



## 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

*“Wetlands: home and destination”*

**Bucharest, Romania, 6-13 July 2012**

### **Resolution XI.17**

#### **Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2013-2015**

1. RECALLING Resolutions IX.2, X.9, X.10, X.11, XI.18 concerning a complete, unified and prioritized programme of scientific and technical implementation activities and the work of the Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP);
2. THANKING the STRP for its significant work during the 2009-2012 triennium, as summarized in the Report of the Chair of the STRP (COP11 DOC. 6), but AWARE that it has not been possible to progress some elements of the STRP's priority work in the 2009-2012 triennium and that full delivery of the Panel's work programme remains subject to the availability of resources, in particular to additional voluntary contributions from Parties and others;
3. ALSO THANKING those Parties and organizations that have made additional voluntary contributions and in kind support to the work of the STRP in the 2009-2012 triennium, and NOTING the significant benefits to the implementation of the Convention and the scope of the Panel's work that are facilitated by voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties; and
4. NOTING that the terms of Resolution XI.16 may have implications for the implementation of this Resolution;

#### THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

5. APPROVES the full list of tasks in Annex 2 as the basis for the programme of scientific and technical work for Convention bodies (including the STRP) for the 2013-2015 period, and ALSO APPROVES the 20 tasks listed in Annex 1 to this Resolution as the top priority tasks for implementation, resources permitting, in the 2013-2015 period;
6. INSTRUCTS the STRP, in line with its approved *modus operandi* (Resolution X.9, as amended by Resolution XI.18), to develop its work plan for the 2013-2015 triennium for the Standing Committee's consideration from the tasks identified in the annexes to this Resolution, including an early assessment of those tasks which could be undertaken on a collaborative basis with other Multilateral Environmental Agreement subsidiary bodies;

REQUESTS the STRP to define specific “implementation targets” for each work task itemized in Annex 2; ALSO REQUESTS the STRP to develop a format to aid in the implementation of the STRP’s work plan at the national level; and INVITES those other organizations and bodies identified in the annexes to this Resolution to consider taking the lead and/or contributing to those tasks concerning issues for which they have expertise;

7. URGES Contracting Parties, and INVITES donors, intergovernmental agencies, International Organization Partners (IOPs), national NGOs, and others to use this list, including the programme for Top Priority actions in Annex 1, when deciding priorities for their financial and other material support towards the scientific and technical implementation of the Ramsar Convention, and FURTHER URGES Parties to consider making additional voluntary contributions to support the Convention’s programme of scientific and technical work, particularly for those tasks indicated as being top priorities;
8. INSTRUCES the Secretariat to consolidate into Annexes 1 and 2 of this Resolution any additional or amended scientific and technical implementation actions arising from other Resolutions adopted by the present meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
9. INSTRUCES the Secretariat and STRP to develop indicators based on the Ramsar Information Sheet - 2012 revision adopted in Resolution XI.8 for measuring the outcomes of Ramsar Site management efforts in terms of enhancing the implementation of the Convention at national and site levels.

### **Annexes 1 and 2: Introduction**

1. This section provides explanatory notes concerning the two attached annexes.
2. Annex 1 provides a summary list of top priority scientific and technical tasks for the 2013-2015 triennium. This is drawn from Annex 2, which provides a summary of the full list of scientific and technical implementation support tasks for the work of Convention bodies in 2013-2015.
3. Certain top priority themes (and in some cases more specific task topics associated with these themes) for future implementation have been identified by Contracting Parties through one or more Ramsar regional pre-COP meetings and consultation processes. These are:
  - CEPA – training & capacity-building
  - ecosystem services/valuation
  - climate change
  - wetland inventory and assessment (including change in ecological character)
  - wetlands and water resources (including wetlands’ role in the global water cycle)
  - invasive species
  - poverty eradication
  - wetlands and aquaculture issues
  - advice on best practices including case studies

4. The 20 top priority tasks listed in Annex 1 below have been identified from the full range of scientific and technical tasks listed in Annex 2 and are recommended as top priority activities for the Convention's various bodies according to advice received from Contracting Parties (through their regional pre-COP11 meetings and COP11), the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), and the Ramsar Secretariat.
5. The provisional figure for the total estimated funds needed for full implementation of the recommended 2013-2015 top priority tasks is CHF 1,915,000 over the triennium (see Annex 2 for cost estimates for the tasks). [Note that this total does not yet include cost estimates for some tasks amended or added in COP11 Resolutions.] Of this, some support (CHF 150,000) has already been pledged by a number of donor countries for the task "The role of biodiversity and wetlands in the global water cycle".
6. Annex 2 provides further details of all scientific and technical implementation support tasks for the work of Convention bodies 2013-2015. This annex provides a summary description of each task, with its anticipated outcomes and outputs, and provisional estimated costs. Fuller descriptions of top priority tasks are provided in COP11 Information Paper 21 "Scientific & technical implementation of the Convention 2013-2015: task pro-formas". [Secretariat Note. The task descriptions in this Information Paper are based on those proposed to Parties at COP11 in COP11 Draft Resolution 17, and in the light of amendments to some tasks in the adopted Annex 2 below these fuller task descriptions will need to be updated.]
7. As indicated in Annex 2, a number of the tasks listed are either ongoing or have been carried forward from the task lists in the equivalent COP Resolution adopted by previous COPs, but for which capacity has been insufficient in the previous triennia to undertake or complete them.
8. Provisional estimated costs in Annex 2 are based on each task requiring the engagement of an expert (or experts) to undertake the work required. These provisional estimated costs have been prepared by the STRP and Secretariat to provide Contracting Parties with an initial assessment of delivery needs – more precise costing and the scope and ways and means for the delivery of each of the tasks will be developed at the beginning of the 2013-2015 cycle and reported to the Standing Committee at that time. It is recognized that, as for previous triennia, much of the funds estimated to be needed for further developing scientific and technical implementation support will need to be found from sources other than the Convention's core budget.
9. Annex 2 also provides an indication of which body or process would be most appropriate to lead the implementation of the work, and which bodies, processes and/or organizations could be anticipated to bring in relevant expertise to contribute to the work.
10. In most cases, lead responsibility for a task listed in Annex 2 is assigned to one of the Convention's bodies or processes (e.g., Secretariat, Ramsar Regional Centres, STRP, etc.). However, for certain tasks, the nature of the task and the expertise required for it lies outside the direct expertise of the Convention's processes, particularly when the task concerns aspects of providing advice on cross-sectoral issues, and where there is a relevant expert body or organization that has established collaborative arrangements with the Convention (for example, through a Memorandum of Cooperation and/or as an invited

observer organization to the STRP). Where such an organization is indicated in Annex 2, it will be invited to consider taking the lead in work on that task.

## Annex 1

### Recommended top priority scientific and technical tasks for the 2013-2015 triennium

Recommended top priority tasks 2013-2015 (short task title only)	Lead body/process
<b>CEPA</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing and supporting the capacity-building needs of Contracting Parties and wetland managers in applying Ramsar guidance</li> </ul>	STRP/Secretariat/Ramsar Regional Centres, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity-building support for STRP National Focal Points</li> </ul>	Secretariat (with STRP & Ramsar Regional Centres)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STRP communication &amp; dissemination support: a) web platform; and b) newsletters</li> </ul>	Secretariat/STRP
<b>Strategic, emerging &amp; ongoing issues</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic scientific &amp; technical advice</li> </ul>	STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing ad hoc advisory functions</li> </ul>	STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of COP Draft Resolutions from Parties</li> </ul>	STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sectoral and/or emerging issues for possible future priority work</li> </ul>	STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invasive species and wetlands</li> </ul>	STRP, with IUCN-SSC, CMS & others
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement with IPBES</li> </ul>	STRP (with Secretariat)
<b>Wetland inventory, assessment, monitoring &amp; reporting</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting on the state of the world's wetlands and their services to people, and the Convention's effectiveness</li> </ul>	STRP, with GWOS partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and coordination of a Global Wetland Observing System (GWOS) partnership</li> </ul>	GWOS partnership (IOPs/STRP partner organizations), with STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detecting, reporting &amp; responding to change in ecological character – further guidance</li> </ul>	STRP
<b>Wetlands of International Importance</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) – 2012 revision</li> </ul>	Secretariat
<b>Ramsar, wetlands and other sectors</b>	
<b>A. Wetlands &amp; human health</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on “Wetlands and Human Health” for the health sector</li> </ul>	WHO, with STRP
<b>B. Wetlands &amp; climate change</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice on implications of climate change for Convention processes</li> </ul>	STRP, with STRP NFPs, Parties & others
<b>C. Wetlands &amp; water resource management</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The role of biodiversity and wetlands in the global water cycle</li> </ul>	STRP, with CBD Secretariat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ramsar, water and wetlands: review and development of a strategy for engaging in the global water debate</li> </ul>	STRP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental water allocation for wetlands - guidance</li> </ul>	STRP, govt of Mexico, WWF

<b>Wetlands &amp; agriculture</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wise use of wetlands in relation to coastal and inland aquaculture guidance</li> </ul>	STRP, with FAO, World Fish Centre, WWF
<b>Wetlands &amp; poverty eradication</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetlands &amp; poverty eradication – tools and case studies</li> </ul>	STRP (with Parties, IOPs, IHDP, UNDP, FAO, UK-DFID and others)
<b>Wetlands &amp; ecosystem services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economics of wetland ecosystem services/benefits</li> </ul>	STRP, with IEEP, IOPs, UNECE water convention, UNEP & others

## Annex 2

### Summary of scientific and technical implementation support tasks for the work of Convention bodies 2013-2015

1. The scientific and technical tasks are organized under six broad themes, as follows:
  - Communication, education, participation & awareness (CEPA)
  - Strategic, emerging & ongoing issues
  - Wetland inventory, assessment, monitoring & reporting
  - Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites)
  - Ramsar, wetlands & other sectors
    - Wetlands & human health
    - Wetlands & climate change
    - Wetlands & water resource management
    - Wetlands & agriculture
    - Wetlands & poverty eradication
    - Wetlands & urbanization
    - Wetlands & tourism
    - Wetlands & energy
  - Wetlands & ecosystem services/benefits
2. The categorization of types of tasks is coded in the tables below as follows:
  1. New or revised Ramsar guidance for Contracting Parties
  2. Technical support and advice – ongoing and ad hoc
  3. Global information products and engagement in other global or sectoral processes
  4. Advice on new and emerging issues
  5. Scientific or technical products/initiatives undertaken by other relevant organizations

**Theme: Communication, Education, Participation & Awareness (CEPA)**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
<p><b>Assessing and supporting capacity-building needs of Contracting Parties and wetland managers in applying Ramsar guidance</b> (2013-15/1)</p>	Top	2	<p>STRP &amp; CEPA Oversight Panel (assessment &amp; training package development)</p> <p>Secretariat, Ramsar Regional Centres, IOPs and others (training delivery)</p>	<p>Develop effective ways of providing training and capacity-building, including through a 'training for trainers' programme, for relevant stakeholders in Contracting Parties (including Administrative Authorities &amp; wetland managers) to assist with the interpretation and implementation of scientific and technical guidance and other materials adopted by the Convention, with the assessment and definition of future needs.</p> <p>Carried forward from 2009-2012 (task 10.3)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) scoping study regarding the optimum capacity-building approaches for Contracting Parties to support their use of guidance;</li> <li>ii) training package/modules on Ramsar guidance;</li> <li>iii) a 'training for trainers' programme developed</li> </ul>	<p>Strategies 4.1 &amp; 4.3 (incl. KRAs 4.1.viii &amp; 4.3.vi)</p>	<p>15,000 (scoping study)</p> <p>80,000 (development of training package)</p>

<b>Capacity-building support for STRP National Focal Points</b> (2013-15/2)	Top	2	Secretariat (with input from STRP and Regional Centres)	<p>Hold regional workshops for STRP National Focal Points (at least 1 per triennium).</p> <p>Ongoing from 2009-2012.</p> <p>Outcomes: Enhanced understanding of Convention processes by STRP NFPs; improved input by STRP NFPs to STRP of national and regional implementation needs.</p>	Strategies 3.4 (KRA 3.4.ii) & 4.3 (KRA 4.3.vi)	100,000 per workshop
<b>STRP communication &amp; dissemination support</b> (2013-15/3):  <b>a) web platform</b>	Top	2	Secretariat (with input from STRP regional members & STRP NFPs)	<p>Develop and maintain, and as necessary further develop, a new STRP web platform for input to and dissemination of STRP work by STRP NFPs and others.</p> <p>Ongoing from 2009-2012.</p> <p>Outcome: fully functional and up-to-date web tool for sharing information, reviewing drafts, and archiving the STRP's work</p>	Strategy 3.4 (KRA 3.4.iii)	50,000
<b>STRP communication &amp; dissemination support</b> (2013-15/3):  <b>b) newsletters</b>	Top	2	Secretariat (with input from STRP members, observers & STRP NFPs)	<p>Produce regular STRP newsletters and seek to provide newsletters and key STRP documents in all Convention languages.</p> <p>Ongoing from 2009-2012.</p> <p>Outcome: information on STRP's work and activities widely available to STRP and other Convention NFPs</p>	Strategy 3.4 (KRA 3.4.iii)	15,000

<b>STRP communication &amp; dissemination support (2013-15/3):</b> <b>c) STRP NFPs bulletin</b>	Lower	2	Secretariat (with input from STRP members & STRP NFPs)	Issue annual STRP NFPs' bulletin of activities. New. Outcome: STRP NFPs' experiences and activities shared	Strategy 3.4 (KRAs 3.4.ii & 3.4.iii)	1,000
<b>CEPA advice on guidance preparation (2013-15/4)</b>	Lower	1	STRP	Ensure that the preparation of STRP guidance and advice materials draws upon CEPA expertise available to the Convention in order to optimize the effective drafting, design, targeting and uptake of such materials.  Ongoing from 2009-2012 (task 1.4)	Strategy 4.1	15,000
<b>Waterbird flyway initiatives - knowledge sharing (2013-15/5)</b>	Lower	1	Secretariat, CMS, AEWAs, and other international flyway initiatives, with STRP	Contribute to establishing a mechanism for sharing knowledge and experience on best practices in the development and implementation of flyway-scale waterbird conservation policies and practices.  Continued from 2009-2012.  Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Note; input on Ramsar issues to the establishment of coordination mechanisms recommended by 2011 workshop.	Strategies 3.3 & 3.5 (KRA 3.5.iii)	-

**Theme: Strategic, emerging and ongoing issues**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
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<b>Strategic scientific &amp; technical advice</b> (2013-15/6)	Top	3/4/5	STRP	Provide proactive and reactive advice to the Convention on relevant strategic scientific and technical matters, including overall progress with scientific and technical aspects of the implementation of COP Resolutions, trends, emerging issues, and other priority matters requiring expert review.  Ongoing from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: Reports, STRP Briefing Notes, STRP Support Service communications, presentations to meetings or conferences.	Strategy 4.3	15,000  [time and travel costs]
<b>Ongoing ad hoc advisory functions</b> (2013-15/7)	Top	2/3	STRP	Provide advice to Secretariat and Parties, including on Ramsar Site designation, article 3.2 issues, Montreux Record, Ramsar Advisory Missions, RSIS, wetland projects, participation in CSAB, and other issues.  Ongoing  Outcomes/outputs: varies	Various	[Dependent on specific requests to STRP]
<b>Review of COP Draft Resolutions from Parties</b> (2013-15/8)	Top	1	STRP	Advise Standing Committee on proposals from Contracting Parties for COP Resolutions with scientific or technical content.  Ongoing  Outcomes/outputs: advice taken up in Draft Resolutions	Various	-

<b>Sectoral and/or emerging issues for possible future priority work</b> (2013-15/9)	Top	4	STRP	Maintain rolling list of global and regional sectoral and/or emerging issues that have potential implications for the wise use of wetlands.  Provide recommendations to Standing Committee and COP when any of these issues might need to be addressed by the STRP or other Convention bodies.  Ongoing  Outcomes/outputs: advice to SC/COP; STRP Briefing Notes	Strategy 1.4	-
<b>Invasive species and wetlands</b> (2013-15/10)	Top	1	STRP, with IUCN-SSC and others	Develop a guide to guidance and available information related to alien invasive species in wetlands, for wetland managers and policy-makers.  Carried over from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: STRP Briefing Note & COP12 Information Paper	Strategy 1.9 (KRA 1.9.iv)	25,000
<b>Reviewing topicality of adopted guidances</b> (2013-15/11)	Lower	1	STRP, with CPs, IOPs, STRP NFPs etc.	Prepare a programme for the periodic review of each of the suite of guidances adopted previously by Parties.  New task  Outcomes/outputs: recommendations to Standing Committee and COP concerning the need for updating previously-adopted guidances.	Various	-

<b>Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)</b> (2013-15/12)	Lower	1	STRP with Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza & Wild Birds	<p>Maintain an active overview of and input to issues relating to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), especially in relation to surveillance, information-exchange, and response strategies.</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: updated advice/technical guidance, if necessary</p>	Strategies 1.6 & 3.4	-
<b>Engagement with IPBES</b> (2013-15/13)	Top	3	STRP (with Secretariat and Parties)	<p>On behalf of the Ramsar Convention, maintain active participation in the development and execution of the scientific work programmes of the IPBES, in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- support an effective science/policy interface for wetland biodiversity, and</li> <li>- ensure that high-quality scientific information and understanding of wetlands is incorporated into policy-making.</li> </ul> <p>(continued)</p>	Strategies 1.1, 3.1 & 3.4	<p>15,000 (meetings participation)</p> <p>10,000 (guidelines preparation)</p>

				<p>The approach will be through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) assessing the STRP work plan and, if appropriate, identifying the needs and opportunities for improving the interface between science and policy in relation to the wise use of wetlands and identifying gaps in scientific, technical and technological information that could assist Parties in identifying priority requests to be submitted to IPBES while it establishes its work plan;</li> <li>ii) preparing (assisted by the Secretariat) interim guidelines to be adopted by the Standing Committee on timely and efficient processes for formulation, approval and transmission of requests from Ramsar to IPBES, taking into account that IPBES is an independent body and will establish the procedures for receiving and prioritizing requests. The interim guidelines could be revised in consideration of the future development of IPBES and Ramsar, and the most current guidelines will be submitted to the next Conference of the Contracting Parties for adoption;</li> <li>iii) continuing to work together with the other MEAs' scientific subsidiary bodies on IPBES-related issues, through the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies (CSAB), including in the preparation of any joint MEA requests proposed to be submitted to IPBES;</li> </ul>		
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				<p>iv) reporting to each Standing Committee and Conference of the Parties on the engagement with IPBES and making recommendations on decisions and resolutions to be taken by the Parties, as appropriate; and</p> <p>v) providing available relevant wetland information to IPBES in response to notifications, advising the Secretariat when doing so, and reporting to the Standing Committee on any actions taken to respond to IPBES notifications. When the response to IPBES notifications has any substantial implications for STRP resources, the STRP Chair will consult with the Standing Committee Executive Team before taking action.</p> <p>Ongoing &amp; Resolution XI.6 Annex, paragraphs 9-13</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: IPBES is responding to Ramsar Convention needs for advice/reports</p>		
<p><b>On-line Convention reporting mechanisms</b> (2013-15/14)</p>	<p>Lower</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Secretariat, with UNEP &amp; UNEP-WCMC</p>	<p>Participate in the work of UNEP and UNEP-WCMC on developing tools for the on-line use of the biodiversity-related conventions, including exploring the opportunity for on-line and harmonized reporting applications relevant to Ramsar including <i>inter alia</i> National Reporting, Ramsar Site designations, and MEA information portals [COP11 DR6]</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: streamlined and more efficient tools for Convention reporting obligations and access to Convention information.</p>	<p>Strategy 3.1 (KRA 3.1.v)</p>	<p>-</p>

<b>Input of Regional Initiatives experience to STRP work</b> (2013-15/15)	Lower	Varies, depending on specific tasks	STRP, Regional Initiatives	<p>Explore ways of making good use of experiences from Regional Initiatives in STRP work</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.5, paragraph 21)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Regional Initiatives providing input to STRP tasks, as relevant</p>	Various (depending on specific tasks)	-
<b>Exchange of information with other MEAs' subsidiary bodies, including through CSAB</b> (2013-15/16)	Lower	3	STRP	<p>Exchange information and expertise with the equivalent subsidiary bodies of other MEAs and relevant regional fora; and continue to participate in meetings of the chairs of scientific and technical subsidiary bodies (CSAB).</p> <p>Ongoing &amp; Resolution XI.6, paragraph 41</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: exchange of information with other MEAs, including through CSAB, reported to SC &amp; COP.</p>	Various (depending on specific tasks)	10,000 (for CSAB meeting participation)
<b>Review of available guidance on sustainable investment in relation to wetlands</b> (2013-15/17)	Lower	1	STRP, with other relevant organizations	<p>Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) available technical guidance on assessing, avoiding, mitigating (minimizing ) and compensating for harmful investment decisions,</li> <li>ii) available guidance on ensuring transparency and responsibility in investment decisions, including best practice case studies, and</li> <li>iii) available guidance on investments in wetland conservation, wise use and restoration, including those derived from public-private partnerships, and provide advice on such guidance.</li> </ul> <p>New task: Resolution XI.20 paragraph16</p>	Strategies 1.3, 1.10 & 1.11	t.b.d.

**Theme: Wetland inventory, assessment, monitoring & reporting**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
<b>Reporting on the state of the world's wetlands and their services to people, and the Convention's effectiveness</b> (2013-15/18)	Top	3	STRP, with input from GWOS partnership, etc.	a) Preparation and publication of 1 <sup>st</sup> edition of a periodic State of the World's Wetlands and their services (SoWWS)/Global Wetland Outlook (GWO) reporting.  Carried over from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: 1 <sup>st</sup> edition State of the World's Wetlands and their services (SoWWS)/Global Wetland Outlook (GWO). (Note. The potential for IPBES to contribute to this output will be further assessed in 2012.)	Strategies 1.1, 1.2, 1.4 & 1.6	100,000 (provisional estimate)

			STRP & Secretariat, with other MEAs	<p>b) further implementation of Resolution VIII.26 (2002) on developing indicators on the results of the Convention's activities, in collaboration with other biodiversity MEAs so as to achieve a coherent approach to indicator development, such that the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention may occur at least once in each reporting cycle; and advice on how reporting on these indicators may be incorporated into the National Reports of the Parties. (Resolution XI.6, paragraph 46)</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: updated reporting on Convention effectiveness (including through the SoWWS); advice on indicator reporting in the National Report Format for COP12.</p>		25,000
<b>Development and coordination of a Global Wetland Observing System (GWOS) partnership (2013-15/19)</b>	Top	3	Wetlands International, Conservation International, GEO-BON, EO agencies, and others, with STRP & Secretariat	<p>Establishment of a Global Wetland Observing System (GWOS) partnership mechanism (and portal), designed to access data and information for and facilitate SoWWS/GWO reporting (see above).</p> <p>Ongoing - continued from 2009-2012</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: a functioning GWOS mechanism delivering enhanced wetland data &amp; information to the Convention stakeholders and others. Timelines of deliverables will be developed and advised once the scoping and development work can be resourced.</p>	Strategy 1.2 (KRAs 1.2.i & 1.2.ii)	20,000 for inception and design; 500,000 (provisional estimate) for implementation & maintenance

<p><b>Detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character - further guidance</b> (2013-15/20)</p>	<p>Top</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>A) STRP B) &amp; C) Secretariat &amp; STRP</p>	<p>A) Update and rationalize guidance on issues relating to Article 3.2 of the Convention, including the role and operation of the Montreux Record; approaches to establishing the range of natural variability of wetland sites and defining Limits of Acceptable Change; the need for and scope of guidance on determining confidence limits and degree of likelihood in cases of “likely” change in the context of Article 3.2; and the need for and scope of guidance on the application of a precautionary approach in the Ramsar Convention;</p> <p>B) Set up criteria for, and streamline the procedure for, reporting cases of human-induced negative changes in the ecological character of a Ramsar Site under Article 3.2; and</p> <p>C) Streamline the lists of Article 3.2 cases and Sites on the Montreux Record, resulting in one single list of Ramsar Sites with human-induced negative changes in ecological character.</p> <p>A) carried over from 2009-2012. B) &amp; C) from Resolution XI.4, paragraphs 21 &amp; 22</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: further guidance for Parties on these issues; streamlined Article 3.2 and Montreux Record reporting to Standing Committee &amp; COP.</p>	<p>Strategy 2.6</p>	<p>A) 20,000 B) 10,000</p>
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<b>Describing ecological character –guidance and support</b> (2013-15/21)	Lower	1	STRP (with external experts and Parties)	<p>Prepare guidance on development and use of conceptual models for describing ecological character, and further guidance for completing ecological character description (ECD) sheet adopted by COP10 and ECD components of the RIS – 2012 revision.</p> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guidance for Parties; training and support modules</p>	Strategy 2.4 (KRAs 2.4.ii & 2.4.v)	20,000 (provisional estimate)
<b>Maintaining an overview of the status of wetland inventory</b> (2013-15/22)	Lower	3	STRP (with WI, IWMI, UNEP-WCMC and others)	<p>Establish and maintain a web-based wetland inventory metadatabase</p> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: on-line metadatabase (potentially linked to RSIS) available; gap analysis of available wetland inventories</p>	Strategy 1.1 (KRA 1.1.ii)	t.b.d.
<b>Implementing harmonized MEA information systems at national level</b> (2013-15/23)	Lower	1	UNEP, UNEP-WCMC and others, with STRP input	<p>Prepare guidance for Parties on utilizing tools and processes for harmonizing information management, including national reporting</p> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guidance for Parties; “route-map” to harmonization and interoperability facilities, support for progress towards streamlined national approaches to MEA reporting</p>	Strategy 3.1 (KRA 2.1.v)	20,000

<p><b>Enhanced support for the implementation of the Ramsar Strategic Plan</b> (2013-15/24)</p>	Lower	1	STRP (with Secretariat, UNEP-WCMC and others)	<p>Develop a data and information needs framework (COP10) as a searchable web portal, including options for on-line national reporting.</p> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- depending on outcomes of initial user needs assessment, the design and roll-out of web-based portal version of data &amp; information framework (successor to the annex to Resolution X.14).</li> <li>- guidance for Parties and others on making optimal use of relevant data and information in support of the Ramsar Strategic Plan.</li> <li>- report on options for an on-line reporting (and potentially a site data submission) system for Ramsar</li> </ul>	All Strategies	t.b.d.
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**Theme: Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites)**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
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<p><b>Implementation of the of the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) – 2012 revision</b> (2013-15/25)</p>	<p>Top</p>	<p>1, 2</p>	<p>Secretariat, with advice from STRP</p>	<p>Develop streamlined tools and mechanisms for enhanced and streamlined Ramsar Site designation and data and information management, including redevelopment of the Ramsar Sites Database and on-line submission tools for RIS.</p> <p>New task – Resolution XI.8</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: on-line accessible database capable of receiving and handling all data and information in the RIS – 2012 revision; on-line RIS submission tool; further guidance and training for Parties, as needed.</p>	<p>Strategies 2.1 &amp; 2.2</p>	<p>400,000</p>
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<p><b>RIS and guidance – further development</b> (2013-15/25)</p>	<p>Lower</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>i. STRP, with input from CPs  ii. &amp; iii. STRP</p>	<p>i) Develop further practical guidance on the issue of defining Ramsar Site boundaries, reflecting that approaches used may depend <i>inter alia</i> of scale of site, the presence of ecological, national and other boundary situations, landscape type, land tenure, and national spatial planning laws and policies (CPs to be invited to provide information and case studies);</p> <p>ii) urgently consider scope for minor modifications to the RIS – 2012 revision to support monitoring at Ramsar Sites through possible inclusion of sub-fields related to: change at the site, for example in fields 12a, 12c, and 16 relating to species composition and wetland type; identification of thresholds of change in ecological character; and monitoring indicators.</p> <p>Any minor modifications proposed to be provided to the Secretariat to provide to the Standing Committee for final endorsement of remaining minor details enabling them to be incorporated within the finalized RIS – 2012 revision format by January 2015; and</p>	<p>Strategy 2.1</p>	<p>t.b.d.</p>
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				<p>iii) prepare additional guidance concerning a) identification, boundary-setting and management issues related to very small wetlands which may nonetheless be of international importance, and b) zoning of sites in the context of management planning and especially in relation to uses of Ramsar Sites by people, including implications for RIS reporting;</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.8, paragraph 21)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: i. &amp; iii. supplementary guidance for Parties, for inclusion in the <i>Strategic Framework</i> for Ramsar Site designation; ii. adjustments to RIS – 2012 revision, as needed.</p>		
<p><b>Ramsar Sites and ecosystem benefits/services</b> (2013-15/26)</p>	Lower	1	<p>i. STRP</p> <p>ii. STRP with Contracting Parties input</p>	<p>i) Further consider the issue of recognizing the importance of ecosystem benefits/services in the future designation of Ramsar Sites, in relation to the terms of Objective 1 of the <i>Strategic Framework</i> and to assess the implications for the RIS, and</p> <p>ii) Develop a more thorough understanding of the nature and extent of ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites individually and at national and global network scales.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.8, paragraph 20)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: i. advice to SC and Parties; ii. report to SC &amp; COP.</p>	Strategies 1.1, 1.4 & 2.1	<p>i. 5,000</p> <p>ii. 10,000</p>

<p><b>Understanding national site designation processes and impediments to national Ramsar Site networks</b> (2013-15/27)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with Secretariat support, and input from Parties	<p>The <i>Strategic Framework and guidelines for the development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance</i> (and associated Resolutions) calls for the designation of national networks of Ramsar Sites, yet few Parties have undertaken strategic reviews of potentially qualifying sites or have designated a comprehensive network of internationally important wetlands. This task is designed to help the STRP and Secretariat better understand the various constraints and impediments to this activity, as a basis for the STRP and Secretariat better supporting Parties in their future Ramsar Site designations. It will include seeking and promulgating specific examples of the efforts by Contracting Parties to develop and implement a strategic approach to Ramsar Site designation (Resolution XI.4, para. 23).</p> <p>New task.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: initially, an STRP Briefing Note, with case study CP examples.</p>	Strategy 2.1	10,000
<p><b>Target development to support the objectives for the Ramsar List</b> (2013-15/28)</p>	Lower	1	STRP	<p>Develop an integrated suite of targets to respond to and support the five Objectives for the Ramsar List included in the <i>Strategic Framework – 2012 revision</i>, including linking to the “Aichi Biodiversity Targets”.</p> <p>New task.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Strategic Framework targets for consideration by COP12.</p>	Strategy 2.1	10,000

<p><b>Consideration of relationships between criteria for internationally important sites for biodiversity</b> (2013-15/29)</p>	Lower	5	IUCN-WCPA/SSC, with input from STRP	<p>Contribute to current initiative led by IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas and Species Survival Commission to review and possibly consolidate criteria for the identification of important sites for biodiversity conservation, in order to ensure that Ramsar Site criteria are fully taken into account.</p> <p>New task.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: report to SC/COP on implications for Ramsar.</p>	Strategy 2.1	5,000
<p><b>Ramsar Site Criteria and identification of globally significant areas for biodiversity</b> (2013-15/30)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, Secretariat, with IUCN WCPA, IUCN-SSC and others	<p>Consider the implications of CBD's Decision X/31 in the context of supporting the application of the Convention's long-established Criteria for the selection of Wetlands of International Importance, including any implications this might have for the identification of important sites for delivery of ecosystem services (whilst noting the undesirability of radical changes for the Convention's established site-selection processes, as well as the delivery of Aichi Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020)</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.8, paragraph 19)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: report to Sc &amp; COP</p>	Strategy 2.1	15,000

**Theme: Ramsar, wetlands and other sectors**
**Sub-theme A: Wetlands and human health**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
<b>Guidance on “Wetlands and human health” for the health sector</b> (2013-15/31)	Top	3	WHO, with STRP	Prepare guidance on “Wetlands and human health” for the health sector  Carried over from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: developed from the 2011 Ramsar Technical Report on wetlands and human health interactions (which was designed for wetland practitioners), a publication for use by human health practitioners	Strategy 1.4	50,000
<b>Wetlands and human health case studies</b> (2013-15/32)	Lower	3	STRP	Prepare case studies of wetlands and human health interactions  Carried over from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: case study publication	Strategy 1.4	25,000

<p><b>Guidance on specific wetland-related diseases</b> (2013-15/33)</p>	Lower	1	STRP/WHO and others	<p>Prepare guidance (fact-sheets) for wetland managers on different wetland-related human diseases</p> <p>Further development of 2009-2012 <i>Wildlife Diseases Manual</i></p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Factsheets for adding to <i>Wildlife Diseases Manual</i>.</p>	Strategy 1.4	15,000
<p><b>Development of wetland &amp; health indicators</b> (2013-15/34)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with WHO, FAO, OIE, BIP, IUCN, Parties & others	<p>Identify, and compile from expert sources, indicators of the relationship between wetland ecosystem services and health, with a particular emphasis on identifying early warning indicators for the emergence or re-emergence of diseases, and neglected, persistent and endemic diseases of people, livestock or wildlife associated with wetlands.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 31.i)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: indicator descriptions and implementation design</p>	Strategy 1.4	10,000
<p><b>Guidance on health implications of ecosystem services disruptions</b> (2013-15/35)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with WHO, FAO, OIE, BIP, IUCN, Parties & others	<p>Compile guidance on the health implications of disruptions to ecosystem services so that the health sector can more effectively participate in planning and decision making related to wetlands and their catchments.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 31.ii)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guidance for the health sector</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.

<b>Review of Ramsar guidance in relation to human health</b> (2013-15/36)	Lower	1	STRP	Review existing Ramsar text and guidance for its relevance to wetlands and human health issues.  Partly carried over from 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Note: guide to existing Ramsar guidance relevant to health issues	Strategy 1.4	10,000
<b>Including health cost and benefit assessment in economic models and wetland valuation</b> (2013-15/37)	Lower	1, 3	STRP	i) Advise on appropriate strategic mechanisms to ensure that health costs and benefits are satisfactorily included in economic models that seek to value the contributions that wetland management makes to human health and well-being, and  ii) Identify and compile techniques to evaluate the outcomes of wetland management decision making in health terms, noting that such appropriate strategic mechanisms will necessarily involve government sectors for whom such valuations are more commonly undertaken.  New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 30)  Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Note	Strategy 1.4	10,000

<p><b>Guidance for wetland managers on human and animal health impact, burden of disease and community health assessments, in wetlands</b> (2013-15/38)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with WHO, FAO, OIE, BIP, IUCN, Parties & others	<p>Prepare human health guidance for wetland managers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the conduct of human and animal health impact assessments in wetlands (identifying the impact assessment protocols that examine health in particular, for elements that are currently insufficiently dealt with in wetland management procedures, including the importance of invasive species and pathogens; prevention of disease emergence or re-emergence; attending to livelihoods, reducing poverty and improving health outcomes; and the possible trade-offs between ecosystem services and health); and</li> <li>iii) providing wetland-related inputs to a) burden-of-disease assessments (i.e., comparative measurements of the gap between a given health status for a population and an ideal health situation where the entire population lives to an advanced age, free of disease and disability); b) community health assessments (where communities themselves conduct assessments of the health matters that they perceive to warrant greater attention); and c) community and stakeholder engagement concerning health matters;</li> </ul> <p>New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 31 iii &amp; iv)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guidance for wetland managers and training package</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.
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<b>Assessment of utility for wetland managers of Ramsar wetland disease manual</b> (2013-15/39)	Lower	1	STRP, with wetland managers	<p>STRP to seek the views of wetland managers and other relevant stakeholders on the utility of the content of the <i>Ramsar wetland disease manual: Guidelines for assessment, monitoring and management of animal disease in wetlands</i> and whether expanding its coverage, e.g., to include plant diseases and human diseases associated with wetlands, would be desirable</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 32)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: utility assessment (Briefing Note)</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.
<b>Encouraging ecosystem approaches to health issues</b> (2013-15/40)	Lower	5	Secretariat & STRP, working with WHO, FAO, OIE, UNEP, IUCN, Convention on Migratory Species & CBD	<p>Work with the other relevant institutional stakeholders concerned with health to encourage an ecosystem approach to relevant health issues in wetlands and their surrounding catchments.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.12 paragraph 35)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: positive responses and uptake of Ramsar advice and guidance by relevant stakeholders</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.

### Sub-theme B: Wetlands and climate change

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
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<p><b>Implications of, and advice on, climate change for Convention implementation</b> (2013-15/41)</p>	<p>Top</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>STRP, with input from STRP NFPs and Parties</p>	<p>i) Continue to prepare advice on the implications of climate change for maintaining the ecological character of wetlands, including <i>inter alia</i> strategies for dealing with the emergence of novel<sup>1</sup> or hybrid ecosystems as a consequence of climate change, the determination of appropriate reference conditions for assessing change in ecological character, determining specified limits of change, and the reporting of change in ecological character at Ramsar Sites, and how this can be reflected in Ramsar Information Sheets, and to collate information from such assessments for future meetings of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>ii) Collate and assess case studies and other information generated in response to Resolution XI.14 paragraph 32;</p> <p>iii) Working with interested Contracting Parties and international organizations, to prepare advice on sustainable management of carbon stocks which enhances wetland biodiversity and the delivery of ecosystem services, thereby contributing to human well-being, with special attention to indigenous peoples and local communities;</p>	<p>Strategy 1.4</p>	<p>i. 20,000 ii. t.b.d. iii. 15,000 iv. 40,000</p>
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<sup>1</sup> New assemblages of species that have not co-occurred historically, that largely result from direct and indirect human activity, and that occupy new ecological spaces in the world's landscapes and seascapes.

				<p>iv) In conjunction with the Secretariat and Ramsar Regional Initiative Networks and Centres, collaborate with relevant international organizations and conventions, within their respective mandates, to further investigate the potential contribution of wetland ecosystems to climate change mitigation and adaptation through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) preparing advice on assessing social resilience and vulnerability of wetlands to climate change, to complement the existing advice on assessing the biophysical vulnerability of a wetlands to climate change (Ramsar Technical Report No. 5/CBD Technical Series No. 57);</li> <li>b) preparing advice on ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change for coastal and inland wetlands; and</li> <li>c) reviewing any relevant advice provide by other MEAs, in particular the outcomes of CBD COP-11;</li> </ul> <p>without pre-empting any future decisions of the UNFCCC;</p> <p>Revised; partly carried over from 2009-2012 &amp; Resolution XI.14 paragraph 35</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guidance/advice for Contracting Parties</p>		
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<b>Ramsar Sites boundary migration in response to sea level rise and other climate change effects</b> (2013-15/42)	Lower	1	STRP, with CIESIN and others	Advise Parties on the implications of sea level rise for coastal Ramsar Sites, particularly those for which adaptation could be constrained due to, <i>inter alia</i> , the proximity of existing and expanding urban areas.  Continued from 2009-1012.  Outcomes/outputs: possible guidance for Parties; Ramsar Technical Report	Strategy 2.1	t.b.d.
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### Sub-theme C: Wetlands and water resource management

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
<b>The role of biodiversity and wetlands in the global water cycle</b> (2013-15/43)	Top	1, 3, 5	STRP, with CBD Secretariat	Establish an expert group on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (as requested by CBD COP10 Decision X/28 and approved by SC42), and communicate with Parties so that they can provide scientific inputs through their own experts.  Ongoing, initiated in 2009-2012  Outcomes/outputs: i) technical review of the contribution of biodiversity to sustaining the water cycle, and current and potential changes occurring in this relationship (RTR/CBD Technical Series report); ii) key policy-relevant messages for decision-makers.	Strategies 1.4 & 1.7	[150,000, funding already provided by donors]

<b>Ramsar, water and wetlands: review and development of strategy for engaging in the global water debate</b> (2013-15/44)	Top	1, 3	STRP & Secretariat	<p>Develop a strategy for Ramsar to engage fully in the global water debate, focusing on the role of wetlands as natural water infrastructure. This includes specifying aims, mechanisms for engagement, and products needed to support the engagement. [Note. The Secretariat's 2011 development of a "Vision 40+" for the Convention contributes to this strategy.]</p> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012 (task 7.7.a)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Ramsar engagement strategy and possible refinements to 2013-2015 work programme (for Parties, Secretariat, and STRP) in the global water debate.</p>	Strategies 1.4 & 1.7	20,000
<b>Environmental water allocation for wetlands – guidance</b> (2013-15/45)	Top	1	STRP, Mexico and WWF	<p>Work with Mexico and WWF to share approaches and experiences and to develop further guidance or tools for management and allocation of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Initially a Briefing Note prepared with Mexico to share their approaches and experiences. Consider whether to develop additional guidance on this topic for COP12.</p>	Strategy 1.7	t.b.d.

**Sub-theme D: Wetlands and agriculture**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
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<p><b>Wise use of wetlands in relation to coastal and inland aquaculture</b> (2013-15/46)</p>	<p>Top</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>STRP, with FAO, World Fish Centre, WWF</p>	<p>Develop guidance for the wise use of wetlands in relation to coastal and inland aquaculture. (Building on lessons learnt from best practices on sustainable aquaculture, and recognizing that global dependence on aquaculture is growing, that wild stocks continue to be depleted, and that meeting the need for seafood is resulting in significant direct (habitat loss, wild harvest of species) and indirect impacts (pollution, contamination) on wetlands.)</p> <p>New task: building on aspects of COP9 Resolution IX.4</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Notes</p>	<p>Strategies 1.4 &amp; 1.6</p>	<p>120,000</p>
<p><b>Impacts of agricultural practices on rice paddies as wetland systems</b> (2013-15/47)</p>	<p>Lower</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>STRP, with Parties, relevant UN organizations, other MEAs (incl. CMS WG on bird poisoning)</p>	<p>Compile and review information on the positive and negative impacts of agricultural practices on rice paddies as wetland systems in terms of enhancing their biodiversity and ecosystem services, and prepare advice to the Convention on these matters.</p> <p>New task: Resolution XI.15 paragraph 24</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: advice to Parties (Briefing Note)</p>	<p>Strategies 1.4 &amp; 1.6</p>	<p>80,000</p>

<p><b>Re-engineering agricultural landscapes</b> (2013-15/48)</p>	<p>Lower</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>STRP, with Czech government, EU, OECD, FAO</p>	<p>Prepare guidance on re-engineering agricultural landscapes. Revitalization of wetland biodiversity within agricultural landscapes is an emerging issue with the transformation of past collective farming systems (e.g., in Central Europe) to individual landholdings. Community aspirations to develop eco-agricultural farming systems as part of such transformations need to be supported by technical/scientific guidance on best practices.</p> <p>New task.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Notes; guidance for Parties</p>	<p>Strategies 1.4 &amp; 1.6</p>	<p>145,000</p>
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<b>Wetlands and biofuels</b> (2013-15/49)	Lower	1	STRP, with IOPs and others	<p>Working with international organizations addressing biofuel issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) review the global distribution of biofuel production in relation to impacts on wetlands;</li> <li>ii) review and collate existing best management practice guidance and social and environmental sustainability criteria for growing biofuel feedstocks in relation to wetlands, and where appropriate develop such guidance and criteria;</li> <li>iii) consider further discussion among the Contracting Parties on addressing sustainable biofuel issues in relation to wetlands; and</li> <li>iv) take into account the findings and conclusions contained in the documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/14 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/32 related to gaps in tools and approaches and uncertainty surrounding the sustainability of biofuels as potential contributions for further refinement of the Guidance annexed to Resolution XI.10 as well as for addressing sustainable biofuels issues in relation to wetlands.</li> </ul> <p>Carried over from 2009-2012 (task 6.3) &amp; Resolution XI.10 paragraph 21</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Ramsar Technical Report &amp; guidance/briefing notes for Parties</p>	Strategies 1.4 & 1.6	45,000
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Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
<b>Wetlands &amp; poverty eradication – guidance and case studies</b> (2013-15/50)	Top	1	STRP (with CPs, IOPs, IHDP, UNDP, FAO, UK-DFID and others)	<p>Further tools and guidance to support the implementation of Resolutions IX.14, X.28 &amp; XI.13, on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) advice on mainstreaming the “Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication” into national policies and programmes for poverty eradication;</li> <li>ii) advice to include Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) as a mechanism that contributes significantly to reduce the risks that can create or deepen poverty; and</li> <li>iii) case studies and best practices on the application of the Framework for assessing poverty in wetlands.</li> </ul> <p>Continuation from 2009-2012 &amp; Resolution XI.13 paragraph 18</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Information Paper with structured guide to available guidance; a publication on case studies on wetlands and poverty interlinkages.</p>	Strategy 1.4	20,000

<p><b>Supplementary guidance to support the Resolution XI.13 poverty eradication framework</b> (2013-15/51)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with IOPs, and other organizations and networks	<p>Supplement the Resolution XI.13 Framework by undertaking tasks identified under Resolution X.28, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) further development of indicators relating wetland wise use to livelihoods and poverty eradication,</li> <li>ii) development of structured guide to available guidelines and tools for addressing poverty eradication in relation to wetlands, and collation, and</li> <li>iii) review of examples of how wetland degradation affects people's livelihoods and how maintenance or restoration of the ecological character of wetlands can contribute to poverty alleviation.</li> </ul> <p>Continuation from 2009-2012 &amp; Resolution XI.13 paragraph 19</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: Guidance on indicators relating wetland wise use to livelihoods and poverty eradication; tools for addressing poverty eradication related to wetlands; Briefing Note on links between wetland maintenance and restoration and poverty alleviation.</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.
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#### Sub-theme F: Wetlands and urbanization

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional estimated cost (CHF)
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<p><b>Planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands</b> (2013-15/52)</p>	Lower	1	<p>UN-Habitat, Secretariat, STRP, with Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity, CBD, ICLEI, IOPs, Parties</p>	<p>Embedding principles on wetlands and urbanization in existing processes, and development of guidance for different stakeholders to assist in sustainably managing urban and peri-urban wetlands, with information and case studies provided by Parties.</p> <p>Continued from 2009-2012; Resolution XI.11 paragraphs 29 &amp; 30.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Guidance briefing note for UN-Habitat and others in the sector including local authorities, planning departments and municipal authorities on issues and response options for urbanization and the wise use of wetlands.</li> <li>ii) Guidance briefing note for local wetland managers on issues and response options for urbanization and the wise use of wetlands.</li> </ul>	Strategy 1.4	40,000
<p><b>Urban wetland management demonstration sites</b> (2013-15/53)</p>	Lower	5	<p>Secretariat &amp; STRP, with UN-Habitat, Regional Initiatives, SCBD, IOPs, ICLEI and other urban stakeholders (including individual cities)</p>	<p>Strengthen collaborative initiatives with UN-Habitat and continue to develop collaboration with Ramsar Regional Initiatives, the CBD, Ramsar's IOPs, ICLEI and other appropriate urban stakeholders, including individual cities, in order to foster projects that develop demonstration sites which both benefit urban local communities and promote the wise use of wetlands.</p> <p>Resolution XI.11 paragraphs 27.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: enhanced collaboration leading to demonstration projects.</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d.

**Sub-theme G: Wetlands and tourism**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional Estimated cost (CHF)
<b>Wetlands and tourism – development of guiding principles for tourism in and around wetlands</b> (2013-15/54)	Lower	1	STRP (with Secretariat, UNWTO & other relevant organizations)	Develop further advice, including key messages and/or guiding principles for tourism in and around wetlands (drawing upon <i>inter alia</i> the analysis of case studies provided in the joint Ramsar–UNWTO publication on “Wetlands and Tourism”)  Continued from 2009-2012.  Outcomes/outputs: Briefing Note/ guiding principles for Parties	Strategies 1.4 & 1.6	10,000

**Sub-theme H: Wetlands and energy**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional Estimated cost (CHF)
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<p><b>Managing energy sector activities in relation to wetlands: guide to guidance and case studies</b> (2013-15/55)</p>	Lower	1	<p>Secretariat, with CPs, IOPs, NGOs, relevant scientific &amp; technical organizations, &amp; industry associations</p>	<p>Share and compile information, guidance and case studies for managing specific impacts of energy sector activities on wetlands, and studies on regional and transboundary collaboration for energy planning and development that are consistent with wise use of wetlands.</p> <p>New task</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: guide to guidance and case studies</p>	Strategy 1.4	20,000
<p><b>Monitoring energy trends reported in global assessments</b> (2013-15/56)</p>	Lower	1	STRP	<p>Monitor the information and trends emerging from relevant global assessments, such as the Global Energy Outlook and Global Biodiversity Outlook, and keep Contracting Parties informed of the trends in the context of wetlands and energy.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.10 paragraph 20)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: information to Parties</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d
<p><b>Applying ecological impact criteria in the selection of energy generation sites</b> (2013-15/57)</p>	Lower	1	STRP, with Parties, other organizations & IOPs	<p>Compile information on approaches and best practices for applying ecological impact criteria in the selection of energy generation sites.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.10 paragraph 19)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: information and advice to COP</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d

<b>Capacity building for energy sector regulatory oversight</b> (2013-15/58)	Lower	2	Secretariat, with STRP, CEPA Oversight Panel, Regional Initiatives & Parties	<p>Support Contracting Parties' training and capacity building efforts and programmes to strengthen if necessary regulatory oversight of energy sector activities and to enhance application of guidance for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (Resolution X.17) and application of the guidelines in Resolution VIII.1 on allocation and management of water.</p> <p>New task (Resolution XI.10 paragraphs 18/19) (relates also to implementation of task 2013-15/1)</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: capacity-building programmes supported</p>	Strategy 1.4	t.b.d
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**Theme: Wetlands and ecosystem services/benefits**

Task	Priority for delivery	Category of task	Who leads task?	Task summary, and expected outputs/outcomes	Supports Strategic Plan Strategy/KRA:	Provisional Estimated cost (CHF)
<b>Economics of wetland ecosystem services/benefits</b> (2013-15/59)	Top	1	STRP, with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), IOPs, UNECE water convention, UNEP and	<p>Building on the work of TEEB and others (&amp; the TEEB water and wetland synthesis report):</p> <p>a) Conduct a user needs analysis for Ramsar Parties &amp; wetland (site) managers) on tools, knowledge, methodology and data required to support integration of ecosystem service values in planning and decision making;</p> <p>b) Conduct a scoping review of the advancements in ecosystem services (description / recognition, valuation, capture) to support wise use of</p>	Strategies 1.4 (KRA 1.4.ii) & 1.6	80,000

			<p>others</p>	<p>wetlands, in particular cross sectoral integration;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) Develop a guide to guidance on best practices for integrating ecosystem services values within the response options for wetland management;</li> <li>d) Conduct a scoping review of technical aspects of relevance to the Ramsar Convention in the finance, banking, investment, insurance and other economic sectors;</li> <li>e) Develop an assessment mechanism for the contribution of wetland services/benefits to national GDPs.</li> </ul> <p>Carried forward and further developed from 2009-2012.</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Information Paper + communication product on synthesis of ecosystem service values related to water and wetlands (building from TEEB and linked to SOWW)</li> <li>ii) Needs assessment of tools, knowledge, methodology and data required to support integration of ecosystem service values in planning and decision making;</li> <li>iii) Guide to guidance/guidance/ Information Paper(s) on:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Recognizing wetland ecosystem services: linking ecosystem services to inventory, assessment and monitoring framework; management planning; risk and vulnerability assessments, etc.;</li> <li>b) Valuing wetland ecosystem services: best practices on economic valuation;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
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				<p>participatory valuation techniques;</p> <p>c) Case studies on application of ecosystem services values for promoting wise use of wetlands.</p>		
<p><b>Wetlands and disaster risk reduction</b> (2013-15/60)</p>	<p>Lower</p>	<p>1, 3</p>	<p>STRP, with IOPs, UNISDR, UNEP, UNDP, Stockholm Resilience Centre and others</p>	<p>Develop guidance for Parties and the disaster risk management sector on the role of healthy wetlands in disaster risk reduction (floods, droughts, landslides, storm surges, etc.).</p> <p>Carried forward from 2009-2012 (task 5.1).</p> <p>Outcomes/outputs: sectoral guidance on managing wetlands and disaster risk – Briefing Note and/or Ramsar Technical Report</p>	<p>Strategies 1.4 &amp; 1.6</p>	<p>20,000</p>