



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:	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Mr. Eshagh Al-habib Director General for International Economic Affairs and Specialized Agencies
Mailing address:	Building No. 2, Koushk Mesri Street , Ferdousi AVe, Tehran, Iran
Telephone/Fax:	Tel: (+98-21) 6115 4475/6 Fax: (+98-21) 6670 4176
Email:	ealhabib@mfa.gov.ir
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
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Mailing address:	Building no. 8/2, Koushk Mesri Street, Ferdousi Ave.,
Telephone/Fax:	(+98-21) 6115 4413 Fax: (+98-21) 6670 4176
Email:	jbarmaki@mfa.gov.ir/jbarmaki@gmail.com
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	Masoud Bagherzadeh Karimi Senior wetlands Expert
Name of organisation:	Department of Environment
Mailing address:	Shahid Hemmat highway, Pardisan Eco-Park, Department of Environment, Natural environment and biodiversity Division, Habitat and protected areas bureau, Tehran, Iran
Telephone/Fax:	0098 21 88264026
Email:	mbkarimi@yahoo.com
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	Arezu Ashrafizadeh Wetlands Expert
Name of organisation:	Department of Environment
Mailing address:	Shahid Hemmat highway, Pardisan Eco-Park, Department of Environment, Natural environment and biodiversity Division, Habitat and protected areas bureau , Tehran, Iran
Telephone/Fax:	0098 21 88264026
Email:	
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	hossein Rafi Directing Manager
Name of organisation:	Bachehaye Aab(Ba-Ab Group)
Mailing address:	website: www.ba-ab.ir
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yadintgroup@yahoo.com
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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?

During the last triennium Department of the environment has been actively implementing the Ramsar Convention in the country. Some of these activities include:

- Comprehensive study on Iranian wetlands and Published a book entitled Directory of Iranian Wetlands Designated Under the Ramsar Convention
- Celebrating the world wetlands day with participation of the NGOs, local people and students where they held attractive exhibitions. On this event each year, NGOs demonstrated their activities related to wetlands and local people showed their wetland products to the public.
- With Regards to the Ramsar Regional Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia in Ramsar city, in Islamic Republic of Iran,
- There is also some projects on wetlands which are being implemented in the country with participation of international organization such as UNDP/ GEF (Conservation of Iranian wetlands project) and JICA (the study on integrated management for Ecosystem conservation of the Anzali wetland)
- Preparation of management plan for 5 Ramsar sites in Iran (Miankaleh, Bakhtegan, Hamoon, Hara, Uromieh)
- Establishment of a joint committee between DOE and Ministry of energy for defining the allocated water for wetlands that are located downstream
- Improvement of the protection level for 12 Ramsar sites in the country

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

CEPA related activities is most succesful aspect in Iran

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

Technical issue, how to implement Ramsar guidelines and resolutions, financial problem and lack of understanding among stakeholders

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

Implementation of Conservation Iranian Project which is a joint project between DOE and GEF/UNDP, a management system is under designing and implementation for all wetlands. With in the project a vision, goal and management objectives would be set for each demonstration sites (Lake Urmia and Lake Parishan) with ecosystem management approach. According to results a national wetland strategy would be developed as a main framework for management of all wetlands.

Designation more Ramsar site

Developing National Wetland Policy

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

No

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

No

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?

Through national wetlands Committee or As a joint Working group

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)?

No suggestion

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

No

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]	B - No
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	A - Greater A - Greater

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 There are more than 1000 wetlands in the country, out of this number the DoE has conducted some studies on 181 of them and 76 of these wetlands were recognized to meet the Ramsar convention's criteria and to be listed under Ramsar sites. Till now, Iran has designated 33 wetlands in 22 Ramsar sites and hopefully in near future the DoE plans to designate more wetlands.

1.1.2 Information on all Wetlands are available in CD and any interested person could find it in wetlands office in Department of environment.

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]	C - In preparation
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}	D - Planned
1.2.4 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed?	C - Partly
1.2.5 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {2.2.2}	D - Planned

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 ...]"

1.2.4 Network for monitoring water resources quality in Iran has been established. Some case studies have been conducted for some of the national rivers.

1.2.5 A strategic environmental assessment project is defined between UNDP and DOE. It is a capacity building project. Within the project a core team including representatives of different organizations, NGOs and universities are trained so that they could be source persons to develop human resources technical capacities in the country.

SEA is not a regulator need in Iran but within the project the necessary legal studies are done to provide draft regulations for approval (not approved yet).

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:

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]	C - Partly
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}	E - Planned
1.3.3 Has national action been taken to implement the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)? {3.2.1}	D - Planned
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}	D - Planned

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 study on Economical valuation of Iranian wetlands started and this study has taken for three wetlands during last years, which are: Hara (Ramsar Site), Choghakhor and Miankaleh (Ramsar Site)

Also DOE has made a progress on undertaking a new stage in all project processes, which is accomplishing Socio-economic evaluation study. Socio-economic evaluation has been done for all wetland projects. A case study was implemented on economical benefits and functions of wetlands.

1.3.3. there is assumption that peatlands exist in high altitude of two main Iranian mountain range(Alborz and Zagros) so Department of Environment is studying on the existent of this kind of wetlands.

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?	A - Yes
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}	B - No

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 ...]”

[Redacted area]

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

[Redacted area]

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}	D - Planned

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. Yadegarlou, Seiran gouli, Hassanlou, Ghara gheslagh, Hassan khah and Khataei wetlands are restored with fully by local community and NGOs with some supports from DOE.

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

[Redacted area]

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}	A - Yes
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 ...]”

1.6.2. In Conservation Iranian Project which is a joint project between DOE and GEF/UNDP, a management system is under designing and implementation for all wetlands. With in the project a vision, goal and management objectives would be set for each demonstration sites (Lake Urmia and Lake Parishan) with ecosystem management approach. According to results a national wetland strategy would be developed as a main framework for management of all wetlands.

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]

A - Yes

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.1.1

Five site expected to designate in near future

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}

A - Yes

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}

D - Defined only

<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>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>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 ...]”

2.3.2: Through the UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project in Iran a management plan is under preparation for the Ramsar site entitled "Fereydoon Kenar, Ezbaran and Sorkh Ruds Ab-Bandans. After completion; the management plan will be reviewed and finalized by the Site Management Committee. Negotiations with local stakeholders are currently taking place to prepare the basis for development of co-management agreements, attached to management plan for the site.

2.3.3 Through the UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project in Iran Site Management Committees (SMC) were established for two of the project sites including Fereydoonkenar Non-Shooting Area and Bujagh National Park (both wetlands of international importance). These SMCs are part of the overall project management structure. They provide the basis for stakeholder input to project activities at the site level, and are intended to support protected area management in the longer term, after the project is completed, as a permanent part of reserve organization.

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]	B - No

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 ...]”

As you are well aware Iran located in semi arid to arid zone and many of Iranian wetlands placed in these area. Iran Has been facing with drought for several years. the most important wetlands that this change happened are: Hamoon, Uromieh .
Shadegan , Miankaleh were the wetlands that changes in ecological character of them have been reported to secretariat.

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 ...]”

2.5.1 There is four transboundry wetlands in Iran 1- Hamoun (Iran Afghanistan) 2- Hour-al- Azim (Iran-Iraq) 3- Aras Rivrer basin wetlands (Iran- Azerbaijan- Armenia) 4- Atrak (Iran-Turkamanistan)

2.5.2 The Siberian Crane *Grus leucogeranus* is a critically endangered species dependent upon shallow wetland habitats along its migration routes. Three routes are currently known – a West Asian flyway that leads from breeding grounds in Western Siberia to the Caspian Lowlands of northern Iran; a Central Asian flyway connecting Western Siberian breeding grounds to the wintering site in northern India; and an East Asian flyway leading from Yakutia to the central Yangtze floodplain lakes in China. A United Nations Environment Programme/Global Environment Facility project is being implemented involving four countries (People's Republic of China, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation) under the coordination of the International Crane Foundation, aiming to conserve key wetlands along the West and East Asian migration routes. The Siberian Crane is a large attractive bird of great cultural significance to many of the peoples along these routes, and is being used to generate public awareness and support for wetland conservation. This project addresses threats at 16 internationally important wetlands along these flyways, seeking to secure their ecological integrity for the benefit of a wide range of biodiversity. Additional national level activities support site and migratory waterbird conservation.

The project has a major international component, improving coordination and strengthening capacity for flyway conservation efforts. The project supports international flyway conservation efforts within the framework of existing strategies and agreements, including the Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy 2001-2005 and its component action plans, the Central Asian Flyway initiative, the Convention on Migratory Species Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Conservation Measures for the Siberian Crane. The project facilitates the development of wetland site networks in Asia and provides resources and training for the conservation of selected wetland sites within these networks.

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

The Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Central and West Asia is one of the Ramsar convention initiative which works to meet the wetland training and research needs of the Ramsar Convention in the Central and West Asia Region as defined by the Ramsar Secretariat. also Centre will seek to work with other contracting and non contracting parties in all activities and in particular to learn from the countries with special experience in wetland conservation and wise use. Government of Islamic Republic of Iran support the obligation of carrying out the steps required to obtain premises appropriate to the Center's activities and commit itself to contribute as much as possible to the budget of the Center.

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? {r13.1.iii}	C - Partly
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 ...]”

National committee on Ramsar convention, which consists of fully, authorized representatives from related ministries and organization. Each convention in country has their national committee or steering committee that work under national committee for sustainable development. But there is no coordination committee among focal points of environment- related convention yet but its being planned.

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} <small>[If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the networks and wetlands involved]</small>	C - Partly
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 The regional programme of the UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project (SCWP) aims to:

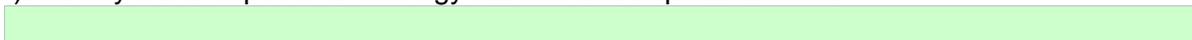
- Develop networks of sites of international importance for the conservation of Siberian Cranes, migratory waterbirds and other wetland biodiversity
- Build capacity for international cooperation to support the sustainability of these site networks
- Secure the ecological integrity of these wetlands through regional activities including strengthening the management capacity of protected areas

The project focuses its efforts on two site networks, the North East Asia Crane Site Network and the Western/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Cranes (and other waterbirds), within the wider contexts of the CMS MoU on Conservation Measures for the Siberian Crane, the East Asia – Australasia Flyway Partnership, Central Asian Flyway initiative and African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement. It is also actively contributing to the global network of wetlands of international importance listed under the Ramsar Convention.

Regional training workshops aimed to build the capacity of site managers in the Western / Central Asian and North East Asian regions to improve the management effectiveness of their protected areas through the development of site management plans and reduction of avian influenza risks, have been conducted through the project. These workshops also aimed to share experience gained at SCWP sites during the first Phase of the project and provide opportunity for discussion of approaches between site managers.

3.2.2: Comprehensive study on Iranian wetlands and Published a book entitled Directory of Iranian Wetlands Designated Under the Ramsar Convention is available for every one.

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}	A - Yes
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}	A - Yes
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>	A - Yes

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 ...]"

In recent years the government has noticed the role of local communities, indigenous people in natural resource management and has realized that without the support and participation of local communities management plans can't be successful. Considerate cultural values of wetlands lead to integrated wetland management practices. Presently in some sites the conservation and wise use of wetlands with local communities' participation and consultation have been done.

The decision makers understood that traditional knowledge is a helpful tool for conservation and wise use of wetlands. Some of the wetlands in the country are being managed by the Islamic Rural council.

4.1.1. Wetlands bulletin is being published seasonally, distributed between all stakeholders and local community. Also a wetland section is consisted to wetlands on DOE site (wetlands.environment.ir) accessible for all.

4.1.2 Through the studies of the UNEP/GEF SCWP; Fereydoonkenar Ramsar Site at present is the wintering habitat of the Siberian cranes in Iran, shared by many other species of migratory waterbirds of which some are of commercial and nutritional value to the local communities. In fact the Siberian cranes utilize and enjoy the security, tranquillity and calmness of the environment that is artificially provided by the local waterfowl trappers to suit the traditional trapping methods they use. The rice fields specially landscaped with trees and intentionally flooded in fall and winter to attract waterfowl are called "Damgah", which literally means "trapping site". The traditional waterfowl trapping method in Fereydoon Kenar Damgahs employs specially trained ducks which are released from trappers' hides to lead the wondering wild waterfowl to the net traps. The overall "attractive" conditions of the Damgahs to the waterbirds cause high concentrations of many different species of the waterfowl that regularly visit nearby fields to feed at night and return to the calm and secure Damgahs to rest in the daytime. In the shallow waters of the existing Damgahs, the last of the western flock of the Siberian Cranes feed and enjoy the security, and disappearance of Damgahs would mean extinction of the Siberian Cranes in western Asia. It is well understood that the survival of the western population of the wild Siberian Cranes solely depend on the existence of Damgahs, The efforts for conservation of Siberian Cranes and the wetlands that they depend on are based on this very fact that only aware local communities in Fereydoon Kenar area can properly maintain the wintering home of the Siberian Cranes. Therefore the SCWP aims to achieve sustainable, systematic management regimes at this site by actively involving stakeholders including local communities in the decision-making procedures for site management and encourage and support traditional methods of trapping (Damgah system) in order to secure the existence of the habitat for Siberian Crane and other important migratory waterbirds.

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}	B - No
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}	B - No

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 ...]”

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]	D - Planned
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]	D - Planned
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}	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: 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>A - Yes</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 & Wetland Trust, UK, please indicate this in the Additional implementation information section for Strategy 4.4 below]</p>	<p>A - Yes</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 ...]”

4.4.3. A wetland data bank is under construction as one of the activities of Conservation of Iranian Project. It would be a decentralized web base data bank on the basis of MedWet data bank.

4.4.4. Since COP8 the DOE has made a progress on undertaking a new stage in all project processes, which is accomplishing Socio-economic evaluation study. Socio-economic evaluation has been done for all wetland projects. A case study was implemented on economical benefits and functions of wetlands.

Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project Hold a wetland festival at Lake Parishan in which about villages located around the lake participated. Wetland championship ceremony was held on world wetlands day for the first time in Iran. Many NGOs, scientific centers and individuals nominated for the championship and a local community NGO awarded as first champion. The NGO restored Yadegrlou and Shourgol Satellite wetlands of Lake Urmia which are Ramsar sites with full support and participation of local community. It is planed to hold wetlands champion ceremony annually in two levels, scientific and implementation.

Through the UNEP/GEF SCWP in Iran, the Department of Environment as the National Executing Agency is coordinating activities at national level and at the project sites in Mazandaran and Gilan provinces. The project is developing the basis for integrated wetland management at Fereydoon Kenar (Mazandaran), the only known wintering area for Siberian Cranes in Iran, and Bujagh (Gilan), which offers suitable conditions for re-introduction of this critically endangered species. Both sites are of recognized international importance for their biodiversity, especially the large numbers of over-wintering migratory waterbirds. The project aims to achieve sustainable, systematic management regimes at the project sites by actively involving stakeholders including local communities in the decision-making procedures for site management. Therefore the project in Iran has initiated communication and discussions with different groups and stakeholders to increase public awareness on biodiversity conservation.

Many of the threats to specific wetland sites and to populations of migratory waterbirds on a site, national and flyway scale arise from insufficient awareness among relevant stakeholder groups of wetlands, migratory waterbirds, and the impacts of seemingly unrelated development activities. AS the results of an extensive root cause identification and analysis, the SCWP recognized the critical need for a Public Awareness Strategy. The Awareness Strategy was complimented by designed awareness-building activities to occur as part of the project intervention. These activities addressed specific key groups and stakeholders including resource users, decision-makers, and communication focal points (such as mass media at local, provincial and national levels) on awareness issues that were identified during the threat analysis. The overall objectives of the Strategy were closely linked with those of the Project, and are aimed at:

- Providing guidelines for raising the awareness of the key stakeholders, target groups and audience at national, provincial and site levels about the Project
- Contributing to achievement of sustainable change of attitude among the stakeholders at national, provincial and site levels.
- Developing practical action plans for sound implementation and monitoring the activities recommended by the Awareness Strategy

The Public Awareness Strategy was developed based on the guidance of the Ramsar Convention (Handbook No. 6 on CEPA guidelines)

4.4.5 Celebrating the world wetlands day with participation of the NGOs, local people and students where they held attractive exhibitions. On this event each year, NGOs demonstrated their activities related to wetlands and local people showed their wetland products to the publi

4.4.6 Department of the Environment has a plan to establish training center in some ramsar sites in different provinces to create a network among these center for exchanging information in near future. One of these centers established in anzali wetlands and used by student and schools.there is no link between this center and WLI but hope in near futur this opportunity be available for this center.

in addition In most of the wetland projects that are being developed and implemented in the country, communication, education and public awareness is recognized as one of the main aspect of the project and the activities related to this part have been undertaken. In some projects, especially the international, there is a plan to establish educational or visitor centers for promoting wise use of wetlands. There is also a plan to develop a network among these centers.

Producing information to better knowledge of wetlands through printed and electronic means is

another project that has been done in country for raising public awareness.
 Under the UNEP/GEF SCWP and in cooperation with DoE Mazandaran a multi-purpose complex including a visitor center, an educational center and a guest house is being constructed at Fereydoonkenar Ramsar Site.

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>D - Not applicable</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>C - Some agencies</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 JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agencies) Developed project on Anzali wetland since 2002 and in 2007 the implementation phase of this project stated.
 Also there is two UNDP/GEF and UNEP/ GEF projects in Iran which mentioned above.

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>	

4.6.2 {16.1.2} 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 - No
b) If yes, please state the amounts:	

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]	B - No
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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>	D - In progress
<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>	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 ...]”

4.8.2: Ramsar national committee is one of the committee which work under national sustainable development committee. this committee consists of fully authorized representatives from related ministries and organization and usually meeting held once in month. for ensuring that wetland policies are fully integrated into and harmonized with other strategic or planning processes and documents, all decisions are made by a national committee . Every issue will then be reviewed by an upper national committee for sustainable development before going to the environmental high council for final approval.

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>	B - No
<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>	B - No

* 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

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>C - Partly</p>
<p>4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}</p>	<p>A - Yes</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 Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Central and West Asia is one of the Ramsar convention initiative which works to meet the wetland training and research needs of the Ramsar Convention in the Central and West Asia Region as defined by the Ramsar Secretariat. also Centre will seek to work with other contracting and non contracting parties in all activities and in particular to learn from the countries with special experience in wetland conservation and wise use. Government of Islamic Republic of Iran support the obligation of carrying out the steps required to obtain premises appropriate to the Center's activities and commit itself to contribute as much as possible to the budget of the Center.

4.10.2 Under the UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project in Iran a Training Needs Analysis report was developed for national, provincial and local levels. The purpose of a training needs assessment was to identify performance requirements or needs within an organization in order to help direct resources to the areas of greatest need, those that closely relate to fulfilling the organizational goals and objectives, improving productivity and providing quality products and services.

4.10.3 Under the UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetlands Project in Iran several training programs were conducted for experts, site managers, local guards as well as the local community (mainly trappers and shooters). These workshops were on different subjects such as wetland management planning, community participation in wetland management, trust fund development waterbird monitoring and wetland monitoring. All these training programs were based on related recommendations and resolutions made by the Ramsar Convention. e.g. (a framework for designing a wetland monitoring program adopted by COP6 [Resolution VI.1]).

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