



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

**The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award 2012
for actions that have significantly contributed to long-term conservation
and sustainable use of wetlands**

The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award was established in 1996 by Resolution VI.18 of the 6th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) in order to recognise and honour the contributions of individuals, organisations, and governments around the world towards promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands. The Award has been given four times so far on the occasion of meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008). Information on these editions of the Ramsar Award and on the laureates is available on the Convention Web site at <http://www.ramsar.org/Ramsar-Award/>.

The Ramsar Standing Committee, at its 41st meeting in April 2010, agreed the criteria and procedures for adjudicating the fifth round of the Award and determined to select three winners for presentation at the 11th Conference of the Parties, to be held in Bucharest, Romania, in June 2012.

By Decision SC41-9, the Standing Committee thanked the Danone Group for providing the Evian Special Prize since COP7 in 1999 to accompany the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Awards, and approved the criteria, procedures, and eligibility for the Awards, which will be given in the categories of Management, Wetland Science, and Education.

The Danone Group (France) has generously sponsored the Ramsar Award since its beginning and rewards the winners with the Evian Special Prize, a cash prize of US\$ 10.000 which will again be given to the three laureates who will receive the Awards at COP11 in 2012.

Nominations are encouraged of individuals or institutions, governmental or non-governmental, with a proven record of achievements in one or other of the three areas above.

Nominations should reach the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands by 31 May 2011 at the latest, using the form attached or available upon request from the Ramsar Secretariat, or on the Ramsar Web site (<http://www.ramsar.org/Ramsar-Award/>). The Standing Committee will select the three winning individuals or organisations and the Award will be presented at the opening ceremony of the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Bucharest, Romania), on 19 June 2012.



The Ramsar Award programme is carried out with the support of the DANONE-Evian Fund for Water to support the Ramsar Convention.





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Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award

Criteria and Procedures

Selection criteria

1. One Ramsar Award shall be awarded for each of the following areas:
 - a) The “**Ramsar Management Award**”, supported by Danone Evian, rewarding actions – such as projects, programmes, plans, policies and strategies – that have significantly contributed to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, at specific wetlands (including Ramsar sites) or through planning and management at broader scale;
 - b) The “**Ramsar Wetland Science Award**”, supported by Danone Evian, rewarding internationally recognized contributions to the advancement of wetland science;
 - c) The “**Ramsar Education Award**”, supported by Danone Evian, rewarding the best initiative for communication, education, participation and awareness on Wetlands of International Importance, with a focus on initiatives which demonstrate effective participation of local communities and the resulting capacity building outcomes.

Eligibility

2. Institutions and citizens of all nations are invited to nominate individuals¹ or institutions – governmental and non-governmental, including community groups – or private sector enterprises, of any nation.
3. The Ramsar Award will be given to individuals or institutions with a proven record of achievements in one or other of the three areas above. Nominees should have contributed significantly to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. Special consideration will be given to those initiatives which might serve as inspirational and practical examples for others, and are replicable.
4. These achievements should relate directly to implementation of the Ramsar Convention, in any of the above areas or at local, provincial, national, regional or global levels.
5. Self nominations cannot be accepted.

¹ It should be noted that, in the case of individuals, the Ramsar Standing Committee at its 20th meeting (1997) has decided that the Award will not be given *in memoriam*.

Nominations Procedure

6. Nominations should be submitted to the Ramsar Convention Secretariat in English, French or Spanish, using the Ramsar Award form available from the Ramsar Secretariat in Gland, Switzerland, and on the Ramsar Web site (<http://www.ramsar.org/Ramsar-Award/>), accompanied by the necessary supporting documentation.
7. Nominations must be accompanied by two letters of recommendation from individuals (not including the nominator) who can assess the nominee's contributions, and who can be contacted by the evaluation panel.
8. The deadline for this round of the Ramsar Award was fixed at 31 May 2011. This date shall be final.

Selection Procedure

9. The Ramsar Secretariat will evaluate the nominations received and submit recommendations for the consideration of the Ramsar Standing Committee. The Standing Committee will select the laureates, and its decision will be final.
10. In undertaking this evaluation, the Secretariat may seek the advice of, *inter alia*, members of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) or of the CEPA Oversight Panel, and others, as appropriate.

Announcement and Presentation of the Award

11. The announcement of the laureates will be made through an announcement on the Ramsar Web site as soon as all of them have confirmed their acceptance of the Award.
12. The Ramsar Award will be presented at the opening ceremony of the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties and every effort will be made to ensure the presence of all laureates.

How to obtain a nomination form

The nomination forms for the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award can be downloaded from the Ramsar Web site at the following location: <http://www.ramsar.org/Ramsar-Award/>, or obtained electronically or in hard copy from

The Ramsar Convention Secretariat
Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland
fax: +41 22 999 01 69,
e-mail: award@ramsar.org.

**Deadline for receipt of nominations shall be 31 May 2011, preferably by e-mail.
Nominations received after this date will not be considered.**

Please note that nominations receipt will be acknowledged but that no further communication will take place unless further information is requested, or the nominee has been selected to receive the Award.

Announcement of the laureates will be made on the Ramsar Web site in due course.