



## **Work plan of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for 2019-2021**

**As approved at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee  
(24-28 June 2019)**

### **Table of Contents**

Introduction .....	2
Thematic Work Areas and their constituent tasks .....	6
Ad-hoc advisory functions and collaboration with other International bodies and processes.....	6
Future updates of Global Wetland Outlook (GWO): State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to people.....	10
Thematic Work Area 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 .....	12
Thematic Work Area 2: Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities .....	17
Thematic Work Area 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 .....	22
Thematic Work Area 4: Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives.....	23
Thematic Work Area 5: Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for carbon accounting/assessments related to wetlands .....	24

## Introduction

### *Development of this draft*

The STRP developed this draft work plan for the 2019-2021 triennium at its 22nd meeting (18-22 March 2019). The Standing Committee at its 57th meeting (24-28 June 2019) approved the work plan.

The draft work plan was drafted pursuant to the process outlined in Resolution XII.5: *New framework for delivery of scientific and technical advice and guidance on the Convention* (Annex 1, paragraphs 49-51), and taking into account the five priority thematic work areas approved by Contracting Parties at COP13 in Annex 2 of Resolution XIII.8: *Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2019-2021*.

In accordance with Resolution XII.5, the draft work plan was revised after a broad consultation process with Heads of Administrative Authorities, National Focal Points and STRP National Focal Points.

### *Costs*

The indicative budget for the tasks generally assumes that the costs for layout, design, review, translation, and publication are: up to CHF 1,240 for a Factsheet, up to CHF 2,960 for a Policy Brief, up to CHF 6,400 for a Briefing Note and up to CHF 22,600 for a Ramsar Technical Report. Consultancy reports (up to 40 pages) have been estimated at up to CHF 30,600, drafting workshops at up to CHF 10,000 and web design at up to CHF 4,000<sup>1</sup> (based on financial information from the Secretariat).

Note that the cost implications for engagement, as required, with international processes (such as other Conventions, IPBES and possibly technical work related to monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals), are largely unknown at this stage as this will depend on the nature and type of input requested, for example whether travel costs will be required.

### *Priorities*

In developing this draft work plan and consistent with Resolution XIII.8, the STRP attempted to apply a consistent and explicit approach to priority setting. High-priority tasks were those that had several of the following characteristics (not listed in rank order), namely those which:

- closely align with the objectives of Ramsar's Strategic Plan (2016-2024);
  - align with priority thematic work areas established by the COP per Resolution XIII.8;
  - are of significant policy relevance to other international legislative or policy frameworks in the context of Resolution XIII.7;
  - have high potential for communication and outreach, especially to influential audiences;
  - address pressing conservation needs;
  - involve novel activities not significantly overlapping with initiatives undertaken by others;
- and/or

---

<sup>1</sup> Web design costs clearly depend on the scope and complexity of the work. This is an average and indicative cost based on five days of work at 700 CHF/day

- address elements of the Strategic Plan which Parties are struggling to implement<sup>2</sup>, to the extent possible.

The STRP then identified highest priority tasks from the initial list of high priority tasks, as indicated in Table 1 below.

*Table 1: Highest priority tasks*

Task title	Task no.	Target audience(s)	Estimated cost (CHF)
Global Wetland Outlook special edition for the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ramsar Convention		Contracting Parties, International community	To be determined
Compiling and reviewing positive and negative impacts of agricultural practises on wetlands including extent of changes in area from agricultural land conversion since 1970s, and how adverse impacts can be avoided in the future	1.2	Practitioners (wetland managers); policymakers (governments-agriculture sector especially)	64,200
Elaborating on practical experiences of restoration methods for tropical peatlands	2.2	Practitioners (Ramsar Site managers) / policymakers (high level)	55,000-65,000
Desktop study of coastal blue carbon ecosystems in Ramsar Sites (consistent with relevant IPCC guidelines)	5.1	Policy-makers within Contracting Parties (especially those responsible for the coastal zone); Research community and IOPs	31,600

Priorities relate to the entire work plan rather than established within each of the priority thematic work areas.

#### *Advisory functions*

Note that in addition to the specific priority thematic work areas and tasks outlined below, it is important to recall that, within the framework of Resolution XII.5, the STRP has a number of core *ad-hoc* advisory functions (summarized below). These support other Convention processes and actors.

#### *Audiences*

The outputs proposed in this draft work plan are aimed at two target audiences, in line with Resolution XII.5, Annex 1, paragraph 54, as follows:

- Policy-makers, including those from the environment and water sectors and other related sectors such as energy, health and sanitation, agriculture, infrastructure; and

---

<sup>2</sup> As outlined in the Secretary General's review of the implementation of the Convention for COP13: [https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop13doc.11.1\\_global\\_implementation\\_e.pdf](https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop13doc.11.1_global_implementation_e.pdf)

- Practitioners, in particular wetland managers and stakeholders, and others from related fields, such as protected area managers and staff of wetland education centres.

For clarity purposes, for outputs seeking to target Ramsar Site managers, the target audience is specified as “Practitioners (Ramsar Site Managers)”. However, for outputs aimed at wetland managers in general, the target audience is specified as “Practitioners (wetland managers)”.

#### *Capacity building*

Resolution XIII.8, paragraph 18, urged that scientific and technical capacity-building activities (for National Focal Points, and STRP and CEPA Focal Points) be undertaken subject to the availability of funding “including *inter alia* through regional capacity-building workshops and other training opportunities, including in the margins of STRP meetings held in regions, to further enhance the effectiveness of the Convention...”.

The potential for such opportunities will be explored with the Secretariat, as any agreed programme of work is developed, subject always to resource availability.

#### *Prioritization of STRP engagement with other international processes*

A significant number of other international processes are relevant to Ramsar’s mission. The STRP, in consultation with the Secretariat, considers that the following processes are those where there is greatest opportunity to influence and engage in support of Contracting Parties, noting resource and capacity constraints. In particular, we see support of assessment processes as being particularly important.

Any such engagement will be in line with Resolution XII.5<sup>3</sup>, in support of the Secretariat and in line with a plan being developed for SC58 by the Secretariat to strengthen synergies with other MEAs and contributions to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (as requested by Resolution XIII.7).

- IPBES
- IPCC (and UNFCCC)
- UNCCD
- Convention on Biological Diversity especially in the context of the development of the post-2020 development agenda
- Technical support to relevant SDG monitoring
- Convention on Migratory Species and relevant daughter Agreements
- Global Coastal Forum – when established
- Global Peatlands Initiative

Engagement will be largely through either members and/or STRP NFPs who will otherwise be attending meetings, although engagement needs will be assessed for each meeting bearing in mind also the important need for consistency of involvement in work streams. Working with the Secretariat, an engagement strategy will be developed for each process identifying opportunities to support Contracting Parties with relevant technical inputs.

---

<sup>3</sup> See Resolution XII.5: paragraph 51 and Annex 1, paragraph 13(ix).

## *Abbreviations*

CEPA	Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness
CSAB	Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions
GPI	Global Peatland Initiative
GWO	Global Wetland Outlook
IKI	International Climate Initiative
IMCG	International Mire Conservation Group
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MEA	Multilateral environmental agreement
MEP	Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (IPBES)
NFP	National Focal Point
RAM	Ramsar Advisory Mission
RAWES	Rapid Assessment of Wetland Ecosystem Services
RCN	Ramsar Culture Network
RSIS	Ramsar Sites Information Service
RTR	Ramsar technical report
SC	Standing Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
SP	Strategic Plan
ToR	Terms of reference
TWA	Thematic work area
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WEDO	Women's Environment and Development Organisation

## Thematic Work Areas and their constituent tasks

Ad-hoc advisory functions and collaboration with other International bodies and processes								
Task	Res.	SP <sup>4</sup> goal & target	Description and task leads	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
<b>Ramsar Convention Processes</b>								
Reporting to Standing Committee	<a href="#">XIII.4</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 13; 19 (h)	4.14	STRP Chair will participate at meetings of SC as an observer, and will present the draft work plan for approval, reporting on progress with its implementation, and providing guidance for its future development.	Core	Reporting and advice to the Standing Committee	STRP Chair's report	Contracting Parties	Included in Chair's travel budget
Responding to requests for advice or input from the Secretariat and Standing Committee	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2; 12 (iii), (v); 15 (ii); <a href="#">XIII.5</a> , ¶¶ 20, 26	4.14	Requests may include, inter alia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advice on Strategic Plan and CEPA matters;</li> <li>• input into the effectiveness review process on request;</li> <li>• advice on the consolidation of past scientific and technical Resolutions, on request;</li> <li>• simplifying and repackaging existing guidance on Ramsar Sites management for the production of a simplified manual;</li> <li>• update Ramsar Sites Management Toolkit;</li> </ul>	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties via Secretariat and Standing Committee	Advice	Contracting Parties and Secretariat	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis (unless travel is involved)

<sup>4</sup> Strategic Plan (SP): [https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop12\\_res02\\_strategic\\_plan\\_e\\_0.pdf](https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop12_res02_strategic_plan_e_0.pdf).

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement with IPCC/ UNFCCC; and/ or</li> <li>• Provide scientific and technical guidance on priority global processes (above), including IPBES (see also below), CMS, CBD (see also below), UNCCD, etc.).</li> </ul>					
Support to Secretariat and Standing Committee in relation to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	XII.3, ¶ 52; <a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2; 12 (iii), (v); 15	3.11, 4.14, 4.18	<i>Ad-hoc</i> review and advice to support reporting, development of guidance and toolkit (and capacity building) for national wetland inventories being developed by Secretariat.	Core	Secretariat to provide the STRP with a summary of deliverables and work to be done and request STRP to review and provide advice	Written advice	Contracting Parties	Costs implication for STRP budget dependent on nature and scale of request especially if additional products prepared or travel required
Drafting or providing input on Draft Resolutions	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2, 12 (iii)	4.14	The STRP may draft, at the request of the Standing Committee, a Draft Resolution or it may provide (on request) input to Draft Resolutions submitted to the COP by Contracting Parties.	Core	Responsive advice to Parties	Advice/ Draft Resolutions	Contracting Parties	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis
Responding to national or regional relevant requests for advice from Contracting Parties, as capacity allows	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 2, 59	4.14	The STRP may provide advice, as appropriate, to requests from any Contracting Party coming via the Secretariat, as capacity and expertise allow.	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties	Advice	Contracting Parties	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis.

Advising on Removals of Ramsar Sites from the Montreux Record	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1- 2, 12 (v) ; <a href="#">XIII.11</a> , ¶¶19, 21	2.5, 2.7, 4.14	STRP to advise, as requested by Parties on removals from the Montreux Record.  Work with the Secretariat in its efforts to advise Contracting Parties in their efforts to manage Sites on the Montreux Record and Sites for which reports on adverse change in ecological character have been received, engaging Regional Centres in such efforts as appropriate.	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties	Advice	Contracting Parties and Secretariat	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis
Advising on Ramsar Advisory Missions (RAMs)	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, 12 , (v); <a href="#">XIII.11</a> , ¶15,	2.5, 2.7, 4.14	The STRP may assist the Ramsar Secretariat with Ramsar Advisory Missions, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advising the Secretariat in the preparation of RAMs operational guidance for adoption at SC57; and</li> <li>• on request advising on appropriate scientific and technical expertise to include in RAM teams.</li> </ul>	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties  Advice to Secretariat	Draft for SC57	Contracting Parties and Secretariat	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis
Wetland City Accreditation Independent Advisory Committee	XII.10, Annex, ¶ 16 (e)	3.11, 4.14	An STRP expert will serve in the Wetland City Accreditation Independent Advisory Committee.	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties	Advice		No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis



Providing advice on emerging issues	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 12, 15 (ii), 38	4.14	The STRP will keep under review emerging and strategic issues of relevance for the Convention, which may require action or advice in the future and will advise the Standing Committee accordingly.	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties	Advice	Contracting Parties and Secretariat	No cost implications for STRP budget: advice provided on a voluntary basis
<b>Other international processes of relevance to the Convention and that contribute to implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan</b>								
Engagement with IPBES and CSAB	XII.3, ¶ 48; XII.5, Annex 1, ¶ 13 (ix), 51; <a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 13	4.14, 4.18	Continue engaging in the work of IPBES through: participation of the STRP Chair in IPBES and MEP meetings, participation of STRP members and other Ramsar experts in global and regional assessments, review of requests to IPBES for thematic assessments, pursuant to Res. XIII.8.  Engagement with meetings of Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions (CSAB), as appropriate.	Core	As they arise (in the case of IPBES, a Ramsar-sponsored assessment may be agreed as an IPBES priority in the future)	Input as required	International community	Potential travel costs dependent on nature and scale of engagement in future assessments. STRP Chair travel costs covered separately.
Support to Secretariat and Standing Committee in relation to post-2020 Biodiversity Framework	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2; 12 (iii), (v); 15 ; ¶ 22	3.11, 4.14, 4.18	Provide inputs, as appropriate and on request, to the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework	Core	Responsive advice to Contracting Parties		Contracting Parties	Unclear costs implications as depends on the nature of advice sought. Potential travel costs

**Future updates of Global Wetland Outlook (GWO): State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to people**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Lisa-Maria Rebelo (lead), David Stroud (co-lead), Hugh Robertson, Guangchun Lei, Reda Fishar, Robert Hendricks (STRP NFP Netherlands)</i>
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	Relevant organizations within environment and water, energy, health, sanitation, agriculture, or infrastructure sectors and others to be confirmed

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
Global Wetland Outlook special edition for the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ramsar Convention		Supports SP	Special edition, linked to the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary theme	Highest	To be further elaborated by STRP immediately after SC57	To be further elaborated by STRP immediately after SC57	To be further elaborated by STRP immediately after SC57	To be further elaborated by STRP immediately after SC57
Summarizing the extent of new intertidal wetland Ramsar Site designations for succeeding COPs and include the information in future updates of the GWO	<a href="#">XIII.20</a> , ¶¶ 42	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Prepare a status report summarizing the number and extent of inter-tidal Ramsar site designations, on a regional scale.	Lower (output from <b>Task 1.6</b> )	Extract and analyse data from the RSIS to assess the number and extent of designations annually since 1971. Potentially report findings in future updates of the GWO	<b>Paper</b> (Short status report); data available for GWO  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined  <b>Uptake/Objective</b> Provides direction to CPs on progress since Res. VI.21	Contracting Parties	6,400
Integrate data on the global extent of blue carbon ecosystems, potentially through the GWO	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶¶ 11(c)	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Present best evidence of the extent of blue carbon ecosystems	Highest (output from <b>Task 5.1</b> )	See Thematic Work Area 5 for details	<b>Data</b> for the GWO  <b>Objective</b> is to inform international awareness about these ecosystems and their services.	Contracting Parties	See Thematic Work Area 5 for details

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
Global assessment of gaps in Ramsar site network	XII.5, Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Collate and analyse comprehensiveness, adequacy and representativeness of the Ramsar site network and identify priority regions and wetland types for future designation.	Medium (output from <b>Task 1.7</b> )	Undertake analysis of RSIS data on representation of different wetland types in different bioregions within the Ramsar Sites network. Provide comments on improvements as well as areas of focus. Assess whether guidance on under-represented wetland types will need to be updated.	<b>Paper</b> presenting a summary of analysis. Data may contribute to GWO if agreed by SC (COP14).  <b>Objective</b> is to provide direction to Parties to review findings and potentially set targets for future designations	Contracting Parties (policy-makers)	6,400

**Thematic Work Area 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**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Hugh Robertson (lead)</i> , Laura Martinez, Reda Fishar, Sangdon Lee, Edson Junqueira, Siobhan Fenessy, Guangchun Lei, Lisa-Maria Rebelo, Andrei Sirin, Dulce Infante, Ritesh Kumar, Eduardo Mansur (FAO), Marlos de Souza (FAO), Amani Alfarra (FAO), Lammert Hilarides (GEO-Wetlands), Christian Perennou (TDV), Lisa Ingwall-King (UNEP-WCMC), James Robinson/Tomos Avent (WWT), Matthew Simpson (SWS), Priyani Amerasinghe (IWMI), Hans Joosten (GMC), Martina Eiseltova (STRP NFP Czech Republic), Obaid Al Shamsi (STRP NFP UAE), Janine van Vessem (STRP NFP Belgium), Rob Hendricks (STRP NFP Netherlands), Anne van Dam (IHE Delft Institute for Water Education), and Max Finlayson (IHE Delft Institute for Water Education)
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	FAO, Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS), Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), GEO-Wetlands, Tour du Valat (TDV), UNEP-WCMC, Greifswald Mire Center (GMC), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IHE Delft Institute for Water Education

Task	Res.	SP	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
1.1 Sharing information from the review and compilation of outputs from the Rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services (RAWES) approach	<a href="#">XIII.17</a> , ¶¶ 22, 23	3.11, 4.14	Working with IOPs, compile information on the application of the RAWES methodology in different Ramsar Regions as well as its application to Ramsar Reporting and Site management. If limited data (since RAWES only recently adopted), then as a minimum undertake an inventory/ compilation of groups applying RAWES	Lower	Compile inventory of wetland sites and Parties that have applied the RAWES approach and review its effectiveness to evaluate ecosystem services, including whether it addresses negative implications of promoting particular services. Review application in RIS updates and management planning.	Short status report.  <b>Timelines:</b> to be determined.  <b>Uptake:</b> Enhanced through training and linking RAWES to National Report indicators	Contracting Parties (NFPs, STRP NFPs), Practitioners (Ramsar Sites managers), IOPs	Translation (120 CHF per A4 page)
1.2 Compiling and reviewing positive and negative impacts of agricultural	<a href="#">XIII.19</a> , ¶¶ 28, 29	1.1,4.14, 4.18	Review information on the positive and negative impacts of agriculture on/near wetlands, including biodiversity and	Highest	Compile case studies on sustainable agriculture practices in wetlands and evaluate them in relation to wise use and	<b>RTR</b> with key messages or derived outputs for policymakers. Policy Brief and infographic	<b>Case studies:</b> Practitioners (wetland managers);	64,200 [22,600 RTR production & translation; 10,000 workshop; 9,000

Task	Res.	SP	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
practises on wetlands including extent of changes in area from agricultural land conversion since 1970s, and how adverse impacts can be avoided in the future			<p>ecosystem services, in context of climate change.</p> <p>Evaluate the extent of wetland loss (since 1970) due to conversion of land to agricultural development.</p> <p>Potential scope also for synthesis of related key messages drawn from recent FAO and IPBES assessments, and TEEB, packaged for Ramsar audience.</p> <p>Collaboration with IOPs and FAO will be crucial to increase sharing of findings</p>		<p>maintaining and enhancing the ecological character of wetlands, liaising with IOPs, Parties and FAO.</p> <p>Compile and review data on RSIS on Ramsar sites that have agricultural practices within them and summarise best-practice examples.</p> <p>Provide recommendations for promoting sustainable agricultural practices in and adjacent to wetlands.</p> <p>Consider gains from restoration from agriculture back to wetlands.</p> <p><b>Literature review:</b> Building on the GWO and data collated for SDG 6.6.1, undertake a literature review of existing assessments of wetland loss that have</p>	<p><b>Policy Brief and infographic</b></p> <p><b>Timeline:</b> Initiate project in 2019; Products delivered in early 2021</p> <p><b>Uptake/Objective</b> Overall aim is to support CPs to develop sustainable agricultural practices and conserve wetlands.</p> <p>Specific objective is a more detailed understanding on causes and consequences of wetland loss to agriculture including any lessons learnt on how to prevent further degradation/loss of wetlands.</p>	<p>Policy makers (governments-agriculture sector especially)</p> <p><b>Literature review:</b> Policy makers (governments-agriculture sector especially); practitioners (wetland managers)</p>	<p>consultancy, based on a rate of 700 for 14 days]</p> <p>[if with Policy Brief add: 2,000 (layout), 960 translation]]</p> <p>22,600 for literature review of losses</p> <p>Seek FAO in-kind support</p>

Task	Res.	SP	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
					been attributed to agricultural development.  Complete meta-analysis using that data.			
1.3 Prepare guidance on inventories and monitoring of small wetlands, and their multiple values for biodiversity conservation, especially in the contexts of landscape management and climate change	<a href="#">XIII.21</a> , ¶ 23	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Summarise technical knowledge on the significance of small wetlands for biodiversity conservation and other ecosystem services and threats to them and prepare guidance on best-practice approaches to their inventory and monitoring, highlighting a range of different legislation, policy and other best practice approaches.	Medium	Develop definition of “small wetlands” building on Res. XIII.21.  Summarise literature on their significance, including for livelihoods.  Summarise threats to provide clear recommendations for their protection and wise use.  Review and supplement existing guidance for wetland inventory and monitoring to describe best-practices approaches (including eDNA) for small wetlands in different Ramsar regions.	<b>Policy Brief</b> on the importance of small wetlands with infographic  <b>Briefing Note</b> on guidance for small wetlands inventory and monitoring  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined  <b>Uptake/Objective</b> Aim to ensure Parties and others understand the critical importance of small wetlands in planning and other processes. Provide practitioners with best practice guidance for small wetland inventory and monitoring.	<b>Policy Brief:</b> Policy makers (in environment and planning sectors especially)  <b>Briefing note:</b> Practitioners (scientists, wetland managers)	9,360 and cost for infographic

Task	Res.	SP	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
					Link to SDG 6.6.1 guidance review produced by Secretariat			
1.4 Complete Ramsar Technical Report and a toolkit on assessing multiple values of wetlands and applying them to integrated management	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> ¶ 14	3.11, 4.14	RTR complements the Policy Brief on integrating multiple values of wetlands into decision-making.	Lower	Build on the Policy Brief and existing toolkit, integrating RAWES and other suite of tools (available within Ramsar and external).  Integrate relevant IPBES and Values outcomes	<b>RTR</b>  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined  <b>Uptake/Objective:</b> Aim to assist wetlands managers in assessing and integrating multiple values in site management and other wetland wise use responses	Practitioners (wetland managers)	22,600
1.5 Complete <a href="#">Ramsar Technical Report 10</a> : The use of Earth Observation for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring.	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	4.14	<a href="#">Ramsar Technical Report 10</a> : The use of Earth Observation for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring.	Medium	Complete subject to final editorial checking and translation.	<b>RTR</b>  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined	Practitioners (wetland managers, practitioners mapping), Contracting Parties	CHF 120 per A4 page;  Costs for amendments to existing layout TBD;
1.6 Summarizing the extent of new intertidal wetland Ramsar Site designations for succeeding COPs and include the	<a href="#">XIII.20</a> , ¶ 42	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Prepare a status report summarizing the number and extent of inter-tidal Ramsar site designations, on a regional scale.	Lower	Extract and analyse data from the RSIS to assess the number and extent of designations annually since 1971. Potentially report	<b>Paper</b> (Short status report); data available for GWO  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined	Contracting Parties	6,400

Task	Res.	SP	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
information in future updates of the GWO					findings in future updates of the GWO	<b>Uptake/Objective</b> Provides direction to CPs on progress since Res. VI.21		
1.7 Global assessment of gaps in Ramsar site network	XII.5, Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	Collate and analyse comprehensiveness, adequacy and representativeness of the Ramsar site network and identify priority regions and wetland types for future designation.	Medium	Undertake analysis of RSIS data on representation of different wetland types in different bioregions within the Ramsar Sites network. Provide comments on improvements as well as areas of focus. Assess whether guidance on under-represented wetland types will need to be updated.	<b>Paper</b> presenting a summary of analysis. Data may contribute to GWO if agreed by SC (COP14).  <b>Objective</b> is to provide direction to Parties to review findings and potentially set targets for future designations	Contracting Parties (policy makers)	6,400



**Thematic Work Area 2: Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Lars Dinesen (lead)</i> , Dulce Infante, Georgina Castillo, Kassim Kulindwa, Andrei Sirin, David Stroud, Laura Martinez, Ritesh Kumar, Tomos Avent/ James Robinson (WWT), Priyanie Amerasinghe (IWMI), Hans Joosten (GMC), Jack Rieley (IPS), Nick Davidson (SWS), Mathew Simpson (SWS), Tatiana Minayeva (WWF), Bettina Hedden-Dunkhorst (STRP NFP Germany) [and others to be confirmed]
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	Global Peatland Initiative (GPI), International Peat Society (IPS), Greifswald Mire Centre (GMC), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS)

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
2.1. Publish RTR on <i>Peatland restoration and rewetting methodologies in northern bogs</i>	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶25	2.5, 2.6, 3.12,4.14	Finalize draft RTR, which currently focuses on acid bog restoration, considering a global compilation of experiences on peatland restoration and rewetting methods, which CPs will provide, and which can be adapted to local or national contexts. Will complement global guidelines on peatland restoration to be developed (Task 2.2. below)	Medium	Draft well advanced in last triennium but peer-review, editing and publication needed	<b>RTR</b> Enhanced content on peatland pages of Ramsar website  <b>Uptake/Objective:</b> Technical guidance for wetland managers  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined	Practitioners (wetland managers)	22,600 [web design costs starting at 4,000]
2.2. Elaborating on practical experiences of restoration methods for tropical peatlands	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶33	2.5, 2.6, 3.12,4.14	Related to current SP, elaborate on practical experiences of restoration methods for peatland types not yet covered by Ramsar guidance, such as tropical peatlands. Provide rationale for choosing of restoration	Highest	Update existing IMCG manual on peatland restoration techniques. (ToR and list of content drafted);	<b>Ramsar guidelines</b> on peatland restoration;  <b>Enhanced content on peatland pages of Ramsar website.</b>  <b>Policy Brief and video</b>	Practitioners (Ramsar Site managers)/ policymakers (high level)	Contract out update: [30-40,000 CHF] Website set up 15.000 CHF) Video teaser 10.000 CHF: STRP to develop

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
			methods and an overview rationale for different restoration approaches depending on peatland type and setting.		High level Policy Brief on setting objectives in rewetting/ restoration projects;  Prepare contents for a Communication infographic – what is a peatland?	<b>Comms product</b> on what is a peatland?  <b>Timeline:</b> ToR developed by July 2019  <b>Uptake/Objective:</b> A range of products as outlined		concept; professional design needed
2.3. Assessing implementation status of Res. VIII.17: <i>Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands</i>	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶34	4.14	Assess progress since Res. VIII.17 by critical review including: any overlaps with Global Peatland Initiative; gaps; relevance; and in relation to developments in other MEAs and international processes. Seek guidance on what Parties needs with respect to a strategic document on peatlands Consider development of national indicators related to peatland conservation and restoration	Medium	Prepare a draft assessment of issues to be discussed at STRP23, including policy issues, in context of COP 14 preparations.	<b>Assessment report</b> drafted by STRP containing a spreadsheet with the assessment and updated issues and recommendations  <b>Timeline:</b> to be determined  <b>Uptake:</b> Liaison with GPI	Contracting Parties	32, 600 (report 22,600 + workshop 10,000)
<b>2.4. Developing guidance for the cost-benefit analysis, a cost-effectiveness analysis and multiple-criteria analysis of peatland restoration projects, and templates to assist parties to report on peatland restoration</b>								
2.4.(a) Assess national peatland	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶34	2.5, 3.12,4.14	Assess any relevant national peatland restoration experiences. Request	Lower	Call for case studies/ experiences by	<b>Policy Brief</b>	Policymakers (in environment	5,000 consultancy

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
restoration experiences			information on approaches from Parties (cost-benefit depends on carbon market values and other assumptions). Assessments to include cost of inaction.		Parties, IOPs and others. Consultant to prepare draft review for consideration at STRP23.	<b>Timeline:</b> to be determined <b>Uptake:</b> Summary review of experiences	and climate sectors especially)	
2.4.(b) Developing templates for national reporting on peatland restoration	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶134	2.5, 3.12, 4.14	Assess existing reporting structures and templates for restoration of peatlands	Lower	Check with UNFCCC and other relevant conventions  Possibly request to Parties and IOPs for relevant templates	<b>Internal assessment report</b> with recommendations. Next step depends on the assessment results.  <b>Timeline</b> to be determined  <b>Uptake:</b> GPI is a key partner	Contracting Parties and Practitioners (Ramsar Site managers) as applicable	No cost implications for STRP budget
2.5. ToR for the Ramsar Culture Network (RCN)	<a href="#">XIII.15</a> , ¶18	3.10, 4.14	With interested Contracting Parties develop Terms of Reference for the Ramsar Culture Network	Medium	Initial draft ToR developed at STRP22. Yet to be circulated to Contracting Parties.	<b>Draft</b> for SC57  <b>Timelines:</b> completed at SC57	Contracting Parties	No cost implications for STRP budget
2.6. Reviewing and revising the Rapid Cultural Inventories for Wetlands guidance	<a href="#">XIII.15</a> , ¶19	3.10, 4.14	Develop updated briefing note (working with RCN) reviewing the application and uptake of the guidance together with supplementary guidance as required.	Medium	Note will provide examples and best practices for integrating cultural values in wetlands management policies, practices and governance. Drafting	<b>Briefing Note</b>  <b>Infographic</b> that illustrates cultural values and their importance for wetland wise use	Practitioners (wetland managers)	6,400 and infographic costs

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
			The review and BN drafting would include a mechanism for incorporating indigenous communities' inputs.		will be aligned with the task related to wetlands and gender (TWA 3).	<b>Timeline:</b> to be determined. <b>Uptake:</b> IOP input will be crucial		
2.7. Updated urban wetland guidance as required	<a href="#">XIII.16</a> , ¶18	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	Review existing Briefing Note 6: <i>Towards the wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands</i> and assess whether update needed, considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges, opportunities and risks – features common to urban wetlands</li> <li>Role of wetlands for climate change adaptation in urban environments</li> <li>New sources of existing information especially any case studies on economic valuation and cultural significance</li> </ul>	Medium	Review existing Briefing Note 6 as well as other important wetlands Produce infographic on key messages accessible to target audiences.  Integrate into Ramsar online management toolkit information on urban/peri-urban wetland issues, capturing past WWD materials. Organized by potential users (regulators; architects; ecologists; health sector)	<b>Revised Briefing Note &amp; Infographic</b>  <b>Integrate existing guidance</b> into Ramsar online management toolkit  <b>Timeline:</b> Revised Briefing Note & infographic: to be determined  Online toolkit integration: to be determined.  <b>Uptake:</b> Raise visibility of existing Ramsar and external guidance on urban and peri-urban wetlands.	City regulators; investors and financial actors Possibly general public Groups seeking wetland city accreditation	To be determined, depending on whether update to the Briefing Note is needed and extent of it, there may be design and translation costs involved
2.8. Additional content for Ramsar wetland	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 4.14	Input further content as opportunities allow	Lower	Existing urban and peri-urban guidance	<b>Updated webpage</b>	Practitioners (wetland managers);	No costs implications for STRP budget

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
Sites management toolkit					will be integrated within 2019	<b>Timeline:</b> To be determined	Contracting Parties	
2.9. Complete <a href="#">Briefing Note 10</a> : Wetland Restoration for Climate Change Resilience	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 3.12, 4.14	Report needs a further round of edits by authors and layout/translation by Secretariat.	Medium		<b>Briefing Note</b>  <b>Infographic</b>  <b>Timeline:</b> To be determined	Practitioners (wetland managers)	Layout costs to be determined, depending on extent of amendments to existing layout; translation costs: CHF 1,200 per A4 page;  Infographic costs to be determined

**Thematic Work Area 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**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Kassim Kulindwa (lead), Ritesh Kumar (co-lead), David Stroud, Reda Fishar, Hari Bhadra Acharya, Priyanie Amerasinghe (IWMI), Tomos Avent/ James Robinson (WWT), Mathew Simpson (SWS), Janine van Vessem (STRP NFP Belgium) [and others to be confirmed]</i>
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), BirdLife

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
3.1. Participate in the Global Coastal Forum	<a href="#">XIII.20,</a> ¶ 37		Consider actively participating in the Global Coastal Forum to promote the restoration of coastal wetlands and other relevant habitats	Medium (once GCF is established)	Engage when the Global Coastal Forum is created	<b>ToR</b>	Global Coastal Forum. Actors interested in blue carbon	No costs implications for STRP budget until the GCF is established when possible travel costs would occur depending on nature of input
3.2. Develop guidance on the conservation, wise use and management of sustainable “working coastal habitats” in coordination with the scientific subsidiary bodies of other MEAs under the proposed coastal forum	<a href="#">XIII.20,</a> ¶ 45	1.2, 2.5, 4.14, 4.18	In preparation for Global Coastal Forum formation, develop TOR for possible work that might be undertaken on possible guidance related to the conservation, wise use and the management of sustainable “working coastal habitats”	<b>Lower</b>	Review Handbook 12 on Coastal management for relevant content. Establish a subgroup to develop concept further and TOR for guidance. <b>Uptake:</b> In consultation with other relevant actors	<b>ToR</b> to be developed  <b>Timeline:</b> To be determined	Global Coastal Forum	No costs implications for STRP budget

**Thematic Work Area 4: Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Laura Martinez (lead)</i> , David Stroud, Rebecca Welling (IUCN) [and others to be confirmed]
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	IUCN (Global Water Programme)

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
4.1. Develop guidance on integrating gender issues in the implementation of the Convention	<a href="#">XIII.18.</a> ¶15	4.14	<p>Carry out a global analysis (including a range of case studies) on the gender dimensions of wetland management and wise use.</p> <p>Build on existing literature from a range of sources on wetland management, but also more broadly to include land and water resources management to inform the wetland community about women in wetland management and wise use. Will include information on: women's participation in wetland management; impacts of wetland mismanagement on women; governance and women's rights related to wetland wise use; women's technical, socio-cultural and innovative knowledge about wetlands; the value of their leadership in wetland wise use and restoration activities; include examples (cases studies) of successful participation in wetland management and wise use</p>	Medium	<p>Initial scoping to advice on future ToR undertaken at STRP22.</p> <p>Engage a consultant to undertake the report.</p> <p>Engage organizations such as UN Women, IUCN, and WEDO with relevant expertise.</p>	<p><b>Report</b> and derived <b>comms products</b></p> <p><b>Timeline:</b> to be determined</p> <p><b>Uptake:</b> to mainstream gender issues in wetland management and implementation of the Convention.</p>	Contracting Parties	20,000 (report and consultancy)

**Thematic Work Area 5 : Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for carbon accounting/assessments related to wetlands**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	<i>Siobhan Fenessy (lead), Sangdon Lee (co-lead), Hugh Robertson, David Stroud, Edson Junqueira, Christian Perennou (TDV), Max Finlayson (IHE Delft Institute for Water Education), Leanne Wilkinson (STRP NFP Australia) [and others to be confirmed]</i>
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	Tour du Valat; IHE Delft Institute for Water Education [and others to be confirmed]

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
5.1. Desktop study of coastal blue carbon ecosystems in Ramsar Sites (consistent with relevant IPCC guidelines)	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶¶ 15(a)-(d); 11(c)	3.11, 4.14	<p>Undertake a desk review to give a high-level summary of the state of knowledge of blue carbon ecosystems in each Ramsar Region, the availability of data and information; and addressing issues highlighted in para 15(a) of Res. XIII.14.</p> <p>Review will also consider and provide advice on how best to undertake tasks specified in para 15 (b), (c), and (d) of Res. XIII.14 in relation review findings, including development ToR for future such work to actually address those issues.</p> <p>Present best evidence of the extent of blue carbon ecosystems</p>	Highest	<p>5.1(a) Produce ToR for the desktop review by July 2019 (after adoption of work plan);</p> <p>Engage consultant by Fall 2019;</p> <p>Product delivered early 2021 at latest;</p> <p>Work to actually complete the tasks in paras 15(b), (c) and (d) will be reviewed in 2020</p> <p>Data for GWO</p>	<p><b>RTR</b> (early 2021 at latest)</p> <p><b>Infographic</b> concepts on Blue Carbon for development by Secretariat</p> <p><b>Uptake:</b> Work to inform future development of GWO, and to raise international awareness about blue carbon ecosystems and their services.</p>	Policy makers within Contracting Parties (especially those responsible for the coastal zone); Research community and IOPs	31, 600 (RTR 22,600 and 9,000 consultancy). Infographic cost to be determined



Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Priority	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs CHF
5.2 Develop methods to rapidly assess climate vulnerability of wetlands, particularly those important as habitats for marine turtles	<a href="#">XIII. 24,</a> ¶ 23		<p><b>(a) In relation to marine Turtles.</b> Significant work being undertaken by other MEAs and Parties. STRP to take supporting role developing understanding of extent of current work, particular promoting good case studies of wider utility.</p> <p><b>(b) In relation to wetland climate vulnerability.</b> Review existing guidance (RTR 5) and project by IKI and develop ToR for potential future work.</p>	Lower	Potential collation of case studies. Development of ToR only in this triennium.	<p><b>Advice</b></p> <p><b>ToR</b> for task</p> <p><b>Timeline:</b> to be determined</p>	Contracting Parties; Practitioners (wetland managers)	No cost implications for STRP budget