

Annex II

Combined annual reporting and forward planning format

Annual Report for year 2017 and Plan for Year 2018 (4 pages maximum)

1. Title of your Regional Initiative:

Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands (CariWet)

2. Work and activities undertaken during 2017

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
1. Financial sustainability of the regional initiative.	1.1 Finalize the second stage IKI project and start implementation.	1.1 Implement the priorities of the work plan of the initiative.	1.1 Activities implemented according to the work plan for 2017.
2. Management planning and monitoring of Ramsar	2.1 Case studies about the benefits of Ramsar site designation in the Caribbean	2.2. Preparation of case studies.	2.2. In progress preparation of case studies
3. The implementation of the initiative by the coordination committee	3.1 Meeting of the Coordination Committee	3.1 Review the progress and challenges on the implementation of the Convention in the Caribbean 3.2 Review of the finalization of the 2 nd stage and start of the implementation of the IKI project.	3.1 Ongoing activities for the implementation of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 and the work plan of the regional initiative and references on challenges. 3.2 IKI project formally approved.

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

3. Activities undertaken to improve the operational criteria 2013-2015

Mention any follow up activities undertaken to improve the following operational criteria:

- 1) Involvement of other interested actors (ministries, intergovernmental organisms, associated international organizations, NGOs, academia, local communities, actors in the economic sector) (Criteria 20)
- 2) Increase the visibility of the Convention. Specific activities in the areas of communication, education and participation. (Criteria 25)
- 3) Political and financial support from the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders (Criteria 27)
- 4) The initiative must ensure the funding for the development of its activities and projects. (Criteria 29)

Criteria	Agreed Action
<p>1) Involvement of other interested actors (ministries, intergovernmental organisms, associated international organizations, NGOs, academia, local communities, actors in the economic sector) (Criteria 20)</p>	<p>The key players identified in the sub region continue participating in the meetings of the initiative and synergies have been strengthened with UNEP Caribbean Environmental Program, through the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) in the Wider Caribbean Region, the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, Conservatoire du Littoral, and BirdLife International.</p> <p>To improve the engagement of the governments and key stakeholders in the initiative the CPs made progress on the preparation of a map of regional and national actors. As well identify of common interest and positions about Ramsar implementation in Caribbean Sub regional.</p> <p>The Initiative is working to strength links with CARICOM and the Association of Caribbean States.</p>
<p>2) Increase the visibility of the Convention. Specific activities in the areas of communication, education and participation. (Criteria 25)</p>	<p>The initiative currently has a logo. About the web site some CPs will explore/consult the option to build and host the web site.</p> <p>The parties made progress on the preparation of a brochure to raise the visibility of the Convention and the initiative at the national level as well as the preparation of a video that showcases the Ramsar Sites and other wetlands of the Caribbean.</p> <p>Parties also are preparing the case studies about the benefits of Ramsar Site designation at least of one Ramsar Site/wetland per country. Drafts of case studies have been sent to the Senior Advisor for the Americas by 16 November 2016 and are being reviewed.</p> <p>As well to sharing between all countries of our region the main progress in the implementation, opportunities and challenges of Ramsar Convention in Caribbean Sub region including effective management of sites, regulations for protection and public involvement on the sites.</p>
<p>3) Political and financial support from the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders (Criteria 27)</p>	<p>In general terms the initiative has made good progress and the main achievements so far are a Strategic Framework and Financial Strategy, a Work Plan 2010-2016, the initiative's regulations for the Coordination Committee.</p> <p>Contracting Parties reviewed and adjusted Cariwet work plan 2010-2016 to 2016-2024. In general new activities were added about ecosystem services,</p>

	<p>some existing activities were refined and a new column for remarks was also added.</p> <p>Contracting Parties agreed the preparation by the Secretariat of a simple template to monitor progress on the implementation of the work plan once a year. The template will be sent by the Secretariat 3 months before the annual meeting of the initiative.</p> <p>In terms of political support for the initiative, the Parties agreed that it is important to continue working to maintain a strong commitment of all the focal points and AA under the leadership of the initiative's coordinators.</p> <p>The CPs agreed to work with other Regional Initiatives in the Americas to reach a regional consensus on areas of common interest for the Pre-COP regional meeting in March 2018, SC54 in April and COP13 in October 2018. In special with the Mangrove and coral reef Initiative.</p>
4) The initiative must ensure the funding for the development of its activities and projects. (Criteria 29)	Concerning the Regional Project, the Contracting Parties discussed mechanisms of implementation of the regional project in each country and at the regional level, considering logistics and financial mechanisms. The Caribbean Contracting Part considering that project will be an important tool for implementation of Ramsar Convention in our region. All Parts agreed since 2016 that it has to be implemented jointly by Contracting Parties and the Secretariat of the Convention.

4. Financial report for Year 2017

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

Activities	Planned expenditures CHF	Actual expenditures CHF
1.1 Meeting of the Coordination Committee	25,000	30,000
Total		

Sources of income	Income received
Government of Dominican Republic	10,000
Others	20,000
Ramsar core budget (where applicable)	amount (currency)
Total	30,000

Financial balance at 31 December 2017: total unspent and uncommitted balance left to be carried over to 2013, or deficit:

For those initiatives receiving funding from the Convention in 2017, please explain how this funding has been spent or committed, and compare this to the plan on which the funding request was based. Explain any significant scope or timetable changes:

5. Work and activities planned for Year 2018

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
1. Financial sustainability of the regional initiative.	1.1 Start implementation of the IKI project. 1.2 The Dominican Republic will host the IKI project.	1.1 Implement the priorities of the work plan of the initiative.	1.1 Activities implemented according to the work plan for 2018.
2. 2. Management planning and monitoring of Ramsar	2.1 Case studies about the benefits of Ramsar site designation in the Caribbean	2.2. Preparation of case studies.	2.2. Case studies published and disseminated.
3. Follow up on the implementation of the work plan of the regional initiative by the Coordination committee.	3.1. Meeting of the Coordination Committee.	3.1 Parties hand over to the Secretariat at the end of February 2018, information related on indicators agreed on. 3.2 Participation in the Pan American meeting.	3.1 A report presented at the Pre-COP Ramsar regional meeting on March 12 th to 16 th in San José, Costa Rica. 3.2 Progress report to be presented to the Pan American meeting.

For those initiatives requesting funding from the Convention for 2018, please provide a financial summary of your 2018 plan. If you use another currency than Swiss Franc (CHF), please provide an average exchange rate to allow conversion into CHF:

Activities	Forecast/budgeted expenditures real expenditures (CHF)
1.1 Participation in the Pan-American meeting.	25,000
1.2 Implementation of regional project	1,606,000
Total	1,631,000

Sources of Income	Forecast/budgeted amount of income
Countries and donors	1,631,000
Request from Ramsar core budget 2018	N/A
Total	1,631,000