



NATIONAL PLANNING TOOL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

**(And the approved format for National Reports to be
submitted for the 9th Meeting of the Conference of
the Contracting Parties, Uganda, 2005)**

NATIONAL REPORT BELGIUM 2003-2005

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**ANSWERS ARE GIVEN SEPARATELY FOR FEDERAL OR REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
WHERE REQUIRED:**

- 1) RW = WALLOON REGION**
- 2) FL = FLEMISH REGION**
- 3) BRUSSELS REGION**
- 3) FED. = FEDERAL AUTHORITIES (NORTH SEA COMPETENCE)**

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SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION (OPTIONAL)

Please, include a summary on the implementation of Ramsar Convention in your country during the last triennium

Federal:

The implementation of the RAMSAR Convention in marine waters under Belgian jurisdiction remains largely 'passive', which means that the Ramsar status offers added value in the conservation policy. This means for instance that for new activities (eg the construction of offshore wind farms), the status of the area is taken into account. Four noteworthy matters that occurred during the past triennium are the following:

1.

On 14 December 2002 the car carrier TRICOLOR sank in the Channel, French waters. In the months to follow, oil spilt from this ship, and other ships that were damaged due to the incident, fouled thousands of seabirds wintering in the area off the Belgian coast, including the Ramsar area The Flemish Banks. More than 9.000 oiled birds washed ashore in the beginning of 2003, for a large part on beaches bordering this Ramsar area. This incident proved that a relatively small spill, during a certain period of the year, and in a specific region, can wipe out thousands of birds. This was the largest oil-incident ever reported for Belgian waters. The consequences of this disaster for birds were described, and will be followed up in the coming years.

2.

In 2004 a scientific report was published, jointly by MUMM and the Institute of Nature Conservation, concerning the identification of areas qualifying as Special Protection Areas under the European Birds Directive. Plans exist to use this study for delimitating offshore SPA's.

3.

The federal authorities are implementing a strategy for spatial planning of the marine environment. Already, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, areas suitable for wind energy production, and areas to be used for sand and gravel extraction, have been delimited or reviewed. A following step will be the delimitation of nature conservation areas of different types (a.o. Special Protection Areas under the Birds Directive).

4.

In 2004 an environmental permit was granted for the construction of an offshore windfarm. In the EIA report and the assessment of this report by the authorities, due consideration was given to the ornithological values of the Belgian marine waters, and the location of the Ramsar Area The Flemish Banks. The area for which the permit was given, lies outside this Ramsar Area.

[Région de Bruxelles-Capitale : Objectifs opérationnels et Actions 2003–2005](#)

Vu son caractère urbain, la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale (environs 160 km²) n'a pas désigné des « sites Ramsar ». Néanmoins, la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale consacre une grande importance à la

gestion de ces zones humides. En effet, malgré son degré élevé d'urbanisation, la Région dispose encore de beaucoup d'espaces verts: environ 50 % de son territoire est non-bati. Vu le passé marécageux de la Région, les zones humides et les plans d'eau constituent une partie importante de ces espaces verts urbain, périurbain et semi-naturels situés à la périphérie de la Région.

La superficie totale d'eau libre couvre quelque 172 ha (1 % de la superficie régionale) ; le passé hydrographique se reflète le mieux par la présence de nombreux étangs dans les parcs et espaces verts privés, qui couvrent quelque 113 ha (0.6 % de la superficie régionale), ainsi que par la présence de plusieurs zones humides qui constituent une partie importante des espaces verts à haute valeur biologique. La gestion du réseau hydrographique et de ces zones humides est assurée par le programme de « Maillage Bleu ».

Le maillage bleu

Dans le cadre d'une approche politique de développement durable, la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale a en effet développé le concept de « Maillage Vert et Bleu », basé sur la cohérence et la continuité des espaces verts en milieu urbain.

Concrètement, il s'agit d'intégrer les différentes fonctions des espaces verts urbains, tant les fonctions esthétiques, récréatives, urbanistiques qu'écologiques, et de développer un vrai réseau d'espaces verts, à caractère aussi bien socio-récréatif qu'écologique.

Le « Maillage Bleu » est un programme de gestion du réseau hydrographique qui est mis en œuvre simultanément avec le programme de « Maillage Vert ». Il a pour but principal la remise en état des composants du réseau hydrographique de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale et il entre entièrement dans le respect de la Directive Cadre - Eau de la Commission Européenne.

Le Maillage Bleu vise la revalorisation de l'eau dans la ville et la (ré)installation d'un réseau hydrographique de haute qualité, ceci par une gestion intégrée, durable et écologique des petits cours d'eau, des zones humides et des plans d'eau associés.

Ceci implique concrètement: assurer la séparation des eaux usées des eaux propres, restaurer écologiquement les tronçons de rivières ainsi que les parties marécageuses par des réaménagements fonciers et des mesures spéciales de protection. Le programme vise également à rétablir le débit des cours d'eau, à alimenter les étangs et les zones humides en améliorant notablement la qualité des eaux de surface, la qualité écologique des milieux et la fonction paysagère, écologique et récréative de ces sites.

Pour la réalisation de ce programme sur terrain, l'Institut Bruxellois pour la Gestion de l'Environnement (I.B.G.E.) fut chargé du volet surveillance, entretien et amélioration légère des cours d'eau ainsi que du volet gestion des plans d'eau et zones humides associés aux parcs régionaux.

La première étape a consisté en la mise sur pied d'une équipe d'éco-cantonniers, responsables de l'entretien régulier des cours d'eau en gestion à l'I.B.G.E. Cette équipe est actuellement opérationnelle et permet à la région de présenter des cours d'eau et étangs en nette amélioration qualitative, tant au niveau des aspects paysagers, écologiques que récréatifs.

Ensuite, plusieurs partenariats ont été mis sur pied. Vu la constellation d'acteurs ayant une responsabilité au niveau des cours d'eau & des plans d'eau, l'I.B.G.E. a décidé de mettre en place une structure dynamique de concertation entre acteurs. Une dynamique de collaboration inter-administration aussi bien au niveau de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale qu'au niveau inter-régional (concertation avec la Région flamande) a ainsi pu être mis sur pied. Une collaboration systématique est également mise sur pied avec les communes concernées à chaque fois que des initiatives sont prises sur leurs territoires.

Des banques de données ont été réalisées. Elles sont complétées régulièrement et leur exploitation par un outil facile est en cours de réalisation. A travers ses divers services, l'I.B.G.E. a acquis une multitude de données au niveau eau et sédiments tant d'un point de vue qualitatif que quantitatif. Toutes ces données ont été codifiées dans plusieurs bases de données qui seront sous peu intégrées dans un outil global permettant la vision et l'exploitation de ces données à tout moment.

Un état des lieux de la situation du réseau hydrographique a pu être mis en place au travers d'une large collecte de données, entre autre cartographiques, biologiques, etc. Des visites de terrain, des études complémentaires, des relevés topographiques etc. ont permis de compléter cet état de la

situation. Les données piscicoles sont également exploitées et une large réflexion sur les contrats de pêche est en cours.

Flemish Region

Aspects related to wetlands in general and Ramsar sites in particular that are included in existing jurisdiction in the Flemish region include:

- marshes and wetland habitats are protected by law: any project that may have an impact on the habitat structure requires a licence based on an EIA. As all Ramsar sites in Flanders are included in SPA's designated in the framework of the Birds Directive, the more strict regulations related to projects or plans are also valid for the wetland habitats laying within the sites. The implementation and control system has been improved through the transposition of the regulations of the EU Birds Directive and Habitat Directive in the Flemish Decree of 1997 for Nature Conservation as changed on 19 July 2002 (published in the State Journal on 31 August 2002) so that all requests for such licences and the impact report need an advice from the Nature Division.
- changes in the structure of water systems that are located in 'green land use planning maps', thus also outside the Ramsar sites, require a licence.
- specific regulations are developed for buffer sites along water systems, such as regarding use of manure, surface water pollution
- transposition of the EU Water Framework Directive into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems.
- regulation exists on the designation of 'natural flooding areas' in order to prevent inundations of urbanised areas

WALLOON REGION : Trois nouveaux sites ont été inscrits sur la Liste. Ces sites sont : la grotte des émotions (Province de Liège), la vallée de la Haute-Sûre (Province du Luxembourg) et les Hautes Fagnes (Province de Liège), à savoir respectivement une cavité souterraine, un cours d'eau transfrontalier et une zone tourbeuse.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.1: Describe the extent of wetland resources, especially at global and national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

[Go to next operational objective](#) - [Go to Table of Contents](#)

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW : A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	RW: B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : L'inventaire complet et mis à jour des zones humides présentes sur le territoire de la Région wallonne est prévu dans le « Plan pluies ». Cela devrait être fait sur base des différents inventaires disponibles, à savoir les Sites de Grand Intérêt Biologique, les sites Natura 2000, le registre des zones protégées identifiées dans le cadre du Code de l'eau.	

	FL : inventories of wetlands in general are included in the Biological Evaluation Maps, site specific data of the Ramsar sites is included in the data gathering of the SPA's, information on bird populations in the actual and the potential Ramsar sites is compiled over years to have a follow up on trends.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.1.1.- Promote and encourage the use of standard wetland inventory methodologies following the *Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6)*, to undertake, update and disseminate national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scientific inventories of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties without completed inventories to have initiated action in line with the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory, and as far as possible to have completed and disseminated comprehensive national wetland inventories.

1.- Country has a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory (<i>if inventory exists, please include the number of sites</i>)	RW : E FL: D Fed: D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory Wetlands included in overall ecological inventory (BWK = uitleg)	RW : D FL : C		RW : 4 sites Ramsar FL : 4 Ramsar sites

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [*Please include information on the application of inventory methodologies, the status of the inventory - end date or expected timeframe, contents of the inventory - and other additional comments you consider relevant.*]

La Belgique ne dispose pas d'un inventaire national des zones humides. Il est prévu que les différentes Régions de Belgique rassemblent leurs inventaires régionaux en un seul listing.

WALLOON REGION :

- Une base de donnée reprend tous les sites de grand intérêt biologique (appelés **SGIB**). Cette base de donnée compte 1150 sites dont 569 sont des zones humides. Un bon nombre de ces zones humides ont un statut de protection (« ZHIB » ou Zones humides d'intérêt biologique, « CSIS » ou Cavités souterraines d'intérêt scientifique, Site Natura 2000, Réserves naturelles.....).
- Le **Code de l'eau** (voir action 2.1.1) demandait l'élaboration, dans chaque bassin hydrographique wallon, d'un ou plusieurs registres de toutes les zones protégées situées dans le bassin hydrographique wallon. Ce registre comprend les zones désignées pour le captage d'eau destinée à la consommation humaine, les zones désignées pour la protection des espèces aquatiques importantes du point de vue économique, les masses d'eau désignées en tant qu'eaux de plaisance, les zones sensibles du point de vue des nutriments, et les zones désignées comme zones de protection des habitats et des espèces.
- Dans le cadre du **Plan Pluies** (Plan de Prévention et Lutte contre les Inondations et leurs Effets sur les Sinistrés, voir action 2.1.1), les zones d'inondation de l'ensemble du territoire wallon seront déterminées en vue de réaliser l'établissement de deux types de cartes :
 - la carte de l'aléa inondation, reprenant les territoires susceptibles d'être soumis à des inondations par débordement de cours d'eau ;
 - la carte du risque de dommages, exprimant les dommages potentiels des éléments vulnérables, c'est-à-

dire sensibles à l'inondation, implantés dans des zones soumises à l'aléa inondation.
La méthodologie de cartographie est définie et la première carte devrait sortir en juin 2005.

FL: relations with the EU Water Framework Directive are being worked out

Action 1.1.2.- Include in national wetland inventories information which identifies: a) potential Ramsar sites; b) wetlands of national, provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party; and c) wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation, with a list of priorities, giving particular priority to inventories of karst and caves, intertidal wetlands, coral reefs, peatlands, sites supporting globally threatened species, and other wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All national wetland inventories initiated after COP8 to include information on wetland importance; potential Ramsar sites; wetlands for restoration; location of under-represented wetland types; and values and functions, in particular in relation to poverty eradication strategies.

See actions 3.2.1, 3.3.1, r4.1.1, and Operational Objective 10.1

Note: if available, please indicate the number of sites under each category:

		<u>N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites</u>
1. The inventory assesses and documents potential Ramsar Sites	RW: F FL: B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
2. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	RW: F FL: B	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	RW: F FL: D	
4. The inventory assesses and documents wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	RW: F FL: D	
5. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	RW: B FL: D	

<i>See actions 3.2.1, 3.3.1, r4.1.1, and Operational Objective 10.1</i>			
<i>Note: if available, please indicate the number of sites under each category:</i>		N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites	
6. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>	
7. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	RW: B FL: D		
8. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	RW: I FL: A		
9. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	RW: I FL: A		
10. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	RW: C FL: C		
11.- The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	RW: C FL: D		
12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]			
FL : No specific information available as inventory is part of overall mapping and monitoring (Biological Valuation Map, Institute of Nature Conservation).			

Action 1.1.3.- Ensure that national arrangements for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata, are in place and introduce the necessary measures to ensure that this resource is both as comprehensive as possible and readily accessible to the full range of stakeholders.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All wetland inventories to have full data management, custodianship, and metadata records in place.

1. National arrangements established for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>WALLOON REGION : L'information concernant les SGIB (sites de grand intérêt biologique), les ZHIB (Zones humides d'intérêt biologique), les CSIS (Cavités souterraines d'intérêt scientifique), les Réserves naturelles domaniales et forestières et les sites Natura 2000 est disponible et sera mise à jour (http://mrw.wallonie.be/dgrne/sibw/sites/home.html).</p> <p>FL : maps of SPA sites including the Ramsar sites are made available on hard copies to local authorities and other administrations and any interested group or person, as well as on websites: http://natuur.be and http://instnat.be</p>		

Action 1.1.4.- Make available a web-based wetland inventory meta-database and encourage the inclusion of a metadata record for all national (including provincial) wetland inventories.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, a Web-based metadatabase in place and populated with information on all national wetland inventories.

1. National (including provincial) wetland inventory metadata record provided for inclusion in Ramsar's Web-based wetland inventory metadatabase	C/E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 1.1.6.- Encourage the use of relevant information from wetland inventories by decision-makers, wetland managers and wetland users in the development and implementation of national wetland policies and national and local wetland programmes.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties with wetland inventories to have made these available to all stakeholders.

1. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among decision makers	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	RW: B FL: D	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	RW: D FL: C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>WALLOON REGION :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le Plan Pluie est un plan d'ensemble pour la Wallonie qui prévoit l'Intégration des dimensions de la politique régionale, la cohérence globale des actions, une approche multidisciplinaire par sous-bassin et une coordination entre les services des administrations concernées. • Les propriétaires et les usagers (qui sont souvent aussi les gestionnaires) de sites ayant le statut Natura 2000 seront encouragés a orienter leur gestion de site en fonction des raisons pour lesquelles le site a reçu ce statut. <p>FL : information on wetlands is included in the data that are being compiled for the SPA sites and will be used for the development of conservation objectives of those sites which will be used as the basis for the Nature Objectives Plans. These plans are being developed through participatory approach with the owners and users.</p>		

Action 1.1.7.- Give high priority to developing projects for inventory activities for the *Small Grants Fund*.

1. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were funded	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i>
2. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	C	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.2: Assess and monitor the condition of wetland resources, both globally and nationally (or, where appropriate, provincially), in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW: A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>WALLOON REGION : Le réseau Natura 2000 de Wallonie se base en grande partie sur le réseau hydrographique. La surveillance de l'état des sites Natura 2000 sera prévue dans le régime de gestion active. Les Commissions de Conservation des sites Natura 2000 ont pour mission de surveiller l'état de conservation des sites Natura 2000 afin d'assurer leur maintien ou leur rétablissement dans un état de conservation favorable, en tenant particulièrement compte des types d'habitats naturels prioritaires et des espèces prioritaires et en prenant en considération les exigences économiques, sociales et culturelles ainsi que les particularités locales. Ces Commissions de Conservation ont été désignées fin 2004 et seront effectives dans les prochains mois. De plus, les Réserves naturelles domaniales et forestières ont des contrats de gestion active.</p> <p>FL : All Ramsar sites are included in SPA's of Natura 2000 and subject to further inventories and monitoring, development of conservation objectives and management measures.</p>	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.2.1.- Actively contribute to the work of the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* project (<http://www.millenniumassessment.org>) by serving on its Board and Executive Committee and on its various working groups; analyze the MA's methodologies, results and findings at Ramsar COP9, and review the necessary actions, if any, to update and make comprehensive the global assessment of wetland resources and their condition. (Refer also to Action 1.1.5)

1. Contribution made to the work of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment project (MA)	RW: F FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution made to the work of the MA.]		
FL: MA is used as a reference for reporting on the state of nature.		

Action r1.2.i.- Make available to Contracting Parties and other interested organizations the findings and guidance developed by the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* for their use, as appropriate, of the MA guidance and methods for sub-global ecosystem assessments in the assessment of wetland ecosystems at the local, national and regional (supra-national) scale, including through international cooperation on the assessment of transboundary aquatic ecosystems. (Resolution VIII.7).

1. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at national scale	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale	C	
3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the use of MA guidance and methods.]</i>		

Action 1.2.2.- Establish a repository for the contribution by Contracting Parties of summarized national (or, where appropriate, provincial) assessments of changes in the status of wetland resources, as the basis for regular analysis and improved reporting on the status of wetland resources.

1. Repository of assessments of changes in wetland status established	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the repository of assessment of changes in wetland status, its contents and uses.]</i>		

Action 1.2.5.- Undertake assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character, including their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 20 Parties willing to undertake vulnerability assessments and report to COP9.

1. Assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character were undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The assessments include impacts of climate change	C	
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessments undertaken.]</i>		

Action r1.2.iv.- Continue to document the past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands, including in national wetland inventories, and report on their conservation status in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.4)

1. Past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands documented	FL: B/D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]</i>		
3.- Summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands <i>[Please provide here a summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands and provide reference citation to any relevant publication, reports or analysis.]</i>		
<p>Federal: On 14 December 2002 the car carrier TRICOLOR sank in the Channel, French waters. In the months to follow, oil originating from this incident fouled thousands of seabirds wintering in the area off the Belgian coast, including the Ramsar area The Flemish Banks. It is thought that the extent of</p>		

the incident could have consequences on the number of seabirds wintering in the southern North Sea in the years to follow, although no permanent damage is expected. Relevant publications analysing the consequences for birds in Belgium, Northern France and The Netherlands will be published in a special issue of Atlantic Seabirds in 2005.

Flemish Region

Designation of a transboundary nature protection area 'Zwin' and cooperation with the Netherlands for the development of a management plan.

Newly created sites in the Zeebrugge harbour area are increasingly important breeding area for gulls and terns and are proposed as N2000 SPA.

Restoration of the IJzer river estuary (Nieuwpoort) is resulting in successful regrowth of saltmarsh and breeding of coastal bird species.

Action r1.2.v.- Update information on mangrove forest cover and conservation status and levels of use of mangroves, and provide this information to the Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.32).

1. Information on mangrove forest cover has been compiled	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Information on conservation status of mangroves has been compiled	A	
3. Information on levels of use of mangroves has been compiled	A	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information compiled related to mangroves.]		

Action r1.2.vi.- Report on the impacts of dams on wetlands in the territory of each Contracting Party, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.2).

1.- The impacts of dams on wetlands have been assessed (<i>if available, please include number of sites affected</i>)	RW: D FL/ A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the impacts of dams on wetlands, sites affected, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands [Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]			

Action r1.2.vii.- Monitor and assess the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, and on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands, and report this information to the Ramsar Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.35).

1.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands have been assessed <i>(if available, please include number of sites assessed)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites
2.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands have been assessed	A	F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on wetlands and people dependent on them, with any other information you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action 1.2.6.- Assess the contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries, including utilizing information available from the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* and other assessment programmes, and recommend sustainable management practices which can contribute to the WSSD target of, where possible by 2015, maintaining or restoring depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.

1. The contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries has been assessed	FED:C RW : A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below) ;I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]</i>		
<p>Federal: No account is taken of the existing marine Ramsar site in fisheries management. If however, new fishing techniques or practices would be developed in this area, due consideration will be given to the Ramsar status, and assessments of the impact would have to be made.</p>		
3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders	RW: B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]</i>		
<p>WALLOON REGION : Inventaire des obstacles à la libre circulation des poissons dans le réseau hydrographique wallon et mesures prises pour lever ces obstacles. Plan de gestion piscicole dans un souci de gestion patrimoniale dans le bassin de la Semois. Ce plan de gestion, s'intègre dans une notion de gestion durable des milieux et des espèces ; ses objectifs sont : mettre en relation les différents acteurs concernés par la gestion piscicole, préserver les milieux aquatiques ainsi que les poissons, protéger les processus écologiques naturels, développer le loisir « pêche » en veillant à l'utilisation durable des ressources, veillez au maintient de la diversité génétique naturelle des espèces. Ce type de plan de gestion sera étendu à d'autres sous-bassin en Région wallonne. Protection et gestion de noues et de frayères en vue de la restauration de la diversité du milieu aquatique, de zones piscicoles et de la végétation aquatique Etude pour le suivi scientifique de le réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse ou projet "Saumon 2000".</p> <p>FL :inventories of fish species and passage issues are being carried out ; measures to re-structure fish passages have been established in some sites</p>		

Action 1.2.7.- Undertake assessments of water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands, to support the implementation of the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1), as a contribution to the WSSD Plan of Implementation.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 50 CPs to have undertaken water quality and quantity assessments.

1. The water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands has been assessed

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned;G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]*

WALLOON REGION :

Les travaux d'évaluation de la qualité biologique des cours d'eau par la biodiversité des macro-invertébrés ont été poursuivis et ont évolué en fonction des exigences propres à la Directive 2000/60/CE. Les bases de données sur les populations de poissons disponibles en Région wallonne ont été enrichies et restructurées. Les premières synthèses sur l'ensemble des éléments biologiques disponibles par cours d'eau ou par bassin versant ont été préparées, notamment pour la Vesdre, la Haine et la Lesse. Quatre stations de mesures ont été sélectionnées en vue de leur inclusion au sein d'un réseau européen de mesures de la qualité biologique des eaux de surface. Dans la Directive 2000/60/CE, il est en effet prévu que cette qualité se fonde sur la qualité de la flore (macrophytes, diatomées, phytoplancton) et de la faune aquatique macroinvertébrés et poissons). Dans ce contexte, les premières mesures de la qualité biologique des eaux de surface basée sur les macrophytes ont été entamées.

FL : Eco-hydrological studies and models exist on ad-hoc basis but are only partly relevant to Ramsar sites (IJzer valley and Blankaart lake).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.1. Specify the most appropriate policy instrument(s) to be used in each country to ensure the wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW: A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Le code de l'eau, le Plan pluie ainsi que le Décret Natura 2000 ont permis d'avoir des politiques générales de protection et d'utilisation rationnelle de l'eau et des zones humides.</p> <p>FL : The Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems.</p> <p>The Decree for Nature Conservation includes specific regulations for the for conservation and protection of SPA's (including Ramsar sites) and the bird species for which they have been designated</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.1.1.- If not yet done, develop and implement a National Wetland Policy using the guidelines adopted by COP7 for this purpose (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2), and ensure that policy goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument initiated by all Parties not having it, incorporating WSSD targets and actions, as appropriate.

1. A National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) is in place	RW : B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
	FL : D	
2. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible	RW : B	
	FL : D	
3.The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporates WSSD targets and actions	RW : B	
	FL : A	

4- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the status of the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument, its contents, and any other information you consider relevant.]

Flemish region

In the Environment & Nature Policy Plan 2003-2007 (MINA 3) aspects related to water systems and wetlands received more attention in the specific themes related to water systems: ground water aspects, surface water aspects and loss of biodiversity that includes specific attention for habitats of high nature value such as wetlands. Specific objectives and measures include inventarisatie, ecosystem vision reports for catchment/river basins and development of management plans for river basins, restoration projects and monitoring.

Wetlands located within the Natura 2000 in the framework of the EU Birds Directive (including Ramsar sites) and Habitats Directive or within the Flemish Ecological Network will receive specific attention in the Nature Objectives Plans to be developed for all those sites of both ecological networks.

Specific regulations on wetland aspects are also integrated in the Decree for Integrated Water Policy.

WALLOON REGION :

Le décret du 6 décembre 2001 relatif à la conservation des sites Natura 2000 ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvage (moniteur belge du 22 janvier 2002), modifiant la loi du 12 juillet 1973 sur la conservation de la nature est entré en vigueur le 22 janvier 2002. A cet effet, de nombreuses zones humides ont été désignées sites Natura 2000 (en Région wallonne, le réseau Natura 2000 suit en partie le réseau hydrographique).

La directive-cadre européenne sur l'eau a réorienté la politique wallonne dans le domaine d'une gestion plus cohérente par sous bassin hydrographique. Ainsi, la Région a découpé son territoire en 15 sous-bassins hydrographiques qui constituent désormais les unités de gestion pour la fixation des objectifs de qualité, les contrats de rivière, la gestion piscicole, l'égouttage et l'assainissement des eaux usées. Cette nouvelle gestion a conduit la Région à réorganiser le secteur de la production et de la distribution d'eau (nouvelle tarification, fonds social de l'eau), à adapter ses réseaux de surveillance et à mettre en place de nouvelles structures (observatoires des eaux...). Des programmes d'action plus intégrés ont été développés, notamment en ce qui concerne la lutte contre les inondations (**Plan Pluies**) et la gestion durable de l'azote en agriculture. Dans ce contexte, la Région veut se doter d'outils législatifs et techniques adéquats, à travers le **Code de l'eau** et différentes recherches orientées vers la modélisation du cycle de l'eau (**Projet Pirene**).

En Région wallonne, il existe un Code de l'Environnement contenant le **Code de l'Eau**. Ce code de l'eau a été adopté par voie décretaire le 27 mai 2004. Ce décret porte sur la codification du droit de l'eau en Région

wallonne et assure la transposition de la Directive Cadre de l'Eau sur l'eau (Directive 2000/60/CE). Le Conseil supérieur des villes, communes et provinces de Wallonne, la Commission de consultation des eaux de surfaces contre la pollution, Aquawal, le Conseil wallon pour le développement durable et la Commission régionale d'aménagement du territoire ont été consultés et ont remis leur avis avant l'adoption de ce décret. Le principe général du Code de l'Eau est « L'eau fait partie du patrimoine commun de la Région wallonne. Le cycle de l'eau est géré de façon globale et intégrée, dans le constant souci d'assurer à la fois la qualité et la pérennité de la ressource, dans le cadre d'un développement durable ».

Les objectifs du Code de l'eau sont:

1° de prévenir toute dégradation supplémentaire, de préserver et d'améliorer l'état des écosystèmes aquatiques ainsi que, en ce qui concerne leurs besoins en eau, des écosystèmes terrestres et des zones humides qui en dépendent directement;

2° de promouvoir une utilisation durable de l'eau, fondée sur la protection à long terme des ressources en eau disponibles;

3° de viser à renforcer la protection de l'environnement aquatique ainsi qu'à l'améliorer, notamment par des mesures spécifiques conçues pour réduire progressivement les rejets, émissions et pertes de substances prioritaires, et pour arrêter ou supprimer progressivement les rejets, émissions et pertes de substances dangereuses prioritaires;

4° d'assurer la réduction progressive de la pollution des eaux souterraines et des eaux de surface et de prévenir l'aggravation de leur pollution;

5° de contribuer à atténuer les effets des inondations et des sécheresses;

6° de protéger la santé des personnes des effets néfastes de la contamination des eaux destinées à la consommation humaine en garantissant la salubrité et la propreté de celles-ci.

De plus, suite aux inondations majeures de 2003, le gouvernement wallon a adopté un **Plan pluies** pour coordonner les mesures visant à limiter les dégâts dus aux crues. Il est décomposé en cinq grandes parties: l'amélioration de la connaissance du phénomène inondation, la conduite d'actions de prévention au niveau des bassins versants afin de favoriser l'infiltration de l'eau plutôt que son ruissellement, l'entretien des rivières pour qu'elles gardent leurs capacités d'écoulement, la réduction de l'occupation des zones à risques et enfin l'amélioration de la gestion des situations de crise.

Action 2.1.2.- Ensure that wetland policies are fully integrated into and harmonized with other strategic or planning processes and documents, in particular those related to biodiversity, desertification, climate change, agriculture, trade in endangered species, water resource management, integrated coastal zone management and environmental planning in general including national strategies for sustainable development called for by the WSSD. When these other documents include chapters or sections on different ecosystems, ensure that one of them is devoted to wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument fully integrated into other strategic and planning processes by all Parties, including poverty eradication strategies and water resources management and water efficiency plans and national strategies for sustainable development in line with WSSD targets.

1. Wetland issues have been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development called for by WSSD (in Belgium: regional strategies!)	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	A	D = Partly/ in some cases;
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	RW : B FL : B	E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4. Wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) have been integrated into other sectoral strategic or planning processes and documents at any of the following levels: national, regional, provincial, and local	RW : B FL : B	

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]

Flemish Region

The designation of Natura 2000 sites are largely based upon the hydrographic network that often forms the backbone of the ecological network of nature conservation areas . Site specific management planning therefore takes into account wetland issues as one of the main aspects for the nature objectives and site vision which are based upon the ecosystem approach.

The management plans of the river basins are based on the integrated management of the water system, related biodiversity, land use, ecological and socio-economic functions within the whole basin area.

WALLOON REGION : Voir Le **Code de l'eau** et le **Plan pluies** (action 2.1.1) : Le **Code de l'eau** a pour principe général de gérer le cycle de l'eau de façon globale et intégrée dans le constant souci d'assurer à la fois la qualité et la pérennité de la ressource eau, dans le cadre d'un développement durable.

Action r2.1.i.- When reviewing land tenure policies consider, where appropriate, wetland tenure systems and user rights in a manner that promotes fair, transparent and sustainable management of wetlands and their resources. (Resolution VIII.34).

1. Wetland tenure systems and user rights have been considered in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management

**FL:
D**

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland tenure systems and user rights in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management.]

Flemish Region

The procedure for the development of the Nature Objectives Plans for Natura 2000 sites, including Ramsar sites, and the Flemish Ecological Network ensures a participatory approach of local authorities, land owners, land users, stakeholders, NGO's active in the specific site.

Action r2.1.ii.- Give priority to reviewing legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands and prepare additional national strategies designed to ensure their wise use and conservation, duly integrated into National Wetland Policies, National Biodiversity Strategies, National Development Plans, and other similar instruments. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. A review of legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands has been completed

A

Choose an answer for each indicator
A = Not applicable; B = Yes;
C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned;
G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. The conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes

A

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken in relation to high Andean wetlands.]

Action 2.1.3.- Ensure best practice examples of integration and harmonization of policies and legislation are made available to the Ramsar Bureau and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, so as to contribute to the development of good practice guidance to assist Contracting Parties.

1. Examples of best practice related to the integration and harmonisation of policies and legislation have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau/STRP	RW: C FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Flemish Region All relevant documents and reports are in Dutch language, overview of decisions and actions can be consulted on site specific websites, e.g. on the Schelde estuary, the IJzer estuary and river basis, coastal zone, ...		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.2. Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supra-national policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the Convention, and especially the wise use principle, is being fully applied

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Cela est compris dans le nouveau Code de l'eau et dans le décret Natura 2000.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.2.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for Reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 3) to carry out a review of legislation and institutions and, as necessary, amend or modify legislation and institutional procedures to preclude unwise use of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 100 Parties to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 comprehensive reviews of their laws and institutions.

1. The Party is one of the 100 CPs identified by the Ramsar Bureau to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 a comprehensive review of wetland-related legislation and institutions	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i>
2. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed	RW : B FL : D	<i>B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands	RW ; B FL : D	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the review of legislation and institutions and the amendments made to preclude unwise use of wetlands.]</i>		

Federal:

Relevant provisions are taken up in different legal provisions, particularly in the Law on the protection of the marine environment in the waters under Belgian jurisdiction (1999), the legislation concerning EIA for certain activities in the marine environment (2000-2003), the legislation on the protection of species in the marine environment (2001).

Flemish Region

All actual Ramsar sites in Flanders are included in SPA's designated in the framework of the Birds Directive, the more strict regulations related to projects or plans are also valid for the wetland habitats laying within the sites. The implementation and control system has been improved through the transposition of the regulations of the EU Birds Directive and Habitat Directive in the Decree of 1997 for Nature Conservation as changed on 19 July 2002 (published in the State Journal on 31 August 2002) so that all requests for such licences and the impact report need an advice from the Nature Division.

Transposition of the EU Water Framework Directive into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation.

WALLOON REGION : le Gouvernement wallon a décidé de confier à l'Université de Liège la rédaction du décret portant codification du droit de l'eau en Région wallonne et assurant la transposition de la Directive 2000/60/CE. Ce **Code de l'eau** a pour principe général de gérer le cycle de l'eau de façon globale et intégrée dans le constant souci d'assurer à la fois la qualité et la pérennité de la ressource eau, dans le cadre d'un développement durable.

Action r2.2.i.- Where not already undertaken, initiate intra- and inter-ministerial dialogues including, as appropriate, institutions represented in Ramsar/ National Wetland Committees where these have been established, with a view to enhanced integration of relevant policies related to the conservation of water resources, wetlands and biodiversity. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Intra- and/or inter-ministerial dialogues have been established

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

Within the Department of Environment & Infrastructure a specific regulation and procedure (so called Departmental Order) based on integrated approach and intra- and inter-ministerial dialogue was developed to ensure proper impact assessment for projects or plans that may have an effect on Natura 2000 sites, including the water systems and wetlands they contain. Similarly, the EIA's that are developed are guided by an inter-departmental steering committee.

Integration of biodiversity and wetland conservation is enhanced through specific measures included in the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, in the Decree for Nature Conservation that contains specific regulation for integration (art 16) and in the Decree for Integrated Water Policy that contains specific regulations for integration of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including though impact assessment and valuation.

Action r2.2.ii.- Recognize cultural and heritage values relating to wetlands in existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies. (Resolution VIII.19)

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. Cultural and heritage values related to wetlands have been incorporated into existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies		<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Flemish Region: a number of wetlands and some Ramsar sites are included in the list of protected landscapes		

Action r2.2.iii.- Give priority to assessing the conservation status of mountain wetlands, to reviewing the legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on these important ecosystems, and to taking the necessary actions for stopping and reversing such impacts. (Resolution VIII.12)

<i>See action r3.1.i</i>		
1. The conservation status of mountain wetlands has been assessed	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on mountain wetlands has been completed	A	
3. Actions have been taken for stopping and reversing impacts on mountain wetlands	A	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on assessment, reviews and other actions taken in relation to mountain wetlands.]		

Action r2.2.iv.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *Guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/ or processes and in strategic environmental assessment*, as adopted by Decision VI/7 of CBD COP6, with the assistance of the guidance prepared by the STRP and embedded in the text of the CBD Guidelines (Resolution VIII.9); and encourage full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessments. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment annexed to Resolution VIII.9 are being applied	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]		
Flemish Region		
EIA procedure includes all relevant biodiversity aspects, including wetlands and water systems and their biodiversity. Specific procedures for Natura 2000 sites, and thus also for the Ramsar sites and wetlands located in those, are included in the Decree for Nature Conservation as well into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy specifying impact assessment and valuation.		
WALLOON REGION :		
Le Code de l'environnement identifie les projets soumis à étude d'incidences et la forme et le contenu minimum de l'étude d'incidences (art.55 & 56). Les articles 57 à 61 définissent la procédure d'octroi d'agrément. Les article 40 & 41 du Code de l'eau définissent quant à eux les travaux pouvant être soumis à permis d'environnement ou à déclaration.		
De plus, en Région wallonne, le réseau Natura 2000 a été en partie désigné sur base du réseau hydrographique. Le décret relatif à la conservation des sites Natura 2000 ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages prévoit en son article 29 §2, que tout plan ou projet soumis à permis, ..., qui est non directement lié ou nécessaire à la gestion du site mais est susceptible d'affecter ce site de manière significative, ..., est soumis à l'évaluation des incidences prévue par la législation.		
Les plans de gestion des sites Ramsar tiendront compte des lignes directrices sur l'étude d'impact sur		

l'environnement.		
3. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in impact assessment processes	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessment processes.]		
Flemish Region EIA reports are submitted to a public consultation.		
WALLOON REGION : L'article 32 du Code de l'eau stipule qu'il peut être créé un contrat de rivière au sein de chaque sous-bassin hydrographique wallon. Le contrat de rivière tend à associer une majorité de communes et d'acteurs publics et privés concernés par la gestion des ressources en eau du sous-bassin hydrographique. Le Gouvernement peut attribuer au contrat de rivière des missions de concertation en ce qu'elles contribuent au dialogue, ainsi que des missions techniques précises. Il existe actuellement 16 Contrats de rivières dont 4 nouveaux ont été créés depuis 2002.		

Action 2.2.2.- Apply Strategic Environmental Assessment practices when reviewing national and provincial policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 50 Parties to have in place Strategic Environmental Assessment for policies, programmes and plans impacting on wetlands.

1. The Party has been identified by the Ramsar Bureau as one having in place Strategic Environmental Assessment in relation to wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands has been completed	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]		
Flemish Region A review has been carried out when preparing the Decree for Integrated Water Policy. Issues related to conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites) have been identified and specific measures have been developed and included in the decree. Strategic Environmental Assessment regulations and procedures have been included into the revised Decree for EIA, as requested by the EU EIA Regulations. These regulations and procedures take into account wetland issues.		
WALLOON REGION : Ayant identifié une série de facteurs responsables de la récurrence élevée d'inondation ces dernières années, le Plan pluies de la Région wallonne comprend une série d'actions visant à lutter contre ces inondations. Exemples d'actions : Préservation et restauration des zones humides, Création de zones à inonder sur des terres agricoles et forestières et de zones de rétention des eaux, en particulier sur les têtes de bassins, Construction de bassins de retenue pour l'agriculture, Plantation et entretien des haies, talus et bosquets, Mise en œuvre et optimisation des pratiques agricoles et du gel des terres, en ce compris les mesures agri-environnementales, en vue de limiter l'érosion des sols et le ruissellement...		
4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the way Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]*

Flemish Region

Procedure and rules concerning Strategic EA has been transposed into Flemish Law on EIA and is being implemented, not only related to wetlands but to overall environmental assets and biodiversity.

Action 2.2.3.- If not yet in place, develop and implement Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation so as to ensure that an EIA is carried out, as appropriate, in wetlands, including Ramsar sites, where adverse impacts may occur due to a proposed development, change in land/water use, invasive species, etc., in line with additional guidance adopted by Resolution VIII.9 and enlisting the collaboration, if required, of the *International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)*. Ensure that these impact assessments include full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have required EIA, as appropriate, for proposed projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands.

1.- Legislation on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) applicable to wetlands is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites _____
2.- EIA is carried out for projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		
3.- EIAs have included full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts	D		

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include comments on Environmental Impact Assessment implementation at national level.]*

Federal:

For the marine environment a list of activities for which an EIA is required exists. In this list, fisheries and dredging for navigational purposes are not included

Flemish Region

With the received regulation on EIA published in State Journal February 2005 a list of activities for which an EIA is required is included. Specific issues and procedures are included into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy for of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 sites.

WALLOON REGION :

Le **Code de l'environnement** identifie les projets soumis à étude d'incidences et la forme et le contenu minimum de l'étude d'incidences (art.55 & 56). Les articles 57 à 61 définissent la procédure d'octroi d'agrément. Les articles 40 & 41 du **Code de l'eau** définissent quant à eux les travaux pouvant être soumis à permis d'environnement ou à déclaration.

De plus, en Région wallonne, le réseau Natura 2000 a été en partie désigné sur base du réseau hydrographique. Le **décret relatif à la conservation des sites Natura 2000** ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages prévoit en son article 29 §2, que tout plan ou projet soumis à permis, ..., qui est non directement lié ou nécessaire à la gestion du site mais est susceptible d'affecter ce site de manière significative, ..., est soumis à l'évaluation des incidences prévue par la législation.

Action r2.2.vi.- Establish contact with the relevant national contact points from within the networks of the *International Association for Impact Assessment* with a view to identifying sources of expertise and advice for assisting with wetland-related impact assessment. (Resolution VIII.9)

<p>1. Experts from the International Association for Impact assessment have been involved in EIA processes in the country</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of IAIA experts in EIA processes in the country.]</p>		

Action r2.2.vii.- Provide impact assessment materials relevant to wetlands, including case studies indicating lessons learned, guidelines, sources of advice, and other relevant materials, to the Bureau for incorporation into the *IUCN Biodiversity Economics Web site*. (Resolution VIII.9)

<p>1. EIA materials, including case studies, have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau for loading in the EIA-dedicated Web site</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on EIA materials.]</p>		
<p>Flemish Region All reports are in Dutch language, information can also be consulted on the relevant site specific websites (see above under Action 2.1.3)</p>		

Action 2.2.4.- Promote the continuing development, wide dissemination - primarily through the Internet-based resource kit (<http://www.biodiversityeconomics.org/assessment/ramsar-503-01.htm>) and application of methodologies to undertake valuations of the economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands, in collaboration with the *International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)*, Ramsar’s International Organization Partners, and interested Parties and organizations.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to have made progress on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation, and all CPs with experience in this area to have engaged in the STRP work.

<p>1. Progress has been made in the development and/or application of methodologies for the valuation of economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands</p>	<p>FL: D RW: B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status</i></p>
<p>2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions</p>	<p>RW: C</p>	<p><i>(explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</p>		
<p>Flemish Region: The ecosystem vision developed for the main river basins include a valuation of the environmental benefits and functions of the wetland; however less importance has been given to economic and social benefits. With the development of Decision Support Systems (IN) and within the EIA reports these last two categories are also taken into account.</p>		
<p>WALLOON REGION : La mise en œuvre de la Directive cadre 2000/60/CE impose de développer une démarche systématique d’analyse économique des utilisations de l’eau. A cet effet, le Code de l’eau prévoit en son article 17 § 1^{er}. Dans chaque bassin hydrographique wallon, l'autorité de bassin établit un état descriptif qui comprend notamment une analyse économique de l'utilisation de l'eau. Il précise aussi que toute personne a le droit de disposer d'une eau potable de qualité et en quantité suffisante pour son</p>		

alimentation, ses besoins domestiques et sa santé, à condition que les prélèvements d'eau et les rejets d'eaux usées qui sont effectués pour l'exercice de ce droit ne mettent pas en danger les fonctions naturelles et la pérennité de la ressource.

De plus, le **Plan pluies** a permis une prise de conscience de l'importance des zones humides pour lutter contre les inondations qui causent de grandes pertes économiques.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.1. Develop and disseminate methodologies to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Poursuivre les convention d'études en cours et en encourage de nouvelles en vue de développer et d'appliquer des méthodes de conservation et d'utilisation rationnelle des zones humides. Cela est compris dans le nouveau Code de l'eau et dans le Décret Natura 2000</p> <p>FL : specific measures are included into the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, and regulations and measures are specified into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy regarding specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.1.1.- Review the wise use concept, its applicability, and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to spearhead process of reviewing and updating guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach, in particular in line with the outcomes of WSSD.

1. Work has been done to review the wise use concept, its applicability and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development	D RW: B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	RW: C	<i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the revision of the wise use concept and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		

Flemish Region

In the framework of site specific projects assessments and reviews are carried out with reference to the specific site. Ecosystem Visions have been developed for the main river valleys and larger wetlands, especially those located within the Natura 2000 sites. All aspects related to wetlands have been included into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy such as specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation

WALLOON REGION:

Le projet **Pirene** (Programme Intégré de Recherche Environnement-Eau) vise à mettre au point des méthodes et des outils qui pourront être utilisés pour une gestion intégrée de l'eau en Wallonie, dans la perspective de répondre aux exigences de la Directive Cadre 2000/60/CE établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau. Il a permis la conception d'un modèle complet du cycle de l'eau en Région wallonne, englobant tous les processus significatifs : sols, eaux souterraines, eaux de surface, zones humides, et ce tant pour les aspects quantitatifs que qualitatifs. Le modèle envisage également les aspects juridiques (compatibilité des législations de la Région wallonne avec la gestion intégrée de l'eau, cohérence avec les contraintes imposées par les engagements internationaux), économiques (analyse économique des utilisations de l'eau) et sociologiques (acceptabilité sociale des actions de gestion envisagées, rôle des acteurs).

Cet outil permet de reproduire le fonctionnement du système des ressources en eau, d'évaluer l'incidence des pressions dues aux différents secteurs d'activité (épandages agricoles, liaison égouttage - épuration, retombées atmosphériques, ...) et de simuler l'effet des politiques et programmes d'actions envisagés.

PIRENE est donc destiné à devenir un véritable outil d'aide à la décision, à l'adresse des autorités publiques.

Base de ce modèle PIRENE : les outils de modélisation des bassins versants développés ces dernières années : MOHISE (Modèle Hydrologique Intégré pour la Simulation du cycle de l'eau), MOHICAN (Modèle Hydrologique Intégré pour le Calcul des Crues et l'Amplitude des Niveaux d'eau), PEGASE (Planification et Gestion de l'Assainissement des Eaux)

Action 3.1.2.- Compile advice, methods and best practice studies for the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, and disseminate these to wetland managers

1. Advice, methods and best practice studies on the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, have been compiled and distributed to wetland managers

**D
RW:B**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

Idem as above. Advice and methods are developed for all aspects related to riverine and wetland systems, and are also included into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy such specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation – all aspects fully or partly based upon the ecosystem approach. The main wetland manager is the Administration of Environment or NGO's subsidised by the Administration, private owners and users are stimulated through contracts for agro-environment measures. Site specific measures are specified through the river valley management plans that being developed.

WALLOON REGION : De nombreux projets sont en cours :

- Promotion des techniques végétales, en vue du rétablissement d'une végétation riveraine naturelle, garante de stabilité pour les berges.
- Arrêté du Gouvernement wallon instaurant une prime à l'installation d'un système d'épuration individuelle des eaux entré en vigueur le 1^{er} janvier 2004.
- Etude sur l'accès du bétail au cours d'eau
- Travaux et Etudes en matière de cours d'eau non navigables et de waterings pour l'amélioration des habitats aquatiques (en ce compris la libre circulation des poissons)
- L'utilisation rationnelles des zones humides fait partie des objectifs des Contrats de rivières
- Etude pour le suivi scientifique de le réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse ou projet "Saumon 2000".

Action 3.1.3.- Ensure that the principles embodied in the *Convention's new management planning guidelines* adopted by Resolution VIII.14 are applied to decision-making about, and the wise use of, all wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to consider how to adapt and to incorporate, as necessary, into national practice the new management planning guidelines to the wise use of all wetlands.

1. Ramsar's new management planning guidelines (Resolution VIII.14) have been adapted and incorporated into national practice

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION : Ces lignes directrices sont utilisées pour l'élaboration des plans de gestion des nouveaux sites Ramsar.

FL : aspects are included into the management planning of Nature 2000 where the Ramsar sites are located and the sites for the Flemish Ecological network.

Action 3.1.4.- Disseminate and encourage the use of the Convention's guidance on the wise use concept to governments, responsible agencies and bilateral and multilateral donor organizations, in order to assist their development and implementation of sustainable development funding policies that fully address the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. Ramsar guidance on the wise use concept and its application has been made available to appropriate decision-makers, institutions and processes

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

The wise use concept is disseminated either on site specific issues, or in an overall approach related to the wise use of natural resources in general.

WALLOON REGION : Ces orientations ont été distribuées auprès des administrations compétentes.

Action r3.1.i.- Share information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands, and develop, as appropriate, national, regional or local strategies and plans for their conservation and wise use, particularly with a view to strengthening coordination of Ramsar implementation with work underway in the framework of bilateral and multilateral environmental agreements, especially the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and those agreements dealing specifically with mountains, as well as with the initiatives of international organizations, including the *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, with the Bureau to report on progress to COP9. (Resolution VIII.12)

See action r2.2.iii

1. Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands

A

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable;

B = Yes;

C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress;

F= Being planned;

G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties

A

3. National, regional or local strategies and plans for the conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been developed

A

4. Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with other environment-related and mountain-related agreements and institutions

A

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on information available and strategies developed concerning mountain and high altitude wetlands.]*

Action r3.1.iii.- Establish, with the support of IOPs and other partners and collaborators of the Convention, specific work programmes for high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them, in order to preserve their valuable biodiversity, their function as regulators of water, and as living space of many local and peasant communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Specific work programmes for the wise use of high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them have been established

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action r3.1.v.- Exchange information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially where this involves the full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially in relation to the participation of local communities and indigenous people, has been exchanged with other Parties and institutions

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.2. Ensure the conservation and wise use of peatlands as a demonstration of the ecosystem-based approach under the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Vu la désignation du site Ramsar des Hautes-Fagnes (qui bénéficiaient déjà pour une partie de son périmètre du statut de réserve naturelle), la Région wallonne a déjà développer une politique de conservation des tourbières.</p> <p>FL : Peatlands and mires are protected by law. The management plans and the conservation objectives that are being developed for the Natura 2000 sites integrate wetlands issues.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r3.2.i.- Establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands and prepare an implementation plan for global action on peatlands. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. The Party has participated in the Ramsar Bureau-led process to establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 3.2.1.- Implement the *Guidelines for global action on peatlands* as adopted by Resolution VIII.17, noting the priority sought therein for inventories of peatlands, the protection and possible designation of peatlands as Ramsar sites, the transfer of peatland restoration technology, and the maintenance of the cultural significance of peatlands, and implement those actions identified as national priorities.

1. Action has been taken to implement at national level the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)	RW: D FL: C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r3.2.ii.- Identify and make available sources of funds in order that the activities identified in the implementation plan for global action on peatlands can be undertaken. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Funds have been made available at national level for the implementation of the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands	RW: B FL: C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
WALLOON REGION : Projet Interreg III de restauration de landes et de zones tourbeuses : Ce projet a pour objectif de cartographier les biotopes relictuels et de restaurer ces milieux.		

Action r3.2.iii.- Include information on the status and trends in national peatland resources in National Reports to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the *Ramsar Convention*, and other conventions, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Summary of the status and trends in national peatland resources is available	RW: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Status and trends in national peatland resources <i>[Please include information on the conservation status and trends of peatland resources and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>		
FL : participation in research project at EU level partly covers peatlands (wet heathlands) WALLOON REGION : Projet Interreg III de restauration de landes et de zones tourbeuses : Ce projet a pour objectif de cartographier les biotopes relictuels et de restaurer ces milieux.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.3. Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and scientific research

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Cela est prévu, en ce qui concerne la lutte contre les inondations dans le Code de l'eau et le Plan Pluies. FL : included in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan as well as into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including flood defence issues and impact assessment and valuation	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.3.1.- As part of national (or, as appropriate, provincial) wetland inventories, assess and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research, and, where appropriate, seek to have these sites protected in recognition of these values.

See action 1.1.2

1. Measures have been taken to protect wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research

FL:B
RW:B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region: EIA's are being carried out for the renewal of long term permits for drinking water supply companies. Under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management project conservation and protection of coastal wetlands receives specific attention. With reference to the Ijzer and the Schelde estuaries specific actions are being taken to study and protect the ecological functions and the relevance of those in the framework of flood defense and water supply. Flood defense aspects are also included into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy

WALLOON REGION :

L'objectif général du **Plan pluies** ainsi que le 5^{ème} objectif du **Code de l'eau** de la Région wallonne sont de lutter contre les inondations (exemples d'actions du Plan pluies: Préservation et restauration des zones humides, Création de zones à inonder sur des terres agricoles et forestières et de zones de rétention des eaux, en particulier sur les têtes de bassins, Construction de bassins de retenue pour l'agriculture, Plantation et entretien des haies, talus et bosquets, Mise en œuvre et optimisation des pratiques agricoles et du gel des terres, en ce compris les mesures agri-environnementales, en vue de limiter l'érosion des sols et le ruissellement...).

Le **Code de l'eau** a pour 2^{ème} objectif de promouvoir une utilisation durable de l'eau, fondée sur la protection à long terme des ressources en eau disponibles.

Action 3.3.3.- Consider using the guiding principles in Annex I of Resolution VIII.19 to promote full recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands, and ensure that this is fully appreciated and taken into account in their wise use and management.

See actions r2.2.ii, 6.1.6

1. Actions have been taken to promote the recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands

D

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;

F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. The social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the on recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.]

FL: Cultural & social functions promoted in general terms for most of the protected landscape areas.

Action r3.3.ii.- Urge public institutions to ensure that a more decisive effort be made with regard to groundwater, placing emphasis on the hydro-geological, social, economic and environmental aspects within the framework of communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) regarding wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Actions have been taken to ensure that public institutions place emphasis on the hydrogeological, social, economic and environmental aspects of groundwater

RW:B

FL: ?

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects.

WALLOON REGION: Le 4^{ème} objectif du **code de l'eau** est d'assurer la réduction progressive de la pollution des eaux souterraines et des eaux de surface et de prévenir l'aggravation de leur pollution;

Action r3.3.iii.- Within national and legal frameworks and available resources and capacity, consider *inter alia* the compilation and assessment of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water, taking into account, as appropriate, intellectual property rights, customary law, and the principle of prior informed consent, in accordance with CBD and WIPO rules; promoting the appreciation and revitalization of these cultural values among populations close to wetlands, and in general among the wider public; including all relevant aspects of cultural heritage in the design and implementation of wetland management, carrying out such efforts with active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders; and consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen this involvement, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Compilation(s) and assessment(s) of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water have been undertaken

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable;

B = Yes;

C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress;

F= Being planned;

G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water

C

3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management

D

4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management

C

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]

FL: Some wetlands are subject to landscape protection regulations.

Action 3.3.4.- Develop and implement wise use wetland programmes and projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans at local, national and regional levels.

1. Wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans have been developed

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 3.3.5.- Promote research, including through the establishment of national and regional research and training centres, into the role of wetlands in water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage.

See action 20.1.8

1. Research has been promoted on the role of wetlands in any of the following areas: water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage

E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

In the framework of developments in the Schelde estuary, in the IJzer estuary and in the Grensmaas river basin (Meuse), specific research projects and plans are carried out with reference to flood defense taking into account the role of restoration of wetland areas and temporary flooding sites along the river system.

Action r3.3.v.- Secure the wise use of temporary pools through ensuring, as a high priority, that their management is sustainable, respecting their specific characteristics and addressing root causes of their loss and degradation, taking into consideration the guidance in Resolution VIII.33, and including by:

- i) undertaking, as far as possible, baseline inventory of temporary pools;
- ii) raising awareness of their presence and their specific values and functions;
- iii) ensuring the maintenance of their specific hydrological functioning;
- iv) ensuring that their natural resources are sustainably used and not overexploited;
- v) recognizing the commitment to, and importance of, temporary pools to local communities and indigenous peoples, and supporting their management and protection; and
- vi) undertaking regular surveillance of temporary pools so as to identify and avert any threat to their values and functions, always considering the traditional uses and management. (Resolution VIII.33)

1. Actions have been taken to secure the wise use of temporary pools

**FL:
D
RW:
C**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: Some monitoring schemes exist, with emphasis on Amphibians.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.4. Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties, and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:		A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		RW : Cela est prévu dans le Code de l'eau et dans le Plan pluies. FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.4.2.- Apply the Guidelines in *Integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) and, where appropriate and feasible, participate in the related CBD/Ramsar project entitled the "River Basin Initiative" so as to support the WSSD agreement to increase understanding of the sustainable use, protection and management of water resources.

1. The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) have been used/applied	A	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on application of the Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management.]		
FL: river basin planning is established and includes wetlands present		
3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative	C	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.]		

Action r3.4.i.- Ensure that due attention is given to the role of mountain and high-altitude wetlands, and the importance of their conservation and wise use, in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans. (Resolution VIII.12)

1. Due attention has been promoted / given to the role of mountain and high altitude wetlands in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r3.4.ii.- Use, where appropriate, in managing or assessing the impact of dams on sensitive riverine and wetland ecosystems, all available information, including information provided by the World Commission on Dams (WCD), in association with the guidance adopted by the Ramsar Convention, to inform and guide local and national processes for allocation of water resources and decision-making, in order to ensure that wetlands and their values and functions are fully taken into account in decision-making on large dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Wetland values and functions have been taken into account in decision-making on large dams	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r3.4.iii.- Take the necessary steps, wherever possible and appropriate, in order to maintain the migration access for indigenous fish and other species past dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Steps have been taken to ensure that dams are not impeding the migration of indigenous fish and other species	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>FL: Applied ecological research and monitoring is ongoing and barrier-effects at sluices are being inventorised; fish passages are constructed in several key sites.</p> <p>WALLOON REGION :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventaire des obstacles à la libre circulation des poissons dans le réseau hydrographique wallon et mesures prises pour lever ces obstacles. • Application de la Décision Benelux en vue d'Harmoniser les efforts de protection des poissons dans les cours d'eau (Le placement du même type d'échelles à poissons a permis la réapparition de salmonidés dans les rivières de Wallonie). • Etude pour le suivi scientifique de la réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse ou projet "Saumon 2000". 		

Action r3.4.iv.- Undertake the systematic implementation of environmental flow assessments, where appropriate, to mitigate socio-economic and ecological impacts of large dams on wetlands, and encourage the development of appropriate centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation, and in doing so apply the *Guidelines on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolutions VIII.1, VIII.2)

1. Assessments of environmental flow have been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessments of environmental flow undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams.]</i>		

3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged <i>(if available, please include number of centres)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[If applicable, please include information on the centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation that have been encouraged.]</i>			

Action 3.4.5.- Apply the *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)* as adopted by Resolution VIII.4.

1. The <i>Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4)</i> have been used/applied	FL/ FED: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Federal and Flemish Region: A coordination centre for ICZM is funded by the province, the Flemish government, the federal government and the European Commission.</p>		

Action r3.4.vi.- Document case studies of good practice in the integration of wetlands into ICZM and make these available to the Convention for review by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) as the basis for preparing further guidance on wetlands and ICZM under the Convention. (Resolution VIII. 4)

1. Case studies of good practice examples on the integration of wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 3.4.6.- In decision-making processes related to freshwater resources, apply the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands*, as adopted by Resolution VIII.1.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have made available the guidance on water allocation and management for ecosystems to support decision-making on water resource management in all CPs, as a contribution to achieve the WSSD target on water resources management and water efficiency plans.

1. The <i>Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1)</i> have been used/applied in decision-making related to freshwater	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r3.4.viii.- Bring the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* and the additional guidance on tools and methodologies to the attention of national ministries and/or agencies (at different levels of territorial organization) responsible for water resource management; encourage these bodies to apply the guidance in order to ensure appropriate allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands in their territory; ensure that the principles contained in the Ramsar Guidelines are incorporated into national policies on water and on wetlands; and include representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies in the membership of National Ramsar/Wetland Committees. (Resolution VIII.1)

See action 18.1.2

1. Representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies are included in National Ramsar/Wetland Committee

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Representatives of the Nature Divisions and Water Divisions of the 3 regional administrations are member of the National Ramsar Committee.

Action r3.4.ix.- Develop projects and other activities that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands, make such good practice examples available to others through the information exchange mechanisms of the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*, and report to COP9 on the successes achieved and lessons learned from these activities. (Resolution VIII.1)

1. Projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands have been developed

RW:

B

FL/

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant projects.]

Flemish Region

See under EIA aspects. For specific water courses ecological aspects have been included in their integrated management.

WALLOON REGION :

De nombreux projets sont en cours :

La promotion des techniques végétales, s'appuyant sur les travaux de recherche fondamentale et des études menées tant en Belgique qu'à l'étranger, les ingénieurs de la Direction des Cours d'Eau non navigables ont, depuis quelques années, pris l'initiative de réaliser des chantiers de réhabilitation des cours d'eau au moyen de techniques végétales. Le rétablissement d'une végétation riveraine naturelle, garante de stabilité pour les berges, provoque en corollaire un accroissement de la biodiversité et le rétablissement du maillage écologique spécifique aux cours d'eau. Plus de 60 chantiers ont été réalisés.

Surveillance de la végétation rivulaire (maladies – placettes permanentes)

Etudes de la ripisylve.

Gestion et animation du service Nuisibles inféodés aux cours d'eau (lutte contre les rats musqués)

Etude sur les habitats inféodés aux cours d'eau

Etude sur les mélanges d'espèces végétales des berges

Etude sur le cingle plongeur.

Etude sur l'accès du bétail au cours d'eau

Etude pour le suivi scientifique de la réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse ou projet "Saumon 2000".

Projet d'épuration individuelle des eaux dans le Parc Naturel de la Haute-Sûre et de la Forêt d'Anlier.

Projet LIFE portant sur la moule perlière (Il a pour objectif la conservation à long terme des habitats associés

aux populations de la moule perlière *Margaritifera margaritifera*. Ce projet vise la mise en œuvre d'actions concrètes de conservation sur les sites qui abritent encore des populations de moules perlières : abattage de plantations résineuses installées en bordure de cours d'eau, placement de clôtures pour la protection des berges, acquisition de parcelles stratégiques, restauration de sites adéquats pour la reproduction);

3.- Summary on successes achieved and lessons learned in developing this type of projects [Please provide a summary on the relevant projects, successes achieved, and lessons learned in their development.]

FL: Engineers and biologists have learned to cooperate in some public works (esp. river management issues).

Action r3.4.x.- Develop mechanisms to better plan and manage for the wise use of water in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Mechanisms to better plan and manage the wise use of water in the Andean Region have been developed

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xi.- Seek to maintain, as far as practicable in countries affected by drought, the continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands, so as to ensure that they can continue to provide their full range of values and functions for people and biological diversity. (Resolution VIII.35)

1. Efforts have been made to maintain continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands in situations of drought

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xiv.- Study, from an interdisciplinary point of view and with the participation of civil society, the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of the wetlands in those territories where these impacts exist. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Interdisciplinary studies on the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of wetlands have been undertaken

**FL:
D**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: Ad hoc implication of eco-hydrological knowledge in some river systems.

Action r3.4.xv.- Promote proposals for the participation of civil society, both public and private, related to the management of groundwater within the framework of integrated management of water resources. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The participation of civil society in the management of groundwater resources has been promoted

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 3.4.9.- Ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All relevant CPs to have assessed implications of *Kyoto Protocol* implementation on wetlands (including applying COP8 restoration guidelines).

See action 4.1.4

1. The implications of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation have been assessed

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xvi.- Make every effort, when implementing UNFCCC and, where appropriate, its *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and forest management, afforestation and reforestation, that this implementation does not lead to serious damage to the ecological character of their wetlands, using, where appropriate, strategic and other forms of environmental impact assessment and risk assessment, taking account Resolutions VII.10, VII.16 and VIII.9, as well as Article 4.1 of the UNFCCC and Article 2.1 of the *Kyoto Protocol*, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Efforts have been made to avoid serious damage to the ecological character of wetlands due to the implementation of UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol

**RW:
H
FL: C**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION : Le projet **Pirene** permet de simuler les effets du changement climatique sur les cours d'eau.

Action r3.4.xvii.- Consider, and use as appropriate, the information on climate change and wetlands in the background papers Ramsar COP8 DOC. 11 and COP8 DOC. 40 when integrating climate change considerations into national policy pertaining to the conservation and wise use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The information provided in COP8 documents related to climate change has been considered and used in national policies pertaining to wetlands

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xviii.- Take action to minimize the degradation, as well as to promote restoration, and improve management practices of those peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon and are considered as mitigation factors, as well as to increase the adaptive capacity of society to respond to the changes in these ecosystems due to climate change. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Actions have been taken to minimize degradation, restore and improve management of peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION : La Région wallonne a désigné un nouveau site Ramsar « les Hautes-Fagnes » qui est une zone tourbeuse.

Flemish Region : peatland and mire habitats are protected by law.

Action r3.4.xix.- Recognize the important role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise, especially in low-lying areas and Small Island Developing States, and plan their management, including required adaptation measures, so as to ensure that mangrove ecosystems may respond to impacts caused by climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Management planning measures have been taken to preserve the role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xx.- Undertake, where possible, studies of the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise and make their findings available to the Convention. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Studies on the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise have been undertaken

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xxiv.- Contribute information on wetlands and agriculture to the *Wise Use Resource Centre* maintained by the Ramsar Bureau, to the *River Basin Initiative* and to the *Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment*, and future meetings of the *World Water Forum*. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Information on wetlands and agriculture has been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau and others

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: the role of polder areas with wet grasslands and agricultural crops for waterbirds and biodiversity in general is emphasised at local and provincial level, but resistance still exists in some farmers communities

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4. RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4.1. Identify priority wetlands 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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Cela est prévu via le Décret Natura 2000 et le Code de l'eau. Le réseau Natura 2000 de Wallonie se base en grande partie sur le réseau hydrographique. La restauration des sites Natura 2000 sera prévue dans le régime de gestion active. Les Commissions de Conservation des sites Natura 2000 ont pour mission de surveiller l'état de conservation des sites Natura 2000 afin d'assurer leur maintien ou leur rétablissement dans un état de conservation favorable. Ces Commissions de Conservation ont été désignées fin 2004 et seront effectives dans les prochains mois. Les plans de gestion des sites Natura 2000 devraient être effectifs d'ici à partir de 2005.</p> <p>FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 4.1.2.- Establish wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, where feasible, at destroyed or degraded wetlands, especially in those associated with major river systems or areas of high nature conservation value, in line with Recommendation 4.1 and Resolutions VII.17 and VII.20.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs with lost or degraded wetlands to have identified priority sites for restoration; restoration projects underway or completed in at least 100 CPs.

1. Wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes or projects have been developed	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i></p> <p><i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i></p> <p><i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i></p> <p><i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Flemish Region: Restoration projects along the Scheldt river aim the rehabilitation of tidal ecosystems that where polderised in the past; projects exist for the IJzer estuary, the Zwin, as well as other smaller wetland sites (e.g. Uitkerke polder reserve, Damme nature reserve, both of importance for wintering waterbirds & geese and breeding meadowbirds).</p> <p>WALLOON REGION :</p> <p>Le Code de l'eau prévoit en son 2^{ème} objectif d'améliorer l'état des écosystèmes aquatiques ainsi que, en ce qui concerne leurs besoins en eau, des écosystèmes terrestres et des zones humides qui en dépendent directement; Le Plan Pluies de la Région wallonne comprend une action " Prélèvement et restauration des zones humides" Des projets de restaurations de zones humides ont été élaborés dans le cadre des Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature (restauration de frayères, restauration et création de mares , restauration d'étangs)</p> <p>Contrats de Rivières : Le Contrat de Rivière consiste à mettre autour d'une même table tous les acteurs de la vallée, en vue notamment de définir consensuellement un programme d'actions de restauration des cours d'eau, de leurs abords et des ressources en eau du bassin.</p> <p>Projet LIFE portant sur la moule perlière (Il a pour objectif la conservation à long terme des habitats associés</p>		

aux populations de la moule perlière *Margaritifera margaritifera*. Ce projet vise la mise en œuvre d'actions concrètes de conservation sur les sites qui abritent encore des populations de moules perlières : abattage de plantations résineuses installées en bordure de cours d'eau, placement de clôtures pour la protection des berges, acquisition de parcelles stratégiques, restauration de sites adéquats pour la reproduction);

Projet LIFE Roselières du Bassin de la Haine : il vise à établir un plan d'Actions pour l'avifaune des roselières du bassin de la Haine.

La promotion des techniques végétales, s'appuyant sur les travaux de recherche fondamentale et des études menées tant en Belgique qu'à l'étranger, les ingénieurs de la Direction des Cours d'Eau non navigables ont, depuis quelques années, pris l'initiative de réaliser des chantiers de réhabilitation des cours d'eau au moyen de techniques végétales. Le rétablissement d'une végétation riveraine naturelle, garante de stabilité pour les berges, provoque en corollaire un accroissement de la biodiversité et le rétablissement du maillage écologique spécifique aux cours d'eau. Plus de 60 chantiers ont été réalisés.

Restauration de tourbière dans le site Ramsar des Hautes-Fagnes en vue de reconstituer des conditions hydrologiques favorables, des communautés végétales turfigènes ainsi qu'un acrotelm fonctionnel.

Action r4.1.i.- Report on progress in implementation of Actions 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 in triennial National Reports to the COP (Resolution VIII.16).

See action 1.1.2

1.- Actions have been taken to restore / rehabilitate those wetlands defined as priority for restoration (if available, please include number of sites)

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° wetlands / Ramsar sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION :

L'habitat de la moule perlière fait l'objet d'un projet Life en vue de son maintien et de sa restauration.

Restauration de tourbière dans le site Ramsar des Hautes-Fagnes

Restauration de roselières dans le bassin de la Haine (déboisement, étrépage, achat de terrain...)

FL : Wet grasslands are under restoration schemes in some nature reserves and Natura 2000.

Rehabilitation programmes for the riverine sites as well as wetland sites located in Natura 2000 and the Flemish Ecological Network (some of these are in Ramsar shadow list).

Action r4.1.ii.- Integrate fully the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) into National Wetland Policies and plans, paying particular attention to issues of legislation, impact assessment, incentive measures, and the mitigation of impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration (Resolution VIII.16) have been integrated into the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument(s)

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r4.1.iii.- Pay particular attention to the role of wetland restoration in management at the catchment and river basin level in relation to the allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions (Resolution VIII.1), integrating the conservation and wise use of wetlands into river basin management (Resolution VII.18), and transboundary action (Resolution VII.19). (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The role of wetland restoration has been taken into account in river basin management

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

In the framework of developments in the Schelde estuary, in the Ijzer estuary and in the Grensmaas river basin specific research projects and plans are carried out with reference to flood defense taking into account the role of restoration of wetland areas and temporary flooding sites along the river system. Other small scale projects on wetlands restoration are being carried in the framework of nature development projects and EU Life projects in Natura 2000 sites.

Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects

WALLOON REGION:

Selon le **Code de l'eau**, la gestion de l'eau en Région wallonne se fait par bassin et sous bassin hydrographique. Il précise que la politique de l'eau en Région wallonne a notamment pour objectif de préserver et **d'améliorer l'état** des écosystèmes aquatiques ainsi que, en ce qui concerne leurs besoins en eau, des écosystèmes terrestres et des zones humides qui en dépendent directement.

Action 4.1.3.- Compile information on new research and methodologies for the restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands and disseminate this information.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Continue to add new case studies and methods to Ramsar wetland restoration Web site.

1. Information and/or case studies on wetland restoration and rehabilitation is available

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;

F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =

Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]

FL : Case studies on ad hoc basis have often their own website - information is included into Nature report. See a.o. www.natuurpunt.be

WALLOON REGION :

- Un rapport « approche des problématiques « zones humides » dans les Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature » a été réalisé. Ce rapport est une sorte de guide destiné à conseiller, à aider les futurs gestionnaires de ZH à la prise de décisions dans leur démarche de prise de décisions de ces zones humides sensibles. Il contient également un catalogue du suivi des projets de zones humides pour 17 des 50 communes participant à l'action Plans Communaux de développement de la Nature. Ce travail permet une approche rendant compte des enjeux et des menaces qui pèsent sur les ZH et propose des exemples de gestion à préconiser.
- Les Contrats de Rivières prévoient des travaux de recherche visant à surveiller la qualité physico-chimique des cours d'eau.
- Des études sont réalisées en vue d'évaluer l'apport des techniques végétales pour la consolidation des berges des cours d'eau.
- L'étude sur l'habitat de la moule perlière vise la mise en œuvre d'actions concrètes de conservation sur les sites qui abritent encore ses populations est en cours;
- Projet LIFE Roselières du Bassin de la Haine visant à établir un plan d'Actions pour l'avifaune des roselières du bassin de la Haine est en cours
 - Surveillance de la végétation rivulaire (maladies – placettes permanentes)
 - Monitoring des bandes riveraines des cours d'eau et de l'état phytosanitaire de l'aulne et autre essence ligneuses des berges.

- Gestion et animation du service Nuisibles inféodés aux cours d'eau
- Etude sur les mélanges d'espèces végétales des berges
- Etude sur le cicle plongeur.
- Etude sur l'accès du bétail au cours d'eau
- Projet d'épuration individuelle des eaux dans le Parc Naturel de la Haute-Sûre et de la Forêt d'Anlier.

Action 4.1.4.- Apply the guidelines on wetland restoration adopted by Resolution VIII.16 to ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation, do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

See action 3.4.9

1. The *Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) have been used in the assessment of the implications of the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol* for wetland conservation

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r4.1.iv.- Apply the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* when considering the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention, using the guidelines for such provision of compensation adopted by Resolution VIII.20. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The *Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) have been applied in relation to the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region

Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy, including specific regulations on impact assessment and valuation and compensation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000.

Action r4.1.v.- Ensure, when implementing the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration*, that the cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands being considered for restoration is fully recognized so as to ensure that this significance is maintained, taking into account the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites*, annexed to Resolution VIII.19. (Resolution VIII.16).

See action r3.3.iii

1. Cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands has been considered in restoration actions

RW :
B
FL:
D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION : Projet de restauration du tunnel de Bernistap : En 1815, Guillaume 1er régnait sur les Pays-Bas, la Belgique et le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg. Afin de favoriser l'industrie métallurgique naissante, il fit développer les voies de communication et creuser des canaux. Il décida de relier la Meuse et la Moselle par un canal qui devait traverser l'Ardenne. En 1827, les travaux débutèrent et une tranchée de 1350 mètres fut creusée: elle constitue actuellement le canal de Bernistap. Un passage souterrain fut taillé dans le

roc: il devait mesurer 2650 mètres de long, mais les travaux furent suspendus lors de la Révolution belge de 1830, puis abandonnés. Ce tunnel est le refuge hivernal de quelques chauves-souris, mais il est perturbé par un tourisme sauvage. Un projet d'aménagement de ce tunnel pour les chiroptères est en cours.

Action r4.1.vi.- Identify, as part of national training needs assessments, training needs in wetland restoration, identify training opportunities and expertise in wetland restoration, and create relevant training modules as part of the *Ramsar Wetland Training Initiative*, once established. (Resolution VIII.16). (Refer also to Action 20.1.5)

See action 20.1.5

1. Training needs in relation to wetland restoration have been assessed

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Training opportunities and expertise in relation to wetland restoration have been identified

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on training needs and opportunities in relation to wetland restoration.]

FL: Restoration of ancient fortification (Vauban-type) is taken into account in the management of the Wetland site nature reserve at Damme. Also other fortresses are situated in protected sites including wetland elements.

Action r4.1.vii.- Investigate opportunities to link poverty relief to wetland restoration, by incorporating the provision of work, skills and opportunities into restoration projects and by focusing on the restoration of ecosystem goods and services upon which communities depend. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. Restoration projects linked to poverty relief have been developed and implemented

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r4.1.viii.- Disseminate the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) to community stakeholders who have an interest in wetland restoration; and involve local communities and indigenous peoples in restoring and maintaining wetlands, in line with the guidance in Resolution VII.8 concerning establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* have been disseminated to community stakeholders

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities

B

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the dissemination of the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* and the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in wetland restoration.]

FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects Specific measures for wetland conservation and restoration as well as for the conservation of Natura 2000 sites proposed by NGO's in the framework of the management plans for nature reserves, and by local authorities in the framework of the Agreement for Cooperation receive higher subsidy levels. For private owners and users such subjects are included in the set of agri-environment measures and contracts.

WALLOON REGION : Les Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature (PCDN) et les Contrats

de Rivières sont 2 outils participatifs.

Les **PCDN** sont des initiatives communales de partenariat local pour le développement de la nature dont le but est la préservation et le développement de la biodiversité par la prise en compte du réseau écologique. Des projets de restauration des zones humides font partie des PCDN.

Le **Contrat de Rivière** consiste à mettre autour d'une même table tous les acteurs de la vallée, en vue de définir consensuellement un programme d'actions de restauration des cours d'eau, de leurs abords et des ressources en eau du bassin. Sont invités à participer à cette démarche les représentants des mondes politique, administratif, enseignant, socio-économique, associatif, scientifique...

Action r4.1.ix.- Utilise the information and resources of *Ramsar's restoration Web site*, and contribute relevant additional information on wetland restoration projects and experience to this Web site, so as to increase the wide availability of such information, and particularly to provide demonstration projects that illustrate the application of the principles and guidelines adopted by Resolution VIII.16. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The Ramsar Web site on wetland restoration has been used and materials have been provided to it

**RW:
D**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of Ramsar web site on wetland restoration and the materials provided to it, if applicable.]

Action r4.1.xi.- Prepare guidance on compensation for wetland losses in response to Resolution VII.24, and report on these matters to COP9. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. Contribution has been made to preparation of guidance on compensation for wetland losses, in response to Resolution VII.24

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5.1. Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW: A FL: C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		RW : Il est prévu d'avoir une stratégie nationale contre les espèces exotiques envahissantes mais aussi d'intégrer un volet « lutte contre les espèces exotiques envahissantes » dans tous les Contrats de Rivières, dans tous les PCDN. FL : in preparation

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Action r5.1.ii.- Work closely with counterpart national focal points for the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *UN Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB)*, the *International Maritime Organization (IMO)*, and others in the development and implementation of national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive alien species, and ensure that prevention, eradication and control of such species are fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans, applying the *Ramsar Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 3) and *Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies* (Ramsar Handbook 2). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. National policy, strategy and management responses to threats from invasive species have been developed and implemented	RW: F FL: D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i>
2. Prevention, eradication and control of invasive alien species have been fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans	RW: F FL: D	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i>
3. Actions related to invasive species have been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organizations/processes	RW: F FL: D	<i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on incorporation of invasive species matters in national legislation and policies, actions taken, and cooperation in this field.]

Federal

Relevant decisions on this subject relating to the marine environment have been taken by the IMO in 2004. The deliberate introduction of alien species in the marine environment is forbidden (Royal Decree on the protection of species in the marine waters under Belgian jurisdiction, 2001).

Flemish Region

Deliberate introduction of alien species is forbidden by law since 1997. Specific strategies and measures are being developed.

WALLOON REGION : Il est prévu d'avoir une stratégie nationale contre les espèces exotique envahissantes mais aussi d'intégrer un volet « lutte contre les espèces exotique envahissantes » dans tous les Contrats de Rivières, dans tous les Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature. De plus, le Décret relatif à la conservation des sites Natura 2000 ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvage (publié le 22 janvier 2002) interdit l'introduction dans la nature d'espèces non indigènes.

Action r5.1.iii.- Undertake risk assessments of alien species which may pose a threat to the ecological character of wetlands, taking into account the potential changes to ecosystems from the effects of global climate change, and applying the guidance available in Ramsar's *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. Risk assessments of alien species that pose a threat to wetlands have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r5.1.iv.- Identify the presence of invasive alien species in Ramsar sites and other wetlands in the Party's territory, the threats they pose to the ecological character of these wetlands (including the risk of invasions by such species not yet present within each site), and the actions underway or planned for their prevention, eradication or control; for Ramsar sites, report on this to the Ramsar Bureau without delay in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, so that this information may be included in the *Ramsar Sites Database* (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2); and make information provided by Contracting Parties available to the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and others in support of the implementation of the *CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan 2002-2006*. (Resolution VIII.18)

1.- Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed and communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant Article 3.2 of the Convention (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the problems of invasion by alien species, sites affected and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>FL: Listing of exotic species and management proposals are subject of monitoring, research and ad hoc approach within and outside some protected areas. (see biannual Status of Nature Report, Inst. of Nature Conservation).</p> <p>Alien wetland species of concern are among waterbirds, fish and amphibians, as well as aquatic plants (available as garden ponds 'decoration')</p>			

Action r5.1.v.- Cooperate fully in the prevention, early warning in transboundary wetlands, eradication and control of invasive species concerning invasive species in shared wetlands, river systems, and coastal/marine zones, including examining carefully, prior to moving water between river basins, the potential environmental impacts due to invasive species, and applying the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention* (Ramsar Handbook 9) in recognition that many aquatic invasive species, both inland and coastal and marine species, can spread rapidly and repeatedly throughout entire wetland ecosystems, river basins and coastal and marine zones, such that eradication in one place may not prove effective at preventing further invasions. (Resolution VIII.18)

1. International cooperation related to invasive species in transboundary/shared wetlands and water systems has been agreed and implemented	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 5.1.2.- In collaboration with the *Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)*, the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, Ramsar's International Organization Partners, and interested Parties, continue to develop and disseminate practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species, based on case studies and documented experiences from around the world.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Guidance for invasives' management prepared.

1. Practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species has been developed and disseminated	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The 3 regions are represented in the Belgian working group.</p> <p>Il existe un forum sur Internet qui traite de la problématique des espèces exotiques envahissantes (http://www.biodiversity.be/bbpf/forum/invasion/inintro.html). Ce forum a un groupe de discussion. Un</p>		

tableau y reprend une liste d'espèces présentes en Belgique reprenant le type d'habitat atteint. 4 espèces de plantes, 3 mollusques, 9 crustacés, 1 poisson, 2 amphibiens, 1 reptile, 3 oiseaux, et 4 mammifères y sont cités pour avoir un impact sur les zones humides. Pour chacune de ces espèces, il est prévu de développer une fiche comprenant la physionomie, la distribution, l'écologie, les effets néfastes, et les moyens de control des population.

Une brochure sur *Fallopia japonica*, *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, *Impatiens glandulifera* et *Senecio inaequidens* est disponible au Ministère de la Région wallonne.

De plus, la Division de l'eau du Ministère de la Région wallonne a un service de lutte contre les rats musqués.

FL : specific folders on alian species in Flemish natural systems are available

Action r5.1.ix.- In the development and implementation of national strategies and responses to invasive alien species, recognize that terrestrial invasions by alien species can threaten and affect the ecological character of wetlands, including through the lowering of water tables and alteration of water flow patterns, and ensure that appropriate measures to prevent or control such invasions are in place. (Resolution VIII.18)

1. The impact on wetlands of terrestrial invasions by alien species has been assessed

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6. LOCAL COMMUNITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CULTURAL VALUES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6.1. Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, in particular women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Continuer le travail entrepris par les Contrats de Rivières et le Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature existants et en créer de nouveaux. Rendre les Commissions de Conservation des Sites Natura 2000 effectives.</p> <p>FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy and include specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects Information and stimulating measurez are distributed</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 6.1.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), giving particular attention to the importance of incentive measures (refer to Operational Objective 8.1), the building of trust, the need for flexible approaches, the exchange of knowledge, capacity building and the continuity of resources and efforts.

1. The guidance for the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management has been applied

RW :
D

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 6.1.2.- In consultation with and with the full support of indigenous people, document and encourage the application of appropriate traditional knowledge and management practices of indigenous people and local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly where wetlands are under the traditional ownership of local communities and indigenous people.

1. Traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands has been documented and its application encouraged

RW :
B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION : Le pâturage extensif avec des races rustiques de bovins, équins, ovins ainsi que l'étrepage de zones ouvertes sont encouragés dans le cas de gestion de prairies humides (souvent pour des zones protégées sous statut). Une publication « gestion de l'espace rural, nature et paysages en Wallonie » comprend des aspects techniques de gestion traditionnelle de l'espace rural.

Action 6.1.4.- Promote public participation in decision-making processes with respect to wetlands and their conservation and ensure that there is full sharing with the stakeholders of technical and other information related to the selection of Ramsar sites and management of all wetlands.

1.- Public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands has been promoted

B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]

WALLOON REGION : Les Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature (PCDN) les Contrats de Rivières et les Commissions de Conservation Natura 2000 sont 3 outils participatifs.

- Les PCDN sont des initiatives communales de partenariat local pour le développement de la nature dont le but est la préservation et le développement de la biodiversité par la prise en compte du réseau écologique. Les zones humides font partie des projets de ces PCDN.
- Les Contrats de Rivière consistent à mettre autour d'une même table tous les acteurs de la vallée, en vue de définir consensuellement un programme d'actions de restauration des cours d'eau, de leurs abords et des ressources en eau du bassin. Sont invités à participer à cette démarche les représentants des mondes politique, administratif, enseignant, socio-économique, associatif, scientifique...
- 8 Commissions de Conservation Natura 2000 sont mises en place depuis fin 2004. Elles ont comme objectif d'assurer le suivi de la gestion des sites Natura 2000. Elles rassemblent des représentants des administrations (agriculture, aménagement du territoire et environnement), et des représentants d'associations (conservation de la nature, professionnels, gestionnaires et propriétaires). Ces Commissions

seront effectives dans le courant de l'année 2005.

FL: Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects. EIA procedure includes public consultation, projects for financial support are included in the Agreement for Cooperation with the local authorities as well as for NGO's.

3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites)

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the participation of local stakeholders in Ramsar site selection, the sites involved (if applicable), and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

WALLOON REGION : La commission de gestion du Parc naturel de la Haute-Sûre et de la Forêt d'Anlier a participé à la sélection du site Ramsar de la Vallée de la Haute-Sûre.

Flemish Region : Designation of sites includes a public consultation procedure

Action r6.1.i.- Implement, where appropriate, Resolution VII.8 on *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* with respect to the planning and operation phases of dams, and extend this principle of participation to wider issues related to water resources management at basin level, utilising Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management*, and Resolution VIII.14 on *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands*. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Local stakeholders have been involved in wider issues related to water resources management at basin level

**RW :
B**

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: integrated management at river basin level is realised through consultation of committees including local authorities and stakeholders

WALLOON REGION :

Le **Contrat de Rivière** consiste à mettre autour d'une même table tous les acteurs de la vallée, en vue de définir consensuellement un programme d'actions de restauration des cours d'eau, de leurs abords et des ressources en eau du bassin. Sont invités à participer à cette démarche les représentants des mondes politique, administratif, enseignant, socio-économique, associatif, scientifique, ...

Tous les habitants d'un même bassin, tous les usagers d'un même cours d'eau disposent maintenant d'une plate-forme commune, d'un lieu, le Comité de Rivière, pour exprimer leurs souhaits sur la qualité de leurs cours d'eau, pour entendre et prendre en compte le point de vue des autres et ainsi établir ensemble des priorités dans les actions à programmer.

Le contrat se construit sur un mode de gestion concertée.

Action 6.1.5.- Elaborate for consideration by COP9 further guidance on the application of the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), based on experiences gained at the field level, and in particular the experience of Pacific Island States and other Small Island Developing States, and working with the CBD and others in line with the *CBD-Ramsar 3rd Joint Work Plan*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Elaborated guidelines, developed jointly with CBD, available to COP9.

1. Resource information on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management has been compiled	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the resources compiled about local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management.]		
WALLOON REGION : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> De l'information sur la démarche des Plans Communaux de développement de la Nature est disponible sur le site : http://environnement.wallonie.be/dnf/PCDN/ Un rapport « approche des problématiques « zones humides » dans les Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature » a été réalisé. Ce rapport. Il contient un catalogue du suivi des projets de zones humides pour 17 des 50 communes participant à l'action Plans Communaux de développement de la Nature. De l'information sur la démarche des Contrats de Rivières est disponible sur le site : http://mrw.wallonie.be/dgrne/contrat_riviere/index.htm 		
3. The Party has contributed with case studies and other materials to the elaboration of further guidance on the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]		

Action r6.1.iii.- Report on progress and successful experiences in applying Participatory Environmental Management strategies, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.36)

1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied	RW: B FL: E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Summary on progress and successes in relation to Participatory Environmental Management strategies [Please provide here a summary on progress and successes and other additional comments you consider relevant.]		
RW : 4 nouveaux contrats de Rivières et 8 nouveaux Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature ont vu le jour de 2002 à 2004. FL : Participatory approach is included in the development of Nature Objectives Plans for Natura 2000 sites and for river basin management plans		

Action 6.1.6.- Consider using the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* (Resolution VIII.19), and continue to document case studies on social and cultural values of wetlands and how they can be incorporated into the effort to conserve and sustainably use wetland resources.

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]		

3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]</i>		

Action r6.1.v.- Establish appropriate consultation mechanisms at regional or national levels, in order to consider how the list of Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 might be applied in developing and promoting cultural values of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Consultation mechanisms on the application of the guiding principles on cultural values have been established	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r6.1.vi.- Consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders in wetland conservation and wise use, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Cultural values of wetlands are being used to improve local stakeholders' involvement in wetland planning and management	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r6.1.vii.- Consider conducting appropriate joint educational and training activities with regard to the cultural values of wetlands and developing pilot projects for testing on a local, regional and national scale further improvement of the application of and/or integration of the Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 in wetland conservation and wise use. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Educational and training activities have been developed in relation to cultural aspects of wetlands	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r6.1.ix.- Undertake the necessary measures to retrieve, assess and document for current use all ancestral practices of indigenous peoples that are compatible with the environment in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. The ancestral practices of indigenous people in the Andean region that are compatible with environment protection have been retrieved, assessed, and documented	A	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 6.1.7.- Apply the *New guidelines on management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) in such a way as to ensure the full incorporation of the cultural features of wetlands in their sustainable use.

1.- Cultural values of wetlands have been incorporated into the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands *(if available, please include number of sites)*

E

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =
Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

**N° wetlands /
Ramsar sites**

1

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the incorporation of cultural values into management planning, sites involved, and other comments you consider relevant.]*

WALLOON REGION : Cela est prévu dans le plan de gestion du nouveau site Ramsar de la Vallée de la Haute-Sûre.

FL : Cultural values of Blankaart lake are included in choices of management.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7.1. Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>RW : Continuer le travail entrepris par les Contrats de Rivières et le Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature existants et en créer de nouveaux. Rendre les Commissions de Conservation des Sites Natura 2000 effectives.</p> <p>FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects – these measures and policies are also relevant for drinking water companies and other users of wetlands.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 7.1.1.- Encourage the private sector to apply the wise use principle (Ramsar Handbooks 1 to 6) in their activities and investments affecting wetlands.

1. The private sector has been encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region

In the framework of developments in the Schelde estuary, in the IJzer estuary and in the Grensmaas river

basin, specific research projects and plans are carried out with reference to flood defense taking into account the role of restoration of wetland areas and temporary flooding sites along the river system. Private sectors such as farmers, port authorities, gravel and sand extraction companies, research institutes and universities and research companies are involved in the planning, EIA, and implementation aspects. With reference to water supply, water storage and water effluent purification the relevant companies are directly involved.

For the development of the Nature Objectives Plans for the sites of the Flemish Ecological Network and of Natura 2000, the site relevant private sectors are involved through consultation, communication and workshop procedures.

WALLOON REGION :

Dans le cadre des **Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature** et des **Contrats de rivières** (Voir objectif opérationnel 6.1) , le secteur privé est invité à faire partie des partenaires. Ces partenaires peuvent être des loueurs de kayak, des fournisseur d'électricité, des camping, des université, l'union des pêcheur, des industriels, des agriculteurs....

Action 7.1.2.- Seek opportunities to involve the private sector, national science academies, universities and other professional, scientific, and technical societies of recognized merit in wetland-related decision-making, through vehicles such as National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees, site or river basin management authorities/committees, and outreach activities.

1. The private sector, academia and specialized institutions have been brought into decision-making related to wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: See above

WALLOON REGION : Oui, dans le cadre des **Plans Communaux de Développement de la Nature** et des **Contrats de rivières**. De plus, dans le cadre des **Commissions de consultation Natura 2000**, cela sera bientôt le cas également pour les sites Natura 2000.

Action 7.1.4.- Establish, where appropriate, national and local private-sector "Friends of Wetlands" forums where companies can seek advice on applying wise use practices in their businesses, and can also identify opportunities for supporting the activities of the Convention.

1. A private-sector "Friends of Wetlands" forum or equivalent mechanism has been established

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 7.1.5.- Review, in cooperation with the private sector, domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products, both exports and imports, and as appropriate implement the necessary legal, institutional and administrative measures to ensure that harvesting is sustainable and in accordance with the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)*.

1. A review of domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products has been carried out

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/in some cases; E = In

progress; F= Being planned; G = Being

updated; H = Other status (explain

below); I = No answer

2. Legal, institutional and administrative measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable harvesting of wetland products

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the measures taken to ensure sustainable harvesting and trade of wetland products.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8. INCENTIVES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8.1. Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use principle, and the removal of perverse incentives

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 8.1.1.- Continue to review existing, or evolving, policy, legal and institutional frameworks to identify and promote those measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to identify and remove measures which discourage conservation and wise use.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to have identified at least 50 CPs to have reviewed policy and legal and institutional frameworks and sought to remove measures adversely affecting wetland conservation and wise use.

1. A review of positive and perverse incentive measures in relation to the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	RW : D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
2. Actions have been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	RW : D	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i>
3. Actions have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	RW : D	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the promotion and implementation of incentive measures and removal of perverse ones.]*

Flemish Region: Specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy that includes regulations for conservation, protection and wise use and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects. Wetlands are protected by law so that permissions for development activities with possible effect on wetland systems need an impact assessment and approval by the minister for environment & nature. Bufferzones along water courses and specific agri-environment measures stimulate wise use and protection of wetland ecosystems.

WALLOON REGION :

Une Convention d'étude visant à l'évaluation des mesures agri-environnementales de la Région wallonne est en cours. Suite à cela, un nouvel arrêté du Gouvernement wallon du 28 octobre 2004 prévoit des mesures d'incitations relatives notamment aux zones humides et à la qualité de l'eau : Maintien et entretien de mares ; bande de prairies extensive le long de cours d'eau ou de plan d'eau ; accès du bétail au cours d'eau limité aux zones d'abreuvement ; Pour les prairies à haute valeur biologique, subvention pour le maintenir si drainage et curage non effectués ; pour les bord des cours d'eau, subvention si fertilisants et phyto non utilisés.

La Région wallonne octroie des subventions aux Contrats de Rivières et aux Plans Communaux de

Développement de la Nature lorsqu'ils proposent des projets concrets relatifs aux zones humides.

Action r8.1.ii.- When reviewing agricultural policies, identify possible subsidies or incentives that may be having negative impacts, on water resources in general and on wetlands in particular, in the territory of a Contracting Party and/or elsewhere in the world consistent with their other international rights and obligations, and remove or replace them by incentives that would contribute to wetland conservation, ensuring that these activities and support measures should not support agricultural policies that are inconsistent with trade-related agreements. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular have been identified	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to remove or replace agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on agriculture subsidies and incentives and their impacts on water resources and wetlands.]

FL: some attempts are worked out at an ad hoc basis by VLM authorities

WALLOON REGION :

Un nouvel arrêté du Gouvernement wallon du 28 octobre 2004 prévoit des mesures d'incitations relatives notamment aux zones humides et à la qualité de l'eau : Maintien et entretien de mares ; bande de prairies extensive le long de cours d'eau ou de plan d'eau ; accès du bétail au cours d'eau limité aux zones d'abreuvement ; Pour les prairies à haute valeur biologique, subvention pour le maintenir si drainage et curage non effectués ; pour les bord des cours d'eau, subvention si fertilisants et phyto non utilisés.

Action r8.1.iii.- Review programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater in order to guarantee that those programmes do not lead to negative consequences for the conservation of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater have been reviewed in relation to the negative consequences that they may have on wetland conservation	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

See above

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ²

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.I. Integrate CEPA processes into all levels of policy development, planning and implementation of the Convention

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² The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		RW : continuer à intégrer la CESP relative aux zones humides dans les Contrats de rivières, dans les Plans Communaux de développement de la Nature, dans les plans de gestion des sites Natura 2000, les Parcs naturels.... FL : Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects. Communication programmes implemented through the Visitor Centers also include aspects on conservation and functions of wetlands.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.i.ii.- Integrate wetland CEPA into all relevant regional (where applicable), national, catchment and local wetland and other appropriate sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes, such as those for biodiversity conservation, water management, fisheries, poverty reduction, etc.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes

D

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Flemish Region: An extensive communication programme is included in the framework of the development of Nature Objectives Plans for Natura 2000 sites and of river catchment management plans.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ³

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.II. Demonstrate that CEPA processes are effective in achieving Ramsar's wetland wise use objectives at the global, national and local levels
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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

³ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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Action r9.ii.i.- Develop pilot projects to evaluate a range of approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands, in particular involving those who make a direct use of wetland resources

1. Pilot projects have been developed to evaluate different approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION:

Les Centres régionaux d'Initiation à l'Environnement (**CRIE**) assurent un service public d'information, de sensibilisation et de formation à l'environnement dans une perspective de développement durable. Les différents CRIE se répartissent sur tout le territoire wallon de manière à favoriser la proximité avec les citoyens. Les activités des CRIE s'adressent aux écoles, aux adultes : enseignants, animateurs, guides nature, agents ou gardes forestiers. Les promenades guidées, les expositions, les journées portes ouvertes ou les conférences offrent également des opportunités d'activités aux familles. Certains CRIE ont comme thème principal les zones humides (CRIE d'Harchies), le cycle de l'eau (CRIE de Spa et de Modave).

FL : The general communication and education programmes give attention to all aspects of environment and biodiversity, although for sites that include wetlands specific wetland issues form the main subject of those programmes. Visitors centres in Ramsar sites exist in Kalmthout and Blankaart and include activities of education and training. The Zwin centre is a private initiative. A Scheldt society with support from several sectors and stakeholders exists to increase awareness and recreational values along this river with respect to present nature and biodiversity. Exhibition centres take into account the wetland functions in the framework of the integrated water management, flood prevention plans, nature reserves etc. (input from Flemish Government and Natuurpunt society)

Action r9.ii.ii.- Review existing CEPA programmes and case studies and document the lessons learned regarding effective approaches from these experiences.

1. A review of existing CEPA programmes has been completed

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. Lessons learnt in implementing CEPA programmes have been documented

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on implementation of CEPA programmes and information available.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁴

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.III. Provide national leadership, networks and cohesive frameworks to support and catalyse CEPA for the wise use of wetlands

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⁴ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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PRIORITY:	FL:B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	FL: CEPA programmes on environment and biodiversity include aspects on wetlands	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.iii.i.- Contracting Parties (as requested by Resolution VII.9) are urged as a matter of priority to appoint suitably qualified persons to fulfil the roles of national government and non-government Focal Points for wetland CEPA, and to advise the Ramsar Bureau of the persons fulfilling these roles and their contact details.

1. A National Government Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>
2. A National NGO Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	C	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information about Government CEPA and NGO CEPA Focal Points].		

Action r9.iii.ii.- Establish a national *Wetland CEPA Task Force* (if no other mechanisms exist for this purpose), ensuring suitable stakeholder and NGO representation, to undertake a review of needs, skills, expertise and options, and to set priorities for the implementation of this programme of work.

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	C	<i>Choose an answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

Action r9.iii.iii.- Formulate, drawing upon the *Additional Guidance on reviewing and action planning for wetland communication, education and public awareness (CEPA)* developed for this purpose, a national (and, where appropriate, sub-national, catchment or local) action plan for wetland CEPA which incorporates the conclusions to emerge from Action r9.iii.ii above, and provide a copy of this to the Ramsar Convention Bureau so that it can be made available to other Parties and interested organizations and individuals. (The Additional Guidance document is available in hard copy from the Bureau and in html at http://ramsar.org/outreach_reviewsactionplansI.htm)

1. A National Action Plan for wetland CEPA has been developed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

Action r9.iii.iv.- Review and, where appropriate, integrate wetland CEPA into the business of national wetland, biodiversity, forestry, agriculture, irrigation, power generation, mining, tourism, and fisheries committees, and other relevant policy and planning committees where they exist.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into the business of sectoral policy and planning committees	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region

Aspects on CEPA for biodiversity in general (including on wetlands) are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects

Action r9.iii.v.- As part of undertaking actions r9.iii.ii, r9.iii.iii and r9.iii.iv, ensure that attention is given to the efficiency and effectiveness of communication and information-sharing systems between relevant government ministries, departments and agencies, and where necessary develop mechanisms to address any shortcomings.

1. Actions have been taken in relation to communication and information-sharing on wetland issues between relevant ministries, departments and agencies	FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region

Conservation issues are included in integrated river management though a long process of communication and cooperation between relevant administrations (notably environment department and public works, waterways and harbour authorities).

Action r9.iii.vi.- Collaborate globally and nationally to encourage synergy with the CEPA activities under other international conventions and programmes, including the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme*.

1. Actions have been taken to encourage synergies on CEPA activities among international conventions and programmes	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action r9.iii.vii.- Establish and maintain an on-line searchable listing of expertise in CEPA and of the CEPA Focal Points, one which can be accessed to assist CEPA activities at national and international levels, and promote this service to assist CEPA programmes and activities.

1. A roster (or equivalent tool) on wetland CEPA expertise in the country is available	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA)⁵

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.IV. Transfer, exchange and share CEPA information and expertise that promotes and results in the wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:		A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.iv.iii.- Continue to produce, distribute and share resource materials to support wetland CEPA actions

1. Materials to support wetland CEPA have been produced and distributed	D	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>WALLOON REGION : Ont été publiés : Une brochure et une affiche sur les oiseaux des zones humides ; Une brochure sur les Zones humides d'intérêt biologique (ZHIB) ; Une brochure explicative « tout savoir sur l'épuration des eaux en Région wallonne »</p> <p>FL : wetland issues and measures for protection are included in site specific information brochures, several chapters of the Nature Report report about wetlands and monitoring of conservation measures</p>		

Action r9.iv.iv.- Maintain, and seek to expand, the Ramsar global e-mail networks to include Ramsar Administrative Authorities, Ramsar national wetland CEPA Focal Points, CEPA professionals, Ramsar site managers, those facilities dedicated to environmental education and awareness raising, and local stakeholders. Establish and support similar national e-groups and the linking of these with the global network.

1. A national email network on wetland CEPA has been established	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Federal: The Belgian Biodiversity Platform includes an internet discussion forum on wetlands</p>		

⁵ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

Action r9.iv.v.- Promote and seek to resource the coordination of the *Wetland Link International* programme of the *Wildfowl & Wetland Trust*, UK, in order to allow it to assist wetland education centres to create a global network and national centres of excellence for promoting CEPA, and to facilitate information exchange between centres in developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are part of the Wetland Link International Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK <i>(if available, please include number of centres or facilities)</i>	C <i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are part of the Wetland Link International Programme, and any other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

Action r9.iv.vi.- Promote and seek to resource the twinning of wetland education centres to encourage the exchange and transfer of information and expertise between centres in developed countries and those in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are twinned with similar facilities in other countries <i>(if available, please include number of centres or facilities)</i>	C <i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are twinned with similar ones in other countries, and further comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁶

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.V. Improve the individual and collective capacity and opportunities of people to participate in and contribute to using wetlands wisely, through the recognition of the values of wetland resources

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PRIORITY:	A <i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	FL: Specific measures are listed in the relevant themes of the Environment & Nature Policy Plan, specific regulations are listed into the Decree for Integrated Water Policy that includes specific regulations for conservation, protection and monitoring of all wetland and river systems (not only Ramsar sites), including impact assessment and valuation, as well as into the Decree for Nature Conservation regarding Natura 2000 aspects – specific attention is also given to communication and awareness and to participatory approach
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	

⁶ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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Action r9.v.i.- Review the current national needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA, including in relation to the establishment and operations of wetland education centres (see Operational Objective r9.viii) and use this to define capacity-building priorities within the national wetland CEPA action plan (see Action r9.iii.iii)

1. A review of needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA has been completed

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r9.v.ii.- In collaboration with Ramsar's International Organization Partners, identify sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA in order to facilitate the sharing of expertise and knowledge at the local, national, regional and global levels.

1. Sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA have been identified

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r9.v.iii.- Seek resources through appropriate mechanisms to support the capacity building identified as priorities through Action r9.v.i, ensuring that key groups such as women and indigenous and rural communities are not overlooked.

1. Resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA have been sought

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2. Progress in obtaining resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA has been made

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the activities for resourcing capacity building in wetland CEPA.]

Action r9.v.iv.- Review formal educational curricula to ensure that they are incorporating information on the ecosystem services provided by wetlands, promoting the wise use principle, and recognizing the importance of CEPA in pursuing the objective of wise use.

1. A review of formal educational curricula in relation to wetland services and wise use has been carried out

C

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;

F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA)⁷

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VI. Foster sustained national campaigns, programmes and projects to raise community awareness of the important ecosystem services provided by wetlands as well as their social, economic and cultural values

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.vi.i.- Undertake national campaigns, programmes or projects to raise awareness, build community support, and promote stewardship approaches and attitudes towards wetlands.

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Federal: On the occasion of the disaster that occurred with the sinking of the car carrier TRICOLOR in French waters, MUMM, together with the Institute of Nature Conservation, published a brochure explaining the species and numbers of birds affected in this incident, and the reasons why even a relatively small oilspill can do so much damage in this area. The brochure was distributed to the public, but also actively to all relevant authorities and institutions.

In 2004 a public information centre was opened, in which – amongst others - the location and the natural values of, and the threats to the marine Ramsar site are demonstrated (Centre “De Nachtegaal”, located at De Panne).

FL: The communication and educational programmes included in the biodiversity and the ‘water’ themes include aspects on wetlands importance, functions and conservation

WALLOON REGION:

- Le site Ramsar de la Haute Sûre, le site Ramsar des Hautes-Fagnes, et le site Ramsar des Marais d'Harchies ainsi que certaines associations naturalistes ont menés des actions de sensibilisation aux ZH tout au long de l'année tant vers un public adulte que scolaire.
- Le projet 'Eautomobile' s'inscrit dans le projet global et commun de protection des ressources en eau du territoire transfrontalier du Parc Naturel de la Haute-Sûre (L) et du Parc Naturel Haute Sûre Forêt d'Anlier (B). Vu la préoccupation pour le bien précieux que représente l'eau, l'Eautomobile est appelé à sensibiliser les enfants dès le plus jeune âge à la protection de cette ressource naturelle. L'Eautomobile est une camionnette de terrain aménagée en laboratoire, comprenant un microscope, des loupes binoculaires, du matériel d'expérimentation, des livres de détermination, des jeux et brochures de sensibilisation, etc. Il dispose par ailleurs d'une installation photovoltaïque sur le toit afin de pouvoir alimenter en courant

⁷ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

électrique les outils sur le terrain. Au fil du projet l'équipement de l'Eautomobile sera complété et élargi. L'originalité de ce laboratoire ambulatoire est la possibilité d'organiser des activités pédagogiques sur le thème de l'eau à proximité immédiate d'une rivière, d'un étang, d'une zone humide, ... Grâce à cet outil, une éducation à l'environnement efficace peut être assurée par une combinaison idéale entre des activités ludiques, des expérimentations (p.ex. analyses d'eau) et des activités de découverte de la biodiversité inhérente aux écosystèmes aquatiques.

- Des actions ont également été menées dans le cadre des Plans communaux de développement de la Nature et des Contrats de Rivières (publication de bulletin d'information, animation, panneaux pédagogiques).
- Une campagne de sensibilisation à la migration des batraciens est menée chaque année;
- Une journée d'information sur Natura 2000 et les zones humides a été organisée par la Direction de la Nature.
- Le projet LIFE "Roselières du Bassin de la Haine" comporte un volet information et sensibilisation auprès des habitants de la région. L'Echo des marais "spécial Life" est publié, deux fois par an, à destination des acteurs ruraux.
- Le projet LIFE-NATURE "Moule perlière" vise aussi l'information et la sensibilisation des acteurs potentiels concernés pour mieux contrôler la qualité de l'eau et les nombreux autres facteurs susceptibles d'influencer la survie de l'espèce.

Action r9.vi.ii.- Celebrate *World Wetlands Day* with appropriate national and local events and promotions and the distribution of resource materials, in order to raise awareness of wetland values and functions

1. World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out	RW : B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]

WALLOON REGION: La Direction de la Nature du Ministère de la Région wallonne ainsi que le site Ramsar de la Haute Sûre et le Site Ramsar de Marais d'Harchies ont menés des actions de sensibilisation lors des Journées mondiales des ZH, mais également tout au long de l'année tant vers un public adulte que scolaire

FL : Distribution of information on Ramsar to relevant authorities (incl EU).

Action r9.vi.iii.- Collaborate with the media to inform decision-makers and the broader society about the values and benefits of wetlands.

1. Collaboration with the media has been systematically used to convey the wetland message	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: Occasional media contacts referring to wetlands.

Action r9.vi.iv.- Promote appropriate *Wetlands of International Importance* as 'demonstration sites' for Ramsar's wise use principle and ensure that they are suitably equipped in terms of capacity, signage, and interpretive materials.

1.- Actions have been taken to promote and equip Ramsar site(s) as demonstration sites for the wise use principle (if available, please include number of sites)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) equipped, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

FL: The visitor Centres located in areas with wetlands do have exhibitions and interpretative materials on wetland issues (joint effort of authorities and NGO's)

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁸

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VII. Support and develop mechanisms to ensure that CEPA processes are incorporated into participatory, multi-stakeholder wetland management

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.vii.iii.- Ensure that multi-stakeholder bodies are in place to guide and inform catchment/river basin and local wetland-related planning and management, and that these bodies include appropriate expertise in CEPA.
Belangrijk voor polderbestaan !

1. CEPA expertise has been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management tools

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region: CEPA actions are included in the process of the development of Nature Objectives Plans for Natura 2000 and of management plans for river catchment areas

Action r9.vii.v.- Where they do not already exist, introduce into site management plans the appropriate strategies and actions for complementary communication, education and public awareness

1.- CEPA strategies and actions have been incorporated into the management plans of Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)

RW :

E

FL: D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites
4**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

WALLOON REGION : En cours pour les nouveaux sites Ramsar.

FL : In some visitor centers at Ramsar sites (Zwin, Kalmthout, Blankaart, lower Scheldt).

⁸ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA)⁹

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VIII. Promote and support the role of wetland and other education centres as focal points for global, national and local CEPA efforts

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.viii.i.- Seek to establish education centres at Ramsar and other wetland sites to provide focal points for local and national CEPA activities.

1.- Education centres have been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)	RW : B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites Kalmthout Blankaart Zwin
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include information on the centres established and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
WALLOON REGION : Oui pour les sites Ramsar de la Haute Sûre, des Hautes-Fagnes, et des Marais d'Harchies.			
3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)		<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include information on the centres planned and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
WALLOON REGION: Les Centres régionaux d'Initiation à l'Environnement (CRIE) assurent un service public d'information, de sensibilisation et de formation à l'environnement dans une perspective de développement durable. Les différents CRIE se répartissent sur tout le territoire wallon de manière à favoriser la proximité avec les citoyens. Les activités des CRIE s'adressent aux écoles, aux adultes : enseignants, animateurs, guides nature, agents ou gardes forestiers. Les promenades guidées, les expositions, les journées portes ouvertes ou les conférences offrent également des opportunités d'activités aux familles. Certains CRIE ont comme thème principal les zones humides (CRIE d'Harchies), le cycle de l'eau (CRIE de Spa et de Modave). Dans ce cadre la Malle Ricochets a été développée. Elle permet d'aborder une série d'aspects liés à l'eau : caractéristiques physiques et biologiques, utilisation, circulation, pollution... Un classeur <i>méthodologie</i> présente la malle et permet la mise en place des sept phases de la progression pédagogique. Le classeur <i>ressources</i> contient			

⁹ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

des dizaines d'activités qui reflètent chacune des étapes du programme. *Le pays de l'eau* est un jeu qui peut constituer le fil conducteur du programme : en construisant un paysage évolutif, en y jouant tous les rôles possibles et en explorant leur environnement réel, les enfants sont invités à faire un voyage au bord de l'eau.

FL : see above

Action r9.viii.ii.- Where wetland education centres exist, review the information they present and ensure that it is serving to promote in suitable ways the *Ramsar Convention* and its wise use principle, and also that the centres are helping to foster communication and, where appropriate, participation, among the local wetland management 'actors' and stakeholders

1. The information provided at wetland education centres has been reviewed to ensure that it is in line with the Convention's principles and goals

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [*Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.*]

Action r9.viii.iv.- Seek to involve suitable places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens and related institutions) in national CEPA efforts; encourage the development of wetland-related interpretative exhibits and programmes at such venues, and facilitate linkages with wetland-based centres. (see also Operational Objective R9.v).

1.- Places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens, etc.) are involved in national CEPA efforts and activities (*if available, please include number of facilities*)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° facilities

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [*Please include information on the facilities involved in national CEPA efforts and activities, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.*]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.1. Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Handbook 7)

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW: A FL: C	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	RW: A FL: C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Rechercher de nouveaux sites Ramsar potentiels en vue de les inscrire sur la Liste des zones humides d'importance internationale. FL : scientific information has been compiled and reporting prepared for the proposal of 3 additional Ramsar sites, but not yet been approved on political level. A shadow list of 11 potential sites exists.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES		

(text answer):	
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 10.1.1.- Renew efforts to apply the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the Ramsar List* (Resolution VII.11) including, as a matter of priority the establishment of a strategy and priorities for the further designation of Ramsar sites so as to achieve, as soon as possible, the coherent national networks called for in the Vision for the List. (Resolution VIII.10).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Report on implementation progress to the Ramsar Bureau by 31 December 2003, with consolidated Bureau report circulated to all Parties by 31 March 2004. Each CP which has not designated a Ramsar site since accession to the Convention to have designated at least one new site. Designation of a further 55 million ha and 250 Ramsar sites, as progress towards global targets of 2500 sites and 250 million ha by 2010.

1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List

RW:
B
FL: F

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WALLOON REGION: 3 nouveaux sites ont été inscrits sur la Liste des sites Ramsar : la grotte des émotions, la vallée de la Haute-Sûre et les Hautes Fagnes, à savoir respectivement une cavité souterraine, un cours d'eau transfrontalier et une zone tourbeuse.

FL : the process of designating 3 new sites did not receive the required (political) support yet.

Action r10.1.i.- Identify all wetlands which potentially qualify for designation as Ramsar sites, as a concrete output of the strategy and priorities called for in Action 10.1.1, establish targets for future designation in terms of number of sites to be designated, and communicate these targets to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to the Ramsar Bureau. (Resolution VIII.10)

See action 1.1.2

1. All potential Ramsar sites have been identified and targets for future designations have been defined.

RW:
C
FL:
D

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

See above.

Action r10.1.ii.- Use the appropriate 1% thresholds contained in *Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition* in identifying and designating *Wetlands of International Importance* under Criterion 6 of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Resolution VIII.11). (Resolution VIII.38)

1.- The appropriate 1% thresholds contained in *Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition* have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 (*if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6*)

RW:
C
FL: D

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N°
Ramsar
sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and any other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]

Federal:

The 1% threshold, with reference to the Ramsar Convention, and as in the 3rd edition of Waterbird Population Estimates, was used for the identification of important areas for birds in the marine areas under Belgian jurisdiction. This document, published jointly by MUMM and the Institute of Nature Conservation, was prepared with the aim of providing a basis for the implementation of the European Birds Directive in the marine waters under Belgian jurisdiction.

Action 10.1.2.- In undertaking Action 10.1.1, give priority attention to the designation sites for each representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory of a Contracting Party, as well as to wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List, including, inter alia, karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, salt marshes, tidal flats, peatlands, wet grasslands, temporary pools, arid-zone wetlands and mountain wetlands (Resolution VIII.12), and in so doing apply the guidelines so far approved by the COP to assist in the designation of some of these wetland types (Resolutions VIII.11 and VIII.33), and report on progress to COP9.

See action 1.1.2

1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

RW:
B
FL:
C

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =
Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N°
Ramsar
sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]

WALLOON REGION:

Site Ramsar des Hautes Fagnes: Les milieux tourbeux ne couvrent que 0.3 % du territoire wallon. Il s'agit donc de milieux très rares, de surcroît extrêmement intéressants (faune, flore). C'est dans les Hautes-Fagnes que se situe le plus grand massif tourbeux du pays (3750 ha). Les divers milieux tourbeux présents dans les Hautes-Fagnes abritent une flore et une faune particulièrement rares, parmi lesquels le tétras lyre (*Tetrao tetrix*), dont il s'agit de la dernière population viable de Belgique.

Site Ramsar de la vallée de la Haute-Sûre : Il faut noter que les richesses floristique et faunistique de certains sites sont assez exceptionnelles. Notamment plusieurs d'entre eux abritent une imbrication complexe de zones humides, forestières, rurales,... Dans la zone alluviale on trouve des mosaïques de milieux qui comprennent des jonchaies, des magnocariçaies, des suintements et sources des zones tourbeuses, des roselières, des aulnaies et saulaies,...La loutre est présente dans le périmètre Ramsar mais cette petite population est évidemment fragile.

FL : see action 10.1.1.

3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

RW:
B
FL:
C

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N°
Ramsar
sites

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]

WALLOON REGION : 3 nouveaux sites ont été inscrits sur la Liste des sites Ramsar : la grotte des émotions, la vallée de la Haute-Sûre et les Hautes Fagnes, à savoir respectivement une cavité souterraine, un cours d'eau transfrontalier et une zone tourbeuse.

FL : One proposed new site includes large wet grassland complexes in the coastal polders.

Action 10.1.3.- Give priority to the designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites, as a contribution to the WSSD target of establishing representative networks of marine protected areas by 2012.¹⁰

See action 1.1.2

1.- Designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).	RW: C Fed: E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			

Action 10.1.4.- In addition to the priority established in 10.1.2, also assign priority to the designation as Ramsar sites of wetlands hosting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic to the territory of a Contracting Party or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species.

See action 1.1.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites supporting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic, or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species, has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).	FL: F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
FL: Designation of coastal polder area hosting up to 90 % of <i>Svalbard pinkfooted geese</i> was planned (these sites are largely covered by the NATURA 2000 designation).			

Action r10.1.iv.- Collaborate in the identification and designation as Ramsar sites of national and international site networks for migratory species, including migratory waterbirds, as a contribution to other initiatives under related international and regional environmental conventions and programmes, including, *inter alia*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements such as the *African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement (AEWA)*, and other existing arrangements such as the *North American Waterfowl Management Plan*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*. (Resolution VIII.10)

See action 12.2.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that form part of networks for migratory species has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).	RW: B FL: F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
WALLOON REGION : Les sites « vallée de la Haute-Sûre » et « les « Hautes-Fagnes » pour les espèces suivantes: la Cigogne noire (<i>Ciconia nigra</i>), la Bondrée apivore (<i>Pernis apivorus</i>), le Milan royal (<i>Milvus milvus</i>), la Pie-grièche écorcheur (<i>Lanius collurio</i>), ainsi que pour l'avifaune migratrice : le Milan noir (<i>Milvus migrans</i>), le Faucon hobereau (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>), le Torcol fourmilier (<i>Jynx torquilla</i>), l'Alouette lulu (<i>Lullula arborea</i>),...: plusieurs espèces remarquables s'arrêtent ou hivernent assez régulièrement: Balbuzard pêcheur (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), Busard des roseaux (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>), Faucon émerillon (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), Grue cendrée (<i>Grus grus</i>), Bécassine sourde (<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>), Chevalier culblanc (<i>Tringa ochropus</i>), Courlis cendré (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), Sizerin flammé (<i>Carduelis flammae flammae</i>).			

¹⁰ In line with Articles 1.1 and 2.1 of the Convention, which include as Ramsar wetlands areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres, and indicates that Ramsar sites may "incorporate islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands."

FL : the network function of existing and proposed Ramsar sites for waterbirds was a key criterion

Action 10.1.5.- Designate, as a priority, those eligible sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, as the basis for accelerating the establishment of such regimes, and ensure that this is done soon after designation.

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	RW : C FL: F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

FL: No progress in designation of 3 new sites, 2 of which having limited protection status only.

Action 10.1.6.- Consistent with the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), designate the national area of transboundary wetlands as a Ramsar site and invite the concerned neighboring country(ies) to do likewise, with a view to establishing a harmonized management regime for the entire wetland.

1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of the national area of transboundary wetlands has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	RW: B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =</i> <i>Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 2
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

WALLOON REGION : Le site de la Vallée de la Haute-Sûre est transfrontalier ; en effet, il est situé sur le territoire du Royaume de Belgique et du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.

FL : Tidal marches along lower Scheldt river are transboundary with Saaftinge site in the Netherlands.

Action r10.1.v.- Identify additional high Andean wetlands for inclusion in the *List of Wetlands of International Importance*. (Resolution VIII.39)

1.- High Andean wetlands have been designated as Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i> .	A 	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being</i> <i>planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

Action r10.1.xi.- Develop, for consideration by COP9, additional Criteria and guidelines for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites concerning their socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity, as listed in Annex 1 of the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, which would be applied on each occasion in conjunction with one or more existing Criteria for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites; and include in this work a full analysis of the implications for Contracting Parties of the implementation of such Criteria for the management of Ramsar sites, including Contracting Party obligations and responsibilities for maintaining the ecological character of any sites so selected in order to ensure that the coherent national networks of Ramsar sites fully incorporate all relevant aspects of the biological diversity of wetlands. (Resolution VIII10)

1. The Party has contributed to the elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r10.1.xviii.- [The STRP has been asked to] review . . . the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, including their use by aquatic and other water-dependent biota, and prepare guidance for Contracting Parties concerning the identification and designation of such wetlands for the Ramsar List, taking into account the experience gained by Parties that have already done so. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. The Party's experience with the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, and lessons learned, have been communicated to the STRP for inclusion in its review	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 10.1.8.- Continue to support the work of *Wetlands International* and others in the updating for each COP of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations for the application of Criterion 6 for Ramsar site designation, having first undertaken international scientific consultation on its contents; seek to provide such population information for other wetland-dependent taxa; and apply this information for the designation of Ramsar sites. (Refer also to Operational Objective 12.2.)

1. Contributions have been made to the updating of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contributions made.]</i>		
Annual overviews of monthly winter counts of waterbirds are available and contribute to Wetlands Intl. updating of population levels at flyway basis		
3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information provided.]</i>		

Action r10.1.xxi.- Assist *Wetlands International* and *BirdLife International* through the continued collection and supply of population data on waterbirds, including globally threatened species and those species identified by *BirdLife International* in *Threatened Birds of the World* as being data deficient. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<u>Choose an answer for each indicator</u>
2. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data		H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]*

See 10.1.8

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.2. Maintain the Ramsar Sites Database and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW: A FL: B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	RW: B FL: B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Veiller à ce que les sites Ramsar existant gardent leurs caractéristiques écologiques. FL : wetlands are protected by law, protection schemes are included in the Decree for Water Policy and in the Decree of Nature Conservation for Natura 2000 sites, monitoring activities also include monitoring of wetlands and wetland species	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 10.2.2.- Ensure that the social and cultural values and features of listed sites are fully recognized in the descriptions of Ramsar sites in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*, as the basis for their incorporation in site management planning.

1. Special care has been taken to include the social and cultural values and features in the 'Information Sheets on Ramsar Wetlands' submitted for inclusion in the Ramsar Database

RW:
B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

WALLOON REGION : ces rubriques ont été complétées pour les fiches des 3 nouveaux sites Ramsar .

FL : to be reviewed

Action 10.2.3.- Submit missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites as a matter of utmost urgency, and also ensure that all previously submitted site descriptions are in the format of the approved *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

1. All missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau

RW :
B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

FL: to be updated for some sites

Action 10.2.4.- Fully update and submit revised *Ramsar Information Sheets* as frequently as necessary to record changes in the status of sites, and at least at intervals of not more than six years, so that they can be used for reviewing change in ecological character and progress in achieving the Vision and Objectives of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Handbook 7) at each COP.

1. All required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau

RW:
B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

FL: continuous updating needed as some Ramsar sites stay under permanent external pressure

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.1. Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	RW : B FL: B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	RW : B FL: C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Finaliser les plans de gestion pour tous les sites Ramsar. FL : Nature Objectives Plans for Natura 2000 do include issues on the Ramsar sites located within these designated areas, as well as the management plans for river catchment areas	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 11.1.1.- Consistent with Article 3.1 of the Convention, define and apply the measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, using as the basis for this the official definitions of “ecological character” and “change in ecological character” adopted by Resolution VII.10 and the integrated package of Convention tools for site management as presented in Ramsar Handbook 8 as well as the supplementary guidance adopted by COP8, and ensure that this information is included in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

1.- The measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined and applied *(if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied)*.

D
RW :
B;E

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N°
Ramsar
sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of sites involved and any additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]*

Flemish Region

In the framework of developments in the Schelde estuary, in the IJzer estuary and in the Grensmaas river

basin nature objectives with respect to Natura 2000 and overall management plans are being developed .
For the transboundary nature reserve Kalmthout-De Zoom an overall integrated site management plan has been developed and is being carried out.

The Schelde Development Scheme 2010 has been developed in a transboundary cooperation with the Netherlands and can be consulted on the website of *ProSes*.

For all river basins specific management plans are being developed in implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. Specific problems on water table management still exist for Blankaart and IJzer valley?

WALLOON REGION : Un plan de gestion est en cours d'élaboration pour le site Ramsar de la Vallée de la Haute-Sûre ; il existe des plans de gestion pour le site des marais d'Harchies, pour le site de la Grotte des Emotions, et pour une partie du site des Hautes-Fagnes.

Action 11.1.2.- Apply the Convention's *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) to develop management plans or strategies for all Ramsar sites.

1. The *New Guidelines for management planning* have been used in the development of management plans or strategies

RW :
B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]

RW : Ces lignes directrices sont utilisée pour le plan de gestion du site de la vallée de la Haute-Sûre.

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES

N° Ramsar sites

3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place

RW : 3

4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied

RW : 3

5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared

RW : 1

6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated

7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites whose management plans fall under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant.]

FL: Formal Nature Objective Plans are in preparation

Action r11.1.i.- When reviewing and updating existing management plans, recognize that other management planning processes exist, especially where other designations apply to the same areas that are listed as Ramsar sites, and that these may be valid alternatives for delivering management planning where such approaches adequately and fully implement clearly stated conservation objectives to ensure the conservation and wise use of these wetlands. (Resolution VIII.14)

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES (CONT.)

N° Ramsar sites

1.- Ramsar sites in which management plans developed under other processes (e.g., Biosphere Reserves) are being applied

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]

See above

Action r11.1.ii.- Utilize all the available Ramsar tools and guidance to assist in management planning processes, including *inter alia* the description and maintenance of ecological character and designing a monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1); the wetland risk assessment and indicators (Resolution VII.10); the guidance on impact assessment (Resolution VIII.9) and on wetland restoration, including identification of sites appropriate for restoration (Resolution VIII.16); and, where appropriate, the *Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands* (Resolution VIII.17). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The full array of Ramsar tools and guidance have been used in the development or updating of management plans for wetland sites	RW : B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
WALLOON REGION : Oui pour les nouveaux sites Ramsar.		

Action r11.1.iii.- Take note of the emphasis in the *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) on ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders in all stages of the management planning process, and utilize the guidelines adopted by Resolution VII.8 on *Establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook no. 5) and the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* annexed to Resolution VIII.19 to assist in this process. (Resolution VIII.14)

1. All stakeholders have been fully involved in the management planning processes	RW : B FL: F	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Flemish Region</p> <p>Relevant administrations, private sectors such as farmers, port authorities, gravel and sand extraction companies, research institutes and universities and research companies are involved in the planning, EIA, and implementation aspects. With reference to water supply, water storage and water effluent purification the relevant water companies are directly involved.</p> <p>For the development of the Natura Objectives Plans for the sites of the Flemish Ecological Network and of Natura 2000 many of which include wetlands, the site relevant administrations and private sectors are involved through formal consultation processes as well as communication and workshop procedures. As an informative basis all actual land uses are compiled and an overview is made of all actors and other stakeholders active in the project site.</p> <p>WALLOON REGION : Oui pour les nouveaux sites Ramsar.</p>		

Action r11.1.iv.- Take into account, when planning the management of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, the wider management implications of activities within river basins and other catchments, which duly acknowledge the need for appropriate implementation of agricultural practices (Resolution VIII.34), applying Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook no. 4), and the guidance adopted by COP8 on integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4) and on the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The wider management implications (e.g., agricultural practices, river basin management, coastal zone management) have been taken into account in preparing the management plans for Ramsar sites	RW : B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
See above		

Action r11.1.v.- Include in each management plan for a Ramsar site an objective of maintenance of the ecological character of the site so as to provide a basis for implementation of Article 3.1 of the Convention, in recognition that this greatly facilitates the identification, reporting and resolution of changes in ecological character (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2). (Resolution VIII.8)

1.- Measures to maintain ecological character have been incorporated into the site management plans (if available, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			

Action r11.1.vi.- Manage wetlands so as to increase their resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events, and reduce the risk of flooding and drought in vulnerable countries by, *inter alia*, promoting wetland and watershed protection and restoration (refer also to Operational Objective 4.1). (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The need to increase wetland resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events has been taken into account in management planning		<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r11.1.vii.- Apply waterbird monitoring data, and analyses drawn from them, when appropriate, as a means of providing objective information for site management planning and the evaluation of national or regional wetland policies. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Waterbird data and analysis derived from them have been used in management planning	RW : B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Federal: Monitoring data, gathered by the Institute of Nature Conservation, have been used for a scientific report (2004) on the identification of important areas for birds in the marine areas under Belgian jurisdiction. This document, published jointly by MUMM and the Institute of Nature Conservation, was prepared with the aim of providing a basis for the implementation of the European Birds Directive in the marine waters under Belgian jurisdiction</p> <p>Flemish Region: Site specific characteristics and monitoring data are being used as a basis to formulate the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 and Ramsar sites</p>		

Action r11.1.x.- With the support of Contracting Parties and IOPs, the Ramsar Bureau should identify agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites, and contribute this information to the preparation of the guidelines as requested in Action r11.1.ix and share this information with the secretariats of CBD and the *Convention to Combat Desertification* (CCD). (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Assistance has been provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action r11.1.xii.- Identify examples of effective management and exemplary models at Ramsar sites and other wetlands for listing on the *San José Record* and submit nominations for consideration through the approved procedure, once established. (Resolution VIII.15)

1.- Best-practice examples of effective management of Ramsar sites have been identified for possible nomination to the *San José Record* *(if applicable, please include number of sites)*

C

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress;
F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of Ramsar sites identified and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action 11.1.4.- Promote, as necessary, the establishment and implementation of zoning measures for larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves, and other wetlands (Recommendation 5.3 and Resolution VIII.14) and strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3).

1.- Zoning measures have been established for larger Ramsar sites *(if available, please include number of sites)*

C

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]*

Federal

The competent federal authorities are in the process of establishing a spatial planning for the marine waters under Belgian jurisdiction. The designation of an area as Ramsar site will be taken in account in this planning proces.

3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity *(if available, please include number of sites)*

B

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

**N°
Ramsar
sites
4**

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with strict protection measures, and any additional comments you may consider relevant.]*

WALLOON REGION : c'est le cas pour le site de la Grotte des Emotions.

FL : Wetlands are protected by law. Ramsar sites located in nature reserves are strictly protected, for the sites located in Natura 2000 receive specific attention for the development of the site's conservation measures. Most of these sites are to be considered as being 'small' !

Action 11.1.5.- Consider as a matter of priority the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, involving relevant government agencies, local community representatives, and other stakeholders, including the business sector.

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B;F	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	FL: 3
2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B;F		2
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action r11.1.xiv.- Give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale; and give priority to projects addressing these issues in the future operation of the *Small Grants Fund*. (Resolution VIII.10)

1. Actions have been taken to develop coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management as a tool for combating poverty	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 11.1.6.- Continue to give high priority in the *Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund* to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.

1. Project proposals to support management planning of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r11.1.xv.- Take into account the *General guidance for interpreting “urgent national interest” under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention* (Resolution VIII.20) when invoking the right under Article 2.5 and considering compensation in those cases where the boundaries of sites included in the Ramsar List are restricted or a Ramsar site is deleted from the List. (Resolution VIII.20)

1.- Article 2.5 of the Convention has been invoked to reduce the area of Ramsar sites and/or to delete sites from the List, and Article 4.2 (compensation) has been applied <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	RW : C FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
FL: In 1987 a reduction in size of the Galgeschoor tital marsh (30 ha) was compensated by enlarging the Blankaart lake site to the surrounding valley of the IJzer river (> 2000ha). The development of harbours in Antwerp and Zeebrugge will require the restoration of wetland habitat outside the harbour complexes (in the framework of NATURA 2000)			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.2. Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Bureau without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	RW : Continuer à surveiller les caractéristiques écologiques des sites Ramsar existants.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	FL: Ramsar sites are included in overall monitoring (no specific programs).	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 11.2.1.- Establish for each Ramsar site an effective monitoring programme, ideally as part of the site management plan, which is designed to detect and provide early warning of changes in ecological character. In so doing, use the Convention's framework for designing an effective monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1) and its *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10) (Ramsar Handbook 8).

			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Monitoring programmes have been established at Ramsar sites (<i>if available, please include number of sites</i>)	RW: B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	RW: 4 Fl: 3 Fed: 1
2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan (<i>if available, please include number of sites</i>)	RW : B FL: D		idem
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites falling under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant about monitoring programmes.]			
Monitoring of Ramsar sites is included in Natura 2000 network objectives. The gradual widening of the scope of Ramsar from waterbirds to the ecology and sustainable use of Ramsar in general, has thus far been implemented insufficiently in the monitoring programmes. As a consequence, the data with regard to Ramsar sites still have a dominant focus on waterbirds. Other ecological aspects, including wise use, deserve increased attention in the future. Cultural aspects are mentioned where appropriate.			

Action 11.2.2.- Ensure that sites on the Ramsar List are used as baseline and reference areas for national, supranational/regional, and international environmental monitoring to detect trends in the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the processes of desertification (Objective 4.1 of the Objectives for the List (Resolution VII.11), and report on status and trends to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

1.- Ramsar sites are used as baseline and reference areas for national environmental monitoring (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	RW: D	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

3.- Status and trends on the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the process of desertification *[Please include a summary of the cited issues and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]*

FL: See status of Nature Report 2003 and 2005 (Natuurrapport, edt. Institute of Nature Conservation, Brussels).

Action 11.2.3.- Ensure that at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character may occur as a result of proposed developments or changes in territorial and/or water use which have potential to affect them, an impact assessment is carried out which considers the full range of environmental, social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau, in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned.

See action 2.2.3

1. Proposed developments that may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been subject to EIAs, and the results communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

See under action 2.1.3 and 2.2.3

Action r11.2.iv.- Put in place, as a matter of high priority in fulfillment of 3.2 of the Convention, mechanisms in order to be informed at the earliest possible time, including through reports by national authorities and local and indigenous communities and NGOs, if the ecological character of any wetland included in the Ramsar List has changed, is changing or is likely to change. (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Mechanisms have been established to collect information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites in accordance with Article 3.2

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

See under "Monitoring"

Action 11.2.4.- In fulfillment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites "where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur" in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	RW: C FL: B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites FL: 1 (Blanka art: Ijzer)
2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	RW: C FL: B		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	RW: C FL: B		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]</i>			
FL: Improvement of water level management in IJzer valley was subject to recent plans; but not yet in force.			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]</i>			
FL: See above: Montreux record unchanged for 1 or 2 sites.			

Action r11.2.vi.- Utilize all appropriate mechanisms to address and resolve as soon as practicable the matters for which a site may have been the subject of a report pursuant to Article 3.2; and once those matters have been resolved, submit a further report, so that both positive influences at sites and changes in ecological character may be fully reflected in reporting under Article 3.2 and in the reporting to all meetings of the COP in order to establish a clear picture of the status and trends of the Ramsar site network at three-year intervals (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Actions have been taken to address the problems that have originated a report to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	RW: A FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the actions taken.]</i>		
FL: No improvement since earlier COP's where problems were mentioned in National Reports.		

Action 11.2.5.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record* request a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* of independent experts, where appropriate, to review the problems affecting the site and offer recommendations for remedial actions.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: For all sites on the *Montreux Record*, and which have not been subject to a *Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM)*, CPs to request such a Mission prior to COP9.

1.- Ramsar Advisory Missions have been requested to review the problems at Ramsar sites included in the Montreux Record, if any <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	RW : A FL: C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action 11.2.6.- Where a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* has been completed for a *Montreux Record* site, take all necessary steps to implement the recommendations, and report at regular intervals to the Bureau on the results of these actions. At the appropriate time, seek the removal of the site from the *Montreux Record*, having provided the Bureau and STRP with details of the site condition using the approved questionnaire (Ramsar Handbook 7).

<i>(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)</i>			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, comments on RAM missions, results of the actions taken, including possible removal of sites from Montreux Record.]</i>			
FL: No amelioration of external threats for IJzer valley, so status as Montreux record site unchanged. Concrete plans and proposals exist but are not yet applied in the field.			

Action r11.2.viii.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record*, regularly provide the Ramsar Bureau with an update on progress on taking action to address the issues for which these Ramsar sites were listed on the Record, including reporting fully on these matters in National Reports to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Resolution VIII.8)

			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	RW : A FL: B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Actions taken to address issues at Montreux Record Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	RW : A FL: C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]</i>			
FL: IJzer valley and Blankaart lake: see above.			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.1. Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Continuer la coopération avec les pays voisins en vue de la gestion des cours d'eau par bassin hydrographique. Poursuivre la participation aux Commissions internationales pour la protection de la Meuse et de l'Escaut, Kalmthout, Grensmaas, Zwin.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 12.1.1.- Identify all wetland systems in each Contracting Party shared with other Parties and with non-parties and promote cooperation in their management with the adjoining jurisdiction(s), applying, where appropriate, the *Guidelines on integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook 4, Section A1 of the Guidelines), and the *Principles and Guidelines for integrating wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)* (Resolution VIII.4).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have identified their transboundary wetlands. 50% of CPs to have identified cooperative management mechanisms.

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands/ wetland systems FL: 4 RW: 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
FL: Tidal Scheldt river system; Kalmthout – Zoompark Transboundry system, Grensmaas (not Ramsar) and Zwin.			

Action 12.1.2.- Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions. (Section A2 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: 50% of CPs with shared basins and coastal systems to be part of joint management commissions or authorities.

1. Cooperative management of shared wetland systems has progressed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
Flemish Region In preparation for the Schelde and for the Grensmaas (see under obj 11) – being planned for the Zwin area. Kalmthout-Zoompark existing transboundary input commission.			
WALLOON REGION : Afin de faciliter la mise en œuvre homogène de la Directive Cadre sur l'eau pour le district géographique international de l'Escaut, un projet a été lancé entre la France, les Pays-bas et la Belgique (projet SCALDIT). Le décret portant assentiment au protocole à la Convention sur la protection et l'utilisation de cours d'eau transfrontière et des lacs internationaux, relatifs à l'eau et à la santé (Londres 1999) a été publié au Moniteur belge le 8 décembre 2003. Les décrets portant assentiment aux Accords internationaux sur l'Escaut et sur la Meuse ont été publiés au Moniteur belge le 8 décembre 2003.			

Action r12.1.i.- Cooperatively apply the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1) within the context of the management of water allocations in shared hydrological systems, making use of the Ramsar *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Convention* (Resolution VII.19).

1. The guidelines for allocation and management of water have been applied in the context of shared water systems		<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

FL: Kalmthout

Action 12.1.3.- Where appropriate, engage in joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries that share wetlands, international river basins, or coastal systems, taking note, where applicable, of the terms of the *Esppo Convention on impact assessment* in a European transboundary context.

See action 2.2.3

1. Joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region

Has been carried out for the Schelde estuary and for the Grensmaas river, mainly with respect to art 6 of the EU Habitats Directive; restoration plans exist for the transboundary Zwin reserve in the framework of the Scheldt Agreement between the Netherlands and Belgium (Flanders)

Action 12.1.4.- Ensure enhanced accessibility to information, analyses, good practice examples, and experience-sharing on integrating wetlands and biodiversity into integrated river basin management, including through the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *River Basin Initiative* fully operational.

1. Actions have been taken to ensure accessibility of information, analysis, good practice examples, etc., on integrating wetlands and biodiversity issues into river basin management

D
Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

FL: ad hoc examples exist, to be completed

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.2. Promote cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A/B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>Continuer la coopération avec les pays voisins en vue de la gestion des cours d'eau par bassin hydrographique. Poursuivre la participation aux Commissions internationales pour la protection de la Meuse et de Schelde, Grensmaas, Zwin, Kalmthout.</p> <p>Poursuivre les travaux relatifs à al réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 12.2.1.- Identify and designate as Ramsar sites all wetlands which satisfy the relevant Ramsar Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species, giving priority in the first instance to waterbirds, fish, and marine turtles, especially those that are globally threatened. (Section B1 of the Guidelines)

1.- Wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites designated)

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

FL: A shadow list of 12 potential Ramsar sites based on waterbirds 1 % criterion exists.

Action 12.2.2.- Continue to promote and support the development of further regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species, as exemplified by the *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)*, the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and others. (Sections B2 and B4 of the Guidelines)

See action r10.1.iv

1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

FL: The Natura 2000 network and Flemish ecological network include Ramsar sites and other wetlands of international importance for waterbirds.

WALLOON REGION :

Les travaux relatifs à la réhabilitation du saumon atlantique dans le bassin de la Meuse ont été poursuivis.

Action 12.2.5.- Ensure that national hunting legislation is consistent with the wise use principle for migratory waterbird and other wetland-dependent species, taking into account geographical range, life-history characteristics of species, and research on sustainable harvesting.

1. National hunting legislation is consistent with wise use principle for wetland-dependent species, including waterbirds

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Strict regulations are still maintained in both regions (hunting is regional competence); **no hunting in Brussels region.**

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.3. Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.3.2.- Encourage development of regional arrangements under the Convention similar to *MedWet*, where appropriate, applying the *Guidance for the development of regional initiatives in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands* (Resolution VIII.30) for example in the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, the Caribbean, South America and the Altaj-Sayansky region.

1. Party has been involved in the development of a regional initiative in the framework of the Convention	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS
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OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13.1. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Au niveau Européen : Continuer à participer aux réunions des Directeurs de l'Eau ; Poursuivre les travaux des Commissions Escaut-Meuse-Grensmaas-Zwin-Kalmthout. Au niveau international : poursuivre la participation aux rapport et positions belges dans le domaine de l'eau et des zones humides (Convention OSPAR, Helsinki cours d'eau, Convention Biodiversité et son programme de travail sur les eaux intérieures, CMS).	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 13.1.1.- Continue to strengthen cooperation and synergy with the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements, the *World Heritage Convention*, and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, in particular through the vehicles of Joint Work Plans and collaboration among the respective subsidiary scientific bodies of the conventions and the secretariats, and at national level among the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and Focal Points of the different MEAs.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: 3rd CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan fully implemented. CMS/AEWA Joint Work Plan in place and being implemented. Joint activities developed with UNCCD and UNFCCC, including through participation in the Joint Liaison Group with UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD.

See action 18.1.1

1. Mechanisms are in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]

WALLOON REGION: Un sous groupe appelé **Groupe Nature** au sein du Comité de Coordination de la Politique Internationale de l'Environnement (CCPIE) est en place et se réunit régulièrement. Il a pour mission d'examiner l'échéancier des activités, rapports... liés aux Accords, Conventions, et Directives internationaux spécifiques à la Nature, mais également les aspects conservation de la nature des autres Conventions ou Directives. Il a également pour mission de coordonner la position des entités fédérées et du fédéral sur la scène internationale; à la demande, il rend des avis.

FL & Fed.: Idem + subgroup biodiversity of the CCPIE

Action r13.1.iii.- Make renewed efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, including through ensuring their participation in National Ramsar Committees, so as to foster synergies and harmonization. (Resolution VIII.5)

See action 18.1.2

1. Amongst other efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, focal points of other MEAs have been encouraged to participate in the National Ramsar / Wetland Committee

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]

Action 13.1.2.- Maintain and, where appropriate, seek opportunities to further promote cooperation with UNESCO, in particular its *Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)*, especially as regards wetlands within *Biosphere Reserves*, and in the area of the development of curricula to integrate wetland issues.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the National Committees and contacts of UNESCO MAB Programme

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]

Action 13.1.3.- Give priority to the implementation of the Memoranda of Cooperation or Understanding with the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)*, the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Mediterranean Sea (Barcelona Convention)*, the *Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea*, other regional seas conventions, and the *Danube River Protection Convention*, and seek to establish similar cooperative arrangements with other regional instruments, such as the *Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of the applicable regional seas conventions

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]

Federal: Belgium is a party to the OSPAR Convention. See also action 13.1.1

Action 13.1.5.- Develop closer working relationships with appropriate regional bodies or programmes which have an interest in wetland conservation and wise use, including the *Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)*, the *Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)*, the *European Union (EU)*, the *Council of Europe*, the *Southern African Development Community (SADC)*, the *African Union (AU)*, and the *Organization of American States (OAS)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and regional bodies or programmes which have interest in wetland conservation and wise use

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the mechanisms in place.]

Collaboration at EU level exists for CBD, CMS, EU directives atc. (see also 13.1.1).

Action 13.1.6.- Support and contribute to the development and implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement Africa's Wetland Management Strategy under the Environmental Initiative of *NEPAD, the New Partnership for Africa's Development*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: NEPAD's Action Plan to have fully incorporated Ramsar issues and mechanisms, and being implemented by relevant CPs, in lines with WSSD targets.

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 13.1.7.- Continue to contribute, through the application of Ramsar tools and mechanisms, to the implementation of the *Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Review of Ramsar's contribution to the *Barbados Programme of Action*, as a contribution to the WSSD target.

1. The Party has participated in wetland-related activities within the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action 13.1.8.- Continue the development and implementation of joint work plans under the Memorandum of Cooperation between the *Ramsar Convention* and the *South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)*

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the Ramsar/SPREP Joint Work Plan

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action r13.1.vi.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *UNEP Guidelines on Enhancing Compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and on National Enforcement, and International Cooperation in Combating Violations, of Laws Implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements* in enhancing and supporting compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, including the *Ramsar Convention*. (Resolution VIII.24)

1. The Party has made use of the UNEP guidelines in relation to Ramsar

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14.1. Promote the sharing of expertise and information

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 14.1.1.- Using mechanisms such as the national focal points for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) and for the STRP, promote the sharing of knowledge (traditional, indigenous, and more recently derived technologies and methods) at the global, regional, and national levels. (Section D1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to share knowledge at the global and/or regional and/or national level

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Cooperation with national CBD -Clearing House Mechanism at focal point, publications on biodiversity, etc.

Action 14.1.2.- Recognize training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention and provide access to such training, especially for wetland managers, and wetland educators and those others responsible for implementing the Convention, from other countries that would benefit from these opportunities. (Sections D2 and D3 of the Guidelines).

1. The Party has engaged in international cooperation activities related to training on wetland issues	RW: B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
WALLOON REGION : Projet LUTANUIS (Coopération transfrontalière de lutte contre les nuisibles : rats musqués) : Renforcement, optimisation de la lutte et sensibilisation de la population transfrontalière. At regional level.		

Action 14.1.3.- Develop twinning and/or networks of transboundary wetlands and wetlands sharing common features, as an important mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing training opportunities.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 75 twinning arrangements to be in place and reported to the Bureau for Web publicity on the Ramsar Web site.

1.- Networks among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]			
See 14.1.2.			
3.- Twinning arrangements among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training (if applicable, please include number of sites involved)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]			

Action 14.1.4.- Further review and develop Internet-based resource kits and knowledge and information sharing, including the *Convention's Wetland Expert Database*, on topics including impact assessment, incentives, management planning, river basin management, participation, education and public awareness, and Ramsar sites.

1. Internet-based resource kits for knowledge and information sharing on wetland issues have been developed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r14.1.i.- Share information and experiences on the management, conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems similar to those of the high Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Actions have been taken to share information and experiences on wetlands in mountain ecosystems	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.1. Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A/B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.1.1.- Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies in order to assist developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. (Based on Section E1 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Each CP with a bilateral donor agency to have encouraged it to give priority for funding for wetland conservation and wise use projects in relation to poverty alleviation and other WSSD targets and priorities.

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues	D	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Through INTERREG and LIFE Nature Projects financial support has been mobilized for nature conservation and development actions that also include wetland restoration and protection.		

Action r15.1.i.- Encourage bilateral and multilateral donors to assign priority to supporting wetland inventories in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in recognition of the importance of inventory as the basis for developing and implementing sustainable use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.6)

1. The Party has worked with bilateral and multilateral donors to mobilize funding support for wetland inventories	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.2.- Mobilize resources to support the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition. (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)

1.- The Party has worked with donors to mobilize resources for implementation of Ramsar site management plans (if applicable, please include number of sites)	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the sites involved and include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r15.1.ii.- Encourage Contracting Parties and donor organizations to give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale. Resolution VIII.10) (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)

1. The Party has worked with donors to mobilize support for the establishment of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r15.1.iii.- Urge multilateral and bilateral donors to ensure that the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands and production potential of wetlands is fully addressed in the design, planning and implementation of river basin and water resource management projects, taking into account the special circumstances and constraints of the concerned countries. (Resolution VIII.1)

1. The Party has worked with donors to ensure that the ecological functions of wetlands are conserved when designing and implementing water projects	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r15.1.iv.- Continue support, and, as appropriate, increase this support, for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region and extend it to include capacity building activities. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Financial support provided for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 15.1.3.- For those Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies, respond to sections E1, E2, E5, E7, E10, E11, E14 and E15 of the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), and especially consider issues such as long-term fund generation mechanisms, appropriate monitoring of projects, training of development assistance agency staff, priority for institutional capacity building, the need for cooperation between development assistance agencies, and the importance of coordination between bilateral development assistance agencies and the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in the donor and recipient countries.

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. Work has been done with the development assistance agency in relation to Ramsar's Guidelines for international cooperation (Res. VII.19)	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 15.1.4.- Pursuant to 15.1.3, urge all Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies to report on their performance with regard to wetland-related activities at each COP. (Based on Section E5 of the Guidelines)

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. The performance of the development assistance agency in relation to wetland issues has been assessed	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 15.1.5.- For those Parties involved in the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the *modus operandi* of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies, seek to ensure that wetland conservation and wise use is afforded due attention and priority.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Relevant CPs to report to COP9 on ensuring that multilateral donor agencies afford priority to wetlands within poverty alleviation schemes.

1. The Party has worked with multilateral agencies to ensure that wetland issues receive due attention	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 15.1.6.- Provide financial support, preferably on a medium and/or long-term basis, to the operations of the *Ramsar Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, and the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, seeking to have available a minimum of one million US dollars annually for the former and half a million US dollars for the latter. (Based on Sections E4 and E9 of the Guidelines.)

See action 16.1.2

1. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>
2. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Endowment Fund	C	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i>
3. Contributions have been made to the Ramsar Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme	C	<i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on contributions made to support the funds and services indicated above.]*

Action 15.1.7.- Mobilize resources to support the development of wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites and the training of wetland educators in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1. Actions have been taken to mobilize resources to support wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action 15.1.8.- For those Parties eligible for development assistance, include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in national portfolios and plans for consideration by development assistance agencies, and give priority among these for projects to build institutional capacity. (Based on Sections E8 and E12 of the Guidelines)

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to development assistance agencies

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action 15.1.9.- For eligible Contracting Parties of both the *Ramsar Convention* and the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, develop wetland conservation and wise use projects suitable for consideration by the *Global Environment Facility (GEF)*, as part of the implementation of the Joint Work Plan with the CBD and in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7 of Decision IV/4 of CBD's COP4 relating to inland water ecosystems.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Assistance provided to at least 15 countries in preparing projects for submission to the *Global Environment Facility*.

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action 15.1.12.- Pursue involvement of the private sector (including corporations and foundations) in wetland conservation and seek opportunities for private sector funding of wetland projects under Ramsar.

1. Steps have been taken to involve the private sector and private-sector funding in wetland projects

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Flemish Region

Involvement of private sector funding has been reached with the port authorities with reference to scientific

studies, wetland restoration and nature development in the Schelde and IJzer valley. Sponsoring of private Nature conservation NGO (e.g. Natuurpunt) has growing success.

Action 15.1.13.- Promote establishment of effective mechanisms to encourage environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites, compatible with international trade agreements.

1. Mechanisms have been established to encourage environmentally sound trade of wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.2. Ensure that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.2.1.- Work with international development agencies, including banks, financial institutions and private investors and developers, to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects include environmental safeguards and environmental assessments of possible impacts upon wetlands. (Based on Section G1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to work with investors on possible impacts of their projects on wetlands

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

See under chapter on EIA

Action 15.2.3.- Review wetland-related project development approval and consider the introduction of mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back to hands-on wetland management in the country. (Based on Section G3 of the Guidelines.)

1. Work has been done to introduce mechanisms to direct resources derived from wetlands back to wetland management

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16. FINANCING OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16.1. Provide the financial resources required for the Convention's governance mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 16.1.1.- Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year.

1. Ramsar dues have been paid in full and in a timely manner	FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i>
	RW : B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 16.1.2.- Consider providing additional voluntary contributions to the Convention to support the *Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, and the *Training Service*, regionally-based initiatives such as *MedWet*, the undertaking of *Ramsar Advisory Missions* for sites included in the *Montreux Record* and other Ramsar sites, and other priority activities as determined by the Strategic Plan.

In addition to any contributions listed under Action 15.1.6 above, voluntary contributions have been made:

1. to the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International		<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2. to support regional initiatives under the Convention		
3. for Ramsar Advisory Missions related to Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record		
4. towards the development and maintenance of logistics of the San José Record		
5. to support the work of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)		
6. to expand the internship programme at the Ramsar Bureau		
7. in relation to COP9		
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]		

WALLOON REGION Des contributions ont été apportée afin de permettre à des représentants de pays d'Europe centrale de participer à la COP 8.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17.1. Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Bureau are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Strategic Plan

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 17.1.6.- Ensure that each Contracting Party has nominated a national focal point for the work of the STRP (as called for by Resolutions VII.2 and VIII.28) and two focal points (one government, one non-government) for the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme* (as called for by Resolutions VII.9 and VIII.31)

See also Action r9.iii.i. concerning CEPA national focal points.

1. The National Focal Point for the work of STRP has been nominated

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18.1. Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 18.1.1.- Encourage the review of existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and on the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

<p>a) increase cooperation and synergy among institutions with direct or indirect responsibility for wetland issues, especially those responsible for the management of water resources and for biodiversity and wetland conservation and management;</p> <p>b) promote enhanced cooperation, and where appropriate integrated approaches, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions, and consider establishing a coordinating committee to ensure that integrated approaches are taken;</p> <p>c) promote enhanced contact, and where appropriate close coordination, between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and national professional, technical, scientific and educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including those involved in social and cultural heritage issues; and</p> <p>d) provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect.</p>		
1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]		
See CHM of CBD.		
See action 13.1.1		
3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]		
5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
6. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant professional, scientific or educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including social and cultural heritage issues	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]		
Action r18.1.i.- Build and strengthen institutional capacity and synergies between related instruments at the national level in order to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands and report to COP9 on progress on this matter, including achievements and the identification of difficulties encountered (Resolution VIII.3)		
1. Work has been done to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands	RW: C FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
FL: Research and reporting on bio indicators (Dragonflies) in the State of Nature Report 2005; participation of the Institute of Nature Conservation in the EU project FRAGILE (goose and Svalbard tundra vegetation		

research in the climate change framework).

Action 18.1.2.- Establish National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, relevant government agencies, including national water management ministries and/or agencies, where appropriate, and non-governmental organizations, STRP and CEPA National Focal Points, key stakeholders, indigenous people and local communities, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). When in place, ensure the proper functioning of these Committees.

See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii

1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status

(explain below); I = No answer

2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)

B

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].

Action 18.1.3.- Review the designated Ramsar national Administrative Authority (and provincial (sub-national) focal points where appropriate) and STRP and CEPA national focal points in each Contracting Party, with a view to ensuring that these positions are being effective in increasing involvement in the work of the Convention of all relevant agencies and organizations concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. The institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the Convention – including the Ramsar Administrative Authority, National Wetland Committee (or equivalent body) and STRP and CEPA focal points– has been assessed

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 18.1.4.- Assist in achieving a cohesive and coordinated national effort towards the implementation of the Convention, using Ramsar's national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) as an ongoing planning and monitoring mechanism. Ideally, this tool should be used by all relevant government departments/agencies and include input from National Ramsar/Wetland Committee members and other stakeholders as appropriate.

1. The National Report Format has been used as a national planning tool for the implementation of the Convention

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20. TRAINING

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20.1. Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses

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PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 20.1.1.- Implement, and further develop and publicize, the *Convention's Wetland Training Service*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *Ramsar Wetland Training Service in place and fully implemented.*

1. The Party has participated in the development and use of the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.2.- Identify at national, provincial, and local levels the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Convention and, in particular, use of the *Wise Use Guidelines and Ramsar Handbooks*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *At least half of CPs to have assessed national and local training needs.*

1. An assessment has been completed of national and local training needs in the implementation of the Convention and use of the Wise Use Handbooks	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.3.- Identify and disseminate, nationally, regionally and globally, information describing the current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the further development of the *Bureau's Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_index.htm) and the *Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_training_directory.htm).

1. The wetland-related training opportunities that exist in the country have been identified	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.5.- Assemble and make available, or develop, new training activities and general training modules as necessary, for the use of the Ramsar Handbooks, with specialized modules including coverage of the following fields:

- a) wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring;
- b) national wetland policies and plans;
- c) integrated catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning and management;
- d) integrated site management planning at the local, provincial or catchment/river basin level;

e) wetland restoration and rehabilitation; f) invasive alien species; g) agricultural impacts on wetlands and water resources; h) impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment; i) impacts of climate change, and adaptive management and mitigation of such impacts j) economic valuation of wetlands; k) communication, education and public awareness techniques.		
1. Training modules and materials on wetland-related issues have been developed	RW: B FL: D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the development of training modules and materials for the issues listed above, and additional comments you consider relevant.]		

Action 20.1.6.- Provide opportunities for manager training by:		
a) encouraging personnel exchanges for on-the-job training, possibly between twinned sites; b) holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites; c) siting wetland manager and wetland educator training facilities at Ramsar sites; d) obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world; e) establishing further regional training initiatives such as the <i>Wetlands for the Future Initiative</i> funded by the Government of the USA for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.		
1. Opportunities for manager training in the country have been provided	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.7.- Continue to encourage the development of projects for submission to the <i>Small Grants Fund</i> for support for training activities.		
1. Training-related projects have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.8.- Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and research centres, including a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (Resolution VII.26) and a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia (Resolution VIII.41).			
1.- Support has been provided to the development of regional wetland training and research centres (if applicable, please include number of centres)	RW: C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of centres and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
FL: Participation at the establishment of the regional training centre for Central and West Asia in Ramsar.			

Action 20.1.9.- Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about training for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, the Bureau, *MedWet* and the IOPs of the Convention.

1. The Party has participated in exchanges of information and expertise related to wetland training issues	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

[Go to previous Operational Objective](#)
 [Go to Feedback on Report Format](#) - [Go to Table of Contents](#)

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:		<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

- a) seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties to provide information on the benefits of membership and advice or assistance in overcoming obstacles;
- b) intensifying contacts with the diplomatic representatives of non-Contracting Parties;
- c) seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including the Regional Seas Conventions, and in-country offices of the *United Nations Development Programme*, the *World Bank* and others;
- d) organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties;
- e) providing assistance for the identification of *Wetlands of International Importance* that could be listed as Ramsar sites upon accession;
- f) encouraging attendance by observers from non-Contracting Parties at regional meetings and meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and
- g) publishing and disseminating an accession kit to assist countries in the Oceania region (and Small Island Developing States more generally) through the accession process. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adherence to the Convention of new Contracting Parties	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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Please include additional comments on the COP9 National Planning Tool, National Report Format. (For instance, adequacy of the questions, the difficulties in completing them, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved)

The regionalised countries can have difficulties in reporting at national/federal level

FL: Too many questions, a lot of items are overlapping fully or partly

WALLOON REGION: Ne contient pas de rubrique relative à la biodiversité.

In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer