
Ramsar core budget (where applicable)	amount (currency) CHF 28,000
Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS)	CHF 3,500
Total:	CHF 45,300

Financial balance as at 31 December 2015: amount left to be carried over to 2016, or deficit **UGX 1,295,825 equivalent to CHF 393.5**

4. Work and activities planned for Year 2016

Provide a simple summary of your planned work, by listing your activities, their anticipated results and your indicators of success according to the format below:

Objectives	Activities	Results/outputs	Indicators
	Activity to be undertaken	expected achievements	verification of success
To promote and ensure best practices on sustainable wetlands management in the region	Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents and case studies that demonstrate best practices	Lessons learnt and Best Practices	Wetlands Best Practices Publication
To determine the status and trends of wetland resources in the region to guide decision	Conduct Wetland Assessments	At least 1 wetland assessment process technically backstopped	Technical Support Reports

making			
To Enhance the knowledge base and stakeholder awareness on sustainable wetland management in the region	Conduct periodic update and upgrade of the RAMCEA Website	• RAMCEA Website maintained	Functional website
	Conduct refresher courses and tailor made capacity development programmes on Wetland Management	Regional Trainers of Trainers conducted Selected stakeholders trained on wetland management	Number of Trainees Training Reports
To support wetland policies and institutional processes in the region to enhance wetland management	Facilitate preparation of sustainable wetland management policy briefs	Wetland Policy briefs prepared and disseminated	Policy briefs
To develop and maintain a regional network of Ramsar sites and other wetlands that provide important ecosystem services	Carry out consultations for twinning of three Ramsar sites namely Lake Natron (Tanzania), Lake Nakuru (Kenya) and Lake (Uganda) Ramsar sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas and modalities for twinning agreed to and collated • Exchange visit to one twinning site facilitated 	Reports Twinning agreements
To facilitate the operations of the RAMCEA Regional Advisory Council and Secretariat	Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Governing Council	RAMCEA Regional Governing Council meeting organized	Record of Discussion Approved annual work plan and budget
	Maintain the RAMCEA Offices	RAMCEA offices equipped and functional	Functional Offices
Update RIS of Ramsar Sites of RAMCEA country members	Capacity building of Ramsar focal points and Ramsar Sites managers on the use of the new Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS)	By COP13, all the RIS of Ramsar Sites within RAMCEA country members are updated	SC54 document on Status of Ramsar Sites

5. Financial plan for the year 2016

Provide a summary of expected income and budgeted/planned expenditures. If you use another currency than Swiss Franc (CHF), please provide an average **exchange rate to the CHF**:

Activities	Planned expenditures	Expected income and source (amount (currency CHF) and donor name)	
		Amount (currency) CHF	Government of Uganda
Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents and case studies that demonstrate best practices	25,000	5,000	20,000
Conduct Wetland Assessments	20,000	5,000	15,000
Conduct periodic update and upgrade of the RAMCEA Website	10,000	5,000	5,000
Conduct refresher courses and tailor made capacity development programmes on Wetland Management	25,000	5000	20,000
Facilitate preparation of sustainable wetland management policy briefs	15,000	4,000	11,000
Carry out consultations for twinning	10,000	2,500	7,500

of three Ramsar sites namely Lake Natron (Tanzania), Lake Nakuru (Kenya) and Lake (Uganda) Ramsar sites			
Participate in Ramsar SC52 and meeting of Regional Initiatives	5,000	5,000	0
Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Governing Council	25,000	5,000	20,000
Capacity building of Ramsar focal points and Ramsar Sites managers on the use of the new Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS)	20,000	5,000	15,000
Pay staff costs and maintain RAMCEA Offices	20,000	10,000	10,000
Total	175,000	51,500	123,500

Budget summary

Donor	Amount (CHF)
Government of Uganda	51,500
Other donors ¹	123,500

Note: 1 CHF = 1.1 dollars

Conclusions and Recommendations

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RAMCEA has now embarked on a process of developing and implementing a Resource Mobilisation Plan to ensure sustainability. RAMCEA will continue to strength links and collaboration with Birdlife International Africa Office, IUCN Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa, JICA, Globe Wetland Africa team, Wetlands International. There will also be increased coordination and active involvement of the partner states, in implementing the Strategic plan and the new Ramsar Strategic plan.

¹ The RAMCEA Secretariat will work with the Africa team at the Ramsar Secretariat, Government of Uganda and Partner States to mobilize additional financial resources