

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

Annual Summary Report for Year 2016 and Plan for Year 2017

(4 pages maximum)

1. Title of your Regional Initiative: RAMSAR CENTRE FOR EASTERN AFRICA (RAMCEA)

2. Work and activities undertaken during Year 2016

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	Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents and case studies that demonstrate best practices	A wetland wise use model was developed printed A regional symposium with 53 participants comprising of Local and Central Government Technical Officers, a Wetland Specialist from the Nile Basin, the Regional Director for Africa, BirdLife International and the National Focal Point for Ramsar from Burundi, was held to disseminate lessons learnt in Uganda.	Wetlands best practices publication
To determine the status and trends of wetland resources in the region to guide decision making	Conduct Wetland Assessments	Development of the wetland assessment tool under the Globwetland Africa project technically supported A tool for detailed wetland assessment for Uganda developed and printed	Technical support reports/ tools
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 routinely maintained	Functional website
	Conduct refresher courses and tailor made capacity development programmes on Wetland Management	National training for all District Natural Resources Officers (104 Officers in total) on wetland wise use conducted Hands on skills imparted through Field excursions to the National Wetland Management Project pilot sites in Eastern Uganda to facilitate learning for selected Local Government Officials (104 Officers in total) undertaken	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	Not undertaken	Policy brief
To develop and maintain a regional network of Ramsar sites and other	Carry out consultations for twinning of three Ramsar sites namely Lake Natron	Concept note on the Modalities for twinning developed and yet to be shared with partner states	Reports Twinning agreements

wetlands that provide important ecosystem services	(Tanzania), Lake Nakuru (Kenya) and Lake George (Uganda) Ramsar sites		
To facilitate the operations of the RAMCEA Regional Advisory Council and Secretariat	Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Governing Council	There was no face to face meeting held during the period under review due to limited funding.	Record of Discussion Approved annual work plan and budget
	Maintain the RAMCEA Offices	RAMCEA offices equipped and functional	Functional Offices
Update the Ramsar information Sheets of Ramsar Sites in the RAMCEA country member states	Capacity building of Ramsar focal points and Ramsar site managers on the use of the new Ramsar Sites Information Service(RSIS)	6 Wetland Officers from Uganda trained by the Africa team of the Ramsar Secretariat. 12 Ramsar site maps for Uganda updated 1 Ramsar Information Sheet for Nabugabo Ramsar site updated.	SC54 document on status of Ramsar sites

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;

3. Financial report for Year 2016

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	Actual expenditures
	Amount (currency) CHF	
Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents and case studies that demonstrate best practices	25,000	1,701
Conduct Wetland Assessments	20,000	3,712
Conduct periodic update and upgrade of the RAMCEA Website	10,000	1,211
Conduct refresher courses and tailor made capacity development programmes on Wetland Management	25,000	1,965
Facilitate preparation of sustainable wetland management policy briefs	15,000	723
Carry out consultations for twining of three Ramsar sites namely Lake Natron (Tanzania), Lake Nakuru (Kenya) and Lake George(Uganda) Ramsar sites	10,000	500
Participate in Ramsar SC52 and meeting of Regional Initiatives	5,000	4,136
Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Governing Council	25,000	4,670
Capacity building of Ramsar focal points and Ramsar Sites managers on the use of the new Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS)	20,000	2,000
Pay staff costs and maintain RAMCEA Offices	20,000	1,691
Total	175,000	22,309

Sources of income (donors)	Income received	
Donor name	Amount (currency)	Amount in CHF

Government of Uganda	65,044,662 (UGX)	15,938
Ramsar core budget (where applicable)	4,670(CHF)	4,670
Birdlife International	2,000 (US\$)	1,701
Total:		22,309

Financial balance as at 31 December 2016: The amount left to be carried over to 2017, or deficit UGX 21,663,841= equivalent to CHF 5,501.

4. Work and activities planned for Year 2017

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 that demonstrate best practices	Lessons learnt from 3 critical wetland sites under the "Sustainable use of critical wetlands in the Lake Victoria Basin Project" documented	Lessons learnt publication
To determine the status and trends of wetland resources in the region to guide decision making	Support and undertake Wetland Assessments in the region	Testing of the wetland assessment tool developed under Globwetland Africa project and other related process technically back stopped	Technical Support Reports
To Enhance the knowledge base and stakeholder awareness on sustainable wetland management in the region	Conduct regular update and upgrade of the RAMCEA Website	Regular upgrade and maintenance of the RAMCEA website conducted.	Functional website
	Profile Wetland Education Centers in partner states	Profile sheets for the Wetland Education Centers prepared	At least 5 profile sheets
To support wetland policies and institutional processes in the region to enhance wetland management	Facilitate preparation of sustainable wetland management policy briefs	A policy brief on wetland restoration prepared and disseminated	1 Policy brief
To develop and maintain a regional network of Ramsar sites and other wetlands that provide important ecosystem services	Develop modalities and a stepwise approach for twinning in the region	A stepwise approach for twinning of wetlands in East Africa prepared	Report
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 fully functional	Functional Offices

Update RIS of Ramsar Sites of RAMCEA country members	Support the update of Ramsar site information in the region	4 RIS updated	Report on the Status of Ramsar Sites
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5. Financial plan for the year 2017

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	Other donors to be identified
Publish and disseminate Lessons learnt documents that demonstrate best practices	21,000	3,000	18,000
Support and undertake Wetland Assessments in the region	17,000	2,500	14,500
Conduct regular update and upgrade of the RAMCEA Website	6,500	1,500	5,000
Profile Wetland Education Centers in partner states	5,500	2,500	3,000
Facilitate preparation of sustainable wetland management policy briefs	6,000	2,000	4,000
Develop modalities and a stepwise approach for twinning in the region	7,000	2,500	4,500
Hold 1 meeting of RAMCEA Regional Governing Council	22,000	8,000	14,000
Pay staff and maintain the RAMCEA Offices	24,000	5,000	19,000
Support the update of Ramsar site information in the region	16,000	3,000	13,000
Total	125,000	30,000	95,000

Budget summary

Donor	Amount (CHF)
Government of Uganda	30,000
Other donors ⁱ	95,000

Note: 1 CHF = 1.1 dollars

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RAMCEA has over the last year engaged in a number of collaborations geared at effort to mobilise resources to support the implementation of the RAMCEA strategic framework and also creating networks for implementation of the various outputs. Joint proposal were developed between European Space Agency, Danish Hydraulic Institute and Geoville to harness on the strengths of the various players.

RAMCEA is currently implementing several projects that include “Sustainable use of critical wetlands in the Lake Victoria Basin Project” which is collaboration between Birdlife International; GlobWetland Africa a project that is development tools for wetland assessment and is a partnership with the Ramsar Secretariat, European Space Agency and Wetlands International.

However, there have been challenges with implementation of several planned activities due to limited funding. Much as Government of Uganda contributed substantially to most of the implemented activities, the funding was inadequate.

Therefore, a lot of effort will be placed in resource mobilization, lobbying of the various partner states to support implementation of key outputs and creating of networks with other local, regional and international institutions that can finance and support implementation.

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