



NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

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

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

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

Introduction & background

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

The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention and are made publicly available through their posting on the Convention's website.
8. There are six main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
 - i) provide data and information on how the Convention is being implemented;
 - ii) capture lessons and experience to help Parties develop future action;
 - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
 - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable for their commitments under the Convention;

- v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and to plan its future priorities; and
 - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention" currently being further developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for Standing Committee and COP11 consideration.
10. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis of the information for a number of purposes.
11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
- i) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the COP as a series of Information Papers, including:
 - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see, e.g., COP10 DOC. 6);
 - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance (see, e.g., COP10 DOC. 7); and
 - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP10 DOCs 8-13);
 - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP. Examples at CO9 and COP10 included:
 - Resolution IX.15 and X.13, *The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance*, and
 - Information Papers on *Issues and scenarios concerning Ramsar Sites or parts of sites which cease to meet or never met the Ramsar Criteria* (COP9 DOC. 15), *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC. 25), *Overview of the implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2006-2008* (COP10 DOC. 16, and *Background and rationale to the Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character* (COP10 DOC. 27);
 - iii) providing the source data for time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development

of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (4th edition, 2010); and

- iv) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national-level implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the COP10 NRF indicators have been used extensively in 2009 in the preparation by the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP of contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems that was being considered by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3).

The structure of the COP11 National Report Format

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

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

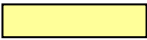
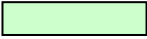
Section 2 is a “free-text” section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

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

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

Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP11 National Report Format

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

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

shows that such explanatory information is very valuable in ensuring a full understanding of implementation progress and activity, notably in informing the preparation of global and regional implementation reports to COP.

17. In order to assist Contracting Parties in providing such additional information, for a number of indicator questions some particularly helpful types of such information are suggested. However, of course, Parties are free to add any other relevant information they wish in any of the “Additional implementation information” fields.
18. The Format is created as a “Form” in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information, as all other parts of the form are locked to ensure that the form and wording of indicators will remain uniform and comparable for all Parties. If you need to work with an unlocked version of the Format, please contact Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer (dufour@ramsar.org), who will advise on how that can be done.
19. To go to a yellow or green field you wish to fill in, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
20. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the “Tab” key on the computer keyboard.
21. For a “free-text” field, you can type in whatever information you wish. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box – this is because within the Microsoft “Form” format there is limited facility to make editorial changes in the “free-text” box once text has been entered.
22. Certain keyboard characters interfere with the automatic data entry into our database for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [] °°°° in the “free text” fields.
23. For each of the “Indicator questions” in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question, but are generally of the form: “Yes”, “No”, “Partly”, “In progress”, etc. This is necessary so that statistical comparisons can be made of the replies.
24. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can do so in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
25. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.
26. The NRF is not intended normally to be filled in by one person alone – for many indicators it would seem best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in the same and other agencies within the government who might have fuller knowledge of the Party’s overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the

work at any point in the process and return to it subsequently to continue or to amend answers previously given. When filling in this form, it is also advised to refer back to the National Report submitted for COP10 for purposes of continuity and consistency.

27. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP11NRF [Country] [date].
28. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by e-mail, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, e-mail: dufour@ramsar.org. The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in this electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
29. When the completed National Report is submitted by the Party, **it must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Administrative Authority, confirming that this is that Contracting Party's official submission of its COP11 National Report.**
30. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP11 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY:	
DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY	
Name of Administrative Authority:	Vietnam Environment Administration (VEA), Ministry of Natural resources and Environment (MONRE)
Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:	Dr. Bui Cach Tuyen, Vice- Minister of MONRE/Director of VEA
Mailing address:	VEA, 67 Nguyen Du St., Hanoi, Vietnam
Telephone/Fax:	84-4-9423899/84-4-8223189
Email:	bctuyen@vea.gov.vn; buicachtuyen@gmail.com
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS	
Name and title:	Ms. Tran Huyen Trang
Mailing address:	Biodiversity Conservation Agency (BCA), 99 Le Duan St., Hanoi, Vietnam
Telephone/Fax:	84-4-9412030/84-4-9412028
Email:	huyentrang1601@gmail.com; tht_eco@yahoo.com,
DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)	
Name and title of focal point:	PhD. Pham Anh Cuong
Name of organisation:	Biodiversity Conservation Agency
Mailing address:	99 Le Duan St., Hanoi, Vietnam
Telephone/Fax:	84-4-9412031/84-4-9412028
Email:	pacuong@yahoo.com
DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
Name and title of focal point:	Dr. Tran Ngoc Cuong
Name of organisation:	Biodiversity Conservation Agency
Mailing address:	99 Le Duan St., Hanoi, Vietnam
Telephone/Fax:	84-4-9412025/84-4-9412028
Email:	tranngoccuong1962@gmail.com
DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS	
Name and title:	Dr. Hoang Van Thang
Name of organisation:	Centre for Resoucece and Environment Studies
Mailing address:	19 Le Thanh Tong, Hanoi, Vietnam
Telephone/Fax:	84-4-83262932
Email:	tvhoang@fpt.vn

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. Wise use of wetlands

1.1. Models on the wise use of wetland

Initial statistics show that in the period 2008-2011 there were a variety of topics and projects by the ministries (mainly Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), research institutes, universities, local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as well as local authorities aimed at strengthening the management and restoration of important wetlands based on ecosystematic and community-based approach; and testing and replicating models of conservation and wise use of ecosystems in wetlands, ensuring the sustainable development of local livelihoods. A number of initiatives of wetland conservation to adapt and mitigate the impacts from climate change such as reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the wetland mangroves.

They are typically includes:

- Restoration and management of estuarial and coastal mangrove ecosystems in Bac Lieu province: The project on 'Sustainable management of Bac Lieu coastal ecosystem' was fund by German Governemtn with total budget of 1.76 million euro. Of which, 1.6 million euro are non-refundable aid of the German government and 160,000 euro are counterpart fund of Vietnam (budget of Bac Lieu Province). Project time are in three years (from 2009-2011) with the main tasks such as to set up measures to improve the diversity of coastal ecosystems, enhance biodiversity levels of The Bac Lieu Bird Sanctuary. An Initiative, Mangroves for the Future (MFF), is coordinated by IUCN to focus on supporting to strengthen coastal ecosystems respond to climate change. The initiative has financed a number of small and medium projects that has elaborated in North and North Central Vietnam. MARD has been assigned by the Government in charge of implementing the project 'Restoration and development of the coastal mangrove in the period 2008-2015.'
- Development of models on conservation and sustainable exploitation of specific wetlands by the Vietnam Environment Administration in conjunction with the Center for Research Resources and Environment (CRES) from 2008 to 2010 in Dong Rui mangrove (Quang Ninh) and in Van Long mangrove (Ninh Binh);
- Establishment of models on co-management and rational exploitation of the wetland such as harvest of clams/oysters in Xuan Thuy National Park (Nam Dinh).

1.2. Policy and legislation on wetland

Wetland ecosystem management in Vietnam has been mentioned in the Law on Biodiversity (2008) - The first legal document on biodivesity with systematic approach on a national scale, has prescribed that the wetland ecosystems is the main object of State management, conservation planning and protection under the Law. Article 35 of the Law on Biodiversity (2008) prescribed the specific regulation on 'Sustainable development of natural ecosystems in natural wetlands'. Decree 65/2010/ND-CP on November 6, 2010 of the Government on detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Biodiversity also prescribed that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall assume the prime responsibility for formulating and appraising national level wetland Protected Area establishment projects (Article 8).

A number of legal documents promulgated directly management of wetland ecosystems in Vietnam such as:

Decision No. 1479/QĐ-TTg of October 13, 2008 by Prime Minister on regarding to the approval of Planning for Interior Water Protection Area System to 2020.

Decision No.742/QĐ-TTg of May 26, 2010 by the Prime Minister on approved System of Marine Protected Areas of Vietnam toward 2020;

Decree No.57/2008/NĐ-CP of May 2, 2008 by the Government dated on regarding to the promulgation of Regulations for Marine Protected Areas of National and International Importance in Vietnam.

Decree No.117/2010/ND-CP of December 24, 2010 by the Government on Organization and Management of Special -use Forest System (about 24 important wetland areas in Vietnam being managed under this Decree)

Provincial People's Committee in Nam Dinh, Ninh Binh, Bac Kan, Binh Dinh, Quang Ninh ... also issued a number of Decisions to strengthen the management of wetland in their locality.

1.3. Institution

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment continues to be the National Focal Agency for implementation of Biodiversity Convention and the Ramsar Convention. Also under the Law on Biodiversity, Natural Resources and Environment is in charge of the Government responsible for management of biodiversity, including biodiversity of wetlands. Decree 65/2010/ND-CP of June 11, 2010 by the Government on detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Biodiversity also provided that Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall assume the prime responsibility for formulating and appraising the national level wetland Protected Area establishment projects (Article 8).

2. Nomination of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites)

In the 2008-2011 period, one more wetland area of Vietnam, Ba Be National Park have been formally recognized internationally as Ramsar site in 2011. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has submitted to the Prime Minister for consideration and nomination of the Tram Chim National Park as the fourth Vietnam Ramsar site, and prepared the profile for other Ramsar site, the coastal wetland area of Ca Mau.

3. Education, training and awareness raising

In the period 2008-2011, Vietnam Environment Administration has annually coordinated with the localities that have wetland areas of international and national importance as Ninh Binh, Hanoi, Bac Kan ...to organized meetings and propaganda in response to World Wetlands Day (February 2), attracting the attention of the authorities, political and social organizations, youths, students, residents and the press agencies. Similar events have been also held by domestic and international environment agencies such as IUCN, WWF, Vietnam Rivers Network (VRN) or the Center for Marine Conservation and Community Development (MCD) in Quang Nam, Nha Trang or Mekong Delta. These activities have supported to raise awareness and attracted the attention and response of society to protect wetlands.

In addition, many training courses, workshops or dialogues on management of conservation and sustainable use of wetlands has been organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and non-governmental organizations such as IUCN, WWF, GIZ, MCD with different specific topics. Can Tho University and National University of Ho Chi Minh City has compiled and lectured some lessons about the wetland. The network of wetland experts in Vietnam was also established to promote the exchange of information and expertise.

4. Implementation capacity

4.1. Setting up the wetland database

Most typical types of wetlands in Vietnam as estuarine water, intertidal forest, lagoon, coastal saltwater, permanently flooded freshwater lake in different bio-geographic zones such as Northeast, East North of Truong Son, South North of Truong Son, Central Highlands and South, have been surveyed in detail, such as the wetlands of Xuan Thuy, Tram Chim, Ca Mau, U Minh Thuong, Thanh Phu and Lang Sen. However, the development of databases on wetlands and biodiversity of wetlands has not made at all levels of site, region and nation. Although there has been not yet a unified database, Vietnam has a significant base to meet a goal of setting and completing database for wetland areas throughout nationwide in the next stage thanks to results of biological studies within recent years.

4.2. Nomination and consolidation of the system of wetland Protected Areas

In 2008, the Prime Minister issued the Decision No 1479/QĐ-TTg on approval of Planning of 45 Protection Areas, of which 06 Protection Areas are special-use forests. 16 Marine Protected Areas were established under the Decision No. 742/QĐ-TTg of May 26, 2010 on approved the System of Marine Protected Areas in Vietnam toward 2020, of which 05 Protected Areas are special-use forests (Con Dao, Phu Quoc, Cat Ba, Bai Tu Long and Nui Chua). Many important wetland areas have also been awarded the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve as Cat Ba, Can Gio, Cat Tien (including Bau Sau), Kien Giang and Ca Mau. These underline the important role and requirement to protect the ecological value of these wetlands.

5. International Cooperation

In 2010, Vietnam Environment Administration has organized international workshops to share experience of the management of invasive alien species in sub-region of Mekong. Hereby, Vietnam wetlands are subject to the close monitoring of the invasion by *Mimosa pigra* and other invasive alien species. Vietnam National Mekong Committee under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has also initially studied and assessed the impact of climate change and dams construction in Mekong mainstream on the important wetlands in the Mekong Delta.

Many small and medium-scale projects for conservation and sustainable use of wetlands have been implemented by non-government organizations such as IUCN (The Mekong region water dialogue programme, Coastal Area Resilience Improvement Project in Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand), WWF (Livelihood and Wetlands Project in Quang Nam, Tram Chim National Park, etc.).

Vietnam Environment Administration has also received the support through small projects of East Asian Ramsar Regional Center, Ramsar Convention Secretariat to compile the profiles of important wetlands of international importance, submitting to Ramsar Convention Secretariat for recognition as a Ramsar site. Ramsar Convention Secretariat also supported Ba Be National Park by the Project on 'Capacity-building for Ba Be Lake Sustainable management of resources and Biodiversity conservation, Ba Be National Park, Bac Kan Province, Vietnam'

Currently, Vietnam Environment Administration is implementing the project 'Removing Barriers Hindering Protected Area Management Effectiveness in Vietnam' fund by the Global Environment Fund. Vietnam Administration of Forestry is implementing the project 'Conservation of biodiversity of forest ecosystems in Vietnam'. In these projects, there are components related to wetlands

In addition, Vietnam Environment Administration also sent several officials to participate in regional and international meetings and workshops on wetland.

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

The most successful aspect of implementation of the Convention is that 01 additional wetland areas of Vietnam was formally recognized internationally as a Ramsar site in 2011. It is Ba Be Ramsar site (the Ba Be National Park). Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has submitted to the Prime Minister for consideration and nomination of the Tram Chim National Park as the forth Vietnam Ramsar site, and prepared the profile for other Ramsar site, the Coastal Wetland of Ca Mau.

- In recent years, there was a remarkable improvement in development of policy and legal framework for management and wise use of wetlands. Law on Biodiversity was approved by the National Assembly of Socialist Republic of Vietnam in November 13, 2008 and took effect from 1 July 2009. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment is the responsible agency of biodiversity to the Government management, including biodiversity in wetlands. Decree 65/2010/ND-CP of June 11, 2010 by the Government on detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Biodiversity also provided that Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall assume the prime responsibility for formulating and appraising the national level wetland protected area establishment projectd (Article 8).

- Another success was that the models for the conservation and wise use of wetland continue to be implemented and achieving encouraging results.

- Finally, thanks to active participation of the Ministry of Natural Resources, the relevant ministries with the support of international organizations and the civil society organizations, authorities at all levels, all sectors and residents has a dramatical increase in awareness of importance of wetlands, especially awareness of the role of wetland ecosystems in economic development and sustainable livelihoods for local communities.

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

An overlap in the wetland management institution is considered the most inadequate aspect in wetland management of Vietnam. The unclear assignment of responsibilities and unthoughtful coordination between the MONRE and MARD are typical issues for this overlap. For example, the sole system of Vietnam protected area that are special-use forests, including many components of interior, coastal and marine wetland ecosystems is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. While the assignment of responsibility under the Law on Biodiversity, these ecosystems are under the management of MONRE.

- The system of wetland management and monitoring bodies at the local level (province/district) has not been clearly indentified due to (i) do not have an approved master planning by the government, (ii) not assigned specific management tasks, (iii) limitation in management capacity and (iv) conflicts between conservation and use of wetland resources for socio-economic development of localities and sectors. These are results from unineduquate inadequate recognition of wetlands values. This is also the root leading to situation that wetland management requirements have not been fully integrated in the development plannings and strategies of locals and sectors as well as that policies to mobilize social resources and community participation in management of conservation and sustainable use of wetland are not be set out.

- Human resources and facilities and finance for wetland conservation and management is very limited

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

- To unify and improve the institutions and policies on wetland from central to local levels;
- To develop an inventory and an overall planning of wetlands;
- To develop a database and a monitoring program of wetlands from central to local levels.

- To strengthen resources (human and finance) for wetland management agencies both

at central and local levels.

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?

- To support or facilitate Contracting Parties to greater access to financial resources for management and wise use of wetlands.
- Ramsar Secretariat should put more active action on the database for Contracting Parties and Ramsar sites able to access to technical guides for conservation and wise use of wetland.
- Ramsar Secretariat should create chances for self- advertisement of Ramsar site to access to funding sources for carrying out other activities such as education and ecotourism.

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

Ramsar Secretariat may mobilise the IOP to have a clear and stronger commitment for the implementation of the Convention in Vietnam. The IOPs can support the Ramsar Administrative Agency having a better access to new technologies and financial sources to orient the management and wise use of wetland.

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?

Develop mechanisms for coordination and information sharing between the national focal agencies in the implementation of research activities, investment and international cooperation for elaboration of multilateral environmental agreements. If possible, to set up a clearinghouse on implementation of relevant conventions, it is useful to coordinate between the conventions.

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)?

To integrate the activities of conservation and wise use of wetland in the policies and strategies for sustainable development, energy, industries, exploitation, poverty reduction, food security, sanitation, biodiversity.

To improve the position of wetlands, especially Ramsar sites for sustainable economic development to avoid the damage to the integrity of wetland ecosystems from development activities.

To build Capacity, especially for the local level to effectively implement the legal regulations on environmental impact assessment (EIA) and on the conservation management of wetlands.

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

The implementation of the Ramsar Convention in a developing country like Vietnam is facing many difficulties and a high pressure from the demands of economic development in wetland, while resources for conservation and development of wetlands are not corresponding. The Convention/Ramsar Secretariat should put more concern on Vietnam. It is particular in promoting the importance of the Convention and of the wetlands, especially Ramsar sites. Only when the authorities and the public fully aware of the importance of wetlands for sustainable economic development, then the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Vietnam really fully meet commitments which Vietnam has ratified the Convention.

SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Guidance for filling in this section

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on a specific indicator, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions.
3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. Some characters used in the free text box prevent the automatic data entry into our database designed for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [], °°°° in the free text box.
5. To assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP10, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP10 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
6. Where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
7. Only Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Strategies and KRAs for which there are significant implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format; those parts of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted.

GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

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

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i	C - In progress
1.1.1 Additional information: Currently, the Land Management Administration of MONRE is conducting a review and inventory in order to develop a nationwide land planning, including wetlands	
1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	C - Partly
1.1.2 Additional information: The information can be found at the Center for Environmental Monitoring and Centre for Environmental Information and Data. However, these data are not easy to access, especially for residents and local wetland researchers and management staff.	

<p>1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the previous triennium?{1.1.3 & 1.1.4}</p> <p>a) Ramsar Sites b) wetlands generally</p> <p>Please comment on the nature of the information on which your answer is based in the green free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please comment on what are the principal driver(s) of the change(s).</p> <p>* "Condition" corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention</p>	<p>O - No change N - Status deteriorated</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information:</p> <p>At 03 Ramsar sites, the status of wetlands is relatively stable. However, there is a high pressure on these areas, even the pressure from outside the boundaries of the wetlands may be caused by development projects if no appropriate mitigations are carried out (such as: hydropower projects should threaten a change of the tidal mechanism of wetland or or mining activities around the wetland should resulted in the sedimentation of reservoirs).</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information:</p> <p>While several models have implemented in the wetlands, particularly in some coastal areas, the condition of wetland ecosystems is being improved. However, in a large scale, the pressure from population, urbanization, land-use changes and infrastructure development is threatening the loss or degradation of many wetland ecosystems in Vietnam.</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: Law on Biodiversity(2008) - Article 35 of the Law on Biodiversity (2008) prescribed the specific regulation on 'Sustainable development of natural ecosystems in natural wetlands'. Decree 65/2010/ND-CP on November 6, 2010 of the Government on detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Biodiversity also prescribed that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall assume the prime responsibility for formulating and appraising national level wetland Protected Area establishment projects (Article 8)</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>A - Yes</p>

1.3.2 Additional information:

Decision No. 153/QD-TTg on August 17, 2004 of the Prime Minister on the issuance of the Strategy for Sustainable Development in Vietnam (Agenda 21 of Vietnam)

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

a) Poverty eradication strategies	A - Yes
b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	A - Yes
c) Coastal and marine resource management plans	A - Yes
d) National forest programmes	A - Yes
e) National strategies for sustainable development	A - Yes
f) National policies or measures on agriculture	A - Yes
g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans	A - Yes
{1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i	

1.3.3 Additional information:

National Strategy for Environmental Protection until 2010 and a vision toward 2020 (Decision No. 256/2003/QD-TTg on December 2, 2003).

National Strategy for Environmental Protection identified the nature conservation and biodiversity is one of the basic tasks of environmental protection, with the following activities: protection and development of natural Protected Areas and National Parks; The State conducts a zoning the specific ecosystems with a high biodiversity, in combination with the economic- social development planning; forest development and improvement of vegetation area, focusing on the restoration of watershed and primary forest, improvement of forest quality for combined purposes of ensuring highly economic efficiency, bringing into full play their environmental protection and ecological balance and biodiversity development; biodiversity protection, strictly control of trade in rare and specious wildlife animals at high risk of extinction, prohibition of destructive fishing methods, destruction of mangrove forests and sensitive ecosystems for agriculture and aquaculture. The Strategy provides 17 priority programs for implementation until 2010 and a vision toward 2020 on the protection and sustainable exploitation of natural resources, in which the highest priority program is the protection of the main river basin environment such as Cau River, Nhue-Day river Sai Gon - Dong Nai river.

In addition, there are other programs related to wetland management such as the program on severely degraded ecosystems rehabilitation, the programs on severely degraded watershed forest restoration, the program on protecting the wetlands of the international and national importance, 5 million hectares of forests program, program on enhancement of the protection, management and development of natural protected areas, program on the protection of in rare and specious species at high risk of extinction. Thus, 10 of total 36 priority programs in the National Strategy on Environmental Protection are related to the wetland. This proves that wetland management has a high concern from the Government.

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: Decree No. 29/2011/ND-CP of 18 April 2011 on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environment Protection Commitment	

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: Decree No. 29/2011/ND-CP of 18 April 2011 on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environment Protection Commitment	

1.3.6 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?	A - Yes
1.3.6 Additional information: Law on Biodiversity (2008) - The first legal document on biodiversity with systematic approach on a national scale, has prescribed that the wetland ecosystems is the main object of State management, conservation planning and protection under the Law. Article 35 of the Law on Biodiversity (2008) prescribed the specific regulation on 'Sustainable development of natural ecosystems in natural wetlands'. Decree 65/2010/ND-CP on November 6, 2010 of the Government on detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Biodiversity also prescribed that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall assume the prime responsibility for formulating and appraising national level wetland Protected Area establishment projects (Article 8)	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 implementation:

Regarding to the policies, in the period 2008-2011, Vietnam has made remarkable progress in developing laws and policies to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands. However, it is still required further improvement of the guiding documents to facilitate to implement laws and decrees. The big issue for Vietnam is the ineffective enforcement of laws and legal documents, that needs to improve more in the next period

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

1.4.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites? {1.3.1} KRA 1.4.ii	C - Partly
1.4.1 Additional information: Assessment of ecosystem services has initially performed at a number of wetlands in Vietnam, including Xuan Thuy Ramsar site	

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	C - Partly
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1.4.2 Additional information:
There are several projects that include components of sustainable livelihoods from wetlands done by the International Organization such as Mekong Region Waters Dialogue in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand by IUCN or the projects by CARE and FAO

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:
The legal documents related to the wetland are also referring to the cultural values of wetlands (Decree 109/2003, the Law on Biodiversity 2008 etc.), However, in the progress of implementation, the consideration of cultural values, indigenous traditions, etc. is not clearly presented.

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):
The economic, social and cultural values are fully mentioned in the profile of wetlands. If becoming to the Ramsar site, the economic, social and cultural issues have been included in the management planning of Ramsar sites.

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	A - Yes
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1.5.1 Additional information:
Currently, the National focal point for the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) are located at the Biodiversity Conservation Agency (BCA)-the State management agency on environmental protection and biodiversity conservation. In addition, the BCA also often contact and coordinate with the focal point of CITES that is located in MARD.

<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"> a. head of state b. parliament c. private sector d. civil society 	<p>A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes</p>
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1.5.2 Additional information:

The National Focal Point of the Ramsar Convention has been translated and published documents on the website, published information on the means of mass media such as TV, radio, newspaper and presented in the COP10 participation report submitting to the Government.

<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>C - Partly</p>
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1.5.3 Additional information:

The Declaration has been used in a number of international forums

<p>1.5.4 Have you translated and disseminated the “Changwon Declaration” into local languages relevant for your country?</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
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1.5.4 Additional information:

'Changwon Declaration' has been translated into Vietnamese and published on the domestic and international websites

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"> a. agriculture-wetland interactions b. climate change c. valuation of ecosystem services <p>KRA 1.6.i</p>	<p>A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes</p>
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1.6.1 Additional information:

Research on these aspects are separately implemented in some sites. There is no general studies which serve a policy development

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	C - Partly
1.6.2 Additional information: In some wetlands, the reaserch findings have been integrated in the management planning, but not in all the plannings, there are adequate inputs and consideration of all aspects.	

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: Useful in the field of water resources management	
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: The management of water resources in Vietnam is also assigned to the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. However, the integrated management of water resources in river basins has been not effectively implemented due to lack of a close co-operation.	
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}	C - Partly
1.7.3 Additional information: The CEPA expertise and tools have been integrated into the overall Scheme of Protection and sustainable development of environment and ecology landscape of river basins.	
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}	C - Partly

1.7.4 Additional information:

Strategies for integrated coastal zone management were developed for coastal provinces of Nam Dinh, Quang Nam and Ba Ria - Vung Tau. However, it is not been applied on the scale of the entire coastal area and there have no instructions or regulations for developing a strategy or a planning of coastal zone.

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

C - Partly

1.7.5 Additional information:

Wetlands have been mentioned in the National Target Program to respond to Climate Change, under the Resolution No. 60/2007/NQ-CP on December 3, 2007 of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

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

C - Partly

1.7.6 Additional information:

Decision No. 800/2010/QD-TTg, on June 4, 2010 by the Prime Minister on approving 'National target program for new rural construction period from 2010 to 2020' has mentioned the role of the wetlands.

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:

Coastal areas, especially coastal mangroves

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:

Mangrove Planting Project, Coastal Wetland Ecosystem Community-based Conservation Project.vv..

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 Coastal Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration Project

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

C - Partly

1.9.1 Additional information:
There were the inventory and the impact assessment of invasive alien species on wetland ecosystems such as impact assessment of the golden snail on agricultural wetland ecosystems.

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

C - Partly

1.9.2 Additional information:
The invasive alien species Project was developed.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.9 implementation:

One of the specific objectives of the Decision No. 79/2007/QD-TTg of May 31, 2007 is to control, evaluate and prevent invasive alien species. In which, a task of the management and strictly control of invasive alien species includes the component of survey and statistics of the invasive alien species; and develop and implement the strategy of prevention, control of invasive alien species and handling induced problems from them

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:

The first legal document on biodiversity with systematic approach on a national scale, has prescribed that the wetland ecosystems is the main object of State management, conservation planning and protection under the Law. Article 28,29,30,31 of the Law on Biodiversity (2008).

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:

The private sector has involved in a number of activities of management and wise use of wetlands at the Xuan Thuy Ramsar site and other wetlands. For some sites located in the special use forests as Bau Sau or Ba Be, the participation of the private sector is limited. For the wetlands outside protected areas, private sector has not really conscious participation of conservation and wise use of wetlands. They often put economic interests on the top and often threaten the wetland ecosystem as well as to longlife of the services of wetlands.

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:

In some projects, this is well-done such as GIZ applied the model that make fences of Melaleuca leucadendvon to protect mangrove forests in Kien Giang.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.10 implementation:

Recently, the private sector in Vietnam has continued deeply involved in the field of conservation and wise use of wetlands

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

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

A - Yes

1.11.1 Additional information: Action been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetland in the Law of Biodiversity

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

Z - Not applicable

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	A - Yes
2.1.1 Additional information: Decision No.79/2007/QĐ-TTg of Prime Minister dated on May 31st 2007 regarding to the Approval of Vietnam Biodiversity Action Plan to 2010 and Orientation towards 2020 to implement CBD and Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, that has a the priority objective of the establishment of Ramsar sites. Decision No.04/2004/QĐ-BTNMT of April 5, 2004 approving the action plan on the conservation and sustainable development of wetland areas in the 2004-2010 period refers to the development of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites).	
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: Ramsar Information Sheet of Xuân Thủy has been regularly updated In 2010, Ba Be wetland was nominated on the list of wetland of international importance and was recognised as Ramsare site by Ramsar Convention Secretariat on Feb 2, 2011. Biodiversity Conservation Agency is preparing the Ramsar Information Sheed of Mui Ca Mau National Park	
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	1 sites
2.1.3 Additional information: In 2011, Vietnam nominated the Tram Chim wetland on the list of wetland of international importance. The Ramsar Secretariat has reviewed and answered, the National Focal Point of the Ramsar Convention (RAA) is completing the profile to submit.	
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	4 sites

2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation):

- In 2012, Vietnam will nominate the Ca Mau wetland on the list of wetland of international importance
- In 2013, Vietnam will nominate a once wetland on the list of wetland of international importance
- In 2014, Vietnam will nominate a once wetland on the list of wetland of international importance
- In 2015, Vietnam will nominate a once wetland on the list of wetland of international importance

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:

Biodiversity Coneservation Agency identifies wetland of international importance for nominations based on Ramsar tools. The finalization of the wetland profile is remarkably contributed by Information Service.

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:

Ba Be and Tram Chim Ramsar sites had theirs management plannings

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	03 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	03 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	sites
2.4.1 – 2.4.4 Additional information: All three Ramsar sites in Vietnam had their Management Plannings and in progress of implementation The updating the management planning depends on management reality of each Ramsar site	
2.4.5 Do the Ramsar Site management plans establish the maintenance of the ecological character as a management objective? KRA 2.4.ii	A - Yes
2.4.5 Additional information: Biodiversity conservation and ecosystems maintenance are identified as as major objectives for all three areas.	
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)): All three Ramsar sites are located in special-use forests that have the Management Boards under Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (MARD). The Management Boards coordinates with other departments/sectors in the specific activities. But no inter-sectoral management was formally established.	
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): All Vietnam's three Ramsar sites have complete descriptions of ecological characters.	

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

A - Yes

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):

Updated in Ramsar Information Sheet of Xuan Thuy and Bau Sau Ramsar sites. Ba Be Ramsar site has no assessment of management effectiveness because of newly establishment

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 implementation:

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

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

A - Yes

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

Biodiversity Conservation Agency plays a role of Ramsar Administration Authority (RAA) in Vietnam has associated regularly with the Management Board of Ramsar sites. The major changes have been regularly updated and be reported.

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

A - Yes

2.6.2 Additional information (if “Yes” or “Some cases”, please indicate for which Ramsar Sites Article 3.2 reports have been made by the Administrative Authority to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made):

The information sheet will be updated if there are any negative impacts or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites. In addition, the COP national report, these updates are also listed

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):

No Ramsar site in Vietnam has negative impacts that is required to make the Montreux profile

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 implementation:

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

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

C - Some sites

2.7.1 Additional information:

The profile of many wetlands of international importance in Vietnam are not compiled to submit the the Secretariat Ramsar for Ramsar site recognition. However, their ecological character have protected and maitained because of they are the protected areas in Vietnam. But many wetlands of international importance outside of protected areas has an inadequate concern.

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	A - Yes
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3.1.1 Additional information:

Focal Agency of Ramsar Convention has cooperated with other Conventions such as the Convention on biodiversity, the Convention on Climate Change, United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification, CITES.

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:

The Ramsar Committee was not established in Vietnam.

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:

The collaboration between the RAA and these agencies is not close. Their coordination is only in specific projects or activities

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	---
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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
<p>3.2.1 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Planned", please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative):</p> <p>Vietnam participated in the implementation of the Initiative on Avian influenza and peatlands.</p>	
3.2.2 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {4.10.1}	A - Yes
<p>3.2.2 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s):</p> <p>Vietnam has supported South Korea to establish the East Asian Ramsar Regional Center (RRC) and participated in meetings and training courses of the Center.</p>	

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	A - Yes
<p>3.3.1 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate the countries supported since COP10):</p> <p>Two small projects in Vietnam was funded by Swedish via Ramsar Convention Secretariat (SGF)</p>	
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	B - No
<p>3.3.2 Additional information:</p>	

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):

Network of wetland experts of BCA, East Asian Ramsar Regional Centre, Natural Sciences University of Ho Chi Minh city and Can Tho University, have involved in training network of Southeast Asian wetlands

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:

The websites of the BCA, of the international organizations such as IUCN, CARE, BirdLife, and of Vietnam's three Ramsar sites have posted information about the Ramsar sites and conservation and wise use of wetlands. In addition, on the mass media, there also have a lot of stories/news about wetlands and the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Vietnam.

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

C - Partly

3.4.3 Additional information:

Some information about Vietnam was posted in the Ramsar website

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.4 implementation:

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

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

A - Yes

3.5.1 Additional information:

Some shared wetlands have been identified such as the Mekong sub-region wetland

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

C - Partly

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

The cooperative management of shared wetland have several issues. Particular in the Mekong sub-region, the cooperative management is only the sharing information and a lot of controversy and conflicts about the use and management of shared wetlands between the countries has not been resolved.

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:

Vietnam is a member of Mekong River Commission and East Asian Ramsar Regional Center

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
b) Sub-national level
c) Catchment/basin level
d) Local/site level</p> | <p>A - Yes
A - Yes
B - No
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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- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The National Action Plan on wetland Areas for 2004-2010 period has proposed the project of raising awareness of conservation and sustainable development of wetlands; - National Action Plan on Biodiversity has a component of CEPA in the management and sustainable use of wetlands; - There have been workshops and training courses on communication and information sharing of wetland with involvement of different ministries/sectors and related organizations; - The wetland management at basin level has not been elaborated in Vietnam; - At local level, the CEPA activities have been elaborated separately, depending on the projects and without an overall program | |
|--|--|

<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>0 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>Xuan Thuy, Bau Sau, and Ba Be Ramsar sites; and a lot of other wetlands such as Bai Tu Long National Park, Van Long wetland protected area.</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>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>Ramsar sites have involved the participation of local stakeholders in the management.</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>	
<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>05 opportunities</p>
<p>4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training):</p> <p>Training opportunities were mainly from East Asian Ramsar Regional Center. There was also the regional training courses on the wetland management in Laos.</p>	
<p>4.1.6 Do you have an operational National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body)? {4.8.2}</p>	<p>B - No</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):</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>C - Partly</p>

4.1.7 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe what types of mechanism are in place):

Although Vietnam did not have the Ramsar Committee, the Vietnam National Focal Point of the Ramsar Convention, Biodiversity Conservation Agency under Vietnam Environment administration has been shared information on conservation and wise use of wetlands, especially the communication activities on raising public awareness of wetlands for the ministries/central agencies, related organizations and Provincial/city People's Committees. For example, after receiving the instruction of the Ramsar Convention Secretariat to celebrate World Wetlands Day (2 Feb). VEA have translated the entire Guidance into Vietnamese and sent the official document of guiding to celebrate the Ceremony in response to the World Wetland Day to all ministries / central agencies, related organizations and Provincial/city People's Committees, Ramsar sites and wetland Protected Areas.

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:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has annually collaborated with local and international organizations to elaborate activities in response World Wetlands Day on 2 Feb.

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):

Raising public awareness about the benefits and ecosystem services that have been integrated into campaigns, programs and projects related to the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 implementation:

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

4.2.1

a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2009, 2010, 2011? {4.6.1} KRA 4.2.i

Z - Not applicable

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

Because the Agency who is in charge of paying the yearly dues for the Ramsar Convention is not under the VEA. We are making an effort for the contact to confirm whether or not of the payment. If not, the yearly dues is prompt to be paid in the future .

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

B - No

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

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 implementation:

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

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

A - Yes

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

Used the Report of 2005-2008 period

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 in 2009

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

A - Yes

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

The National Focal Point has closely collaborated with the IOP (IUCN, Birdlife, WWF) in the development of technical guidelines and organisation of activities of conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, including awareness raising and compilation of Ramsar site profile.

4.4.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs? {4.9.2} KRA 4.4.iii

A - Yes

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

East Asian Ramsar Regional Center, Small Grants Facility (SGF)

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 implementation:

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