



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.

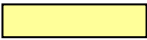
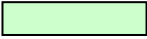
Section 2 is a “free-text” section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

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 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: LEBANON	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Ministry of Environment Department of Protection of Natural Resource
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Adel Yacoub / Acting Head of Department of Natural Resources Protection
Mailing address:	Lazarieh bldg. Block 2B, 8th floor, room 8-28 P.O Box 11 – 2727 Beirut Central district, Beirut, Lebanon
Telephone/Fax:	Tel: 00961 – 1- 976555 ext.456 Fax: 00961 – 1- 976530
Email:	a.yacoub@moe.gov.lb
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Adel Yacoub / Acting Head of Department of Natural Resources Protection
Mailing address:	Lazarieh bldg. Block 2B, 8th floor, room 8-28 P.O Box 11 – 2727 Beirut Central district, Beirut, Lebanon
Telephone/Fax:	Tel: 00961 – 1- 976555 ext.456 Fax: 00961 – 1- 976530
Email:	a.yacoub@moe.gov.lb
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	
Name of organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone/Fax:	
Email:	
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	
Name of organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone/Fax:	
Email:	
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
Name and title:	

Name of organisation:	
Mailing address:	
Telephone/Fax:	
Email:	



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?

Palm Islands Nature Reserve (PINR) :

- Post war Oil cleanup operation funded by Swiss Development Agency and implemented under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Environment (MoE): 2007-2008;
- Post war Oil cleanup operation funded by Spanish Development Agency and implemented under the direct supervision of the MoE: 2008-2009;
- Common consensus on the management of Palm Islands Project funded by Netherlands Embassy: 2008-2009
- Rehabilitation of Economic Functions of War-damaged Palm Islands Nature Reserve (PINR) Project funded by GTZ/EFL. 2009-2010
- Restoration and preservation of the cultural sites of Rabbit/ Nakhl and historical sites of Ramkine/ Fanar Islands, North-Lebanon. Project funded by US Embassy in Beirut. 2009-2010

Tyr Coast Nature Reserve (TCNR):

- The project entitled 'Appui aux Réserves Naturelles du Liban', funded by the FFEM (Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial) & AFD (Agence Française du Développement): execution of adaptive management strategies taking into consideration the conservation and management of economic, social and cultural aspects of biodiversity in 6 out of 8 nature reserves in Lebanon.
- MedPan South - Project:
 - * Development of the Monitoring of Sea Turtles in TCNR (May 2010 – September 2010);
 - * Support of the Characterization of the Fisheries and Fisheries management in and around the TCNR February 2011 – November 2011);
- An eco-friendly visitor center is under construction to support the reserve team in the implementation of its management plan and various activities. The center is expected to be ready by end of year 2011.

Ammiq Wetland:

- 'Soil Conservation in Agriculture' Project funded by GTZ during 2008-2010;
- Eco-lodge (visitor center/restaurant) funded by the SDC (Swiss Development Cooperation): during 2010-2011;
- 'Awareness Center for the Environment' funded by the European Union for Ammiq municipality: during 2010-2011

Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa :

- 'Supporting the management of important marine habitats and species in Lebanon': a project funded by IUCN, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (aecid) and the MoE to conduct a survey of the proposed marine protected area at Chekaa (2011): Ongoing project

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

The major outcomes of the projects implemented in PINR can be briefed as follows:

- The 'Post war oil cleanup operation' project: Heavy oil and debris removed (120 cubic meters);
- The 'Post war oil cleanup operation' project: oil traces removed with high pressure water/sand machine and production of a management plan for submerged areas in PINR;
- The 'Common consensus on the management of Palm Islands' project:
 - * Increase awareness of the local community
 - * Involvement of the local community in updating the management plan of the PINR)
- The 'Rehabilitation of Economic Functions of War-damaged PINR' project: Repair of the damaged infrastructure of PINR and participation of the local community in the project: safety equipments provided to fishermen and leisure boats owners.
- The 'Restoration and preservation of the cultural sites of Rabbit/ Nakhl and historical sites of Ramkine/ Fanar Islands, North-Lebanon' project
 - * Cultural and historic values were revealed;
 - * Relative information were provided to the public).

The major outcomes of the projects implemented in TCNR can be briefed as follows:

- The AFD/FFEM project: monitoring of the flora, birds and sea turtles for three years (2009-2012). The project provides full support for the promotion of eco-tourism activities while conserving biodiversity and leveraging social and economical aspects of local communities living in their buffer zones.
- MedPan South project: provides necessary equipments for sea turtle conservation, monitoring and protection, tracking of sea turtles to come up with nesting sites.

Other successful aspects of the implementation of the Convention:

- Increasing awareness through 'Purple Relief Organization': ecotourism activities for the World Environment Day (biking, hiking, kayaking, etc...), volunteer clean-up of the shore, preparation of brochures distributed to visitors and students;
- Shifting from conventional agriculture to organic farming in the agricultural zone (section AG) of the reserve to reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides;
- Enforcing strict laws concerning constructions in the AG section;
- Major man-made violations and threats reduced (hunting, grazing and uncontrolled access)

The major outcomes of the projects implemented in Ammiq Wetland can be briefed as follows:

- 'Soil Conservation in Agriculture' project: ceasing ploughing practices to limit the soil erosion and improve its quality;

Other successful aspects of the implementation of the Convention:

- Shifting from conventional agriculture to global GAP (Good Agricultural Practices);
- Increasing the surface of arboriculture (37.5% of the total surface of agricultural lands) to stabilise the soil, reduce the water consumption and increase the green areas;
- Promoting ecotourism through the opening of the restaurant and the visitor center by september 2011;
- Adopting the bird ringing monitoring system to track the birds yearly migration paths;
- Establishing of an artificial pond near the wetland that has now become an ecosystem serving as an important rest stop for wading and other birds;
- Reducing grazing violations.

The major outcomes of the project implemented in Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa can be briefed as follows:

-‘Supporting the management of important marine habitats and species in Lebanon’ project: conduct a survey to rapidly:

- * Identify and map the distribution and diversity of marine and coastal habitats;
- * Establish the current status of resources such as fish and benthic communities;
- * Assess the levels and types of human impacts within the proposed Marine Protected Area (MPA).

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

I - General aspects:

Administrative – Institutional:

- Turnover of several experts handling the same file either at the MoE or in the site committees;
- The Team responsible is overloaded and has too many challenges to deal with at the same time;
- Internal overlapping of authorities among various departments at the MoE;
- Miscommunication between some of the wetlands committees and the MoE personnel;
- Lack of cooperation between the private sector, public sector and NGO's;
- Low commitment to the Environmental cause;

Legal

- Absence of a legal framework proper to the Wetlands at the National Level;
- Private land ownership in Ammiq Wetland and in Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa;
- Segmentation amongst Ramsar Sites in relation to protected areas and non-protected areas;

Financial

- Financial constraints : low budget of the MoE (more priority given to economic and social issues rather than environmental issues);
- Insufficient funds available to conduct research.

Technical

- Few experts are working in the management and research sector.

II- Specific Aspects to Ramsar Sites:

Palm Islands Nature Reserve:

- Difficulties of the 'Post war Oil cleanup operation' projects and 'Restoration and preservation of the cultural sites of Rabbit/Nakhl and historical sites of Ramkine/Fanar Islands, North-Lebanon' project: frequent sea agitation reducing the efficacy of work/time.

Tyr Coast Nature Reserve:

- Insufficient financial resources to improve the infrastructure and maintain research;
- Insufficient human resources to implement the management plan;
- Lack of discipline from the visitors and the locals: sabotage of equipments for sea turtles conservation, littering the shore;
- Lack of commitment from the investors and the municipality of Tyr (proper lighting required for sea turtles, infringement of the fixed number of investors);
- Illegal actions from the Palestinian Rachidieh Camp and the subsequent army intervention done near the reserve (sand excavation and transfer along the sea shore);

Ammiq Wetland:

- Minimal human resources available to ensure security of the wetland;
- Unavailability of funds for scientific research and technical trainings;

- New planned infrastructure (roads, electrical power lines);
- Destruction by fire;
- Uncontrolled hunting;
- Induced source of pollution from the Litani catchment river basin.

Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa :

- Deir el Nouriyeh convent property;
- No management team officially appointed;
- No official representative to the site;
- Pollution from nearby commercial enterprises and heavy industries;
- Heavy fishery activities;
- The site is not part of the protected areas which are under the mandate of the Ministry of Environment.

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

- Establish a National Wetlands Inventory;
- Establish a National Wetlands Policy;
- Enforce the existing laws;
- Improve coordination among Government and non-Government agencies for wetlands conservation and wise use;
- Update the management plans of TCNR, PINR and Ammiq wetland;
- Develop a management plan for Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa;
- Delineate accurately the boundaries of Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa;
- Establish a management team for Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa;
- Encourage eco-tourism activities in each of the four sites;
- Promote awareness campaigns and educational materials;
- Engage the local communities in a participatory approach (social, economic and environmental);
- Endorse a legal framework for the protected areas in private ownerships;
- Develop a "training for trainers" program at all levels;
- Secure funds for scientific research.

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

No

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

- Assist the Ministry of Environment in establishing a National Wetlands Inventory;
- Facilitate a local development plan in coordination with the committees of the sites;
- Assist in providing technical trainings for staff members;
- Help the committees of TCNR, PINR and Ammiq wetland in updating the management plan of the sites;
- Propose a management plan to Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa;
- Ensure funding for scientific research purposes;
- Involve Lebanon in the regional Ramsar projects and activities.

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

- Secure financial support for the implementation of the management plans;
- Secure financial support for scientific research concerning conservation of the biodiversity, conservation of habitats, agricultural practices...;
- Ensure technical expertise and trainings for a proper management of land, water resources and consumption patterns (TCNR, Ammiq Wetland and Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa);
- Implement field projects to conserve birds and their habitats since three of the sites are designated as IBA sites;
- Restore wetlands and their resources (Ammiq, TCNR) to conserve the ecosystem and ensure profits from ecotourism activities.

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?

- Enable Lebanon benefiting from the support that can be provided by Ramsar Convention. Actually Lebanon needs to interact more with the activities of the convention to participate in issues analyzing and solving.

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)?

Through concrete and well designed objectives and action plans

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

No

SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Guidance for filling in this section

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on 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	B - No
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1.1.1 Additional information: There is no National Wetland Inventory, however the management plans of TCNR, Ammiq Wetland and Palm Islands Nature Reserve include a detailed description of the flora and fauna. Concerning Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa, a detailed survey of the marine area is being prepared and will be published at the end of the year 2011.	
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1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	Z - Not applicable
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1.1.2 Additional information:	
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<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 O - No change</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information: The conditions of the four Ramsar sites did not negatively change.</p> <p>However, at the Tyr Coast Nature Reserve: a new species (<i>Heterotheca subaxillaris</i>) found said to have come from Palestine via birds and at Ammiq Wetland, the fresh water otter appeared four years ago.</p> <p>Concerning Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa, the lack of previous studies does not allow to detect any changes in the ecological character that may have occurred with time.</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information:</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>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>1.3.1 Additional information:</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>	<p>Z - Not applicable</p>
<p>1.3.2 Additional information:</p>	
<p>1.3.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:</p> <p>a) Poverty eradication strategies b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans</p>	<p>C - Partly B - No</p>

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 {1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i	C - Partly B - No B - No B - No A - Yes
1.3.3 Additional information:	

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	B - No
1.3.4 Additional information:	

1.3.5 For any project development (new buildings, new roads, extractive industry, etc.) that may affect wetlands, are Environmental Impact Assessments made?	C - In some cases
1.3.5 Additional information:	

1.3.6 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?	B - No
1.3.6 Additional information: There are no legislations specific to Ramsar sites, however existing legislations (hunting law, 'protection of lanscape and natural sites in Lebanon' law, 'Protection of environment' law, 'organising the monitoring of the lebanese shoreline' decree...etc), contribute to the protection of the Ramsar sites	

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	A - Yes
1.4.1 Additional information: Yes, during the implementation of the Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring Project by the Lebanese University in 2004-2005 at Palm Islands Nature Reserve, Ammiq Wetland, and Tyre Coast Nature Reserve. In each of the management plans, a chapter related to an assessment of the wetland values exists	

1.4.2 Have wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security	C - Partly
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plans been implemented? {1.3.2} KRA 1.4.i	
1.4.2 Additional information: On Palm Islands: Rehabilitation of damaged Palm Islands by the war 2006 (EFL/GTZ/MoE).	

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	B - No
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1.4.3 Additional information:

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
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1.4.4 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names):
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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	B - No
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 - No
b. parliament	B - No
c. private sector	B - No
d. civil society	B - No
1.5.2 Additional information:	

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)?

B - No

1.5.3 Additional information:

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

B - No

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

B - No

B - No

B - No

1.6.1 Additional information:

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:

Yes for Palm Islands Nature Reserve, Ammiq Wetland and Tyre Coast Nature Reserve.

The three management plans include a part about the potential threats disturbing the wetlands as well as the necessary actions to reduce these threats.

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	B - No
1.7.1 Additional information:	
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	B - No
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}	B - No
1.7.3 Additional information:	
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}	B - No
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	B - No
1.7.5 Additional information:	
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	B - No
1.7.6 Additional information:	
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
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1.8.1 Additional information:

Section AG in TCNR (the mill in Ras El Ain area);

Old buildings and artificial pond (cleaning of marshes to control their growth for improvement of the water level) in Ammiq Wetland;

Restoration of the cultural sites of Rabbit/ Nakhl and historical sites of Ramkine/ Fanar Islands in PINR.

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:

Restoration and preservation of the cultural sites of Rabbit/ Nakhl and historical sites of Ramkine/ Fanar Islands, North-Lebanon, a project funded by the US Embassy in Beirut, 2009-2010, and the Oil Cleanup of Palm Islands Nature Reserve in 2007-2009.

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}

A - Yes

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

B - No

1.9.1 Additional information:

In the management plans of both Ammiq Wetland and TCNR, there exists a list of invasive species.

The only national inventory of invasive alien species in Lebanon is about birds.

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

B - No

1.9.2 Additional information:

In the management plans of both Ammiq Wetland and TCNR, there exists a monitoring program of invasive species.

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

C - Partly

1.10.1 Additional information:

In general, the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance is enforced.

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:

Only in the case of Ammiq wetland, which is a private ownership, the Skaff family is committed to the wise management of the site by undertaking activities and actions such as: conservation of the wetland, integrated management of the agricultural lands surrounding the wetland.

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:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.10 implementation:

In both Ammiq wetland and TCNR awareness-raising materials are available:

- Brochures (TCNR Brochures - TCNR bird leaflets - Promenade brochures – Posters by MedPan and WWF) and handbooks available to all visitors.
- Presentations about the site including its importance, ecological characteristics, benefits ...etc

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

B - No

1.11.1 Additional information:

There are no immediate actions taken to implement incentive measures. However, in general the wetlands are protected and conserved via laws and regulations.

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

B - No

1.11.2 Additional information:

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	B - No
2.1.1 Additional information:	
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	A - Yes
2.1.2 Additional information:	
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:	
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	5 sites
2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation): The potential Ramsar sites include: 1- Anjar 2- Yammouneh 3- Quamouah 4- Qaraoun 5- Kfarzabad	

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	B - No
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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

B - No

2.3.1 Additional information:

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

3 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

3 sites

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

0 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:

The three sites having a management plan are:

- TCNR;
- PINR;
- Ammiq Wetland:

the existing management plan is being updated and will be finalized in 2012.

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

0 sites

2.4.6 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please name the site(s)):

1- For TCNR: a committee of five volunteers undertakes the management of the site representing different institutions and different backgrounds.

2- For PINR: The committee of Palm Islands Nature Reserve is composed of a manager, two assistant managers/guides and two rangers
The Environment Protection Committee of the Palm Islands Nature Reserve is a non-governmental organization working under the supervision of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Ministry of Environment. It consists of seven volunteers. Moreover, the committee is composed of representatives of both Tripoli and Al-Mina municipalities, who are responsible of all financial matters.

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):

Concerning Deir el Nouriyeh cliffs of Ras Chekaa, there is a survey for the proposed marine protected area only as it is the result of the Project entitled 'Supporting the Management of Important Marine Habitats and Species in Lebanon'.

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

B - No

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):

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

C - Some sites

2.6.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please summarise the mechanism(s) established):

In TCNR, the administrative authority are informed by phone calls

In Ammiq wetland, the owner is always available on site in case of any changes that may occur.

The MoE is informed through reports of management team (rangers/guides), minutes of the APAC monthly meetings, and through letters and faxes in case of urgency.

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

B - No

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):

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

B - No

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

B - No

2.7.1 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.7 implementation:

GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
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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>
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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	B - No
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3.1.1 Additional information:

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	B - No
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3.1.2 Additional information:

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	B - No
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3.1.3 Additional information:

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:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 implementation:

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):

Lebanon is a member of the MedWet initiative and a member for the triennial 2007-2010 in the steering group of MedWet representing Asia (Syria, Jordan and Palestine authority).

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}

B - No

3.2.2 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s):

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}

Z - Not applicable

3.3.3 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP10):

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:

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:

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

Z - Not applicable

3.5.1 Additional information:

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

Z - Not applicable

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

B - No

3.5.3 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.5 implementation:

GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY
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<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>
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<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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- | | |
|---|--|
| <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>B - No</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>A - Yes</p> |
|---|--|

<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):</p>	
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<p>CEPA activities are undertaken at 3 Ramsar sites (Ammiq Wetland, TCNR and PINR).</p>	
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<p>The most concrete application of the CEPA action plan is carried out at Ammiq Wetland mainly due to the help of A Rocha association.</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>	<p>3 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)):</p>	
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<p>At Ammiq wetland there is an interpretation center. Furthermore, 2 centers are under construction to be finalized by the end of 2011. One of the centers is directed by the municipality of Ammiq, while the other center (Eco-lodge) is directed by the land owners.</p>	
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<p>At TCNR, an eco-friendly visitor center is under construction to support the reserve team in the implementation of its management plan and various activities. The visitor center is expected to be ready by end of summer 2011.</p>	
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<p>At PINR, The Rabbit Island is considered as an outstanding educational center.</p>	
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<p>4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:</p> <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> <p>{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii</p>	<p>---</p> <p>---</p>
<p>4.1.3 Additional information (if “Yes” or “Partly”, please provide information about the ways in which local communities are involved):</p> <p>a) Yes, in the cases of Ammiq Wetland and TCNR.</p> <p>In the case of TCNR, the law states that a committee is established through a decision from the Minister of Environment for a period of five years and including five volunteers, who undertake the management of the site; the volunteers represent the following institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Municipality of Tyre - ‘Kaemakam’ or Governor of the caza of Tyre - Two local NGOs - Ministry of Agriculture <p>The current managing Appointed Protected Areas Committee (APAC) of TCNR works under the overall supervision and support from the Ministry of Environment (MoE).</p> <p>In the case of Ammiq Wetland, the management is also under the mandate of various stakeholders including the land owners and the local communities.</p> <p>b) Yes, in the case of Ramsar Site management.</p> <p>A five years Management Plan was developed for TCNR. This management Plan was prepared under MedWetCoast Project, which is an initiative under the Ramsar Convention.</p> <p>The national project was executed in Lebanon by the Ministry of Environment and managed by UNDP from 2002 to 2006. The Management Plan was developed in consultation with the local stakeholders which were involved in the development of the Management Plan mainly the APAC, the management team and the local communities, and was endorsed by the Ministry of Environment (MoE).</p> <p>The managing committee (APAC) of each nature reserve implements the activities of the management plan in coordination and partnership with stakeholders from the public and private sectors: civil bodies, trade unions, educational, academic, media, and international organizations. The management team undertakes the daily implementation of the management activities under the supervision of the APAC.</p>	
<p>4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made?</p> <p>{4.10.2} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>4.1.4 Additional information:</p>	

4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP10? {4.10.3} KRA 4.1.iv	1 opportunities
4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training): The administrative assistant and the manager of the TCNR attended a training on “Sea turtle conservation and protection” in Cyprus in 2009. However, the training was not offered by the Ramsar Convention.	
4.1.6 Do you have an operational National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body)? {4.8.2}	B - No
4.1.6 Additional information (If “Yes”, indicate a) its membership; b) its frequency of meetings; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has):	
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: Such activities took place in 3 of the wetlands: TCNR, Ammiq Wetland and PINR, but not at the required level.	
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): The objective of all ecotourism activities that take place at the sites is to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands and the need for proper conservation and management.	

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

B - No

b) If "No" in 4.2.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:

The unpaid contributions will be made hopefully at the end of the fiscal year 2011.

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

B - No

□

4.3.1 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring):

Kindly refer to the answers of question C in section 2.

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:

On the 10th of February 2011, Adel Yacoub (Head of Department of Natural Resources at the Ministry of Environment) was appointed as the new focal point to the Ramsar Convention.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 implementation:

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

B - No

4.4.1 Additional information (If "Yes" please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided):

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

4.4.2 Additional information (If "Yes" please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided):

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 implementation: