



**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)**

**Report of Germany
(28.02.2005)**

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INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

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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

Within the context of the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**, Germany's objective is to **put a halt to the loss of biological diversity by 2010**. In order to achieve this target, high priority continues to be afforded to the protection of wetland areas falling under the scope of the Ramsar Convention within German nature conservation policy, at both national and international level.

Implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Germany has been further improved since the COP8 by the following activities, mechanisms and measures, *inter alia*:

1. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION: In Germany, a national wetlands strategy is part of a comprehensive nature conservation policy by both Federal and *Länder* Governments. There are independent strategies on conservation and sustainable use for individual wetland types which are still ongoing: e.g. for the Wadden Sea within the context of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention, for the Baltic Sea in collaboration with the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), for the Rhine and Elbe within the framework of the International Commissions for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR) and the Elbe (IKSE). At *Länder* level, a number of

regional strategies and action programmes for the protection of watercourses, peatlands, lakes, riverine meadows, wetland meadows and other types of wetland have been continued.

A number of new legal provisions have been adopted, such as the revised Federal Nature Conservation Act (2002) with the adoption of provisions from the EU Habitats and Birds Directives and the identification of protected areas for NATURA 2000, a Flood Protection Act (2004) and the revised Federal Water Act (2002) with the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in national water legislation.

2. DESIGNATION, INVENTORY AND STATUS OF WETLANDS: The network of wetlands of international importance has been supplemented by the designation of the “*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbane Jerichow*” as the 32nd Ramsar site.

In conjunction with the selection of “Special Protection Areas” (SPA) under the EU Birds Directive, the *Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten* (Federal Association of German Avifaunists, DDA) has drawn up a list of 207 “Important Bird Areas” which meet the criteria of the Ramsar Convention, either in full or in part. Once a site has been designated as a site under the Habitats Directive or SPA area for the NATURA 2000 network of European conservation sites by the Federal *Länder*, it is necessary to investigate whether the area is also suitable for designation as a Ramsar site.

Wetland areas in Germany (coasts, peatlands, watercourses etc.) are still faced with a major threat of destruction, elimination and other impairments. Statements regarding risk trends cannot be made until the planned update of the Red List is complete.

3. WISE USE OF WETLAND AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: In many places, current use of wetland areas (e.g. by agriculture or tourism) does not yet comply with the principles of sustainable development. As part of the EU programmes to promote the development of rural areas, via special nature conservation measures by the Federal *Länder* (e.g. cultivated landscape and extensification programmes) and by means of steering measures aimed at tourists, use is undergoing a gradual conversion, in keeping with the principle of sustainability.

The sustainable use and management of river basins has advanced significantly, thanks to the revised Federal Water Act (2002) and the multilateral river commissions.

4. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA): The inventory of German CEPA activities for wetland areas drawn up in 2001 (German Wetland CEPA Action Plan) established that CEPA measures are embedded in a broad-based communications strategy for nature conservation. The topics of *wetlands* and *water resources* feature heavily in Germany’s nature and environmental conservation communications.

Information or education centres are now present in 25 of Germany’s 32 Ramsar sites (75 %).

5. MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT: Monitoring of Germany’s Ramsar sites occurs in varying forms and intensities. Since 2003, aquatic bird monitoring has been developed by the *Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten* (DDA) as part of the project “Monitoring of bird species in Germany”. Population data on aquatic birds is regularly forwarded by the DDA to *Wetlands International*. Coordination of Germany’s aquatic bird monitoring and the recording of aquatic birds in census areas occurs primarily on a voluntary basis, in collaboration with the authorities.

According to the monitoring results, Germany’s Ramsar sites are of particular significance for the conservation of aquatic birds and waders which migrate on the East Atlantic Flyway of Waterfowl.

Management plans have been completed or are currently under preparation for 27 German Ramsar sites. For 5 sites, the preparation of a management plan is not currently deemed necessary. International agreements are in place for the transboundary river basins of the Moselle, Saar, Maas, Rhine, Ems, Danube, Elbe and Oder, and Lake Constance as an inland water, within the context of which management is coordinated.

6. FINANCING THE CONVENTION: As part of its development cooperation work, Germany has supported numerous projects with a direct or indirect reference to the conservation and sustainable management of wetland areas, such as water catchment areas, drinking water supply and management, integrated water management and sewage disposal, and recognised Ramsar conservation areas in Africa. Germany is the third-largest donor to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), which also promotes projects relating to wetland areas.

Germany made a financial contribution to the European regional meeting 2004 of the Ramsar Convention in Armenia, and subsidised the participation of representatives from developing countries to the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Valencia/Spain.

7. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY: The existing institutional structures and capacities within the Federal Government and the Federal *Länder* are adequate to support the objectives and tasks of the Ramsar Convention in Germany in a suitable manner. However, capacities are continuously reviewed in order to help improve implementation of the Ramsar Convention and the COP resolutions – examples include the development of a database of German Ramsar sites by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the review of potential Ramsar sites, the development of a Ramsar wetland manager network, the establishment of a nationwide monitoring programme for bird species in Germany, including waterfowl and waders, the improvement of monitoring, management and *wise use* of Ramsar sites, more widespread global interlinking of Germany's Ramsar sites, public representation of the Ramsar Convention in Germany (website, World Wetlands Day) to implement the CEPA strategy, and the presentation of Germany's contribution to global wetland conservation (Federal Government, *Länder* Governments, NGOs) in conjunction with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	On-going updates and supplementation of the data on wetland areas	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Establishment of a database for Germany's 32 Ramsar sites by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(BfN)	

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>)	B	<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>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites <u>2/32</u>
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory	B		
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.]			
A National Wetland Inventory exists in Germany; however, this was not developed systematically, but has instead emerged gradually over the course of 30 years. Today, it is comprised of various sub-inventories of wetland types (e.g. peatlands, lakes, watercourses, wetland meadows) which are continuously extended, supplemented and updated. The precise number of inventorised wetlands is not known. The competent authorities of the Federal <i>Länder</i> collate data on the various wetland types (watercourses, lakes, peatlands, wetland meadows, river meadows etc.) according to various criteria (biotope protection, water conservation,			

flood control, water supply) and methods (e.g. biotope mapping at the site, colour/infrared aerial picture or satellite picture evaluation), and process the information using databases and geographical information systems (GIS). As such, allowance has been made for the methodological recommendations of Resolution VIII.6.

The data is available to the authorities and other institutions for evaluations of the wetlands, for the designation of protected areas and plans, as well as for management and monitoring of the wetland areas.

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	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	<i>207</i>
2. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i>	
3. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	B	<i>E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
4. The inventory assesses and documents wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	B		
5. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	B		
6. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	
7. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i>	
8. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	A	<i>E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
9. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	A		
10. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	D		
11.- The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	D		

12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]

We are unable to specify the number of wetlands falling under the individual categories, since there has been no evaluation to date using these categories.

Germany's Ramsar sites most recently underwent an in-depth assessment in 1993 as part of a special analysis. Inventory data is updated as and when necessary, e.g. for the preparation and implementation of management plans.

In 2002, a number of new potential Ramsar sites in Germany were identified based on the selection of "Important Bird Areas" (IBA). The *Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten* (DDA) identified a total of 207 IBAs which meet the criteria of a Ramsar site, either in full or in part (cf. Sudfeldt, Ch. et al (2002): *Important Bird*

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:

N°
wetlands/
Ramsar sites

Areas und potenzielle Ramsar-Gebiete in Deutschland. Ber. Vogelschutz 39: 119-132; see www.dda-web.de).

See Action 10.1.1.

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

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.]

The databases containing information on the various wetland types at local, regional and national level are continuously extended, supplemented and updated. The data is available to local, regional and national authorities, nature conservation organisations, other institutions and the general public.

There is as yet no nationwide database containing information on the 32 Ramsar sites.

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

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.]

National Internet portals containing meta-data include the German Environmental Information Network (GEIN: www.gein.de) and the *Umweltdatenkatalog* (UDK: www.umweltdatenkatalog.de) with links to relevant databases. Technical information on wetland areas may be found in the databases on nature/landscape, areas meriting protection, water and waterbodies.

The provision of Web-based data is the responsibility of the competent authorities of the Federal *Länder*. There are a number of Web-based databases which also include protected wetlands (e.g. in North-Rhine Westphalia at www.loebf.nrw.de by clicking on *Daten & Fakten, Infosysteme*; in Lower Saxony at www.nloe.de by clicking on *Natur&Landschaft, Schutzgebiete/-objekte*).

In view of the situation outlined above, there is no need for a separate Web-based meta-database for wetlands.

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	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>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>
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	B	
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Information on wetlands is made available on request to all interested institutions, e.g. from political bodies, authorities, associations and companies. The publication of data on the Internet by the competent authorities simplifies access to information for all interested parties (cf. Action 1.1.4.).</p> <p>For the general public, access to environmental information has been significantly improved by the new Environmental Information Act (UIG) adopted in 2004. This obligates all offices of Federal public administration to publish environmental information.</p> <p>This Act implements the requirements of the amended Environmental Information Directive of the European Community for the Federal administration. The information obligations of the <i>Länder</i> authorities and selected private offices will be regulated in future by regional provisions governing the implementation of the new Environmental Information Directive. The new Environmental Information Act also satisfies the obligations pertaining to access to environmental information under the UN ECE Aarhus Convention.</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	A	<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> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	A	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>In Germany, the inventorisation of wetlands is the task of the competent authorities of the Federal <i>Länder</i> and is funded from their own coffers.</p>		

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:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	On-going review, assessment and monitoring of the status of waterbodies, seas and other wetland areas.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Publication at regular intervals of the status of wetland areas at national level (e.g. “<i>Daten zur Natur</i>”, water quality reports).	

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)

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 contribution made to the work of the MA.]

The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety is the focal point for the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* project. Germany has hosted two conferences of the MA project:

- 2002: Panel and Board Meeting and Authors of Conceptional Framework
- 2003: Meeting of Response Options Working Group

Additionally, Germany provides financial assistance to scientists wishing to participate in the MA project.

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

H

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. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale

H

3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale

H

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of MA guidance and methods.]

Further options will not be considered until the concluding report from the MA project is available.

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

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 repository of assessment of changes in wetland status, its contents and uses.]

Information about changes in wetland areas is collated, supplemented, updated and administered in databases for subsequent analyses, evaluations and reports by the competent authorities of the Federal *Länder*. It is not possible to provide such information for all wetland areas in Germany; instead, the data is collated primarily for surface waterbodies, and for protected wetlands and those meriting protection (cf. Action 1.1.1.ff). This information may provide the basis for reports by the Federal *Länder* and for national reports on the status of waterbodies and other wetlands. Summarising assessments regarding the development of and changes in wetland resources in Germany are published, for example, by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation in "*Daten zur Natur*" and by the Federal Environmental Agency in the form of water quality reports.

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	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
2. The assessments include impacts of climate change	D	<i>D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress;</i>
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	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 assessments undertaken.]		
<p>Assessing the vulnerability of wetland areas to ecological changes is a key component in the preparation of management plans, waterbody development plans, and the implementation of environmental impact assessments.</p> <p>Initial scientific studies on the potential impacts of climate change and rising sea levels were published, for example, in 2002 and 2003 for the Wadden Sea and the Baltic Sea coast. Projections for the potential impacts of climate change are also available for selected inland waters (Rhine, Oder, Elbe, Spreewald). The verifiable impacts of climate change on biological diversity were documented in a study published in 2004 by the Federal Office for Nature Conservation.</p>		

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	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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]		
<p>In Germany, the coastal wetlands are classed as biotope categories at particular risk, and continue to be exposed to considerable transformatory pressure, particularly as a result of tourism and land use, as well as pollution and eutrophication. Information regarding status, trends and measures to protect the coastal wetlands is collated and constantly updated by the respective Federal <i>Länder</i> along the entire length of Germany's North and Baltic Sea coasts.</p> <p>Over the past 30 years in particular, the seagrass meadows along the German North Sea coast have receded significantly. Seagrass meadows are biotopes which accommodate a particularly large variety of species, and are of great ecological significance for the biotic communities in the Wadden Sea. Most of the biotope categories occurring in the Baltic Sea region are under threat, due to discharges of pollutants and nutrients, and direct destruction by tourism and construction activities. The coastal vegetation of the Baltic Sea is unique, due to the particular brackish water conditions, and therefore particularly meriting protection.</p>		
3.- Summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands [Please provide here a summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands and provide reference citation to any relevant publication, reports or analysis.]		
<p>Summarising documentation on the current conservation status of the coastal wetlands and marine areas was published in 2004. Along the entire length of the North Sea coast, the Wadden Sea area is protected in the form of national parks and biosphere reserves. On the Baltic Sea coast, particularly valuable areas are protected as national parks, biosphere reserves and/or nature conservation areas. Within the framework of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), eight German areas of the Baltic Sea are designated protected areas (Baltic Sea Protected Areas, BSPA). Over 50 % of Germany's coastline (as far as the marine 12-nautical-mile limit) is protected under the European NATURA 2000 system. The identification of areas is not yet complete.</p> <p>In Schleswig-Holstein, a 100 m wide onshore protection strip has been designated. In Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, the coastal zone is protected for 200 m in each direction (onshore and offshore).</p>		

The revised Federal Nature Conservation Act in 2002 placed additional threatened wetland areas, particularly those in the coastal region of the Baltic Sea, under direct legal protection. These included coastal lagoons, coastal inlets (*Bodden*) with aggradation areas, seagrass meadows, reefs and sandbanks in the Baltic Sea.

Ref: Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(BfN) (2002): *Daten zur Natur 2002*. Bonn-Bad Godesberg
Der Rat von Sachverständigen für Umweltfragen (Council of Environmental Advisors, SRU) (2004):
Meeresumweltschutz für Nord- und Ostsee. Sondergutachten. Baden-Baden (www.umweltrat.de).

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> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>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>
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.]		
Mangrove forest does not occur in Germany.		

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 (if available, please include number of sites affected)	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;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>	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.]			
Not relevant in Germany.			
3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands [Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]			
Not relevant			

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 (if available, please include number of sites assessed)	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 = No answer</i>	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		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [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.]			
Not relevant			

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	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 assessment undertaken.]		
<p>Germany aims to introduce sustainable fisheries management in the marine areas of the Baltic Sea and the North-East Atlantic as a matter of priority. The designated Ramsar sites close to the coast in these areas represent important sanctuaries for fish.</p> <p>For the Baltic Sea region, in 2002 cooperation was set up between the international environmental/nature conservation and fishery commissions. Stocks of herring and cod are particularly overfished in the Baltic Sea, and in a critical condition. It is hoped that cooperation will allow fish stocks to recover and sustainable fisheries management achieved.</p>		
3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders	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 recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]		
<p>Approaches to sustainable fishing in the North and Baltic Seas were outlined in a special report in 2004. These recommendations and proposals have been published and may be used by the competent authorities, companies and non-government organisations for information and implementation purposes.</p> <p>Ref: <i>Der Rat von Sachverständigen für Umweltfragen</i> (Council of Environmental Advisors, SRU) (2004): <i>Meeresumweltschutz für Nord- und Ostsee. Sondergutachten</i>. Baden-Baden (www.umweltrat.de).</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	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 assessment undertaken.]		
<p>In Germany, a dense network of statutory provisions at EU, Federal Government and <i>Länder</i> level regulates water quality, water use and the water regime of rivers, streams and lakes. At national, regional and local level, the competent water authorities implement the statutory regulations and monitor their compliance. The competent authorities of the <i>Länder</i> monitor and document the ecological status of the watercourses and the water quality.</p> <p>Germany' rivers and streams have a combined length of around 400,000 km; the major rivers – the Rhine, Elbe, Danube, Oder, Weser and Ems – add up to a combined length of around 7,000 km. The use of these watercourses as shipping routes, for the discharge of purified sewage, for leisure purposes and for the extraction of drinking water has led to considerable impairments of the wetlands' ecological functions. In recent years, pollution has decreased, thanks to a raft of different measures, and the water quality of many rivers and streams has started to improve again.</p>		

In some cases, the ecological functions have been severely restricted as a result of changes to the form and structure of most wetland areas. Long-term programmes comprising measures aimed at the renaturation of watercourse sections, the removal of bank obstructions and the redesign of riverbank and flood plains should make it possible to improve and restore the ecological functions of many waterbodies.

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:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Integration of the requirements of wetland protection and the sustainability principle into sectoral strategies (policies)	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The continued integration of the requirements of wetland protection into the national sustainability strategy	

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	B	<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. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible	B	
3. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporates WSSD targets and actions	E	

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.]

In Germany, a national wetlands strategy is part of a comprehensive nature conservation policy by both Federal and *Länder* Governments. Wetlands protection plays a pivotal role in the nature conservation legislation, protection programmes and projects of the Federal Government, *Länder* and local government. There are independent protection strategies for selected wetland types, e.g. for the Wadden Sea within the context of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention, for the Baltic Sea in collaboration with the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), and for the Rhine, Elbe and Danube within the framework of the International Commissions for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR), the Elbe (IKSE) and the Danube (IKSD). In the *Länder*, there are regional strategies and action programmes aimed at the protection of watercourses, peatlands, lakes, wetland meadows, wetland meadows and other types of wetland.

The aims of the WSSD are gradually being incorporated into legislation, protection programmes and action plans during the course of revisions and updates.

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	E	<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. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	A	
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	B	
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	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]		
As a result of the WSSD, wetland issues are being incorporated into a national sustainability strategy as a subsection of water protection and nature conservation.		
Under German water legislation, the programmes and plans for water extraction are designed with a view to the sustainable use and conservation of water resources. In this respect, allowance is made for the aspects relating to the conservation and protection of wetlands.		
Under Germany's federal system, wetland issues, as a subsection of water protection and nature conservation, are taken into account at both national, regional and local level in other sectoral plans and in planning for the region as a whole.		

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	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 consideration of wetland tenure systems and user rights in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management.]		
In order to protect wetlands under private ownership, the authorities make special offers to landowners for government purchasing of the wetland areas.		
Where parts of wetlands require special management, the authorities may conclude special usage agreements with the landowners.		

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	<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 conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes	A	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the actions taken in relation to high Andean wetlands.]</i>		
Not relevant		

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	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>		
To date, we have been unable to provide the Ramsar office with any documentation. There are plans to submit suitable best practice examples to the Ramsar office and provide corresponding information.		

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	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Further development of legal provisions in accordance with the objectives of the Ramsar Convention.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of the legal provisions on strategic environmental auditing.	

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> <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>
2. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed	H	
3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands	H	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of legislation and institutions and the amendments made to preclude unwise use of wetlands.]		
<p>In 2002, the revised Federal Nature Conservation Act entered into force. It contained a number of new provisions designed to improve the protection and sustainable use of wetlands:</p> <p>a) Under § 30 of the Federal Nature Conservation Act (BNatSchG), threatened wetlands, particularly those in the coastal region of the Baltic Sea, were placed under direct legal protection. These included coastal lagoons, coastal inlets (<i>Bodden</i>) with aggradation areas, seagrass meadows and other marine macrophyte populations, reefs, sublittoral sandbanks of the Baltic Sea, as well as areas of pebbles, coarse sand and shingle containing a large variety of species in the marine and coastal region. As such, all seriously endangered wetland types enjoy stringent statutory protection at national level; the Federal <i>Länder</i> may additionally supplement these with other biotope types.</p> <p>b) If usage restrictions on agriculture or fishery are required in wetlands in order to implement the “wise use principle”, the Federal <i>Länder</i> may adopt provisions governing compensation in this respect (§ 5, paragraph 2 of the BNatSchG).</p> <p>c) Overground watercourses must be preserved and promoted during fishery use; as a general principle, the stocking of non-native fish species is to be avoided; inland fishing should avoid any impairments to the wetlands used (§ 5, paragraph 6 of the BNatSchG).</p> <p>d) A series of interlinked biotopes covering at least 10 % of the land is to be created in order to ensure functioning reciprocal ecological relationships (§ 3 of the BNatSchG). Watercourses play a key role in implementation of interlinked biotopes.</p> <p>The Federal <i>Länder</i> have started to transpose the new provisions into regional nature conservation acts. If necessary, the institutional structures will likewise be adapted.</p>		

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	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Intra- and inter-ministerial dialogue takes place within the Federal Government, <i>Länder</i> and local authorities on the basis of the distribution of tasks and Rules of Procedure of the government institutions.</p>		

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	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;</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.]

Wetlands in Central Europe have been used by man for centuries, and are distinguished by cultural influences. Adequate allowance is made for these aspects when protecting the wetland areas.

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)

See action r3.1.i

1. The conservation status of mountain wetlands has been assessed	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
2. A review of legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on mountain wetlands has been completed	E	
3. Actions have been taken for stopping and reversing impacts on mountain wetlands	E	

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on assessment, reviews and other actions taken in relation to mountain wetlands.]

The protection status of mountain wetlands was examined and documented within the context of biotope surveys. No special legal provisions or protection strategies exist for mountain wetlands. The various legal provisions on wetland protection also incorporate the mountain wetlands; for example, the peatlands, swamps, wetland meadows and headwaters occurring in the mountains are protected by law (§ 30 of the BNatSchG).

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	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
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]

The German Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVPG) and the intervention provisions under the nature conservation legislation of the Federal Government and the *Länder* make particular allowance for the requirements of biodiversity when examining the ecological impacts of infrastructure facilities.

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
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4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessment processes.]

The affected local community, the local governments and other representatives of public interests are involved in the procedures to assess the environmental impacts of infrastructure facilities under the UVPG and within the context of the intervention provision under the Nature Conservation Act.

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	E	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]		
The competent authorities of the Federal Government, the <i>Länder</i> and regional and local government regularly review the policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon the preservation of wetlands.		
4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands	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
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.]		
In 2004, the Federal Government adopted a law to introduce strategic environmental assessment; under this law, in future, selected plans and programmes are to be subjected to a systematic, in-depth review of their impacts on the environment. The aim is to ensure that any disadvantageous environmental impacts of a plan are identified and taken into account early on in the planning process. At the same time, the participatory rights of the general public have been strengthened.		
The law implements a European environmental directive ("Directive 2001 / 42 / EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment"). At the same time, national law has been adapted in line with other international legal provisions, such as the UN-ECE Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment. Accordingly, in future, a strategic environmental assessment will be carried out for all environmentally significant planning procedures. This includes, for example, national transport planning, waste management plans, plans relating to air pollution control and noise protection, as well as selected water management plans and programmes. With regard to the drafting of urban development plans, environmental assessment has already been introduced as a standard procedure with effect from 20 July 2004, as a result of an act amending the construction code in line with European law.		
Furthermore, model methodologies on implementing the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) have been drafted for various plans and programmes (e.g. construction planning, transport planning, regional planning).		

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 all
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	B		

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

The Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVPG) was comprehensively revised in 2001 and adapted in line with the EU Directives. The impacts of industrial installations and infrastructure measures on humans, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate, landscape and cultural assets are ascertained and outlined in an environmental report. Where projects are planned in wetlands or in Ramsar sites, an EIA must be carried out in accordance with the valid legal provisions.

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)

1. Experts from the International Association for Impact assessment have been involved in EIA processes in the country

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 involvement of IAIA experts in EIA processes in the country.]

Until now, the involvement of the IAIA has not been necessary, since a large number of German experts are involved in EIA processes.

Since 1987, an NGO, the "UVP-Gesellschaft e.V. – Gesellschaft für die Prüfung der Umweltverträglichkeit" has provided a forum for experts to exchange information and expertise on the EIA, organise congresses and conferences, and initiate and accompany new developments (cf. www.uvp.de)

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)

1. EIA materials, including case studies, have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau for loading in the EIA-dedicated Web site

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 EIA materials.]

In Germany, there is a wealth of materials and case studies available on a variety of EIA techniques, although these have only been published in the German language to date. To date there has been no evaluation of EIA specifically relating to wetlands. The Trilateral Wadden Sea Secretariat evaluates EIA techniques in the Wadden Sea region (www.waddensea-secretariat.org).

Various institutions offer information and materials on all aspects of EIA:

- a) The Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) provides texts, data and facts on legal provisions, project EIAs, SEAs (strategic environmental assessments), transboundary EIAs and methodology, as well as a technical information service for EIA users (cf. www.umweltbundesamt.de/uvp)
- b) The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) offers a literature research facility encompassing some 1,500 publications (www.bfn.de)
- c) The private company UVP-Gesellschaft e.V. collates information on EIA methods, maintains its own library of relevant publications, and publishes the latest findings in the journal "UVP-Report" (cf. www.uvp.de)

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.

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	H	<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 Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	H	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</i>		
Selected methods are used to evaluate the ecological importance of wetland areas, depending on the wetland type in question, such as the diversity of fauna and flora species, the presence of key species or endangered species from the Red List, and the semi-naturalness of the habitat. Economic and social importance is examined and evaluated using established economic and socio-scientific methods, for example regarding the preservation or promotion of extensive farming in flood plains, or the development of lakes and coastal regions with a view to sustainable tourism.		

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	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Improved application of the <i>wise use</i> principle in wetlands	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Further development of methods for the <i>wise use</i> of wetlands	

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	E	<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 Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the revision of the wise use concept and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</i>		
In many places, the current use of wetland areas (e.g. by agriculture or tourism) does not yet comply with the principles of sustainable development. As part of the EU programmes to promote the development of rural areas, special nature conservation measures by the Federal <i>Länder</i> (e.g. cultivated landscape and extensification programmes) and steering measures aimed at tourists are bringing about a gradual conversion of use in keeping		

with the principle of sustainability.

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

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.]

In Germany, a wide range of studies, case examples and findings on the management and wise use of various wetland types are published each year. The literature database of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) lists some 4,000 publications under the keyword *wetland* (national and international). In addition, the responsible authorities and wetland managers, as well as scientific institutions and non-government organisations, have many years of experience in the management and wise use of wetland areas.

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

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.]

In Germany, it is not possible to draw up a management plan for every wetland area. For numerous seriously endangered wetland types (e.g. wetland meadows, peatlands, lakes), management plans are prepared on a case-by-case basis by the competent authorities. The methods used for the preparation of management plans are similar to and conform largely with the suggestions and proposals of the new *Ramsar management planning guidelines* (Res. VIII.14). As a result of Germany's obligations under NATURA 2000 and the EU Water Framework Directive (WRRD), many more management plans will be prepared in future.

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.]

The methods used for the preparation of management plans for wetland areas in Germany are similar to and conform largely with the suggestions and proposals of the new *Ramsar management planning guidelines* (Res. VIII.14). Copies of the *guidelines* are made available to interested authorities, non-government organisations and wetland managers.

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)

<i>See action r2.2.iii</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands	B	<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. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties	B	
3. National, regional or local strategies and plans for the conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been developed	B	
4. Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with other environment-related and mountain-related agreements and institutions	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on information available and strategies developed concerning mountain and high altitude wetlands.]		
Activities for the protection and management of wetlands in Central European mountain regions and the German Alpine region form part of the national, regional and local nature conservation strategies.		

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	<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.]		
Not relevant for Germany		

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	<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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not relevant for Germany		

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	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Continuation of the long-term peatland protection programmes	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of on-going measures to protect peatlands of European to regional importance	

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	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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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)	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.]		
<p>The <i>guidelines</i> adopted in Resolution VIII.17 have been applied in Germany for a number of years. High priority has been afforded to the protection of peatlands at both national and regional level for the past 40 years, since it is estimated that more than 95 % of natural peatlands in Germany have been lost due to dehydration and conversion into agricultural and forestry use. The wetland types peatlands, swamps, reedland and wetland meadows remain at high risk, and in many cases are in danger of complete destruction. For peatlands at local, regional and national level, there are a wide range of activities aimed at protection, management and sustainable use, as well as educating affected individuals and decision-makers. The following examples are intended to illustrate the intensity of protective measures for peatlands in Germany:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under § 30 of the Federal Nature Conservation Act (BNatSchG), these wetland types are directly protected from destruction and lasting impairments. There is also an unknown number of peatland nature conservation areas of local significance. • A number of nationally and internationally significant peatlands, swamps and reedlands in Germany were designated as Ramsar sites back in 1976: <i>Diepholzer Moorniederung, Bodensee mit Wollmatinger Ried, Donauauen/ Donaumoos.</i> 		

- More recently, other nationally and regionally important peatlands have been protected by large-scale nature conservation projects by the Federal Government e.g. *Ochsenmoor*, *Neustädter Moor*, *Wurzacher Ried*, *Murnauer Moos*. A number of other Federal Government projects to protect the following peatlands are currently underway: *Niedersächsischer Drömling*, *Pfrunger-Burgweiler Ried*. The projects entail an assessment of the status of the biotopes, management plan and information measures, and the evaluation and implementation of protective measures.
- In the Nineties, those Federal *Länder* with ecologically valuable peatlands launched special protection programmes, development concepts and renaturation projects to protect the ecologically significant peatlands within their jurisdiction felt to be at particular risk. These initiatives will continue over the forthcoming years.
- There is a wealth of scientific studies available on the dissemination and ecological importance, utilisation history, biological diversity, substance balance, management, wise use and renaturation of peatlands (cf. the literature database of the BfN).
- Brochures and books are published, exhibitions and educational walks are staged and specialist conferences are held in order to inform, raise awareness and educate on this issue.

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

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.]

Various funds are used to protect peatland areas.

Those Federal *Länder* with special peatland protection and peatland renaturation programmes (including Lower Saxony, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania) have earmarked special funds for the purchase of land and for the renaturation of peatland areas.

The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) has set up a subsidy programme for major nature conservation projects to protect peatland areas of national and European importance.

In selected peatland areas of European importance, funding from the EU LIFE programme is also used (e.g. Upper Havel, riverine landscape of the Elbe, Stechlinsee region).

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

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.- Status and trends in national peatland resources [Please include information on the conservation status and trends of peatland resources and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]

There is no up-to-date list available of the status of peatland areas in Germany. Thanks to a series of protection and restoration measures in recent decades, key parts of peatlands which were still intact have been preserved, thereby putting a halt to the further loss of peatland areas. With the aid of large-scale renaturation measures, the risk for selected peatland landscapes has been reduced. Overall, the status of the peatlands in Central Europe remains critical. Most peatlands are protected under the EU's NATURA 20000 system of protected areas. Monitoring is compulsory for the NATURA 20000 areas. If a deterioration is ascertained, counteractive action must be taken.

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:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Improvement of preventive flood control	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of actions for preventive flood control	

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

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.]

The wetlands inventorised within the framework of special registration programmes are often significant in several of the aforementioned respects. For example, wetland meadows may serve the purposes of water supply, flood control, nature conservation, extensive agricultural use and/or scientific research. The protective purpose of the wetland is outlined in the legal provision for that area or in the landscape and regional plans.

In Germany, wetlands of particular importance for water supply (such as meadows, reservoirs) may be protected by the Federal Government and *Länder* under water legislation (e.g. as water protection areas).

Wetlands for coastal protection may be preserved by the competent Federal *Länder* under planning legislation or nature conservation legislation.

In future, wetlands in flood plains are to be more extensively used for flood control purposes. To this end, in 2004 the Federal Government adopted a law to improve preventive flood control.

Instruments such as the biosphere reserve under § 25 of the Federal Nature Conservation Act (2002) may be used in order to protect large wetland areas for cultural-historical reasons and/or for scientific research purposes.

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.

<i>See actions r2.2.ii, 6.1.6</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to promote the recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
2. The social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management	B	<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> <i>I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the on recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.]		
Social and cultural aspects play a major role, particularly in those wetlands where extensive agricultural use is required in the interests of nature conservation, for example. These aspects are taken into account in the management of wetland meadows if they are relevant for the protection of the wetland.		

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	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;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Under German water legislation, the use of groundwater falls within the remit of the local authorities or local water supply companies. The competent authorities and water supply companies make varying references to the aforementioned aspects of groundwater in their PR work.		

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	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i>
2. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water	B	<i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management	B	<i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i>
4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management	B	<i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]		
Wetlands in Germany have been influenced by man for centuries, and have been shaped by cultural development. Allowance is made for cultural heritage when formulating and implementing management plans.		

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	<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.]		
No comment		

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.

<i>See action 20.1.8</i>		
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	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.]		
Research into watercourses and in wetland areas in relation to their role in water supply, coastal protection, flood defence or any other significance is performed by the competent authorities of the Federal <i>Länder</i> , professional organisations, nature conservation organisations, biological centres, universities and other research institutions.		

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	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.]		
Temporary pools are generally small wetlands of minimal significance in forests, wetland meadows, gravel pits or urban regions, which are not generally used for commercial purposes. These pools are currently inventorised within the context of biotope mapping by the Federal <i>Länder</i> . The conservation of temporary pools occurs in conjunction with amphibian conservation, <i>inter alia</i> .		

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	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Implementation of the objectives of sustainable water management	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Further development of mechanisms for sustainable water management	

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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	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>
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.]		
Essentially, German water legislation stipulates that waterbodies must be protected as a component of nature and as a habitat for fauna and flora. As a result of the EU Water Framework Directive of 2000, coupled with the revised Federal Water Act of 2002, instruments to coordinate the economic, social and ecological requirements of river basins and watercourses have been further developed, and incorporate the suggestions and proposals mentioned in the <i>guidelines</i> and the <i>Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4</i> . Other recent developments in German water legislation include the holistic, river basin-related approach to water management and the preparation of programmes of measures and management plans for entire river basins. For the river basins of the Rhine and the Elbe, questions relating to the integration of river basin protection, the conservation and promotion of biological diversity and river basin management are handled by the International Commissions for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR – www.iksr.de) and the Elbe (IKSE – www.ikse.de).		
3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative	F	<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>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.]		
Germany plans to participate in the information network of the <i>Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative</i> , in order to publish its findings, experiences and expertise on the integration of wetlands, biological diversity and the management of river basins and make these available to the www.riverbasin.org network.		

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	<p><i>Choose an answer</i></p> <p><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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Mountain and high altitude wetlands are subject to the national provisions of the Federal Water Act and the water legislation of the Federal <i>Länder</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	A	<p><i>Choose an answer</i></p> <p><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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
There are no current plans to build any large dams. Plans to expand the Danube between Straubing and Vilshofen and to expand the Elbe, which did not go ahead, examined the impacts on ecological function and the ecosystem as a whole.		

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	D	<p><i>Choose an answer</i></p> <p><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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>In North Rhine-Westphalia, the migratory fish programme has been in force since 1998, aimed at the rehabilitation of migrating fish in the North Rhine-Westphalian rivers and streams. In this way, the salmon rehabilitation programme “Lachs 2000”, coordinated by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR), will be continued and updated. In total, some € 4 million has been spent on the construction of fish ladders and other measures.</p> <p>All watercourses in North Rhine-Westphalia have now been examined vis-à-vis their passability for fish. It was ascertained that no single watercourse is consistently passable for fish from the mouth to the source. There are more than 14,000 weirs obstructing the route of the migrating fish. In order to comply with the EU Water Framework Directive, more weirs will need to be eliminated in future, or at least fish ladders built (www.munlv.nrw.de).</p> <p>Appropriate measures are also being carried out in other Federal <i>Länder</i> to make watercourses passable for migrating fish species, such as the watercourse protection programme in Lower Saxony.</p>		

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	A	<p><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></p>	
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>			
Not relevant for Germany. Where dams are to be built, they are subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA).			
3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged <i>(if available, please include number of centres)</i>	A	<p><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></p>	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>			
Not relevant for Germany.			

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	E	<p><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></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>The Federal <i>Länder</i> of Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Estern Pomerania are responsible for the development of an integrated coastal zone management system (ICZM) along the German North and Baltic Sea coast. The Federal Government is responsible for the area of Germany's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Res. VIII.4 contains numerous suggestions and proposals which will prove valuable for the implementation of an ICZM system in Germany.</p> <p>The EU and the Federal Government support the improvement of coastal zone management through demonstration and research projects.</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	H	<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;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Case examples and other publications are published and made accessible via the Internet. The private organisation EUCC (Coastal Union Germany) has begun to compile a database of German projects on ICZM and other publications associated with ICZM (www.eucc-d.de).</p> <p>In Germany, in recent years, a number of concepts and case studies on ICZM have been prepared for parts of the coastal regions of the North and Baltic Seas. In 2001, the Federal <i>Land</i> of Schleswig-Holstein published an expert report and framework concept for an ICZM.</p> <p>Since 1999, the EU Commission has been pursuing a strategy aimed at the precautionary and sustainable development of the coastal zones. The demonstration project "Integrated cooperation to develop sustainable tourism" was completed for the Wadden Sea region, which contributes towards inter-regional cooperation</p>		

within the context of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention.

Since 2004 (until 2006), the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) has been funding a project on “Research for an integrated coastal zone management system in the Oder estuary region”, representing one of the two national reference projects for an ICZM system. The research is linked to a number of Polish projects and UNEP activities on “Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM)”.

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 *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1) have been used/applied in decision-making related to freshwater

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.]

For the most part, the suggestions and proposals contained in the *guidelines* (Res. VIII.1) have been taken up and pursued by the EU Water Framework Directive (2000) and the revised Federal Water Act (2002).

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

H

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 and professional exchange arrangements exist with representatives of the water industry, aimed at improving wetland protection.

The competent authorities, specialist institutions, non-government organisations and companies involved in the use of water resources act on the basis of the legal provisions of the Federal Water Act (2002), which prescribes the sustainable management of surface waters and groundwater. In this respect, allowance must be made for the ecological, chemical and volume status of the waters.

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

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 relevant projects.]

The Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) has completed a number of research projects on sustainable water management (see no. 3).

The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), in cooperation with local authorities, institutions and associations, has on-going projects for the renaturation or revitalisation of watercourse sections aimed at improving the ecological functions: e.g. watercourse system of the Ahr, Ruwer, Ill and Lutter, estuary of the Isar, Middle Elbe, Lower Oder Valley (cf. no. 3).

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.]

Below are some current examples of projects designed to promote sustainable water management and improve the ecological functions of river basins.

1. The research projects of the Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) on sustainable water management addressed the following issues: "Programme of measures on sustainable water management" (1999) "Handbook on water management and Local Agenda 21" (2001; www.wasser-agenda.de), target group-specific communication of water conservation measures at local level (2002). Above all, these projects helped to raise awareness of sustainable water management and waterbody conservation at local authority level. With the aid of target group-specific communication, better ways must be found of convincing broad sections of the German population of the need for sustainable water protection (www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser).
2. Large-scale nature conservation projects by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) are aimed primarily at promoting and improving the ecological functions of watercourse sections, for example, by purchasing land from private owners, the relocation of dykes, removing bank obstructions and other measures. In this way, it has been possible to restore the endangered habitats of fauna and flora and promote the natural dynamics of the watercourses. 25 years of experience in carrying out large-scale projects has highlighted the need for professional management as well as improved participation and communication, in order to promote acceptance amongst the affected communities (www.bfn.de – Project support, large-scale conservation projects).

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.]

Not relevant for Germany.

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.]

Not relevant for Germany.

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	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.]		
In the past, problems concerning the impairment of and damage to wetlands as a result of groundwater extraction have only occurred in small wetlands and in a minority of cases. There are serious consequences for wetlands in the Rhenish lignite mining region, due to the anticipated large-scale lowering of the groundwater level during lignite mining in the "Garzweiler" mine. In order to protect the wetland areas in the <i>Schwalm-Nette</i> nature park from drying out, a monitoring concept has been drawn up for use during lignite mining, which contains proposals for counteractive measures to preserve the wetlands.		

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	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.]		
Under the EU Water Framework Directive and German water legislation, the consultation of the general public and political decision-making bodies is a pre-requisite for the licensing of groundwater use.		

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	H	<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.]		
No negative impacts on wetlands associated with the aforementioned measures to reduce greenhouse gases are anticipated in Germany.		

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	H	<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.]

German climate protection policy concentrates on measures aimed at energy efficiency and promoting renewable energies. Onshore and offshore wind farms may represent impairments to waterbirds and waders. Their licensing is subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA) and/or the intervention provision under German construction law.

Generally speaking, wetlands meriting protection are exempt from reforestation measures, unless reforestation will help to improve the ecological function of the respective wetland area. Within the context of flood alleviation measures and dyke relocation, selected areas should also be restocked with riparian forests, *inter alia*.

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

H

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.]

In the year 2000, the Federal Government adopted a national climate protection programme containing a series of individual measures to reduce harmful greenhouse gases, minimise energy consumption, and promote renewable energies. All of these measures also contribute to the conservation of wetlands, particularly to the avoidance of flood disasters and the flooding of coastal regions caused by the predicted rise in sea levels.

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

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.]

The protection programmes for peatlands (see Objective 3.2) will, *inter alia*, help to avoid carbon dioxide being released during degradation processes. In view of the fact that the large-scale peatlands in Germany have already been destroyed, it is unlikely that large quantities of CO₂ will be released as a result of the decomposition of peat.

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.]

Not relevant for Germany.

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	<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.]		
No studies have been carried out since COP8.		

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	H	<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.]		
Countless scientific surveys and studies, and a wealth of information on the topic of “wetlands and agriculture” for wetland meadows, peatlands, wetland meadows and other wetlands, are available in the literature database of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(BfN), and may be utilised if required (www.bfn.de – research).		

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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PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Continuation of restoration projects and programmes for wetland areas	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of on-going restoration projects for wetland areas of national and regional significance	

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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.

Action 4.1.2.- Établir, lorsque c’est possible, des programmes de restauration/remise en état des zones humides détruites ou dégradées, en particulier dans les grands bassins hydrographiques ou les régions très importantes pour la conservation de la nature, conformément à la Recommandation 4.1 et aux Résolutions VII.17 et VII.20.

1. Wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes or projects have been developed	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.]		
Since COP8, the programmes and projects begun by the Federal Government, <i>Länder</i> and regional governments to restore peatlands (cf. Action 3.2), watercourses, river meadows and wetland meadows have been continued (cf. for example BfN: Major nature conservation projects: www.bfn.de).		

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).

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Actions have been taken to restore / rehabilitate those wetlands defined as priority for restoration (if available, please include number of sites)	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>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 17/1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
Since COP8, 17 projects comprised predominantly of wetlands (watercourses, river meadows, riparian forests, peatlands and wetland meadows) have been continued by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) programme aimed at protecting nature conservation areas of national importance. The principal aims of the projects are to recreate and permanently improve of the ecological functions of wetlands. One of the restoration projects is being implemented in the Ramsar site “ <i>Unteres Odertal</i> ” (www.bfn.de – Major nature conservation projects). In addition, the Federal <i>Länder</i> are also continuing their renaturation projects of state or regional importance according to their own priorities.			

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 <i>Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been integrated into the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument(s)	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.]		
Germany has decades of experience in the renaturation of wetlands. As such, it can be assumed that the suggestions and proposals mentioned in the guidelines (Res. VIII.16) are widely observed and applied when carrying out projects for the restoration of wetlands.		

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	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.]		

The importance of wetland restoration was recognised in the Federal Water Act of 2002. This states that during the management of watercourse systems, special consideration shall also be given to recreating the ecological functions of the wetland.

In order to minimise the flood risks along the River *Elbe* in future, as part of the IKSE's "Action Plan Flood Control of the Elbe", the existing flood plains along the *Elbe* and its tributaries are to be placed under legal protection and revitalised (www.ikse.de).

Along the Rhine, in one project, exemplary measures are being initiated and executed to revitalise degraded sections of riverbank with a high nature conservation potential. The project, which was financed by the *Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt* (DBU), the Federal *Land* of Rhineland-Palatinate and other partners, and executed by the *Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.* (NABU), aims to forge new links between administration, associations, local authorities and politics in order to restore more nature along the Rhine (cf. www.lebendiger-rhein.de).

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	<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 new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]		
Information and case studies and the results of restoration projects are generally available from the literature database of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) and may be used by interested parties (www.bfn.de). In addition, research reports, studies and expert opinions by universities, specialist authorities, NGOs and other research institutions are also published, and may be accessed via a search engine on the Internet.		

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 <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been used in the assessment of the implications of the implementation of the <i>Kyoto Protocol</i> for wetland conservation	H	<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.]		
In the year 2000, the Federal Government adopted a national climate protection programme containing a raft of individual measures to reduce harmful greenhouse gases, minimise energy consumption, and promote renewable energies. All of these measures also contribute to the conservation of wetlands, particularly to the avoidance of flood disasters and the flooding of German coastal regions caused by a potential rise in sea levels.		

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 <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been applied in relation to the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention	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>		
No application cases have arisen in Germany.		

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).

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. Cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands has been considered in restoration actions	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>		
Landmark conservation legislation generally makes allowance for cultural-historical peculiarities and archaeological findings, which also extend to wetland restoration projects (cf. Action 4.1.2).		

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)

<i>See action 20.1.5</i>		
1. Training needs in relation to wetland restoration have been assessed	A	<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;</i>
2. Training opportunities and expertise in relation to wetland restoration have been identified	A	<i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on training needs and opportunities in relation to wetland restoration.]</i>		
The restoration projects in wetland areas (see Action 4.1.2.) are carried out by qualified experts in nature conservation and water management. Conferences are held to facilitate professional exchange and reciprocal information; where necessary, these are hosted by specialist authorities, academies and other institutions.		

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	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>		
Not relevant for Germany.		

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 <i>Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration</i> have been disseminated to community stakeholders	H	<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. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities	H	
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.]		
The performance of restoration measures in wetlands (cf. Action 4.1.2) always involves collaboration with the local authorities and competent decision-makers as well as the local population. The local project managers ensure that local decision-makers and other affected parties in the local population are notified of the plans and guidelines for wetland restoration.		

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	H	<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 use of Ramsar web site on wetland restoration and the materials provided to it, if applicable.]		
It is not known whether the experts involved in the restoration of wetlands in Germany use the Ramsar restoration Website.		

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	H	<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.]		
In the event of the complete loss of a wetland area, a reduction in its size or a deterioration in ecological quality caused by intervention into the wetland area, German nature conservation legislation envisages that the party responsible is liable to pay compensation. The Federal <i>Länder</i> prescribe specific procedures and guidelines for calculating the required compensation payments.		

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:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Control and monitoring of the development and distribution of invasive species	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	- Analysis of the dispersion of invasive species in wetland areas - Formulation of a national strategy	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
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	D	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned;
3. Actions related to invasive species have been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organizations/processes	E	G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

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.]

There are numerous international treaties, as well as European and national legal provisions, aimed at preventing adverse impacts on the native fauna and flora caused by invasive alien species. For the first time, the Convention on Biological Diversity enshrines the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species as the objective and task of nature conservation in international law. In the year 2000, the Governments promised to develop national strategies. To this end, at the 6th Conference of the Parties in 2002, an extensive catalogue of measures based on the precautionary principle – the “*Guiding Principles on Invasive Alien Species*” – was adopted as a blueprint for national implementation strategies.

Within the framework of the Berne Convention of the European Council, a strategy is currently being formulated for registering, avoiding and tackling invasive alien species.

The Washington Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) allows the states of the EU, in accordance with the Species Conservation Regulation (EC 338/97), to enforce import restrictions on species thought to pose an ecological threat to the native fauna and flora (§3 (2) d). In Annex B, there is also a list of species whose import is subject to licensing under § 4 (2).

Under Article 22 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), the Member States must ensure that "the deliberate introduction into the wild of any species which is not native to their territory is regulated so as not to prejudice natural habitats within their range or the wild native fauna and flora and, if they consider it necessary, prohibit such an introduction".

According to Article 11 of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), “Member States shall see that any introduction of species of bird which do not occur naturally in the wild state in the European territory of the Member States does not prejudice the local flora and fauna”.

According to the Federal Nature Conservation Act (2002) it is the task of the Federal *Länder* to adopt suitable

measures to avert the risk of adulteration of the fauna and flora due to the establishment and dispersion of alien species of fauna and flora (§ 41, paragraph 2 of the BNatSchG). The establishment of alien fauna and flora “in the wild” requires an official licence. Cultivation for agricultural and forestry purposes of plant species, native species of fauna subject to hunting and fishing law and (provided a pesticide licence is available) biological pesticides are exempt from licensing requirements. Furthermore, the Federal Ordinance on the Conservation of Species (BArtSchV), provides for the introduction of bans on the ownership and marketing of species which may adulterate or endanger the fauna and flora. To date, use has only been made of this provision for animal species (American beaver, snapping turtle, alligator snapping turtle and Eastern grey squirrel).

The Federal Hunting Act also regulates the release or establishment of alien species in the wild and makes it subject to licensing by the Land authorities under § 28 (3).

Other legal provisions in the field of agriculture and forestry also relate to alien species (cf. www.neophyten.de).

On the basis of a research project completed in 2004, a national strategy is to be drawn up on the problems associated with invasive species.

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

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.]

For most of the neophytes which have become established in Germany, according to analyses by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), there are no risks to nature or health nor have they had any adverse economic impacts. Certain species, however, may cause economic damage, such as the reduction of harvests or increased use of pesticides in agriculture and forestry, or increased costs associated with the maintenance of roads, waterways and railways. Furthermore, the giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) and the ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) also contain substances which may cause burns or allergies in humans.

Alien species of fauna in waterbodies pose the greatest problems. As a result of shipping and the construction of canals (such as the Main/Danube Canal), many invertebrate species (mussels, snails, crabs) have been introduced into rivers and lakes, posing varying levels of threat to native species.

For example, in the year 2000, the IKSR undertook an analysis of the biotic community of the Rhine, and concluded that the South-East European species of macrozoobenthos has spread rapidly since 1990 and the inventory of species is changing substantially. The biotic community is also in the throes of restructuring, the consequences of which are impossible to assess at present (cf. www.IKSR.de – Report no. 128). In the year 2000, a fish species - the Tuberoso Goby, *Proterorhinus marmoratus* - also successfully migrated into the Rhine via the Main/Danube Canal (cf. www.IKSR.de – Report no. 127).

In 2004, the Council of Environmental Experts characterised the current situation vis-à-vis invasive species for the ecosystem of the North Sea: Around 30 % of the species introduced entered the North Sea via shipping ballast, 17 % via aquaculture, and 37 % from unspecified sources. For the coastal waters of the North Sea, there is evidence of some 80 introduced species in total which have been able to become established themselves. They belong to the groups of invertebrates (crabs, annelias, molluscs, cnidaria) and algae (micro- and macro-algae). It is very difficult to assess the threat posed to the biotic communities of the North Sea and its coastal wetlands, in view of the natural dynamics. For selected species, there has been evidence of economic damage to the fishing industry due to their rapid multiplication (e.g. the Chinese Mitten Crab *Eriocheir sinensis*). Micro-algae are particularly deserving of attention, as they may invoke algal bloom. In order to protect the biodiversity of the North Sea, species transfer should be kept to a minimum, e.g. by ensuring that ballast water is only changed, discharged or taken on board in the open sea (cf. www.umweltrat.de – Special report 2004:

“Meeresumweltschutz für Nord- und Ostsee” (Marine Environmental Protection for the North and Baltic Seas). To this end, in 2004 the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediment was adopted.

In Germany, during the course of implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), attention is increasingly focussing on invasive species, e.g. via the foundation of the NEOBIOTA Group in 1999, in which the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) and the Institute of Ecology at Berlin Technical University are involved. Amongst other things, this group has published a handbook of problem neophytes (see www.neophyten.de).

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 (*if applicable, please include number of sites*)

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° wetlands /
Ramsar sites**
6

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.*]

The problems posed by introduced species for the area of the North Sea coast were investigated and summarised in 2004 (see Action r5.1.iii); this concerns the five Ramsar sites in the Wadden Sea.

The situation vis-à-vis invasive species in the Rhine was outlined by the IKSr in 2000 (www.IKSr.de – Report no. 128); this ascertained that species diversity has increased primarily as a result of invasion by alien species from South-East Europe via the Main/Danube Canal. The biotic community of the Rhine has changed significantly as a result; this development also concerns the Ramsar site “*Rheinauen zwischen Eltville und Bingen*”.

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

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.*]

The existing international cooperation arrangements for Central European river systems and for the North and Baltic Seas also address the problem of invasive species where necessary (see Action r5.1.iii.).

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	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>Practical experience in the control of invasive plant species which tend to disperse primarily along the banks of watercourses, such as cow parsnip (<i>Heracleum giganteum</i>), Indian balsam (<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>) and Japanese knotweed (<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>), has been acquired by the NEOBIOTA Group and other specialist institutions. Practical instructions on dealing with invasive species may be found on the website of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN): www.neophyten.de .</p> <p>Intensive control of invasive species of fauna which live in native waters would only appear to be justified if, like the muskrat (<i>Ondrata zibethicus</i>), they cause considerable damage to banks.</p>		

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	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.]		
See comment on Action 5.1.2.		

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	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Expansion of public participation via networking.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Improvement of target group-specific public participation and networking in wetland projects	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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	B	<p><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></p>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
<p>The involvement of local authorities, local stakeholders and the local population in Germany is based on various legal foundations (such as nature conservation law, construction law, planning law, environmental information law) or voluntary participation in conjunction with wetlands management projects. Intensive participation is vital in order to achieve the greatest possible acceptance of management in wetland areas. This may be achieved in a variety of ways, such as</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> During the designation of protected areas, the consultation of the general public is a statutory requirement of nature conservation legislation. When preparing management plans, in particular, the local authorities and local land owners must be consulted during the planning process. The implementation of management measures requires a high degree of consent among the local population, and therefore, events, information brochures, discussions, press releases, exhibitions and other measures are used as and when required to encourage acceptance. 			
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	B	<p><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></p>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
<p>The preparation of management plans, particularly in the case of wetland areas which have been used by the local population for many years, must incorporate knowledge of the traditional use and historical management practices of the local population and land owners. The authorities and project managers must make particular allowance for these aspects in all issues of wetland management.</p>			
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	<p><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></p>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]			
<p>The involvement of the general public in decision-making processes is not only practised with regard to wetlands and their protection, but is also compulsory under the relevant legal provisions. The competent authorities are required to ensure that the general public is suitably informed of the opportunities available for participation.</p>			
3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<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>N^o Ramsar sites 1</p>

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.]

As a general rule, local stakeholders are consulted during the selection and designation of new Ramsar sites. Since COP8, a new Ramsar site “*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow*” was designated in 2003.

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

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.]

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) of 2000 governs the involvement of the general public in conjunction with water resources management at basin level. This calls on Member States to encourage the active involvement of interested parties and organisations in the preparation of management plans and programmes of measures for watercourses. The revised Federal Water Act adopted in 2002 envisages that the Federal *Länder* should specify the required provisions in their respective water legislation, in line with the WFD.

As a large number of authorities and institutions are responsible for larger river basins in Germany, innovative forms of communication are trialled within the context of projects, by linking the various stakeholders together in networks, as illustrated by the following examples:

- a) In order to sensitise the general public, local stakeholders and nature conservation organisations to the new opportunities for involvement under the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) with funding from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) is financing an information campaign with seminars, brochures and offers of advice. This is being carried out by the “*Bundeskontaktstelle Wasser*” of the private organisation *GRÜNE LIGA e.V.* Since 2004, work has focused primarily on the development of a transboundary network of NGOs with Poland and the Czech Republic in the river basins of the *Elbe* and *Oder* (cf. www.wrrl-info.de)
- b) There are plans to set up networks of authorities, associations, local authorities and stakeholders in order to revitalise degraded sections of river along the Rhine and carry out a series of exemplary measures. The project is funded by the *Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt* (DBU), the Federal Land of Rhineland-Palatinate and other partners, and implemented by the *Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.* (NABU) (cf. www.lebendiger-rhein.de).

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

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 information on the resources compiled about local communities’ and indigenous people’s participation in wetland management.]

<p>The Federal Environmental Agency has published an “Action Guide: Sustainable Water Management and Local Agenda 21”, which aims to sensitise key players in the water sector and in Local Agenda 21. The guide documents numerous case examples of successful cooperation (for details, cf. www.wasser-agenda.de).</p> <p>See also examples in action r6.1.i.</p>		
<p>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</p>	<p>B</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>4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]</p>		
<p>The Federal Environmental Agency has drafted two publications containing examples of the target group-oriented participation of and effective communication with various population groups (see www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser):</p> <p>a) Action guide “Sustainable Water Management and Local Agenda 21”. Details see www.wasser-agenda.de</p> <p>b) Communication manual “Local Agenda 21 and Water”.</p> <p>See also examples in action r6.1.i.</p>		

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

<p>1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied</p>	<p>D</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.- 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.]</p>		
<p>See also examples in action r6.1.i. and action 6.1.5. Case examples of participatory communication processes are documented in the aforementioned publications and projects. The guides and manuals are designed to make participatory methods accessible to a broader public, while the projects are designed to trial innovative participation methods.</p>		

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.

<p><i>See action r3.3.iii</i></p>		
<p>1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied</p>	<p>B</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 application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]</p>		
<p>Wetlands in Germany have been influenced by man for centuries, and have been shaped by cultural development. Allowance is made for cultural heritage when formulating protection strategies and when implementing management plans. As such, the guidelines of Res. VIII.19 have been largely taken into account.</p>		
<p>3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled</p>	<p>B</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>4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]</p>		

The literature database of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) contains, *inter alia*, case examples and publications on the cultural importance of wetland areas.

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

Thanks to the involvement of various interest groups and public institutions within the framework of existing nature conservation, water and planning legislation, it has been possible to ensure that due consideration is given to aspects of cultural importance for the respective wetland area.

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

See answer to Action r6.1.v

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

The public relations work on wetlands carried out by authorities, associations and educational establishments also incorporates the cultural aspects of the wetland area on a case-by-case basis.

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> 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.]

Not relevant for Germany

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 <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	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
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.]			
The consideration of cultural values is only relevant for those German Ramsar sites which still require human use in order to preserve the ecological character of the Ramsar area. When drawing up management plans, allowance is also made for cultural values, provided these are consistent with the protection target, e.g. in the Ramsar sites: <i>Niederung der Unteren Havel/Gülper See, Unterer Niederrhein, Unteres Odertal, Wattenmeer.</i>			

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Greater involvement of the private sector in the protection of wetland areas	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Public relations work to inform the private sector about wetlands, their protection and management	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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	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>For selected measures by the private sector in wetland areas – such as industrial plant construction, commercial development or excavations – the legal provisions under the Environmental Impact Assessment Act, Federal Building Code, Federal Excavations Act and Nature Conservation Act apply. In this way, it is hoped that it will be possible to avoid or compensate for the harmful ecological impacts emanating from such measures.</p> <p>Application of the wise use principle by farmers is important for many wetlands. With the aid of special management contracts within the context of EU agricultural subsidy programmes for extensification, as well as special utilisation contracts between the nature conservation authorities and farmers, it is possible to achieve sustainable management of wetland areas which incorporates with nature conservation targets, e.g. salt meadows in the Wadden Sea, extensive use of grassland, and organic farming in river meadows.</p> <p>The use of many wetland areas for recreation and tourism may considerably impair the ecological functions as well as wild fauna and flora. Germany endeavours to implement the wide use principle in cooperation with tourism organisations and tourism suppliers by means of spatial and temporal access restrictions, careful</p>		

routing of paths, and other measures aimed at visitor guidance, information and support, .

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

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.]

The decision-making processes relating to the protection and management of wetland areas are regulated by the legal provisions of construction, planning, water and nature conservation legislation. The competent authorities may involve the expertise and specialist knowledge of academies, universities and other specialist institutions in the respective decision-making process at their discretion.

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

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.]

Obtaining promoters, donors and sponsors for the protection and management of wetland areas is the responsibility and task of private NGOs. There are an unspecified number of local initiatives by private individuals, companies, foundations and associations which undertake, *inter alia*, to protect and manage selected wetlands.

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

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

A

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

Not relevant for Germany.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Use of incentive measures in wetland areas used for agricultural purposes	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Further development of the EU's agro-environmental programmes	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
2. Actions have been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	D	F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3. Actions have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	D	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the promotion and implementation of incentive measures and removal of perverse ones.]		
<p>The existing financing measures for the protection and sustainable management of wetland areas requiring conservation-friendly agricultural use – such as management contracts for wetland meadows, hardship compensation – are continuously being adapted in line with the latest ecological findings and ecological framework conditions.</p> <p>The EU subsidy programmes for the extensification of agricultural use have a particular significance for wetlands used for agricultural purposes. The Federal <i>Länder</i> are keen to steer such subsidy measures into particularly valuable wetland areas.</p>		

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	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on agriculture subsidies and incentives and their impacts on water resources and wetlands.]		
<p>The agricultural subsidy programmes are being developed at EU level with the aim of linking environment-related measures with selected management preconditions, so as to derive the greatest possible ecological benefit. In this way, it is hoped that it will become easier to achieve conservation-friendly management by</p>		

farmers in wetland areas.

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

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.]

The use of groundwater falls under the official supervision of the local authorities, and in this way, adverse consequences for wetlands can be avoided.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Integration of CEPA measures at all levels	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Intensification of CEPA activities at all levels for the Ramsar Convention	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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.]

The inventory of Germany's CEPA activities for wetlands (German Wetland CEPA Action Plan), drawn up in 2001 on behalf of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), asserted that the CEPA measures targeting the objectives of the Ramsar Convention are embedded in a broad-based communicative strategy for nature conservation. The topic areas of *wetlands* and *water resources* feature extensively in Germany's nature and environmental conservation communications. Examples of the integration and implementation of CEPA activities are found at all levels (national, regional and local), in many sectoral task areas (e.g. sports, tourism, excavations), in landscape, urban and regional planning, in educational programmes of nature conservation centres, museums and non-government organisations, and with campaigns for protected areas (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (2001): *German Action Plan "Communication, Education, Public Awareness on Wetlands" under the Ramsar-Convention - German*

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).

Wetland CEPA Action Plan. Compiled by Günter Mitlacher, Bonn).

There are a number of deficits, primarily regarding the communication of the objectives and tasks of the Ramsar Convention itself.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Better coordination of CEPA activities in accordance with the Ramsar Convention	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Evaluation of selected CEPA activities in Ramsar sites	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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.]

To date, there have been no evaluations of CEPA activities with regard to the topics of wetland conservation, and the management and sustainable use of wetlands. The individual players (e.g. educational establishments, nature conservation organisations) who perform communication and educational activities monitor the success of their activities themselves.

The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) commissions surveys on the environmental awareness of the German population at regular intervals. For years, the conservation of nature and water resources has enjoyed a high priority among the German population.

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;

2. Lessons learnt in implementing CEPA programmes have been documented

C

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

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

CEPA activities in Germany are not coordinated within the framework of a national communications programme but are planned, executed and evaluated autonomously by the respective players at regional or

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).

local level (authorities, associations, academies, nature conservation centres etc.).

The large number of activities which may be classified under CEPA for wetland areas makes it extremely difficult to adopt a national approach to programmes and evaluation. As such, it must be left to the discretion of individual players to develop their CEPA activities autonomously.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Coordination of CEPA activities in Ramsar conservation sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Development of a CEPA network of Ramsar conservation sites, coordinated by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(BfN)	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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	E	<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. A National NGO Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	B	

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information about Government CEPA and NGO CEPA Focal Points].

Representation of the National Governmental Focal Point is based in the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN); a new officer responsible for CEPA activities needs to be appointed (see Institutional Information).

Dr. Johann Mooij has been appointed representative of the NGOs for CEPA (see Institutional Information).

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 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.]

To date, a separate CEPA Task Force has not been set up. In 2001, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) published a study summarising and evaluating the current status of activities in Germany which may be classified under CEPA for the Ramsar Convention.

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).

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

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.]

In 2001, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) published a study outlining considerations and proposals for a CEPA national action plan.

The German action plan (German Wetland CEPA Action Plan) has been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat.

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

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 objective R9.I.

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

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.]

There are sufficient, established communication channels between the competent authorities, departments and agencies to exchange information with one another.

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

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.]

There are adequate information flows between the national bodies of the aforementioned international conventions and programmes to facilitate the use of synergies.

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	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.]		
The expertise on wetland CEPA activities existing in Germany may be explored via various channels, e.g. via nature conservation organisations, nature conservation stations in wetland areas, or environmental educational establishments. The working party <i>Natur- und Umweltbildung e.V.</i> , a private NGO whose members include educational establishments and educational experts, operates an Internet server for environmental education. In this way, contacts may be forged with educational experts involved specifically in the topics of <i>water</i> and <i>wetlands</i> (see www.umweltbildung.de).		

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	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Coordination of CEPA activities in the Ramsar conservation sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	- Development of a national network of Ramsar sites - Intensification of international contacts for an exchange of information via participation in the Wetland Link International Programme	

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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	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.]		
In Germany, a vast array of information materials, journals, books, brochures, campaign publications, exhibitions, multimedia, films, videos, slide shows, CD-ROMs and teaching software on the areas of <i>wetlands</i> and <i>water</i> has been available for many years. However, no information materials exist on the objectives and tasks of the Ramsar Convention and the role of the Ramsar sites in Germany for global wetland and waterbird protection.		

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.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

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.]

Germany has not yet succeeded in effecting the cooperation of German Ramsar sites in a national network to achieve better coordination of CEPA activities in the individual areas and to communicate at a global level the objectives, tasks and importance of the Ramsar Convention within Germany and Germany's contribution to the globalisation of wetland and waterbird protection.

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 (if available, please include number of centres or 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°
centres**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [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.]

Germany's wetland centres do not yet participate in the Wetland Link International Programme of the WWT.

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 (if available, please include number of centres or facilities)

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°
centres**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are twinned with similar ones in other countries, and further comments you consider relevant.]

An exchange on CEPA activities occurs within the framework of international bilateral cooperation by some of Germany's Ramsar sites.

See action 14.1.3.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Improvement of the capacities for CEPA activities in Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Review of the required capacity building in Ramsar sites	

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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

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.]

The 2001 study on the German Wetland CEPA Action Plan formulates suggestions regarding the need for a further expansion of capacities in the wetland centres. In particular, there are plans to further expand the network of site managers and rangers, since around half of Germany's Ramsar sites are lacking qualified staff for management purposes and for the performance of CEPA activities.

To date, there has been no more in-depth review of the capacity-building required.

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

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.]

Generally speaking, there are various opportunities available for the procurement of information and continued education on CEPA activities in wetland areas at academies, environmental centres, nature conservation stations and nature protection organisations. Vocational training exists, leading, for example, in to a qualification as "examined nature and landscape manager", which qualifies candidates to work as a ranger in a national park, a Ramsar protected site or other wetland area.

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).

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	B	<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 (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Progress in obtaining resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA has been made	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the activities for resourcing capacity building in wetland CEPA.]		
The individual information and education centres which carry out CEPA activities in wetland areas have a variety of funding options for their facilities and staff (government subsidies e.g. in national parks, private subsidies from nature conservation organisations, foundations and sponsors). Overall, the number of information centres at local level is constantly increasing.		

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	H	<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 (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected	H	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]		
The topics of <i>wetlands and wetland ecosystems, wetland related plants and animals and water resources</i> already feature in the curricula of German schools and are updated at defined intervals.		

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	More intensive communication of the <i>wise use</i> principle in Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of Ramsar sites as demonstration areas for the <i>wise use</i> principle - Participation in <i>World Wetlands Day</i> 	

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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.

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).

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched	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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>A number of examples of national information campaigns designed to help raise awareness of wetlands and their importance in Germany are listed below:</p> <p>a) Following the flood disaster of 2002, Germany has made raising awareness of preventive, sustainable flood control a priority of CEPA activities. Among local authorities and the general public, it aims to considerably strengthen awareness of the risks associated with flooding. In this way, Germany hopes to avoid mis-planning in future and achieve progress with the renaturation of river meadows. Various players, including Federal and <i>Land</i> ministries, specialist institutions, nature conservation organisations, youth initiatives etc. are involved in public campaigns (e.g. www.hochwasser-special.de; www.umweltschulen.de; www.umweltbundesamt.de).</p> <p>b) In order to sensitise the general public, local stakeholders and nature conservation organisations to the new regulations under the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) with funding from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) is funding an information campaign with seminars, brochures and offers of advice, which is being executed by the “<i>Bundeskontaktstelle Wasser</i>” of the private organisation GRÜNE LIGA e.V. Since 2004, work has focussed on the development of a transboundary network of NGOs with Poland and the Czech Republic in the river basins of the Elbe and Oder (cf. www.wrrl-info.de) There are plans to forge networks of authorities, associations, local authorities and stakeholders in order to revitalise degraded sections of river along the Rhine and carry out exemplary measures. The project is funded by the <i>Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt</i> (DBU), the Federal <i>Land</i> of Rhineland-Palatinate and other partners, and implemented by the <i>Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.</i> (NABU) (cf. www.lebendiger-rhein.de).</p> <p>c) The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) is planning a number of new PR activities in the area of water management and water policy aimed at tackling the challenges of waterbody protection, particularly on the basis of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD). The involvement of the various players with their differing, and sometimes contradictory, claims to the use of waterbodies is to be tested on a model basis under the title “New river policy – Living on the river”, in the hope of aligning the various different utilisation forms in a way which guarantees sustainable water protection.</p>		

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	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 [Please include additional information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]		
Due to the lack of capacities, Germany was unable to communicate the <i>World Wetlands Day</i> to the desired degree.		

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

Both the authorities and non-government organisations practise intensive collaboration with the media.

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)

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 information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) equipped, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

To date, the Ramsar sites have not been used to demonstrate the principle of *wise use*.

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	- Expansion of CEPA activities via networking (cf. Operational Objective 6)	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	- Improvement of target group-specific public participation and networking in wetland projects (cf. Operational Objective 6)	

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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.

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

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.]

The participation of the general public and information of the local population and various interest groups plays a key role in the formulation of management plans and programmes of measures on the sustainable use of river basins. Under the water legislation of the Federal and *Länder* Governments, the adequate information and participation of stakeholders is enshrined in law.

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

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).

1.- CEPA strategies and actions have been incorporated into the management plans of Ramsar sites (<i>if available, please include number of sites</i>)	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 information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
There is intensive participation of the local population and various interest groups in the formulation and adoption of management plans, where applicable. As such, CEPA activities represent an important element when mediating management objectives and tasks in Ramsar sites.			

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:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Improvement of the infrastructure for CEPA activities in Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Completion of the network of information centres in Ramsar sites	

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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>)	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° centres > 300 N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites ?/25
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>]			
In Germany, it is estimated that there are at least 500 environmental and nature conservation centres (as per 2001, according to Giesel, K.D., de Haan, G. et al (2001): <i>Außerschulische Umweltbildung in Zahlen. Die Evaluationsstudie der Deutschen Bundesstiftung Umwelt—Initiativen zum Umweltschutz</i> , Bd. 34, Berlin).			
The precise number of information and education centres in wetland areas which perform CEPA activities pursuant to the Ramsar Convention is not known, but this is thought to be the case in the majority of the 500 or so centres.			
There are now some 56 information or education centres located in 25 of the 32 Ramsar sites (75 %).			

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).

3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<u>if available, please include number of centres and sites</u>)	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° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites /1
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres planned and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
The number of information centres continues to rise, and new centres are likely to be set up in wetland areas. There are plans for a new information and education centre in the Ramsar site <i>Galenbecker See</i> .			

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	H	<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.]		
Information about wetland areas and water resources provided by the education centres (cf. action r9.viii.iv.) is consistent with the objectives of the Ramsar Convention, and is intended to raise awareness of the protection and sustainable use of wetland areas among all sections of the population, particularly among children and young people (see Operational Objective R9.I.). However, there is still a deficit in the communication of the Ramsar Convention as an instrument of global wetland and waterbird protection and the sustainable use of water resources.		

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 (<u>if available, please include number of facilities</u>)	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° facilities 3.200
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.]			
According to a study by the <i>Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt</i> (DBU), there are currently some 4,600 environmental educational establishments in Germany (as per 2001), 70 % of whom offer topics from the field of conservation and environmental protection. Although the details are not known, it can be assumed that the majority of establishments also include courses on the aspects of water and wetlands in their nature studies and natural sciences curricula, since these topics are in high demand amongst the general population. Some 10,000 – 12,000 individuals are primarily involved in environmental education in these establishments. The 4,600 environmental education institutions are broken down as follows: NGOS: 21 %; nature conservation centres: 14 %, other NGOs: 11 %; adult education facilities: 11 %, authorities: 9 %, academies: 8 %, museums: 4 % (Ref: Giesel, K.D., de Haan, G. et al (2001): <i>Außerschulische Umweltbildung in Zahlen. Die Evaluationsstudie der Deutschen Bundesstiftung Umwelt—Initiativen zum Umweltschutz</i> Bd. 34, Berlin). In addition, many local authority water treatment plants or water supply companies also host information events on drinking water, groundwater and water processing issues.			

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:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Registration of additional Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Review of the list of potential Ramsar candidates	

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.

<p>1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List</p>	C	<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 implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>In 2002, new potential Ramsar sites in Germany were selected on the basis of the designation of "Important Bird Areas" (IBA). The <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten</i> (DDA) identified a total of 207 IBAs which met the criteria of a Ramsar site, either in full or in part (cf. Sudfeldt, Ch. et al (2002): <i>Important Bird Areas und potenzielle Ramsar-Gebiete in Deutschland. Ber. Vogelschutz</i> 39: 119-132; see www.dda-web.de). Many of these sites are already protected as "Special Protection Areas" (SPAs) under the EU Birds Directive, or will be shortly. A discussion and review can then be conducted to identify further wetlands of international importance.</p> <p>On 21 February 2003, the site "<i>Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow</i>" was designated Germany's 32nd Ramsar site by the Federal <i>Land</i> of Saxony-Anhalt.</p> <p>Discussions surrounding the "Upper Rhine" (<i>Oberrhein</i>) as a transboundary German-French wetland of international importance are expected to reach a positive conclusion in the near future. The selection of sites under the Habitats Directive on the Upper Rhine as part of the Ramsar corridor in Baden-Wuerttemberg was concluded at the end of 2004. The next task will be to investigate and include additional Special Protection Areas on the Baden-Wuerttemberg side of the Upper Rhine in the Ramsar site corridor. Designation of a shared Ramsar site with France cannot take place until the bird protection corridor is complete.</p> <p>Discussions surrounding the designation of further wetlands of international importance are not yet complete.</p>		

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.

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.]

In 2002, new potential Ramsar sites in Germany were selected on the basis of the designation of "Important Bird Areas" (IBA). The *Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten (DDA)* identified a total of 207 IBAs which met the criteria of a Ramsar site, either in full or in part. (cf. Sudfeldt, Ch. et al (2002): *Important Bird Areas und potenzielle Ramsar-Gebiete in Deutschland. Ber. Vogelschutz* 39: 119-132; see www.dda-web.de). Many of these sites are already protected as "Special Protection Areas" (SPAs) under the EU Birds Directive, or will be shortly. A discussion and review can then take place to identify further wetlands of international importance.

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)

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
1**

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.]

Since the last COP, the site "*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow*" has also been classified according to Ramsar criterion 6.

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).

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
1**

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.]

Germany's Ramsar sites comply with criterion 6, which was decisive for the selection of the first German Ramsar sites back in 1976, as well as some of the other aforementioned criteria of the Ramsar Convention (e.g. Wadden Sea as a unique wetland type). The site "*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow*" was evaluated according to 5 of the 8 Ramsar criteria in 2003.

3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</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° 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.]			
The site “Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow” designated in 2003 belongs to the wetland type “alluvial plains”. All other designated German Ramsar sites already belong to this wetland type.			

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

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</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° Ramsar sites 6
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
No further coastal sites have been designated since COP8. The entire German coastal zone of the Wadden Sea on the North Sea is represented by 5 Ramsar sites. The Ramsar site “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” was enlarged by 2,050 ha to 13,750 ha in 2001.			
Of the coastal zone of the Baltic Sea, “Boddengewässer Ostufer Zingst-Westküste Rügen-Hiddensee” is a designated Ramsar site.			
In recent years, research into coastal areas has been stepped up considerably. New protected areas may be identified on the basis of these up-to-date databases. Furthermore, a number of potential Ramsar sites in Germany have emerged based on the designation of "Important Bird Areas" (IBA). The <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten</i> (DDA) identified a total of 207 IBAs which met the criteria of a Ramsar site, either in full or in part; more than 20 sites are coastal zones (cf. Sudfeldt, Ch. et al (2002): <i>Important Bird Areas und potenzielle Ramsar-Gebiete in Deutschland. Ber. Vogelschutz</i> 39: 119-132; see www.dda-web.de). Many of these sites are already protected as “Special Protection Areas” (SPAs) under the EU Birds Directive, or will be shortly. A discussion and review can then take place to identify further wetlands of international importance.			

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.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
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 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</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° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
No further sites have been designated according to the aforementioned criteria since COP8.			
Germany’s Ramsar sites are of particular importance for the protection of migrating waterfowl and wader species. The Ramsar sites in the Wadden Sea are of outstanding importance for the populations of waterbirds: At times, more than 50 % of the population of Barnacle Geese (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>) and Brants (<i>Branta bernicla</i>) may			

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.”

be found here, together with numerous species of waders. Hundreds of thousands of Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) and Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) come here to moult. Terns (*Chlidonias sp.*, *Sterna sp.*) are likewise present in internationally significant numbers in the Wadden Sea region.

More than 25 % of Europe's population of cranes rest in the sea inlets of the Baltic Sea en route to their winter quarters, and the Ramsar sites of the alluvial plains also represent a vital part of the resting areas for geese of the *Anser* and *Branta* species, with population-preserving status (cf. Miltacher, G. (1997): *Ramsar-Bericht Deutschland. Schriftenr. Landschaftspflege u. Naturschutz* 51, Bonn) .

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).

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
1

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

The Ramsar site “*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow*” designated in 2003 supplements the network of protected wetland areas for migrating waterfowl species in Central Europe.

The 32 German wetlands of international importance already reported to the Ramsar Convention are an indispensable element of the network of protected areas for migratory waders and waterfowl on the East Atlantic Flyway of Waterfowl.

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 (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

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 you consider relevant.]

The Ramsar site “*Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow*” designated in 2003 is protected by law and comprises two protected areas under the EU Birds Directive (special protected area - SPA) and parts of three sites under the Habitats Directive, parts of several nature conservation areas and the biosphere reserve “*Flusslandschaft Elbe*”.

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 (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

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 you consider relevant.]

No further transboundary Ramsar sites have been designated since COP8.

In Germany, several Ramsar sites border on neighbouring countries (*Wattenmeer, Unterer Niederrhein, Unteres Odertal, Unterer Inn*), and transboundary protective measures are coordinated in these cases.

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 (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

Not relevant for Germany

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 VIII.10)

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

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.]

Germany has not made any contributions in this respect.

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

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.]

No information has been forwarded to the STRP in this respect.

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	<p><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></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made.]		
<p>In Germany, the population estimates for waterbirds were updated in 2003 within the context of voluntary waterfowl censuses (cf. Wahl, J. et al (2003): Waterbirds wintering in Germany – trends and population estimates for 1990 – 2000. Ber. Vogelschutz 40: 91-103; see www.dda-web.de).</p> <p>This overview lists the estimated total populations of waterbird species which regularly overwinter in Germany in significant numbers, as defined in the Ramsar Convention. It is derived from the outcome of the “International Waterbird Census” (coordinated in Germany by the <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten</i> (DDA), with the support of “<i>Schutzstation Wattenmeer</i>” and <i>Staatliche Vogelschutzwerke Niedersachsen</i> for shorebirds and the “Seabirds at Sea” programme (coordinated by: <i>S. Garthe, Ornithologische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Schleswig-Holstein und Hamburg e.V., Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste der Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel</i>).</p>		
3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	C	<p><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></p>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information provided.]		
<p>Where the “International Waterbird Census” is concerned, the population figures for waterfowl are regularly forwarded by the <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten e.V.</i> (DDA; www.dda-web.de) to <i>Wetlands International</i>. Coordination of German waterfowl monitoring and the logging of waterbirds in census areas is generally performed on a voluntary basis, whilst compilation of the data for <i>Wetlands International</i> is funded by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).</p> <p>From 2003 to 2006, the research and development project “Monitoring of Bird Species in Germany” will be carried out by the <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten</i> (DDA), which is financed by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). As part of this project, the DDA plans to further develop waterfowl monitoring. Additionally, the “Monitoring of Breeding Bird Species in the General Countryside” is to be developed, whilst the “Monitoring of Endangered and Protected Species” and monitoring of protected areas, including Ramsar sites, is to be improved.</p> <p>In future, the “Monitoring of Breeding Bird Species in the General Countryside” will enable the DDA to report on the nationwide population development of wetland-based songbird species on a scientifically sound basis. Since the late Seventies, the “Monitoring of Endangered and Protected Species” has been supplying data on selected species from the group of waterfowl and raptors as defined by the Ramsar Convention (cf. www.dda-web.de).</p>		
Action r10.1.xxi.- Assist <i>Wetlands International</i> and <i>BirdLife International</i> through the continued collection and supply of population data on waterbirds, including globally threatened species and those species identified by <i>BirdLife International</i> in <i>Threatened Birds of the World</i> as being data deficient. (Resolution VIII.38)		
1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<p><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> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i></p>
2. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]		
<p>Population data is regularly forwarded by the <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten e.V.</i> (DDA; www.dda-web.de) to <i>Wetlands International</i>. Within the context of its collaboration with <i>BirdLife International</i> , the <i>Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.</i> (NABU), in its role as German Birdlife partner, provides information and data on bird species</p>		

and protected areas.

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:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To improve the information basis on Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To develop a database of Ramsar sites at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)	

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	E	<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.]		
It is the task of the Federal <i>Länder</i> to update the Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS). To date, updates have been performed for 10 Ramsar sites. (see Action 10.2.4.)		

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	E	<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.]		
It is the task of the Federal <i>Länder</i> to complete the Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) . Once updates of the RIS are complete, the documents are forwarded to the Ramsar Office. (see Action 10.2.4.)		

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	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The updated RIS of the following Ramsar sites have already been transmitted to the Ramsar Office: <i>Bodensee: Wollmatinger Ried Giebrenmoos - Hegnebucht & Mindelsee</i> (updated 2001), <i>Mühlenberger Loch und Hamburgisches Wattenmeer</i> (updated 2003, 2001), <i>Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg, Rieselfelder Münster and Unterer Niederrhein</i> (updated 2002), <i>Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer</i> (updated 2002), <i>Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow</i> (1997), <i>Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra</i> (2001) and <i>Niederung der Unteren Havel/ Gülper See/ Schollener See</i> (2002) . Updates of the other Ramsar sites are currently in progress.		

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:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To preserve or improve the ecological character of the Ramsar sites.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To prepare further management plans within the framework of NATURA 20000 and continue with monitoring	

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 <i>(if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied)</i> .	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 19
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of sites involved and any additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]</i>			
The specific measures required to preserve the ecological character of Ramsar sites are defined in the management plans and implemented on a step-by-step basis. Management plans or proposed measures to preserve or improve the ecological character of the protected area or parts thereof exist in 19 of Germany's Ramsar sites.			

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 <i>New Guidelines for management planning</i> have been used in the development of management plans or strategies	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 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]		
In most cases, the management plans in Germany's Ramsar sites began several years ago. The suggestions and proposals outlined in Resolution VIII.14 are largely standard practice in Germany's management plans.		
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES		N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place		<u>19</u>
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied		<u>11</u>
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared		<u>2</u>
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated		<u>0</u>
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.]		
Management plans have been completed or are currently in progress for 28 of Germany's Ramsar sites. Management plans are not yet available for 5 of the sites.		

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		<u>8</u>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]		
Germany's Ramsar sites enjoy varying forms of legal protection, some as national parks and biosphere reserves, others as nature conservation areas. The management plans are geared to the respective requirements and objectives of the national protection category, which is also decisive for management of the Ramsar site.		
In the following 8 Ramsar sites, the management plans are primarily geared to their status as national parks: All Ramsar sites in the Wadden Sea (the national park plans implement the objectives of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan, <i>inter alia</i>); <i>Ostufer Müritzer</i> ; <i>Ostseeboddengewässer</i> and <i>Unteres Odertal</i> .		
In most of the other Ramsar sites, management is geared to the objectives as a nature conservation area, as a "Special Protected Area" (SPA) under the EU Birds Directive, or as sites under the EU Habitats Directive.		

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	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.]		
Germany is able to draw on many years of experience and findings in the preparation and implementation of management plans for wetland areas. For the most part, these have incorporated the suggestions,		

recommendations and proposals of the various aforementioned resolutions and *guidelines*, where this was considered expedient for wetlands in Germany.

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

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.]

During the course of preparing and implementing management plans in Ramsar sites, all interested and affected parties are generally involved in the discussions.

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

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.]

During the course of preparing management plans for Ramsar sites, the aforementioned aspects are usually taken into account, where these are of relevance to the Ramsar sites.

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

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
27**

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

Where special measures to preserve the ecological status are required in one of Germany's Ramsar sites, these measures are integrated into the management plans. In 19 of Germany's 32 (60 %) Ramsar sites, measures are taken to preserve and promote the ecological status (see Action 11.1.1.)

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

Following the flood disaster of 2002 in the catchment area of the *Elbe*, special measures were initiated to increase the elasticity of Elbe river basin against extreme precipitation potentially associated with climate change. To this end, the “Action Plan on Flood Control of the Elbe” was adopted in 2003 by the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe. The remaining flood plains along the Elbe and its tributaries are to be preserved and placed under legal protection in Germany. Through the relocation of dykes and other measures, it is hoped that former flood plains can be recovered (cf. www.IKSE.de - Hochwasserschutz).

In the catchment area of the Rhine, in 1998 the “Action Plan Flooding” was adopted by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, in order to achieve better preventive flood control in case of extreme precipitation. In particular, there are plans to step up cooperation between the local, regional, national and international level (cf. www.IKSR.de - Floods).

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

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.]

The principal task of German Ramsar sites is to provide a long-term habitat for migratory waterfowl, waders and meadow bird species. Information and data from waterbird censuses are also incorporated into the management plans.

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

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.]

For example, special agricultural practices are used to manage salt meadows in the Ramsar sites of the Wadden Sea. Selected parts of the Ramsar sites in riverine landscapes are extensively grazed with cattle and sheep, in order to preserve the ecological character and as a habitat for meadow birds.

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.]

To date, there has been no analysis of effective management practices of Ramsar sites.

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)

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
8

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]

The Ramsar sites in the Wadden Sea (Wadden Sea in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, and Wadden Sea areas in Lower Saxony), on the Baltic Sea coast (*Ostseeboddengewässer Westrügen-Hiddensee-Zingst*), the *Untere Müritz* and the *Undere Oder*, which are designated as national parks or biosphere reserves, are zoned in accordance with the respective national parks plan.

3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity (if available, please include number of sites)

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.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with strict protection measures, and any additional comments you may consider relevant.]

Stringent protection measures for smaller Ramsar sites may be achieved via designation as a nature conservation area, an SPA under the EU Birds Directive or a site under the Habitats Directive. Particularly important and sensitive sites have been purchased and are under the ownership of the Federal Government, foundations or private nature conservation organisations.

To date, it has not been possible to place 100 % of all land in smaller Ramsar sites under legal protection or government ownership.

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 (if available, please include number of sites)

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*

14

2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)

D

14

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]

Site Management Committees are used in part of the Ramsar sites to inform and involve the various interest groups and affected parties in measures aimed at the cultivation and development of the site.

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> <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>		
Not relevant for Germany		

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	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>		
Not relevant for Germany		

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>	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>	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
In January 2001, the Ramsar Office was informed in respect of Art. 2.5 of the Convention that the area of the Ramsar site <i>Mühlenberger Loch</i> was to be reduced from 675 ha to 580 ha in order to facilitate the expansion of the DASA Airbus site in Hamburg. This measure concerns an “urgent national interest” justifying a boundary change in accordance with Art. 2.5 of the Convention. At the same time, compensation measures were proposed, in accordance with Art. 4.5 of the Convention.			

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:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	The improvement of monitoring in Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	- Coordination of monitoring measures with the requirements of the NATURA 2000 programme - Further development of waterfowl monitoring	

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>	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</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>	32
2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		32
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites falling under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant about monitoring programmes.]</i>			
<p>Monitoring in Germany's Ramsar sites occurs in varying forms and intensities. In particular, contributions are made by private site managers, nature conservation organisations, employees of nature conservation stations, biological stations, and specialist authorities.</p> <p>The waterfowl, waders and meadow birds, as well as the breeding birds, are regularly recorded by volunteers in all Ramsar sites. From 2003 to 2006, the research and development project "Monitoring of Bird Species in Germany" will be carried out by the <i>Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten</i> (DDA), which is financed by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). As part of this project, waterfowl monitoring is to be further developed by the DDA. Additionally, the "Monitoring of Breeding Bird Species in the Countryside" program is to be developed, and the "Monitoring of Endangered and Protected Species" and monitoring of protected areas, including Ramsar sites, is to be improved (see www.dda-web.de und www.vogelmonitoring.de).</p> <p>In Ramsar sites which have been placed under protection as national parks (<i>Wattenmeer, Ostseeboddengewässer, Ostufer der Müritz, Unteres Odertal</i>), special programmes to record the vegetation, key fauna groups and influences on usage have been set up in line with the national park objectives. In the other Ramsar sites, monitoring tends to be less intensive in temporal and geographical terms, and also with regard to the parameters.</p>			

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>	D	<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 planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
<p>In Germany, the performance of monitoring programmes is the responsibility of the Federal <i>Länder</i>. Where necessary, these also use land located within Ramsar sites for their respective programmes. There is no uniform nationwide programme in Germany for the monitoring of biological diversity.</p> <p>The Ramsar sites in the Wadden Sea are included in the monitoring programme (TMAP Trilateral Monitoring and Assessment Programme) as part of the Wadden Sea trilateral cooperation arrangement (www.waddensea-secretariat.org).</p> <p>The research project "Monitoring of bird species in Germany" was launched in 2003. Its aims include the uniform national monitoring of waterbird species (cf. www.vogelmonitoring.de). Waterbird species are also recorded in the Ramsar sites (cf. action 11.2.1.).</p>			

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.]

The following information is provided regarding the status and trends of biological diversity in Germany:
 More than 16,000 of around 49,000 native species of fauna have been evaluated with regard to their risk in the Red List of endangered **fauna** in Germany (as per 1998). Of these, 3 % were extinct (category 0), 36 % at risk (cat. 1,2,3,G), 4 % extremely rare (cat. R), 3 % on the early warning list (ct. V) and 54 % not at risk/insufficient data (cat. D). Compared with the situation ten years previously (1984), many fauna groups continue to exhibit a negative trend caused by the loss of habitats.
 The Red List of endangered **flora** in Germany (as per 1996) includes some 14,000 species which have been analysed to evaluate their risk. Of these, around 4% were extinct (category 0), 29% at risk (cat. 1,2,3,G), 7% extremely rare (cat. R), 3 % on the early warning list (ct. V) and 58% not at risk/insufficient data (cat. D).
 It is particularly worth mentioning the major threat to flora species endemic to Germany and neighbouring regions, around 5 % of which are extinct (cat. 0) and 67 % at risk (cat. 1,2,3,G). Overall, the threat to plant species remains critical, even though targeted promotional measures have helped to stabilise selected populations.
 788 communities were evaluated for the Red List of endangered **plant communities** (as per 2000). Of these, less than 1 % had disappeared (cat. 0), around 48 % were at risk (cat. 1,2,3,G), 4 % extremely rare (cat. R), 7 % on the early warning list, and 40 % not at risk/insufficient data (cat. D). The plant communities of damp sites (peatlands, watercourses) are particularly at risk, due to the destruction of their habitats.
 Supplementary to the Red List of endangered species, a directory of threatened **biotope types** has been drawn up (as per 1994) to assess the current risk situation. More than two-thirds (69 %) of biotope types are to be classified as at risk (cat. 1,2,3); only a few biotope types (1%) are potentially at risk, around 6 % not at risk, while around 25 % of Germany's biotope types are classed as not particularly meriting protection. This evaluation once again highlighted the fact that the biotope types of wetland areas (coasts, peatlands, watercourses) are particularly affected by the threat. Statements regarding risk trends cannot be made until the Red List has been updated.
 (Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(BfN) (2002): *Daten zur Natur*, Bonn)

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

H

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.]

Where there are proposals or plans for projects (e.g. roads, industrial installations, excavations) which may adversely alter the ecological character of the Ramsar sites, an environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the valid legal provisions.

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	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.]		
It is the task of the specialist authorities of the Federal <i>Länder</i> to monitor any ecological changes in the Ramsar sites and notify these where necessary.		

Action 11.2.4.- In fulfilment 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>	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° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	D		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]			
<p>Re 1: The ecological character of the Ramsar site <i>Mühlenberger Loch</i> has adversely changed as a result of the reduction in land, caused by the expansion of the Airbus site in 2001.</p> <p>Re 2: The anticipated changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site <i>Mühlenberger Loch</i> have been notified to the Ramsar office within the context of the procedure pursuant to Art. 2.5 of the Convention (cf. Action r.11.1.xv). The impairments are noted in the updated Ramsar Information Sheet transmitted in 2003.</p> <p>Re 3: No new Ramsar sites have been added to the Montreux Record since COP8. The Ramsar site <i>Unterer Niederrhein</i> was deleted from the Montreux Record in 1999. Deletion of the site <i>Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart</i> has been applied for; this can be implemented as soon as the compensation measures have been assessed.</p>			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]			
Not relevant for Germany			

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	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 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken.]		
It is the task of the specialist authorities of the Federal <i>Länder</i> to monitor any ecological changes in the Ramsar sites. A report by the <i>Länder</i> is only considered appropriate in the event of severe changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar sites.		

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 <i>Montreux Record</i> , if any <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
A <i>Ramsar Advisory Mission</i> was carried out in the Ramsar site <i>Unterer Niederrhein</i> in 1993; the site was deleted from the <i>Montreux Record</i> in 1999. In 1990, a <i>Ramsar Advisory Mission</i> took place in the Ramsar site <i>Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart</i> ; most recently, in 2003, a report was sent to the Ramsar Secretariat by the Federal <i>Land</i> of Lower Saxony with an application to delete the site from the <i>Montreux Record</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>	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;	1
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the <i>Montreux Record (if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	1
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>			
The Federal <i>Land</i> of Lower Saxony has undertaken various measures in the Ramsar site <i>Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart</i> in order to avoid and/or minimise the impairment of the Ramsar site in the form of coastal protection measures in <i>Leybucht</i> . The measures taken were reported to the Ramsar office in 2003 in accordance with Article 3.2.			

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 <i>Montreux Record (if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;	1
2.- Actions taken to address issues at <i>Montreux Record</i> Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	B	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 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]</i>			

N° Ramsar sites
The Federal <i>Land</i> of Lower Saxony has undertaken various measures in the Ramsar site <i>Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer mit Dollart</i> in order to avoid and/or minimise the impairment of the Ramsar site via coastal protection measures in <i>Leybucht</i> . The measures taken were reported to the Ramsar office in 2003 in accordance with Article 3.2.

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:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To further develop multilateral agreements	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To participate in the further development of existing agreements	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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>)	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>	N° wetlands/ wetland systems 7
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>The transboundary river basins and water catchment areas existing in Germany have been identified: These concern the river basins of the Moselle, Saar, Maas, Rhine, Ems, Danube, Elbe and Oder, and Lake Constance as an inland water. International agreements exist for these river basins, within whose framework management is coordinated (cf. Action 12.3.2.). These conventions – in more or less similar formulations – aim to protect the rivers from contamination, to improve the water quality, to coordinate flood control, to ensure that the aquatic and associated terrestrial ecosystems are as natural as possible, and to strengthen the reciprocal exchange of information. The more recent of these conventions also include recommendations to assess the environmental compatibility of planned projects. As such, these international conventions represent the most important basis for an integrated protection strategy and a cooperative management mechanism for transboundary river basins.</p> <p>In the designated and planned transboundary Ramsar sites – <i>Wattenmeer, Unterer Niederrhein, Unterer Inn, Unteres Odertal</i> and <i>Oberrhein</i> – intensive relationships to coordinate protective measures and manage the areas have existed for many years.</p>			

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

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.]

For the Wadden Sea and the Baltic Sea, as well as all major river basins which Germany shares with neighbouring countries, multilateral agreements have been concluded in respect of protection, management, monitoring and sustainable management (cf. Actions 12.1.1. and 12.3.2.).

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

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.]

Aspects of watercourse regulation, water quality, waterbody structure, the ecological situation, the system of interlinked biotopes and sustainable management have been discussed within the framework of existing multilateral agreements. Consideration is given to the guidelines of Resolution VIII.1 in many of these discussions.

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 *Espoo 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

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.]

Germany is a Member State of the Espoo Convention which regulates environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context. In 2002, a new law was adopted incorporating the amendments to the Espoo Convention resolved in 2001.

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.]

The International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (IKSR) has published its objectives and strategy for the sustainable development of the ecosystem “Rhine” on the Internet (www.iksr.de). All information, analyses, expertise and reports involved in the integration of wetland protection, the recovery of flood plains, promotion of biological diversity, development of an interlinked system of biotopes and economical use of the river basin are accessible to any interested parties. These activities contribute to the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*.

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	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Development of a nationwide monitoring system for waterbird species	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	- Performance of the pilot phase for a nationwide monitoring system for waterbird species - Revision of the Federal Hunting Act	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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 (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated</i>)	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 32
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>In 2003, Germany designated the Ramsar site <i>Aland-Elbe-Niederung und Elbaue Jerichow</i> under the waterbird criteria. A total of 32 Ramsar sites have been designated primarily according to the waterbird criteria.</p> <p>In addition, 207 “Important Bird Areas” (IBA) have been identified which meet the waterbird criteria according to the Ramsar Convention, either in full or in part (cf. Action 10.1.1.).</p> <p>2003 saw the launch of the research project “Monitoring of bird species”, whose aims include the uniform national monitoring of waterbird species. The recording of waterbird species is considered a fundamental prerequisite for identifying potential Ramsar sites (cf. action 11.2.1.).</p>			

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)

<i>See action r10.1.iv</i>		
1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed	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.]		
<p>With the revision of the Federal Nature Conservation Act in 2002, the legal provisions of the EU Birds Directive and the EU Habitats Directive were transposed into German nature conservation law. Articles 32 to 38 of the Federal Nature Conservation Act are aimed at the development and protection of the European NATURA 2000 ecological network, especially the protection of sites of Community importance and European bird sanctuaries. In this way, a new regional system of protected areas for breeding bird species and migratory bird species in the wetland areas has been created.</p> <p>In addition, the system of protected areas under the EU Birds Directive also provides the basis for Germany's territorial system under the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).</p>		

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	<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>Strict recovery periods apply to all waterbird species falling under the scope of hunting legislation. The Federal Hunting Season Ordinance was revised in 2003 to implement the provisions of Article 7 of the EU Birds Directive.</p> <p>Six Federal <i>Länder</i> have since adopted legal provisions prohibiting the use of lead shot. The introduction of a uniform nationwide to ban the use of lead shot throughout Germany is considered necessary.</p> <p>There are also plans to revise the Federal Hunting Act.</p>		

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:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Intensive involvement in regional initiatives for wetland protection	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Continuation of activities within the framework of existing agreements	

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

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.]

Germany is involved in the following regional initiatives for marine areas, river basins and inland lakes which serve the objectives of the Ramsar Convention:

- Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention (www.waddensea-secretariat.org).
- International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea and OSPAR Convention for the North-East Atlantic (www.ospar.org)
- Helsinki Convention on the Baltic Sea (www.helcom.fi)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (IKSR, www.iksr.de)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe (IKSE, www.ikse.de)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Oder (IKSO, www.mkoo.pl)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube (IKSE, www.icpdr.org)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Moselle and the Saar (IKSMS, www.iksms-cipms.org)
- International Maas Commission (IKM, www.cipm-icbm.be)
- International Commission for the Protection of Lake Constance (IGKB, www.igkb.de)
- Permanent German/Dutch Transboundary Water/Ems Commission (Federal Ministry for Transport)
- Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (ECE Water Convention)

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

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:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To strengthen cooperation between the international conventions	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To continue ongoing activities	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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.]

Cooperation between the various international agreements and conventions is performed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

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

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 information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]

Cooperation between the various players at national level is performed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

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

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.]

Cooperation between Ramsar and MAB matters is performed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

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.]

Cooperation between Ramsar matters and the aforementioned conventions, where this concerns Germany, is performed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

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.]

Cooperation between Ramsar matters and the aforementioned programmes, where this concerns Germany, is performed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

The cooperation of activities in the field of European wetlands protection occurs within the framework of the EU, the European Council, bilateral and multilateral commissions for river basins (see action 12.3.2.) and the international conventions for the Wadden Sea (Trilateral Wadden Sea Convention), the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) and the Baltic Sea (HELCOM).

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

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.]

Not relevant for Germany.

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	<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>		
Not relevant for Germany		

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	<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>		
Not relevant for Germany.		

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	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>		
Not relevant for Germany.		

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:	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):	To intensify the exchange of information	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To improve the range of information available on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Germany	

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	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>The exchange of information at national level regarding the objectives, implementation and development of the Ramsar Convention, particularly regarding the CEPA programme as well, has not been further expanded due to limited staff capacities and financial resources.</p> <p>At international level, due to the limited staff capacities, Germany has been unable to contribute to the exchange of information with the bodies of the Ramsar Convention on the desired scale.</p>		

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	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>In recent years, Germany has made a particular effort to step up its cooperation with Eastern European countries. To this end, the <i>Internationale Naturschutzakademie Insel Vilm</i> of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) organised seminars, workshops and expert meetings aimed at the exchange of information and experience regarding mechanisms for the protection of the Baltic Sea. These events also had the character of advanced training courses.</p>		

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> <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 information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]		
<p>Cooperation arrangements and multilateral agreements exist in the transboundary Ramsar sites (<i>Wattenmeer, Unterer Niederrhein, Unteres Odertal, Unterer Inn</i>) and other wetland areas (such as <i>Oberrhein, Saar – Moselle, Danube, Oder-Neiße, Elbe</i>), within whose framework an intensive exchange of information takes place (cf. Action 12.3.2).</p> <p>There are also networks to other wetlands in Europe and other parts of the world which are organised autonomously by individuals, nature conservation organisations and scientific institutions. The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), together with the nature conservation ministries of selected Federal <i>Länder</i>, support these endeavours as far as possible. (see No. 3.).</p>		
3.- Twinning arrangements among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites involved</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 / Ramsar sites 7/5

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]

The twinning agreements which have existed for a number of years have been continued:

- Common Waddensea Secretariat with The Wash/Norfolk and with Guinea Bissau (see www.waddensea-secretariat.org)
- National park *Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft* with the Lahemaa National Park in Estonia
- National park *Unteres Odertal* with the national park “Biebrza” in Poland
- Ramsar site **Rieselfelder Münster** with the national park “Donaudelta” in Rumania, Kamanos protected area in Lithuania, national park “Djoudj” in Senegal (see www.rieselfelder-muenster.de)

In 2004 a new twinning project began:

- National park *Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer* with tidal flats in South Korea – Saemangeum region (see www.wattenmeer-nationalpark.de)

German nature conservation organisations also support wetlands in Europe and other continents through project work, e.g.

- EURONATUR (www.euronatur.de) is dedicated to the protection of wetlands for migratory birds and coastal regions for the monk seal in Europe
- Global Nature Fund carries out projects with EU funding for the protection and management of wetlands and lakes in Europe (www.livingwetlands.org and www.livinglakes.org)
- NABU promotes the conservation of the Arabuko Sokoke mangrove forest on Mida Creek/Kenya (www.nabu.de – International)
- WWF-Deutschland funds the renaturation of Biebrza national park/Poland as well as ecological studies in the “Oder/Neiße green belt” (www.wwf.de).

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

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.]

There is no single, central Internet portal available in Germany covering all topics and aspects of wetlands. Various mechanisms contribute to an Internet-based exchange of information and transfer of knowledge, which are continuously being updated, e.g.

- a) General Internet searches among German Websites
- b) The home page of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (www.bmu.de)
- c) The project and literature database of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation(www.bfn.de)
- d) The website of the Federal Environmental Agency on water issues (www.umweltbundesamt.de/wasser)
- e) The directory of monitoring programmes for waterbirds (www.vogelmonitoring.de; www.dda-web.de)
- f) The websites of the competent authorities of the Federal *Länder*
- g) The websites of non-government organisations

Germany developed the Internet-based network GLOBWINET, an Associated Program of the Global Water Partnership. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit* (GTZ). The Global Water Information Network - GLOBWINET aims to improve the exchange of experiences and information by electronic and personal networking. Its mission is to promote the Rio/Dublin principles on Integrated Water Resources Management and to provide access to information on materials, organisations and people in water

management (see www.globwinet.org).

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

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.]

The exchange of information on Alpine ecosystems takes place within the context of activities staged by the Alpine Convention, such as specialist conferences, seminars and expert meetings (cf. www.cipra.org). In 2003 and 2004, Germany chaired the Alpine Conference, and is keen to promote common educational and information measures by the Alpine countries.

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	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Lasting, sustainable management concepts incorporating all three pillars of sustainability and the guidelines of the CBD. Particular efforts in the field of “Sustainable Financing” coordinated by the Conservation Finance Alliance (CFA)	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Continued editing of management plans and business plans in Ramsar sites promoted by Germany.	

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

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. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues

B

*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 implementation of this action.]

The *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)* is a global company which promotes international cooperation for sustainable development. Aided by funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic

Cooperation and Development (BMZ), it supports numerous projects with a direct or indirect reference to the protection and sustainable management of wetlands: e.g. recognised Ramsar conservation sites, water catchment areas, drinking water supply and management, integrated water management and sewage disposal (see www.gtz.de – Projects).

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

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.]

The inventorisation of wetlands worldwide is organised and implemented by *Wetlands International*. Germany is a member of Wetlands International and hence also supports the inventorisation of wetlands in developing countries.

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)

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
9

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

Participation is a basic principle of Germany's development cooperation work. For this reason, major significance is attached to the concept of co-management in all projects supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) aimed at the protection of wetland areas. Alongside the financial aspects of sustainable funding, this is by far the most important aspect for boosting the acceptance of these areas and developing ownership.

The following Ramsar sites in Africa and South America were or are supported:

- Banc d'Arguin – Mauritania : site no. 250
- Djoudj – Senegal : site no. 138
- Kosi Bay – South Africa : site no. 527
- Refugio de Vida Silvestre Rio San Juan – Nicaragua : site no. 1138
- Laguna de Bacalar – Honduras: site no. 1254 (project in the catchment area)
- Bahía de Panamá, Río Plantano – Panama: site no. 1319
- Laguna de la Cocha – Colombia: site no. 1047
- Laguna de Cube – Ecuador: site no. 1143
- Paracas – Peru: site no. 545

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	D	<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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
See Action 15.1.2.		

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	H	<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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Projects by the <i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)</i> in the field of water supply and water management are based on the principles of sustainable development and make particular allowance for the ecological functions of wetland areas (see www.gtz.de – Projects).</p> <p>Regarding the avoidance of conflict over water resources, particular significance is being acquired by projects such as TRANSWATER as an example of integrated water resource management in the African river basins of the Nile, Limpopo and Orange Senqu; since 2001, the project has been executed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) (see www.gtz/transwater).</p>		

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	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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The Oceania region is not currently a priority in the development and implementation of projects with reference to the objectives of the Ramsar Convention (see www.gtz.de).		

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 <i>Guidelines for international cooperation</i> (Res. VII.19)	H	<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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

All projects by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)* are committed to the principles of sustainable development. This also includes the aspects addressed in the *guidelines*. The GTZ makes every effort to incorporate these aspects into the planning and implementation of its projects with relevance for wetland areas, within the context of its strategy.

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

H*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.]

The performance of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)* and projects aimed at the objectives of the Ramsar Convention, both directly and indirectly, are continuously reviewed and developed. The GTZ publishes an annual report on its activities, projects and financial payments (see www.gtz.de – Annual reports).

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

H*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.]

When setting the priorities of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)*, the area of “water” plays a major role, since water is a foodstuff, economic commodity, production factor and existential resource for people in developing countries. Germany's development cooperation concentrates on the areas of water policy, drinking water supply, waterbody protection and sewage disposal (cf. www.gtz.de – GTZ themes). Measures to preserve biodiversity and implement the Biodiversity Convention (CBD) in the areas of “Forestry” and “Development-oriented nature conservation” are also worth mentioning in this context.

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

B*Choose an answer for each indicator*

2. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Endowment Fund

C*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. Contributions have been made to the Ramsar Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme

C

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on contributions made to support the funds and services indicated above.]

In 2002 and 2003, funding for projects was made available to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund. In 2005, assistance totalling some 30,000 € has been earmarked from the budget.

(See Action 16.1.2.)

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

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.]

The Federal *Land* of North Rhine-Westphalia funded the construction of a biological station (scientific, training and education centre) in the Ramsar site “*Djoudj*”, Senegal. The biological station in the German Ramsar site “*Rieselfelder Münster*” has continued its activities as a partner station and is supporting the national park with site management, the expansion of eco-tourism, and scientific management of the national park (see action 14.1.3.).

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.]

Not relevant for Germany

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)

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.]

Not relevant for Germany

Some 60 million € per annum is channelled into bilateral projects for the preservation of biodiversity worldwide, of which the Ramsar sites represent a key component. Germany is the third-largest donor in the GEF. Thanks to direct subsidy measures within the framework of the *Funds for Trust*, this is supplemented by additional funds in the multilateral sector and NGO subsidies.

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	<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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>In Germany, the involvement of the private sector (companies, sponsors, foundations etc.) in protective measures for wetland areas enjoys a long tradition. These mechanisms are used both by the national nature conservation organisations BUND (Friends of the Earth Partner), EURONATUR, NABU (Birdlife Partner) and the WWF, as well as by NGOs operating at regional and local level. Increasingly, government institutions are also making use of “public private partnership” (PPP) schemes for project financing purposes (e.g. national park administrations).</p> <p>Cooperation with the private sector is also becoming increasingly significant at international level. For example, the <i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</i> (GTZ) is constantly expanding its relationships and contacts with private industry to forge new alliances and partnerships for development cooperation purposes (cf. www.gtz.de). In 2003, Germany hosted the 3rd European Congress on Private Sector Participation in Infrastructure, with a focus on networking for development cooperation with eastern Europe (cf. www.gtz.de / ppi).</p> <p>At international level, efforts are being stepped up to recruit private investors particularly in the area of tourism (Kosy Bay South Africa), and increasingly, to involve the mining and oil industries (e.g. Mauretania). Initial approaches at eco-sponsoring have also been launched, and will be expanded. The potential is difficult to estimate, but will fall significantly short of the financial scope needed in order to preserve the regions.</p>		

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	H	<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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Since 1997, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) and the <i>Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt</i> (DBU) have subsidised the development of regional initiatives for marketing products manufactured in an environmentally-friendly manner. The <i>Deutscher Verband für Landschaftspflege</i> (German Association for Landscape Management, DVL) has developed an Internet platform with a directory of regional initiatives (www.reginet.de). Many of the 430 regional initiatives currently in place (2004) generate agricultural produce from wetland areas, such as lamb, beef, dairy products, fruit and willow rods. These products are marketed primarily in the respective region.</p> <p>A number of regional activities are active in German Ramsar sites (<i>Diepholzer Moorniederung, Elbaue zwischen Schnakenburg und Lauenburg, Aland-Elbe-Niederung, Donauauen und Donaumoos, Unterer Niederrhein</i>) and other wetland regions (such as the biosphere reserves <i>Spreewald</i> and <i>Flusslandschaft Elbe</i>).</p> <p>At international level, too, efforts are being made to expand a regional value-added chain via site-related labelling, and at the same time to promote international awareness of these sites.</p>		

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Continuation of on-going projects in development cooperation	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of projects already begun	

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

The projects carried out by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)* are constantly reviewed to assess their environmental compatibility. The environmental impact assessment (EIA) is intended to help ensure that projects in German development cooperation do not cause any unjustifiable environmental impacts and that the principles of ecological sustainability are observed (cf. www.gtz.de).

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

The projects carried out by the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)* with funding from and on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) pursue the objective of sustainable development.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To continue support for the Ramsar Convention according to UN scale and for specific initiatives	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES	To pay annual contributions to the core budget	

(text answer):	To support the Small Grants Fund To support developing countries to participate in COP9 To support regional initiatives in Europe
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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	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.]		
Annual membership contributions were paid in accordance with the UN scale (340,000 SFr).		

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	C	<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	B	
3. for Ramsar Advisory Missions related to Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record	C	
4. towards the development and maintenance of logistics of the San José Record	C	
5. to support the work of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)	C	
6. to expand the internship programme at the Ramsar Bureau	C	
7. in relation to COP9	B	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]		
The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) donated 10,000 € to the European regional meeting 2004 of the Ramsar Convention in Armenia.		
The sum of 35,000 € was donated to enable representatives from developing countries to attend COP8 in Valencia/Spain 2002. A sum of 30,000 € has been earmarked for the participation of developing countries at COP9 in Uganda 2005.		

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Support of the Ramsar institutions by national focal points	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Intensification of cooperation between focal points and with the Ramsar institutions	

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	<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>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]

The National Focal Point for the STRP is the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

The non-government focal point for the CEPA programme has been nominated. The governmental focal point for the CEPA programme has to be appointed.

For details, see Institutional Information.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To safeguard the capacities to implement the Ramsar Convention	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To optimise cooperation between institutions and organisations in national and international wetland protection To review capacities aimed at improving the implementation of the Ramsar Convention and COP resolutions	

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:

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;

- 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;
- 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
- d) provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect.

1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	E	<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 review and other comments you consider relevant.]		
The authorities, specialist institutions, NGOs and other organisations existing in Germany at international, Federal, <i>Länder</i> and regional level operate according to specified regulations, as well as on a voluntary basis. The efficiency of official organisational forms and cooperation structures is reviewed within the context of on-going work processes.		
<i>See action 13.1.1</i>		
3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	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>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]		
Coordination tasks vis-à-vis the Ramsar Convention and other environmental and nature conservation conventions are the responsibility of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) (cf. Operational Objective 13.1.).		
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> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
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>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.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]		
Cooperation at international and national level is the responsibility of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN). At Federal <i>Länder</i> level, the competent <i>Land</i> Ministries regulate the distribution and coordination of tasks in relation to the Ramsar Convention. Agreement, coordination and cooperation between the Federal and <i>Länder</i> levels occurs within permanent bodies such as the Conference of Environmental Ministers (UMK – www.umweltministerkonferenz.de), the Working Group of the Federal States on Nature Conservation, Landscape Management and Recreation (LANA – www.la-na.de), and the Working Group of the Federal States on Water Problems (LAWA – www.lawa.de).		
In Germany, there are a large number of scientific institutions, NGOs, initiatives and educational establishments involved in wetland-related issues and activities. Cooperation takes place at both international and national level, through to local level. Collaboration occurs on a case-by-case basis for specific issues, measures or plans.		

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

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.]

In Germany, the institutional pre-requisites are in place to guarantee a link between climate change issues and their effects on wetland areas. Competency lies with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

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;

2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)

B

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 National Ramsar Committee].

A National Ramsar Committee has existed in Germany since 1993. It is headed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and is comprised of representatives of the following authorities and institutions:

- Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)
- Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
- Nature conservation ministries of the Federal *Länder*
- Private ecological research institutions
- Nature protection organisations
- Associations of land users.

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

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.]

The existing institutional structures and capacities on the part of the Federal Government and the Federal *Länder* are adequate to support the objectives and tasks of the Ramsar Convention in Germany in a suitable manner. Capacities are continuously reviewed so as to improve the implementation of the Ramsar Convention and COP resolutions, for example with regard to

- The development of a database of Ramsar sites at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
- The review of potential Ramsar sites
- The development of a network of Ramsar sites and a Ramsar wetland manager network
- The establishment of a nationwide monitoring programme for bird species in Germany, including waterfowl and waders
- The improvement of monitoring, management and *wise use* of the Ramsar sites
- The more widespread global interlinking of Germany's Ramsar sites
- The public representation of the Ramsar Convention in Germany (website, World Wetlands Day) in order to implement the CEPA strategy
- The communication and presentation of Germany's contribution to global wetland protection (Federal government, *Länder* governments, NGOs) in conjunction with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

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

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.]

The National Report Format is a helpful instrument for the documentation and planning of activities associated with the Ramsar Convention.

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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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To intensify the exchange of information on the need for training	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To stage conferences	

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	A	<p><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></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>In Germany, the authorities, institutions and experts involved in wetland protection, the management of wetlands and sustainable use, have a high degree of expertise which is constantly being expanded and developed through training.</p> <p>Such training courses are offered, for example, by the International Nature Conservation Academy <i>Insel Vilm</i> of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the nature conservation academies of the Federal <i>Länder</i>, the non-government organisations, and scientific institutes.</p> <p>Closer cooperation with the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International is desirable in order to improve the international exchange of information regarding the required qualification standards and training measures.</p>		

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	A	<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>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
See Action 20.1.1.		

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	B	<p><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></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
See Action 20.1.1.		

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	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 development of training modules and materials for the issues listed above, and additional comments you consider relevant.]		
In relation to the aforementioned fields, there is a plentiful supply of events, specialist literature, expertise and information materials available for the purposes of training and qualifications-building. See Action 20.1.1.		

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	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.]		
To date, no special education and training programmes for the wetland managers of the German Ramsar sites on implementing the targets and tasks of the Ramsar Convention in the various Ramsar regions have been developed. The qualifications-building opportunities from international exchanges (e.g. in twinning projects) have not yet been realised for all German Ramsar sites (cf. Action 14.1.3.). See Action 20.1.1.		

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	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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not relevant for Germany		

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)	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° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of centres and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Information centres have been set up in 24 of Germany's 32 Ramsar sites. Additionally, there are more than 300 other information centres in wetland areas (cf. Operational Objective R9.VIII), some of which practice			

training and research activities. These centres are funded by the Federal *Länder*, administrative districts, local authorities and private NGOs. The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the *Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt* (DBU) subsidised a number of information centres with a model-like character.

In addition to this, regional training and education measures are offered by the government nature conservation academies of the Federal *Länder* and specialist authorities.

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

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.]

The exchange of information and transfer of knowledge on training matters occurs, for example, in conjunction with twinning projects of the Ramsar sites and other exchange activities (see Operational Objective 14.1.).

The qualification as “Examined Nature and Landscape Manager”, established since 1998, prescribes uniform standards for the qualification of personnel in protected areas employed in information and management roles. Many of the Examined Nature and Landscape Managers work as rangers in Ramsar sites (e.g. in *Wattenmeer*, *Unteres Odertal*, *Ostufer der Müritzer* and *Ostseeboddengewässern*).

At European level, an intensive exchange of information regarding the vocational training of protected area staff (TOPAS – Training of Protected Area Staff) took place as part of the TOPAS project (2000 – 2003), in which Germany was a participant. The project was funded by the Federal Institute for Vocational Training (BIBB) using funds from the EU Leonardo da Vinci programme, and developed standards for the training of personnel in European protected areas. 20 partners from 9 European countries participated in the project, which was headed by the *Alfred Toepfer Akademie für Naturschutz* (NNA – see www.nna.de/topas).

Closer cooperation with the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International is desirable in order to improve the international exchange of information regarding the required qualification standards and advanced training measures.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of 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:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To recruit new Contracting Parties	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To seek contact with non-Contracting Parties To provide assistance for the identification of Ramsar sites	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

- seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties to provide information on the benefits of membership and advice or assistance in overcoming obstacles;
- intensifying contacts with the diplomatic representatives of non-Contracting Parties;

<p>c) seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including the Regional Seas Conventions, and in-country offices of the <i>United Nations Development Programme</i>, the <i>World Bank</i> and others;</p> <p>d) organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties;</p> <p>e) providing assistance for the identification of <i>Wetlands of International Importance</i> that could be listed as Ramsar sites upon accession;</p> <p>f) encouraging attendance by observers from non-Contracting Parties at regional meetings and meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and</p> <p>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)</p>		
<p>1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adherence to the Convention of new Contracting Parties</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><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></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Topics relating to biodiversity protection play a key role in the regular bilateral contact between the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and other nations. This also includes the problems associated with wetland protection, and where applicable, the issue of accession to the Ramsar Convention.</p>		

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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<p><i>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)</i></p>		
<p>The National Report Format is a helpful instrument for the documentation and planning of activities associated with the Ramsar Convention.</p>		
<p>In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><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></p>

Appendix: The Annotated Ramsar List (compiled data, december/2004)

Name of site	Date	Area [ha]	RIS updated 2001	MR	MP	Monitoring	CEPA Centre	Protected area
Aland-Elbe-Niederung	21/02/03	8,605	yes		p	x	1	53 %
Ammersee	26/02/76	6,517	no		a*	x	no	ca. 15 %
Bodensee A: Wollmatinger Ried, Giehrenmoos - Hegnebucht	26/02/76	767	yes		a	x	1	100 %
Bodensee B: Mindelsee	26/02/76	459	yes		a	x	1	100 %
Chiemsee	26/02/76	8,660	no		p*	x	no	ca. 10 %
Diepholzer Moorniederung	26/02/76	15,060	no		a*	x	1	ca. 30 %
Donauauen & Donaumoos	26/02/76	8,000	no		a*	x	1	ca. 10%
Dümmer	26/02/76	3,600	no		p	x	1	ca. 50 %
Elbauen: Schnackenburg - Lauenburg	26/02/76	7.560	no		p	x	1	ca. 90 %
Galenbecker See	31/07/78	1,015	no		no	x	planned	100 %
Hamburgisches Wattenmeer	01/08/90	13,750	yes		a	x	2	100 %
Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra	31/07/78	1,453	yes		p	x	1	ca. 20 %
Ismaninger Speichersee	26/02/76	955	no		no	x	no	private property
Krakower Obersee	31/07/78	870	no		a*	x	1	100 %
Lech – Donau - Winkel	26/02/76	239	no		no	x	no	ca. 40 %
Mühlenberger Loch	09/06/92	580	yes		no	x	no	(SPA, pSCI)
Niederelbe: Barnkrug - Otterndorf	26/02/76	11,760	no		a	x	1	ca. 50 %
Niederung der Unteren Havel/Gülper See/Schollener See	31/07/78	8,920	yes		p	x	2	45 %
Boddengewässer Ostufer Zingst, Westküste Rügen-Hiddensee	31/07/78	25,800	no		a*	x	6	100 %
Ostufert Müritzt	31/07/78	4,830	no		a	x	1	100 %
Peitzer Teichgebiet	31/07/78	1,060	no		p	x	no	public property
Rhein: Eltville - Bingen	26/02/76	566	no		no	x	1	100 %
Rieselfelder Münster	28/10/83	233	yes		a	x	1	100 %
Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer	15/11/91	454,988	yes		a	x	12	100 %
Starnberger See	26/02/76	5,720	no		p	x	no	ca. 1 %
Steinhuder Meer	26/02/76	5,730	no		a*	x	1	ca. 46 %
Unterer Inn: Haiming - Neuhaus	26/02/76	1,955	no		p	x	1	ca. 65 %
Unterer Niederrhein	28/10/83	25,000	yes		a*	x	3	ca. 40 %
Unteres Odertal, Schwedt	31/07/78	5,400	no		a*	x	1	100 %
Wattenmeer: Elbe-Weser-Dreieck	26/02/76	38,460	no		a	x	3	100 %
Wattenmeer: Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung	26/02/76	49,490	no		a	x	2	> 95 %
Wattenmeer: Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer & Dollart	26/02/76	121,620	no	Yes*	a	x	9	> 95 %
Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg	28/10/83	1,600	yes		a	x	1	ca. 80 %

Date. date of designation as Ramsar site

RIS = Ramsar Information Sheet: update 2001: yes=updated; no=not yet updated

MR = Montreux Record: yes= on the Montreux Record; *=Removal is offered, if compensation measures are implemented

MP = Management plan: a= being applied / in place, a*=being partly applied/in place; p= being prepared, p*=being partly prepared; no=not necessary

Protected area: figures mentioned refer only to status as National Park or Nature Reserve according to Federal or Länder nature conservation law