



NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

**National Reports to be submitted to the 11th Meeting
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,
Romania, June 2012**

Please submit the completed National Report, in electronic (Microsoft Word) format, and preferably by e-mail, to the Ramsar Secretariat by **15 September 2011**.

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

Introduction & background

1. This National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee in Decision SC41-24 for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Bucharest, Romania, June 2012).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 40th meeting in May 2009, and its Decision SC40-29, this COP11 National Report Format closely follows that used for the COP10 National Report Format, which in turn was a significantly revised and simplified format in comparison with the National Report Formats provided to previous recent COPs.
3. In addition to thus permitting continuity of reporting and implementation progress analyses by ensuring that indicator questions are as far as possible consistent with previous NRFs (and especially the COP10 NRF), this COP11 NRF is structured in terms of the Goals and Strategies of the 2009-2015 Ramsar Strategic Plan adopted at COP10 as Resolution X.1, and the indicators speak to relevant Key Result Areas (KRAs) for each Strategy in the Strategic Plan.
4. The COP11 NRF indicators include, with the agreement of the Standing Committee, certain indicators specifically requested to be included by the Convention's Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) in light of its work on assessing effectiveness indicators, and by the CEPA Oversight Panel, in order to facilitate their information gathering and reporting on key aspects of scientific, technical and CEPA implementation under the Convention. The format also includes indicator questions concerning the use of the "Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands", as requested in Resolution X.3 (2008).
5. This COP11 NRF includes 82 indicator questions. 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.
6. The COP11 Format also now includes an additional, optional, section (section 4) to permit a Contracting Party to provide additional information, if it wishes to, on indicators relevant to individual Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

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 website.
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 and experience to help Parties develop future action;
 - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
 - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable for their commitments under the Convention;

- v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and to plan its future priorities; and
 - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation 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 COP11 consideration.
10. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent 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 meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the 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., COP10 DOC. 6);
 - 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., COP10 DOC. 7); and
 - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP10 DOCs 8-13);
 - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP. Examples at CO9 and COP10 included:
 - Resolution IX.15 and X.13, *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), *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC. 25), *Overview of the implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2006-2008* (COP10 DOC. 16, and *Background and rationale to the Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character* (COP10 DOC. 27);
 - iii) providing the source data for 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 (4th edition, 2010); 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 on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the COP10 NRF indicators have been used extensively in 2009 in the preparation by the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP of contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems that was being considered by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3).

The structure of the COP11 National Report Format

12. The COP11 National Report Format is in four sections.

Section 1 provides the Institutional Information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.

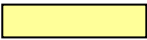

Section 2 is a “free-text” section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

Section 3 provides the 82 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015, and with an optional “free-text” section under each indicator question in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of that activity; and a further “free-text” section for adding further information on other aspects of implementation of that Strategy.

Section 4 (www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11_nrform_e_sec4.doc) is an optional Annex to the National Report Format to allow any Contracting Party that wishes to do so to provide additional information separately for any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites). This has been included at the request of a number of Parties.

Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP11 National Report Format

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

13. All of the first three Sections of the COP11 National Report Format should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
14. The deadline for submission of the completed NRF is **15 September 2011**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP11.
15. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
16. Fields with a pale green background  are optional free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields in the NRF is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, since experience

shows 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.

17. In order to assist Contracting Parties in providing 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.
18. The Format is created as a “Form” in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information, as all other parts of the form are locked to ensure that the form and wording of indicators will remain uniform and comparable for all Parties. If you need to work with an unlocked version of the Format, please contact Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer (dufour@ramsar.org), who will advise on how that can be done.
19. 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.
20. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the “Tab” key on the computer keyboard.
21. 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 Microsoft “Form” format there is limited facility to make editorial changes in the “free-text” box once text has been entered.
22. Certain keyboard characters interfere with the automatic data entry into our database for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [] °°°° in the “free text” fields.
23. 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, but are generally of the form: “Yes”, “No”, “Partly”, “In progress”, etc. This is necessary so that statistical comparisons can be made of the replies.
24. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can do so in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
25. 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.
26. 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. When filling in this form, it is also advised to refer back to the National Report submitted for COP10 for purposes of continuity and consistency.

27. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP11NRF [Country] [date].
28. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by e-mail, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, e-mail: dufour@ramsar.org. The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in this electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
29. 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 COP11 National Report.**
30. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP11 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: JAMAICA	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Mr. Peter Knight JP. Chief Executive Officer
Mailing address:	10 & 11 Caledonia Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica W.I.
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Email:	peter.knight@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
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Email:	ahenry@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	Professor Dale Webber Director, Centre for Marine Sciences/Chair, Environmental Management Unit
Name of organisation:	Department of Life Sciences, University of the West Indies
Mailing address:	Mona Campus, Kingston 7, Jamaica W.I.
Telephone/Fax:	876-935-8835-6/876-977-1033
Email:	dale.webber@uwimona.edu.jm
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	Natalie Fearon Manager, Public Education and Corporate Communications
Name of organisation:	National Environment and Planning Agency
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Telephone/Fax:	876-754-7540/876-754-7594-6
Email:	nfearon@nepa.gov.jm
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
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Name of organisation:	Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation
Mailing address:	P.O. Box 33, Lionel Town, Clarendon, Jamaica W.I.
Telephone/Fax:	876-986-3327(Work) 876-986-3956 (Fax)
Email:	iparchment@yahoo.com



SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP10 reporting):

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

During the 2009-2011 triennium Jamaica has conducted the following tasks toward the implementation of the Convention.

Activities below are pursuant to the implementation of Goal 1 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015:

Strategy 1.2.i

Mangrove wetlands were assessed islandwide using desktop GIS analysis to compare data produced by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in 2005, with digitized data extracted from Google Earth (Digitalglobe) images in 2010. The total area of mangroves in each parish was extracted and compared for the two time periods. A ranking system for wetlands based on the Strategic Framework and Guidelines for the Future Development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance' as amended by COP9, 2005 was also created in 2010.

Strategies 1.3, 1.6, & 2.4.iii

The Small Grants Fund (SGF) allocation to Jamaica In 2008 was used by the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) to undertake research in the Bowden and Great Morass areas of St. Thomas based on the the recommendation of the National Ramsar Committee (NRC), which had identified these wetlands as being severely under-researched. One of the recommendations from that research was that attempts should be made to formulate development plans which include preservation area status for sections of these wetlands. Consequently, in 2010 as a part of the "Development Orders" process under the Town and Planning Act, further work was done to determine environmentally vulnerable areas and designate some level of protection to these areas. This resulted in wetlands such as the Great Morass Game Reserve and Bowden being proposed as Conservation Areas in the emerging Development Order that is being prepared. When finalized the Development Order will seek to ensure that these areas remain in their natural state to continue providing ecological values and functions by making certain that any development allowed are subjected to restrictive conditions.

Strategy 1.3.i

In 2010 Jamaica drafted the document Guidelines for the, Relocation and Restoration of Jamaica's Coastal Resources: Corals, Seagrass & Mangroves. In the absence of a National Wetland Policy, this document offers guidance to developers and applicants on the procedures involved in obtaining an approval from NEPA and on the specific requirements that would be applicable for the relocation of coastal resources with a specific emphasis on seagrass, coral and mangrove habitats. These guidelines are intended to eliminate or mitigate the potentially harmful impacts that coastal development works can have upon the coastal and estuarine environment. Additionally there are draft policies addressing coastal zone management issues: Coral Reef Policy, Mangroves & Coastal Wetlands Policy and the Seagrass Policy. These drafts are to be amalgamated into one National Coastal and Wetlands Policy which incorporates the more expansive definition of wetlands as outlined by the Ramsar Convention. The first draft of this combined policy document was prepared in 2009 and its development ongoing. An

Action Plan for Corals and Reef was drafted in 2010 and is expected to be a dynamic plan and will represent the collective experience of government and non-governmental coral professionals in order to reverse the decline of Jamaica's coral reef.

Strategy 1.4

Through the 'Natural Resource Valuation within Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)' Project, Jamaica is seeking to incorporate the economic value of ecosystem functions into the EIA process to more accurately depict the cost of development. This will allow the decision-making process to become more holistic and better enable environmentally sound and sustainable development. The project's outputs include a set of natural resource valuation tools (outlined in a manual) which will form an integral part of the implementation procedures of EIAs and Strategic Environmental Assessments.

Strategies 1.4, 1.7. 3.3 & 4.1.iii

In 2010 Jamaica commenced the implementation of the Watershed Area Management Mechanism (WAMM) in the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site. This WAMM was developed through the Global Environment Facility-Intergrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management (GEF-IWCAM) project in the Driver's River Watershed Management Unit in the eastern end of the island in 2006-09. The mechanism is designed to provide watershed practitioners, government agencies, NGOs, funding agencies and ordinary citizens, a simple, practical and flexible method of achieving sustainable watershed management using lessons learnt from previous projects as well as watershed initiatives, locally and regionally. There are 10 components in the WAMM and first five were implemented within the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site are: engaging communities, governance approach, reconnaissance of resources, capacity building through training and establishing indicators for assessment and evaluation. The last five components will be implemented between September and December 2011.

Strategy 1.4ii

A Water Quality Monitoring, Early Warning and Response Programme spearheaded by NEPA and its partners has been implemented in the Black River Watershed inclusive of the Ramsar Site since 2010. The programme aims to effectively monitor and manage the natural resources within the Black River Basin. Long-term monitoring of the basin is essential to detect changes in this system so as to provide the basis for its proper management to generally safeguard public health and the ecological character of the area inclusive of the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site (BRLMRS). One major objective of the training exercises was to develop a cadre of individuals within local communities, designated as First Responders or River Guardians, who collect water samples as soon as possible after a pollution incident and prior to the arrival of the formal response mechanism. Representatives from NEPA, other agencies and institutions have also been solicited to form a core technical group responsible for the transport and analysis of these samples. This programme was also replicated in the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area & Ramsar Site (PPRPA&RS) in late 2010 and plans are in place for its further implementation in the Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA) inclusive of the Portland Bight Wetlands and Cays Ramsar Site (PBWCRS) in 2011.

Strategies 1.6

In 2011 NEPA completed avifaunal assessment of the PPRPA&RS as well as the Negril Environmental Protection Area (another major expanse of wetland in western Jamaica). The three year study was designed to collect avifaunal data within these protected areas and provide baseline information on the various bird species that utilize the areas as a basis for an inference on the quality of the habitat and development of a monitoring

protocol. In 2010 there was the implementation of the project Promoting Wetland Bird Conservation through the Caribbean Census Protocol developed by the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB). This project is funded by the Neotropical Bird Conservation Act Fund, United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and aims; to determine bird species, numbers and distribution in the PRRPA&RS and PBWCRS; to engage community members through workshops and active participation in field activities to build awareness; and to create a framework for long-term monitoring programme to include community participation.

Strategies 1.6 & 2.4.iii

Jamaica continues to strengthen its marine protected areas system with the establishment of fish sanctuaries as no-fishing zones reserved for the reproduction of fish populations. This protected status is declared by the Minister with responsibility for Agriculture and Fisheries under Section 18 of the Fishing Industry Act of 1975. Jamaica declared nine additional sites in 2009, three of which lie within designated Ramsar sites, and plans are in place to clearly demarcate these zones to allow for easier monitoring and compliance by the public. Sanctuaries are managed through a cooperative arrangement between the government and community organisations (non-government organisations). Each of these partnerships is formalized by a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between the responsible Ministry and the collaborating organization.

Strategy 1.8.i

In 2010 Jamaica commenced a major shoreline protection project within the PRRPA&RS. This project is being implemented as a part of our adaptation to climate change measures to ensure that the major roadway linking one of the islands international airports to the capital city is protected. The activities being undertaken have resulted in some minor loss of wetland areas but this loss is temporary as replanting/rehabilitation has commenced and is mandated by the permitting process. It should be noted that an EIA was conducted for the proposed activities as per the recommendations of the Convention.

Strategy 1.9

Jamaica is one of five (5) caribbean countries participating in the Mitigating the Threat of Invasive Aliens Species in the Insular Caribbean (MTIASIC) Project. This Caribbean wide four (4) year project which commenced in 2009, is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and is being implemented by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) for the Caribbean and Latin America. It's main objective is to mitigate the threat to local biodiversity and economy from invasive alien species (IAS) through the development of National IAS Strategies; the establishment of Caribbean-wide cooperation in addressing IAS; the development of a Regional IAS Strategy; increasing general IAS awareness through the generation, management and dissemination of knowledge and increasing the countries capacity to detect, respond, control, and manage IAS impact in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. The Jamaican pilot project sites include the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar as well as other wetlands of scientific importance. Target IAS species include the invasive lionfish (found in the marine components of all of our Ramsar Sites) and the plants Paperbark Tree and Wild Ginger.

Activities below are pursuant to the implementation of Goal 2 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015:

Strategy 2.1.iv

Over the last triennium Jamaica has made significant strides towards the designation of its 4th Ramsar site. A Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) had been previously submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat (RS) for review in 2005 and was returned with guidance to allow for designation. This guidance is being incorporated into the RIS by the Natural History Museum of Jamaica-Institute of Jamaica to allow for the designation of the Mason River Protected Area, an inland peat bog wetland located at an altitude of approximately 670 m in central Jamaica. It is anticipated that this designation will occur in advance of COP 11 in Romania in 2012.

Strategy 2.4.iii

The development of a zoning plan for the PPRPA which includes the Ramsar site is currently underway. This is being done with a view to maintain the ecological processes, preserve the biological diversity, protect the cultural heritage of the area and determine the areas where sustainable activities may be permitted.

A Ramsar Wetland Information Signs Project was started in 2010. The project aims to design, replace/improve and install signs in the three designated Ramsar sites. The signs were designed based on the guidance of the Convention and reflect information on the natural and cultural heritage, as well as archaeological aspects of the Ramsar Sites. This project is being partially funded by the remaining funds from the 2008 Ramsar SGF allocation and is expected to be completed by November 2011.

Jamaica continues to monitor the sea turtle index beach in PPRPA&RS and conducts sea turtle nesting beach reconfirmation activities islandwide. These activities revealed that within the PPRPA&RS the deep grooves of tire tracks from driving on the beach was creating a barrier for emerging hatchlings. Consequently, in 2011 NEPA installed bollards within the site to restrict vehicular access and hence prevent further degradation of the sand dunes. It should also be noted that in 2010-2011 marker buoys were installed along the marine boundary of the PPRPA&RS within the Kingston Harbour. This project is designed to encourage compliance with the eventual zoning and enable more effective monitoring of the PPRPA&RS. Additionally, with assistance from the UNEP, Jamaica made a successful application to the GEF in 2010 and secured funding for training in the installation of moorings within the PPRPA&RS. This is scheduled to begin in October 2011 and completed January 2012 and will reduce the impact of anchoring on the benthic resources in the area.

Activities below are pursuant to the implementation of Goal 3 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015:

Strategy 3.2

Jamaica was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Caribbean Regional Initiative on Wetlands (CaRIWet). Over the last triennium, under the guidance of Jamaica, Cuba and the Ramsar Secretariat, the initiative has secured the endorsement of the Standing Committee and is now a recognized initiative under the Convention. This initiative has gained momentum and there have been two meetings where a workplan and mechanism for implementation has been developed. CaRIWet is currently formulating a regional project for implementation as a part of its workplan for the coming triennium.

Jamaica will host from 6-13 December 2011 the V Pan American Regional Meeting of the Parties to the Convention in preparation for the XI meeting of the Conference of Parties to be held in Romania in 2012.

Activities below are pursuant to the implementation of Goal 4 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015:

Strategy 4.1

NEPA as the focal point for the Convention annually plans and executes Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) activities to commemorate World Wetlands Day (WWD). A multi-stakeholder approach is the key to this drive as efforts are supported by other governmental organisations, NGO's, community based organizations (CBOs), community development committees (CDCs), cultural groups and the media. Campaigns are executed under the themes highlighted by the Convention yearly and target audiences includes but are not limited to resource users, community members, churches, NGOs, schools and informal groups. The activities undertaken islandwide included community meetings, radio and television interviews, church services and notices, school and summer camp presentations, boat tours through Ramsar sites, mass media campaign, mangrove replanting, exhibitions, social media such as updates on twitter and facebook as well as debate competitions amongst secondary school students. The Agency also sensitized the media through training for journalists and a media tour of the PBPA coordinated by the Voices for Climate Change Education Project, PANOS Caribbean and the National Environmental Education Committee (NEEC).

In 2010-2011 a wide array of public education materials were developed for dissemination during outreach activities, including brochures and posters providing information on the Convention and wetlands. In celebration of the United Nations General Assembly declaration of the year 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), NEPA generated a series of articles on Jamaica's biodiversity for publication in local newspapers and one article focused on wetlands and their importance. Additionally, Jamaica staged various activities which included the creation of a IYB website, presentations to schools, photographic competition and two travelling displays which was mounted at libraries and various institutions across the island. One display provided a photographic representation of various aspects of Jamaica's biodiversity including its wetlands and other coastal resources and the second display featured coral reefs.

Strategy 4.1.ii

In 2009 with support from the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ), the University of the West Indies (UWI) established the EFJ/UWI Port Royal Biodiversity Centre at the UWI Port Royal Marine Laboratory. This biodiversity centre is located within the PRRPA&RS and provides information on the various ecosystems and species within the area.

Additionally Jamaica, as the representative to the Standing Committee, participates as a member of the Board of Directors of the the Ramsar Regional Centre for the Western Hemisphere (CREHO). This regional training centre based in the City of Knowledge in Panama was enacted by Resolution VIII.26 with the support of all of the regional parties.

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

The designation of additional Fish Sanctuaries islandwide should lead to improved management within wetland areas. The improved CEPA activities are working to increase public awareness and education on wetland issues in the country. The successful implementation of the CaRIWet under the joint stewardship of Jamaica, Cuba and the Secretariat is a significant achievement in the implementation of the Convention not merely locally but regionally.

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

Sustainable funding mechanisms to strengthen the country's capacity to enforce and monitor activities within wetland areas. Also, with the continued pressures of development on coastal areas there is an increased need for technical guidance and further improvements in integrated planning that will bring about a synergy between development and use of natural resources. The level of public buy-in has been constrained by the increased economic hardships due to the current situation worldwide and locally.

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

The local priorities identified for the future implementation of the Convention are:

- 1) Further designation of under-represented wetlands types as Ramsar sites.
- 2) Establishment of management frameworks within areas designated as Ramsar sites.
- 3) Improving planning frameworks (spatial plan, development orders)
- 4) Continued expansion CEPA
- 5) Continued research and collaboration with relevant agencies
- 6) Improve the capacity of the administrative authority

E. Does the Contracting Party have any proposals concerning adjustments to the 2009-2015 Strategic Plan?

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

In light of the current economic challenges faced by the SIDS in dealing with environmental issues and the specific concerns of climate change, increased attempts to identify funding for the implementation of projects in these vulnerable states is being recommended.

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

The expansion of the geographic focus of the IOPs to include underserved regions (such as the Caribbean) should be made a priority.

H. 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?

Jamaica supports efforts to harmonize the formats for national reports that will facilitate better implementation, reduce overlap and promote more efficient use of scarce resources available to the Parties. The MOUs already established between MEAs should be evaluated to determine their effectiveness and where possible additional linkages encouraged. Jamaica reaffirms its position that a thrust by educational institutions to use the Conventions as a teaching platform will facilitate improved understanding of the synergies between MEAs and promote more targeted planning and efficient use of resources.

- I. 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 industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

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

The role and function of the Scientific Technical Review Panel (STRP) should be evaluated, especially with respect to an assessment of the usefulness of the technical guidance being provided. The ease of implementation of the guidance, especially by developing countries, must also be evaluated.

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 a specific indicator, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions.
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 paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. Some characters used in the free text box prevent the automatic data entry into our database designed for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [], °°°° in the free text box.
5. To assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP10, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP10 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
6. Where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
7. Only Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Strategies and KRAs for which there are significant implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format; those parts of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted.

GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

STRATEGY 1.1 Wetland inventory and assessment. *Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of all types of wetlands as defined by the Ramsar Convention and wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of its provisions concerning the wise use of all wetlands.*

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

C - In progress

1.1.1 Additional information:

The compilation of the National Wetland Inventory is currently being conducted through the National Ramsar Committee.

Desktop GIS analysis of mangrove areas were used to compare data produced by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) with digitized data extracted from Google Earth (Digitalglobe) images. The total area of mangroves in each parish were determined and compared for two time periods (2005 and 2010). Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) has also funded projects to conduct baseline surveys in fish sanctuaries islandwide, inclusive of Ramsar sites.

1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	A - Yes
<p>1.1.2 Additional information:</p> <p>Information is made available through many mechanisms, such as the libraries and websites of the following institutions, NEPA, C-CAM, University of the West Indies (UWI), University of Technology (Utech), Jamaica Clearing House Mechanism (J-CHM) and Institute of Jamaica (IOJ).</p>	
<p>1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the previous triennium?{1.1.3 & 1.1.4}</p> <p>a) Ramsar Sites b) wetlands generally</p> <p>Please comment on the nature of the information on which your answer is based in the green free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please comment on what are the principal driver(s) of the change(s).</p> <p>* "Condition" corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention</p>	<p>O - No change N - Status deteriorated</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information: There have been changes within the Ramsar Sites, both positive and negative as a consequence of hurricanes, development, restoration and other activities. It is however the opinion of Jamaica that the net result of the various factors is that there has been no significant change within the designated Ramsar sites over the last triennium. Of note, within the PPRPA&RS a major shoreline protection project is being implemented, which has resulted in some temporary changes to the ecological character for which mitigative measures have been mandated. Further within the PBWCRS the recovery from hurricane damage is being impeded by climate change impacts (sea level rise and rising sea surface temperature) and the invasion by the lionfish.</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information:</p> <p>The impact of development on the wetlands of Jamaica has been significant over the last triennium. This has included modification for port and harbour facilities, agriculture, residential development and other economic activities. It should however be noted that the guidance of the Convention with respect to the conduct of EIAs and the involvement of local stakeholders has been an integral aspect of the approvals process for these developments. Additionally significant mitigation measures are habitually mandated by the specific conditions imposed under the Permits and Licenses system.</p>	
<p>Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 implementation:</p>	

STRATEGY 1.3 Policy, legislation and institutions. *Develop and implement policies, legislation, and practices, including growth and development of appropriate institutions, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use provisions of the Convention are being effectively applied.*

<p>1.3.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {1.2.1} KRA 1.3.i (If "Yes", please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box)</p>	C - In preparation
<p>1.3.1 Additional information: Jamaica has completed draft policies addressing coastal zone management issues: Coral Reef Policy, Mangroves & Coastal Wetlands Policy and the Seagrass Policy. These drafts are to be amalgamated into one National Coastal and Wetlands Policy which incorporates the more expansive definition of wetlands as outlined by the Ramsar Convention. The first draft of this combined policy document was prepared in 2009 and its development ongoing. An Action Plan for coral and reef was drafted in 2010.</p>	
<p>1.3.2 Does the National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporate any 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets and actions? {1.2.2}</p>	D - Planned
<p>1.3.2 Additional information: This is to be incorporated as in 1.3.1 above.</p>	
<p>1.3.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Poverty eradication strategies b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans c) Coastal and marine resource management plans d) National forest programmes e) National strategies for sustainable development f) National policies or measures on agriculture g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans <p>{1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i</p>	<p>C - Partly A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes C - Partly C - Partly A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.3 Additional information: Many aspects of these are embodied in the Vision 2030 Government Policy document that is being implemented.</p>	
<p>1.3.4 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.2.5} KRA 1.3.ii</p>	C - Partly
<p>1.3.4 Additional information:</p>	
<p>1.3.5 For any project development (new buildings, new roads, extractive industry, etc.) that may affect wetlands, are Environmental Impact Assessments made?</p>	A - Yes
<p>1.3.5 Additional information: The Permits and Licences System in Jamaica incorporates an assessment to determine the applicability of the Environmental Impact Assessment tool as a part of the decision-making process. It should be noted that this process is being improved to include economic valuation of natural resources as an integral component of future EIAs.</p>	

1.3.6 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?

D - Planned

1.3.6 Additional information: The National Council on Oceans and Coastal Zone Management has developed recommendations on the sustainable use of Cays (offshore islands) which are to be incorporated in the Coastal and Wetlands Resources Policy being developed.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.4: Cross-sectoral recognition of wetland services. *Increase recognition of and attention in decision-making to the significance of wetlands for reasons of biodiversity conservation, water supply, coastal protection, integrated coastal zone management, flood defence, climate change mitigation and/or adaptation, food security, poverty eradication, tourism, cultural heritage, and scientific research, by developing and disseminating methodologies to achieve wise use of wetlands.*

1.4.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites? {1.3.1} KRA 1.4.ii

C - Partly

1.4.1 Additional information: Through the Natural Resource Valuation within Environmental Impact Assessment' Project Jamaica seeks to incorporate the financial and economic values of ecosystem functions within the EIA process. The natural resource valuation tool is an output of the project which emphasizes the indirect use of natural resources and incorporates this in the overall value of a natural resource. This tool will also be used to conduct assessments within Ramsar sites.

1.4.2 Have wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.3.2} KRA 1.4.i

A - Yes

1.4.2 Additional information: The roll out of the Watershed Area Management Mechanism (WAMM) islandwide includes program activities that are geared at improving food and water security. The Ministry with responsibility for agriculture and fisheries has also embarked on programs within wetland sites, designed to improve Jamaica's food security through fisheries enhancement projects and rice production.

1.4.3 Has national action been taken to apply the guiding principles on cultural values of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21)? {1.3.4} KRA 1.4.iii

C - Partly

1.4.3 Additional information: Jamaica has acknowledged the cultural values of wetlands and the guiding principles are being used in the development of management and zoning plans for these areas.

1.4.4 Have socio-economic and cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {4.1.5} KRA 1.4.iii

A - Yes

1.4.4 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names): All of the designated Ramsar Sites in Jamaica are also areas with heritage and cultural significance. The proposed zoning and draft management plans for these areas recognizes their socio-economic and cultural values. This is also included in the EIA process.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.5 Recognition of the role of the Convention. *Raise the profile of the Convention by highlighting its capacity as a unique mechanism for wetland ecosystem management at all levels; promote the usefulness of the Convention as a possible implementation mechanism to meet the goals and targets of other global conventions and processes*

1.5.1 Have you taken steps to ensure that your national focal points for other environmental conventions are contributing to the application of Ramsar Convention implementation mechanisms? KRA 1.5.i

C - Partly

1.5.1 Additional information:

1.5.2 Have you brought the "Changwon Declaration" (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:

- a. head of state
- b. parliament
- c. private sector
- d. civil society

A - Yes
D - Planned
D - Planned
D - Planned

1.5.2 Additional information: Report prepared and submitted through official channels.

1.5.3 Has the "Changwon Declaration" been used to inform the positions of your national delegations to other external processes (such as the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, UN agencies, multilateral environmental agreements, and the World Water Forum)?

C - Partly

1.5.3 Additional information:

1.5.4 Have you translated and disseminated the "Changwon Declaration" into local languages relevant for your country?

C - Partly

1.5.4 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.5 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.6 Science-based management of wetlands. *Promote successful implementation of the wise use concept by ensuring that national policies and wetland management plans are based on the best available scientific knowledge, including technical and traditional knowledge.*

1.6.1 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

- a. agriculture-wetland interactions
- b. climate change
- c. valuation of ecosystem services

KRA 1.6.i

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

1.6.1 Additional information: All three sectors were considered in the initial drafting of the Wetlands Policy. Additional information garnered in preparation for Jamaica's submission for GEF5 and through our NRV and Economic Valuation of Protected Areas (EVPA) projects will be incorporated into the new draft.

1.6.2 Have all wetland management plans been based on sound scientific research, including on potential threats to the wetlands? KRA 1.6.ii

A - Yes

1.6.2 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.7 Integrated Water Resources Management. *Ensure that policies and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), applying an ecosystem-based approach, are included in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in their decision-making processes, particularly concerning groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and nearshore marine zone planning and climate change mitigation and/or adaptation activities.*

1.7.1 Has the Convention's water-related guidance (see Resolution IX.1. Annex C) been helpful in informing decision-making related to water resource planning and management? {1.4.1} KRA 1.7.i

A - Yes

1.7.1 Additional information: The principles of ecological flow are considered in development plans or projects associated with freshwater usage.

1.7.2 Does your country's water governance and management treat wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? KRA 1.7.ii

A - Yes

1.7.2 Additional information:

1.7.3 Have Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {1.4.2}

A - Yes

1.7.3 Additional information: A Watershed Area Management Mechanism is being implemented in three watershed areas including the Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site.

1.7.4 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? {1.4.3}

A - Yes

1.7.4 Additional information:

1.7.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigation and/or adaptation to climate change? KRA 1.7.iii

A - Yes

1.7.5 Additional information: There is a clear recognition for the roles and functions of wetlands with respect to mitigating the impacts of severe weather events and climate change. The development order process recognizes the importance of wetlands and these areas are for the most part designated for conservation.

1.7.6 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands and water in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? KRA 1.7.v

A - Yes

1.7.6 Additional information: The GEF-IWCAM project had sustainable use of resources as a central theme and the implementation of the WAMM will enhance these practices islandwide.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.7 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.8 Wetland restoration. *Identify priority wetlands and wetland systems 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 and systems.*

1.8.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.5.1} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

1.8.1 Additional information: Several priority sites have been identified and these include, Portland Bight through the GEF5; Montego Bay and Bluefields Bay through the fish sanctuaries program of the Fisheries Division; and Negril through resilience to climate change projects.

1.8.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {1.5.1} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

1.8.2 Additional information: There are several rehabilitation projects being implemented islandwide including at Palisadoes, Portland Cottage, Rocky Point (Clarendon) and the sites referenced in 1.8.1 above.

1.8.3 Has Ramsar guidance (Annex to Resolution VIII.16) or equivalent guidance on wetland restoration been used in designing and implementing wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects? {1.5.2}

C - Partly

1.8.3 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.8 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.9 Invasive alien species. *Encourage Contracting Parties to develop a national inventory of invasive alien species that currently and/or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands, especially Ramsar Sites, and ensure mutual supportiveness between the national inventory and IUCN's Global Register on Invasive Species (GRIS); develop guidance and promote procedures and actions to prevent, control or eradicate such species in wetland systems.*

1.9.1 Does your country have a comprehensive national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? KRA 1.9.i

A - Yes

1.9.1 Additional information: The inventory is updated continuously by the Invasive Alien Species Working Group and IIABIN IAS site managed by the Natural History Museum of Jamaica-Institute of Jamaica to reflect newly identified species.

1.9.2 Have national invasive species control and management policies or guidelines been established for wetlands? {1.6.1} KRa 1.9.iii

D - Planned

1.9.2 Additional information: An output from the MTIASIC project is the development of a National IAS Strategy from which an action plan will be developed. Additionally the Permits and Licences System regulates the introduction of new species some of which may have the potential to become invasive.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.9 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.10 Private sector. *Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

1.10.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in its activities and investments concerning wetlands? {4.2.1} KRA 1.10.i

A - Yes

1.10.1 Additional information: Through the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) Permit and Licence regulations, developers are encouraged to minimize their environmental impact through the use of the 'wise use' principle.

1.10.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the wise and management of:

a. Wetlands in general

b. Ramsar Sites

KRA 1.10.ii

A - Yes

A - Yes

1.10.2 Additional information: Where mandated under the NRCA Permit and Licences system.

1.10.3 Have awareness-raising materials been made available to enable wetland-friendly consumer choices? KRA 1.10.iii

A - Yes

1.10.3 Additional information: CEPA programmes and an anti-plastic bag initiative being incorporated by the Agency are some of the mechanisms being used to enable/stimulate ecofriendly (including wetland friendly) consumer choices.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.10 implementation:

STRATEGY 1.11: Incentive measures. *Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use provisions of the Convention.*

1.11.1 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {4.3.1} KRA 1.11.i

A - Yes

1.11.1 Additional information: Under the Forest Act incentives are allocated for the preservation of forests, mangrove forests are included in this categorization.

1.11.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {4.3.2} KRA 1.11.i

D - Planned

1.11.2 Additional information: Some examples of actions that have commenced in Jamaica includes the increase in the allowable mesh size used by fishers and the prohibition of the use of spear guns at night.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.11 implementation:

GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Note. An optional Annex (Section 4) to this COP11 National Report Format is provided so that a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, can also provide additional information separately on any of its designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

STRATEGY 2.1 Ramsar Site designation. *Apply the "Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance" (Handbook 14, 3rd edition).*

2.1.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the <i>Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List?</i> {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i	A - Yes
2.1.1 Additional information: The NRC has a mechanism by which sites are selected for designation. The completion of the Protected Areas System Master Plan (PASMP) is also expected to provide additional guidance.	
2.1.2 Have all required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat? {2.2.1} KRA 2.1.ii	C - Partly
2.1.2 Additional information: The update for PPRPA&RS became due 2011 and will be completed by December 2011.	
2.1.3 How many Ramsar Site designations in your country have been submitted to the Secretariat but are not yet placed on the List of Wetlands of International Importance? KRA 2.1.iii	0 sites
2.1.3 Additional information: The Mason River RIS is being finalized for submission with designation expected to be in December 2011.	
2.1.4 If further Ramsar Site designations are planned for the next triennium (2012-2015), please indicate how many sites (otherwise indicate 0) KRA 2.1.iii	1 sites
2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation): Research has been completed in the Negril Environmental Protection Area which is a site being considered for designation.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.2 Ramsar Site information. *Ensure that the Ramsar Sites Information Service . . . is available and enhanced as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance and for research and assessment, and is effectively managed by the Secretariat.*

2.2.1 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.2} KRA 2.2.ii	A - Yes
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2.2.1 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.3 Management planning - new Ramsar Sites. *While recognizing that Ramsar Site designation can act as a stimulus for development of effective site management plans, generally encourage the philosophy that all new Ramsar Sites should have effective management planning in place before designation, as well as resources for implementing such management.*

2.3.1 Have all sites being prepared for Ramsar designation (2.1.2 above) had adequate management planning processes established? KRA 2.3.i

A - Yes

2.3.1 Additional information: There are management processes in place for all sites being considered for designation.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.4 Ramsar Site ecological character. *Maintain the ecological character of all designated Ramsar Sites, through planning and management.*

2.4.1 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? {2.3.2} KRA 2.4.i

1 sites

2.4.2 For those Ramsar Sites with a management plan, for how many is the management plan being implemented? KRA 2.4.i

1 sites

2.4.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan in preparation? KRA 2.4.i

2 sites

2.4.4 For those Ramsar Sites with a management plan, for how many is the management plan being revised or updated? KRA 2.4.i

1 sites

2.4.1 – 2.4.4 Additional information: Draft management plans exist for the BRLMRS and the PPRPA inclusive of the Ramsar Site.

2.4.5 Do the Ramsar Site management plans establish the maintenance of the ecological character as a management objective? KRA 2.4.ii

A - Yes

2.4.5 Additional information:

2.4.6 How many sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.3.3} KRA 2.4.iv

1 sites

2.4.6 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please name the site(s)): Portland Bight Wetland and Cays Ramsar Site.

2.4.7 For how many sites has an ecological character description been prepared? KRA 2.4.v

3 sites

2.4.7 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please give the site(s) name and official number): Portland Bight Wetland and Cays Ramsar Site #1597, Palisadoes-Port Royal Ramsar Site #1454 and Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site # 919.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.4 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.5 Ramsar Site management effectiveness. *Review all existing Ramsar Sites to determine the effectiveness of management arrangements, in line with the "Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance".*

2.5.1 Have any assessments of Ramsar Site management effectiveness been carried out? {2.3.4} KRA 2.5.i

C - Some sites

2.5.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please indicate the year of assessment and from whom, or from where, the information is available): Black River Lower Morass Ramsar Site is being assessed through the implementation of the WAMM in 2010-11

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.6 Ramsar Site status. *Monitor the condition of Ramsar Sites and address negative changes in their ecological character, notify the Ramsar Secretariat of changes affecting Ramsar Sites, and apply the Montreux Record, if appropriate, and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.*

2.6.1 Are arrangements in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.4.1} KRA 2.6.i

A - Yes

2.6.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please summarise the mechanism(s) established): Through the NRCA Permits & Licences system and routine monitoring of Ramsar sites. Additionally there is a standing agenda item of the National Ramsar Committee to allow for the reporting of any changes.

2.6.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2,? {2.4.2} KRA 2.6.i

C - Some cases

2.6.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some cases", please indicate 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): The latest RIS update submitted for Black River Lower Morass indicates that changes and likely changes have been identified within the area.

2.6.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, including requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.4.3} KRA 2.6.ii

Z - Not applicable

2.6.3 Additional information (if "Yes", please indicate the actions taken):

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 implementation:

STRATEGY 2.7 Management of other internationally important wetlands. *Appropriate management and wise use achieved for those internationally important wetlands that have not yet been formally designated as Ramsar Sites but have been identified through domestic application of the Strategic Framework or an equivalent process.*

2.7.1 Has the ecological character of internationally important wetlands not yet designated as Ramsar Sites been maintained? KRA 2.7.i

C - Some sites

2.7.1 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.7 implementation:

GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

STRATEGY 3.1 Synergies and partnerships with MEAs and IGOs. <i>Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other intergovernmental agencies (IGOs).</i>

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)? {3.1.1} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.ii	C - Partly
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3.1.1 Additional information: Currently there is collaboration between several MEAs facilitated by the focal points who are in the same Agency or Ministry.	
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3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.2} KRA KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv	C - Partly
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3.1.2 Additional information: The focal point for CBD is represented.	
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3.1.3 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO, etc)? KRA 3.1.iv	C - Partly
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3.1.3 Additional information:	
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3.1.4 [For African Contracting Parties only] Has the Contracting Party participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD? {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iii	Z - Not applicable
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3.1.4 Additional information:	
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Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 implementation:	
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STRATEGY 3.2 Regional initiatives. <i>Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.</i>

3.2.1 Has the Contracting Party been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention? {2.6.1} KRA 3.2.i	A - Yes
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3.2.1 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Planned”, please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative): Jamaica continues to enjoy the support of the Convention and regional Contracting Parties in the development of the CaRIWet Initiative. At a recently convened regional meeting in July 2011 Contracting Parties and Non-contracting Parties participated in the development of the regional strategy and Non-contracting Parties committed to becoming signatories to the Convention. Participation in CaRIWet includes Jamaica, Cuba, St. Lucia, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominican Republic, St. Vincent, Haiti, Guyana, Suriname, Netherlands and France.

3.2.2 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {4.10.1}

A - Yes

3.2.2 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s): Jamaica currently participates as a member of the BoD of CREHO.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 implementation:

STRATEGY 3.3 International assistance. *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.*

3.3.1 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only (“donor countries”): Has funding support been provided from the development assistance agency for wetland conservation and management in other countries? {4.5.1} KRA 3.3.i

Z - Not applicable

3.3.1 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate the countries supported since COP10):

3.3.2 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only (“donor countries”): Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by your development assistance agency? KRA 3.3.ii

Z - Not applicable

3.3.2 Additional information:

3.3.3 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only (“recipient countries”): Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {4.5.2}

A - Yes

3.3.3 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP10): GEF, UNEP, OAS, EU, CaMPAM, IDB, World Bank, UNDP, IICA and USAID.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.3 implementation:

STRATEGY 3.4 Sharing information and expertise. *Promote the sharing of expertise and information concerning the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

3.4.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {3.2.1}

B - No

3.4.1 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate the networks and wetlands involved):

3.4.2 Has information about your country’s wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made publicly available (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.2.2}

A - Yes

3.4.2 Additional information: (see 1.1.2)

3.4.3 Has information about your country’s wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat for dissemination? KRA 3.4.ii

A - Yes

3.4.3 Additional information: RIS sheets submitted to the Secretariat are published on their website.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.4 implementation:

STRATEGY 3.5 Shared wetlands, river basins and migratory species. *Promote inventory and cooperation for the management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.*

3.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {2.5.1} KRA 3.5.i

A - Yes

3.5.1 Additional information: Jamaica participates in Western Hemispheric Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI), Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, biodiversity corridor and sea turtle recovery networks

3.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {2.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii

B - No

3.5.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place):

3.5.3 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? KRA 3.5.iii

A - Yes

3.5.3 Additional information: see 3.5.1

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.5 implementation:

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY

<p>STRATEGY 4.1 CEPA. <i>Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, where appropriate, the Convention's Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness Programme (Resolution X.8) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through communication, education, participation awareness (CEPA) and work towards wider awareness of the Convention's goals, mechanisms, and key findings.</i></p>

<p>4.1.1 Has/have an Action Plan/Plans for wetland CEPA been established? {4.4.2} KRA 4.1.i</p>	
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- | | |
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| <p>a) At the national level</p> <p>b) Sub-national level</p> <p>c) Catchment/basin level</p> <p>d) Local/site level</p> | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

	<p>A - Yes</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p>
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<p>(Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this below in the Additional information section below)</p>	
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<p>4.1.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "In progress" to one of the four questions above, please describe the mechanism, and identify if it has involved CEPA NFPs): Plans are formulated by the CEPA focal point through the work of the CEPA committee. Additionally the implementation of the WAMM and First Responder programmes have CEPA planning as a component.</p>	
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<p>4.1.2 How many centres (visitor/interpretation/education) have been established at Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {4.4.6} KRA 4.1.ii</p>	
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	<p>1 centres</p>
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<p>4.1.2 Additional information (if centres are part of a national or international network, please describe the network(s)): UWI/EFJ Biodiversity Centre in the PPRPA&RS</p>	
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<p>4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:</p>	
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- | | |
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| <p>a) promote public participation in decision-making with respect to wetland planning and management</p> <p>b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?</p> | |
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	<p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p>
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<p>{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii</p>	
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<p>4.1.3 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please provide information about the ways in which local communities are involved): Enshrined in the EIA and the policy development processes are the guiding principles of public participation and consultation.</p>	
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4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.10.2} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii	D - Planned
4.1.4 Additional information:	
4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP10? {4.10.3} KRA 4.1.iv	10 opportunities
4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training): Included as a part of the implementation of the IWCAM project and the roll out of the WAMM in three watershed areas across the country there has been numerous training opportunities afforded. Also the NRV has resulted training across governmental agencies. Caribbean Waterbird Census (CWC) training for site managers in PPRPA&RS and Portland Bight Wetlands and Cay.	
4.1.6 Do you have an operational National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body)? {4.8.2}	A - Yes
4.1.6 Additional information (If "Yes", indicate a) its membership; b) its frequency of meetings; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has): The National Ramsar Committee is comprised of members from governmental institutions such as the Administrative Authority (NEPA), the Ministry with responsibility for Environment, Fisheries Division, Institute of Jamaica, Urban Development Corporation, Forestry Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Social Development Commission; NGO's such as: Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust, Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, St. Thomas Environmental Protection Assoc., Portland Environmental Protection Assoc. ; Academia: University of the West Indies, College of Agricultural Science and Education and University of Technology; and experts in related fields. The NRC convenes quarterly meetings.	
4.1.7 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and a. Ramsar Sites managers? b. other MEA national focal points? c. relevant ministries, departments and agencies? {4.4.3} KRA 4.1.vi	A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes
4.1.7 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Partly", please describe what types of mechanism are in place):	

4.1.8 Have World Wetlands Day activities, either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP10? {4.4.5}	A - Yes
4.1.8 Additional information: World Wetland Day has been celebrated annually in Jamaica. Through the CEPA focal point events are coordinated islandwide with participation from schools, artistes, media, NGOs, CBOs, Churches and government. Report on WWD activities are generated annually and submitted to the Secretariat.	
4.1.9 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day) been carried out since COP10 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.4.4}	A - Yes
4.1.9 Additional information (including, if support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations, please indicate this): Jamaica has highlighted the importance of wetlands during all days designated as 'signature days' (World Water Day, Earth Day etc.) in the environmental calendar. Ramsar sites and other wetlands in Jamaica are pilot sites for Regional projects addressing IAS and projects addressing natural resource valuation. Some projects for example the MTIASIC project have public education and awareness components that highlight the importance of wetlands and the threat that IAS pose to the ecosystem benefits/services provided. Programmes such as the GEF-IWCAM project continue to encourage wise use of wetlands and community stewardship of ecosystems. 2010 was celebrated as the 'International Year of Biodiversity' and Jamaica participated in the celebration with two travelling displays, one of which showcased Jamaica's biodiversity and the other focused on Caribbean coral reefs. Through the CEPA focal point there was also the creation of posters and brochures highlighting the Convention and the importance of wetlands.	
Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 implementation:	

STRATEGY 4.2 Convention financial capacity. *Provide the financial resources necessary for the Convention's governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, within the availability of existing resources and by the effective use of such resources; explore and enable options and mechanism for mobilization of new and additional resources for implementation of the Convention.*

4.2.1 a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2009, 2010, 2011? {4.6.1} KRA 4.2.i	A - Yes
b) If "No" in 4.2.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:	



4.2.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.6.2} KRA 4.2.i

B - No

4.2.2 Additional information (If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities):

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 implementation:

STRATEGY 4.3 Convention bodies' effectiveness. *Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support the implementation of the Convention.*

4.3.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention? {4.7.1} KRA 4.3.ii

A - Yes

□

4.3.1 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring): Advances have been made in various tasks outlined in the previous submission to Ramsar.

4.3.2 Has the Secretariat been updated on any appointments and changes in Administrative Authority focal points and daily contacts (including CEPA and STRP National Focal Points)? KRA 4.3.i

A - Yes

4.3.2 Additional information: Changes in focal points since COP10 has been communicated to the Convention.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 implementation: Jamaica has consistently attended the Standing Committee meetings and has accepted appointments to the Finance sub-group, Ad-hoc working group on administrative reform, BoD of CREHO, the proposed group to review the effectiveness of the STRP and has also acted as a coordinator of the new CaRIWet regional initiative.

STRATEGY 4.4 Working with IOPs and others. *Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs*) and others.*

* The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, and WWF International.

4.4.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.9.1} KRA 4.4.iii	A - Yes
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4.4.1 Additional information (If "Yes" please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided):	
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4.4.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs? {4.9.2} KRA 4.4.iii	B - No
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4.4.2 Additional information (If "Yes" please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided):	
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Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 implementation:	
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Section 4 (www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11_nrform_e_sec4.doc) is an optional Annex to the National Report Format to allow any Contracting Party that wishes to do so to provide additional information separately for any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).