



NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

**National Reports to be submitted to the 10th 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)

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 10th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Republic of Korea, October/November 2008).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 35th 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). 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.

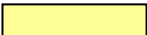
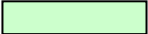
10. To facilitate the analysis and onward use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis 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 (3rd 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. 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

NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: GREECE	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	IOANNIS VOURNAS, Director General for the Environment
Mailing address:	15 Amaliados Str., 11526 ATHENS, GREECE
Telephone/Fax:	0030-210-64 57 990 fax 0030-210-6410641
Email:	grammatia@gdper.minenv.gr
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	DEMETRA SPALA
Mailing address:	36 Trikalon Str. 11526 ATHENS, GREECE
Telephone/Fax:	0030-210-69 83 467 / 0030-210-6918487
Email:	d.spala@dpers.minenv.gr
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	DEMETRA SPALA
Name of organisation:	Environmental Planning Division, Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
Mailing address:	36 Trikalon Str. 11526 ATHENS, GREECE
Telephone/Fax:	0030-210-69 83 467 / 0030-210-6918487
Email:	d.spala@dpers.minenv.gr
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	
Name of organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone/Fax:	
Email:	
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Mrs. Maria Katsakiori
Name of organisation:	Greek Biotope - Wetland Centre (EKBY)
Mailing address:	Greek Biotope - Wetland Centre, 14th km Thessaloniki - Michaniona, GR 57001, Thessaloniki, Greece
Telephone/Fax:	Tel. 30 310 473 320 Facsimile: +30 310 471 795
Email:	mariak@ekby.gr



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?

1. Wetlands represent a large part of the areas designated as Sites of Community Importance (According to Directive 92/43/EC) and Special Areas of Conservation (According to Directive 79/409/EC constituting the Natura 2000 Network. Priority is given to the Natura 2000 Network and therefore there will be a benefit for wetlands under the RAMSAR Convention.

2. Within the reporting period legal protection through designation as protected area has been established for Lake Kerkini (Designation of Limni Kerkini wetland and its surrounding area as National Park and determination of uses, regulations and building restrictions. 2006) the Messolonghi Lagoon (Designation of lagoon, terrestrial, riverine areas of southern part of Aetoloakarnania Prefecture and island complex of North and South Echinades of Kefallinias Prefecture as National Park named National Park of Messolonghi - Aetoliko Lagoons, southern part and estuaries of Acheloos and Evinos rivers and Echinades Islands - 2006), the Evros Delta (Designation of terrestrial and marine areas of the wetlands of Evros Delta and its wider area as National Park named National Wetland Park of Evros Delta. 2007), Amvrakikos Gulf (Amvrakikos Kolpos, Delta Lourou kai Arachthou (Petra, Mytikas, Evryteri Periochi, 2008) and Nestos Delta- Vistonis and Ismaris (Mitrikou) Lakes and greater area (Delta Nestou -Vistonidas-Ismaridas kai Evriteri Periochi, 2008). Protected status was also established for the Koronia-Volvi wetlands (Designation of lake, terrestrial and water areas of the wetland of Lakes Koronia - Volvi and Makedonika Tembi as National Park of Koronia - Volvi Wetlands and Makedonika Tembi and determination of protection zones as well as of uses, regulations and building restrictions) in 2004 . Furthermore the Draft Ministerial decisions for designation as protected area is in the final signature procedure for the following Ramsar Sites : Kotuchi-Strofilia, Axios Delta, and Mikri Prespa.

3. The establishment and operation (initial phase) of Management Bodies for the Ramsar Sites and for 22 other wetlands. However time and experience are required for the Management Bodies to reach a maturity in their operation.

We are aware of some problems occurring recently in some Ramsar sites, (mainly in the Evros Delta), and response actions are actually foreseen by Central Administration, the Prefectural Authorities and the respective Management Bodies.

4. The preparation of the management plans for the Ramsar protected areas is in progress and is foreseen to be completed in 2009. Following this, the implementation of management measures for all wetlands of International Importance is foreseen within the National Operational Programme for the Environment and Sustainable Development 2007 – 2013.

5. The cooperation of the Ministry of the Environment (supported technically and scientifically by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) with the European Space Agency and the Ramsar Convention in the framework of the Globwetland Project has led to the development of management tools using space technology.

5. Since December 2003, a new legislative and institutional framework has been put into force in the country. It consists of Law 3199/9-12-2003 (Official Journal of the Government - OJG 280A/2003) on water protection and the sustainable management of the water resources, and Presidential Decree 51/8.3.2007, measures and procedures for

integrated water management, with which the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC) is transposed into the national legislation. This new legislative framework foresees a radical reorientation of the respective administrative capacities in Greece (at central and regional level) and introduces an innovative and holistic approach concerning water management that recognizes explicitly the ecological function of water. It also lays emphasis on the management of water on the basis of river basins as well as on the water pricing so that it reflects its full costs. The Law 3199/03 also incorporates the polluter pays principle and the objective of maintaining or reaching a good ecological status for all water resources through the control of pollution by use of threshold levels and standards. The development of the National Strategy for the management of Water Resources is closely linked with the efforts of Greece to comply with the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and has already proceeded to the necessary actions for the implementation of the Directive. The National Strategy for the management of Water Resources (NSWR) concerns the sustainable use of existing water reserves, the efficient protection of water ecosystems and the attainment of high quality standards for all surface and ground water bodies by the year 2015.

An ongoing project under the supervision of the Ministry of Development entitled "Development of Water Management Tools for Greece's 13 River Basin Districts" (excluding Crete, which developed similar management tools a few years ago) is strongly connected to all the relative activities. Several projects have been implemented or are currently in progress by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research for the monitoring of biological quality elements and the classification of the ecological quality of surface water bodies and their results will be used accordingly. The outcome of these activities is expected to be the basis for the development of the national and regional management plan for water resources.

6. Establishment of special Action Programmes for the reduction of toxic substances of List II of Directive 76/464/EC, including the protection of Lakes Vegoritida Petron and Soulos stream, and lake Koroneia.

7. Restoration project for the lakes Koroneia and Volvi in relation to the relevant Ramsar Recommendation xiii.10. This project was developed with the participation of the Ministries (Environment, Rural Development) the relevant regional and prefectural authorities and its implementation has commenced.

8. In accordance with the Regulation 1257/1999 (EC), the Rural Development Plan for the period 2000-2006 includes several Agri-environmental Measures to be implemented on a voluntary basis, aiming among other objectives at the qualitative and quantitative protection of surface and ground waters, including measures for the protection of the following wetland areas, that are to be extended into the 2007-2013 period:

- i. Measure 3.6 "Environmental protection of Lake Pamvotis"
- ii. Measure 3.9 "Management of lakes and lagoons in Thrace"
- iii. Measure 3.10 "Management of lakeside areas of lakes Volvi & Koronia – Natura 2000"
- iv. Measure 3.16 "Management of lakes and lagoons of Western Macedonia Region: Vegoritida, Himaditida, Zazari"
- v. Measure 3.17 "Protection of Doirani lake."

9. The adoption of the National Framework for Physical Planning exerts a catalytic influence on upcoming developments as it adopts and establishes important rules and principles for the protection of biodiversity and wetlands.

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

- The further legal establishment of protected status for Ramsar sites and the commencement of the operation of management bodies
- The commencement of procedures for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive
- The continued support offered by the Greek Government to the MedWet Initiative
- the results of the Globwetland project and in particular those related to five Greek Ramsar Sites
- The adoption of the National Framework for Physical Planning and the elaboration of the draft specific physical planning for renewable energy resources and tourism.

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

- Insufficient staff and financial resources especially in view of overwhelming EU obligations (Natura 2000, WFD).
- The implementation of the Convention is dependent on how effectively this can be harmonised with other Conventions and EU Directives.

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

- The completion of the legal establishment of protected status for the remaining Ramsar sites
- The full operation of the management bodies of the Greek Ramsar sites
- The implementation of the respective management plans -measures-actions
- The commencement of the procedure for the removal of the Greek Ramsar sites from the Montreux Record
- The progress towards integrated water management

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

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

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?

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)?

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



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}	A - Yes
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]	C - For some sites
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	B - the same B - the same

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 ...]”

1.1.3. For this purpose at present some information can be derived for the following:

- Several projects have been implemented or are currently in progress by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research for the monitoring of biological quality elements and the classification of the ecological quality of surface water bodies.
- <http://www.wetmust.archimed.gr/> Integrated multiple level wetlands monitoring system using innovative technologies (WETMUST). The selected test sites include Lakes Koronia and Volvi and the Kotychi Lagoon
- <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects>: i) Conservation of priority bird species in Lake Mikri Prespa, Greece 2002-2007. LIFE2002NAT/GR/8494 (<http://www.spp.gr>); ii) Implementation of management measures at the Agras wetland, Greece, 2003-2007 LIFE03 NAT/GR/000092 (<http://www.edessacity.gr>); iii) Habitat Management and Raptor Conservation in Nestos Delta and Gorge, Greece 2002-2006 LIFE02 NAT/GR/008489; iv) Actions for the conservation of Mediterranean temporary ponds in Crete, Greece, 2004-2008 LIFE04 NAT/GR/000105 (http://www.life-medponds.gr/EN/index_en.htm); v) Mediterranean Reservoirs and Wetlands. A Demonstration of Multiple-Objective Management in the Island of Crete, Greece, 2004-2007 LIFE00 ENV/GR/000685 (<http://www.nhmc.uoc.gr/wetlands/News/Newset.htm>).

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:

1.2.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {2.1.1} [If "Yes", please give the title and date of the policy in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
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}	A - Yes
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}	A - Yes
1.2.4 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed?	D - In progress
1.2.5 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {2.2.2}	A - Yes

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 ...]"

1.2.1-1.2.3. The National Strategy for Wetland Resources as submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat in 1999 is under review in the context of the CBD, other International and EU Commitments the National Strategy for Water Resources

1.2.4. The development of a new monitoring network for the assessment/classification of the ecological quality of inland surface (rivers, lakes), transitional, coastal and ground waters, including the development of monitoring programmes for biological quality parameters is currently in progress. For this purpose, the National Surface and Groundwater Quality Monitoring Networks are currently under revision and readjustment, according to the requirements of the WFD. Through this activity, a coherent and comprehensive overview of the chemical and ecological status within each River Basin District will be provided. This overview will enable, after assessment of the reference conditions, the classification of the surface waters into five classes, on the basis of specific quality elements and the development of national classification. Furthermore special Action Programmes for the reduction of toxic substances of List II of Directive 76/464/EC, have been established, including the protection of Lakes Vegoritidā Petron and Soulos stream, and lake Koroneia. Several projects have been implemented or are currently in progress by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research for the monitoring of biological quality elements and the classification of the ecological quality of surface water bodies and their results will be used accordingly.

Several projects for the assessment of the quality of surface water bodies are being undertaken by the Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre, especially in the northern part of the country, as well as on issues related to transboundary water resources management. Activities for the analysis of pressures originating from agricultural activities and the mitigation of their negative effects are being carried out by the National Agricultural Research Foundation. In accordance with the Regulation 1257/1999 (EC), the Rural Development Plan for the period 2000-2006 includes several Agri-environmental Measures to be implemented on a voluntary basis, aiming among other objectives at the qualitative and quantitative protection of surface and ground waters, including measures for the protection of the following wetland areas, that are to be extended into the 2007-2013 period:

- i. Measure 3.6 “Environmental protection of Lake Pamvotis”
- ii. Measure 3.9 “Management of lakes and lagoons in Thrace”
- iii. Measure 3.10 “Management of lakeside areas of lakes Volvi & Koronia – Natura 2000”
- iv. Measure 3.16 “Management of lakes and lagoons of Western Macedonia Region: Vegoritida, Himaditida, Zazari”
- v. Measure 3.17 “Protection of Doirani lake.”

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>E - Planned</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>

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}	C - Partly
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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 ...]”

1.3.1. As a first general approach for some Ramsar sites

1.3.2.

a) An ongoing project under the supervision of the Ministry of Development entitled “Development of Water Management Tools for Greece’s 13 River Basin Districts”

b) LIFE NATURE Projects with national/local authority support:

- Implementation of management measures at the Agras Wetland, including a three year demonstration of the win-win case of sustainable, conservation compatible and socio-economic acceptable management of the wetland SPA site.
- Restoration and conservation management of Drana Lagoon in Evros Delta, including a water resources management plan.
- Mediterranean Reservoirs and Wetlands. A Demonstration of Multiple-Objective Management on the Island of Crete, Greece, including the implementation of integrated and sustainable use of water resources according to the provisions of the new Water Framework Directive.
- Actions for the conservation of Mediterranean Temporary Ponds in Crete, including the recovery of the habitat’s natural hydroperiod.

1.3.4 For the conservation of traditional fisheries and agricultural activities in Ramsar Sites.

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}	D - Planned
1.4.2 Have CEPA expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management?	D - Planned
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}	C - Partly

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
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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.
The Management of the most important protected wetland sites in Greece, designated as Ramsar wetlands of international importance, is attained through the establishment of pertinent Management Bodies (which are financially supported, for the time being, from the state). It is intended that these Bodies will collaborate with the respective regional services, with the mandate to develop and implement regional water management plans.

1.4.2.
The National Strategy for the management of Water Resources (NSWR) provides for the incorporation of socio-economic considerations in water management. This includes measures to reinforce public participation in water management efforts as well as adaptation of pricing policies to include the social cost in water services provision.

1.4.3.
The National Physical Planning Master Plan provides for special policy and actions for the spatial planning of the coastal areas which are further elaborated in the draft Physical Planning for the Coastal and Island zones. In the latter the principles of the relevant International Treaties and Organisations are taken into consideration.

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.

a) Restoration project for the lakes Koroneia and Volvi in relation to the relevant Ramsar Recommendation xiii.10. This project was developed with the participation of the Ministries (Environment, Rural Development) the relevant regional and prefectural authorities and its implementation has commenced.

b) Community Structural Funds:

- Programmes for the restoration of former lake Karla
- Restoration of Lake Mavrouda
- Restoration of Drana Lagoon at the Delta of river Evros
- Restoration of lakes Chimaditida and Zazari
- Resoration of lake Koroneia

c) LIFE NATURE PROJECTS with national/local authority support:

- Implementation of management measures at the Agras Wetland, including the restoration of wetland functions and values for the benefit of biodiversity and local society.
- Restoration and conservation management of Drana Lagoon in Evros Delta.
- Conservation Management in Strofylia - Kotychi including restoration of the sand dunes.
- Habitat Management and Raptor Conservation in Nestos Delta and Gorge, including a set-a-side of the mouth of the Nestos river only for protection and habitat restoration.
- Mediterranean Reservoirs and Wetlands. A Demonstration of Multiple-Objective Management in the Island of Crete, Greece, including the implementation of restoration measures to improve ecosystem functioning and recreational and ecotourism values of selected reservoirs.
- Actions for the conservation of Mediterranean Temporary Ponds in Crete, including the restoration of the Mediterranean Temporary Ponds habitat on western Crete in a favourable status that existed prior to human interference in the area.

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}	A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

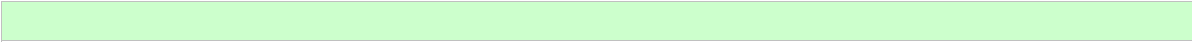
A): on Indicators 1.6.1 – 1.6.2 For each piece of additional information text, please clearly identify to which indicator number it refers – e.g. “1.6.2: [.. additional information ...]”

1.6.1. Prohibition of introduction of invasive fish species in protected areas.

A general action plan for invasive alien species is planned to be developed in the period 2007-2013.

1.6.2. In relation to the Bern, CBD, and Barcelona Conventions and to the IMO

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, 2nd edition; Handbook 14, 3rd 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]

B - No

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.1.1

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?

A - Yes

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:

2.3.1 Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites been defined and applied? {11.1.1}

C - Partly

<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>D - Planned</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>A - Yes</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>D - Planned</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. As a first approach the legal establishment of protection status for the Ramsar sites provides for measures to maintain the ecological character. Furthermore through the management plans these measures will become detailed in order to contribute quantitatively.

2.3.2. The implementation of management measures for all wetlands of International Importance is foreseen within the National Operational Programme for the Environment and Sustainable Development 2007 – 2013. Comprehensive management plans for all Ramsar sites are currently in preparation.

2.3.3. Management Bodies for all the Ramsar sites were established in 2003.

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:

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} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please summarise the mechanism(s) established in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
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} [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]	A - Yes
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} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please provide in Additional implementation information information about the actions taken]	A - Yes

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 ...]”

2.4.1 The Central Water Agency and Regional Agencies inform, in view of the implementation of the National and Regional Plans for Water Resources Management . In addition, the management bodies of the Ramsar sites inform, in the framework of the respective management plans.

2.4.2 Recently we were informed of problems in the Evros Delta Ramsar Site and this is under examination at national level.

2.4.3. The legal establishment of the Ramsar protected sites, the establishment of the Management Bodies, the procedure for the development of the management plans are major actions for addressing the issues of the sites listed on the Montreux Record.

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:

2.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {12.1.1}	A - Yes
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} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below for which wetland systems such management is in place]	C - Partly

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 ...]”

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

2.6.1. Greece hosts the MedWet Secretariat unit in Athens since 2001 and is actively involved in the Mediterranean Wetland Committee for progressively and collectively achieving the vision and the scope of the MedWet. Initiative.

Greece is collaborating with the competent authorities of Albania and the FYROM for the conservation and sustainable development of the Prespa Lakes declared as the first Transboundary Balkan Protected Area.

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}	A - Yes
3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {13.1.iii}	E - Not applicable
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}	E - Not applicable

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 ...]”

3.1.1 With regard to the Barcelona Convention, CBD and Berne Convention

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:

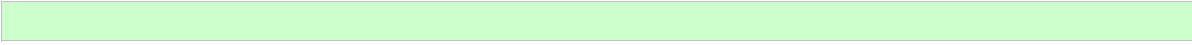
3.2.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {14.1.3} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the networks and wetlands involved]	---
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

3.2.2. The Special Environmental Studies for all Ramsar sites are the basis for the legal establishment of protection status for these sites and in all cases information on the status is included in these studies, which have been made publicly available. Furthermore all the data for the Natura 2000 sites are also publicly available.

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}	D - Planned
4.1.2 Have traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands been documented and their application encouraged? {6.1.2}	A - Yes
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} <small>[if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar sites and their names in Additional implementation information below]</small>	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 ...]"

4.1.2. In principle, and gradually applied in practice.
 4.1.1. For local communities, as not applicable for indigenous communities.
 4.1.3. Stakeholders participate by law in the procedure of the establishment of a wetland protected area (all Ramsar sites included) and selected stakeholders are members of the Management Bodies
 4.1.4 . The Management Bodies are developing activities for this purpose
 4.1.5 The cultural values aspect is an object under elaboration in the framework of the management plans under development

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}	D - Planned
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 ...]”

4.2.1. This occurs whenever the private sector submits environmental impact studies for certain activities which are examined in the framework of the EIA by the Government, Regional and Prefectural Authorities as appropriate.

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

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. Related to the agrienvironmental measures implemented under the Common Agricultural Policy. In addition, incentive charging is being included, in the frame of the implementation of the WFD, regarding water pricing to reflects its full costs.

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:

<p>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}</p> <p>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe in Additional implementation information below the mechanism]</p>	C - Partly
<p>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}</p> <p>[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]</p>	B - No
<p>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}</p>	A - Yes
<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:</p> <p>a) support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations; and/or</p> <p>b) these have included awareness-raising for social, economic and/or cultural values,</p> <p>please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	C - Partly
<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>	A - Yes
<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 & Wetland Trust, UK, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	D - Planned

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 ...]”

4.4.1. As a first priority the Ministry of the Environment in collaboration with the Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre have developed and implemented seminars for authorities involved in the management of protected areas and the Management Bodies of the Ramsar sites.

4.4.3. All the data and information for the Ramsar sites and other wetlands are shared and communicated amongst relevant ministries, regional and local authorities services in the framework of making publicly available the Special Environmental Studies. All EIA and SEA files are also shared at the appropriate level.

4.4.4 Actually at this stage such activities cover the general conservation issues not explicitly covering the benefits/services of wetlands.

4.4.6. The management bodies of the Ramsar sites in their operational plan devote some special activities for public awareness.

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>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<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>	<p>D - Not applicable</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 ...]”

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:

<p>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)?</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>b) If “No” in 4.6.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:</p>	
<p>4.6.1. According to the general current administrative system contributions can not be made by the above specified date. However this has been fully covered at a later date.</p>	

4.6.2 {16.1.2}	A - Yes
a) Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund or other non-core funded Convention activity?	
b) If yes, please state the amounts:	
4.6.2. Greece is hosting the MEDWET Secretariat unit in Athens, offering the appropriate site and infrastructure with the accompanying costs and an annual financial contribution of 170,000 Euros for the period 2005-2008.	

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:

4.7.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention? [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information how the Reports have been used for monitoring]	A - Yes
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 4.7.1

4.7.1 The previous national report is a starting point for the review of the progress made in the implementation of the Convention.

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:

4.8.1 Has a review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands been completed? {18.1.1} [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]	B - No
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<p>4.8.2 Is a National Ramsar/Wetlands cross-sectoral Committee (or equivalent body) in place and operational? {18.1.2}</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please summarise in Additional implementation information its membership and frequency of meetings]</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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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 ...]”

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?</p> <p>[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*?</p> <p>[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. The Greek Ornithological Society as part of Birdlife International has provided assistance to the Ministry of the Environment.

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?</p> <p>[If “Yes”, please indicate in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the centre(s)]</p>	<p>D - Planned</p>
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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}	B - No
4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}	A - Yes

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 newly established Balkan Environment Centre in Greece is planning to undertake such activities.

4.10.3 Through Seminars organised by the Ministry of Environment Physical Planning and Public Works in collaboration with the Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre

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