



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: REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Committee for Forestry and Hunting of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Mr. Nauryzbay Khadyrkeev, Chairman of Forestry and Hunting Committee
Mailing address:	35/2 street, Ministry House, entrance No5, 6 floor, office 608, 010000, Astana city
Telephone/Fax:	+7-717-2-74-33-26
Email:	cites@minagri.kz
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT (DAILY CONTACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY) FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Mr. Khairbek Mussabayev, Deputy Chairman
Mailing address:	Committee for Forestry and Hunting, House of Ministries, entrance No5, Orenburgskaya str., 010000 Astana city
Telephone/Fax:	+7-717-2-74-28-35
Email:	cites@minagri.kz
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	Mr, Sergey Yerokhov, Dr. of Biology, Ornithologist, Head of Laboratory of Ornithology
Name of organisation:	Institute of Zoology of the Ministry of Education and Science
Mailing address:	Sergey Yerokhov, Institute of Zoology, Al-Farabi Street, 93. 05060, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Telephone/Fax:	+ 7272 694860; + 7272 694860
Email:	syerokhov@nursat.kz
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	Mr. Khairbek Mussabayev Deputy Chairman, Committee for Forestry and Hunting
Name of organisation:	Committee for Forestry and Hunting
Mailing address:	House of Ministries, entrance No5, Orenburgskaya str., 010000 Astana city
Telephone/Fax:	+7-717-2-74-28-35
Email:	cites@minagri.kz
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Mr. Sergey Sklyarenko, Dr. of Biology, National IBA Program Coordinator
Name of organisation:	Association for Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan
Mailing address:	Al-Farabi Str. 93; 05060, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Telephone/Fax:	+ 7272 203877
Email:	sergey.sklyarenko@acb.kz



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?

The Republic of Kazakhstan became the official Contracting Party of the Convention on 2 of May 2007. Establishment of the expert workgroup for the development of Action Plan for implementation of the Ramsar Convention in May 2007.

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

1. The inclusion into Ramsar list of the Teniz-Korgalzhyn lakes system - the most significant wetland of Kazakhstan (repeated registration).
2. A List of globally significant wetlands for nomination to Ramsar List has been prepared. Ramsar informational sheets (RIS) were prepared for seven important wetlands: Alakol-Sasykkol lakes system, Ural River Delta, Lakes System of Irgi-Turgai lower reach, Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor-Urkash Lake System, Koibagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake.
3. Strengthening the status of Protected Areas (wetlands) by expansion of borders of Tengiz-Korgalzhyn State Nature Reserve, Naurzum State Nature Reserve and Alakol Nature Reserve.
4. Protected areas (Nature Reserves) are being established at Zharsor-Urkash Lake System and Ural River Delta.
5. 2 basin councils are created and agreement on water resources management is carried out.
6. Scientific monographies on 3 wetlands are prepared: Tengiz - Korgalzhin lakes system, Alakol-Sasykkol lakes system, Ural River Delta.
7. At the nominated territories programmes on public education and informing in the field of biodiversity conservation are implemented.
8. At all nominated territories Committees on wetlands management are created.
9. Protected areas (Nature Reserves) are being established at Zharsor-Urkash Lake System and Ural River Delta.

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

Preparation of Ramsar Informational Sheets on 4 priority wetlands for subsequent approval by the national administrative body and submission to the Ramsar Committee for inclusion into the List.

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

1. National Action Plan for implementation of Ramsar and Bonn Conventions is developed and approved.
2. A list of 19 priority Kazakhstan wetlands is developed to take measures for effective management of these wetlands.
3. To develop nomination documents for inclusion of priority wetlands of Kazakhstan to the Ramsar List.
4. To proceed with the development of the five year Action Plan on wetlands conservation in Kazakhstan
5. Establishment of new wetlands Protected Areas of global significance: Zharsor-Urkash lake system, Ural River Delta.

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

Some advisory help (international experience) is required for working out and development of new legislative documents for more effective Ramsar wetlands management.

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

Kazakhstan continues cooperation with the Secretariat of Bonn Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). In the course of realization of the procedures on joining to the Convention, Kazakhstan had been receiving the necessary assistance and consultations from the Convention Secretariat and the Regional Coordinator. At present within the discussion process on joining to AEWA Agreement the contacts with Technical Committee are maintained.

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?

At the national level there is an administrative governmental structure under the Committee for Forestry and Hunting MoA (Ministry of Agriculture) supervising realization of the Ramsar and Bonn Conventions' Action Plan, taken for triennium (2006-2009), as well as of the Memorandum on conservation of rare migratory waterfowl, under CITES. This allows to provide the necessary coordination and interrelation in implementation of regulations, Plans and Programms.

Yet the joint activity is needed for wetland conservation /climate change mitigation or combating desertification.

Strengthening cooperation with the World Heritage Convention is needed for nomination of Tengiz-korgalzhyn and Naurzum Lake Systems.

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)?

In 2006-2007 the Concept of transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to sustainable development and the Environmental Code have been accepted - this will promote improvement of realization of the Ramsar Convention.

Joining of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Ramsar Convention promoted introduction of changes and additions to the Water Code and the law of the Republic of Kazakhstan 'On Protection, Reproduction and Use of Fauna'. In 2008 the National Action Plan of conservation and rational use of wetlands of Kazakhstan for 2009-2012 will be developed.

It is necessary to have support from the Small Grants Programme by the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention for developing alternative livelihoods, promoting environmental education and public awareness raising to contribute to national programmes on poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation.

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

The Action Plan for implementation of the Ramsar Convention is realized by international wetlands projects, scientific institutions and public organizations under overall supervision of the Committee of Forestry and Hunting

SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Guidance for filling in this section

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

GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

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

Indicator questions:

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1}	A - Yes
1.1.2 Is the wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.3; 1.1.6}	C - Partly
1.1.3 Does your country have information about the status and trends of the ecological character of wetlands (Ramsar sites and/or wetlands generally)? {1.2.2} [if “Yes”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below, from where or from whom this information can be accessed]	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	--- ---

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. By the moment of official acceding of Kazakhstan to the Convention, inventory of 38 important wetlands of Kazakhstan was carried out. Based on its results 19 wetlands were recognized as the most priority and recommended for inclusion into Ramsar List. In 2007 the most significant wetlands - Teniz-Korgalzhyn Lake System was included into the Ramsar List. Currently, informational sheets have been prepared for other 7 priority wetlands (Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor - Urkash Lake System, Koibagor - Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake, Alakol-Sasykkol Lake System, Ural Rier Delta and the Lake System of lower streams of Irgiz-Turgay rivers)

1.1.2. Information on implementation of the convention is posted at the web-site of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan www.minagri.kz Two project web-sites contain information on priority wetlands of Kazakhstan (www.wetlands.kz; www.scwpkaz.kepter.kz). Information is also distributed through informational bulletins, booklets, articles in Mass Media, etc.

1.1.3. Research have been carried out at Tengiz-Korgalzhyn and Alakol-Sasykkol lakes systems, Ural River Delta, Irgiz-Turgay, Naurzum, Zharsor - Urkash, Tjuntjugur - Zhanshura lakes systems and the Kulykol Lake. The tracking of birds - indicators of the state of biodiversity is carried on annual basis. Programms of System Monitoring of the Environment have been development for three sites (Tengiz-Korgalzhyn, Alakol - Sasykkol lakes systems and Ural River Delta) for assessment of changes in the character of the environment.

Management Plans for Tengiz-Korgalzhyn, Alakol-Sasykkol and Naurzym Lakes systems are developed. Management Plan is being developed for Zhansor-Urkash lakes systems and the same is planned for the future Reserve 'AkZhayk' in Ural River Delta.

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

On 8 priority wetlands: Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor - Urkash Lake System, Koibagor - Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake, Tegniz-Korgalzhyn Lake System, Alakol-Sasykkol Lake System, Ural River Delta - the monitoring of the state of the habitat and biodiversity, assessment of ecological situation are conducted on constant basis.

The Actions Plans for management of the given wetlands are applied (in particular where the Protected Areas regime is in force).

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}	C - Partly
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}	C - Partly

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. The norms on wetlands protection and management are stipulated by the Law of the RoK 'On Protected Areas', the Water Code and the Law 'On Protection, Reproduction and Use of Fauna'.

1.2.2. The Concept for transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to sustainable development for 2006-2024 is in place from 2006.

1.2.3. Issues of wetlands conservation and regulation are partially reflected in the Concept for transition to sustainable development of the RoK for 2006-2024.

1.2.4. For the Alakol Lake the optimum water level for development of ecosystem is identified, research for development of a scientific substantiation of an ecological drain of water-currents for maintenance of sustainable development of Alakol-Sasykkol lakes ecosystems is carried out. For Korgalzhyn lakes the minimal water level below which starts degradation of the ecosystem is identified.

In 2007 for three wetlands (Alakol-Sasykkol, Tengiz-Korgalzhyn and Ural River Delta) the methodical recommendations for conducting water objects monitoring are developed and approved. The sample points and water quality parameters are identified. At Alakol-Sasykkol wetlands sites 8 Rural Water Users Associations are established.

On four wetlands: Naurzum, Zharsor-Urkash, Tjuntjugur-Zhanshura lakes system and the Kulykol lake an assessment of water resources is carried out, recommendations on their rational use are developed, the Water Basin Council is created comprising all water-users of the region; water basin agreement is prepared.

1.2.5. The Environmental Code contains the norm on obligatory environmental assessment of all anthropogenous intervention activities to the environment and use of bioresources.

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}	A - Yes
1.3.3 Has national action been taken to implement the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)? {3.2.1}	B - No

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}	A - Yes
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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. The principle of 'ecosystem benefits' and 'ecosystem approach' for Ramsar sites is used at present in the course of realization of GEF/UNDP and GEF/UNEP project in Kazakhstan. Herewith, ecosystem zoning has been made, main disturbance factors and threats to special ecosystem types have been described and current monitoring of water and overland environment condition and biodiversity components for all types of ecosystems represented here is being conducted.

1.3.2. Aforementioned GEF\UNDP and GEF\UNEP wetlands projects include activities on poverty alleviation through alternative livelihood programme and supply of local population with food and water. The gained experience will be applied to other wetland sites in Kazakhstan.

1.3.4. The guidelines on cultural significance of wetlands are used at above-mentioned 7 wetlands sites, where GEF/UNDP and GEF/UNEP projects are being implemented, to full extent. A considerable area at 'Alakol-Sasykkol Lake System' is used by the population for rest, recovery and tourism.

Nomination documents (for Tengiz-Korlgazhyn lake system for the nomination of 'Steppes and Lakes of Kazakhstan' and Naurzum lakes system) have been developed and submitted to the Secretariat of the World Cultural Heritage.

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}	A - Yes
1.4.2 Have CEPA expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management?	B - No
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}	B - No
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 ...]”

1.4.1. In Kazakhstan there are structures organized by a principle of river basin management - 8 basin water-economic managements (BWEM) under the Committee on Water Resources. Activity

of the BWEM is based on the approved schemes of complex use and protection of water resources. At present for Balkhash-Alakol water basin and Ural River such schemes are being developed to consider the needs of wetlands ecosystems of Alakol-Sasykkol lakes and Ural River Delta.

The water basin agreement for rational water resources management of Naurzum lakes is developed, its approval with all interested parties is under way.

1.4.3. The biological justification for expansion of the pre-mouth area of Ural River for regulation of fishery is developed.

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:

<p>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]</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>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}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

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. There are two on-going wetlands projects In Kazakhstan:

1. UNDP/GEF project 'Integrated conservation of globally significant migratory bird wetland habitat: a demonstration at three sites (Tengiz-Korgalzhyn and Alakol-Sasykkol Lakes Systems and Ural River Delta)'.
2. UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane wetlands Project. Project sites: Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor-Urkash Lake System, Koibagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake.

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:

<p>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}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>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}</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

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. According to the article of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan 'On Protected Areas' and the Law 'On Protection, Reproduction and Use of Fauna' on establishment of restrictions and interdictions on use of fauna with the purpose of conservation and reproduction - Any acclimatization and breeding of new alien animal species on the territory of Kazakhstan is forbidden without the permission of the authorized state body.

1.6.2. The Republic of Kazakhstan has joined the Framework Convention on Conservation of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, within which the activities preventing introduction of alien species to the Caspian Sea are carried out.

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

2.1.1 A national list, including 19 wetlands corresponding to the Ramsar List Criteria has been prepared and approved by a national authorized structure – the Forestry and Hunting Committee MA RK. The most significant - Tengiz-Korgalzhyn Lake System wetland has been included into the Ramsar List. Informational sheets have been developed for 7 priority wetland - Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor - Urkash Lake System, Koibagor - Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake, Alakol-Sasykkol Lake System, Delta of the Ural River, and Irgiz-Turgay Lakes System. In 2007 three RISs have been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat.

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

More than 70 wetlands important for waterbirds meeting the criteria of international significance are being identified during implementation of the national Program on Important Bird Areas in Kazakhstan.

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?

C - Partly

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 ...]”

2.2.1 The Ramsar Site - Teniz-Korgalzhyn Lake System was included into Ramsar List in 1974, as a wetland, located on the territory of the former USSR; in 2007 was registered in the Ramsar List again, as a wetland located on the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan. For this the Ramsar Committee was submitted an informational sheet with updated information on the condition of Teniz-Korgalzhyn Lake System.

Also, updated information was included into an informational sheet submitted in 2007 to the Secretariat on other Kazakhstani wetlands earlier listed in the Ramsar List - Lakes System of Lower Streams of Irgiz and Torgay Rivers.

2.2.2. Management Plan developed for Korgalzhyn reserve was developed based on the information prepared for inclusion into Ramsar List. The monitoring of biodiversity is carried out.

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
2.3.2 Have management plans/strategies been developed and implemented at all Ramsar sites? {11.1.2} [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]	A - Yes
2.3.3 Have cross-sectoral site management committees been established at Ramsar sites? {11.1.5} [If “Yes” or “Some sites”, please name the sites in Additional implementation information]	A - Yes
2.3.4 Has any assessment of Ramsar site management effectiveness been carried out? [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]	A - Yes

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. System monitoring of the habitat (biodiversity and water resources) based on recommendations of UNDP/GEF Wetlands project is carried out at Tengiz-Korgalzhyn lakes
2.3.2. Management Plan of Korgalzhyn Reserve was developed, which allows for the assessment of natural and socio-economic values of the reserve, to identify main threats and problems of PA management, to form goals and aims, to develop optimal activities to reach the set goals. Management plans are developed and ready for introduction at 5 wetlands more: Alakol-Sasykkol, Zharsor-urkash, Anurzum lakes systems, Ural River Delta and the Markakol Lake.
2.3.3. The Council on Resource Management including representatives of local administration, fishery, hunting, agriculture farms administration and other stakeholders have been established and operating at the Ramsar site -Teniz-Korgalzhyn Lake System.
The same councils are established at priority 7 wetlands: Alakol-Sasykkol Lake System and Delta of the Ural River, Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor-Urkash Lake System, Koibagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake.

2.3.4 For assessment of effective management of the state reserves and national parks there are approved rating criteria of the Committee for Forestry and Hunting.

In parallel in 2007 the Korgalzhyn Reserve was assessed against METT rating system. The score received - 62 out of possible 96 or 69,7 %. Alakol Reserve got 47 scores.

Reporting Progress at Protected Area Sites (PATT) for 2005-2007 was made at: Naurzum Lake System (62 scores out of 89 possible), Zharsor-Urkash Lake System (24 scores)

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

Action Plan on species management is approved for the Ramsar site - Korgalzhyn Reserve (white-headed duck).

For Naurzum Reserve - Action Plan on Sociable Lapwing management is also approved.

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

Indicator questions:

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

Additional implementation information:

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

2.4.1. The Forestry and Hunting Committee is constantly informed about all changes in environmental characters of the Ramsar site. The changes in ramsar site, if any, are entered to UNDP/GEF Wetlands project data base which includes biodiversity components.

The changes in Naurzum Lakes system, Zhansor Ugash, Koibagar-Tuyntugur, Kulykol lakes are entered to the Secretariat of Bonn Convention and Wetlands International.

2.4.2. Not applicable

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]	D - Planned

Additional implementation information:

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

2.5.1. The list of 19 priority wetlands of Kazakhstan include 2 transboundary wetlands: Delta of the Cherniy Irtysh River (Kara Yertis) bordering with the People’s Republic of China, and Shardarin Water Reservoir directly connected with Arnasay water system of neighboring Republic of Uzbekistan.

2.5.2. At present, a draft Agreement between Kazakhstan and China (Xinjiang-Uigur autonomous region) on cooperation in the field of conservation and efficient use of transboundary water bodies - the Irtysh (Cherniy Irtysh) and Ile rivers, supported by Kazakhstan and Chinese Parties, is being developed.

Within UNEP/GEF Sibirian Creane wetlands project joint management of wetlands as a network of waterfowl flyways is being implemented by 4 countries: Russia, Iran, China and Kazakhstan

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
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Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicator 2.6.1

2.6.1. - In May 2007 UNDP/GEF projects on wetlands and biodiversity conservation from East Europe and CIS met at the Regional Workshop in Kazakhstan. As a result the idea of establishment of the OWL (organizing wetland learning) Network to maintain further contacts and experience exchange was supported.

- Within the framework of UNEP/GEF SCWP, a regional initiative on the conservation of the flyways significant for 32 rare and threatened waterbird and especially for the Siberian Crane is being implemented by 4 countries: Russia, Iran, China and Kazakhstan

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

Kazakhstan participates in the initiative of the Convention on Migratory animal Species on the development of the Action Plan on Central-Asian-Indian Flyway - within GEF/UNEP 'Conservation of Habitats and the Flyways for the Western Population of the Siberian Crane' project (the wetlands of Kostanay region and Delta of the Ural River in Atyrau region).

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}	C - Partly
3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {13.1.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}	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 The Forestry and Hunting Committee is a coordinating body of the Ramsar, Bonn and CITES conventions. There is an agreement between the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Committee for Forestry and Hunting and Committee of Water Resources on monitoring of water objects. National Focal Points work for different state bodies, therefore coordination between Ramsar Focal Point with Focal Points of other MEAs needs to be strengthened.

3.1.2. Twice a year within the frames of UNDP/GEF Wetlands Project takes place Project Steering Committee meeting, which is attended by its constant members - representatives of all interested agencies and state bodies, including National Focal Points of some MEAs.

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

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

Indicator questions:

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

Additional implementation information:

A): on Indicators 3.2.1-3.2.2

3.2.1. - Within the framework of UNEP/GEF wetlands project 7 bi-lateral agreements at national and international levels for knowledge exchange and trainings were concluded.

- In 2007 UNDP/GEF Wetlands project carried out international conference for all UNDP/GEF project on biodiversity and wetlands conservation from Eastern Europe and CIS. Unanimous decision was taken at the end of the meeting to organize an OWL (organizing wetland learning) network to maintain further contacts and experience exchange.

3.2.2. - Within the framework of UNDP/GEF wetlands project a strategy on public awareness raising and environmental education is being actively realized through project web-site www.wetlands.kz; video-clips which are broadcasted at national TV. A wide range of bulletins and publications are published and disseminated among all stakeholders. Information about wetlands and trainings comes out in Mass Media (TV and press) during environmental campaigns, web-sites of the Ministry of agriculture (www.minagri.kz), Ministry of Environmental Protection (www.nature.kz), UNDP (www.undp.kz). In the areas of environmental education the programmes on wetlands for secondary schools of Tengiz-Korgalzhyn, Alakol-Sasykkol lakes system and Ural River Delta are developed and approved by local education Departments. The programmes are already applied at all schools of the Ramsar site.

Within UNEP/GEF SCWP project a strategy on public awareness raising and environmental education is also being actively realized. The population of project sites, national agencies are regularly informed through the project web-site www.scwpkaz.kepter.kz, video films, booklets, publications etc.

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

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

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

Indicator questions:

4.1.1 Has resource information been compiled on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management? {6.1.5}	C - Partly
4.1.2 Have traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands been documented and their application encouraged? {6.1.2}	C - Partly
4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party promote public participation in decision-making (with respect to wetlands), especially with local stakeholder involvement in the selection of new Ramsar sites and in Ramsar site management? {6.1.4}	C - Partly
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} [if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar sites and their names in Additional implementation information below]	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 ...]"

4.1.1 Information on participation of local communities and the native population in wetland management was collected during socio-economic research (at Tengiz-Korlgazhyn and Alakol-Sasykkol Lakes Systems, Ural River Delta), on the basis of minutes of meetings, reports (Naurzum Lake System, Zharsor-Urkash Lake System, Koibagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake).

4.1.2 Expertise on management related to wetlands is being documented and their application is promoted. Annual monitoring of birds, Nature Chronicles and examination of hydrological network is carried out at 7 significant wetlands nominated as Ramsar sites: Tengiz-Korgalzhyn, Naurzum Lake System, Alakol-Sasykkol, Zharsor-Urkash Lake System, Koibagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System, Kulykol Lake, Ural river Delta. The traditional mobile grazing is also still in place.

4.1.3 At some wetland sites, including Ramsar Site local authorities and initiative groups are actively participating in the work of Councils on resource management. Though at the process of identification of new Ramsar sites local population is not much involved. Mainly this is a prerogative of scientific substations.

4.1.4. On Tengiz-Korlgazhyn and Alakol -Sasykkol lakes systems within UNDP/GEF Wetlands Project the programme on education for the local population of all age groups on significance and cultural value of wetlands is being implemented through trainings on ecotourism, felt craftsmanship, modern dairy production, as well as during development of ideas for small grants, business planning. Local population is trained to value the cultural value of wetlands. For schoolchildren of some wetland sites environmental programmes on wetlands are developed and introduced.

Within the frames of UNEP/GEF SCWP project the education programme for local communities of different ages groups on cultural value is carried out as well as on trainings on business development at four wetlands: Nurzum , Zhansor-Urkasuntyugur lakes systems, the Kulykol lake.

4.1.5 Cultural values are included into Ramsar site Management Plan by promotion of ecotourism development. Following environmental routes of the Reserve one encounters a big number of cultural monuments

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

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

Indicator questions:

4.2.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands? {7.1.1}	C - Partly
4.2.2 Have private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” fora or similar mechanisms been established? {7.1.4} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information below the private sector companies involved]	C - Partly

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. There are initiative groups on introduction of methods of sustainable fishery, agriculture and hunting at the Ramsar Site - Tengiz-Korlgazhyn lakes system. Under UNDP/GEF and UNEP/GEF projects a programme on training the population in alternative livelihoods is being realized. Project proposals for grants are being prepared, non-governmental organizations are being established. 8 Rural Water Users Associations are established at Alakol-Sasykkol wetlands sites.

4.2.2. At the Ramsar Site - Tengiz-Korgalzhyn lakes system, the private sector participates in annual campaigns such as 'March for Parks', 'Crane Festival', 'Flamingo Festival' by trees planting, clearing the river coasts, etc. Within the framework of UNEP/GEF SCWP, a Resource center for support of population initiatives on biodiversity conservation is established, information network 'White Crane' for naurzum site population awareness raising in the field of environmental conventions is created, a club of birdwatchers is created.

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}	A - Yes

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 At the Ramsar site and Alakol-Sasykkol lakes systems trainings for water users promoting wise water use and trainings on ecotourism and other alternative livelihood promoting decrease of the load on wetlands bioresources are carried out. Eight water users associations among farmers are created at Alakol-Sasykkol wetlands. Use of alternative energy sources to promote nomadic remote pasturing is supported. At Naurzym lakes system a Water Basin Council for wise consumption of water has been established, a society of water consumers is being created.
 4.3.2 Within UNDP/GEF and UNEP/GEF projects certain activities to prevent negative influence on wetlands are carried out. Workshops and trainings are carried out to prevent fires at wetlands coasts. At the Ramsar site fire stations along the borders of the Reserve are being set, voluntary fire-brigades are being equipped with fire-preventing inventory. In the area of hunting, fishery and agriculture main causes of unsustainable use of resources have been identified, at present the methods of development and application of sustainable techniques are being introduced.

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} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe in Additional implementation information below the mechanism]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<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} [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>	<p>B - No</p>
<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>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<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} [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>

4.4.6 Have education centres been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands? {r9.viii.i}

[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]

C - Some sites

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. The general mechanism of planning and realization of wetland CEPA is absent, but every NGO, projects and agencies have the awareness raising and communications plan

4.4.3. Distribution and information interchange on wetlands between the ministries and agencies is conducted through a web-site www.wetlands.kz, bulletins, and wetlands Project Steering Committee Meetings, as well as by means of the meetings carried out by UNDP Environment and sustainable development Unit. Wetlands Visitor Centers are being created at Korgalzhyn and Alakol Reserve. Centers will include special rooms for children, winter halls, water halls etc. Modern architectural desing is prepared by UNDP/GEF Wetlands Project, but construction works are funded by government.

4.4.4 Annually within the March for Parks campaign activities on increase of awareness of the population about wetlands ecosystems are carried out. At wetland sites Birds Days, Day of the Earth, competitions of best pictures and compositions are hold. Presentations for local people on importance of wetlands and their role and benefits are made, information materials are being distributed. Videoclips on fires, preservation of sturgeon, rare and threatening species of animals, saiga, Dalmatian pelicans are created and broadcast on national TV. Two films about uniqueness of Tengiz-Korgalzhyn and Alakol-Sasykkol lakes system are being prepared. Two films about Crane Festival at Naurzum Reserve and the film 'Do not shoot at the White Crane' are prepared. During Festivals, seminars, educational campaigns, the population is informed about social, economic and cultural values, on uniqueness of wetlands. At wetland sites, ministries and agencies desk and wall calendars with pictures of wetlands birds, children's pictures, wetlands landscapes are widespread. All publications are disseminated among schools, libraries, administrative bodies. Textbooks and environmental programmes on wetlands for secondary schools are prepared and widespread in schools of projects wetlands sites.

4.4.5. Annually on Wetlands Day meetings with students of hihg schools and schoolboys are carried out, press conferences on topical issues are organised: avian flu, establishment of the new reserve in the Ural River Delta, etc. Also Crane Festivals are carried out at Naurzum Reserve devoted to conservation of wetlands biodiversity with participation of governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

4.4.6 Within UNEP/GEF Siberian Crane Wetland Project the Resource- information and educational Center was established for loval population. An information network 'the White crane' covering the population of four wetlands nominated to the ARamsar List.

At the Ramsar Site - Tengiz-korgalzhyn lakes system Wetlands Visitor Center is being created at Korgalzhyn Reserve based on former Nature Museum. The Center will include special rooms for children, winter halls, water halls etc. Modern architectural desing is prepared by UNDP/GEF Wetlands Project, but construction works are funded by government. Finalization of construction works are planned for the end of 2008.

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>A - Yes</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. GEF allocated funds for two wetland projects though UNPD and UNEP in the amount of 8,7 mln dollars and 1 mln dollars accordingly.

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>B - No</p>
<p>b) If “No” in 4.6.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:</p>	

<p>4.6.2 {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?</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>b) If yes, please state the amounts:</p>	

Additional implementation information:

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

[Redacted area]

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

[Redacted area]

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

Indicator questions:

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

A): on Indicator 4.7.1

[Redacted area]

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

[Redacted area]

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} [If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate in Additional implementation information if this has led to proposals for, or implementation of, any changes in institutional responsibilities]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>4.8.2 Is a National Ramsar/Wetlands cross-sectoral Committee (or equivalent body) in place and operational? {18.1.2} [If “Yes”, please summarise in Additional implementation information its membership and frequency of meetings]</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>

Additional implementation information:

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

4.8.1. Protection and rational use of water, fish and hunting resources are supervised by the ministry of Agriculture, and also 3 scientific institutions (biology, zoology and botany)

4.8.2. Under the Committee of Forestry and Hunting of the Ministry of Agriculture of the RK the working expert group on realization of Ramsar Convention is established. The Expert Group includes representatives from scientific institutions, agencies, international projects, etc. The Action Plan on realization of the Ramsar Convention has been prepared.

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

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

Indicator question:

<p>4.9.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs* in its implementation of the Convention? [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	B - No
<p>4.9.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs*? [If "Yes", please provide in Additional implementation information the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided]</p>	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>	A - Yes
<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>	B - No
<p>4.10.3 Have opportunities for wetland site manager training in the country been provided? {20.1.6}</p>	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. At the support of the Forestry and Hunting Committee and regional GEF/UNEP project 'Strengthening the network of the training centers for PA management', the Educational center for carrying out trainings for PA employees, including wetlands managers, is established

4.10.3. - On a constant basis from 2004 trainings for employees of Korgalzhyn and Alakol Reserves on monitoring and assessment of wetlands ecological conditions are carried out by projects and Educational Center. During 2006-2007 70 % of management staff of Naurzum Reserve passed capacity building training.

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