



Side Event Descriptions June 1-9 2015

Wednesday 3rd June, Morning 9:00 – 10:30

(69) Latin America and the Caribbean network of wetland Centres *Involving communities in the conservation of wetlands through local actions*

This side event expects to strengthen existing networks for those working on wetland conservation, through local actions involving communities and promoting the Ramsar CEPA programme in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) within the WLI global network. The objectives of this event are:

- To build/propose an agenda for the management of wetland centres;
- To share lessons and learning in the management of centres, highlighting the role of local actors and cases of good practices;
- To identify strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and common/shared threats of wetland centres;
- To strengthen the support networks between regional centres in Latin America and the LAC

Lead organization: Red de Centros de Humedales de Latinoamérica y El Caribe

Language: Spanish

Room: Cancun

SPANISH

Red de Centros de Humedales en Latinoamérica y el Caribe *involucrando comunidades en la conservación de humedales a través de acciones locales*

Con el desarrollo del evento se espera fortalecer las redes de apoyo existentes para aquellos que trabajan en la conservación de humedales a través de acciones locales, que involucran a las comunidades y que promueven el programa CECOP de Ramsar en Latinoamérica y El Caribe (LAC) y con la red global de WLI. Los objetivos del evento son:

- Construir / proponer una agenda de gestión de Centros de Humedales;
- Compartir lecciones y aprendizajes en la gestión de Centros, destacando el papel de actores locales y de casos de buenas prácticas;
- Identificar fortalezas, oportunidades, debilidades y amenazas comunes/compartidas, de los centros de humedales;
- Fortalecer redes de apoyo entre Centros de Humedales de LAC;
- Analizar como el programa CECOP de Ramsar puede ser más adecuado al trabajo de los centros de humedales de LAC en el contexto de la región.

Organización principal: Red de Centros de Humedales de Latinoamérica y El Caribe

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: Cancun

(10) Celebrating the designation of new Ramsar Sites

To celebrate the designation of new Ramsar sites (to-be) in Japan, inviting local governments officials (governors, mayors) to receive the certificate (from the Secretariat General), inviting them to express their commitment to wetland conservation and wise use, and inviting the participants to consider the role of Ramsar sites in the implementation of the Convention. Other Parties especially in the East Asian Region, which have new Ramsar Sites, are welcome to be involved in this event.

Lead organization: Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)

Language: English

Room: Barriloché

Catering

(4) Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI): Strategies for Enhancing Collaboration among Migratory Species Conservation Initiatives throughout the Hemisphere

WHMSI aims to significantly enhance the conservation of shared migratory species throughout the Americas. The side event will present several migratory species best practices as highlighted by WHMSI grants implemented over the last decade. Ramsar Wetlands (from inland wetlands to coral reefs and sea grass beds) are critical stop over areas for migratory species, and are instrumental in enhancing conservation efforts that support migratory species. Cooperation among countries is essential for wetland conservation, given the international linkages peculiar to these habitats. For example, wetland areas are affected by impacts upon streams and rivers occurring at considerable distances and in many cases beyond national boundaries, transboundary air and water pollution affect the integrity of wetland areas, and much of the wetland fauna are migratory species whose management requires international cooperation.

Lead organization: Organization of American States/WHMSI

Language: English

Room: Caribe

Catering

SPANISH

WHMSI: estrategias para fomentar la colaboración entre iniciativas para la conservación de especies migratorias a través del hemisferio

El objetivo de WHMSI es fomentar significativamente la conservación de especies migratorias compartidas a través de las Américas. Este evento paralelo presentará algunos ejemplos de mejores prácticas para las especies migratorias tal como se resaltan en las subvenciones de WHMSI implementadas en la última década. Los humedales de Ramsar (desde humedales continentales hasta arrecifes coralinos y lechos marinos) son áreas de paso críticas para las especies migratorias y son instrumentales para fomentar los esfuerzos para la conservación de especies migratorias. La cooperación entre los países es esencial para la conservación de los humedales, dados los vínculos internacionales peculiares de estos hábitats. Por ejemplo, los humedales son zonas afectadas por los impactos sobre los arroyos y ríos aun cuando estos ocurren a distancias considerables o en algunos casos más allá de fronteras nacionales, la contaminación transfronteriza del agua y el aire afecta la

integridad de zonas de humedales y gran parte de la fauna de humedales son especies migratorias cuyo manejo requiere cooperación internacional.

Organización principal: Organización de estados americanos.

Lenguaje: Inglés

Salón: Caribe

Catering

(726) Improving the Integrated Management of Sites with Multiple International Designations (Ramsar sites, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves, Global Geoparks)/ IUCN World Heritage Outlook and its application to Ramsar sites

This side event will cover a project being carried by IUCN on *improving the integrated management system of protected areas with overlapping designations*. The project is being developed, to the maximum extent possible, in full coordination with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the relevant sections of UNESCO. A guidance document will be published in four languages for the 2016 World Conservation Congress in Hawaii (USA). This document is intended as a manual for managers of sites with multiple designations, but also for national authorities in charge of the above-mentioned protected areas as well as for the UNESCO and Ramsar Convention secretariats and other international bodies and programmes (*inter alia* FAO, UNEP-WCMC, European Union for Natura 2000 sites). Delegates attending COP12 of the Ramsar Convention are invited to a briefing on this ongoing IUCN Project. Moreover, delegates may wish to provide advice on how management of sites with multiple international designations may be improved at the site level as well as at the national and global levels.

This side event also will introduce the IUCN World Heritage Outlook – the first global assessment of all natural World Heritage sites (228 sites globally as of 2014). The concept and methodology of the World Heritage Outlook and its main outcomes and results will be presented. This will be followed by a discussion on how this methodology can be applied to Ramsar sites and how priority sites can be identified. The Outlook methodology can be used as a tool to compile comprehensive information on conservation issues that Ramsar sites are facing and therefore help improve their conservation. The presentation will also include the demonstration of the online platform develop for the IUCN World Heritage Outlook and of ways it can be expanded to include assessments of Ramsar sites and be linked to the existing database of the Ramsar Secretariat.

Lead organization: IUCN/ IUCN, World Heritage programme

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

SPANISH

Mejorando el Manejo Integrado de Sitios con Múltiples Designaciones Internacionales (Sitios Ramsar, sitios Patrimonio de la Humanidad, Reservas de la Biosfera, Geoparques Globales)/ UICN Estado del Patrimonio Mundial y su aplicación a los Sitios Ramsar.

Este evento paralelo abarcará un proyecto que se está llevando a cabo por la UICN sobre la *Mejoría del manejo integrado de áreas protegidas con designaciones superpuestas*. El proyecto está en proceso de desarrollo, en la medida de lo posible, en completa coordinación con la Secretaría de la Convención de Ramsar y las secciones relevantes de UNESCO. Un documento guía será publicado en cuatro idiomas para el Congreso de Conservación Mundial 2016 en Hawái (EEUU). Este documento servirá como manual para los

gestores de sitios con designaciones múltiples y también para las autoridades nacionales responsables de dichas áreas protegidas, al igual que para las Secretarías de las Convenciones de UNESCO y de Ramsar y otros órganos y programas internacionales (*inter alia* La Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, UNEP-WCMC y La Unión Europea para sitios Natura 2000). Delegados participando en la COP12 de la Convención de Ramsar están invitados a brindar asesoría sobre como el manejo de sitios con múltiples designaciones internacionales puede ser mejorado al nivel del sitio, al igual que al nivel nacional y global.

Adicionalmente, este evento paralelo introducirá la Perspectiva del Patrimonio Mundial de la UICN- la primera valoración de todos los sitios Patrimonio Mundial (228 sitios a nivel global a partir de 2014). El concepto y la metodología de la Perspectiva del Patrimonio Mundial y sus resultados principales serán presentados, seguido de una discusión sobre cómo esta metodología puede ser aplicada a los Sitios Ramsar y como prioridades pueden ser identificadas. La metodología de la Perspectiva puede ser utilizada como una herramienta para recopilar información completa sobre los problemas que los Sitios Ramsar enfrentan y así ayudar a mejorar su conservación. La presentación también incluirá una demostración de la plataforma en línea desarrollada para la Perspectiva del Patrimonio Mundial de la UICN y alternativas para expandirla con el fin de incluir valoraciones de Sitios Ramsar y vincularla a la base de datos de la Secretaría de Ramsar.

Organización líder: UICN/ Programa del Patrimonio Mundial de la UICN

Lenguaje: inglés

Salón: Punta del Este B

Catering (TBD)

FRENCH

L'amélioration de la Gestion Intégrée des Sites possédant plusieurs désignations internationales (sites Ramsar, sites du patrimoine mondial, réserves de la biosphère, Global géoparcs)/ UICN Patrimoine Mondial Outlook et son application aux sites Ramsar

Cet événement parallèle couvrira un projet conduit par l'UICN sur l'amélioration du système de management intégré de zones protégées avec chevauchement des désignations. Le projet est développé, dans toute la mesure du possible, en étroite coordination avec le secrétariat de la Convention de Ramsar et les sections pertinentes de l'UNESCO. Un document de référence sera publié en quatre langues pour le World Conservation Congress 2016 à Hawaï (USA). Ce document est conçu comme un guide pour les gestionnaires de sites avec des désignations multiples, mais aussi pour les autorités nationales en charge des zones protégées mentionnées ci-dessus ainsi que pour l'UNESCO et Secrétariats de la Convention de Ramsar et d'autres organismes et programmes internationaux (notamment la FAO, le PNUE-WCMC, l'Union européenne pour les sites Natura 2000). Les délégués présents à la COP12 de la Convention de Ramsar sont invités à une séance d'information sur ce projet de l'UICN en cours. En outre, les délégués voudront peut-être aussi donner leur avis sur la façon dont la gestion de sites possédant plusieurs désignations internationales peut être améliorée à l'échelle du site ainsi qu'aux niveaux national et mondial.

De plus, cet événement parallèle présentera le patrimoine mondial de l'UICN Outlook - la première évaluation mondiale de tous les sites du patrimoine mondial naturel (228 sites dans le monde à compter de 2014). Le concept et la méthodologie du patrimoine mondial Outlook et ses principaux résultats attendus et répercussions seront présentés. Ceci sera suivie d'une discussion sur la manière dont cette méthode peut être appliquée aux sites Ramsar et comment les sites prioritaires peuvent être identifiés. La méthodologie Outlook peut être utilisée comme un outil pour compiler des informations complètes sur les questions de conservation auxquelles les sites Ramsar sont confrontés et donc contribuer à améliorer leur conservation. La présentation comprendra également la démonstration de la plate-forme en ligne développée pour le patrimoine mondial de l'UICN Outlook et les façons dont cette plate-forme peut être élargie pour inclure

l'évaluation des sites Ramsar et être liée à la base de données existante du Secrétariat Ramsar. Le projet de résolution sur le statut de la Liste de Ramsar prie "le Secrétariat d'étudier la possibilité d'étendre le patrimoine mondial de l'UICN Outlook à 100 autres sites Ramsar qui sont menacés, d'estimer les coûts et de proposer des mécanismes financiers pour appuyer de telles démarches et chercher des financements volontaires appropriés."

Organisateur : IUCN/IUCN, Programme du Patrimoine Mondial

Langue: Anglais

Salle: Punta del Este B

Service traiteur (TBD)

(28) Peatlands, climate regulation and biodiversity in a Ramsar perspective

This side event will be linked to the draft resolution on peatlands which has been drafted by NorBalWet and with assistance from Greifswald University in Germany. The draft resolution was discussed at length at the Standing Committee meeting in January 2015. It is the expectation that the event will be able to explain the rationale for this draft resolution in more detail and build upon the results of the NorBalWet peatlands report drafted by Greifswald University in Germany which highlights the importance of peatlands in climate regulation as well as for biodiversity conservation. Although anchored in a regional case the results and recommendation of that report certainly do have global relevance and importance.

A Policy Paper will be prepared for the event giving the main results of the study in 8-10 pages. The envisaged outcome is that the audience is enlightened on the important role peatlands play in climate regulation and thereby an explanation and opportunity to discuss the draft resolution on peatlands as well as drawing the attention towards the opportunity to raise awareness and communication of these messages by using the additional criterion for climate regulation in Ramsar peatlands site designation and to be used as CEPA pilots.

Lead organization: NorBalWet

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

(42) The Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation: a new label for local action

Pursuant to Resolution XI.11 (*Principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands*) of the Convention on Wetlands, it is appropriate to have a mechanism to provide positive branding opportunities for proactive cities to engage with communities and to demonstrate strong and positive relationships with wetlands. The government of the Republic of Korea and Tunisia have expressed their intention, on various occasions, to offer their assistance in developing a mechanism that meets the needs and aspirations of the Ramsar Convention and have submitted to the 12th Ramsar Conference of the Parties, draft resolution (COP12-DR10) on the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation.

Lead organization: Korea and Tunisia

Language: English/ French

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(38) Understanding NGO Perspectives on the Ramsar Convention: Survey results and case studies from the World Wetland Network

Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) play a vital role in implementation of the Ramsar Convention at the local level. They actively protect, restore and promote wetlands. Given that human and financial resources are scarce, it seems prudent that Ramsar Parties carefully consider how best to work with NGOs for the greatest gain.

This Side Event will help Contracting Parties develop a greater understanding of the role, commitment and potential of wetland NGOs to implement the Ramsar Convention. World Wetland Network members will present the outcomes of their recent survey of 190 NGO representatives from 52 countries covering Oceania, Europe, North and Latin America and Asia. More than 60% of respondents use Ramsar messages and resources for their work, and more than half are prepared to increase their role in wetland monitoring and practical rehabilitation. Find out what NGOs think of the Ramsar Convention, how they use it in their work, their capacity and commitment to Ramsar delivery and ideas for improvement. The presentation will conclude with case studies highlighting NGO concerns about wetland threats and their practical contributions to wetland conservation.

Lead organization: World Wetland Network

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

Wednesday 3rd June, Evening Session 18:15 – 19:45

(6) Management of Ramsar sites of International Importance and development of national wetland parks in China

The side event seeks to inform the world about China's achievements in Ramsar Sites' management and national wetland parks construction in the past decades. This side event will demonstrate the innovative approaches that have been taken in China to manage Ramsar Sites of International Importance and set up a model by establishment of national wetland parks to have greatly improved public education and awareness-raising through wetland education centres.

Lead organization: China, State Forestry Administration

Language: English

Room: Barriloché

Catering

FRENCH

Gestion de sites Ramsar d'importance internationale et le développement des parcs nationaux de zones humides en Chine

L'événement parallèle vise à informer le monde sur les réalisations de la Chine dans les sites Ramsar gestion et construction de parcs nationaux de zones humides au cours des dernières décennies. Cet événement parallèle permettra de démontrer les approches novatrices qui ont été mise en place par la Chine pour gérer les sites Ramsar d'importance internationale et configurer un modèle qui établit que la création de parcs nationaux de zones humides a considérablement amélioré l'éducation publique et sensibilisé davantage par le biais des centres d'éducation des zones humides.

Organisateur : China, State Forestry Administration

Langue: Anglais

(50) Introduction to the implementation of the Ramsar convention in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam

This proposed side event will provide an introduction to the diversity of Ramsar sites in the Indo-Burma region and present some of the ongoing work and key achievements of the Ramsar implementation including:

- Overview of wetlands diversity in the Indo-Burma region: Through the presentation of case studies, National Focal Points from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam will provide an update on the existing network of Ramsar sites and activities ongoing in those sites and will present the challenges and threats to the sites and the strategies to address those.
- Climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans: The event will highlight four case studies from the region and present how local climate projections (downscaled from global projections and combined with detailed assessment of local knowledge and perception of climate change) can support the design for locally led adaptation plans. Those plans in return can inform guidelines and policies at the regional level.
- Cultural value of the wetlands: In the Indo Burma region culture and local beliefs are intrinsically linked to the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Through short documentaries and presentations the event will present some of the key cultural values of some wetlands in Lao PDR and Thailand and how local beliefs are being taken into account in the development of management plans and local regulations.
- Regional dialogues and a proposal for an Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional initiative: The five countries of the Indo-Burma region are now gathering to propose the creation of an Indo-Burma Regional Initiative. The event will present the key objectives and proposed organization of the Regional Initiative.

Lead organization: IUCN Asia Regional Office
Language: English
Room: Caribe
Catering

(1) Working for wetlands in the Mediterranean—Progress and challenges

The aim of this side event is to provide a presentation of a major initiative for wetland conservation and the wise use plan for the Mediterranean region in response to the forthcoming SDGs (2016-2030), as well as presenting the progress in developing indicators on wetlands conservation status during the last triennium (MWO).

Lead organization: Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet)
Language: Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish
Room: Rio de Janeiro A
Catering

FRENCH

Travailler pour les zones humides en Méditerranée - Progrès et défis

Le but de cet événement est de fournir une présentation d'un projet majeur pour la conservation des zones humides et le plan de l'utilisation rationnelle pour la région méditerranéenne en réponse à la prochaine

SDGs (2016-2030), ainsi que de présenter les progrès dans l'élaboration d'indicateurs sur l'état de conservation des zones humides au cours de la dernière période triennale (MWO).

Organisateur : Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet)

Langue: L'interprétation simultanée en anglais, français et espagnol

Salle: Rio de Janeiro A

Service Traiteur

SPANISH

Trabajando por los humedales en el Mediterráneo – Progreso y retos

El objetivo de este evento paralelo es presenta una gran iniciativa para la conservación de los humedales y el plan de uso racional para la región del Mediterráneo en respuesta a los próximos ODS (2016-2030). Asi como presentar el progreso en el desarrollo de indicadores sobre el estado de conservación de los humedales durante el último trienio.

Organización Lider: Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet)

Lenguaje: Interpretación simultánea en inglés, francés y español

Salón: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(19) Implementation of the Ramsar-JICA Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC): Past, Present and Future

This side event includes a signing ceremony of the new MOC between the Ramsar Secretariat and JICA. A panel discussion will be conducted on expected effects of the new MOC following presentations on the outcome and good practice on wetland conservation.

Lead organization: JICA and Ramsar Secretariat

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

SPANISH

Implementación del Memorando de Cooperación (MOC) Ramsar-JICA: Pasado, Presente y Futuro

Este evento paralelo incluye una ceremonia para firmar el nuevo memorando de cooperación entre la Secretaría de Ramsar y JICA. Un Panel de discusión sobre los efectos esperados del nuevo memorando se llevara a cabo después algunas presentaciones sobre los resultados y buenas prácticas para la conservación de los humedales.

Organización líder: JICA/Secretaria de Ramsar

Lenguaje: Inglés

Salón: Punta del Este B

Catering

(5848) Northern and Arctic wetlands filling the information gaps and addressing global issues and Peatland conservation and rehabilitation for climate change and biodiversity: implications for the Ramsar Convention

The role of peatlands in climate change mitigation and adaptation has been addressed in a wide range of International agreements including the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Ecosystems with carbon-rich soils are recently also considered by the Convention for Combating Desertification (UNCCD). As a rule, decisions of these international forums formulate the global issue and provide political and economic incentives and mechanisms for action to address the issues. With respect to peatlands, the Ramsar Convention has adopted a number of resolutions and issued guidelines, statements and general recommendations for action. The Ramsar Convention also has a practical mechanism to implement such recommendations via the management of sites designated as wetlands of international importance and via its broad network of experts and wetlands managers and its joint work plan with the CBD. This side event aims to demonstrate examples of best practices implemented in the countries in accordance with the priorities set by the Resolution VIII.17. It will also analyse the implementation of this Resolution by countries over the last 12 years and make recommendations to follow up.

Wetlands International and partners invite countries to share information on the current status and challenges in northern wetlands and discuss possible ways forward, using the mechanisms and tools available within the framework of the Ramsar Convention. We plan to address several issues regarding knowledge gaps and share some key findings such as the results of ongoing projects on northern wetlands management and conservation for climate change adaptation and mitigation. We will also consider the Memorandum of Cooperation signed at COP11 (Bucharest, 2012) between the Ramsar Secretariat and CAFF, and outcomes of the peatlands survey carried out under the Nordic Baltic Initiative. The cases will demonstrate the potential of upscaling the efforts of countries to address the decisions of the Convention on global issues.

Lead organization: Wetlands International

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

(60) Wetland centres, a global and local tool for Ramsar CEPA delivery

The side event will highlight the importance of the wetland education centre (WEC) approach in delivering Ramsar's CEPA programme at wetland sites. It will describe the Wetland Link International (WLI) network of wetland centres, using regional and local examples of best practice at wetland centres. It will also showcase the recent Handbook on Best Practice for the Planning, Design and Operation of Wetland Education Centres (Ramsar Secretariat and ERF Korea 2014).

Lead organization: Wetland Link International (WLI)/ Environmental Ecosystem Research (ERF) Korea

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

Thursday 4th June, Lunch Session 13:15 – 14:45

(3) An Observatory to monitor and manage Wetlands: lessons learned from the Mediterranean

The side event intends to provide feedback to countries, national and regional Ramsar initiatives, monitoring users and other stakeholders on lessons learned from six years' experience. Lessons address scientific, monitoring, governance, communication and sustainability issues.

Lead organization: Tour du Valat

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A
Catering

FRENCH

Un observatoire pour surveiller et gérer les zones humides : leçons tirées de la Méditerranée

L'événement parallèle à l'intention de faire part de ses commentaires, aux pays, aux projets nationaux et régionaux de Ramsar, aux utilisateurs du système de surveillance et autres intervenants, sur les enseignements tirés après six ans d'expérience. Enseignements traitant les enjeux scientifiques, de surveillance, de gestion, communication et de développement durable.

Organisateur : Tour du Valat
Langue: Anglais
Salle: Punta del Este A
Service traiteur

(64) "Maghreb Wetlands Sentinels": The MedWet Civil Society Network in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia

The purpose of the side event is encourage Ramsar Focal Points in other countries to initiate collaboration between governments and civil society organizations about wetlands conservation and sustainable management, to establish a positive relation with wetlands conservation protagonists in order to promote networking, links and common actions under the Ramsar convention strategy, to learn from the discussions at the COP and side events about ongoing and emerging wetland conservation and wise use issues, to follow updated Convention concepts and draft guidance and to transmit the results to the others Network members.

Lead organization: WWF Méditerranée / Bureau Nord Afrique
Language: English
Room: Rio de Janeiro A
Catering

FRENCH

« Maghreb Wetlands Sentinels » Le réseau de la société civile MedWet en Algérie, au Maroc et en Tunisie

Le but de l'événement parallèle est d'encourager les correspondants Ramsar dans d'autres pays à lancer une collaboration entre les gouvernements et les organisations de la société civile à propos de la conservation des zones humides et gestion durable, d'établir une relation positive avec les protagonistes de la conservation des zones humides et encourager la constitution de réseaux, de liens et d'actions communes dans le cadre de la stratégie de la Convention de Ramsar, d'apprendre davantage lors des débats de la COP et les événements parallèles sur les enjeux actuels et émergents dans le domaine de la conservation et utilisation rationnelle des zones humides, pour suivre les concepts actualisés de la convention ainsi que le projet de directives pour transmettre les résultats aux autres membres du réseau.

Organisateur : WWF Méditerranée / Bureau Nord Afrique
Langue: Anglais
Salle: Rio de Janeiro A
Service traiteur

(3657) Case studies on wetland management and restoration: Environmental watering in the Murray-Darling basin Australia and contribution to Iran wetland management and restoration (Lake Urmia)

This side event will involve a presentation and discussion session on Australia's approach to implementation of the Ramsar Convention, including a case study on environmental watering in the Murray-Darling Basin. It will result in international delegates gaining an understanding of the approach taken by Australia to managing wetland assets in a large, cross-jurisdictional river basin, which is an important region for production of Australian food and fibre. The presentation will provide information on the Ramsar wetlands and other wetlands of the Basin, their adaptation to a very variable climate and the roles they play within the Basin. It will describe the integrated planning approach taken to management of the land and water of the Basin, including the wetland assets, allocation and provision of environmental watering for these wetlands, impacts of watering and monitoring of results. It will focus on the importance of partnerships involved in management of the Basin's resources. A video on environmental watering will support the presentation. Additionally, in line with Ramsar COP12 discussion on better wetland management and support sustainable development good practices at basin level, CIWP would be honoured to share its experiences on " contribution to Iran Wetland Management and Restoration via local community participation in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation (Case study; Lake Urmia).

Lead organization: Australian Government Department of the Environment, Commonwealth Environmental Water Office/ Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project.

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

(40) Potential Ramsar Sites in Korean DMZ Area with special emphasis on Cranes and Black-faced Spoonbills

The side event will highlight the international importance of the DMZ Area, as habitat for migratory waterbirds, especially for the conservation of endangered Cranes and Black-faced Spoonbills in North-East Asia and how to take proactive measures to conserve the Area in collaboration with local, regional and international partners.

Lead organization: Environmental Ecosystem Research Foundation (ERF Korea)

Language: English

Room: Barriloche

Catering

(8032) Wetlands, productive activities and climate change in the Plata Basin: Contributions from the Civil Society

The objective of this side event is to expose the issue of artisanal fishing as a result of natural and anthropogenic impacts and the different socio-economic scenarios in large wetlands in the Del Plata watershed, particularly in the flood plains of great rivers. The side event seeks to raise awareness on the importance of incorporating or strengthening the participation and visibility of the artisanal fishing sector within wetlands with the aim of evaluating the potential impacts in the short and long term, as well as establishing more clearly its socio-economic relevance. Additionally, this objective of this workshop is closely linked to the COP12 objectives, focussing on the future of wetlands. This is because many wetland impacts could be magnified by the intensification of infrastructure development or due to climate change. This event will also present the work of organizations which are part of Ecosystem Alliance in the Del Plata watershed to generate a debate that addresses threats to the Paraguay and Paraná rivers, such as land conversion for agriculture and cattle rising, large scale cattle rising, deforestation, overfishing, clean water pollution,

infrastructure development and extreme climate events, with the aim to contribute to the COP12 discussions.

Lead Organization: INFOPESCA/ Ecosystem Alliance
Language: Spanish
Room: Caribe
Catering

SPANISH

Humedales, actividades productivas y cambio climático en la Cuenca del Plata: aportes desde la Sociedad Civil

El objetivo de este evento paralelo es exponer la problemática de la pesca artesanal como producto de los impactos de origen natural y antrópico y de los diferentes escenarios socio-económicos que se presentan en grandes humedales de la cuenca del Plata y particularmente en los sistemas de grandes ríos con planicie de inundación. El evento propuesto busca llamar la atención sobre la importancia de incorporar o reforzar la participación y visibilidad del sector pesquero artesanal que se desenvuelve en los humedales con el objetivo de poder evaluar los potenciales impactos de corto y largo plazo y establecer más claramente su relevancia socio-económica. El objetivo del taller está estrechamente vinculado a los objetivos de la COP12, focalizado hacia el futuro de los humedales, ya que muchos de los impactos que se observan en los humedales podrían verse potenciados sea por la intensificación de obras de infraestructura o bien debido al cambio climático. Adicionalmente, el evento pretende presentar el trabajo de las organizaciones que hacen parte de la Ecosystem Alliance en la Cuenca del Plata y generar un debate orientado a las siguientes amenazas observadas en el Sistema de Humedales de los ríos Paraguay y Paraná (conversión de tierras naturales para la agricultura, ganadería a gran escala, deforestación, sobrepesca, contaminación del agua potable, desarrollo de obras de infraestructura y eventos climáticos extremos) con el objetivo de servir de contribución a las discusiones de la COP12.

Organización principal: INFOPESCA/ Alianza Ecosistema (EA)
Lenguaje: Español
Salón: Caribe
Catering

(31) Wetlands for the present and the future: a call for global action to ensure the water needs of the world's wetlands.

There will be a panel of the highest level to discuss and propose the implementation of the call for global action based on successful experiences and their potential for replication. From the experience of Mexico in the last five years regarding the development and implementation of a Mexican norm on environmental flows, the development of a National Water Reserves Program for the environment, and collaboration between government and society, a discussion will follow to define the role of different actors in the implementation of a call for global action. This in relation to the draft resolution SC48-30: *Call to action to Ensure and protect the water requirements of wetlands for the present and the future*. A Draft Resolution that Mexico will be presenting to the plenary of the Conference of the Parties.

Lead organization: Comisión Nacional del Agua y WWF-México
Language: Spanish
Room: Rio de Janeiro B
Catering

SPANISH

Humedales para el presente y el futuro: un llamado para la acción global para asegurar las necesidades de agua de los humedales del mundo.

Se integrará un panel del más alto nivel para discutir y plantear la implementación del llamado a la acción global a partir de experiencias exitosas y su posibilidad de réplica. A partir de la experiencia de México, generada en los últimos 5 años, con relación al desarrollo y aplicación de una Norma Mexicana sobre caudales ambientales, el desarrollo de un Programa Nacional de Reservas de Agua para el ambiente, y la colaboración entre gobierno y sociedad, se planteará un debate para definir el rol de los diferentes actores en la implementación de un llamado a la acción global, asociado al proyecto de Resolución titulada SC48-30: *Call to action to ensure and protect the water requirements of wetlands for the present and the future*, que México estará presentando ante el pleno de la Conferencia de las Partes.

Organización líder: Comisión Nacional del Agua y WWF-México

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

Friday 5th June, Lunch Session 13:15 – 14:45

(54) Conservation opportunities and challenges for Doñana National Park, Ramsar Wetland and World Heritage Site (Spain)

With this side event WWF wants to present the main threats that this Ramsar wetland is undergoing and the NGO efforts that are taking place to bring all stakeholders together. The side event will cover issues related to the objectives of the Convention, and those stated in: Draft Resolution XII.2, the proposed Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2021; Climate Change adaptation (Draft Resolution XII.11) and disaster risk reduction (Draft Resolution XII.13). Additionally, one of the main issues to be presented is how to tackle the mismanagement of the groundwater of Doñana, and ensure that the wetland continues receiving the water it needs to maintain its functions and to deliver services to people – in line with Draft Resolution XII.12.

Lead organization: WWF Spain

Language: English

Room: Caribe

Catering

FRENCH

Opportunités de conservation et défis pour le Parc National de Doñana, zones humides Ramsar et le site du patrimoine mondial des zones humides (Espagne).

Avec cet événement parallèle WWF veut présenter les principales menaces que cette zone humide Ramsar est en train de subir, les efforts, entrepris et en cours, de l'ONG pour rassembler toutes les parties prenantes. Cet événement couvrira les questions liées aux objectifs de la Convention, et celles énoncées dans : projet de résolution XII.2, le Plan stratégique Ramsar 2016-2021 proposé; adaptation aux changements climatiques (projet de résolution XII.11) et la réduction des risques de catastrophe (Projet de résolution XII.13). En outre, l'une des principales questions à être présentée est la façon de s'attaquer à la

mauvaise gestion de l'eau souterraine de Doñana, et veiller à ce que le milieu humide continue de recevoir l'eau dont il a besoin pour maintenir ses fonctions et fournir des services aux citoyens - en ligne avec le projet de résolution XII.12.

organisateur: WWF Spain

Langue: anglais

Salle: Caribe

Catering

SPANISH

Retos y Oportunidades para la Conservación de Doñana, Parque Nacional, Sitio Ramsar y Patrimonio de la Humanidad

Con este evento paralelo WWF presentara sobre las amenazas principales en este Sitio Ramsar y los esfuerzos de las ONGs para unificar a los actores interesados. Este evento abarcará asuntos relacionados a los objetivos de la Convención y a aquellos mencionados en el proyecto de resolución XII.2, el Plan Estratégico propuesto 2016-2021; Adaptación al Cambio Climático (proyecto de Resolución XII.11); la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres (proyecto de resolución XII.13). Adicionalmente, uno de los asuntos principales que se abarcará en este evento es como hacer frente al mal manejo de las aguas subterráneas de Doñana y asegurar que el humedal continúe recibiendo el agua necesaria para mantener sus funciones y para continuar prestando servicios a la gente—de acuerdo con el proyecto de resolución XII.12.

Organización principal: WWF España

Lenguaje: inglés

Salón: caribe

Catering

(16) Bañados del Este and coastal zone: An environmentally productive zone

This side event will provide a presentation about the productivity, management, sustainable use, good practices, legal framework and removal of Bañados del Este Ramsar Site from the Montreux Record.

Lead organization: Uruguay, Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente. Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente Uruguay

Language: Spanish

Room: OVO

Catering

SPANISH

Bañados del Este y Franja Costera: una zona ecológicamente productiva

Este evento paralelo incluirá una presentación sobre la productividad, manejo, uso sustentable, mejores prácticas, marco legal y la remoción del Sitio Ramsar Bañados del Este del Registro de Montreux.

Organización principal: Uruguay, Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente.

Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente Uruguay

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: OVO

Catering

(30) Regional efforts: lessons learned in the protection, conservation and sustainable use of mangroves and coral reefs

The purpose of this side event is to raise awareness about the benefits of regional cooperation on wetlands, lessons learned for the development of the initiative and sustainability strategies for the benefit of mangrove and reef ecosystems. There will be a panel comprised of representatives of the governing structure of the regional initiative and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat. The discussion, which will be complemented with examples of sustainable products and good practices from both ecosystems, will be structured as follows:

1. Introduction: Components of the Regional Initiative for the Integral Management and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs Ecosystems.
2. Conversation on lessons learned, cooperation benefits and the financial suitability of this Pan-American effort.
3. Representative sample of products derived from sustainable use practices by country.
4. Closing video about the Initiative.

Lead organization: Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas de México. Punto Focal de la Convención en el país.

Language: Spanish

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

SPANISH

Esfuerzos regionales: experiencias aprendidas sobre la protección, conservación y uso sostenible de manglares y arrecifes coralinos

El evento paralelo tiene como propósito dar a conocer los beneficios de la Cooperación Regional en materia de humedales, las experiencias aprendidas para el desarrollo de la iniciativa y las estrategias de sostenibilidad en beneficio de los ecosistemas de manglar y de arrecifes. Lo anterior, a través de un panel integrado por representantes de la estructura de gobernanza de la Iniciativa Regional y la Secretaría de la Convención de Ramsar, enmarcado en un conversatorio estructurado de la siguiente manera, y el cual se complementará con muestras de productos sustentables y buenas practicas provenientes de ambos ecosistemas:

1. Introducción: Componentes de la Iniciativa Regional Manglares y Arrecifes
2. Conversatorio sobre las experiencias aprendidas, los beneficios derivados de la cooperación desde su visión regional y sobre la sostenibilidad financiera de este esfuerzo panamericano.
3. Muestra representativa por país de productos provenientes de prácticas sostenibles de aprovechamiento.
4. Video de cierre sobre la Iniciativa Regional Manglares y Arrecifes

Organización principal: Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas de México. Punto Focal de la Convención en el país.

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

(67) A Global Partnership for Wetland Restoration: ideas on a way forward

A Global Partnership for Wetlands Restoration is proposed to focus on reversing the loss of wetlands and establishing a coherent strategy for delivering restoration at a global scale. A Global Partnership would bring together a political and technical alliance for wetlands restoration, with policy guidance for decision-makers, scientific and technical guidance for effective implementation, a network of actors to carry out projects and a financing mechanism to support projects. This panel discussion will review opportunities, challenges, and next steps for a Global Partnership for Wetland Restoration.

Lead organization: IUCN, Water programme/ Ramsar Secretariat

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(13) State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People

The side event, which builds on the SOWWS Briefing Note, will provide an overview of the status and trends of wetlands and the loss of ecosystem services, as a contribution towards assessing the effectiveness of the Convention. The event will highlight key points from select, recently published scientific reports and articles. We will discuss assessments on global trends, such as the Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 (GBO-4), and regional trends, as well as assessments of trends in Ramsar Sites. We will also discuss ongoing initiatives for wetland data collection and assessment, including those being undertaken by JAXA, ESA, and IPBES.

Lead organization: Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

SPANISH

Estado de los humedales del mundo y de los servicios que prestan a las personas

Este evento paralelo, el cual se basa en la Nota Informativa sobre el *Estado de los humedales del mundo y de los servicios que prestan a las personas*, la cual brinda una visión de conjunto del estatus y tendencias de los humedales y su pérdida de servicios ecosistémicos, como contribución hacia una valoración de la efectividad de la Convención. El evento destacará mensajes claves de selectas publicaciones científicas recientes. Se discutirán valoraciones de tendencias globales, como la Perspectiva Mundial sobre la Diversidad Biológica (PMDB-4), y tendencias regionales así como también valoraciones de tendencias en Sitios Ramsar. También discutiremos iniciativas actuales para la recolección y valoración de datos sobre los humedales, incluidas aquellas que se están llevando a cabo por JAXA, ESA e IPBES.

Organización principal: Grupo de Examen Científico y Técnico de la Convención de Ramsar

Lenguaje: Inglés

Salón: Punta del Este B

catering

FRENCH

L'état des zones humides du monde et leurs services aux personnes

L'événement parallèle, qui s'appuie sur la note d'information SOWWS, donnera un aperçu de l'état et les tendances des zones humides et de la perte des services procurés par les écosystèmes, en tant que contribution à l'évaluation de l'efficacité de la Convention. L'événement mettra en évidence les points clé à

partir d'une sélection de rapports scientifiques et articles récemment publiés. Nous allons discuter des évaluations sur les tendances mondiales, telles que la Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 (GBO-4), et les tendances régionales, ainsi que des évaluations des tendances dans les sites Ramsar. Nous discuterons également les initiatives en cours pour la collecte des données et l'évaluation des zones humides, y compris celles entreprises par la JAXA, l'ESA et l'IPBES.

Organisateur : Groupe d'Evaluation Scientifique et Technique de Ramsar

Langue: Anglais

Salle: Punta del Este B

Service traiteur

(41) The Changwon Declaration and Cooperative Partnership with the Business Sector for the conservation and wise use of wetlands

This side event will expand on the relevance to the Changwon Declaration to the business sectors which are interested in or are already involved in wetland conservation. It is expected that an innovative way of cooperation between Ramsar Communities and the business sector will be created through this side event. The proposed side event will contribute to supporting Draft Resolution XII.7 *Resource Mobilization and Partnership Framework of the Ramsar Convention*, and a proposal to add Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) as an International Organization Partner of the Convention, as well as Draft Resolution XII.2 *The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2021*, especially in terms of closer cooperation with the private sector for the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the next triennium.

Lead organization: Republic of Korea and Ramsar Regional Centre – East Asia

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

Friday 5th June, Evening Session 18:15 – 19:45

(17) Coastal adaptation as a conservation response in Uruguay

The project *Implementing pilot climate change adaptation measures in coastal zones of Uruguay* has achieved the elimination of existing barriers for climate change adaptation, contributing to the establishment of climate change adaptation policies and practices related to urban planning and coastal zone management, which contribute to ecosystems resilience. This side event will share the successful results of the aforementioned project and how these are being utilized as inputs for the planning process that is taking place in the framework of the development of the National Coastal Adaptation Plan.

Lead organization: Uruguay, Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente. Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente

Room: OVO

Language: Spanish

Catering

SPANISH

La adaptación costera como respuesta de conservación en Uruguay.

El proyecto *Implementación de medidas piloto de adaptación al cambio climático en áreas costeras de Uruguay* avanzó en la eliminación de las barreras existentes para la adaptación al cambio climático, contribuyendo al establecimiento de políticas y prácticas de adaptación al cambio climático en materia de ordenamiento territorial y gestión costera que incrementen la resiliencia de los ecosistemas. A través de este evento se compartirán los resultados exitosos del referido proyecto de adaptación al cambio climático en áreas costeras y como estos resultados están siendo utilizados como insumos para el proceso de planificación que se está desarrollando en el marco de la elaboración del Plan Nacional de Adaptación Costera.

Lead organization: Uruguay, Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente. Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente

Language: Español

Salón: OVO

Catering

(66) Successful cases of Sustainable Community Alternatives in wetlands in the region of the Central American integration system

The purpose of this side event is to raise awareness amongst COP12 participants about ongoing efforts being undertaken by countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA) for the conservation and wise use of wetlands by enhancing, supporting and accompanying the implementation of sustainable community alternatives. There will be a discussion on the reach opportunities between the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) and the Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO) in the fulfilment of the strategic objectives of both organizations for the wise use of wetlands in the SICA region. The urgent need to enhance participative management of natural resources for people will be highlighted.

Lead organization: Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD), Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA).

Language: Spanish

Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

SPANISH

Casos Exitosos de Alternativas Comunitarias Sostenibles en Humedales de la región del Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana.

El propósito de este evento paralelo es dar a conocer a los participantes de la 12a reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes Contratantes de la Convención Ramsar sobre los humedales (COP12), los esfuerzos que están realizando los países de la región del Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA) para la conservación y uso racional de los humedales, mediante el fomento, apoyo y acompañamiento a la implementación de alternativas comunitarias sostenibles. Se describirá el alcance de las oportunidades entre la Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD) y el CREHO en el cumplimiento de los objetivos estratégicos de ambas organizaciones en pro del uso racional de los humedales en la Región SICA, destacando la urgente necesidad de fomentar la gestión participativa de nuestros recursos naturales para el desarrollo de nuestros pueblos.

Organización principal: Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD), Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA).

Lenguaje: español

Salón: Punta del Este A

Catering

(71) Pantanal in danger: development projects and agribusiness put the world's largest tropical wetland under risk of collapse

The side event will present and discuss issues related to the main anthropogenic impacts currently threatening the Pantanal's wetlands and potential emerging solutions. Invited speakers will address topics such as: the expansion of agricultural activities as the recent soybean plantation in the Pantanal floodplain; the proliferation of hundreds of dams for hydropower generation in the plateau region (154 projects, with 44 current and 110 planned), which blocks several rivers that form the Pantanal wetland; and the resumption of the Paraguay-Parana waterway project. The content presented at the side event will be structured as follows:

- Political context of the Pantanal, including the main anthropogenic activities that threaten the ecosystem's maintenance and function (speaker: IUCN-Brazil);
- Raising strategies and actions seeking the conservation of the Pantanal, including the creation of the Pantanal Observatory, a collaborative platform focused in political incidence composed by the local NGOs that work for the sustainability of the biome (speaker: IUCN-Brazil);
- Pantanal Forever Programme and other solutions that have been proposed by WWF Brazil for the region (Speaker: WWF Brazil);
- Results of a project about the perception of riverine communities related to the impacts of the proliferation of hydropower dams in the Upper Paraguay River Basin, funded by the Ecosystem Alliance. This includes a video of 16 minutes entitled "The Day the River Went Dry" (speaker: Instituto Gaia);

Based on the above presentation and on the background shared with the participants, we intend to facilitate a discussion about the implementation of new protected areas, including new Ramsar sites, new strategies for the protection of species and maintenance of traditional communities and livelihoods.

Lead organization: IUCN Brazil

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

SPANISH

El Pantanal en peligro: Proyectos de desarrollo y la agroindustria ponen en riesgo de colapso al humedal tropical más grande

Este evento paralelo presentará y discutirá asuntos relacionados a los impactos antropogénicos que actualmente amenazan al humedal del Pantanal y posibles soluciones emergentes. Ponentes invitados hablarán sobre: la expansión de actividades agrícolas tales como los cultivos de soya en la planicie aluvial del Pantanal; la proliferación de cientos de diques para generar hidroelectricidad en la región de la meseta (154 proyectos de los cuales hay 44 en proceso y 110 en planificación), los cuales bloquean varios ríos que forman parte del Humedal del Pantanal; y la reanudación de la hidrovía Paraguay-Paraná. El contenido del evento estará estructurado de la siguiente manera:

- Contexto político del Pantanal, incluyendo las principales actividades antropogénicas que amenazan el mantenimiento de las funciones del ecosistema (ponente: UICN-Brasil);

- Estrategias emergentes y acciones para la conservación del Pantanal, incluyendo la creación del observatorio del Pantanal, una plataforma colaborativa enfocada en la incidencia política y compuesta por ONGs locales que trabajan por la sostenibilidad de este bioma (ponente: UICN-Brasil);
- Programa Pantanal Forever y otras soluciones propuestas por WWF Brasil para la región (ponente: WWF Brasil);
- Resultados de un proyecto de Ecosystem Alliance sobre la percepción de comunidades riverleñas relacionado al impacto de la proliferación de diques de hidroelectricidad en la parte superior de la cuenca del río Paraguay. Se incluirá un video de 16 minutos sobre *The Day the River Went Dry* (ponente: Instituto Gaia)

Organización principal: UICN Brasil

Lenguaje: Inglés

Salón: Punta del Este B

(49) Conservation of Mediterranean island wetlands

The side event aims to support Ramsar Draft Resolution XII.14 *Conservation of Mediterranean Basin island wetlands* submitted by Greece. It will provide an opportunity to reflect on the proposed Draft Resolution, share knowledge on and experience addressing key issues concerning small Mediterranean island wetlands, such as vulnerability and mitigation measures, and present lessons learned that can be useful and more or less evenly applied by Ramsar Contracting Parties in and around the Mediterranean.

The following results are anticipated:

- Sharing the experience of WWF Greece acquired from the 9th year inventory project *Conservation of the Island Wetlands of Greece (2004-2013)*.
- Promotion of a discussion on how Mediterranean Countries could cooperate in order to record and conserve the Mediterranean Basin Island Wetlands

Lead organization: Greece

Language: English

Room: Barriloché

Catering

FRENCH

La conservation des zones humides insulaires méditerranéennes

L'événement parallèle vise à appuyer le projet de résolution Ramsar XII.14 Conservation de zones humides insulaires du bassin méditerranéen présenté par la Grèce. Il offrira une occasion de réfléchir sur le projet de résolution proposé, partager des connaissances et des expériences portant sur des questions clés concernant les petites zones humides insulaires méditerranéennes tels que la vulnérabilité et les mesures d'atténuation, et présenter les leçons apprises qui peuvent être utiles et plus ou moins uniformément appliquées par les Parties contractantes à la Convention de Ramsar dans et autour de la Méditerranée.

Les résultats escomptés sont les suivants :

- Partager l'expérience acquise par WWF Grèce dans son projet d'inventaire pour une période de 9 ans sur La Conservation des Zones Humides Insulaires de la Grèce (2004-2013).
- La promotion d'un débat sur la façon dont les pays méditerranéens pourraient coopérer afin de sauvegarder et conserver les zones humides insulaires du Bassin méditerranéen.

Organisateur : Grèce

Langue: Anglais
Salle: Barriloche
Service traiteur

(4339) Effective Management of Ramsar Sites/ Management and Conservation of Waterbirds Habitat in Yellow Sea Region

The RRC-EA organized a workshop for developing an easy guidebook on Ramsar Site management and Ramsar Site Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool to assist wetland managers' understanding on the management process of Ramsar Site and to provide a tool to improve their management effectiveness with support of Republic of Korea, Thailand, Gyeongnam Province and the Ramsar Secretariat. As a result of the workshop, the COP12 Draft Resolution XII. 15, *Evaluating and ensuring the effective management and conservation of Ramsar Sites*, is submitted and the *Easy guidebook on Ramsar Site Management* is published. Through the proposed side event, we would like to introduce the contents of the DR XII. 15 and the guidebook to the Ramsar Contracting Parties and discuss further implementation of the Ramsar Convention with the newly developed tools. This side event will include presentations that share the experiences of managing coastal wetlands and enhancing their biodiversity to support waterbird habitat requirements. Also, this event will be highlighted on the importance of stopover and wintering habitats in the YSR of Korea and the connection between the YER of Korea and other habitats in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

Lead organization: Thailand and Ramsar Regional Centre - East Asia and National Institute of Ecology in Republic of Korea
Language: English
Room: Rio de Janeiro A
Catering

(18) Helping to implement the Ramsar Strategic Plan and Wise Use approach - the UK's Darwin Initiative.

An event to highlight the work being done by the UK Government through the Darwin Initiative, a scheme which funds projects that help countries rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to meet their objectives under Ramsar and other UN Conventions. Darwin projects deliver a number of broad outcomes, including: capacity building for biodiversity mainstreaming, developing tools to provide technical support and creating opportunities for shared learning. This side event will showcase examples from current and past projects that directly benefit and protect wetlands. Speakers will include Debbie Pain, Director of Conservation from the World Wetlands Trust (WWT), a virtual presentation from Dr Alasdair Harris from Blue Ventures and representatives from Government.

Lead Organization: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), UK Government
Language: English
Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Saturday 6th June, Lunch Session 13:15 – 14:45

(65) GlobWetland Africa, towards satellite-based Wetland Observatories in Africa

The Side Event will be the official launch of the GlobWetland Africa project and will present the project to all African stakeholders.

Lead organization: European Space Agency
Language: English & French
Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

FRENCH

GlobWetland de l'Afrique, vers des observatoires satellites localisés sur des zones humides en Afrique.

L'événement parallèle sera le lancement officiel du projet GlobWetland Afrique et présentera le projet à toutes les parties prenantes en Afrique.

Organisateur: European Space Agency

Langue: anglais et français

Salle: Punta del Este A

Service traiteur

(23) The Great Pantanal: unifying waters

The Great Pantanal is the largest Ramsar wetland complex in the world. This unique complex is shared between Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay, and part of the Plata Basin in which Uruguay and Argentina are situated as well. A large part of the water reaching the Atlantic at the Rio de la Plata Estuary, where Punta del Este is located, originates from of flowed through the Great Pantanal. The system has an impressive climate buffer effect, buffering the yearly large amount of river water the Paraguay river brings; water that would otherwise major inundation threats downstream parts (Paraguay, Uruguay). 20 million people directly depend on the ecosystem services provided by the Pantanal wetlands.

This side event will explore ways for strengthening and exploring ways for cooperative wetland management in el Pantanal between Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay.

Lead organization: WWF (Bolivia, Paraguay, and Brazil, international)

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(5) Sustainable Use of Wetlands and Water: International Water Treaties and their Contributions to Implementing Sustainable Development Goals

The aim of this side event is to explore how international treaties such as the Ramsar Convention, the Helsinki Convention and the New York Convention, contribute to sustainable use of wetlands and water, helping to implement the world's sustainable development goals in principle and in practice on the ground. This side event will discuss the role of international and domestic law in wise use of wetlands, water and biodiversity with a focus on knowledge sharing. The Roundtable will lead to a proposal for a new book for submission to the Cambridge University Press Series on Implementing International Treaties on Sustainable Development, and the launch of a related series of expert collaborative dialogues and seminar.

Lead organization: Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

SPANISH

Uso Sostenible de Humedales y el Agua: Tratados Internacionales sobre el Agua y su Contribución a la Implementación de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible

El objetivo de este evento paralelo es explorar como tratados internacionales como la Convención de Ramsar, la Convención de Helsinki y la 'Convención sobre el derecho de los usos de los cursos de agua internacionales para fines distintos de la navegación' contribuyen al uso sostenible de los humedales y el agua, ayudando a aplicar los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible en principio y en la práctica. Este evento discutirá el rol del derecho internacional y doméstico en el uso racional de los humedales, el agua y la biodiversidad con un enfoque en el intercambio de información. La mesa redonda llevará a una propuesta para un libro nuevo que será presentado a la Cambridge University Press Series. El libro tratará la temática de la implementación de tratados internacionales sobre el derecho sostenible y el lanzamiento de una serie de diálogos y seminarios colaborativos de expertos.

Organización principal: Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)

Lenguaje: inglés

Salón: Punta del Este B

catering

(61) Caring for Coasts –conserving and restoring wetlands, reducing coastal risk

This event will promote the Caring for Coasts Initiative, a call for a global initiative to restore coastal wetlands. The event will present the plans for this initiative to date, showcase progress on coastal restoration and encourage discussion of next steps for the Initiative, especially in regard to the provision of tools to develop and share expertise and lessons learnt on coastal wetland restoration techniques and benefits of such restoration in the context of sustainable coastal land management, including disaster risk reduction and sea level rise adaptation and mitigation. The BirdLife Partnership has been long working on restoring wetlands, and hopes to contribute to the Ramsar Convention's objectives also by helping to mobilize other partners and countries to further engage in coastal wetland restoration and conservation initiatives in key wetland areas around the globe, including the Yellow Sea. In this context, BirdLife and partners present at this event, where presentations will demonstrate experience of coastal wetland restoration and encourage a discussion on the way forward for the Initiative.

Lead organization: BirdLife International

Room: Barriloché

Language: English

Catering

(3334) Wetlands and Disaster Risk Reduction: resilient communities

The side event is of direct relevance to Draft Resolution (DR XII.13) on *Wetlands and disaster risk reduction*. This session will showcase lessons learned from the Pacific region with regard to the wetlands and disaster risk reduction, as our region strives to enhance island resilience. This side event also aims to support Member States in their deliberations of the Draft Resolution and facilitate dialogue on the challenges and opportunities (entry points) for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction measures in the implementation plans for wetlands. The side event will be an interactive panel discussion, including both policymakers and practitioners. Short video clip(s) may also be shown demonstrating practical examples of ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction initiatives related to wetlands.

Lead organization: United Nations Environment Programme / Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Saturday 6th June, Evening Session 18:15 – 19:45

(68) Regional initiative to facilitate integrated actions for the rational use of wetlands in the Amazon Basin

The objective of the side event is to present and discuss about a regional initiative for the Amazon Basin. This initiative was proposed by the Ministries of the Environment of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil in the last Ramsar COP and at the Pan-American Regional Meeting in October of 2014.

Lead organization: Colombian Environmental and Sustainable Development Ministry

Language: Spanish

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

SPANISH

Iniciativa regional para facilitar las acciones integradas para el uso racional de humedales en la cuenca del Amazonas

El objetivo de este evento paralelo es presentar y discutir sobre la iniciativa regional para la cuenca del Amazonas. Esta iniciativa fue propuesta por los Ministerios del Medio Ambiente de Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Brasil en la última COP de Ramsar y en la reunión Pan-Americana regional en Octubre de 2014.

Organización principal: Ministerio del Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible de Colombia

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(2272) IBAs and network of important wetlands for the conservation of High Andean Flamingos as tools to strengthen the implementation of the Ramsar Convention

The aim of this side event is to officially present the list of Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) that are wetlands and that qualify as Ramsar Sites in the Americas. Ways to improve communication channels will be explored.

This side event's programme will contain two presentations by two representatives of the GCFA who will talk about advances on the research and monitoring component, particularly the results, of the Fifth International Simultaneous Census of High Andean Flamingos. There will also be a presentation on developments in priority sites, by country, particularly on the management and conservation component provided by BirdLife International to the different components within the priority sites within the network and a discussion about Institutional Strengthening and Inter-institutional Coordination in the Network.

Lead organization: BirdLife International, Americas/ Grupo de Conservación de Flamencos Altoandinos - GCFA

Language: Spanish

Room: Caribe

Catering

SPANISH

AICAs y la Red de Humedales de Importancia para la Conservación de Flamencos Altoandinos como herramientas para fortalecer la implementación de la Convención Ramsar

El programa de este evento paralelo prevé presentaciones de dos representantes del GCFA quienes expondrán los avances en el componente de Investigación y Monitoreo, en particular los resultados del Quinto Censo Simultáneo Internacional de Flamencos Altoandinos. Habrá también una presentación de los avances de los sitios prioritarios por país particularmente en cuanto al componente de Conservación y Manejo y el aporte brindado por BirdLife International a los distintos componentes en diversos sitios prioritarios de la Red y la discusión acerca del componente de Fortalecimiento Institucional y Coordinación Interinstitucional de la Red.

Organización principal: BirdLife International, Americas/ Grupo de Conservación de Flamencos Altoandinos - GCFA

Lenguaje: Español

Salón: Caribe

Catering

(77) Wetlands rehabilitation programme in South Africa

This side event will provide an overview of the working for wetlands programme as a partnership approach to the rehabilitation, protection and sustainable use of wetlands. This is a joint initiative of the Departments of Environmental Affairs, Water Affairs and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Working for Wetlands programme is housed at the South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). The Working for Wetlands is based on key interlinked concepts that ensure effective and sustainable wetland rehabilitation: Wetland protection, wise use and rehabilitation, Skills and capacity development, Co-operative governance and partnerships, Research and knowledge sharing; and Communication, education and public awareness. In the 12 years since its inception, the programme has invested R530 million (approximately USD 60 million) in rehabilitation of 906 wetlands, thereby improving or securing the health of more than 70, 000 hectares of the wetland area. Rehabilitation projects undertaken range from stabilising degradation to the more ambitious restoration of wetlands to their original condition. The social benefits provided by working for Wetlands programmes include employment, training, enterprise development and the dignity of decent work.

Lead organization: Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

FRENCH

Programme de remise en état des zones humides en Afrique du Sud

Cet évènement parallèle donnera un aperçu du travail du programme des zones humides avec une approche de partenariat pour la remise en état, la protection et l'utilisation durable des zones humides. Ceci est une initiative conjointe des Ministères des affaires environnementales, Eau, Agriculture, Forêts et Pêches. Le programme de travail pour les zones humides est basé à l'Institut de Biodiversité de l'Afrique du Sud (SANBI). Le Groupe de travail pour les zones humides se base sur des concepts clés interdépendants qui assurent une réhabilitation effective et durable des zones humides : La protection des zones humides, l'utilisation rationnelle et la réadaptation; le développement des compétences et des capacités;

gouvernance et partenariats en coopération ; la recherche et le partage des connaissances; communication, éducation et sensibilisation du public.

Au cours de ces 12 années depuis sa création, le programme a investi R530 millions (environ 60 millions d'USD) en réhabilitation de 906 zones humides, améliorant ou assurant ainsi la santé de plus de 70000 hectares de la superficie des zones humides. Des projets de reconstruction entrepris vont de la stabilisation de la dégradation à des projets plus ambitieux de restauration des zones humides à leur conditions d'origine. Les avantages sociaux offerts en travaillant pour les programmes sur les zones humides, comprennent l'emploi, la formation, le développement des entreprises et la dignité du travail décent.

Organisateur: Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa

Langue: Anglais

Salle: Rio de Janeiro B

Service traiteur

(15) Coral Reef Ramsar Sites and their Management—a collaboration between Ramsar and ICRI

Two reports will be presented: *Status and Trends of Caribbean Coral Reefs: 1970-2012* (aka Caribbean Report) and *the Status Report on World's Fish Aggregations 2014*. Both reports are significant in that they provide not only descriptions of the conditions and trends but also important implications for management and policy based on scientific data. By combining these presentations with a report from the Ramsar Secretariat on the status of Ramsar Sites containing coral reefs, we will discuss actions and measures towards improving management and conservation of coral reef ecosystems at these Sites and beyond.

Lead organization: International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) Secretariat

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

FRENCH

Sites Ramsar de Récifs Coralliens et de leur gestion - une collaboration entre Ramsar et l'ICRI

Deux rapports seront présentés : l'État et les tendances des récifs coralliens des Caraïbes : 1970-2012 (aka rapport Caraïbes) et le rapport de la situation des regroupements des poissons du monde 2014. Les deux rapports sont importantes car ils fournissent non seulement les descriptions des conditions et des tendances, mais aussi les implications importantes pour la gestion et politique fondées sur des données scientifiques. En combinant ces présentations avec un rapport du Secrétariat Ramsar sur l'état des sites Ramsar contenant des récifs coralliens, nous discuterons des initiatives et des mesures visant à améliorer la gestion et la conservation des écosystèmes de récifs coralliens de ces sites et au-delà.

Organisateur: International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) Secretariat

Langue: Anglais

Salle: Punta del Este A

Service traiteur

(2445) Celebrating Wetland Cultures of the World: The contribution of cultural values to wetland conservation

Celebrating Wetland Cultures of the World will showcase inspiring case studies from each Ramsar region illustrating the vital links that exist between people and wetlands, as well as the cultural factors important to wetland conservation and lessons that have been learned. For example in Asia, wetland culture is deeply

rooted in daily life, including in the continuation of traditions such as rice farming and floating markets, as illustrated in the recent publication *Wetland Culture in East Asia*.

Celebrating Wetland Cultures of the World will also introduce the Ramsar Convention's new Celebrating Culture, Wetlands & Livelihoods Partnership 2015-2017, generously funded by the MAVA Foundation. The Partnership's key aim is to revitalise, enhance and expand the Ramsar Culture Network, a global community of individuals and organisations committed to reconnecting people with wetlands, and developing stronger linkages between culture and conservation. This will be an opportunity to learn more about how you can participate in the Ramsar Culture Network's activities.

Lead organization: Ramsar Culture Network/ Wetlands International Japan

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

(553527) Ramsar Regional Centres (Ramsar Regional Centre for Central and West Asia, CREHO, and RAMCEA) synergies and lessons learned

This side event will share progress on RAMCEA's implementation and achievements, as well as showcase *Wetland Management Tools in the Eastern Africa for effective Wetland Management; lessons and challenges*. This is in fulfilment of its goal to "support the Eastern Africa Contracting Parties, non-contracting parties and other stakeholders to improve their capacity to implement the Ramsar Convention in the respective countries and institutions". It is also in line with the COP 12 theme "wetlands for our future", given the current pressures being exerted on wetlands and the urgency to conserve them if future generations are to benefit from nearly the same quality and quantity of ecosystem services. Similarly, there will be a series of presentations about the Centro Regional Centre for training and research on the Western Hemisphere (CREHO) about its work and capacity building programme. The Ramsar Regional Centre for Central and West Asia (RRC-CWA) will discuss developing a new strategy for the Centre.

Lead organization: Ramsar Regional Centre for Central and West Asia, CREHO and RAMCEA

Language: English

Room: Barriloché

Catering

Monday 8th June, lunch Session 13:15 – 14:45

(52) "UAE Wetlands - Conservation efforts" unique ecosystems of the Arabian Peninsula

The proposed side event will focus on the UAE wetlands management experience, as well as on the diversity of wetland types in the region, mainly on two themes:

1. Evaluation of Management Effectiveness of Ramsar sites
2. Blue Carbon sequestration in Wetlands

Lead organization: Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este B

Catering

(51) Integrating Poverty Eradication into Wetlands Conservation and Wise Use

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be formalised in 2015 highlight poverty eradication as the biggest global challenge facing the world today. For many countries, including a large number of those signatory to the Ramsar Convention, poverty eradication is a major policy priority. Ramsar has long stressed the fact that millions of people in Africa, Asia and Latin America depend directly or indirectly on wetlands and their benefits for their livelihoods and well-being; and that the wise use of wetlands can contribute to poverty eradication. However, where poverty exists, it is possible for a vicious circle to develop, whereby poverty impacts upon the ecological character of wetlands to the extent that the potential for wetlands to deliver their ecosystem services is degraded or even lost.

Against this background, in 2012, Ramsar Contracting Parties adopted resolution XI.13 which called upon the STRP, Contracting Parties and IOPs, to continue to work on ways to better integrate processes for wetland conservation and poverty eradication. This side event will report on the work conducted by the STRP over the last triennium and provide a forum for discussion and debate on the best way forward.

Lead Institution: International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

(25) Sustainable products in wetlands in Mesoamerica and Caribbean region

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the government of Republic of Costa Rica (Vice-ministry of Water, Seas, Coasts and Wetlands and National System of Conservation Areas) and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention organized a regional seminar called *Wetland for our future. Join us!* in February 2015 in Costa Rica with participation of 9 countries of the Mesoamerican region and Japan. The seminar focused on sharing the good practices for promoting sustainable products in wetlands and also some keywords for success were constructed. In this side event, we will present the outcomes of the seminar and develop the discussion on this theme with the participants. The side event will be in Spanish with simultaneous interpretation.

Lead organization: Government of Republic of Costa Rica (Vice-ministry of Water, Seas, Coasts and Wetlands and National System of Conservation Areas) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Language: Spanish & English

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

SPANISH

Productos sostenibles en humedales de Mesoamérica y el Caribe

La Agencia de Cooperación Internacional del Japón (JICA), el gobierno de la República de Costa Rica (Vice-ministerio de Agua, Mares, Costas, Humedales y Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación) y la Secretaría de la Convención de Ramsar organizaron un seminario regional sobre los *Humedales para Nuestro Futuro. Únete!* Febrero de 2015 en Costa Rica en el cual participaron 9 países de la región de Mesoamérica y Japón. El seminario se enfocó en el intercambio de buenas experiencias para promover productos sostenibles en humedales y también se construyeron algunas palabras clave para el éxito. En este evento paralelo presentaremos los resultados del dicho seminario y desarrollaremos la discusión en la misma temática con los participantes. El evento se llevara a cabo en español con interpretación simultánea.

Organización principal: Gobierno de la República de Costa Rica (Vice-ministerio de Agua, Mares, Costas, Humedales y Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación) y la Agencia de Cooperación Internacional del Japón (JICA)

Lenguaje: español e inglés

Salón: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(8) Launch of the UNEP Sourcebook of Opportunities for Enhancing Cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at National and Regional Levels

The UNEP Sourcebook informs the Ramsar Resolution XI.6, which urged Contracting Parties to take active steps at national level to improve regular liaison and collaboration among the focal points of related conventions and agreements, including as appropriate through their inclusion in National Ramsar/Wetland Committees, in order to ensure that national responses to global environmental issues will be as consistent as possible with the objectives and values of the Ramsar Convention. The event is also of relevance to COP12.Doc.16 Considerations by the Strategic Plan Working Group on mechanisms to enhance the visibility and stature of the Ramsar Convention and increasing synergies with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other international entities.

Lead organization: UNEP (through UNEP DELC and UNEP-WCMC)

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

FRENCH

Lancement de la UNEP Sourcebook sur les opportunités de renforcer la coopération entre les conventions relatives à la biodiversité aux niveaux national et régional

Le UNEP Sourcebook communique la Résolution Ramsar XI.6, qui demande aux Parties contractantes de prendre des mesures actives au niveau national pour améliorer la liaison régulièrement et la collaboration entre les points focaux des conventions et accords connexes, y compris le cas échéant grâce à leur inclusion dans les comités nationaux Ramsar/pour les zones humides, afin de s'assurer que les réponses nationales aux problèmes mondiaux d'environnement seront aussi conformes que possible aux objectifs et valeurs de la Convention de Ramsar. L'événement est également pertinent pour la COP12.Doc.16 Considérations par le Groupe de travail sur le plan stratégique sur les mécanismes visant à améliorer la visibilité et l'importance de la Convention de Ramsar ainsi que le renforcement des synergies avec les accords environnementaux multilatéraux (AEM) et d'autres entités internationales.

Organisateur: UNEP (UNEP DELC & UNEP-WCMC)

Langue: Anglais

Salle: Rio de Janeiro B

Service traiteur

(6370) Building collaboration for waterbird conservation at threatened Ramsar sites, including IBAs in Danger

This session will introduce the concept of IBAs in Danger and present information about the 356 IBAs in Danger identified so far, with particular emphasis on those sites that are existing or candidate Ramsar Sites.

A brief presentation will explain the links between IBAs, Ramsar Sites and WHSRN sites and will introduce a new WHSRN initiative to identify the most threatened of these sites. Government representatives from the African and Americas regions will present their work to improve the status of selected IBAiD Ramsar Sites, in collaboration with BirdLife Partners and others. This will be followed by a plenary discussion during which members of the panel will answer questions from the audience.

Additionally, this side event will explore how AFSI and parties to the Ramsar Convention can work together to stabilize and recover shorebird populations throughout the West Atlantic Flyway. A series of presentations will introduce the Business Plan and AFSI, outline synergies between the Business Plan and the relevant Regional Initiatives and national commitments under the Convention, and then provide perspectives from both national (Brazil) and site (Bañados del Este, Uruguay) scales. The presentations will be followed by a facilitated discussion, to identify the mechanisms and tools that can be used to build an effective collaboration to deliver site-based conservation for shared migratory shorebird species throughout the West Atlantic Flyway (in line with the new Ramsar strategic plan). Reference will also be made to the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative, which in the Americas is focused on the West Atlantic Flyway, and an overview will be provided to the Pacific Americas Flyway Shorebird Conservation Strategy, which is developing a similar approach for the East Pacific Flyway (along the Pacific coast of the Americas).

Lead organization: BirdLife International/ Executive Office, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network
Language: English
Room: Caribe
Catering

(56) Wetlands and Agriculture

During this side event we will re-visit Ramsar's Resolution VIII.34 on agriculture, wetlands and water resources, adopted in 2002, which aims to minimise negative agricultural impacts on wetlands, and to demonstrate sustainable use of wetlands for the production of food, fodder and technical crops. Despite the increasing recognition of wetland values and functions, wetland destruction and degradation still continues. Re-integration of wetlands into agricultural lands is rather rare and intensification of farming practises continues to have many negative impacts on wetlands and water resources elsewhere. The Ramsar's Resolution VIII.34 on agriculture, wetlands and water resources provides an opportunity to the Ramsar Contracting Parties to address this problem. However, the so-needed transformation of current farming practices into a more eco-friendly and sustainable farming approach needs to be supported by technical/scientific guidance on best practices. Questions to help develop the guidance will be addressed in the side event session:

- What are the key issues agriculture should improve to reduce its impact on wetlands?
- Do we have examples of multifunctional agro-ecosystems managed to provide a broad range of ecosystem services and of restoration of wetlands to provide functions and services in agricultural areas?
- Do we have useful incentives and good examples how to bring all stakeholders in the food production chain and nature conservation together?
- Do we have good examples of legislation that include wetlands in agriculture lands?

We will share and exchange experience with the side event participants and have brief presentations

Lead organization: Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic
Language: English
Room: Barriloché
Catering

(37) Regional Wetland Symposia – A platform to promote and enhance cooperation at the regional level

This side event aims to promote the importance and effectiveness of regional wetland symposia, such as the Asian Wetland Symposium, as a platform to enhance cooperation at the regional level.

Lead organization: Wetlands International Japan

Language: English

Room: Punta del Este A

Catering

(1112) Follow-up to the Ramsar Resolution on Rice Paddies (Res. X.31)

This side event aims to review the progress and challenges in enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies, in order to examine the effect of Resolution X.31, *Enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies as wetland systems*, and explore next steps. The side event will provide case studies on the implementation of resolution X.31 at national and local levels, which may encourage other Contracting Parties and related groups to promote the conservation and wise use of rice paddies, other artificial wetlands and their biodiversity.

Lead organization: Ramsar Network Japan, Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan (MAFFJ)

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro A

Catering

(53) Presentation of Laguna de Rocha a Natural and Mixed Integral Reserve

The Provincial Natural, Integral and Mixed Laguna de Rocha reserve was created by Law 14488 of the Buenos Aires province in 2012. It is located in the Esteban Echeverría municipality and it covers over 600 hectares of which 320 hectares correspond to la Laguna and Bañados. This reserve is seen by authorities as a strong contributor to urban resilience. A novel and participative management strategy is being implemented in the reserve, which consists of a management committee led by the local government and composed by NGOs, neighbours and provincial and national authorities. The presentation of the characteristics of the Laguna can be a concrete contribution to COP12 relative to convergent strategies on increasing urban resilience, wetland preservation and participative management practices.

Lead organization: Municipio Esteban Echeverría

Language: Spanish

Room: Barriloché

SPANISH

Presentación de la Reserva Integral Natural y Mixta Laguna de Rocha

La Reserva Provincial Natural Integral y Mixta Laguna de Rocha fue creada por Ley 14488 de la provincia de Buenos Aires en el año 2012. La misma se encuentra en el Municipio Esteban Echeverría, abarca una superficie superior a las 600 hectáreas de las cuales 320 hectáreas corresponden a lagunas y bañados. Esta reserva es vista por las autoridades como un fuerte aporte para la resiliencia urbana. A su vez en la misma se está implementando una estrategia novedosa y participativa de gestión que consiste en un comité de

gestión presidido por el gobierno local y conformado por ONGS's, vecinos, autoridades provinciales y nacionales. Se entiende que la presentación de las características de la Reserva Laguna de Rocha puede ser un aporte concreto a la COP12 relativo a estrategias convergentes de incremento de la resiliencia urbana, preservación de humedales y practicas participativas de gestión.

Organización principal: Municipio Esteban Echeverría

Lenguaje: español

Salón: Barriloché

(21) Zoos and Aquariums in support of biodiversity including wetlands

This side event will discuss the IUCN, WAZA, CBD and Ramsar global initiative in the context of the Decade on Biodiversity, as well as the Ramsar CEPA National Focal Points' support to WAZA and possible liaisons between Ramsar focal points and WAZA members.

Lead organization: World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, WAZA

Language: English

Room: Caribe

Catering

(62) Unveiling the implementation toolbox: IOP's support tools and methodologies to achieve objectives of the Ramsar Convention

BirdLife International, IUCN, Wetlands International and potentially other International Organization Partners (IOPs) of the Ramsar Convention, will jointly showcase the wealth of instrumental material they have been long developing to contribute on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Not many of them have yet reached out to policy makers and/or conservation practitioners. The occasion of the approval of the new Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2020 is timely to unveil and further disseminate the knowledge that can further guide implementation actions. This event aims also at following up from the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat initiative to map out these tools and methodologies, and to identify gaps and needs for technical and scientific support. By speed presentations, each IOP will share existing tool or guidance, their applicability and how they can help deliver specific targets and objectives of the Convention, highlighting the potential for improved synergies by their use and applications.

Lead organization: BirdLife International, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (and potentially other IOPs, still to be confirmed)

Language: English

Room: Rio de Janeiro B

Catering

(4647) Integrated river basin management with focus on the Tigris – Euphrates River Basin and Hawizeh Marsh - the first Ramsar site for Iraq and its challenges

This side event will follow on from a similar event held during COP11 (2012), which brought together representatives from riparian countries and relevant organizations in the region to engage in dialogue, so as to improve communication and understanding of the views of the respective parties. The proposed side event during COP12 will be similar in nature, consisting of presentations from each riparian country as well as from organizations and projects that are working to promote the integrated management of river basins. Additionally, the side event will touch on issues that relate to a number of the Draft Resolutions that will be

discussed at COP12, including *Enhancing the languages of the Convention and its visibility and stature, and increasing synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions (DR XII.3)*, *The status of Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance (DR XII.6)* and a *Call to action to ensure and protect the water requirements of wetlands for the present and the future (DR XII.12)*.

Lead organization: Centre for Restoration of Iraqi Marshlands, Ministry of Water Resources, Republic of Iraq
Language: English
Room: Punta del Este B
Catering

Tuesday 9th June, Lunch Session 13:15 – 14:45

(9) Sharing perspectives from across sectors on investing in wetlands

Representatives from Foundations and the private sector will share their experiences and perspectives on the support provided for wetlands and initiate a conversation with the audience on how the combined efforts of these groups can help unlock opportunities.

Language: English
Catering
Room: Rio de Janeiro B

(78) Bivalve habitat, the new Ramsar wetland type: Its importance and history of inclusion in Ramsar Information Sheets.

During the COP11 in Bucharest the Parties ratified the nomination of bivalve habitat as a wetland type under the Convention. Since that time The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and partners have undertaken several projects to further demonstrate the ecological importance of bivalve habitat and consolidate the relevance of bivalve habitat as a wetland type within the Ramsar framework. We have completed a study on the extent to which bivalve habitat has been recognised and included in the Ramsar Information Sheets for existing sites. This work is recently published under the title “New opportunities for conservation of a threatened biogenic habitat: a worldwide assessment of knowledge on bivalve-reef representation in marine and coastal Ramsar Sites”. TNC and partners have continued to quantify the contribution of bivalve habitat to the function of nearshore ecosystems by measuring the services provided to coastal communities by oyster habitat. Services such as improving water quality through filtration, stabilizing sediments and protecting shorelines from storm damage and sea level rise, and producing fish shrimp, and crabs through increased survival of juveniles. Finally, we have been working on the nomination of Ramsar sites in the US with bivalve habitat as a core component of the RIS.

During the side event there will be presentations on the current condition of bivalve habitat globally and the importance of the ecosystem services returned from oyster habitat, as well as on the Results of the study on the recognition of bivalve habitat in current Ramsar sites and the implications of the findings on future RIS updates of existing sites. There will also be a presentation on the importance of bivalve habitat in the context of nominating coastal and marine Ramsar sites in the US.

Lead Organization: The Nature Conservancy
Language: English
Room: Caribe

(82) Sustainable Development in Wetlands: promoting links between environmental protection, poverty reduction and resilience building.

Wetlands provide a multiplicity of ecosystem goods and services crucial for national and local development. They are important to several of the proposed SDGs such as those related to food security, water supply, climate change mitigation and adaptation, resilience of urban, coastal and rural areas and healthy ocean and marine resources. Wetlands are vital for protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. In fact, the values of benefits provided by wetlands, per unit area, have been shown to be orders of magnitude higher than for other ecosystems, with the major benefit delivered through improving water security.

The side event will highlight Latin American experiences from the UNDP GEF Biodiversity and Ecosystems portfolio and the GEF Small Grants Programme. The overarching theme is wetland management and sustainable development. The event will examine the key connections between sustainable development and wetlands management; review successful policies for sustainable development and livelihoods in a changing climate, present examples of long term partnerships for capacity building at multiple levels and public private management schemes; and showcase results from the ground, drawn from experiences with community level engagement.

Lead Organization: UNDP
Language: English/Spanish
Room: Rio de Janeiro A