

Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) Literature Survey 2019 update

Note:

Resolution XII.5: *New framework for delivery of scientific and technical advice and guidance on the Convention* requests that in developing its work plan, the STRP undertakes “a literature survey of available STRP guidance and other relevant information” and consults “with STRP National Focal Points, the Secretariat CEPA programme and the Senior Regional Advisors, who will be responsible for securing data and information from their respective regions’ Administrative Authorities and National Focal Points”. The aim of the survey is to ensure that there is no duplication of efforts within the STRP work plan, as well as to identify gaps. The STRP is, thus, requested to undertake a survey this triennium when developing its work plan.

In the interest of time and owing to the tight timelines, the literature survey has been updated on the basis of work undertaken by the Panel in 2016-2018. The survey is being circulated for consultation, along with the draft STRP work plan (2019-2021). Inputs from the consultation process will be integrated into the draft work plan and the literature survey, which will be presented at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee (June 2019).

Thematic Work Area No.1: Best practice methodologies / tools to identify and monitor Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, including surveying, mapping, inventorying, and global and regional analysis of the priorities for enhancing the Ramsar site network					
Title	Type of guidance	Target audience (practitioners, policymakers, scientists)	Ramsar Handbook (4 th ed.)	Language ¹	Notes
Ramsar guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Ramsar Briefing Note 9: Guidelines for inventories of tropical peatlands to facilitate their designation as Ramsar Sites	Technical	Practitioners		EFS	Summary: The “Briefing Note aims to support wetland managers in tropical countries by providing step-by-step guidance on how to identify, select and inventory tropical peatlands for their possible designation as Ramsar Sites, using Ramsar Sites designation Criterion 1 (if a peatland is “a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type”) including an argument about climate regulation and carbon storage capacity, and Criterion 2 (if a peatland “supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities”)”.
Ramsar Technical Report 10: The use of Earth Observation for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring	Technical	Practitioners		E	Summary: The Report “provides an overview of the application of Earth Observation technologies that are currently being used to support implementation of the Convention, including contributing to its Fourth Strategic Plan (2016-2024), a number of current case studies are presented”.
Up to 2015					
Resolution XII.15: Evaluation of the management and conservation effectiveness of Ramsar Sites	Technical	Practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	

¹ E = English; F = French; S = Spanish; R = Russian; A = Arabic; C = Chinese; K = Korean

Resolution XI.12: Wetlands and health: taking an ecosystem approach	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution X.15: Describing the ecological character of wetlands, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	13, 15, 14, 18, 19	EFS	
Resolution X.16: A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers	13, 14, 16, 19,	EFS	
Resolution X.21: Guidance on responding to the continued spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza	Scientific / technical	Scientists	4, 1	EFS	
Resolution IX.1, Annex D: Ecological “outcome-oriented” indicators for assessing the implementation effectiveness of the Ramsar Convention	Scientific / technical	Scientists / policymakers	11, 13	EFS	
Resolution IX.1, Annex E: An Integrated Framework for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring (IF-WIAM)	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	13, 14, 15, 18	EFS	
Resolution IX.1, Annex Ei: Guidelines for the rapid assessment of inland, coastal and marine wetland biodiversity	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	1, 13	EFS	
Resolution VIII.6: A Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers	14, 15, 13	EFS	

Resolution VII.10: Wetland Risk Assessment Framework	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	18, 13	EFS	
COP11 DOC. 24: Limits of Acceptable Change (Resolution XI.4 the Status of Sites in the List of Wetlands of International Importance.)	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	Not included in a Handbook	E	<u>Summary:</u> “This paper gives a broad overview of existing approaches and other considerations concerning the definition and operation of concepts and approaches for ‘limits of acceptable change’ (LAC) which may be applicable to the Ramsar context of defining and detecting change in the ecological character of wetlands, as required by Article 3.2.”
DOC. SC35-4: Activities with International Organization Partners “Watching the Wetlands”					<u>Summary:</u> “This working paper, referred to in DOC. SC35-3, provides information on the current and ongoing development by the Convention’s five International Organisation Partners (IOPs) of a joint initiative which would be designed to support the work of the Convention in various aspects of activity on wetland monitoring issues. It also provides an up-to-date review of wetland monitoring issues for the Convention.”
Ramsar Technical Report No. 1: Guidelines for the rapid ecological assessment of biodiversity in inland water, coastal and marine areas	Scientific / technical	Scientists		EFS	<u>Summary:</u> “[These guidelines] are designed as a suite of optional tools to assist those with urgent need and/or limited capacity and resources to undertake, where necessary, rapid inventories, assessment and monitoring of the biological diversity of inland water, coastal and near-shore marine ecosystems. They focus largely at species level considerations (i.e., assessments of taxa) but also include some tools relevant for assessment at the habitat/ecosystem level. . . . An overall conceptual framework for rapid assessment is presented starting from the definition of purpose to the dissemination of results.”

Ramsar Technical Report No. 2: Low-cost GIS software and data for wetland inventory, assessment & monitoring	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners		ES	<p><u>Summary:</u> “[T]his review and guidance has been prepared to provide a general introduction to GIS issues, its application not only for wetland inventory, but also for wetland assessment and monitoring purposes and other applications, in order to cover the full scope of the integrated framework for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring that was prepared concurrently by the STRP (COP9 Resolution IX.1 . . . Annex E). The review outlines data management issues and provides guidance on a set of criteria which should be applied by those considering using GIS systems for wetland data handling and management. Information on available data viewer software and low-cost GIS products is provided”</p>
Ramsar Technical Report No. 4: A Framework for a Wetland Inventory Metadatabase	Scientific / technical	Scientists		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “The standard wetland inventory metadatabase model provided in this Ramsar Technical Report will enable the consistent provision, collation and compilation of information about wetland inventory worldwide, and it can be utilised by anyone who has undertaken a wetland inventory, at whatever spatial (geographical) scale. . . . The resulting metadatabase framework has been developed from core metadata fields for wetland inventory identified through the GRoWI project, integrated with other internationally recognized metadata fields that are in use elsewhere in the world. The metadatabase framework has been designed to provide the basis for the development of an on-line web-based wetland inventory metadata system which can serve up accessible information about wetland inventories worldwide.”</p>
Ramsar Technical Report No. 7: Ramsar Wetland Disease Manual: Guidelines for Assessment, Monitoring and Management of Animal Disease in Wetlands	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners, policymakers		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This Manual is intended to provide the reader with an overview of the principles and practicalities of managing animal diseases at wetland sites. The Manual highlights the importance of including disease prevention and control in wetland management plans and provides guidelines on how to do so. It should be used in conjunction with Ramsar Handbook No. 18 on Managing Wetlands.”</p>

Other guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Guidelines for using A global standard for the identification of Key Biodiversity Areas : version 1.0				E	IUCN Summary: “The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) identification is based on consistent, scientifically rigorous yet practical methods. The KBA Guidelines provide an overview of the steps for identifying and delineating KBAs, together with explanation of how the KBA criteria, thresholds and delineation procedures should be applied in practice. The primary audience for the KBA Guidelines includes individuals or organisations interested in proposing or reviewing KBAs.”
Up to 2015					
Monitoring Important Bird Areas: a global framework				E	BirdLife International Summary: “The IBA monitoring framework provides a standardised way to assign scores for the threats to IBAs (‘Pressure’), the condition of IBAs (‘State’) and conservation actions taken at IBAs (‘Response’). These guidelines explain how this scoring system works, and also outline principles for designing and implementing a sustainable monitoring process.”
Wetland Resources Action Planning (WRAP) Toolkit				E	IUCN

An Integrated Wetland Assessment Toolkit: A guide to good practice + Case study: An integrated assessment of the biodiversity, livelihood and economic value of wetlands in Mtanza-Msona village, Tanzania				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> This toolkit sets out a process for integrated assessment and provides a set of methods that can be used to investigate the links between biodiversity, economics and livelihoods in wetlands, and to identify and address potential conflicts of interest between conservation and development objectives. The integrated approach presented in the toolkit also enables practitioners to assess a wetland in terms of its combined biodiversity, economic and livelihood values. It has a particular focus on strengthening pro-poor approaches to wetland management.”</p>
Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines for Community Based Wetland Resource Management				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “The M&E [Monitoring and Evaluation] system depicted herein has been in operation since the inception of the SEMP [Sustainable Environment Management Programme] interventions [in Bangladesh]. . . . This guide may be useful to the managers implementing other SEMP components and similar natural resource management and development projects for maximising resource use and achieving sustainability through conducting regular M&Es.”</p>
Diagnóstico de medios de vida y capitales de la comunidad de Humedales de Medio Queso, Los Chiles, Costa Rica				S	IUCN
Biodiversity and ecosystem management in the Iraqi marshlands: screening study on potential World Heritage nomination				EA	IUCN

Global Lakes and Wetlands Database					<p>WWF <u>Summary:</u> “Drawing upon a variety of existing maps, data and information, WWF and the Center for Environmental Systems Research, University of Kassel, Germany created the Global Lakes and Wetlands Database (GLWD). The combination of best available sources for lakes and wetlands on a global scale (1:1 to 1:3 million resolution), and the application of GIS functionality enabled the generation of a database which focuses in three coordinated levels on (1) large lakes and reservoirs, (2) smaller water bodies, and (3) wetlands.”</p>
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Trends and Conditions Assessment Tool				EFS	<p>The Nature Conservancy <u>Summary:</u> “BestCat is a web-based mapping application which provides companies with the ability to compare and contrast global assets based on value and condition of ecosystems and associated biodiversity. This easy-to-use and efficient application provides businesses with a preset data package that highlights biodiversity and ecosystem service risk and quickly identifies critical locations that require risk management. BestCat analysis provides a basis for developing cost effective risk mitigation approaches by identifying areas that are associated with potential environmental liabilities.”</p>
Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool					<p>WWF & World Bank <u>Summary:</u> “The Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT or Tracking Tool) has been developed to help track and monitor progress in the achievement of the World Bank/WWF Alliance worldwide protected area management effectiveness target. It is also hoped that the Tracking Tool will be used more generally where it can help monitor progress towards improving management effectiveness In addition, use of the Tracking Tool can help managers track progress in implementing protected areas commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.”</p>

Guidance for National Biodiversity Indicator Development and Use				EFS (and others)	Biodiversity Indicators Partnership <u>Summary:</u> "This guidance is designed to help the development of biodiversity indicators at the national level for uses such as reporting, policy-making, environmental management, and education. It is intended principally for the people who produce biodiversity indicators, whether they are in government agencies, academia or NGOs."
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Thematic Work Area No. 2: Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities					
Title	Type of guidance	Target audience (practitioners, policymakers, scientists)	Ramsar Handbook (4 th ed.)	Language ²	Notes
Ramsar guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Ramsar Sites Management Toolkit	Technical	Practitioners		EFS	<u>Summary</u> : “The Toolkit is designed to provide simple guidance to site managers on the key steps and components involved in managing a Ramsar Site. It also identifies and provides links to more detailed information on each of those steps, including key non-Ramsar publications where appropriate. It is aimed primarily at managers of Ramsar Sites; however, it can also be used by those managing other wetlands that are not designated as Ramsar Sites”.
Up to 2015					
Resolution XI.7: Tourism, recreation and wetlands	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.9: An Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses	Scientific / technical	Scientists / policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.11: Principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	

² E = English; F = French; S = Spanish; R = Russian; A = Arabic; C = Chinese; K = Korean; KM= Khmer, ID= Indonesian, LO: Lao, MY= Burmese, NE= Nepali.

Resolution XI.12: Wetlands and health: taking an ecosystem approach	Scientific / technical	Scientists / policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.13: An Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication	Technical	Policymakers/practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution X.15: Describing the ecological character of wetlands, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners	13, 15, 14, 18, 19	EFS	
Resolution X.16: A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character	Scientific / technical	Practitioners, policymakers	13, 14, 16, 19,	EFS	
Resolution X.17: Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment: updated scientific and technical guidance	Scientific / technical	Practitioner, policymakers	16	EFS	
Resolution X.19: Wetlands and river basin management: consolidated scientific and technical guidance	Scientific / technical	Policymakers, practitioners	8, 9	EFS	
Resolution X.21: Guidance on responding to the continued spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza	Scientific / technical	Scientists	4, 1	EFS	

Resolution IX.1, Annex Cii: Guidelines for the management of groundwater to maintain wetland ecological character	Scientific / technical	Practitioners, policymakers	11	EFS	
Resolution VIII.1: Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands	Technical/Scientific	Practitioners, policymakers	8, 9, 10	EFS	
Resolution VIII.4: Wetland issues in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	12	EFS	
Resolution VIII.14: New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	18	EFS	
Resolution VIII.16: Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	19	EFS	
Resolution VIII.17: Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	15, 18	EFS	
Resolution VIII.20: General guidance for interpreting “urgent national interests” under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2	Technical	Policymakers	19	EFS	
Resolution VIII.33: Guidance for identifying, sustainably managing, and designating temporary pools as Wetlands of International Importance	Technical	Practitioners	17	EFS	

Resolution VIII.36: Participatory Environmental Management (PEM) as a tool for management and wise use of wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	7	EFS	
Resolution VII.8: Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	7	EFS	
Resolution VII.10: Wetland Risk Assessment Framework	Technical/Scientific	Scientists / practitioners	18, 13	EFS	
.COP12 DOC.20: Information Paper: Management effectiveness assessments for Ramsar Sites (Resolution XII.15: Evaluation of the management and conservation effectiveness of Ramsar Sites)	Technical	Practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	Summary: This paper provides information about "Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessment tools" and how PAME tools may be used at Ramsar Sites. The paper also discusses "[w]hich PAME methodology is suitable for Ramsar Sites."
COP11 DOC. 24: Limits of Acceptable Change. (Resolution XI.4, the Status of Sites in the List of Wetlands of International Importance).	Technical/Scientific	Practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	E	Summary: "This paper gives a broad overview of existing approaches and other considerations concerning the definition and operation of concepts and approaches for 'limits of acceptable change' (LAC) which may be applicable to the Ramsar context of defining and detecting change in the ecological character of wetlands, as required by Article 3.2."
COP10 DOC. 33: Enhancing wetland wise use: a guide for capacity development	Technical	Practitioners / policymakers	Not included in a Handbook	E	Summary: "This document presents a guide for establishing capacity development programmes at national and regional level to support wetland management. It provides the Contracting Parties of the Ramsar Convention and in particular the Ramsar Administrative Authorities with a stepwise approach for developing and implementing capacity development activities in support of the Convention."

<p>COP10 DOC. 27: Background and rationale to the Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character (Resolution X.16. A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character)</p>	Technical	Practitioners	19	EFS	<p><u>Summary:</u> “Draft Resolution DR16 presents a ‘Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character’, as drawn up by the Ramsar Convention’s Scientific & Technical Review Panel in response to a request from the Parties at the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP8, 2002). The present Information Document provides a more detailed supporting rationale for the Framework. It reviews what guidance is already available . . . and identifies gaps in various places in the processes where further guidance may be needed.”</p>
<p>STRP Briefing Note No. 6: Towards the wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands</p>	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This Briefing Note expands on the principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, and aims to help managers and planners of towns and cities ensure the wise use of wetlands.”</p>
<p>Ongoing draft from last triennium STRP Briefing Note No. ____: A guide to available guidance on IAS (forthcoming; title to be finalized)</p>	Technical	Practitioners		E	
<p>Ramsar Technical Report No. 7: Ramsar Wetland Disease Manual: Guidelines for Assessment, Monitoring and Management of Animal Disease in Wetlands</p>	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This Manual is intended to provide the reader with an overview of the principles and practicalities of managing animal diseases at wetland sites. The Manual highlights the importance of including disease prevention and control in wetland management plans and provides guidelines on how to do so. It should be used in conjunction with Ramsar Handbook No. 18 on Managing Wetlands.”</p>
<p>Ramsar Technical Report No. 9: Determination and implementation of environmental water requirements for estuaries</p>	Technical/Scientific	Scientists / practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This report provides a review of available methods for determining the environmental water requirements of estuaries, as well as a discussion of trends in method development and requirements for the successful implementation of environmental water requirements.”</p>

Internal Report: Change in ecological character of wetland sites – Ramsar guidance and mechanisms (2014)	Technical	Practitioners		E	As noted in COP12 DOC.6, this report was prepared to deliver on tasks 20, 25, and 41 in 2013–2015 triennium.
Resolution IX. 4 The Ramsar Convention and conservation, production and sustainable use of fisheries resources.	Technical	Policymakers / practitioners	18	EFS	
Other guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA). (2017). The Designation and Management of Ramsar Sites – A practitioner’s guide				ECK, KM, ID, LO, MY, NE	RRC-EA: Summary: “This guide is aimed primarily at those involved in the management of Ramsar Sites, to help promote better understanding of the processes involved based on guidance provided by the Ramsar Convention and good practices identified by the Convention’s experts and partners. The guide also includes simplified information on the process to designate Ramsar Sites in order to highlight the various linkages between the designation and management stages”.
Rapid Cultural Inventories for Wetlands (guidance)				EFS	Ramsar Culture Network (report): Summary: “Rapid Cultural Inventories for Wetlands are a simple and practical way to identify, document and make available information about notable cultural values and practices associated with identified wetland areas. They can be undertaken at a variety of scales. The information they provide supports both the conservation of cultural heritage and the Ramsar Convention’s aim of integrating cultural aspects in the management of Ramsar Sites and other wetlands.”

<p>Ramsar and World Heritage Conventions: converging towards success. How cultural values and community participation contribute to positive conservation outcomes for internationally designated wetlands</p>				EFS	<p>Report for the Ramsar Convention Secretariat <u>Summary:</u> This report builds on ongoing efforts to draw lessons and to provide guidance for sites with multiple international designations. Following the study of Shaaf and Clamote Rodrigues (2016), it specifically focuses on relationships between culture and wetlands of international importance.</p>
<p>The relationship of indigenous peoples and local communities with wetlands: An initial report</p>				E	<p>Consultancy report published by the Ramsar Secretariat <u>Summary:</u> The report contains: A review of the Ramsar Convention’s policy Framework with respect to indigenous peoples and local communities and wetland conservation; an analysis of lessons learned from national experiences; thoughts on the way forward, including on new developments in the field;</p>
<p>Managing MIDAS : harmonising the management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas</p>				EFSK	<p>IUCN: <u>Summary:</u> “An Internationally Designated Area (IDA) is a natural area internationally recognised by a global or regional designation mechanism. Among these, there are 263 areas where different IDAs fully or partially overlap thus carrying double, triple or even quadruple international designations. These areas are named Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs) for the purpose of this publication. Following up on Resolution WCC-2012-Res-052 adopted at the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, September 2012), this Guidance addresses specific issues related to the management of MIDAs, and includes recommendations for harmonising the management, systematic conservation and sustainable use of these areas aimed at the local, national and international stakeholders of MIDAs”.</p>

Guidelines for species conservation planning (version 1.0)				E	IUCN: Summary: “The Guidelines aim to be equally relevant for any taxon on Earth. Recent experience has shown that no two planning situations are the same. So while the principles of planning may be constant, the purpose of the planning and the circumstances, the information available and its accuracy, and other factors, all combine to make every situation unique. This then demands a planning process that is both rigorous in analysis but flexible in its application. These Guidelines are very much an evolution based on experience, rather than a fundamental replacement of the 2008 Handbook”.
World Heritage, Wilderness and Large Landscapes and Seascapes				E	IUCN: Summary: “This thematic study focuses on the contribution the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO 1972), commonly known as the World Heritage Convention (“the Convention”), can make to wilderness conservation around the world”.
Up to 2015					
Wetland Resources Action Planning (WRAP) Toolkit					
An Integrated Wetland Assessment Toolkit: A guide to good practice				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “This toolkit sets out a process for integrated assessment and provides a set of methods that can be used to investigate the links between biodiversity, economics and livelihoods in wetlands, and to identify and address potential conflicts of interest between conservation and development objectives. The integrated approach presented in the toolkit also enables practitioners to assess a wetland in terms of its combined biodiversity, economic and livelihood values. It has a particular focus on strengthening pro-poor approaches to wetland management.”

Approaches to Sustainable Wetland Resource Management				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> "Community Based Haor and Floodplain Resource Management . . . are being implemented by IUCN Bangladesh . . . since October 1998 in two haors and three floodplain areas of Bangladesh. . . . The approach used several Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools and techniques. . . . This approach to project piloting also considered sustainability issues for each and every individual activity while ensuring the participation of the Community Based Organizations formed under the project. This book briefly describes the approaches and methodology for planning, implementation and demonstration of various activities in five different wetland areas in the country."</p>
Flow: The essentials of environmental flows				EFSC	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> "This guide, the second in the series of the Water & Nature Initiative, draws extensively on the experiences in these countries [South Africa, Australia, and the United States] to offer hands-on advice for this emerging issue on the water resource agenda. It goes well beyond existing literature to offer practical guidance on technical issues, such as assessment methods and infrastructural adaptation, and the economic, legal and political dimensions of establishing environmental flows."</p>
Gestion des zones humides en milieux arides : leçons d'expérience				F	IUCN

Wetland Management Planning: Methodology Manual for Indian Planners				E	<p>Wetlands International <u>Summary:</u> “This guidance has been prepared for the wetland managers to assist in developing integrated management plans. It focuses on application of an integrated methodology to assist systematic identification of management objectives and an action plan using results based mechanisms to setting goal, outcomes and outputs. The existing guidelines of Ramsar Convention on wetland management planning as well as wise use handbooks have been used to develop the various sections.”</p>
Wetland Management Planning: A Guide for Site Managers				E	<p>WWF, Wetlands International, IUCN (and Ramsar) <u>Summary:</u> “This guide is intended to provide a summary of the steps to develop wetland management planning processes. . . . This summary guide has been prepared to help managers of sites listed under the Ramsar Convention on wetlands as well as all other types of wetlands. It provides a summary of Ramsar’s Handbook 16 . . . while highlighting other relevant sources of useful information on wetland management planning.”</p>
The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Water and Wetlands				E (summary available in EFSRAC)	<p>IEEP & Ramsar <u>Summary:</u> “TEEB Water and Wetlands aims to show how recognizing, demonstrating, and capturing the values of ecosystem services related to water and wetlands can lead to better informed, more efficient, and fairer decision making. . . . It is about the ‘values’ of the ecosystem services provided by water and wetlands, which can be expressed in a number of ways and methods. . . . Chapter 4 deals with the integrated management of land, water and wetlands. It outlines the different policy instruments that can be used to foster conservation and restoration, including site management, regulation and land use planning, property rights and market-based instruments.”</p>

Destination Wetlands: Supporting sustainable tourism				EFSA	<p>Ramsar & World Tourism Organization <u>Summary:</u> "Fourteen wetland case studies form the core of this publication and were selected to exemplify both the diversity of wetland types around the world and the diversity in the scale of wetland tourism in Wetlands of International Importance . . . , and to illustrate effective approaches in managing tourism for the wetland sector. This information is particularly addressed to wetland management authorities but should also be relevant to many others."</p>
Handbook on Best Practices for the Planning, Design and Operation of Wetland Education Centres				EFK	<p>Ramsar & Environmental Ecosystem Research Foundation <u>Summary:</u> "The objective of this Handbook is to present a range of key lessons learnt from a variety of wetland education centres around the world. It is hoped that these lessons will inform people involved in the planning and development of new centres or will assist others in the redevelopment or management of existing centres. . . . The Handbook is divided into chapters each of which deals with a component of the planning, design and operation of a wetland education centre."</p>
Our Country Our Way: Guidelines for Australian Indigenous Protected Area Management Plans				E	<p>Australian Government <u>Summary:</u> "The purpose of Our Country Our Way is to assist IPA [Indigenous Protected Area] owners, custodians and managers, including those involved in co-management projects, to produce Management Plans that ensure outcomes of value to both Indigenous peoples and the Australian nation. IPA Management Plans bring together management based on connections between Indigenous people, country, traditional law, custom and culture with the Australian and international systems for protected area management."</p>

Towards a Community of Practice of Wetland Project Managers: Lessons Learned from Central and West Asia and the Mediterranean				E and Farsi	DOE-Iran, UNDP, GEF, et al <u>Summary:</u> "To exchange best practices and lessons-learned regarding conservation and management of wetlands between the project managers, the Conservation of Iranian Wetlands project and the Ramsar Regional Center for training and research in West and Central Asia jointly organized the workshop Towards a Community of Practice for Wetlands Project Managers in October 2010. This resource book which is written based on the mentioned workshop, presents and records the experiences of 11 demonstration projects of wetlands management."
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Thematic Work Area No.3: Methodologies for the economic and non-economic valuation of the values of the functions and services of wetlands, and improved methodologies and knowledge exchange on current and future drivers of wetland loss and degradation					
Title	Type of guidance	Target audience (practitioners, policymakers, scientists)	Ramsar Handbook (4 th ed.)	Language ³	Notes
Ramsar guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Resolution XIII.17: Rapidly assessing wetland ecosystem services	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Ramsar Policy Brief 1: Wetlands for disaster risk reduction - Effective choices for resilient communities	Technical	Policymakers		EFS	<u>Summary:</u> "The Policy Brief explains why wetlands are important for disaster risk reduction and proposes a raft of recommendations and policy considerations to guide decision-makers integrate wetlands within their national disaster risk reduction plans and strategies".
Ramsar Policy Brief 2: Integrating multiple wetland values into decision-making	Technical	Policymakers		EFS	<u>Summary:</u> "The Policy Brief aims to support policy-makers by informing and facilitating the integration of the multiple values of wetlands across sectors, supported by improved valuation studies, to enhance the relevance and impact of policies".
Up to 2015					
Resolution XI.13: An Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication	Technical	Policymakers	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	

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Resolution VIII.19: Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites	Technical	Practitioners	18	EFS	
Ramsar Technical Report No. 3: Valuing wetlands: Guidance for valuing the benefits derived from wetland ecosystem services	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners		EFS	Summary: “This report outlines a framework which should assist readers to conduct an integrated assessment of wetland ecosystem services, and it sets out five key steps in undertaking a wetland valuation assessment. . . . This guidance is supplemented by case studies from around the world of where different aspects of wetland valuation have supported decision-making, and by sources of further information on wetland valuation.”
Ramsar Technical Report No. 6: Healthy wetlands, healthy people: A review of wetlands and human health interactions	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners		E	Summary: “The purpose of this review report is to provide an accessible source of information to help improve understanding of the often complex inter-relationships between wetland ecosystems and human health and wellbeing. The primary audience for this report is intended to be wetland conservation and wise use practitioners, from wetland managers at the site level to decision makers at national and international levels. The information in the report should help in facilitating dialogue between wetlands and human health professionals in their respective efforts to maintain and improve wetland ecological character and people’s health.”
Culture and wetlands: a Ramsar guidance document. Related to Resolutions VIII.19. Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites and IX.21 Taking into account the cultural values of wetlands	Technical	Practitioners		EFS	Summary: “[T]he document provides the reader with an overview of the concept of incorporating cultural aspects in the work of the Ramsar Convention, and in particular in the management of wetlands, through the approval of Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21 and the work of the Culture Working Group towards the development of guidance.”

Economic Valuation of Wetlands: a Guide for Policy Makers and Planners (Publication, Ramsar 1997)	Technical	Policymakers / practitioners		EFS	
Other guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration				E	IPBES Summary: The assessment “provides a critical analysis of the state of knowledge regarding the importance, drivers, status, and trends of terrestrial ecosystems”.
Assessment Report on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production				E (summary for policymakers available in EFSRAC)	IPBES Summary: The thematic assessment “aims to assess animal pollination as a regulating ecosystem service underpinning food production in the context of its contribution to nature’s gifts to people and supporting a good quality of life”.
The methodological assessment report on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services				E (summary for policymakers available in EFSRAC)	IPBES Summary: The assessment “provides guidance for the use of scenarios and models for experts performing assessments within IPBES, as well as to scientists and other stakeholders and decision makers”.
Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Africa				E (summary for policymakers available in EFSRAC)	IPBES Summary: The assessment “provides a critical analysis of the state of knowledge regarding the importance, status, and trends of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people”.
Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the Americas				E	IPBES Summary: The assessment “provides a critical analysis of the state of knowledge regarding the importance, status, and trends of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people”.

Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Asia and the Pacific				E (summary for policymakers available in EFSRAC)	IPBES <u>Summary:</u> The assessment “provides a critical analysis of the state of knowledge regarding the importance, status, and trends of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people”.
Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Europe and Central Asia				E	IPBES <u>Summary:</u> The assessment “provides a critical analysis of the state of knowledge regarding the importance, status, and trends of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people”.
Helping nature help us - Transforming disaster risk reduction through ecosystem management				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “This publication documents the importance of biodiversity in disaster risk reduction and makes a case for the implementation of common approaches that contribute to both conservation and risk reduction. Assessments of regional experiences on Eco-DRR also highlight the opportunities and entry-points to scale-up integrated approaches”.
Landscapes, at your service: Applications of the Restoration Opportunities Optimization Tool (ROOT)				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> The case studies in this document demonstrate examples of the practical applicability of ROOT in different contexts, using ROOT in several different ways.
Tools for measuring, modelling, and valuing ecosystem services : Guidance for Key Biodiversity Areas, natural World Heritage sites, and protected areas				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “This document provides guidance for practitioners on existing tools that can be applied to measure or model ES provided by important sites for biodiversity and nature conservation, including Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), natural World Heritage sites (WHS), and protected areas (PAs)”.
Up to 2015					

Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessments (TESSA)					<p>BirdLife International <u>Summary:</u> “The toolkit provides accessible guidance on low-cost methods for how to evaluate the benefits people receive from nature at particular sites in order to generate information that can be used to influence decision making. TESSA is primarily aimed at conservation practitioners, although the methods may be applicable to a wide range of users, including natural resource managers (e.g. forestry, fisheries, water managers), land-use planners, development organisations (e.g. for poverty alleviation), and the private sector. . . . The toolkit includes [d]etails . . . for over 50 methods for assessing particular aspects of . . . ecosystem services”</p>
Economic Values of Protected Areas: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers				ER	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “The aims of these Guidelines are: to introduce protected area managers to the concept and tools of economic valuation, and to demonstrate the potential uses of economic valuation for protected area financing and management.”</p>
Wetland Resources Action Planning (WRAP) Toolkit				E	IUCN
An Integrated Wetland Assessment Toolkit: A guide to good practice + Case study: An integrated assessment of the biodiversity, livelihood and economic value of wetlands in Mtanza-Msona village, Tanzania				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “This toolkit sets out a process for integrated assessment and provides a set of methods that can be used to investigate the links between biodiversity, economics and livelihoods in wetlands, and to identify and address potential conflicts of interest between conservation and development objectives. The integrated approach presented in the toolkit also enables practitioners to assess a wetland in terms of its combined biodiversity, economic and livelihood values. It has a particular focus on strengthening pro-poor approaches to wetland management.”</p>

Valeur économique de la vallée du Sourou : une évaluation préliminaire				F	IUCN
Diagnóstico de medios de vida y capitales de la comunidad de Humedales de Medio Queso, Los Chiles, Costa Rica				S	IUCN
Economic Valuation of Wetlands: A Guide For Policy Makers And Planners				E	Ramsar, IUCN, et al from 1997 <u>Summary:</u> “The aim of this book is to provide guidance to policy makers and planners on the potential for economic valuation of wetlands and how such valuation studies should be conducted. . . . [T]his book provides details of the various techniques and examples of wetland valuation studies together with guidance on planning and managing a study and putting the result into a wider decision-making framework.”
Working Wetlands: Classifying Wetland Potential for Agriculture				E	IWMI <u>Summary:</u> “A systematic and semi-quantitative method of evaluation is presented, which enables the classification of the ‘potential’ of using a working wetland for specified agricultural activities. The approach, which is underpinned by the concept of ‘wise use,’ is based on a form of multi-criteria analysis that integrates biophysical and socioeconomic aspects of wetland utilization.”

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Water and Wetlands				E (summary available in EFSRAC)	IEEP & Ramsar <u>Summary:</u> “TEEB Water and Wetlands aims to show how recognizing, demonstrating, and capturing the values of ecosystem services related to water and wetlands can lead to better informed, more efficient, and fairer decision making. . . . It is about the ‘values’ of the ecosystem services provided by water and wetlands, which can be expressed in a number of ways and methods. . . . This report aims to support evidence-based decision making by presenting an array of ecosystem service values in varying contexts.”
Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Wetlands and Water Synthesis				ES (and others)	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment <u>Summary:</u> “This report, synthesizing the findings of the MA on inland, coastal, and near-shore marine wetlands, is the key product of the MA for the Ramsar Convention. . . . The synthesis stresses the link between wetlands and water and will help us set the future agenda for Ramsar. . . . The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment was a four-year international process (2001–05) designed to meet the needs of decision makers for information on the links between ecosystem change and human well-being. It focused on how changes in ecosystems and ecosystem services have affected human well-being, how ecosystem changes may affect people in future decades, and what types of responses can be adopted at local, national, regional, or global scales to improve ecosystem management and thereby contribute to human well-being.”

Earth Economics Ecosystem Valuation Toolkit					<p>Some resources are not available yet <u>Summary:</u> “The EVT seeks to accelerate the adoption of ecosystem service valuation by providing a comprehensive, searchable online database of values for nature and tools for calculating the value of natural assets. These outputs can then be utilized by planners, watershed managers, forest owners, natural resource agencies, scholars and businesses to communicate the previously unrecognized value of these assets for conservation, restoration, or other land use decisions.”</p>
Guidance Manual for the Valuation of Regulating Services				E	<p>UNEP <u>Summary:</u> “This manual is directed towards practitioners in environmental economics. Its primary use is expected to be as a supporting tool for estimating the economic value of regulating services provided by a particular ecosystem in a particular area and for a specified time period.”</p>
Manual on Value Transfer Methods for Ecosystem Services				E	<p>UNEP <u>Summary:</u> “The purpose of this guidance manual is to show how the value of ecosystem services can be estimated and incorporated into decision making. Specifically, it is designed to help a broad audience of conservation managers, government officials, private sector managers, NGOs, and statisticians to understand the available information on the values of ecosystem services and how this information can be transferred to inform the decisions that they make.”</p>
Literature Review of the Economic Value of Ecosystem Services that Wetlands Provide: Final Report prepared for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities				E	<p>Marsden Jacob Associates <u>Summary:</u> “In addition to providing a critical review of the literature for both ecosystem service estimation and economic valuation of ecosystem services, this study will provide advice to policy-makers in this area relating to the use of ecosystem services contents and valuation in policy, planning and investment decisions.”</p>

Economic valuation of water resources in agriculture: From the sectoral to a functional perspective of natural resource management				E	<p>FA</p> <p><u>Summary:</u> “The purpose of this report is to produce a review on water resource valuation issues and techniques specifically for the appraisal and negotiation of raw (as opposed to bulk or retail) water resource allocation for agricultural development projects. The review considers raw water in naturally occurring watercourses, lakes, wetlands, soil and aquifers, taking an ecosystem function perspective at a catchment scale, and takes account of the demands from irrigated and rainfed agriculture.”</p>
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Trends and Conditions Assessment Tool					<p>The Nature Conservancy</p> <p><u>Summary:</u> “BestCat is a web-based mapping application which provides companies with the ability to compare and contrast global assets based on value and condition of ecosystems and associated biodiversity. This easy-to-use and efficient application provides businesses with a preset data package that highlights biodiversity and ecosystem service risk and quickly identifies critical locations that require risk management. BestCat analysis provides a basis for developing cost effective risk mitigation approaches by identifying areas that are associated with potential environmental liabilities.”</p>
The IPBES Conceptual Framework – connecting nature and people				E	<p>IPBES</p> <p><u>Summary:</u> “The first public product of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is its Conceptual Framework. This conceptual and analytical tool, presented here in detail, will underpin all IPBES functions and provide structure and comparability to the syntheses that IPBES will produce at different spatial scales, on different themes, and in different regions. . . . The IPBES Conceptual Framework (hereafter CF) is a highly simplified model of the complex interactions between the natural world and human societies that are most relevant to IPBES’s goal.”</p>

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity – Ecological and Economic Foundations				E	<p>TEEB</p> <p><u>Summary:</u> “The goal of TEEB Ecological and Economic Foundations is to provide the conceptual foundation to link economics and ecology, to highlight the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem services and to show their importance for human well-being. . . . [T]his aspect of the TEEB study tackles the challenges of valuing ecosystem services, as well as issues related to economic discounting. It aims to quantify the costs of inaction and examine the macroeconomic dimension of ecosystem services loss. . . . TEEB Ecological and Economic Foundations is the most comprehensive overview of existing thinking in this area to date, and the process is bringing scientists and economists together to provide the analysis and tools required in order for us to be able to create a robust methodological framework enabling the decision-makers at different levels to undertake economic analysis of ecosystem services and biodiversity.”</p>
Literature Review of the Economic Value of Ecosystem Services that Wetlands Provide				E	<p>Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities of Australia</p> <p>This report outlines the various valuation techniques that could potentially be used for valuing ecosystem services. It also identifies a number of knowledge gaps and deficiencies in the methodology of the current valuation techniques that are available.</p>

Thematic Work Area No.4: Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives					
Title	Type of guidance	Target audience (practitioners, policymakers, scientists)	Ramsar Handbook (4 th ed.)	Language ¹	Notes
Ramsar guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Global Wetland Outlook	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners		EFSRA	Summary: The Global Wetland Outlook, a Flagship publication of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, “provides a current overview of global wetlands: their extent, trends, drivers of change and the responses needed to reverse the historical decline in wetland area and quality”.
Global Wetland Outlook Technical Notes	Scientific / technical			E	Summary: “The technical notes are complementary to the Global Wetland Outlook, consisting of supplemental details and references. They also may provide technical information to explain the analysis or methodology supporting findings published in the Global Wetland Outlook”.
Ramsar Briefing Note 8: Ramsar Advisory Missions - Technical advice on Ramsar Sites	Technical	Practitioners		EFS	Summary: “This Briefing Note, which builds on the results of the comprehensive review and analysis of all RAM reports, provides general information to Ramsar Sites managers about RAMs, including their history and use. The Briefing Note also discusses the benefits of RAMs, offers examples of effective RAM applications and explains how a Contracting Party can request a RAM”.

¹ E = English; F = French; S = Spanish; R = Russian; A = Arabic; C = Chinese; K = Korean

Ramsar Policy Brief 3: Ramsar Advisory Missions - A mechanism to respond to change in ecological character of Ramsar Sites	Technical	Policymakers		EFS	<u>Summary:</u> The “Policy Brief seeks to assist Contracting Parties to the Convention and, more specifically, decision makers in Ramsar Administrative Authorities and National Focal Points in further understanding the RAM concept, the value of RAMs, as well as lessons learned on their effective application.”
Up to 2015					
Resolution XI.7: Tourism, recreation and wetlands	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.9: An Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.10: Wetlands and energy issues	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution XI.11: Principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	EFS	
Resolution X.3: The Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	1	EFS	
Resolution X.17: Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment: updated scientific and technical guidance	Technical	Practitioners, policymakers	16	EFS	
Resolution X.19: Wetlands and river basin management: consolidated scientific and technical guidance	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	8, 9	EFS	

Resolution IX.1, Annex Cii: Guidelines for the management of groundwater to maintain wetland ecological character	Technical/ Scientific	Practitioners, scientists	11	EFS	
Resolution IX.4: The Ramsar Convention and conservation, production and sustainable use of fisheries resources	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	18	EFS	
Resolution VIII.1: Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands	Technical / Scientific	Practitioners, policymakers	10	EFS	
Resolution VIII.4: Wetland issues in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	11	EFS	
Resolution VIII.17: Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	15, 18	EFS	
Resolution VII.7: Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands	Technical	Policymakers	3	EFS	

COP11 DOC. 28: Supporting information on wetlands and energy issues (Resolution XI.10)	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “In the 2009-2012 work plan of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) (Resolution X.10), the STRP was requested to ‘conduct a scoping review of the implications for wetlands of energy generation and distribution activities, covering both the conventional and renewable energy sectors, having regard to issues concerning climate change and wetlands, linking as appropriate to work done in relation to the task on extractive industries . . . and taking account of up-to-date evolving policy perspectives in these sectors and on issues of energy security in general.’ . . . That scoping review [was] prepared by the STRP during 2010-2011 . . . and is published . . . as a Ramsar Technical Report . . . This Information Paper includes the executive summary of this Ramsar Technical Report”</p>
Ramsar Advisory Mission reports	Technical / scientific	Practitioners		Varies (E, F, and/or S)	<p><u>Summary:</u> “Where a Ramsar Site’s ecological character is threatened, the Contracting Party can request a Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM). . . . Typically a Mission consists of a visit by a team of two or more experts. . . . The team’s draft report is submitted for review by the Contracting Party, and the revised final report is then published. The findings and recommendations in the report can provide the basis for action at the Site, and possibly for subsequent financial assistance.”</p>
STRP Briefing Note No. 6: Towards the wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This Briefing Note expands on the principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, and aims to help managers and planners of towns and cities ensure the wise use of wetlands.”</p>

Ramsar Technical Report No. 9: Determination and implementation of environmental water requirements for estuaries	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners		E	<u>Summary:</u> “This report provides a review of available methods for determining the environmental water requirements of estuaries, as well as a discussion of trends in method development and requirements for the successful implementation of environmental water requirements.”
Internal Report: Change in ecological character of wetland sites – Ramsar guidance and mechanisms (2014)	Technical	Policy makers		E	<u>Summary:</u> As noted in COP12 DOC.6, this report was prepared to deliver on tasks 20, 25, and 41 in 2013–2015 triennium.
Other guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Wetlands and the SDGs				EFS	Ramsar Secretariat report: <u>Summary:</u> “This report highlights the critical role of wetlands in relation to the SDGs ... and underscores the importance of conserving, using wisely and restoring this precious resource”.
Global Land Outlook				EFSRAC	UNCCCD <u>Summary:</u> “The GLO presents an overview of the status of land and a clear set of responses to optimize land use, management, and planning, and thereby create synergies among sectors in the provision of land-based goods and services.”
Good practices handbook – Integrating urban development and wetland conservation				EC	WWT <u>Summary:</u> “provides guidance to individuals, businesses, organizations or government involved in the design, planning, management and/or construction of urban wetlands”.

Mediterranean Wetlands Outlook 2: Solutions for sustainable Mediterranean Wetlands – 2018				EF	<p>MedWet <u>Summary:</u> “The MWO2 updates the situation for Mediterranean wetlands since 2012, the year of publication of the MWO1, which was the first regional indicator-based assessment of the status of wetlands and the challenges that they face. This MWO-2, through its 16 indicator factsheets, provides regional support to the findings of the Ramsar Convention’s first Global Wetland Outlook (GWO): the State of the World’s Wetlands, to be issued at the 13th Meeting of Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention (COP13, Dubai, 21-29 October 2018)”.</p>
Restoration of forest ecosystems and landscapes as contribution to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets - Information document submitted by IUCN				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “The report provides an introduction to the concept of Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) and draws linkages between the implementation of various countries’ pledges for FLR, taken under the Bonn Challenge, and the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Activities conducted under the Bonn challenge have the potential to contribute to support a range of Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Targets 5 and 15. Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5 and 15 are relevant to items 9, 10, 13 and 19 of the provisional agenda of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties”.</p>
Water Management and Stewardship				E	<p>IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “The purpose of this paper is to ‘take stock’ of the discussions, based on what private companies are doing – and not doing, or doing less - in relation to water management and particularly in relation to ‘water stewardship’. These pages do not try to trace the history and origins of corporate water stewardship¹¹. The subject of discussion here is multi-faceted and complex. In ‘taking stock’ of the debate, this ‘discussion paper’ asks as many questions as it attempts to answer – hence its title”.</p>

European Union overseas coastal and marine protected areas - overview of coastal and marine conservation efforts in the European Union's overseas countries and territories and outermost regions				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> “This report provides a first comprehensive overview of marine conservation efforts in the EU Overseas: In the context of rapid global development in these areas, it takes stock and pinpoints the actions required to improve marine protection and strengthen resilience in these diverse territories and to reconcile this with the opportunities provided by development of the blue economy and the challenges in the face of climate change”.
Capacity building and synergies across the biodiversity-related conventions - Contributing to the design and subsequent implementation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity building for biodiversity beyond 2020				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> The results of an survey among IUCN Members to gather views on capacity building needs for coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions and assess the interlinkages between capacity building activities leading to enhanced cooperation and collaboration between these conventions are presented in this paper and constitute a contribution to the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity building beyond 2020, as mandated by CBD Decision XIII/23.
The United Nations World Water Development Report 2018: Nature-based solutions for water				EFS	UNESCO <u>Summary:</u> “As the fifth in a series of annual, theme-oriented reports, the 2018 edition of the United Nations World Development Report (WWDR) focuses on opportunities to harness the natural processes that regulate various elements of the water cycle, which have become collectively known as nature-based solutions (NBS) for water”.
Other guidance					
Up to 2015					
Natural infrastructure in the nexus				E	IUCN, IWA, WRI
Green infrastructure guide for water management				E	IUCN, UNEP- DHI, TNC

Dialogue régional sur les grandes infrastructures hydrauliques en Afrique de l'Ouest : la concertation en actes de 2009 à 2011				EF	IUCN, ECOWAS, UEMOA, GWP, WWF, Sida, INBO
Counting coastal ecosystems as an economic part of development infrastructure				E	IUCN
Biodiversity management system : proposal for the integrated management of biodiversity at Holcim sites				E	IUCN, Holcim
Good practice guidance for mining and biodiversity				E	IUCN, ICMM
Flow: The essentials of environmental flows				EFSC (and others)	IUCN Summary: "This guide, the second in the series of the Water & Nature Initiative, draws extensively on the experiences in these countries [South Africa, Australia, and the United States] to offer hands-on advice for this emerging issue on the water resource agenda. It goes well beyond existing literature to offer practical guidance on technical issues, such as assessment methods and infrastructural adaptation, and the economic, legal and political dimensions of establishing
Wetlands and people				E	IWMI Summary: Among other things, the report discusses threats to wetlands, wetland agriculture, and balancing wetland conservation and development. "The case studies in this report highlight the many ways in which wetlands support and improve the lives of poor people in Africa, Asia and Latin America."

Wetlands, Agriculture and Poverty Reduction				E	IWMI, agriculture <u>Summary:</u> “This report synthesizes findings from multidisciplinary studies conducted into sustainable wetland agriculture by IWMI and partners in Africa and Asia. It highlights the value of wetland agriculture for poverty reduction as well as the need for more systematic planning that takes into account trade-offs in the multiple services that wetlands provide.”
Water implications of biofuel crops: understanding trade-offs and identifying options				E	IWMI <u>Summary:</u> The document explains how “[w]ater, food, energy, environment and rural livelihoods are all linked” and summarizes some of the “options policymakers have for making tradeoffs between biofuels and other uses of water.”
Working Wetlands: Classifying Wetland Potential for Agriculture				E	IWMI, agriculture <u>Summary:</u> “Multi-stakeholder Policy Formulation and Action Planning (MPAP) is a specific approach aimed at influencing or changing policies. . . . This report attempts to compare and contrast the MPAP approach and associated work with MSPs [multi-stakeholder processes] in three African and two Asian cities, which aimed at policy recognition in support of urban agriculture (UA).”
Practical guidance for implementing RSPO Principles and Criteria in relation to peatlands				E	Wetlands International; (draft) <u>Summary:</u> “In April 2013, the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) . . . adopted a new set of Principles and Criteria (P&C), including various criteria, indicators and guidance for the production of palm oil on peat and the special sustainability issues connected to this. . . . For some items an ‘Implementation Period’ for learning has been built in, to enable growers to adjust their planning and practices. This manual has been drafted by Wetlands International to help and stimulate this learning process.”

Destination Wetlands: Supporting sustainable tourism				EFSA	<p>Ramsar & World Tourism Organization <u>Summary:</u> “Fourteen wetland case studies form the core of this publication and were selected to exemplify both the diversity of wetland types around the world and the diversity in the scale of wetland tourism in Wetlands of International Importance . . . , and to illustrate effective approaches in managing tourism for the wetland sector. This information is particularly addressed to wetland management authorities but should also be relevant to many others.”</p>
Tourism Supporting Biodiversity: A Manual on applying the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development				E	<p>UNEP & CBD <u>Summary:</u> “This Manual provides information for planners, developers, managers and decision makers involved with tourism development and resource management in areas of sensitive biodiversity. The purpose is to help them to mainstream biodiversity concerns and ecosystem services within sustainable tourism development. Its primary target is public authorities and other agencies in a position to influence tourism impacts, while also being relevant to potential developers of tourism projects.”</p>

Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Wetlands and Water Synthesis				ES (and others)	<p>Millennium Ecosystem Assessment <u>Summary:</u> “This report, synthesizing the findings of the MA [Millennium Ecosystem Assessment] on inland, coastal, and near-shore marine wetlands, is the key product of the MA for the Ramsar Convention. . . . The synthesis stresses the link between wetlands and water and will help us set the future agenda for Ramsar. . . . The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment was a four-year international process (2001–05) designed to meet the needs of decisionmakers for information on the links between ecosystem change and human well-being. It focused on how changes in ecosystems and ecosystem services have affected human well-being, how ecosystem changes may affect people in future decades, and what types of responses can be adopted at local, national, regional, or global scales to improve ecosystem management and thereby contribute to human well-being.”</p>
A Guide to Developing Biodiversity Action Plans for the Oil and Gas Sector					<p>IPIECA & OGP <u>Summary:</u> “This IPIECA guide is designed to help HSE professionals and other relevant staff, e.g. those involved with project planning, in the oil and gas industry to develop Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) for their sites and projects. BAPs are a systematic approach to biodiversity conservation that can build on, and be integrated with, existing company activities and processes throughout the oil and gas project life cycle. . . . [T]he guidance focuses on the general process recommended to be used in preparing and implementing a BAP”</p>

Biodiversity Offset Design Handbook				E	<p>Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme <u>Summary:</u> “The Handbook offers suggestions on how to go about designing a biodiversity offset and information on a range of approaches and methodologies that were developed for, or can be adapted to, the design of biodiversity offsets. It also highlights the main considerations and issues with which offset planners and other stakeholders may need to grapple as they consider whether a biodiversity offset is an appropriate approach for a particular development project and, if so, what is the best design of offset for the individual circumstances concerned.”</p>
Achieving Conservation And Development: 10 Principles for Applying the Mitigation Hierarchy				ES	<p>The Nature Conservancy <u>Summary:</u> “Improving mitigation policy and practice – how we avoid, minimize, and offset environmental impacts to lands and waters – is one of the best opportunities for achieving sustainable development and conservation goals. . . . This paper summarizes 10 key principles for applying the mitigation hierarchy – avoid, minimize, and offset . . . – and is intended to guide the Conservancy’s approach to and engagements on mitigation.”</p>

Biodiversity Offsets: Effective Design and Implementation				E	<p>OECD <u>Summary:</u> “A forthcoming OECD (2014) publication <i>Biodiversity Offsets: Effective Design and Implementation</i> examines the role of biodiversity offsets in the policy mix for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. This brochure highlights some of the key findings from this publication The publication addresses the following questions: What are biodiversity offsets and how do they fit within the broader framework of no net loss and the mitigation hierarchy? What are the key design and implementation features that need to be considered to ensure that offsets are environmentally effective, economically efficient, and distributionally equitable? What lessons have been learned from existing biodiversity offset programmes and what are the good practice insights for their improvement?”</p>
Scoping agriculture-wetlands interactions: Towards a sustainable multi-response strategy					<p>Ramsar & FAO <u>Summary:</u> “This report explores the nature of AWIs [agriculture-wetland interactions] through the application of the drivers, pressures, state changes, impacts and responses (DPSIR) framework to 90 cases drawn from around the world. The analysis is set within the context of a literature review and a conceptualization of AWIs.”</p>
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Trends and Conditions Assessment Tool					<p>The Nature Conservancy <u>Summary:</u> “BestCat is a web-based mapping application which provides companies with the ability to compare and contrast global assets based on value and condition of ecosystems and associated biodiversity. This easy-to-use and efficient application provides businesses with a preset data package that highlights biodiversity and ecosystem service risk and quickly identifies critical locations that require risk management. BestCat analysis provides a basis for developing cost effective risk mitigation approaches by identifying areas that are associated with potential environmental liabilities.”</p>

Facilitating Outcomes: Multi-stakeholder Processes for Influencing Policy Change on Urban Agriculture in Selected West African and South Asian Cities				E	IWMI, agriculture
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Thematic Work Area No.5: Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for carbon accounting/assessments related to wetlands					
Title	Type of guidance	Target audience (practitioners, policymakers, scientists)	Ramsar Handbook (4 th ed.)	Language ²	Notes
Ramsar Guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Resolution XIII.12: Guidance on identifying peatlands as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) for global climate change regulation as an additional argument to existing Ramsar criteria	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	E, F, S	
Resolution XIII.13: Restoration of degraded peatlands to mitigate and adapt to climate change and enhance biodiversity and disaster risk reduction	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	Not yet included in a Handbook	E, F, S	

² E = English; F = French; S = Spanish; R = Russian; A = Arabic; C = Chinese; K = Korean

Briefing Note 10: Wetland restoration for climate change resilience	Technical	Practitioners		E	<p>Summary: the Briefing Note “provides key information from recent reports on wetlands and climate change mitigation and adaptation. It includes assessments of carbon uptake and storage, which find that the continuing loss and degradation of wetlands has resulted in significant losses of their stored carbon to the atmosphere. Evidence of the value of wetlands in reducing disaster risk is reviewed, showing that the loss of wetlands is associated with greater human and ecological impacts, and economic costs. It also includes a discussion of approaches to wetland restoration to help recover these benefits. It uses the term restoration in the broadest sense of the Ramsar Convention, which includes both projects that aim to return sites to their original conditions and projects that improve wetland functions without necessarily promoting a return to pre-disturbance conditions.”</p>
Up to 2015					
Resolution VIII.16: Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners	15, 18	EFS	
COP10 DOC. 25: Additional information on climate change and wetlands issues (Resolution X.24 Climate change and wetlands)	Technical	Policymakers, practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary</u>: “This information paper, prepared by the Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) to provide supporting information for the consideration of COP10 DR 24 on ‘Climate change and wetlands’ provides a digest and summary of recent work undertaken by the STRP concerning a range of issues relevant to addressing wetlands and climate interactions.”</p>

STRP Briefing Note No. 4: The benefits of wetland restoration	Technical	Practitioners		EFS	<p><u>Summary:</u> “The primary objective of this Briefing Note is to raise awareness, across all sectors, of the potential benefits of wetland restoration. Its intention is to catalyse efforts that stem the loss and degradation of wetlands, enhance ecosystem functioning, and thus increase wetland benefits. By highlighting the linkages with existing Ramsar documentation, this Briefing Note expands upon the existing guidance on wetland restoration while referencing other examples of publicly available documents”</p>
STRP Briefing Note No. 5: Evaluating the risk to Ramsar Sites from climate change induced sea level rise	Scientific / technical	Scientists / practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This Briefing Note and the accompanying web map service and data sets, developed by the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) of Columbia University, provide a preliminary assessment of the risk to coastal wetlands designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands from rising sea levels due to climate change. . . . [T]his report represents a first-order risk assessment.”</p>
Ramsar Technical Report No. 5: A Framework for assessing the vulnerability of wetlands to climate change	Technical	Practitioners		E	<p><u>Summary:</u> “This report presents a framework for determining the biophysical vulnerability of wetlands to climate change [It] include[s], but do[es] not specifically elaborate on, the associated concept of social vulnerability, which is often used to describe the set of socio-economic factors that determine people’s ability to cope with stress or change. . . . The concepts and specific information required for determining the vulnerability of a wetland to climate change (and other pressures) are presented in a framework that can be used for quantitative and qualitative assessments for which the user needs to determine the extent of specific information required for different biophysical and social situations.”</p>

Other guidance					
2016-2019 update					
Briefing Note: 30 Good Reasons to Safeguard Peatlands!				E	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Germany), Greifswald Mire Centre, Ramsar Convention Secretariat and Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark Summary: The Briefing Note outlines the results from the International Workshop Peatland Conservation and Wise Use in the Context of Climate Change: A Contribution to the Implementation of the Ramsar Convention
Outlook on climate change adaptation in the Carpathian mountains				E	UNEP, GRID Arendal and Eurac Research Summary: "This outlook is a synthesis and an analysis of existing climate change adaptation responses in the Carpathians and the extent to which they address key climate risk".
Smoke on Water – Countering Global Threats From Peatland Loss and Degradation: A UNEP Rapid Response Assessment				EF	UNEP and GRID Arendal Summary: "Smoke on Water is a Rapid Response Assessment that looks at peatland location, extent, threats and the policies to manage and protect them. The goal of this rapid response assessment, carried out on behalf of UN Environment and based on the efforts of more than 30 contributors, is to raise awareness about the importance of the world's peatlands and to encourage immediate action to preserve them".
Global warming of 1.5°C . An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty				E	IPCC Summary: " This Report responds to the invitation for IPCC '... to provide a Special Report in 2018 on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways' contained in the Decision of the 21st Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to adopt the Paris Agreement".

Adapting to Climate Change - Guidance for Protected Areas Managers and Planners				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> " These guidelines articulate essential elements for adaptation planning and implementation, and it describes additional resources that site managers can use right away".
Ecosystem-based Adaptation Handbook				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> "This handbook is meant as a step-by-step guide for setting up an EbA intervention. It promotes an integrated approach to EbA with the ultimate goal of "building resilience of socio-ecological systems"3. Additionally, the handbook introduces the reader to the building blocks of an EbA strategy and how these can be developed".
Ecosystems protecting infrastructure and communities - Lessons learned and guidelines for implementation				E	IUCN <u>Summary:</u> "This publication presents details on Ecosystems Protecting Infrastructure and Communities (EPIC), a pioneer global initiative which promoted the implementation of ecosystem based approaches for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation through five case studies in six countries"
Marine protected areas and climate change - Adaptation and mitigation synergies, opportunities and challenges					IUCN <u>Summary:</u> "The purpose of the report is to provide information to underpin the outcomes of COP21 and in particular to demonstrate the importance of the role of MPAs in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Such a recognition of the role of MPAs is also an important step towards increasing the effectiveness of MPAs under the CBD 2020 agenda".

Up to 2015					
Keep it fresh or salty: An introductory guide to financing wetland carbon programs and projects				E	IUCN, Wetlands International (and Conservation International) Summary: "This report provides guidance for program and project developers from, or working in, developing countries on the numerous funds and finance mechanisms that can provide carbon finance for wetland carbon conservation and restoration. It also highlights ways to access and link carbon activities with non-carbon based sources of financing."
UK peatland restoration : demonstrating success + Commission of Inquiry on Peatlands				E	IUCN
Climate change vulnerability assessment for Beung Kiat Ngong Ramsar Site, Lao PDR				E	IUCN
Safe havens : protected areas for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation				E	IUCN, KNCF, Blue Solutions
Mitigating climate change through restoration and management of coastal wetlands and near-shore marine ecosystems : challenges and opportunities				E	IUCN, World Bank, ESA
El cambio climático y los humedales en Centroamérica : implicaciones de la variación climática para los ecosistemas acuáticos y su manejo en la región				S	IUCN

Peatlands - guidance for climate change mitigation through conservation, rehabilitation and sustainable use				E	<p>Wetlands International et al. <u>Summary:</u> “This report provides information on management and finance options to achieve emissions reductions and enhance other vital ecosystem services from peatlands. A decision support tree guides users through options for the management of both cultivated and uncultivated peatlands. The report also summarizes the methodologies and data available for quantifying greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands and organic soils. Practical approaches are presented concerning measuring, reporting and verification, and accounting of greenhouse gas emissions. Country-specific case studies illustrate the problems, solutions and opportunities associated with peatland management. This report is a handbook for policy-makers, technical audiences and others interested in peatlands.”</p>
Assessment on peatlands, biodiversity and climate change				E	<p>Wetlands International et al. <u>Summary:</u> “The global Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change . . . includes analyses of information from numerous studies throughout the world on different aspects of peatland functions, values and management and their importance to both biodiversity conservation and global climate regulation. . . . The Assessment was prepared through a review of scientific information on the nature and value of peatlands in relation to biodiversity and climate change, the impact of human activities and potential sustainable management options.”</p>

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Water and Wetlands				E (summary available in EFSRAC)	IEEP & Ramsar <u>Summary:</u> “TEEB Water and Wetlands aims to show how recognizing, demonstrating, and capturing the values of ecosystem services related to water and wetlands can lead to better informed, more efficient, and fairer decision making. . . . It is about the ‘values’ of the ecosystem services provided by water and wetlands, which can be expressed in a number of ways and methods. . . . This report aims to support evidence-based decision making by presenting an array of ecosystem service values in varying contexts.” The report includes examples of wetland restoration projects and discusses the role of wetlands in climate regulation.
Guiding principles for delivering coastal wetland carbon projects				E	UNEP, CIFOR, et al. <u>Summary:</u> “This document provides knowledge-based guidance for a range of interventions, including policy actions, adjusted management actions or project-based investments that lead to improved coastal wetlands conditions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Drawing on lessons learned and case studies from coastal wetland management and restoration as well as terrestrial carbon projects, guiding principles are identified.”
Peatlands, climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation				E	Norden <u>Summary:</u> “An issue brief on the importance of peatlands for carbon and biodiversity conservation and the role of drained peatlands as greenhouse gas emission hotspots.” One of the document’s recommendations is the “[p]romotion of the role of peatland rewetting and restoration in reaching national and international policy targets, especially for climate regulation, water quality and biodiversity conservation.”

<p>Peatlands and Climate Change in a Ramsar Context—a Nordic Baltic Perspective</p>				E	<p>Norden <u>Summary:</u> “The Nordic Baltic Wetlands Initiative (NorBalWet) is a Ramsar regional initiative with as participants Denmark, Greenland, Faroe Islands, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and Oblasts from Northwestern Russia. . . . [T]he NorBalWet Initiative initiated a project to assess the importance of Nordic Baltic peatlands for climate regulation. Next to a country by country assessment, this report discusses the challenges and opportunities to improve the management of peatlands in the NorBalWet countries for climate change mitigation.”</p>
<p>Restoring the Great Lakes’ Coastal Future: Technical Guidance for the Design and Implementation of Climate-Smart Restoration Projects</p>				E	<p>NWF & NOAA <u>Summary:</u> “This guide describes a practiced suite of tools and methods to assist in the planning and implementation of climatesmart coastal restoration by NOAA, its partners, and others. The guide is informed by workshops, trainings, on-the-ground projects, and other stakeholder input. . . . Although developed specifically for climatesmart restoration in the Great Lakes, the general procedures should have broader applicability in other regions.”</p>