



## **NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS**

**National Reports to be submitted to the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,  
Republic of Korea, 28 October – 4 November 2008**

Please submit the completed National Report, in electronic (Microsoft Word) format, and preferably by e-mail, to the Ramsar Secretariat by **31 March 2008**.

National Reports should be sent to: Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Secretariat ([dufour@ramsar.org](mailto:dufour@ramsar.org))

## Introduction & background

1. This Ramsar COP10 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Republic of Korea, October/November 2008).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting in February 2007, and its Decisions SC35-22, -23 and -24, this COP10 National Report Format has been significantly revised and simplified in comparison with the National Report Formats provided to previous recent COPs.
3. In particular this National Report Format provides a much smaller number (66) of implementation "indicator" questions, compared with the much larger suite of questions on all aspects of national implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 included in previous NRFs.
4. The COP10 NRF indicators include, with the agreement of the Standing Committee (Decision SC35-24), certain indicators specifically requested to be included by the Convention's Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) and CEPA Oversight Panel, in order to facilitate their information gathering and reporting on key aspects of scientific, technical and CEPA implementation under the Convention.
5. The 66 indicator questions are grouped under each of the implementation "Strategies" approved by the Parties at COP9 (Resolution IX.8) in the Convention's "A Framework for the implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 in the 2006 -2008 period" ([www.ramsar.org/res/key\\_res\\_ix\\_08\\_e.htm](http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_08_e.htm)). The indicators have been selected so as to provide information on key aspects of the implementation of the Convention under each of its Strategies.
6. In addition, for each Strategy the option is provided for a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, to supply **additional information** concerning its implementation under each indicator and, more generally, on implementation of other aspects of each Strategy.

## The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention, and are made publicly available through their posting on the Convention's Web site.
8. There are six main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
  - i) provide data and information on how the Convention is being implemented;
  - ii) capture lessons/experience, so as to allow Parties to develop future action;
  - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention through Convention processes;
  - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable against their obligations under the Convention;
  - v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and plan for its future implementation and priorities; and
  - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. In addition, the data and information provided by Parties in their COP10 National Reports now have another important purpose, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation will provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention" currently being further developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for Standing Committee and COP10 consideration.

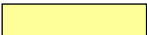
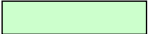
10. To facilitate the analysis and onward use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis of the information for a number of purposes.
11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
- i) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each COP on the global and regional implementation, and progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at COP as a series of Information Papers including:
    - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 5);
    - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance (see, e.g., COP9 DOC 6); and
    - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP9 DOCs 10-13);
  - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at COP. Examples at CO9 included:
    - Resolution IX.15, *The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance*, and
    - Information Papers on *Issues and scenarios concerning Ramsar sites or parts of sites which cease to meet or never met the Ramsar Criteria* (COP9 DOC 15) and *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC 25);
  - iii) providing the source of time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention, included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 2007); and
  - iv) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national-level implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role for the CBD for wetlands.

### **The structure of the COP10 National Report Format**

12. In line with Standing Committee Decisions SC35-21 and SC35-22, the COP10 National Report Format is in three sections.
13. **Section 1** provides the Institutional Information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.
14. **Section 2** is a "free-text" section in which to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.
15. **Section 3** provides the 66 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy, and with a "free-text" section under each Strategy in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of the Strategy and its indicators.

## Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP10 National Report Format

### IMPORTANT – READ THIS SECTION OF GUIDANCE BEFORE STARTING TO FILL IN THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

16. All three Sections of the COP10 National Report Format should be filled in, in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
17. The deadline for submission of the completed National Report Format is **31 March 2008**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received from Parties after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP10.
18. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
19. Fields with a pale green background  are free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields in the COP10 NRF is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, since it is the experience of the Secretariat that such explanatory information is very valuable in ensuring a full understanding of implementation progress and activity, notably in informing the preparation of global and regional implementation reports to COP.
20. In order to assist Contracting Parties in their provision of such additional information, for a number of indicator questions some particularly helpful types of such information are suggested. However, of course, Parties are free to add any other relevant information they wish in any of the "Additional implementation information" fields.
21. The Format is created as a "Form" in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to, and between, each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information. All other parts of the form are locked.
22. To go to a yellow or green field you wish to fill in, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form, and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
23. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the "Tab" key on the computer keyboard.
24. For a "free-text" field, you can type in whatever information you wish. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow "free-text" box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box. This is because within the "Form" format there is limited facility to make editorial changes within the "free-text" box once text has been entered.
25. For each of the "Indicator questions" in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question asked in the indicator, but are in general of the form: "Yes", "No", "Partly", "In progress", etc.
26. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can provide this in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
27. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box, and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.

28. The NRF is not intended normally to be filled in by one person alone – for many indicators it would seem best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in the same and other agencies within the government who might have fuller knowledge of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the work at any point in the process and return to it subsequently to continue or to amend answers previously given.
29. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP10NRF [Country] [date].
30. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by email, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, email: [dufour@ramsar.org](mailto:dufour@ramsar.org). The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
31. When the completed National Report is submitted by the Party, **it must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Administrative Authority, confirming that this is that Contracting Party's official submission of its COP10 National Report.**
32. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP10 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

## SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

<b>NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: BRAZIL</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY</b>	
<b>Name of Administrative Authority:</b>	Ministry of the Environment/Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests/Coastal and Marine Zone Division
<b>Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:</b>	Ana Paula Leite Prates, Coordinator of the Coastal and Marine Zone Division
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco B, sala 713, Brasília - DF - Brazil. CEP.: 70.068-900
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+55 (61) 3317-1387/ fax: +55 (61) 3317-1213
<b>Email:</b>	ana-paula.prates@mma.gov.br
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Maria Carolina Hazin, Technical Advisor
<b>Mailing address:</b>	same as above
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	same as above
<b>Email:</b>	maria-carolina.hazin@mma.gov.br
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Not designated
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	
<b>Mailing address:</b>	
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Marcos Sorrentino, Director of the Environmental Education Department
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	Ministry of the Environment/Secretariat for Institutional Coordination and Citizenship/Department for Environmental Education
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco B, sala 533, Brasília - DF - Brazil. CEP.:70.068-900
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+55 (61) 3317-1207/ fax: +55 (61) 3317-1757
<b>Email:</b>	marcos.sorrentino@mma.gov.br
<b>DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Not designated
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	
<b>Mailing address:</b>	
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	

## SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP9 reporting):

### A. What new steps have been taken to implement the Convention?

An internal coordination has taken place in order to transfer the administrative authority to another department. This has allowed the daily focal point to handle implementation of the Convention on an almost exclusive basis.

### B. What have been the most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?

The national authority has approved the GEF - Mangrove Project and has initiated the drafting of a national initiative for conservation of coral reefs. A strategy has also been initiated in order to establish a centre for wetlands in each of the main ecosystems of wetlands in the country.

### C. What have been the greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

As the country is a federation in which states have certain political autonomy, difficulty is faced in establishing a systematic articulation with them for the monitoring and implementation of the Convention. Another noteworthy difficulty is the limited institutional capacity of the administrative authority, as there are scarce financial and human resources with which to coordinate and develop plans and programs.

### D. What proposals and priorities are there for future implementation of the Convention?

- a) English to Portuguese translation of Resolutions and technical documents of the Convention with the objective of increasing knowledge about them and thus increase implementation capacity of the treaty on a national basis.
- b) Reinforcement of the States for implementation of the Convention: by designating a State level focal point and by conducting a national seminar to discuss the mechanisms for the legal internalization of international treaties.
- c) Reinforcement of the National Committee on Wetlands: (i) inclusion of other governmental sectors in the Committee with the objective of broadening discussions; (ii) creation of technical working groups per ecosystem or biome. The first to be created are the technical groups on coral reefs, taking advantage of the International Year for Coral Reefs and the technical group on mangroves, to assist on the implementation of the GEF – Mangrove Project.
- d) Assessment of the representativeness of wetlands in protected areas and identification of priority wetland areas for conservation, including the priority areas for the designation of Ramsar sites.
- e) Begin implementation of the GEF – Mangrove Project.

### E. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

- Assisting Parties on the translation of Resolutions and Technical Guidelines, which are essential for the internalization and consequent implementation of the Convention.
- Promoting regional discussions on better mechanisms and instruments to implement the Convention Guidelines and policies. These meetings should not be restricted to national authorities, but count on a wide participation of different stakeholders.

### F. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)?

The role of environmental NGOs in the implementation of policies has been significant in the country. For those IOP that have national offices in countries that are signatory to the Convention, a suggestion is made for them to be in closer contact with the central offices, which have been monitoring the discussions, needs and priorities for implementing the Parties so that they are aligned with the decisions made and can increment support to the implementation at the national level. Formal or informal partnerships with the government are also encouraged.

- G. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the “Biodiversity cluster” (Ramsar, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), CITES, and World Heritage Convention), and UNCCD and UNFCCC?

The participation of national focal points at each one of these Multilateral Environmental Agreements national commissions has shown to be an important mechanism through which their respective policies and guidelines are brought together.

- H. How can Ramsar Convention implementation be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., sustainable development, energy, extractive industry, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

A wide process on finclusión of the Convention guidelines’ and resolutions into these sectors policies’ has to be initiated and/or strengthened. On a local basis, wetland issues can be part of river basin/water resources plans. For instance, Brazil is working on integrating coastal and river basin management by designating a focal point of a coastal protected area to the local water council and the other way round, that is, that a water sector representant will participate on the PA management council. Another valuable mechanisms would be working with the linkage between environment and economy such as wetlands valuation

- I. Does the Contracting Party have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

Even though there is full awareness about the need to practice transversality of measures for the conservation and rational use of wetlands, the Ramsar Convention should concentrate on those that are of its direct competency and invest in cooperation with other MEAs, so as to avoid overlapping. Examples of issues that should be dealt with in other fora are the later discussions on culture, climate change and biofuels.



**SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION**

**Guidance for filling in this section**

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on either one or more of the specific indicators for each strategy, and/or for other aspects of the national implementation of this strategy, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions for each Strategy.
3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. So as to assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP9, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP9 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}

**GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS**

**STRATEGY 1.1:** *Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of the wise use principle.*

**Indicator questions:**

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1}	A - Yes
1.1.2 Is the wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.3; 1.1.6}	C - Partly
1.1.3 Does your country have information about the status and trends of the ecological character of wetlands (Ramsar sites and/or wetlands generally)? {1.2.2} [if “Yes”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below, from where or from whom this information can be accessed]	A - Yes
1.1.4 If the answer is “Yes” in 1.1.3, does this information indicate that the need to address adverse change in the ecological character of wetlands is now greater, the same, or less than in the previous triennium, for: a) Ramsar sites b) wetlands generally	--- ---

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.1.1 – 1.1.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

1.1.1.

1) Inventory of Brazilian Wetlands

Diegues, A. C., 2002. Povos e Águas – Inventário de áreas úmidas brasileiras (Pueblos y Águas – Inventario de

humedales brasileiros), NUPAUB-USP, 2ed.

It is a publication by the Center of Support to Research on Human Populations and Wetlands in Brazil of the University of Sao Paulo ([www.usp.br/nupaub](http://www.usp.br/nupaub)), but is not available in electronic means. It approaches 57 wetland complexes, including the largest ones in the country. The inventory counted on the participation of researchers from different Brazilian institutions. The used methodology consisted of creating a database on selected wetlands which in its turn were characterized based on 19 criteria, as follows: location and geographic coordinates; surface; altitude; biome; type of wetland; general description; fauna; flora; ecosystems; human population data; migratory flows; infrastructure; ethnical and cultural features; land and natural resources use; economic activities; impact ensuing from human activities; criticality level; protected areas; research institutions and active NGOs. Although the inventory complies with some provisions set forth in the Resolution VIII.6, it has not followed the Resolution's methodology.

Source: <http://www.usp.br/nupaub/>

2) Priority Areas for the Conservation of Brazilian Biodiversity – in 2005-2006, the Ministry for the Environment carried out a process to review and update the Priority Actions and Areas for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Shared of Benefits to the Brazilian Biodiversity. The process for updating the priority areas and actions was simultaneously carried out in all Brazilian biomes (Amazon, Caatinga, Cerrado, Pantanal, Atlantic Forest, Campos Sulinos and Coastal and Marine Zone) and counted on support from various governmental and non-governmental partners. The first stages of the process were the technical meetings during which conservation targets were defined, as were the milestones and relative importance of each object. From these meetings, a Map of Relevant Areas for Biodiversity was generated. These products subsidized the National Seminars on the Biomes, which in turn yielded new priority areas acknowledged by means of MMA's Administrative Decree 09/2007.

The maps generated are interactive and incorporate specific wetlands of each biome. The basis used for making these maps was the mapping carried out of the vegetation coverage of Brazilian biomes in a 1:250,000 scale (base year 2002). In the case of the Coastal and Marine Zone, a preliminary mapping was done through Landsat satellite images from the years 2000 and 2002, and which identified the sand dune scrubs, beaches, marismas, mangroves, estuaries, coastal lagoons, dunes, banhados and islands of the entire Brazilian coast on a 1:50,000 scale, all of which were incorporated to the same data that was available for other environments such as shallow coral reefs, that had been previously mapped. The current map on the priority areas contains a total of 2,683 areas. Of these, 608 are of coastal and marine zone - 506 coastal and 102 marine. The maps with the areas and their corresponding priority actions are available on the MMA's website.

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=54&idMenu=4748&idConteudo=5343>

Source:

Institution In-Charge: Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests / Ministry for the Environment

3) Atlas of Coral Reefs in Brazilian Protected Area Sites – 2003, updated in 2006

The MMA's Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests elaborated an atlas of coral reefs in protected area sites of Brazil. This work counted on the collaboration of 11 authors and presents 39 maps of the 9 protected area sites in the coral reefs environment of Brazil. This is the most important mapping that has been carried out of shallow reefs in Brazil. The Atlas is the main product of a mapping project carried out with financing from the Wetlands for the Future Fund – Ramsar and represents a summary of the project to integrate reef environments. It was elaborated in close partnership with the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), and the Coastal Reefs Project (UFPE/CEPENE/FMM/IDB). In addition, it counted on

the participation of technicians and managers from the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA). The second edition presents additional maps of other Brazilian coral reefs areas (a total of 54 maps), as well as an analysis on the representativeness of these ecosystems that are under some kind of protection on protected area. The maps generated for the atlas are not fully available on the MMA website, but the shape files that were generated were made available to all public institutions that are interested in the matter and requested such information.

Responsible Institution: MMA's Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/port/sbf/dap/atlas2a.html>

4) Maltchik, L., M.A.J. Costa & M.D.C. Duarte. 1999 Inventory of Brazilian semi-arid shallow lakes. *Anais da Academia Brasileira de Ciências* 71:801-808 – Inventory on temporary lagoons in the semi-arid region including 11 Brazilian states (approximately 1 million km<sup>2</sup>).

5) Maltchik, L. ; SCHNEIDER, Eri ; BECKER, Guilherme ; ESCOBAR, Arlei . Inventory of wetlands of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil). *Pesquisas Botânica*, v. 53, p. 89-100, 2003. – Inventory of all wetlands in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil.

#### 1.1.2.

Information provided in 1.1.1 indicates if and where inventory data on wetlands are available.

#### 1.1.3

There are some projects and actions that surveyed the status of and threats to the characteristics of wetlands in Brazil, as for example the initiative of indicating Priority Areas for the Conservation of Biodiversity (described in item 1.1.1 above), which carried out a preliminary survey of the main existing threats in each of the conservation targets (including wetlands).

There are other more specific projects, as:

1) The Provarzea – Project for the Management of Varzea's (forested floodplains) Natural Resources. This project establishes the scientific, technical and political grounds for the conservation, environmentally and socially sustainable management of the natural resources of forested floodplains in the central region of the Amazon basin, and places special emphasis on fishery stocks. It is carried out by Ibama through the Pilot Project for the Protection of Brazil's Tropical Forests (PPG7) and is coordinated by the MMA. Since 2001, it has contributed to the elaboration of public policies and to the development of conservation and sustainable management systems of resources according to three lines of action: i) strategic studies aimed at attenuating the lack of information on the forested floodplains through scientific research; ii) promising initiatives geared toward support to projects that develop innovative systems for the sustainable management of natural forested floodplain resources and; iii) monitoring and controlling activities to support co-management models that try to test decentralized and participatory systems for the use of natural resources. Included in the several studies that have been carried out by the Provarzea Project, we highlight the strategic study that has been concluded on Scientific Basis for Conservation of Forested Floodplains – Identification, Characteristics and Biogeographic Regions. The objective of this study was to ecologically typify the forested floodplain so as to subsidize sustainable management systems and the identification of conservation areas by means of identifying the status and potential threats to environmental characteristics of the floodplains. The results are available at (<http://www.ibama.gov.br/provarzea>).

2) Mangroves – The main threats to the ecological integrity of mangroves in Brazil are real estate speculation and agricultural businesses. Thus, a survey on the advance of shrimp farms in the mangroves of Brazil's northeastern region was carried out by Ibama, for the purpose of issuing licenses. With the recent approval of the GEF Mangrove project, a system for the continuous monitoring of vegetation coverage of mangroves will be developed with the objectives that include monitoring the advances of such threats.

3) Large-Scale Experiment on the Biosphere-Atmosphere in the Amazon (LBA) – This project is led by Brazil and is part of an international research initiative. The LBA is planning to generate knowledge that is necessary in order to understand the climate, ecology, bio-geo-chemical and hydrologic patterns of the Amazon, the impact of land-use changes to these patterns, and to understand the interaction between the Amazon and the Earth's global bio-geo-physical system. The LBA is focused on two main questions that will be addressed by the multidisciplinary research which will integrate studies in physical sciences, chemistry, biology and human sciences. The studies will answer questions such as: (i) how the Amazon currently works as a regional entity; (ii) how land-use and climate changes will affect the Amazon's biological, chemical and physical patterns, and its sustainability and influence on global climate. In the LBA, emphasis will be placed on the observations and analyses that will increase the knowledge base on the Amazon in six areas: climate physics, carbon storage and exchange; bio-geo-chemistry, chemistry of the atmosphere, hydrology, changes in land use and vegetation coverage, and will also include studies on

the human dimension of environmental climate changes. The program is designed to address the main questions raised during the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The LBA will foster a knowledge base geared toward the sustainable use of land in the Amazon. For such, data and analyses will be used in defining the current status of the Amazon system and its response to present perturbations. These will be complemented by results from models in order to foster understanding regarding possible changes in the future. The project has temporal data of 10 years and some of its results show the relationship between deforestation and climate, as well as proved impact of land use and vegetation coverage changes to the region's hydric sources – including impact on the mangroves of the Amazon region.

Institutions involved: Ministry for Science and Technology / National Institute for Space Research (INPE) / National Institute for Research in the Amazon (INPA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Union (EU)

Source: <http://www.lba.inpa.gov.br>

4) Project on the Hydrology and Geochemistry of the Amazon Basin (HiBAm) – This project develops studies and research to better understand the characteristics and hydrologic and geochemical process occurring in rivers of the Amazon River's hydrographic basin.

Institution: National Waters Agency (ANA), National Counsel of Technological Scientific Development (CNPq), University of Brasilia's Geosciences Institute, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement.

Source: <http://www.ana.gov.br/hibam/>

5) Great Rivers Habitat Alliance Project – This project is part of The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) global initiative, in partnership with Caterpillar, and is aimed at protecting the planet's great rivers. One large basin per continent was selected. In South America, project actions are geared toward the Paraguay-Paraná basin. In the Paraná system, the focus is on restoration with basis on environmental services studies, whereas in the Paraguay basin it is on the prevention of future environmental impact. Conservation strategies being adopted by TNC and its partners in the scope of the Great Rivers Habitat Alliance are based on studies produced by the federal government, the TNC and by the National Waters Agency, which developed the Eco-regional Planning of Pantanal. They are recommendations that resulted from a long participatory process that reflects the contribution of the most representative actors of the Paraguay-Paraná System.

Lead Institution: The Nature Conservancy (<http://www.nature.org>).

#### 1.1.4

The information that is available does not provide parameters for comparison as systemic studies have not been carried out in the areas.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.2:** *Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supranational policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use principle of the Convention is being effectively applied, where possible specifying the appropriate policy instrument(s) in each Contracting Party which ensures wise use of wetlands.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>1.2.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {2.1.1}</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please give the title and date of the policy in Additional implementation information]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.2.2 Does the National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporate any World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets and actions? {2.1.2}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.2.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development (including National Poverty Reduction Plans called for by the WSSD and water resources management and water efficiency plans)? {2.1.2}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>1.2.4 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed?</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>1.2.5 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {2.2.2}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.2.1 – 1.2.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.2.3: [.. additional information ...]”

### 1.2.1.

1) In its legal framework, Brazil has not approved a specific norm for wetlands, although the Decree 5857 of April 13, 2006, which instituted the National Plan for Protected Areas (PNAP) dedicates an entire chapter to "National Strategies for Internationally Recognized Areas", as stated below:

General Objective: To implement conventions, treaties and intergovernmental programs related to natural protected areas of which Brazil is a Member Part.

Specific Objectives:

- a) Consolidate existing internationally recognized areas;
- b) Increase the number of Brazilian internationally recognized areas;
- c) Implement a system for the management of Biosphere Reserves;
- d) Establish integrated management of internationally recognized areas located within the national territory;
- e) Strengthen relations with other signatory countries of conventions, treaties and intergovernmental programs of which Brazil is part of; and
- f) Establish national policies for wetlands in the scope of the Ramsar Convention.

The PNAP is based on four thematic areas: i) strengthening and management; ii) governance, participation, equity and share of costs and benefits; iii) institutional capacity; and iv) assessment and monitoring.

Other national laws or decrees have overlaps regarding conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in the country. Some of these laws and decrees are:

2) National Policy on Biodiversity – The National Policy on Biodiversity's general objective is the integrated promotion of biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of its components, with the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge. Decree 4339 of August 22, 2002 approves seven components for the implementation of the policy: i) knowledge on biodiversity; ii) biodiversity conservation; iii) sustainable use of biodiversity; iv) monitoring, assessment, prevention and mitigation of impacts; v) access to genetic resources and to associated traditional knowledge and share of benefits; vi) education, public awareness, information and dissemination; vii) judicial and institutional strengthening for the management of biodiversity.

3) National Water Resources Policy – Water Law 9433 of January 8, 1997 has the objective to ensure current and future generations the necessary availability of water in quality standards that are suitable to each respective use; rational and integrated use of water resources, including water transportation aimed at sustainable development; and prevention of and defense against critical hydrologic events of natural causes or resulting from the inadequate use of water resources. As one of its principles, this law approves the 'articulation of water resource management with environmental management.'

### 1.2.2

Of the Millennium Development Goals, three are clearly addressed in the policies mentioned in item 1.2.1. They are: 1) eradicate extreme hunger and poverty; 3) promote gender equality and empower women; and 7) ensure environmental sustainability.

In the case of the PNAP (mentioned in item 1.2.1), one of its principles is to 'XXI – consider the equilibrium of gender, generation, culture and ethnicity in the management of protected area sites.' One of its general objectives is to 'increase the role of protected area sites and other protected areas in sustainable development and the reduction of poverty.'

### 1.2.3

1) In respect to the World Summit on Sustainable Development's (WSSD) goals, the National Water Resources Policy partially contemplates its actions as it presents legal instruments with the objective of controlling water consumption so that this resource is used in a sustainable manner. The policy, thus, promotes participatory management of water resources and one of its principles is the acknowledgement of water as an economic value.

Combating pollution to water bodies by charging fines for littering or waste disposing is also contemplated in this policy and is closely related with the WSSD goals for eradicating poverty and promoting health.

The Ministry of the Environment guides its actions according to four established guidelines which were designed to be a new model for Brazil's environmental policies: (i) promotion of sustainable development; (ii) strengthening the National System for the Environment (Sistema Nacional de Meio Ambiente – Sisnama); (iii) social control and

participation and; (iv) and the principle of transversality which involves several public sectors power in solving environmental questions. The MMA undertakes strategic actions in relation to the productive sector and the environment and contributes to the formulation of the National Policy for Sustainable Development. Among other issues, it takes the discussions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development into account. It carries out the following programs: sustained consumption, commerce and the environment, ecotourism and agro-extractivism.

2) The reduction of poverty is one of the Brazilian government's priorities and according to the concept of sustainable development, the preservation of natural resources cannot be detached from economic and social development. The 2004-2007 Pluriannual Plan (PPA), a planning document for activities that were developed by the government within this time frame, presented programs that included some wetlands, especially rivers. In the case of eradicating poverty, the interface between PPA and wetlands is contemplated in one of the measures of the Sustainable Amazon Program. This program is organized according to five areas: (i) sustainable production with innovation and competitiveness; (ii) environmental management and territorial ordering; (iii) social inclusion and citizenship; (iv) infrastructure for development and; (v) a new standard of development. In addition, wetlands are considered in other programs that include inventories of water pollutants, prevention of water pollution, and response to petroleum-induced pollution incidents, waste in water bodies, control of contamination and risks resulting from exposure to hazardous materials and industrial waste, among others. The Program for Support to Agro-Extractivist Development supported nearly 1,300 projects that benefited 65 thousand families of traditional peoples and communities in 16 states (9 in Amazônia, São Francisco Basin, meridian Paraná and São Paulo), through investments of R\$28.4 million (aprox. US\$ 16.8 million). Of this amount, R\$14 million (aprox. US\$ 8.3 million) were invested by the Fome Zero ('No Hunger') program. Therefore, part of the families benefited by this program is included in the number of families that are benefited by initiatives for the promotion of food safety and sustainable development.

Responsible Institution: Secretariat for Sustainable Development / Ministry of the Environment

Sources: <http://www.mma.gov.br/port/sds/index.cfm>

Ministry for the Environment's Management Report 2003-2006

[http://www.mma.gov.br/estruturas/ascom\\_boletins/\\_arquivos/07032007\\_relatoriodegestao2003\\_2006.pdf](http://www.mma.gov.br/estruturas/ascom_boletins/_arquivos/07032007_relatoriodegestao2003_2006.pdf)

3) Environmental management in Brazil is decentralized and counts on the effective participation of the States and the co-responsibility of private sector and civil society. The status acquired by environmental policies began to reflect in the increased volume of resources allocated to programs pertaining to the sector. The environmental agenda fostered detachment of environmental programs in various government actions, with focus placed on policies geared toward promoting the sustainable use of natural resources, increased offer of drinking water, and conservation of Brazilian biodiversity resources. In this sense, the propositions for environmental policies are anchored in the public agendas, which are referred to as the Blue Agenda (water resource policies), Green Agenda (natural resource conservation) and Brown Agenda (anti-pollution policies). In order for these agendas to be developed, the Ministry for Agriculture, Livestock and Supply is integrated with inter-ministerial programs and participated in 22 programs that contemplate the main areas pertaining to improved environmental management: management of hydric resources (Brazilian Waters; Our Rivers: Araguaia-Tocantins; Our Rivers: Paraíba do Sul; Our Rivers: São Francisco and Proágua-gestão); biodiversity conservation (Environmental Conservation of Mining Regions; Soil Conservation in Agriculture; Parks of Brazil; Sustainable Amazon; Sustainable Forests; Prevention and Control of Deforestation, Burnings and Forest Fires; Biodiversity and Genetic Resources - Biovida; Management of Environmental Policies; and Pantanal); climate resources, oceans and fishery (Climatology, Meteorology and Hydrology; Climate Changes; Sustainable Ocean and Fishery Resources); environmental education; nuclear safety; science and technology for the management of ecosystems and ecologic-economic zoning.

Responsible Institution: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply

Source: <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/>

#### 1.2.4

1) Law 9.433 (referred to in item 1.2.1) defines seven water resources management tools, among which i – the classification of water bodies, according to the prevailing water use and ii) – the granting of rights to the water use, aimed at controlling the quantitative and qualitative elements on the water use, respecting their multiple use and the class where the water body is framed. Framing, in turn, should be understood as the establishment of the quality level (class) to be reached and/or maintained in a given water body portion along time.

CONAMA Resolution # 20, of 2000, sets forth the 'Special Class' for some water bodies designated to preserve the equilibrium of the aquatic communities.

The Basin Committees adopted by that same law should approve the Plans for their respective Basins. The plans must include prior studies to define the framing and water award and, therefore, should include the needs of those ecosystems comprised in the Basin.

2) Sectoral Water Resources Fund (CT-HIDRO) – It aims at financing studies and projects in the field of water

resources, to improve the different water uses and guarantee to present and future generations high quality and rational and integrated use of water, toward the sustainable development and to prevent critical hydrological phenomena or those ensuing from the undue use of the natural resources. The resources stem from the financial compensation that is currently charged against the electric power generating companies.

In this regard, the call for bid issued in 2006 (54/2006) is noteworthy. The call for bid aimed at supporting scientific and technological research networks, to establish and assess the ecological flow on water streams of the Brazilian water basins, in order to match hydrological, limnological and social & economic aspects related to the flow regimes. That would provide inputs to the strategies on the use of water resources management tools, negotiated water allotment and reservoirs operation.

2-A) The Ministry of Science and Technology (MCT), through the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), launched the call for bid CTHidro 044/2006 to lend support to scientific, technological and innovation research activities, by providing financial support to projects dealing with water resources, emphasizing the sustainable use of the Brazilian wetlands to improve the quality of those wetland ecosystems and contribute to enhance the population's life quality, health and welfare, besides protecting the natural heritage. Among others, the initiative supports: i- assessment of the hydrological functions in the Brazilian wetlands, including the mitigation of impacts of floods or droughts, reduction of erosion, aquifer recharge and maintenance of the water quality, ii- Protection to and recovery of wetlands and their biological diversity, iii – Identification of the present and future supply and demand of waters in the wetlands (Quantity and Quality), iv- Management and/or combat of exotic species in wetlands, v- Management of transboundary wetlands, vi – Methodologies to attenuate, recover and combat degradation, erosion and silting of wetland areas ensuing from activities with high potential of impact (agriculture, mining, civil construction.)

3) The Ministry of Science and Technology and the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development carries out the Long Term Ecological Research (PELD) program. The program grants long-term financing that allows the study of topics that are hardly approached in the short-term, such as many environmental phenomena and processes. The PELD is an ecological research program focused on a network of 'selected sites' representative of different Brazilian ecosystems. There are 11 sites in the set of the five Brazilian biomes. The main purpose is to promote the organization and consolidation of existing knowledge about the composition and working of the Brazilian ecosystems, generating information and tools required to assess the Brazilian diversity.

The projects are approved through specific Calls for Bid, for a 10-year term, but must be renewed on an annual basis. They grant scholarships and stipends to research.

Among the PELD sites connected to flooding areas, some stand out for the contribution to the understanding on the waters ecosystemic needs and demands, such as: 'Ecological long-term response to multi-year variations of floods in the Pantanal Mato-Grossense' developed by EMBRAPA Pantanal; 'North Pantanal: Integrated studies on the ecological and social processes toward conservation' coordinated by the UFMT; 'The Floodplain of the Paraná River: structure and environmental processes' (NUPELIA/UEM); 'Hydrological System of the Taim' (UFRJ/FURG); 'Lagoa dos Patos and Adjacent Coastal Areas' (FURG); 'Restinga and Coastal Lagoons on the Northern portion of Fluminense' (UFRJ); 'Atlantic Forest and the Lacustral Systems in the Medium Doce River' (UFMG).

#### 1.2.5

1) Brazil has discussed, disseminated and applied, on a local basis, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (AAE). The Secretariat of Climatic Changes holds seminars, workshops and courses to publicize both concept and methodology, besides the feasibility studies to apply the AAE in the fields of Petrol and Gas.

Responsible Institution: Secretariat of Climatic Changes and Environmental Quality / Ministry of Environment.

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/port/sqa/aae/index.cfm>

2) One of the core initiatives developed by the MMA toward preserving the Pantanal is the Pantanal Sustainable Development Program. The Program was totally restructured from 2003 to 2005, and has been developed since 2006. In its first stage, the Pantanal Program is developing the Strategic Environmental Assessment (AAE) to the region, in partnership with the States of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul. The partnership has also yielded a specialization course to train state and federal public civil servants in AAE techniques. The courses are supported by the universities of both States.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.2 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.3:** Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defence, climate change mitigation, food security, poverty reduction, cultural heritage,



*and scientific research, with a focus on under-represented ecosystem types, through developing and disseminating methodology to achieve wise use of wetlands.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>1.3.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar sites? {3.3.1}          [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in the Additional implementation information below, the year of assessment and from where or from whom this information can be obtained]</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>1.3.2 Have wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security plans been implemented? {3.3.4}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>1.3.3 Has national action been taken to implement the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)? {3.2.1}</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>1.3.4 Has national action been taken to apply the guiding principles on cultural values of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21)? {3.3.3}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.3.1 – 1.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

### 1.3.2.

Check the responses of items 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.

### 1.3.4

1) The Ministry of the Environment carries out different programs oriented to valorization and support the traditional communities such as quilombolas, extractivist, etc and indigenous populations. The National Policy to the Sustainable Development of Traditional Peoples and Communities (PNPCT), enacted through the Presidential Decree 6040, in February 2007, is an important milestone in this issue, recognizing those communities as subject of right. That policy resulted from a 2-year effort by the National Commission of Sustainable Development of Traditional Peoples and Communities and it was headed by the Ministry of Social Development, with the MMA serving as the executive secretariat.

The main objective of the PNPCT is to promote the sustainable development of Traditional Peoples and Communities, placing emphasis on the recognition, strengthening and enforcement of their territorial, social, environmental, economic and cultural rights, respecting and praising their identity, organization forms and institutions. The Policy reflects on the general environmental management, so as all national ecosystems, including wetlands, area comprised.

2) Two out of the 12 categories of protected area sites (namely Extractivist Reserves and Sustainable Development Reserves) set forth in Law 9985/00, which approves the National Protected Area System, foresee the sustainable use of natural resources and aim at improving the life quality of the traditional populations in the area. Moreover, at these areas valorization, conservation and improvement of the traditional environment management knowledge and techniques are encouraged. Therefore, it appraises the peoples living in that area, in the most comprehensive aspects.

Nowadays, there are 51 Extractivist Reserves and 01 Sustainable Development Reserve in the country, managed by the federal government. It is worth mentioning that Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve is a Ramsar Site, while the Cururupu Extractive Reserve is comprised in the Reentrâncias Maranhenses Environmental Protection Area, which is another Ramsar Site.

Responsible Institution: Ministry of the Environment

Source:<http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil/leis/L9985.htm>

3) AQUABio Project – Promote strategic actions to implement the Aquatic Biodiversity and Water Resources Integrated Management, to incorporate the aquatic biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into the agenda of sustainable development policies and programs in the Amazon region.

Responsible Institution: Department for Biodiversity Conservation/Ministry of the Environment

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=79&idConteudo=3332>

4) National Indigenous Peoples Foundation is the Brazilian governmental authority in charge of establishing and enforcing the Indigenous Policy in Brazil. In practice, it promoted basic education to indigenous peoples, the demarcation and protection of the lands traditionally occupied by them, fostering the development of studies and surveys on indigenous groups. The Foundation is also in charge of advocating for the indigenous communities; raising awareness of the national society toward indigenous populations and their causes; managing their assets and monitoring their lands; avoiding the predatory actions by mining workers, land grabbers, timber dealers and any other action within their boundaries and that could endanger the life and preservation of those peoples. They develop projects to foster the indigenous culture in the practices of sustainable management.

Institution: National Indigenous Peoples Foundation

Source:<http://www.funai.gov.br/index.html>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.4:** *Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change, all in the context of implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).*

**Indicator questions:**

1.4.1 Has the Convention's water-related guidance (see Resolution IX.1. Annex C) been used/applied in decision-making related to water resource planning and management? {3.4.2 – r3.4.xiv}	C - Partly
1.4.2 Have CEPA expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management?	C - Partly
1.4.3 Has the Convention's guidance on wetlands and coastal zone management (Annex to Resolution VIII.4) been used/applied in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) planning and decision-making? {3.4.5}	A - Yes
1.4.4 Have the implications for wetland conservation and wise use of national implementation of the Kyoto Protocol been assessed? {3.4.9}	C - Partly

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.4.1 – 1.4.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

#### 1.4.1

1) The Ramsar Resolutions are not directly applied in Brazil, mainly because they have not been translated to allow its use by a broad range of environmental managers and other stakeholders. However, Brazilian environmental policy has incorporated different principles that have been discussed at international forums. Specifically regarding the Resolution IX 1.C, the principles set forth therein are almost the same as those adopted and enacted through national legal instruments.

The National Plan of Water Resources is one of the major tools established in the National Policy of Water Resources (Law 9433, of 1997). The Plan was approved by the National Water Resources Council in 2006, and establishes as strategic objectives: improved water availability, in terms of quantity and quality; reduction of conflicts on the use of water; awareness about the water conservation as an important social and environmental value. It sets out guidelines, goals and programs to ensure the rational use of water in Brazil until 2020. That is an innovative and modern Plan, since it makes reference to the resources' sustainability.

Not only the Plan was prepared in a widely open, transparent and participatory process, but the Law on Waters has also been implemented pursuant to those principles. Brazil rests on a National Water Resources Council and State Councils. Besides them, each water basin - whether federal or state one - has a basin committee that is participatory and represented by different civil society sectors.

The Water Basins Committee is an official authority totally new to the Brazilian institutional reality. It counts on the participation of users, the organized civil society, and representatives from municipal, state and federal governments. The body is in charge of serving as a 'parliament of waters', since it is a decision forum within each water basin. The Water Basins Committees should, among others: promote the debate on issues related to the basin's water resources; articulate the work of those entities dealing with the issue; serve as first instance arbiter to the conflicts related to water resources; approve and follow up the execution of the Basin Water Resources Plan; set the collection mechanisms regarding the use of water resources, and suggest the values to be charges; set out criteria and promote the apportionment of the cost of multiple use works, of shard or collective interest.

It is worth noticing that the use of WR tools in Brazil demand the execution of scientific studies to support the decision-making process. (Pleas check item 1.2.4).

The PNRH adopts a criterion to assign SPECIAL PLANNING AREAS – AEPs. These areas have peculiar characteristics and direct influence on the WR. Some AEPs are the Guarani Aquifer and the Pantanal Matogrossense – the largest wet areas in the country.

The PNRH devotes a chapter to the international treaties, including the Ramsar Convention, and suggests applying their principles and guidelines to the waters management. The areas are a strong indicative to the ongoing changes on the policy to WR management in Brazil, toward sustainability.

Institution: Secretariat of Water Resources/ Ministry of Environment

Source:<http://pnrh.cnrh-srh.gov.br/>

#### 1.4.2

1) Brazil is the National Focal Point to the Inter-American Water Resources Network (RIRH) that aims at exchanging experiences and lessons learned in the integrated management of water resources in the Americas and the Caribbean. The network supports the states in matters regarding water policies in the Americas. Moreover, it serves as a catalyst to the implementation of agreements on water resources and the objectives approved in the International Summits and Meetings. Additionally, it uses virtual rooms to disseminate and discuss water resources issues.

2) The WR Law provides for the water basin as a planning unit. That same Law establishes the National System of WR Management that is composed, among others, by the federal and state Basin Committees. The Committees are in charge of discussing and serving as arbiters to conflicts about the use of water, approving and following up the Basin Plans implementation.

Some of those committees also approach the environmental education, as happens in the State of Sao Paulo where a specific state law was enacted to implement some WR management tool. The initial implementation stage should approach communication efforts, based on environmental education programs. It is noteworthy the fact that the 16 existing state committees have contracted 72 environmental education projects since 1995.

3) The National Waters Authority develops a program on dissemination of information about water: monitoring news; hydrological information system; real time telemetric data; national hydro-meteorological network; hydric warn at the Doce and Sapucaí Rivers; inventory on pluviometric and fluviometric stations; and development of each network by hydrographic region.

Institution: National Waters Authority

Source:<http://www.ana.gov.br/>

#### 1.4.3

1) Technical Working Group on the Integration of River Basins and Estuary Systems and Coastal Zone (CTCOST) were established in 2006, within the scope of the National Water Resources Council (CNRH). The Ramsar Convention and its resolutions were submitted to the Technical Group. This Group has the following objectives: analyze and suggest mechanisms to integrate the water resources and coastal management policies, also considering the remainder including public policies; suggest mechanisms to integrate policies tools and shared indicators to the management of water resources in the coastal zone and estuarial systems; analyze and suggest actions to minimize or settle conflicts related to the use of water resources in coastal zones and estuarine systems; and, propose mechanisms of technical and institutional interchange among the spheres in charge of the respective policies.

Among the results of the CTCOST works, one could highlight the launching of the Call for Bid for research projects (MCT/CT-Hidro/MMA/CNPq N° 29/2007). The Call for Bid is a public selection of proposals oriented to the development of research about the hydrodynamic, water quality and integration of managerial tools, comprising inner waters, estuarial systems and coastal zones. The approved proposals are financed with resources estimated in R\$ 1,000,00.00 (one million Reais). 50% of the resources should be released in 2007 and 50% in 2008.

2) The Coastal and Marine Zone Division (NZCM) was established in 2004, within the scope of the Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests, at the Ministry of the Environment, to serve as a sector to articulate the policies on the biome and to follow-up on programs and projects related to the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine ecosystems, besides supporting the establishment of protected areas in the biome. In 2006, it was converted in the administrative authority of the Ramsar Convention in Brazil. Since then, it has undertaken strong efforts towards coordinating with the water resources sector, aiming at improving the integration of both policies.

The efforts have entailed, among others, the introduction of a specific output to the integrated management in the GEF-mangrove project. A pilot project will be implemented in the state of Paraíba, and it is expected to provide subsidies to the discussions held within the scope of the aforementioned Technical WG.

Institution: NZCM/Secretariat for Biodiversity and Forests/Ministry of the Environment

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=54&idMenu=4748>

3) National Coastal Management Program (GERCO) – that aims at operationalizing the National Coastal Management Plan (PNGC) to plan and manage, in an integrated, decentralized and participatory way, the socioeconomic activities in the Coastal Zone. By doing that, it would ensure the sustainable use, enforcing measures on control, protection, preservation and recovery of the natural resources and coastal ecosystem. GERCO coordinator is also chairing the CTCOST mentioned on item 1) above.

Institution: Secretariat of Climatic Changes/ Ministry of Environment

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=78>

#### 1.4.4

1) Brazil, as a signatory to the UNFCCC, has coordinated national efforts towards meeting the treaty's guidelines. Three ministries are directly engaged in this issue: the Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of External Relations. In response to the commitments made, in 2007 the Ministry of the Environment established a Secretariat exclusively devoted to this topic. The Secretariat outlined a Proposal on Eligibility Criteria and Sustainability Indicator to Assess Projects that Contribute to Mitigate Climatic Changes and to Promote Sustainable Development. The proposal is expected to provide subsidies to the actions by the Inter-ministerial Commission of Global Climate Change in one of its duties, i.e., to set national criteria to assess MDL projects, additionally to those formulated by the MDL Executive Committee. The document was forwarded to that Commission and was discussed during the seminar 'MDL and sustainable development', promoted by the Commission to advance on the discussions related to the national eligibility criteria to be adopted by this group.

Institution: Secretariat of Climatic Changes and Environmental Quality/ Ministry of the Environment.

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/port/sqa/clima/index.cfm>

2) The Department for Biodiversity Conservation of the Ministry of the Environment supports a study on the effects of the global climatic changes on biodiversity, the 'Mudanças Climáticas Globais e seus Efeitos sobre a Biodiversidade - Caracterization of current climate conditions and the scenario of climate changes on national territory over the 21st century'.

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=14&idConteudo=5445>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.5:** *Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites.*

**Indicator questions:**

1.5.1 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {4.1.2} [If “Yes”, please identify any major programmes or projects in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
1.5.2 Has the Convention’s guidance on wetland restoration (Annex to Resolution VIII.16; Wise Use Handbook 15, 3rd edition) been used/applied in designing and implementing wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects? {4.1.2}	C - Partly

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.5.1 – 1.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.5.2: [.. additional information ...]”

### 1.5.1

The largest wetland complexes in Brazil are, in general, in a good conservation status. Therefore, the country has placed priority on the conservation policies of those natural environments, rather than on recovery ones.

Most of the investment on recovery takes place at the Atlantic Forest where deforestation is stronger due to the historical-economic process. The recovery efforts are concentrated on river springs and at the edges of the riparian forest, aiming at restoring the water and ecological system. The support is translated mainly by financing of projects through funds bound to different ministries. Each fund is briefly described below:

1) National Environment Fund - 28 medium size projects focusing on the recovery of degraded areas complemented with environmental education. The projects are developed by non-governmental organizations, local governments and

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=1&idMenu=3013&idConteudo=5502>

2) Sub-program on pilot projects (PDA) - 55 projects dealing with best agroforestry and permaculture practices with social and environmental focus, aiming at improving the environmental quality and reducing poverty. The projects are exclusively developed by non-governmental institutions.

Source:[http://www.mma.gov.br/estruturas/pda/\\_arquivos/Estrutura%20-%20Institucional%20-%20Tabela%20de%20Projetos%20](http://www.mma.gov.br/estruturas/pda/_arquivos/Estrutura%20-%20Institucional%20-%20Tabela%20de%20Projetos%20)

3) Environmental Petrobras - It committed over R\$ 100 million to small, medium and big sized projects, developed in partnership with the civil society organizations from all over the country. It comprises dozens basins, ecosystems and landscapes in the Amazon, Caatinga, Cerrado, Atlantic Jungle and Pantanal.

Source:<http://www2.petrobras.com.br/portal/frame.asp?pagina=/ResponsabilidadeSocial/portugues/index.asp&lang=pt&area=rsa>

There are some initiatives that are led by state and non-governmental organizations working with their own resources, or financed with international or private resources. Their projects to restore the Atlantic Forest focus on the riparian forest and ecological corridors. It should be highlighted that since the mangroves are considered as an associated ecosystems to the Atlantic Forest, they are part of those programs on environmental recovery. There are countless activities oriented to that ecosystem in Brazil.

4) The local governments of the State of Sao Paulo and the State Research and Education Foundation have held Regional Symposia on Recovery of Degraded Areas at the Coastal Areas, notably the mangrove areas.

2) Among the initiatives on other biomes, the recovery of the rivers in the Upper Paraguay River Basin is worth of notice. That area houses the Pantanal Matogrossense, where the agriculture activities at the Paraguay River headwaters have generated impacts on the Pantanal's plains, mainly due to ensamblement. In 2006, a Decree established the Inter-ministerial WG to define and implement actions to promote the environmental protection and recovery of the Taquari River basin, one of the main tributary rivers to the Paraguay River. The WG prepared a strategic action plan to the Basin, focusing on the soil and water conservation at the Upper Taquari River. Around R\$ 3 million granted through a parliamentarian amendment were committed to develop recovery projects.

2) The Great Rivers Program of the Natures Conservancy is developed at the Paraná and Paraguay Rivers Basins; although restoration efforts are exclusive to the Paraná River basin.

### 1.5.2

Although area recovery efforts meet some principles and guidelines set forth in Ramsar Resolutions, they have not been directly used by environmental managers and other stakeholders, mainly because they are not translated into the country's language.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.5 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.6:** *Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems.*

**Indicator questions:**

1.6.1 Have national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive species, particularly in wetlands, been developed and implemented? {r5.1.ii}	C - Partly
1.6.2 Have such policies, strategies and management responses been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organisations/processes? {r5.1.ii}	C - Partly

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 1.6.1 – 1.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”



#### 1.6.1

1) The Ministry of the Environment - MMA developed a broad and exhaustive work on the invasive exotic species. In 2001, it organized the 1st Work Meeting on Invasive Exotic Species, with the participation of the South American countries. Still in that year, jointly with the National Environment Fund, it launched a call for bid to select projects dealing with the control of exotic species. Nine projects were selected. In 2003, it prepared the National Report on Exotic Species, which is a diagnosis on the distribution of the species and the Brazilian installed capacity to manage the problem. The report was contracted through the PROBIO (National Biodiversity Program) and had 5 sub-projects, among which the Exotic Species that Affect the Continental Aquatic Environments and those affecting the Marine Environments. Each sub-project prepared two diagnostic - Diagnostic on the Current and Potential Invasive Exotic Species and Diagnostic on the Existing Structure to Prevention and Control. The diagnostic studies set for priority actions to be developed and/or supported from 2008 to 2011, with recommendations on the strategies, mechanisms of action to be employed to prevent, eradicate, mitigate and control the invasive exotic species in the affected regions and their impacts.

In 2005 the 1st National Symposium on this topic was held, and was attended by more than 400 experts from different countries of the world. By that time the Minister of the Environment created, within the scope of the National Biodiversity Commission – CONABIO, the Permanent Technical Working Group on Invasive Exotic Species.

In 2006, the MMA launched the publication 'Espécies Exóticas Invasoras: situação brasileira'

Institution: Department for Biodiversity Conservation/Secretariat of Biodiversity and Forests/ MMA

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/invasoras/>

2) Hórus Institute of Environmental Development and Conservation – It develops research and databases on invasive species and have served as a partner to some initiatives coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment.

Source: <http://www.institutohorus.org.br/>

3) In 2007, the TNC-Brazil and the Global Invasive Species Programme launched the document 'Modelo para o Desenvolvimento de uma Estratégia Nacional para Espécies Exóticas Invasoras'.

4) The Ministry of the Environment launched a national campaign to fight the golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) to disseminate information on the problems ensuing from the mollusk invasion and the need for containing its expansion. The campaign will also introduce the Emergency Action Plan, approved by the National Task Force to Control the Mussel (of the MMA), composed of representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Integration, Health, Transportation, Mines and Energy, and of the Navy, additionally to state governments and sanitation and electricity supply companies. As a member of the Task Force, the Embrapa Pantanal (Corumba – state of Mato Grosso do Sul), developed an emergency plan to control the golden mussel in the Upper Paraguay River region. It aims at controlling the dispersion of these exotic species that were introduced in Brazil in the ballast water of vessels. The mussel caused environmental and economic problems. The plan was originally launched to the Paraná River basin, through the Cesp - Companhia Energética de São Paulo (State of São Paulo electricity supply company) , and now reaches the Upper Paraguay River basin.

#### 1.6.2

The governmental efforts toward controlling exotic species are developed by the Department for Biodiversity Conservation – the focal point to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Brazil. The aforementioned initiatives have been supported by partnerships with governments from different countries, such as the United States of America and South Africa, as well as with the Global Invasive Species Programme - GISP.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 national implementation:

## GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

**STRATEGY 2.1** *Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Handbook 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition; Handbook 14, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition).*

### Indicator questions:

2.1.1 Have a strategy and priorities been established for any further designation of Ramsar sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {10.1.1}

[If further Ramsar site designations are planned, please indicate in Additional implementation information, the number of sites and anticipated year of designation]

D - Planned

### Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.1.1

In 2006 the Ministry of the Environment concluded the Updating of Priority Areas for Biodiversity Conservation that established 2683 areas (please refer to answer 1.1.1.) all over the Brazilian territory. Based on those finds, some analysis on the overlapping of those polygons in the wetlands will be carried out, reviewing the suggested actions and priorities, and the compliance to the Ramsar criteria to the designation of Sites. The study should be carried out from 2008 to 2009 and will be submitted to the National Committee on Wetlands.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.2** *Maintain the Ramsar Sites Information Service and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the Ramsar Sites Database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance.*

### Indicator questions:

2.2.1 Have all required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat? {10.2.3}

B - No

2.2.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its database used in national implementation of the Convention concerning Ramsar site issues?

B - No

### Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 2.2.1 – 2.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.2.1: [.. additional information ...]”

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.3** *Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites.*

### Indicator questions:

<p>2.3.1 Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites been defined and applied? {11.1.1}_</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>2.3.2 Have management plans/strategies been developed and implemented at all Ramsar sites? {11.1.2}</p> <p>[ If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate, in Additional implementation information below, for how many sites have plans/strategies been developed but not implemented; for how many are plans/strategies in preparation; and for how many are plans/strategies being reviewed or revised]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p>
<p>2.3.3 Have cross-sectoral site management committees been established at Ramsar sites? {11.1.5}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please name the sites in Additional implementation information]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p>
<p>2.3.4 Has any assessment of Ramsar site management effectiveness been carried out?</p> <p>[if “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the year of assessment and from whom, or from where, the information is available]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 2.3.1 – 2.3.4 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.3.3: [.. additional information ...]”

### 2.3.1

1) All the Brazilian Ramsar sites are coincident with the limits of protected areas nationally recognized. Therefore, they are part of the National System of Protected Area, established through the Federal Law 9985, of 2000. Those sites are then managed by the government environmental authorities (whether at federal, state or municipal level) that are part of the National Environment System and are in charge, among others, of administering the protected areas under their sphere of action.

The eight Brazilian sites are in different stages of implementation, which result from the different operational capacities and budgets of the management authorities in charge of them.

The following actions may stand out, among those that are carried out for the maintenance of Sites' ecological character:

i- Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve

Main actions: organization and mobilization to the management; information, development of natural resources sustainable management programs; promotion of improved life quality to residents and users; research on biodiversity conservation and social development; and biodiversity protection; monitoring and assessment of actions surveying the main conflicts.

ii- Reentrâncias Maranhenses Environmental Protection Area

Main actions: enforcement and mobilization of communities for the site management; development of an awareness-building and environmental education program.

iii- Baixada Maranhense Environmental Protection Area

Main actions: enforcement; community mobilization for the site management; development of an awareness-building and environmental education program.

iv- Parcel Manoel Luis State Marine Park

Main actions: enforcement.

v- Pantanal Matogrossense National Park

Main actions: environmental education program; inter-institutional coordination to the protected area site management, interacting with the private sector around the protected area site; capacity building to the residents of the transition zone, to make up teams to prevent and combat forest fires; fire fight program; inspection; research and monitoring.

vi- SESC Pantanal Natural Heritage Particular Reserve

Main actions: Environmental education; sustainable social development; fire combat program; ecotourism; fauna and flora research; and, conservation.

vii- Araguaia National Park

Main actions: negotiation of conflicts of interest on the use of the area's resources, notably the fishery ones. Elaboration of Fishery Agreements with the indigenous communities, enforcement

viii- Lagoa do Peixe National Park

Main actions: research and monitoring of birds; enforcement; environmental education, fishery agreements.

2) The Convention's Administrative Authority in the country has been investing on the support to the Ramsar Sites planning, through the Project 'Strengthening institutional capacity of Brazilian Ramsar sites' financed by the Small Grants Fund - Ramsar (SGF\_05\_BRA\_01).

### 2.3.2

The Law 9985/00 established the National System of Protected Area and foresees the mandatory elaboration of a management plan comprising not only the protected area limits, but also its buffer zone. The plans should comply with the Guidelines to prepare Management Plans officially approved by the protected area sites' managers, whether federal, state or municipal ones.

Due to the huge number of protected areas in Brazil – over 1200 – additionally to the budgetary limitations, among other difficulties, some areas have not yet prepared their plans. Nevertheless, the administrative authority, through the project cited on the previous item is developing conservation plans at all Ramsar sites, using a TNC methodology, the Conservation Action Planning - CAP. This instrument, although not an official management plan, is understood as such, in terms of a Ramsar Site (refer to the notes below)

The Sites and their situation in what regards the planning are disclosed below:

i- Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve

Current situation: Management plan published in 1996 and under implementation.

ii- Reentrâncias Maranhense Environmental Protection Area

- Current situation: does not have a management plan. CAP has been developed in 2007
- iii- Baixada Maranhense Environmental Protection Area
  - Current situation: does not have a management plan. CAP has been developed in 2007
- iv- Parcel Manoel Luis Marine State Park
  - Current situation: does not have a management plan. CAP has been developed in 2008
- v- Pantanal Matogrossense National Park
  - Current situation: Management plan published in 2004 and under implementation. CAP has also been developed in 2008
- vi- SESC Pantanal Natural Heritage Particular Reserve
  - Current situation: management plan developed, reviewed in 2007 and under implementation.
- vii- Araguaia National Park
  - Current situation: management plan prepared. CAP to be developed in 2008
- viii- Lagoa do Peixe National Park
  - Current situation: Management plan published in 2004 and partially under implementation. CAP developed in 2007.

In face of the urgent need for the Sites to have their planning documents, or that such documents are simple and objective, the Ministry of the Environment has supported the management authorities through workshops on the Conservation Action Planning development. The use of this tool has an advantage over those used to outline the official management plans because they use the available data, and do not demand specific studies (that are usually expensive) to reach the expected results. Another advantage is that the results are achieved in a participatory way, and the priority actions are promptly defined. The plans ensue from the Conservation Action Planning - CAP Tool that was developed by The Nature Conservancy. The tool defines the priority actions and strategies in a participatory way, jointly with the group of actors interested in the area. During the application of the CAP tool, the conservation targets are defined (species, ecosystems and their processes), the target stresses are identified and their sources and, based on them, the priority actions are set out to refrain the critical threats to the conservation targets. This activity is sponsored by the Small Grants Fund - SGF, with counterpart contribution by the MMA and the technical-financial partnership of the NGOs TNC-Brazil and Mater Natura.

### 2.3.3

The Law 9985/00 (aforementioned) sets out that each protected area should have a management council, whether consultative or deliberative, depending on the its management category. The council should deal with issues related to the management plan, shared management of the unit, integration with the population living on the PA limits or buffer zone, impacting activities over the PA etc. The Management Council of a Protected Area is a political forum which exercise the social-political participation through dialogue. It is then a privileged forums which deals with potential impacts over the area and try to guarantee the public nature of environmental management. Whenever applicable, the Councils should be composed of representatives from public authorities, civil society, land owners, local community members and of the scientific community, private sector, etc.

Three Brazilian Ramsar Sites have already established their management councils: the Lagoa do Peixe National Park, the Pantanal Matogrossense National Park and the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve.

### 2.3.4

1) The Chico Mendes Institution for Biodiversity Conservation, the authority in charge of managing the federal protected areas, in partnership with WWF-Brasil, made use of the RAPPAM (Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management) methodology to assess 246 federal protected area sites. Between October 2005 and December 2006, 93 units were assessed in the Amazon biome, 61 in the Atlantic Forest, 40 in the Coastal Marine Zone, 27 in the Cerrado, 17 in the Caatinga, two in the Pantanal and one in the Pampa. Among these protected area the following Ramsar Sites: Lagoa do Peixe National Park, Pantanal Matogrossense National Park and Araguaia National Park.

The finds and recommendations resulting from the assessment were edited and published under the following title 'Efetividade de gestão das unidades de conservação federais do Brasil – Implementação do método RAPPAM'. To launch the study, the WWF-Brasil and the Ibama gathered a group of experts from different organizations to discuss assessment tools and the protected area sites management monitoring during the seminar 'Experiências com ferramentas de avaliação de efetividade de gestão das unidades de conservação', held in June 2007, during the V Brazilian Congress on Protected Area, in Foz do Iguaçu (state of Paraná). The event was attended by about 300 individuals, among protected area sites managers, public authorities, non-governmental organizations and students.

Source: <http://www.wwf.org.br/informacoes/biblioteca/index.cfm?uNewsID=8080>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.4** Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Secretariat without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.

**Indicator questions:**

<p>2.4.1 Are arrangements in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {r11.2.iv}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please summarise the mechanism(s) established in Additional implementation information]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>B - No</p>
<p>2.4.2 Have all cases of change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2,? {11.2.4}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which Ramsar sites Article 3.2 reports have been made by the Administrative Authority to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made]</p>	
<p>2.4.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites have been listed on the Montreux Record? {r11.2.viii}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please provide in Additional implementation information information about the actions taken]</p>	

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 2.4.1 – 2.4.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

please refer to item 2.3.4 above

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.4 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.5** Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.

**Indicator questions:**

<p>2.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {12.1.1}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>2.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (including regional site and waterbird flyway networks)? {12.1.2; 12.2.2}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which wetland systems such management is in place]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 2.5.1 – 2.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “2.5.1: [.. additional information ...]”

### 2.5.1

The inventory by Diegues (2002) (see item 1.1.1) makes reference to transboundary wetlands, as follows:

The following are complementary to 1.1.1:

- Banhados of Guapore River (RO, frontier with Bolivia)
- Javari River (AM, frontier with Peru)
- Baixo Ibicuí River and Banhados of Uruguay River (RS, frontier with Argentina)
- Pantanal (MS and MT, includes Alto Paraguay River, frontier with Bolivia and Paraguay)
- Coastal Plains of Rio Grande do Sul (RS, Including Lagoa dos Patos and Lagoa Mirim, frontier with Uruguay)

However, as mentioned in item 1.1.1, some of these inventories do not have detailed maps of such areas. Refining these studies is necessary and would indicate areas of flooded ecosystems that are located in the frontier region, and would facilitate future bilateral or multilateral cooperation investments. It is important to mention that Brazil has frontiers with 10 countries in the region. Brazil's 17 thousand kilometers of frontiers call for the necessary investments so these actions can be completed.

### 2.5.2

Two large river basins of Brazil are shared with neighboring countries: the Prata and Amazon basins.

The legal framework negotiated by Brazilian diplomacy with neighbour countries, which is also grounded in the Prata Basin Treaty and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty contributes to the continuous cooperation and absence of conflicts with such countries. The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA) has its headquarters in Brasília, Brazil, since 2002 and was instituted for the purpose of observing and implementing international stipulations agreed upon.

In 2005, the Global Environment Fund (GEF) approved a donation of US\$700 million (PDF-B) for the preparation of the Project on Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin - GEF/ Pnuma/ OAS / OTCA, in the scope of the OTCA. The project aims to implement and strengthen a shared outlook for the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of the basin and thus allow for Treaty objectives to be attained and for the OTCA to be consolidated as an organism for joint multilateral action on behalf of its participants.

Among the developed studies, the establishment of an information system stands out. The geographic information system of the basin was built on a 1:5,000,000 scale. Maps of the hydrographic network in each country encompassed by the Basin were prepared, in addition to information on the Amazon Basin Drainage Networks corresponding to each of them. More specifically, a selection of 86 maps and LandSat satellite image mosaics was presented (mostly 7) for the visible sensors, false color and images treated by the GeoCover 2000 Survey, with further details on some areas of greater importance in the Amazon Basin: major urban hubs, land use alterations, meeting of the main rivers in Amazônia, meanders, islands, etc. The outcome of this survey will be vital for ensuring better identification and understanding of regional phenomena related to water management and their relationships to the infrastructures and various types of ecosystems, protection areas and land uses in the Amazon region which would otherwise be extremely expensive and hard to access through location-specific surveys, due to the vast area covered by this Basin.

In the case of the Prata Basin, the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee of Prata Basin Countries (CIC), approved, in 2005, the Framework Program for the Sustainable Management of Prata Basin Resources. This program refers, among other issues, to the hydrologic effects resulting for vulnerability and climate change. The project was jointly elaborated by the five countries that encompass the Basin and received preparatory assistance from the GEF for its elaboration. The full-sized document was submitted to the Fund in order to receive a donation of approximately 15 million dollars.

Ramsar's national administrative authority participated in the consultation process for the elaboration of the above-mentioned project, during the PDF-B, and has been coordinating with the Framework Program administrators so that synergy is established with the Program for the Sustainability of the Wetlands System of the Plata River Basin, to be developed as a regional initiative under the Ramsar Convention.

2) Brazil and Uruguay have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) pertaining to the Cooperation Treaty for the use of natural resources and development of the Lagoa Mirim Basin (Lagoa Mirim Treaty – 1977) and the Protocol for the use of water resources in the limits of the Jaguarão River (Jaguarão Protocol – 1977). An activity to be highlighted in the scope of cooperation among the two countries is the Field Study on Lagoa Mirim – a component of the project on remote sensing for treaties on the management of ecosystems and transboundary conservation, which was concluded in 2006. The initiative counted on the following participants:



i) United States State Department; ii) Center for Remote Sensing Project (CSR) of the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama); iii) Program for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development of Eastern States, Uruguay and; iv) Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) of the Columbia University's Earth Institute.

4) Through the National Water Resources Council, the MMA created the Technical WG for the Management of Transboundary Water Resources, where there are currently two working groups in action: the APA River working group (Brazil and Paraguay) and the Acre River working group (Brazil, Bolivia and Peru). One of this technical WG's attributions is to propose mechanism for the technical, legal and institutional exchanges between neighboring countries in matters pertaining to the management of water resources.

3) There is also a program of strategic actions for the integrated management of the Pantanal and the Alto Paraguay basin, which is called the GEF Pantanal-Paraguay, and counts on the participation of Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay. It is financed by the Global Environment Fund and its first phase was concluded only here in Brazil. The objective is to promote sustainable development of the Alto Paraguay River Basin, which includes the entire Pantanal region of Mato Grosso and supports the priorities identified in the conservation plan for the Alto Paraguay basin.

Institution: National Waters Agency and partners

Source: <http://www.ana.gov.br/gefap/conteudo.asp?ecod=7&idmcod=1>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.6** *Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.*

**Indicator questions:**

2.6.1 Has the Contracting Party been involved in the development of a regional initiative under the framework of the Convention? {12.3.2}

[If "Yes" or "Planned", please indicate in Additional implementation information below the name(s) and collaborating countries of each regional initiative]

A - Yes

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicator 2.6.1

Jointly with Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay, Brazil has been building the Program for the Sustainability of Wetland Systems of the Prata/Paraguay/Paraná Basin, acknowledged by COP 9 (Resolution IX.7) as a Regional Initiative Under Development. The Program has already defined its guidelines and baselines of action, which were agreed upon during a meeting held in Pocone, Brazil, in 2005. This meeting resulted in the Ata de Pocone, which was approved and has, since then, been used as grounds for negotiations. This same Ata approved the creation of a working group for the development of the program's strategy. The working group was finally created and acknowledged by a Declaration during the IV Pan-American Meeting on the Ramsar Convention, in Venezuela in September 2007.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 national implementation:

### GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

**STRATEGY 3.1** *Collaboration with other institutions: Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies.*

**Indicator questions:**

3.1.1 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)? {13.1.1}	B - No
3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {r13.1.iii}	A - Yes
3.1.3 [For African Contracting Parties only] Has the Contracting Party participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD? {13.1.6}	---

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 3.1.1 – 3.1.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “3.1.3: [.. additional information ...]”

3.1.2

The National Committee on Wetlands was created by a Presidential Decree in 2003 and counts on the participation of focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, so as to facilitate the dialog for the implementation of these treaties in the country and thus avoid overlapping of initiatives and optimize efforts made by administrative authorities.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 3.2** *Sharing of expertise and information: Promote the sharing of expertise and information.*

**Indicator questions:**

3.2.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {14.1.3} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the networks and wetlands involved]	A - Yes
3.2.2 Has information about the country’s wetlands and/or Ramsar sites and their status been made publicly available (e.g., through publications or a Web site)? {14.1.1}	A - Yes

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 3.2.1-3.2.2

### 3.2.1

Environmental networks addressing several themes currently work in the country. Some of these are coordinated by public organizations and others by the private sector or non-governmental organizations. Some of these networks that address flooded ecosystems are mentioned below:

1) Rema Atlântico – This is a virtual network associated with the AVINA Foundation. Its objective is to create a marine-coastal-hydric communication network in the South Atlantic by using the portal as a marketing instrument through which to capture resources and disseminate information.

Source: <http://www.remaatlantico.org/sul>

2) Pantanal Network – comprised by non-governmental organizations, social movements, tradition communities and indigenous populations. It is coordinated by a set of Brazilian and Paraguayan NGOs and its mission is to promote the life and culture of Pantanal. Among the network's objectives are discussing and encourage viable social-environmental alternatives, present proposals for Pantanal conservation projects and influence current regional policies.

Source :<http://www.redepantanal.org/redepantanal.php>

3) Brazil is part of the Inter-American Water Resources Network and coordinates the Regional Hub - Brasil, which is responsible not only for water resource information in the country, but also for translating the main articles from other Regional hubs. The network is comprised by non-governmental associative entities, the private sector and governmental organizations.

4) The Coastal and Marine Environmental Education Network (REACoMar) has just been created in Brazil. It is a virtual network for discussions on environmental education currently practiced along the Brazilian coast. This network's objective is the exchange of experiences and lessons learned and to define the basis of environmental education practices, the dissemination of technical-scientific events, discovering and re-discovering paths that contribute to the construction of sustainable societies.

### 3.2.2

Brazil's Ministry of the Environment counts on quite a complex site that allows access to information on the Ramsar Convention both through a link to 'international acts' in which legal and judicial information on the treaty is provided, as well as through the 'protected areas portal' or that of the Convention's administrative authority in Brazil – the 'Coastal and Marine Zone Division', which provides technical information as well as information that can be understood by the general public.

The MMA's website also offers all publications produced or supported by the institution, which includes:

i- Information on the Ramsar Convention, Ramsar sites and its role in the conservation of fishery resources that were made available in laymen's terms through a publication entitled 'Wetlands – Fish for Tomorrow', which was published in 2007. Two thousand copies were printed in its first edition and 2 thousand in its second one. The leaflets were broadly distributed throughout the country to over 200 governmental and non-governmental entities, protected area visitors centers, etc. It is important to mention that all publications produced by the administrative authority are available on the MMA's webpage.

ii- Another important publication edited by the Administrative Authority is entitled 'Protected Aquatic Areas as Instruments for Fishery Management' and includes a compilation of national studies both in marine areas as well as continental areas. This publication is available in Portuguese and English on MMA's webpage.

iii- Results of five years of monitoring Brazilian coral reefs are published in a book on the theme, both in Portuguese and English. The publication is also available on CD-Rom and can be found in the MMA's webpage. Monitoring coral reefs is part of an wide national project whose objective is to assess the health of coral and to relate results with global events such as climate changes. The studies employed the international methodology known as Reef Check. The initiative counted on financial support from the Ramsar Administrative Authority in Brazil and is developed by the Coastal Reefs Institute, a non-governmental entity, and by the Federal University of Pernambuco.

iv- Atlas of Brazilian Coral Reefs Protected Areas (information on the publication can be seen in item 1.1.1 of this report).

Source: <http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=54&idConteudo=5691m>

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 national implementation:



## GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

**STRATEGY 4.1** *Local communities, indigenous people, and cultural values: Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, including women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, including in relation to understanding the dynamics of cultural values.*

### Indicator questions:

4.1.1 Has resource information been compiled on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management? {6.1.5}	C - Partly
4.1.2 Have traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands been documented and their application encouraged? {6.1.2}	C - Partly
4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party promote public participation in decision-making (with respect to wetlands), especially with local stakeholder involvement in the selection of new Ramsar sites and in Ramsar site management? {6.1.4}	A - Yes
4.1.4 Have educational and training activities been developed concerning cultural aspects of wetlands? {r6.1.vii}	C - Partly
4.1.5 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r.6.1.vi} [if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar sites and their names in Additional implementation information below]	C - Partly

### Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.1.1 – 4.1.5 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.1.3: [.. additional information ...]"

#### 4.1.1 and 4.1.2

The country counts on some publications on the theme, including:

1) Project on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Brazilian Biological Diversity (Probio) – The Probio is a mechanism for technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the National Program on Biological Diversity. Its objective is to identify priority actions by stimulating sub-projects that foster partnerships among the public and private sectors and by generating and disseminating information and knowledge on the theme. This project supported the elaboration of a book entitled 'Biodiversity and Traditional Communities in Brazil, Biodiversity Series, Volume 4', which was published by the Research on Human Populations and Brazilian Wetlands Center/ University of Sao Paulo. The book includes a compilation of other books, thesis, reports, etc that address knowledge and use of biodiversity (continental and marine) by traditional indigenous and non-indigenous populations.

Institution: Directory for Biodiversity Conservation/Ministry of the Environment

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=14&idConteudo=818>

2) The Mamiraua Institute for Sustainable Development (IDSM) is a non-governmental entity created to give continuity to the Mamiraua Project, which was developed in the Mamiraua region. In conjunction with the State Government of Amazonas, the institute is responsible for managing the Mamiraua Sustainable Development Reserve Ramsar site. The IDSM's mission is the development of a protected area model for large areas of tropical forests where biodiversity and ecological and evolutionary processes can be maintained through participatory management. It values the respect to and participation of the Reserve's traditional inhabitants. Over more than 10 years, it has been producing and disseminating knowledge on ecosystems and human settlements of the Mamiraya and Amana reserves, and already holds a considerable group of scientific publications and other means for disseminating information in the national and international media. It has already produced several doctorate thesis, masters' thesis, books, magazine articles, newspaper articles and bulletins, some of which in international media and others in national media. Furthermore, they have made films for TVG, foreign television networks (BBC0, Antenne 2, Cinema 7-Paris, CNN, NHK, Expedition, Discovery) and national networks (Educativa, Cultura, Globo).

Source: [www.mamiraua.org.br](http://www.mamiraua.org.br)

3) Pro Varzea (described in item 1.1.1 of this report) has several publications that result from its work in the region. Some are booklets on traditional management practices of local resources which are published to incentivize the use of such practices.

Source: [www.ibama.gov.br/provarzea](http://www.ibama.gov.br/provarzea)

4) The Ministry of the Environment translated a publication entitled Fish for Tomorrow, which was edited by the Ramsar Convention in 2007 on the occasion of celebrations of the World Wetlands Day. Some of the publication's texts were adapted and others on national initiatives of community participation in fishery management and traditional management practices were added. Two thousand copies of this publication were printed and it is available on the MMA's webpage.

#### 4.1.3

1) The Brazilian Government advocates for the wide participation of society in the decision making of national policies and their implementation. For this, several mechanisms are adopted, as for example the management councils for protected areas and the biosphere reserve committees (there is one reserve for each Brazilian biome, including the Pantanal reserve – the greatest national wetland); the committees for monitoring the MEAs in the national level, as the National Committee on Wetlands; committees for water resource basins or the national and state water resources committees. Citizen participation occurs by means of their representation in community associations or social movements.

In regard to the management of Sites, participation occurs through management councils of protected area, whether they are consultive or deliberative, according to the area's management category.

For new sites to be designated there is not a mechanism for local hearings, although the administrative authority presents the proposal to the local communities and local authorities. At that same time, the Ramsar Convention as well as its mission, the parties' obligations, advantages of being a signatory, advantages resulting from the area's inclusion in the Ramsar list and obligations are presented.

The proposal for a new site is presented and analyzed by the National Committee on Wetlands, according to what is ruled in its bylaws.

#### 4.1.4

1) One of the outstanding activities in the national context is the South American Festival, held every year at the Brazilian Pantanal, aimed at promoting the integration among the region peoples and discusses relevant topics to

the society, such as water and the Pantanal. Another event held in the city of Corumba is the ‘Pantanal Waters Festival’, promoted by the local government and supported by several national and international non-governmental organizations. In 2006, the event's motto was ‘These waters inspire many legends’.

2) In the coastal zone the activities performed by the Terramar Institute are noteworthy. The Program on Education, Culture and Citizenship develops actions oriented to improve education in the coastal public schools, and to appraise the popular knowledge and culture of the seashore peoples.

3) WWF- Brasil – The Environmental Education Program develops several activities on education and mobilization aimed at promoting the civil society engagement with the environmental issues. Based on the construction and dissemination of values, knowledge and practices focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, the program works in partnership with local organizations developing different projects and actions all over Brazil. The water is the main focus of all the projects developed. The Program develops important works in the Pantanal and in the Amazonian low areas.

Source: [http://www.wwf.org.br/natureza\\_brasileira/meio\\_ambiente\\_brasil/educacao/index.cfm](http://www.wwf.org.br/natureza_brasileira/meio_ambiente_brasil/educacao/index.cfm)

#### 4.1.5

The valoration of cultural aspects, in association with practices of natural resources use, have been encouraged by different initiatives of the federal government. The enactment of the Decree 6.040 (described in item 1.3.4) is just one among the many evidences about the government’s concern on the topic. In what regards the Ramsar Sites, those that are nationally recognized as a sustainable use protected area, such as the APAS in the Reentrâncias Maranhenses and the Baixada Maranhense, and the Mamirauá RDS, have more direct investments on the cultural aggregation to manage the units, since the management plans are built upon the participation of the local communities.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.2** *Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

#### Indicator questions:

4.2.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands? {7.1.1}	C - Partly
4.2.2 Have private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” fora or similar mechanisms been established? {7.1.4} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the private sector companies involved]	B - No

#### Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.2.1 – 4.2.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.2.2: [.. additional information ...]”

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.3** *Promote measures which encourage the application of the wise use principle.*

#### Indicator questions:

4.3.1 Have actions been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	A - Yes
4.3.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {8.1.1}	C - Partly

#### Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 4.3.1 – 4.3.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.3.2: [.. additional information ...]”

4.3.1

1) Law 9985, which established the National Protected Areas System, brought the innovative public-private partnership in the conservation and sustainable use of the nature, recognizing the Natural Heritage Private Reserves as protected areas. The Private Natural Heritage Reserves (RPPN) are PAs established in private areas, listed as heritage in order to conserve the biological diversity. To foster the establishment of those areas, the government grants a fiscal incentive to the land owners, exempting them from paying the rural land tax. Currently, the country has 694 RPPNs occupying about 551 thousand ha. The SESC Pantanal RPPN, recognized as Ramsar site in 2003, stands out.

2) Petrobrás – a state-owned petrol corporation – is committed to its environmental program and has launched two calls for bids to support large projects on the issue of ‘Water: Freshwater Bodies and Sea’. The 2nd call for bid, launched in 2006, committed R\$ 48 million to actions to be developed in up to two years, comprising: i- the promotion and awareness-building on the rational use of water resources; ii- the maintenance and recovery of landscapes, pursuing the hydrological cycle balance; and, iii – the promotion of environmental management oriented to the preservation of endangered species and conservation of endangered marine environments.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.4** Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, the Convention’s Communication, Education, and Public Awareness Programme (Resolution VIII.31) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through public participation and communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA).

#### Indicator questions:

4.4.1 Has a mechanism for planning and implementing wetland CEPA (National Ramsar/Wetland Committee or other mechanism) been established with both CEPA Government and NGO National Focal Point (NFP) involvement? {r9.iii.ii} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe in Additional implementation information below the mechanism]	B - No
4.4.2 Has a National Action Plan (or plans at the subnational, catchment or local level) for wetland CEPA been developed? {r.9.iii.iii} [Even if a National Action Plan has not yet been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for national CEPA actions have been established please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4]	B - No
4.4.3 Have actions been taken to communicate and share information cross-sectorally on wetland issues amongst relevant ministries, departments and agencies? {r9.iii.v}	C - Partly



<p>4.4.4 Have national campaigns, programmes, and projects been carried out to raise community awareness of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {r9.vi.i}</p> <p>[If:  a) support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations; and/or  b) these have included awareness-raising for social, economic and/or cultural values,  please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>4.4.5 Have World Wetlands Day activities in the country, either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out? {r9.vi.ii}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.4.6 Have education centres been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r9.viii.i}</p> <p>[If any such centres are part of the Wetland Link International (WLI) Programme of the Wildfowl &amp; Wetland Trust, UK, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>C - Some sites</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.4.1 – 4.4.6 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.4.3: [.. additional information ...]”

#### 4.4.4

1) The Ministry of the Environment formulated and implements the Coletivos Educadores 'education professional working groups' strategy. Those are sets of institutions working on permanent education processes that are participatory, continuous and oriented to the totality and diversity of the inhabitants in a given territory. A Coletivo Educador should promote the institutional coordination and public policies, the critical thinking on the social and environmental issue, and create the required conditions to the continuous development of actions and processes aimed at the capacity-building in Environmental Education. Among others, the Coletivos Educadores facilitate the coordination of programs and projects on sustainable territorial development. The Coletivo can be composed of educators and social/environmental agents from different institutions who, coordinated with the Municipal Public Powers and other institutions (corporations, non-governmental organizations, social movements, trade union movements, pastoral movements, etc.) should assess, plan and develop projects and practices oriented to converting each municipality in the territory into a Sustainable Educator Municipality (MES), and the territory, as a whole, into a Sustainable Educator Territory.

Some projects technically and financially supported by the MMA deal with wetlands, such as the 'Riparian Families in the Upper Parnaíba River', 'Water and Life Project', 'Awareness-building Program among Residences in Mangrove Areas', among others.

2) All the projects below have components in environmental education. They stand out among different initiatives because they are large projects that almost always comprise all the ecosystems or wetland ecosystems where applicable.

i- Pró-várzea Project - Amazon

ii- Arpa Project - Amazon

iii- Ecological Corridors Project – Atlantic Forest and Araucária Forest

iv- Pantanal/Upper Paraguay River Program - Pantanal Biome

v- GEF-Mangrove Project

vi- Aquabio Project

3) In 2001, the Ministry of the Environment started implementing the Campaign on Responsible Conduct in Reef Environments, supported by the Ibama and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/USA. The campaign informs on responsible conduct to be adopted in the different modalities of tourism and leisure, both coastal and marine, calling the attention to one of the weakest and most endangered ecosystems in the world: the coral reefs. The Campaign includes the distribution of awareness materials such as posters, folders, stickers for boats, a CD with a film showing the campaign principles. Moreover, it develops capacity-building courses to local agents. Up to now, it held four courses, attended by more than 140 individuals, including tourism agents, municipal environment managers, local school teachers, and boatmen.

Institution: Coastal and Marine Zone Division (national Ramsar administrative authority)/Ministry of the Environment

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=11&idMenu=5444>

#### 4.4.5

1) The Ministry of the Environment reproduced the material prepared by the Ramsar Secretariat to celebrate the 2007 World Wetlands Day – Fish for Tomorrow (stickers, posters, video and an adapted booklet) that was widely distributed in the country. Moreover, every year it prepares a text on the selected topic and makes it available at the MMA site and in the media.

Institution: Coastal and Marine Zone Division/ Ministry of the Environment

Source:<http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php?ido=conteudo.monta&idEstrutura=54&idMenu=4748&idConteudo=5349>

#### 4.4.6

1) The Ramsar Site SESC Pantanal RPPN established an Environmental Interpretation Center (CIA) – a multimedia room with information on the Pantanal and mainly on the SESC Pantanal RPPN. The purpose is to build awareness among visitors towards the Pantanal protection, in a pleasant way.

The exhibition discloses information on the importance of the annual cycle of rains, floods, low tide and drought and on how the waters move on the floodplain, creating the living conditions to the exuberant fauna and flora in the region. It shows panels with pictures of the fauna, reproducing their vocalizations. A model simulates the Pantanal's flood and drought phenomena.

2) In the Mamirauá RDS Ramsar Site there is a 'floating school' - an itinerant center of environmental and scientific education that promotes courses on management and capacity-building to managers.

3) The O Boticário Foundation of Protection to Nature is a non-profitable organization that aims at promoting and carrying out nature conservation efforts. The actions draw on the knowledge and awareness that this is the right way to maintain life on Earth. The Pantanal Nature Station is an interactive exhibition unit in the Pantanal region. It is part of the O Boticário Foundation's strategy to develop initiatives in all the Brazilian regions. It is located on the edge of the Paraguay River, in a historical building of Corumbá, in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul.

The exhibition was launched in 2006 and is oriented to people of all ages, focusing on tourists, students in the region and Bolivians from boundary cities. The Pantanal Nature Station employs interactive elements, images and sounds to depict details of the Pantanal's plains, its formation, physical aspects, the local biodiversity and the impacts of the human occupation, trying to

enchant and build awareness about the importance of conserving nature.

4) The Green Room Project, coordinated by the Environmental Education Department of the Ministry of the Environment (DEA/MMA) is an incentive to the implementation of socio-environmental rooms to work with potential environmental information and qualification centers. The Green Room is understood as a space within an institution that will be devoted to outlining and developing educational activities approaching the environmental issue. One of the major tools employed is the publicizing and dissemination of the publication on environment produced and/or provided by the Ministry of the Environment. There are 390 rooms spread all over Brazil. Almost 30% of them can be found in wetland areas.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.5** *Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>4.5.1 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only] Has funding support been provided from the development assistance agency for wetland conservation and management in other countries? {15.1.1} [If "Yes" or "Some countries", please indicate in Additional implementation the countries supported since COP9]</p>	D - Not applicable
<p>4.5.2 [For Contracting Parties in receipt of development assistance only] Has funding support been mobilized from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {15.1.8} [If "Yes" or "Some countries", please indicate in Additional implementation the agencies from which support has been received since COP9]</p>	

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.5.1 – 4.5.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.5.2: [.. additional information ...]"

#### 4.5.2

The Brazilian Government has worked with many multilateral cooperation organizations (listed below), receiving technical-financial support to implement the environmental policies.

1) The projects of the United Nations Development Programme - UNDP in the field of Environment aim at integrating population to nature, ensuring the sustainable development and improving the populations' living conditions. For that, the UNDP has supported projects to strengthen the Ministry of the Environment and the IBAMA – the bodies in charge of outlining and implementing the environmental public policies. The UNDP also gives support to the government toward fulfilling the commitments made through the Environment-related international conventions, thus expanding the visibility of and international respect to the Brazilian positions. The set of projects in the environmental area comprises almost all the issues relate to environmental policies and management, additionally to the incentive to sustainable development.

2) JICA - Japan International Cooperation Agency. In Brazil, upon the request of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the JICA adopts different approaches (cooperation tools) to support programs and projects in the country. Aiming at promoting the development, the JICA sets out how those cooperation tools should be combined, for how long they should be implemented and how they will be placed in time to reach more effective and efficient results. Among the projects supported to wetlands, it is worth mentioning: The Sustainable Use of Forestry Resources in Low Areas in the state of Amapá.

3) The KfW, in coordination with the German technical cooperation agency (GTZ) has financed and provided technical support to different projects in the Brazilian territory, notably in the Brazilian Amazon, including the low lands, igapós and mangrove ecosystems. The initiatives approach different topics, including the management and consolidation of protected areas, and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Other agencies include:

DFID – Department For International Development - British Government

IADB – Inter-American Development Bank

The World Bank

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.5 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.6** *Provide the financial resources required for the Convention's governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.*

#### Indicator questions:

4.6.1 {16.1.1}

a) For the last triennium have Ramsar contributions been paid in full and in a timely manner (by 31 March of calendar year)?

A - Yes

b) If "No" in 4.6.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:

<p>4.6.2 {16.1.2}</p> <p>a) Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund or other non-core funded Convention activity?</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>b) If yes, please state the amounts:</p>	

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.6.1 – 4.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “4.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.6 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.7** *Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Framework.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>4.7.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention?</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information how the Reports have been used for monitoring]</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicator 4.7.1

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.7 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.8** *Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>4.8.1 Has a review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands been completed? {18.1.1}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information if this has led to proposals for, or implementation of, any changes in institutional responsibilities]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
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4.8.2 Is a National Ramsar/Wetlands cross-sectoral Committee (or equivalent body) in place and operational? {18.1.2}

[If "Yes", please summarise in Additional implementation information its membership and frequency of meetings]

A - Yes

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.8.1 – 4.8.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.8.2: [.. additional information ...]"

4.8.1  
 In 2006, the Ministry of the Environment, in partnership with the WWF-Brasil, hired a study to identify the initiatives on conservation and the sustainable use of wetlands in Brazil. The diagnostic study identified various entities developing projects all over the country and related them to specific operational objectives of the Ramsar Strategic Plan.

4.8.2.  
 The National Commission on Wetlands –CNZU was created in 2003, through a Presidential Decree. The CNZU is mainly aimed at providing support to the administrative authority in the implementation of the Ramsar Convention. Therefore, the discussions under the committee includes the designation of new Sites, the analysis of technical documents and the Convention Resolutions, the review of projects proposals to be submitted to financiers, etc. Since its establishment, three meetings were held. The next meeting is scheduled to July 2008, and it will be held as a preparatory meeting to the Ramsar COP10. The Committee is composed by representatives of different sectors of the Ministry of the Environment (water resources, sustainable development, CBD representative), Ramsar sites managers, foreigner affairs representatives, private sector, NGOs and the academic sector. For the last two representatives, there is a recommendation that at least one is involved in work/research of coastal wetlands and the other with freshwater continental wetlands.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.8 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.9 Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs\*) and others.**

**Indicator question:**

<p>4.9.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs* in its implementation of the Convention?          [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.9.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs*?          [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	<p>B - No</p>

\* The IOPs are: BirdLife International, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Wetlands International, The World Conservation Union (IUCN), and WWF International.

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.9.1-4.9.2

4.9.1  
 1 The Ministry of the Environment, in partnership with the WWF-Brasil, which had technical and financial participation in the initiative, hired the first diagnostic of wetlands activities and projects developed in the country. This diagnostic identifies initiatives in each of the groups of wetlands in each basin described on Inventory of Brazilian Wetlands (referred to in item 1.1.1 of this report). In addition to the initiatives developed in the area, a preliminary classification was carried out of the types of existing wetlands, according to the classification described in Resolution VIII.13. This document is not available on the internet, but will be part of a database that shall be concluded by the end of 2008.

2) The IUCN Holland's National Committee has supported various projects in Brazil, many of which in the Pantanal Region of Mato Grosso. One of the committee's initiative – the Ecosystems Grant Program, has adopted the so-called Focal Region Approach, which is based to create synergies between organizations and projects and to create local ownership of the grants has elected Ecologia e Ação (Ecoa, Brasil, a local NGO) as the Focal Point for the Paraná-Paraguay Basin region. These qualities and capacities are crucial in the performance of the role of focal point, which consists of assisting the Amsterdam- based EGP team, particularly with respect to: 1) Programme management; 2) Improved co-ordination among green; 3) Improved performance of grantees and 4) Enhanced sustainability of the work of grantees. This Program funds projects of local organizations in the south that link ecosystem conservation and poverty issues. Other projects financed by the IUCN Holland include environmental education activities, ecotourism, territorial development, participation in and organization of seminars, and others, all of which are related to wetlands.

B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.9 national implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.10** *Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses.*

**Indicator questions:**

<p>4.10.1 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? [If "Yes", please indicate in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the centre(s)]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.10.2 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention, including in the use of the Wise Use Handbooks, been made? {20.1.2}</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

**Additional implementation information:**

A): on Indicators 4.10.1 – 4.10.3 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. "4.10.3: [.. additional information ...]"

#### 4.10.1.

The Pantanal Research Center – CPP – is an independent, non-profit organization with a humanitarian focus. Its main objective is to promote a 21st century vision of citizenship where the environment plays a major role. Using a network structure, the CPP is firmly supported by means of partnerships with governments and NGOs from the Brazilian states of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul as well as several departments of the Brazilian Federal government.

Within this scenario, the CPP seeks to contribute to the well-being of the people that live in the Pantanal by fostering sustainable development in the region. The CPP recognizes the importance of Pantanal eco-system as a water resource regulator of the whole of the Paraguay-Paraná river system. The CPP, therefore, operates at an international level with the countries that form the Prata River Basin by means of the Pantanal Regional Environment Program (PREP) which is a partnership with the United Nations University (UNU).

Source: [www.cppantanal.org.br](http://www.cppantanal.org.br)

#### 4.10.3

In 2006, the Actions for the Conservation of the Atlantic Forest components of the Atlantic Forest Demonstrative Projects launched a call for proposals of national scope through which to support the elaboration and implementation of capacitation strategies for the participatory management of protected area sites. Three proposals were supported for the Atlantic Forest in the northern, southeastern and southern regions of the country (including ecosystems associated with mangroves and coastal lagoons). The projects shall contribute to the increase of protected area sites' managers' capacity; strengthen inter-institutional articulation and; build basic parameters of content and methodology for capacitation toward participatory management.

i – Capacitation toward participatory management of protected area sites – southern region and Mato Grosso do Sul

Institution: Mater Natura Institute for Environmental Studies

Source: [www.maternatura.org.br](http://www.maternatura.org.br)

ii – Capacitation toward participatory management of protected area sites – southeastern region and Goiás.

Institution: Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve

Source: [http://www.rbma.org.br/default\\_02.asp](http://www.rbma.org.br/default_02.asp)

iii – Capacitation toward participatory management of protected area sites – northeastern region

Institution: AMANI

Source: [http://www.amane.org.br/programas\\_pda.html](http://www.amane.org.br/programas_pda.html)

#### **B): on any other aspects of Strategy 4.10 national implementation:**