



## **NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS**

**National Reports to be submitted to the 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Bucharest, Romania, June 2012).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 40<sup>th</sup> 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 (4<sup>th</sup> 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.

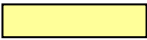
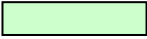
**Section 2** is a “free-text” section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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

<b>NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY</b>	
<b>Name of Administrative Authority:</b>	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
<b>Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:</b>	Ms Nosipho Ngcaba Director-General
<b>Mailing address:</b>	PRIVATE BAG X447, PRETORIA, 0001 SOUTH AFRICA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+27 12 310 3017
<b>Email:</b>	NNgcaba@environment.gov.za
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Mr TSHILIDZI EDWARD NETSHITHOTHOLE CONTROL BIODIVERSITY OFFICER
<b>Mailing address:</b>	PRIVATE BAG X447, PRETORIA, 0001 SOUTH AFRICA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+27 12 310 3277
<b>Email:</b>	Enetshithothole@environment.gov.za
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Dr Mbofho Stanley Liphadzi
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	Water Research Commission
<b>Mailing address:</b>	PRIVATE BAG X03, GEZINA, 0031, SOUTH AFRICA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+27 12 330 0340/ 9020
<b>Email:</b>	Stanleyl@wrc.org.za
<b>DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Mr STANLEY TSHITWAMULOMONI CONTROL BIODIVERSITY OFFICER
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
<b>Mailing address:</b>	PRIVATE BAG X447, PRETORIA, 0001 SOUTH AFRICA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+27 12 310 3919
<b>Email:</b>	StanleyT@environment.gov.za
<b>DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	N/A
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	
<b>Mailing address:</b>	
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	

## 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?

1. A National Ramsar Committee was established in 2009
2. Management plans for the following Ramsar sites have been revised and updated in accordance with the Convention guidelines: Blesbokspruit, Ntsikeni Nature Reserve and Verlorenvlei. It is envisaged that by the occasion of COP11, revision of the management plans for the following Ramsar sites would have been completed: Makuleke Wetlands, Orange River Mouth, Wilderness Lakes, Nylsvley, Verloren Valei, Barberspan and Prince Edward Islands
3. Ntsikeni Nature reserve was designated as a Ramsar site in 2010

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

Refer to A above

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

None

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

Development of a National Policy and legislative framework for Conservation and wise use of South Africa's wetlands

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

None

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

With regard to article 3.2. the decision to list a Ramsar site if the ecological character has changed, is changing or is likely to change should rest with the Contracting Party concerned. The Montreux Record has reference.

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

None

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?

Through memoranda of agreement between the Secretariats of the MEAs

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)?



Mainstreaming of wetlands issues into policies and strategies

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	A - Yes
1.1.1 Additional information: South Africa developed a national wetland inventory in 2009.	
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
1.1.2 Additional information: Wetland inventory data is maintained and managed by the South African National Biodiversity Institute and it's available on its website to all stakeholders	

<p>1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the previous triennium?{1.1.3 &amp; 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 P - Status improved</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information: There is no scientific evidence that suggest there has been change in ecological character.</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information: Working for Wetlands Programme uses wetland rehabilitation as a vehicle for wise use of wetlands.</p>	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 implementation:

**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>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.1 Additional information: South Africa does not have a stand alone wetland policy. Wetland issues are addressed in a range of water, biodiversity and environmental policy intruments.</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>B - No</p>
<p>1.3.2 Additional information:</p>	

1.3.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:

- 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
- {1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i

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

1.3.3 Additional information: South Africa developed a National Framework for Sustainable Development which will inform the development of a National Strategy for Sustainable Development.

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

A - Yes

1.3.4 Additional information: South Africa developed an Integrated Environmental Management Series in 2004.

1.3.5 For any project development (new buildings, new roads, extractive industry, etc.) that may affect wetlands, are Environmental Impact Assessments made?

A - Yes

1.3.5 Additional information: South Africa developed Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.

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

B - No

1.3.6 Additional information:

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

B - No

1.4.1 Additional information: Assessment of ecosystem services provided by wetlands was conducted with funding from the Water Research Commission.

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
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1.4.2 Additional information: South Africa has the following programmes: Working for Water, Working for Wetlands, LandCare, and Working on Fire.

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
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1.4.3 Additional information:

Actions that have been taken include:

- 1) Identifying cultural values of individual wetlands
- 2) Rehabilitating wetlands identified as being culturally significant
- 3) Documenting traditional knowledge about wetlands
- 4) Promoting traditional sustainable use practices as mechanisms for conserving wetlands
- 5) Implementing livelihoods projects focusing on manufacture of traditional crafts from wetland fibre]

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): Since the current management planning process is using the Convention guidelines, socio-economic and cultural values are included in the already completed management plans and will also be included in subsequent management plans.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 implementation: None

**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	A - Yes
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1.5.1 Additional information: National focal points for the following MEAs are located in the Administrative Authority, under the branch Biodiversity and Conservation, Chief Directorate: Biodiversity Management: CBD, CITES, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, UNCCD

<p>1.5.2 Have you brought the “Changwon Declaration” (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. head of state</li> <li>b. parliament</li> <li>c. private sector</li> <li>d. civil society</li> </ul>	<p>B - No B - No B - No B - No</p>
<p>1.5.2 Additional information: Plans are underway for the above-mentioned purposes.</p>	

<p>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)?</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>1.5.3 Additional information:</p>	

<p>1.5.4 Have you translated and disseminated the “Changwon Declaration” into local languages relevant for your country?</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>1.5.4 Additional information: Plans are underway.</p>	

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.*

<p>1.6.1 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. agriculture-wetland interactions</li> <li>b. climate change</li> <li>c. valuation of ecosystem services</li> </ul> <p>KRA 1.6.i</p>	<p>A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes</p>
<p>1.6.1 Additional information: Research covering these areas was conducted for rehabilitation purposes.</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>

1.6.2 Additional information: Scientific studies were carried out prior to the development of the management plans in accordance with the Convention guidelines.

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 Convention's water related principles have been incorporated in Integrated Water Resource Management of the Department of Water Affairs

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:

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: The National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 used this guidance.

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

1.8.1 Additional information: 75 and 97 wetlands were rehabilitated during the periods 2009/2010 and 2010/2011, respectively. 100 wetlands have been identified for rehabilitation for the period 2011/2012.

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: Working for Wetlands Programme.

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: The said guidance was considered in the development of rehabilitation plans.

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: A guide on Alien Weeds and Invasive Plants exists. The guide focuses on alien plants and their encroachment in South Africa.

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: The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983, lists weeds and invader plants and their eradication and control. The Alien Invasive Species Regulations in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 have been finalised and will soon be published for implementation. Furthermore the White Paper on the Conservation and Sustainable use of South Africa's Biological Diversity, The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and the National Biodiversity Framework make provision for the prevention of the introduction of, control or eradication of those alien 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

A - Yes

1.10.1 Additional information:

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

B - No

B - No

1.10.2 Additional information:

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

B - No

1.10.3 Additional information:

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

D - Planned

1.11.1 Additional information: Payment for Ecosystem Services initiative is aimed at encouraging land owners and local communities to conserve and wisely use wetlands for financial incentives and tax rebates.

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

A - Yes

1.11.2 Additional information: The Stewardship Programme allows land owners to voluntarily give their land for conservation for financial incentives and tax rebates, thereby contributing towards the expansion of the conservation estate.

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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	D - Planned
2.1.1 Additional information: Plans are underway to develop a strategic framework.	
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	3 sites
2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation): They are: 1. uMngeni Vlei Nature Reserve - 2012 (tentative) 2. Zwartkops Estuary - 2013 (tentative) 3. False Bay Ecology Park - 2013 (tentative)	

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
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: In accordance with the Convention guidelines

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

20 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

20 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

10 sites

2.4.1 – 2.4.4 Additional information: As indicated above, the management plans are being revised in accordance with the Convention guidelines.

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: In accordance with the Convention guidelines

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

3 sites

2.4.6 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please name the site(s)): Makuleke Wetlands is managed by a Joint Management Board between the Makuleke Community and South Africa National Parks; Orange River Mouth has an Interim Management Committee; St Lucia has Greater St Lucia Management Authority.

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

0 sites

2.4.7 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please give the site(s) name and official number):

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

B - No

2.6.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please summarise the mechanism(s) established): Information on likely change in ecological character is conveyed through third parties.

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): A report will be submitted to the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee in October/November 2011 on the following Ramsar site: Ndumo Game Reserve

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

A - Yes

2.6.3 Additional information (if "Yes", please indicate the actions taken): South Africa has two Ramsar sites on the Montreux Record, viz. Orange River Mouth and Blesbokspruit. In the case of Orange River Mouth, a lot of progress has been achieved to date to address the threats affecting the ecological character of the site. A process is currently underway to declare the site as a Nature Reserve under a National legislation. A management plan will be developed for the protection, conservation and management of the site. A report was submitted to the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee. Report on Blesbokspruit will be submitted at the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee.

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

A - Yes

2.7.1 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.7 implementation:

<b>GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>
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<p><b>STRATEGY 3.1 Synergies and partnerships with MEAs and IGOs.</b> <i>Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other intergovernmental agencies (IGOs).</i></p>
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<p>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 &amp; 3.1.ii</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
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<p>3.1.1 Additional information: Refer to 1.5.1 above.</p>
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<p>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 &amp; 3.1.iv</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
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<p>3.1.2 Additional information:</p>
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<p>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</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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<p>3.1.3 Additional information: Mechanisms are ad hoc in nature.</p>
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<p>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</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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<p>3.1.4 Additional information: There is lack of coordination mechanism.</p>
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<p>Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 implementation:</p>
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<p><b>STRATEGY 3.2 Regional initiatives.</b> <i>Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.</i></p>
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<p>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</p>	<p>B - No</p>
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<p>3.2.1 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Planned", please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative):</p>
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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}

B - No

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}

A - Yes

3.4.1 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate the networks and wetlands involved): A National Wetlands Indaba has been established. Wetland specialists come together annually to share information on experiences, lessons learned, challenges and successes relating to wetland conservation.

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}

B - No

3.4.2 Additional information: Plans are in place to include information on Ramsar sites in the departmental website. Currently information is shared through the National Wetlands Indaba, National Ramsar Committee, and Working for Wetlands Steering Committee.

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

B - No

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

A - Yes

3.5.1 Additional information: Orange River Mouth is a shared Ramsar site between South Africa and Namibia. The Tembe Futi Transfrontier Initiative is an initiative between South Africa and Swaziland. Similarly, Ndumo Game Reserve, being on the Pongola River which flows into Usuthu River, has a co-operative management plan which leads to transfrontier benefits.

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

A - Yes

3.5.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place): Orange River Mouth has an Interim Management Committee which comprises South Africa and Namibia. Ndumo Game Reserve has a co-operative management plan.

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: The Department of Environmental Affairs is involved in international Working Groups for the implementation of the Lesser Flamingo single species action plan and White-winged flufftail.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.5 implementation:

<b>GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY</b>
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<p><b>STRATEGY 4.1 CEPA.</b> <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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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) At the national level</li> <li>b) Sub-national level</li> <li>c) Catchment/basin level</li> <li>d) Local/site level</li> </ul> | <p>B - No</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>B - No</p> <p>B - No</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>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>15 centres</p>
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4.1.2 Additional information (If centres are part of a national or international network, please describe the network(s)):

1. Ndumo Game Reserve has a small education centre and visitor facilities. Many tourists are specialist bird groups.
2. Ntsikeni Nature Reserve has no education centre and only two visitor overnight lodges/facilities. Several specialist birding operators utilise these facilities with tour groups.
3. Natal Drakensberg Park (now the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site) has visitor education centres at Royal Natal National Park, Cathedral Peak, Monks Cowl and Kamberg Reserves within the World Heritage Site.
4. Several of these combine a cultural and biodiversity focus. There are tourist overnight facilities at Royal Natal National Park, Cathedral Peak, Monks Cowl (camping only), Vergelegen (camping only), Highmoor (camping only), Kamberg, Bushman's Neck (camping only), Cobham (camping only), Garden Castle (camping and hiking huts only), Giants Castle, Injisuthi and Lotheni. A detailed list of types of accommodation at each of the above can be provided if required and is also available on the Ezemvelo website.
5. Other wetlands (but not Ramsar sites) with education centres, that are under Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife management include: Beachwood Mangroves, Spienkop (dam) - has accommodation as well, Wagonsdrift (dam) - has accommodation as well;
6. Other wetlands (but not Ramsar sites) with visitor accommodation facilities, but no education centres, that are under Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife management include: Chelmsford (dam), Pongola (dam)
7. Ndumo Game Reserve has accommodation facilities.
8. Seekoeivlei Nature Reserve (a protected area and declared Ramsar site): a process is currently underway to construct visitors facilities in the reserve adjacent to the wetland.
9. Ingula wetland is part of the Ingula Pump Storage Scheme development of Eskom. Part of the development will be tourism and educational facilities.
10. Wilderness lakes Ramsar site (part of Garden Route National Park) has 2 facilities, which, in addition to their primary function, also serve as visitor/interpretation/education/information centres. The first facility is the visitor reception and information centre at the Ebb-and-Flow restcamp at the Ramsar site and which is open seven days a week. The second facility is the Rondevlei Office of Scientific Services, which is open during office hours.
11. There are also two bird hides where information about the avifauna of the Wilderness Ramsar site is displayed.
12. Langebaan Lagoon Ramsar site (part of the West Coast National Park) has one facility known as the Geelbek Information Centre. This facility is a multi-purpose facility and functions as more than a dedicated centre for the Ramsar site.

Othew.

There are two bird hides near the Geelbek Information Centre.

<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>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</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. The process of revising and updating management plans is involving all relevant stakeholders in accordance with the Convention guidelines.</p> <p>B. Makuleke Wetlands Ramsar site belongs to the Makuleke Community, representing a new approach to wetland management in South Africa.</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 &amp; 4.1.viii</p>	<p>B - No</p>
<p>4.1.4 Additional information:</p>	
<p>4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP10? {4.10.3} KRA 4.1.iv</p>	<p>0 opportunities</p>
<p>4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training):</p>	
<p>4.1.6 Do you have an operational National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body)? {4.8.2}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.1.6 Additional information (If "Yes", indicate a) its membership; b) its frequency of meetings; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has): Membership includes National and provincial government departments and public entities.</p>	
<p>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</p> <p>a. Ramsar Sites managers?</p> <p>b. other MEA national focal points?</p> <p>c. relevant ministries, departments and agencies?</p> <p>{4.4.3} KRA 4.1.vi</p>	<p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p>
<p>4.1.7 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Partly", please describe what types of mechanism are in place): The National Wetlands Indaba, Working for Wetlands Steering Committee, and Interdepartmental Inland Water Ecosystem Liaison Committee.</p>	

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 Wetlands Day is celebrated annually at national, provincial and local levels. Information on these activities is submitted to the Convention annually.	

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): A National Freshwater Programme has been established. The programme focusses on supporting collaborative freshwater initiatives. These include Working for Wetlands, the National Wetland Inventory, National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Areas project, a wetlands mitigation banking scheme with the Grasslands Programme and coalmining industry, and water-related payments for ecosystem services (PES) pilot projects. Key to the programme's operation is the further development of strategic relationships with other organisations with shared objectives.	

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

A - Yes

4.2.2 Additional information (If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities): The Department of Environmental Affairs contributed ZAR 150, 000 towards the hosting of the 1<sup>st</sup> African Scientific and Technical Review Panel National Focal Point workshop which took place at Emperors Palace from 30 November to 2 December 2010.

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):

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: Updated information was submitted through e-mail on 11 March 2011 to the Senior Advisor for Africa.

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:

**Section 4 ([www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11\\_nrform\\_e\\_sec4.doc](http://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).