



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

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

NATIONAL REPORT OF HUNGARY, 2003-2005



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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

During the last triennium, a major achievement was that the Minister of Environment and Water issued the land registration numbers of all Hungarian Ramsar Sites in 2003. Another important development is that the Minister of Environment and Water issued an order on establishing the Ramsar National Committee in November 2004. Thanks to this, the Committee started to work in December 2004. As a result, Hungary held a national WWD event in 2005, after two years of absence.

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:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Comprehensive wetland inventory to be completed by 2005 50% of wetlands used wisely	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Comprehensive wetland inventory program launched in 2003	

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>)	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;</i>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 833 wetlands of conservation importance inventoried/23 Ramsar sites
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory	B	<i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>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.</i>]			
The National Wetland Inventory has been carried out in most of the country (13 out of 19 counties), for all wetlands important for nature conservation. The number of wetlands inventoried is 833. The inventory will be finalised in 2005.			

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.

<i>See actions 3.2.1, 3.3.1, r4.1.1, and Operational Objective 10.1</i>			
<i>Note: if available, please indicate the number of sites under each category:</i>			N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
1. Inventory, assess, and document potential Ramsar Sites	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	4
2. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	E		829
3. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	E		311
4. Inventory, assess, and document wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	F		
5. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	C		
6. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	A		
7. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	E		
8. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	C		
9. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	C		
10. Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	E		
11.- Inventory, assess, and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	E		
12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]			
<p>No. 4.: This work is planned on the basis of the National Wetland Inventory, when the inventory is complete.</p> <p>No. 7.: The Vásárhelyi Plan has identified the tasks to reduce flood risks along the River Tisza. This project includes the creation of flood reservoirs, as well as other major waterworks along the river. (See attached summary at the end of the file)</p> <p>No. 10.: Several wetlands have received World Heritage status, including, since COP8, the Fertő Landscape.</p> <p>No. 11.: The National Wetland Inventory has identified which wetlands are listed in any database, and thus information has been gained on scientific importance of these wetlands.</p>			

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	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.]		
Metadatabase of national wetland inventory will be placed on website once completed.		

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	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Existing databases are collected by the National Ramsar Committee through the national wetland inventory exercise. A publication titled "Oxbow lakes in Hungary" has been issued		

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>
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	F	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i>
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	D	<i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Negotiations with the Ministry of Agriculture have been started on the elimination of lead shot in wetlands, based on data from the national wetland inventory. Wetland managers will be involved once the inventory is completed by advertising the complete inventory on the website, on WWDs, etc. In some cases, wetland users have already benefited from and used data compiled during the wetland inventory exercise.		

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>
2. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	A	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	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):	Pilot sites monitored by Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System (HBMS)	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	HBMS is continued in certain wetlands	

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	<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 contribution made to the work of the MA.]

Opinion on the draft MA has been sent to the compilers (no special comments were made but the initiative was welcomed and the draft text was studied)

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	F	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale	F	
3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale	F	

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

The findings of the MA will be distributed and used at local, regional and national scale once the final version is received.

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

Assessments of changes of wetland status are compiled and summarised by the Ministry of Environment and Water and its background institute, the National Directorate for Environment, Nature and Water; data are

collected through standardised wetland monitoring exercises (Kis-Balaton, Drava River and Szigetköz area) as well as smaller scale surveys of wetland statuses carried out by national park directorates. Under the Water Framework Directive, Hungary plans to start monitoring the ecological character of 258 wetlands that form part of the Natura 2000 network.

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	B	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i>
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	A	<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.]

It is not entirely clear whether the question refers to change in ecological character due to human projects or to natural factors. In the first case, Environmental Impact Assessments must be mentioned. Such assessments are carried out in every case when major changes are expected due to a project, and such assessments necessarily include the evaluation of vulnerability of wetlands. Good examples include a planned power station at Békésszentandrás that was refused because of the ecological changes it would have incurred on the wetland.

The vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character due to natural factors has also been undertaken in numerous cases. Major examples include the Danube-Tisza Interfluvium area, where the decline of the groundwater table has already caused major ecological changes, especially in bogs. The assessment covers impacts of climate change, as the Carpathian Basin has been struck by aridity in the last approx. 15 years. The impacts and possible scenarios have been evaluated.

Aridity has also caused a serious drop in the water level of Lake Balaton. Major hydrological projects were designed to provide artificial water supply from various rivers via canals, but these plans were refused on the ground of environmental reasons, based on assessments that outlined disastrous changes to the river systems concerned.

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	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 conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]		
Not applicable		
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.]		
Not applicable		

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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information compiled related to mangroves.]</i>		

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

1.- The impacts of dams on wetlands have been assessed (<i>if available, please include number of sites affected</i>)	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>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 3 sites (Lake Tisza, Szigetköz, Dráva)
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the impacts of dams on wetlands, sites affected, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Lake Tisza is a Ramsar site, part of the Hortobágy National Park and as such its ecological character is regularly monitored			
3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands <i>[Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>			
<p>Ambivalent: at Lake Tisza the impact of the dam can be considered positive in many respects as the water storage capacity of the dam is not fully exploited; at a relatively low water level, the site has become an important wetland both for waterfowl and for the local population as a water reservoir and a popular resort. Lake Tisza also provided healthy fish stock to the re-population of the River Tisza after the disastrous cyanide pollution from Romania in 2000. However, there are very negative examples, such as the impact of the Slovak Gabčíkovo dam to the Hungarian Szigetköz area. Numerous studies have demonstrated its negative effects to the ecological character of the area.</p> <p>The planned dam on the Croatian side of the River Dráva will certainly have similarly disastrous effects if implemented. Numerous studies have shown the ecological values of this presently nearly untouched river, and have demonstrated that many of these values will be lost if the water level fluctuation will be artificially controlled.</p>			

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

1.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands have been assessed (<i>if available, please include number of sites assessed</i>)	B	<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	D		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on wetlands and people dependent on them, with any other information you consider relevant.]</i>			
Numerous studies have been carried out on the impacts of drought on the whole of the Carpathian Basin.			

Other natural disasters such as devastating floods have also been assessed, and a major result of this assessment is the Vásárhelyi Plan that aims to take measures along the River Tisza for flood prevention and at the same time to maintain the livelihoods of local populations, by changing the structure of agricultural production in this region to a more sustainable and diverse one.

Similar efforts are carried out on the Danube – Tisza Interfluvial Sands, where the drop of the groundwater table has had a serious impact on the character of wetlands as well as on the livelihoods of local people. Projects are planned to improve the situation.

Aridity caused a serious drop in the water level of Lake Balaton. Major hydrological projects were designed to provide artificial water supply from various rivers via canals, but these plans were refused on the ground of environmental reasons, based on assessments that outlined disastrous changes to the river systems concerned.

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	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 assessment undertaken.]

Many of the Ramsar areas and protected wetlands in Hungary are areas of fishery utilization as well. The Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI) has studied the repopulation of the Upper Tisza ever since the cyanide pollution of 2000. The role of the Tisza Lake Reservoir in the repopulation was studied by researchers of Debrecen University. A study on fisheries of Lake Fertő was done when it passed under the authority of the Fertő-Hanság National Park.

3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders	E	<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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4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]

HAKI has studied the Upper Tisza since the cyanide pollution of 2000. Study reports containing recommendations on sustainable fisheries utilization of the area were compiled and submitted to the relevant authorities. Fisheries of the Hortobágy Fishponds were studied by Debrecen University.

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

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

1. The water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands has been assessed	D	<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 assessment undertaken.]

Water quality and quantity available to and required by wetlands are assessed by the water management directorates, in collaboration with the national park directorates on the basis of Article 18 (2) of the Act No. 53 of 1996 on Nature Conservation. If necessary, the national park directorate can also initiate this assessment. On the basis of Article 18 (1), the amount of water ecologically required by wetlands cannot be artificially

withdrawn from natural and near-natural wetlands.

Since the Act came into force, this assessment has been general practice.

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Chapter on wetland resources of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is approved by the time of COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Internal consultation on National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is continued	

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	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. 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	B	
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.]		

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Water in 2004, and is planned for approval by the Government in 2006. This document has a chapter on wetland management policy containing the aspects of wise use and incorporating WSSD targets and actions.

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	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. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	B	
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.]		
<p>The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Water in 2004, and is planned for approval by the Government in 2006. This document has a chapter on wetland management policy containing the aspects of wise use and incorporating WSSD targets and actions. Other chapters include economic sectors such as mining, agriculture, forestry, hunting, regional policy and land use. This Strategy and Action Plan is planned to be incorporated into the national strategy for sustainable development. Wetland issues are incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans: major examples are the Vásárhelyi Plan (regional) and the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (national).</p>		

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	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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.]		
<p>Under the Natura 2000 programme of the European Union, Hungary has designated most of the natural and near-natural wetlands (the Natura 2000 network covers most Ramsar sites, for example, and covers over 20% of the national territory). From 2007 onwards, land users will be subsidised for managing Natura 2000 areas in harmony with nature conservation.</p> <p>On the other hand, national park directorates have purchased important wetlands to ensure that management is fully harmonious with nature conservation interests. It is planned that all wetlands owned by state water management will be taken over by state nature conservation (except for those parcels that are functionally used for water management).</p>		

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> <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 (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes	A	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken in relation to high Andean wetlands.]		

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

1. Examples of best practice related to the integration and harmonisation of policies and legislation have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau/STRP

F

Choose an answer

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

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

An English summary of the complex Vásárhelyi Plan that affects major wetlands along the Tisza valley is planned to be submitted to the Ramsar Bureau in 2005.

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	The process of evaluation is started by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Experts developing NBSAP also take into account national legislation and formulate proposals for amendments	

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

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. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed

F

3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands

E

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the review of legislation and institutions and the amendments made to preclude wise use of wetlands.]*

It is obligatory to consult the Ministry of Environment and Water, as well as other ministries, on drafting any pieces of legislation. Therefore, the Ministry can incorporate the concept of wise use of wetlands into these

provisions of law. The Chief Authority for, as well as the regional environmental protection, nature conservation and water management authorities immediately report on any provision of law contradictory to the wise use of wetlands if they encounter such a provision of law during their activities. Such problems are also discussed at the quarterly meeting of these authorities. The establishment of these complex authorities responsible for environmental protection, nature conservation and water management, in effect from 1 January 2005 onwards, also serves a better harmonisation of these sectors. A questionnaire specifically asking information on any problems caused by provisions of law contradictory to the wise use of wetlands concept will be circulated to the national park directorates as well as to the regional environmental protection, nature conservation and water management authorities later in 2005.

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

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

B

Choose an answer

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

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

In general, all ministries participate in a consultation procedure on drafting any legislation in Hungary, including major wetland issues. Examples of regional forums of intersectoral consultation on wetland issues include the Development Council of Lake Balaton, led by the regional policy sector, with participation from the Ministry of Environment and Water and the tourism sector.

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

See action r3.3.iii

1. Cultural and heritage values related to wetlands have been incorporated into existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies

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.]

Both Lake Fertő and the Hortobágy Ramsar sites have been inscribed on the World Heritage list as cultural landscapes, although before the period in question. Lake Öreg at Tata, lying in a beautiful medieval setting of the old town of Tata, is another Ramsar site that has been declared protected by the local government.

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

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. A review of legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on mountain wetlands has been completed

F

3. Actions have been taken for stopping and reversing impacts on mountain wetlands

D

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

Hungary participated in the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and as part of this Slovak-Norwegian project, and contributed to the inventory of Carpathian wetlands (Hungary's only mountain wetlands). The inventory

contains information on the conservation status of each wetland. For the review of legislation, policies and practices, see Action 2.2.1.

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

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 application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]

The protection of natural resources is included in the Government Decree 20/2001 (II.14.) on Environmental Impact Assessments. The local planning authority involves the regional nature conservation authority into decisions on building projects that are under the effect of this decree. The opinion of the nature conservation authority is obligatory on the planning authority.

3. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in impact assessment processes

Choose an answer

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

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

Local governments are involved in Environmental Impact Assessments in accordance with Government Decree 20/2001 (II.14.)

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

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. A review of policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands has been completed

C

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]

In general, all ministries participate in a consultation procedure on drafting any national policy, programme or plan, including major wetland issues.

4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon 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

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.]

Since 1 May 2004, Hungary is a member state of the European Union. Therefore, Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment applies in Hungary, too. In order to implement the directive, the Hungarian Government issues Government Decree 2/2005 (I. 11.) on the environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes.

Policies, programmes and plans, if embodied in a piece of new legislation, have been consulted with all ministries even before the decree mentioned above, and thus the Ministry of Environment and Water can review and amend them before adoption.

The legislation on the social, environmental and economic impact assessments is in preparation.

As an example, the Vásárhelyi Plan, a major project affecting large wetlands along the Tisza valley and embodied in national legislation had undergone an environmental impact assessment process. (See Annex on Vásárhelyi Plan).

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

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

1.- Legislation on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) applicable to wetlands is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites
2.- EIA is carried out for projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		
3.- EIAs have included full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts	B		
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include comments on Environmental Impact assessment implementation at national level.]</i>			
The protection of natural resources is included in the Government Decree 20/2001 (II.14.) on Environmental Impact Assessments. The local planning authority involves the regional nature conservation authority into decisions on building projects that are under the effect of this decree. The opinion of the nature conservation authority is obligatory on the planning authority.			

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	<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 involvement of IAIA experts in EIA processes in the country.]</i>		
Duhay?		

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	<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 EIA materials.]</i>		

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	C	<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 Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</i>		

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	A book on Ramsar sites to be published by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Compilation of the book, preparation of the series of National Ecological Network booklets	

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	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	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>		

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was adopted in 2004 by the Ministry of Environment and

Water, fully integrating the wise use concept. The second six-year term (2003-2008) National Nature Conservation Master Plan was passed by the Parliament in 2003, and also integrates the wise use concept.

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

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.]

A publication on river management with best practice was compiled and published in 2001 and was distributed to wetland managers. Another publication titled "Nature conservation and land use in flood plains" was published in 2002.

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.]

Decree No. 30/2001 (XII.28.) of the Minister of Environment on nature conservation management plans integrates the main guidelines of Resolution VIII.14. as well as other (e.g. IUCN) international guidelines for management plans. However, the decree made the management planning process much too complex and presently hardly any protected areas in Hungary have a management plan accepted in accordance with this legislation. Thus, the Ministry of Environment and Water plans to amend and simplify the decree in 2005.

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.]

A publication on river management with best practice was compiled and published in 2001 and was distributed to wetland managers. Another publication titled "Nature conservation and land use in flood plains" was published in 2002. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was adopted in 2004 by the Ministry of Environment and Water, fully integrating the wise use concept. The second six-year term (2003-2008) National Nature Conservation Master Plan was passed by the Parliament in 2003, and also integrates the wise use concept. WWD held in 2005, with participants from the water sector, fisheries, as well as participants from NGOs, research organisations, local governments and the parliament.

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

See action r2.2.iii

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

Information on Hungary's wetlands within the Northern Hungarian Hills has been submitted to the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative, where it has been fed into a database and analysis has begun. Carpathi, a publication on the results was published and disseminated to parties concerned by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (Project co-ordinator). The project is co-ordinated partly under the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas. Local management plans are already partly made or will be prepared for mountain wetlands. No national or regional plan for mountain wetlands is foreseen.

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.]		

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.]		

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	peat resources used wisely in Hungary by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Consultation process started with stakeholders	

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	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 the implementation of this action.]		
After a resolution of the International Mire Conservation Group, the National Committee of Mire- and Peat Society established contacts with the Ministry of Environment and Water. Due to this cooperation the Ministry has received useful information and recommendations from them. The Ministry also participated as an observer in the 2004 meetings of the National Committee, and collaborated in the preparation of their four-year plan. The Ministry informed the Committee about relevant activities such as the review of drainage canals.		

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]		
All mires have been declared protected by force of the Act on Nature Conservation in 1996. The real protection procedure was very hard because of the lack of definition for mire. In 2003, the definition of mires was built into this Act, so the protection before the court became more effective. The protection of mires (rehabilitation, reconstruction) was also built in the National Environment Programme compiled this year, which contains the main required activities on nature conservation for the next 6 years. Most mires were considered for designation under the Habitats Directive of the European Union, and many were in fact designated as pSCIs in 2004. For 18 of the most valuable mires a management plan was prepared, or nearly finalized by the national park directorates, including plans for improving conditions for CEPA (study trails) and ecotourism.		

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

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.]

Funding for the actions for mires described under Action 3.2.1. has been found, but no funding is available for, for example, the national inventory of all types of peatlands in general.

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

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.- 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.]

A national inventory of mires was issued in 2002, listing over 800 mires. Most of these sites were considered for designation under the Habitats Directive of the European Union, and many were in fact designated as pSCIs in 2004. The national park directorates report on, among others, the condition of mires every year. The 2003 inventory showed, that because of the extremely dry climate period a lot of mire of the smallest ones dried up, but on the other hand some new mire were found in the less known southern part of the country. The climate in 2004 was more favourable for mires. The national status of mires and the trend of their loss is available in the 2002 publication on mires and mire protection (the English version has been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat). For the current status and trends, the yearly reports of the national park directorates are available in Hungarian at the Ministry of Environment and Water. The summary table of the 2003 report is provided here.

National Park Directorate	Ex lege protected mires in Hungary (2003.)	
	ha	piece
Aggtelek National Park Directorate	4614	51
Balaton-Upplands National park Directorate	13300	120
Bükk National Park Directorate	2029	29
Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate	8442	108
Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate	10695	79
Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate	919	23
Hortobágy National Park Directorate	6492	201
Kiskunság National Park Directorate	16475	124

Körös-Maros National Park Directorate	0	0
Órség National Park Directorate	1697	96
Sum total:	64 663	831

There is no general inventory for all peatlands.

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):	Eco-region established along river Tisza by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Through the Improved Tisza River Flood Control Plan (new "Vasarhelyi Plan") values of wetlands are to be incorporated in planning schemes	

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 Vásárhelyi Plan has identified the tasks to reduce flood risks along the River Tisza. This project includes the creation of flood reservoirs, the creation of nature-friendly habitat restorations, as well as other major waterworks along the river. This plan aims to take measures along the River Tisza for flood prevention and at the same time to maintain the livelihoods of local populations, by changing the structure of agricultural production in this region to a more sustainable and diverse one.

Similar efforts are carried out on the sands of the Danube – Tisza Interfluvium, where the drop of the groundwater table has had a serious impact on the character of wetlands as well as on the livelihoods of local people. Projects are carried out to improve the situation.

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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 social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management	D	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the on recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.]		
<p>Two Ramsar sites are also parts of the World Heritage in the cultural landscape category: Lake Fertő and the wetlands of the Hortobágy. This was already so before COP8, but major developments for tourism have taken place since, promoting the recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands. Another good example is Lake Öreg at Tata, lying in a beautiful medieval setting of the old town of Tata: the regular festivals contain information on both the cultural and the natural heritage. Visitors of cultural festivals can learn about wild geese and the other aspects of the Ramsar site, while visitors of the Wild Goose Festival also hear presentations about the cultural heritage of the town.</p> <p>At Rétszilás Fish Ponds Ramsar site, the private manager of the site has established, with government support, the Museum of Hungarian Fishermen and Fishing, introducing visitors to the history and instruments of traditional fishing.</p>		

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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 July 2004, the government passed the decree No. 219/2004 on the protection of groundwater in order to ensure good quality of groundwaters. This decree was one of three government decrees that aim to implement the Water Framework Directive in Hungary. Social, economic and environmental aspects are taken into account.</p> <p>A good example to this work in Hungary is the ongoing programme for the water supply of the Danube-Tisza Interfluvial sands. The objective of the programme is to inverse the drastic drop in the level of the groundwater table.</p>		

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	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 promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water	D	
3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management	D	
4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management	D	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]		
<p>Actions in this respect have taken place at lake Öreg of Tata. CEPA activity initiated by an IUCN project, including the annual Wild Goose Festival (since 2001), as well as the establishment of a visitor centre by the local government of Tata to highlight cultural and natural values of the lake and the town.</p> <p>In general, the management planning exercise includes the incorporation of cultural values, and this refers to the management planning of wetlands, as well.</p> <p>An IUCN initiated a successful communication project was carried out in the area of Lake Tisza Ramsar site. The goal was to involve local governments in wetland conservation issues.</p>		

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	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 Vásárhelyi Plan that aims to take measures along the River Tisza for flood prevention and at the same time to maintain the livelihoods of local populations, by changing the structure of agricultural production in this region to a more sustainable and diverse one.</p>		

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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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>Numerous research activities have supported major projects such as the Vásárhelyi Plan, the Danube-Tisza Interfluvial Sands water supply project, etc.</p>		

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

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.]

All alkaline lakes (alkaline lakes are seasonal, shallow pools) have been declared protected by force of the Act on Nature Conservation in 1996. The real protection procedure was very hard because of the lack of definition for alkaline lakes. In 2003, the definition of alkaline lakes was built into this Act, so the protection before the court became more effective. The protection of alkaline lakes (rehabilitation, reconstruction) was also built in the National Environment Programme compiled in the same year, which contains the main required activities on nature conservation for the next 6 years. Practically all alkaline wetlands have been included in the National ecological Network and most were designated as pSCIs in 2004 under the Habitats Directive of the European Union.

For many alkaline lakes management plans have been prepared, or nearly finalized by the national park directorates, including plans for improving conditions for CEPA (study trails, e.g. at Apaj, Kelemenszék, etc.) and ecotourism.

Some other temporary pools also enjoy protection, for example some riverside navy pits have been included in the Natura 2000 network.

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Conservation and wise use principle is incorporated in planning activities	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Through the renewed Ramsar National Committee wise use and conservation principle are to be more emphasized	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

1. The <i>Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4)</i> have been used/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
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.]		
Wetland conservation and wise use issues have been integrated into major projects as they are obliged by Environmental Impact Assessments. A good example is the Vásárhelyi Plan, which has integrated nature conservation aspects, too. For example, the only Hungarian population of <i>Sicista subtilis</i> , a small rodent, occurs in a site originally planned to be flooded by the draft Vásárhelyi Plan. This site has been taken out of the plan for conservation reasons. In several other sites, temporary flooding is expected to be beneficial from conservation aspects.		
3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.]		
Hungary has enlisted itself for participation, but no such activity has taken place.		

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	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.]		
Full-fledged river basin management plans do not exist yet in Hungary. Existing management plans (for example, the management plan of the Aggtelek NP and the Bükk NP, although legally not yet passed) and major projects, such as the Vásárhelyi Plan, however, give due attention to high-altitude wetlands. It is important to note, however, that Hungary lies in a basin (the Carpathian Basin) and is surrounded by high mountains that are beyond the national borders. It is most important to give attention to wetlands in the Carpathians and the Alps, and such transboundary issues have indeed been on the agenda for several years (particularly after the cyanide spill in Romania that affected the river Tisza disastrously) with all neighbouring countries. The success of these negotiations varies from country to country and from case to case.		

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

1. Wetland values and functions have been taken into account in decision-making on large dams	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]		
On the basis of government decree 20/2001 on environmental impact assessments, dams over 100 million m ³ /year capacity are obliged by environmental impact assessments, where nature conservation can modify or refuse the plans.		

Numerous small dams on streams have been refused on environmental grounds. The dam constructed at Gabčíkovo (Slovakia) before COP8 seriously affects the Hungarian Szigetköz area, but recently an agreement has been made on water supply to the Hungarian side.

The planned dam at Novo Virje, on the Croatian side of the river Dráva, has been negotiated between the two countries for several years. Hungary is entirely against the plan as it would destroy the natural character of the river and would also destroy ecotourism opportunities, livelihoods, etc. At present, the project has been postponed for at least ten years.

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

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 barrage at Denkpál, in the Szigetköz area, affected by the Slovak Gabčíkovo dam, has state-of-the-art fish ladders installed, where fish do not only pass but can also spawn. The fish ladders of the other Hungarian barrages are virtually dysfunctional. Older dams (for example at Békésszentandrás) exist where the migration of fish is still not possible. Since the EIA decree (government decree 20/2001) and also under the Water Framework Directive, any new dam could be obliged to build constructions to help fish migration.

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

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 assessments of environmental flow undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams.]

The Croatian plan for the Novo Virje dam has been refused by Hungary (under the Espoo Convention) on the ground that the environmental flow would not have been provided. The environmental flow has been recently provided to the Szigetköz area, affected by the Slovak Gabčíkovo dam.

3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged (if available, please include number of centres)

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

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [If applicable, please include information on the centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation that have been encouraged.]

VITUKI (Scientific and Research Centre for Water Management) is now a background institute of the Ministry of Environment and Water and carries out such assessments (other centres may also exist).

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

1. The *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management* (Resolution VIII.4) have been used/applied

A

Choose an answer

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

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

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

1. Case studies of good practice examples on the integration of wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 3.4.6.- 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

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.]*

Water quality and quantity available to and required by wetlands are assessed by the water management directorates, in collaboration with the national park directorates on the basis of Article 18 (2) of the Act No. 53 of 1996 on Nature Conservation. If necessary, the national park directorate can also initiate this assessment. On the basis of Article 18 (1), the amount of water ecologically required by wetlands cannot be artificially withdrawn from natural and near-natural wetlands.

Since the Act came into force, this assessment has been general practice. An example is the assessment of ecological water supply needs of wetlands in the river system of Kis-Rába, a joint exercise between the Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate and the regional water management directorate in 2003-2004. It identified the amount of water needed in the various wetlands, set out the goals to be reached and the implementation plan.

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

See action 18.1.2

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

B

Choose an answer

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

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

The Minister of Environment and Water issued an order on establishing the Ramsar National Committee in November 2004. According to this order, the Bureau for Water Management of the Ministry of Environment and Water has to be represented in the Committee, and this is in fact so. The Committee resumed work, after about three years of absence, in December 2004.

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.]

A good example is the project titled "Conservation and Restoration of Biodiversity in the Upper Tisza River Floodplain through Integrated, Holistic, Locally Driven Floodplain Management". At seven project sites, biodiversity, land, water and habitats are to be managed in an integrated, holistic manner that is supportive of socio-economic development.

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.]

The project is to be launched in 2005. A lesson learned is that a regional platform needs to be established to successfully run the project.

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

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

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action r3.4.xi.- Seek to maintain, as far as practicable in countries affected by drought, the continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands, so as to ensure that they can continue to provide their full range of values and functions for people and biological diversity. (Resolution VIII.25)

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

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.]

Numerous wetland restoration projects have taken place in recent years. Some examples: at Kardoskút Ramsar site, 550 ha have been affected (former artificial drainage removed) and a 10 ha area is annually flooded by artificial means to create wet habitats. At the Biharugra Ramsar site, the Sző meadow and Ugrai meadow, an ecological water regulation project has been carried out. Water retention to create wetland habitats has taken place at the Kivágási pasture (southeast Hungary). A major wetland restoration (re-flooding) took place at the

Nyirkai Hany to restore a part of the formerly flooded Hanság marshes.

Sites in the Béda-Karapanca area of the Danube-Dráva National Park are restored in a transboundary project with Croatia, supported by the Dutch government and coordinated by ECNC.

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

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.]

An example is the study of the impact of groundwater use in the Danube-Tisza Interfluvial Area on the Kiskunság wetlands. Other such studies have been carried out under the Water Framework Directive. Another study took place at lake Kornyi, where mineral water is extracted.

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

The participation of civil society in the management of groundwater has not been promoted, but it is possible by normal ways of state administration.

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

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

See action 4.1.4

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
See Vásárhelyi Plan for flood control and Danube-Tisza Interfluvial Sands Water Supply programme for actions against aridity, as well as actions described under mires (peatland conservation).		

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

1. Actions have been taken to minimize degradation, restore and improve management of peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>All mires have been declared protected by force of the Act on Nature Conservation in 1996. The real protection procedure was very hard because of the lack of definition for mire. In 2003, the definition of mires was built into this Act, so the protection before the court became more effective. The protection of mires (rehabilitation, reconstruction) was also built in the National Environment Programme compiled this year, which contains the main required activities on nature conservation for the next 6 years.</p> <p>Most mires were considered for designation under the Habitats Directive of the European Union, and many were in fact designated as pSCIs in 2004.</p> <p>For 18 of the most valuable mires a management plan was prepared, or nearly finalized by the national park directorates, including plans for improving conditions for CEPA (study trails) and ecotourism.</p> <p>Efforts have been taken for mires, but not in general for all peatlands due to lack of capacity.</p>		

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

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

[Go to previous Operational Objective](#)

[Go to next Operational Objective](#)

- [Go to Table of Contents](#)

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Wetlands restored increased with 20% by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Restoration activities continued at regional and local levels	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

1. Wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes or projects have been developed

B

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 2004, the national wetland inventory was started and mostly carried out. This exercise identified which wetlands are in need of restoration and the the National Ramsar Committee will work out a priority list.

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

See action 1.1.2

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

B

Choose an answer

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

**N° wetlands /
Ramsar sites**

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

Numerous wetland restoration projects have taken place in recent years. Some examples: at Kardoskút Ramsar site, 550 ha have been affected (former artificial drainage removed) and a 10 ha area is annually flooded by artificial means to create wet habitats. At the Biharugra Ramsar site, the Sző meadow and Ugrai meadow, an ecological water regulation project has been carried out (248 ha). Water retention to create wetland habitats has taken place at the Kivágási pasture (southeast Hungary).

Lists of wetland restorations in 2003 (2004 data are not yet complete):

2003-2004: Groundwater retention and monitoring of groundwater level at Sásdi-rét (70 ha)

2003-2004: Water retention in a bog meadow (Vörös János-séd) (15 ha)

2004: Bog meadow habitat restoration at Balatonederics and Szigliget (470 ha)

2003-2004: Wetland restoration in the Borsodi Mezőség Landscape Protection Area (6000 ha)

2003: Ipolytarnóc paleontological site Gyurtyánkő ponds wetland restoration (2 ha)

2004: Wetland restoration at Pély-Ludas

2003-2004: Drying bog meadow vegetation control at Ócsa (35 ha)

2003: Water retention dam and water governing measures at Ócsa, Nagy-Turján (200 ha)

2003: Water retention and water supply in the Hajta Valley (1000 ha)

2003: Szőce bog meadow vegetation control (2 ha)

2003: Farkasfa Fekete pond and Szentgotthárd Ördög pond, two Sphagnum bogs vegetation control (0.2+0.2 ha)

2003-2004: Major flood plain restoration along the river Rába

2003-2004: Vén-Duna (Danube branch) restoration (700 ha)

2003: Wetland restoration at Béda (oxbows) (30 ha)

2003: Decsi nagy-Holt Duna (Danube) water supply measures (500 ha)

2003: Rigóci ponds maintenance (15 ha)

2003: Kistápé bog meadow vegetation control (5 ha)

2003: Tengelic bog restoration (4 ha)

2003-2004: major wetland restoration at Béda-Karapanca (GEF project)

2003: A major wetland restoration (re-flooding) continued at the Nyirkai Hany to restore a part (423 ha flooded) of the formerly flooded Hanság marshes.

2003: Mekszikópuszta alkaline lake (150 ha)

2003: Dredging of canal system to supply water to reedbeds of Lake Fertő (2500 m)

2004-2005: Oslí-Hany-Királytó bog and marsh restoration (1362 ha)

2003-2004: Restoration of grasslands and alkaline marshes to govern surface waters (Angyalháza, Szelencés, Malomháza, Zám, Pentezug, Kónyai pond) (8000 ha)

2003: Bagamér grassland and bog meadow restoration (100 ha)

2003: Water supply to Apaj ponds (153 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Felső-Szúnyogi meadows (80 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Bugac marsh (5 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Miklapusztá alkaline marsh (160 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Tömörkény fishponds (80 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Szelidi lake (180 ha)
 2003: Water supply to Dávod, Földvári fishponds (50 ha)
 2003: Water retention in two oxbows of the Körös flood plain (20 ha + 40 ha)
 2003: Wetland creation in navy pits along the river Maros (a total of 17 ha)
 EU funded (LIFE), long-term (several years) projects:

Project title	Year of start	Applicant	EU support (euros)	Ratio of EU support (%)
Habitat management of Hortobágy eco-region for bird protection, wetland and steppe restoration at Nagy-Vókonya	2003	Hortobágy Nature Conservation Society	622 151	75
Restoration of pannonic steppes and marshes of Hortobágy National Park	2003	Hortobágy National Park Directorate	546 521	70
Complex habitat rehabilitation of the Central Bereg Plain, Northeast Hungary – Restoration and preparation for long term maintenance of active raised bogs, mires, fens, grasslands and parkland meadows		Hortobágy National Park Directorate	700 302	67
The practical protection of <i>Angelica palustris</i> habitats	2003	E-misszió Nature Conservation and Environmental Protection Society	665 000	50
Grassland restoration and marsh protection in Egyek-Pusztakócs	2005	Hortobágy National Park Directorate	858 325	70
Management of floodplains on the Middle Tisza	2001	Applicant: WWF Implementing partner: WWF Hungary	187 190	43
Integrated (Multi-level inundation) water management system solving flood-protection, nature conservation and rural employment challenges	2004	Tisza-Szamos KHT	257 358	30
Sustainable use and management rehabilitation of flood plain in the Middle Tisza District	2004	KÖTIKÖVIZIG	691 508	50

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

Only major principles have been incorporated into the wetland chapter of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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>		
Good examples include the Vásárhelyi Plan and the Kis-Rába River ecological water supply plan.		

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;
2. Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated	C	F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]</i>		
Information on wetland restoration methodologies is available in the project descriptions and on restoration results in the annual reports of the national park directorates, all in Hungarian. A 248-page book titled “Wetlands: the connections between the natural and social environment” was published in 2002, with several studies, e.g. fisheries and nature conservation, etc. No dissemination on the Ramsar Wetland restoration website took place on behalf of Hungary since COP8.		

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

Action 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	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
No compensation process under 4.2. of the Convention has ever taken place in Hungary because none of the Ramsar sites have been deleted or restricted.		

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

See action r3.3.iii

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

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 best example is the 2003-2004 restoration of grasslands and alkaline marshes to govern surface waters in the Hortobágy (Angyalháza, Szelencés, Malomháza, Zám, Pentezug, Kónyai pond) (8000 ha), which is also a cultural landscape under the World Heritage Convention. Aspects of traditional landscape have been taken into account (maintenance of traditional landscape features, such as shadoofs).

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

See action 20.1.5

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

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

B

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

Regular meetings take place for hydrobiologists of national park directorates to inform each other on activities, especially in order to implement the Water Framework Directive in Hungary.

In order to satisfy training needs, the wetland restoration and maintenance courses organised by Wetlands International in Wageningen are available with Dutch support for Hungarian experts under the Dutch – Hungarian MoU on nature conservation. One expert is planning to participate in one of these courses in 2005.

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

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.]

See Vásárhelyi Plan, summary annexed.

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	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. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>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.</i>]		
See Vásárhelyi Plan, summary annexed. Another example is the IUCN supported communication programme carried out at Lake Tisza to involve local communities in the management of a Ramsar site.		

Action r4.1.ix.- Utilise the information and resources of *Ramsar's restoration Web site*, and contribute relevant addition 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	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include additional comments on the use of Ramsar web site on wetland restoration and the materials provided to it, if applicable.</i>]		

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

1. Guidance on compensation for wetland losses has been prepared in response to Resolution VII.24	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.</i>]		

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):	Guidance developed and published	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	A national strategy is under development, an assessment will be made by national parks	

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	B	<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	D	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.]

A 408-page publication “Invasive Plants in Hungary” was published by the Ministry of Environment and Water in 2004, and a 20 page English booklet came out in 2003 on the subject (the latter is also available on the internet, titled “Invasive Alien Species in Hungary”).

The Act No. 53 of 1996 on Nature Conservation contains the definition of invasive alien species and promotes native tree species to be planted in afforestations, but it contains no detailed regulations on how to fight invasive species.

Actions to control invasive species are included in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (as a result of a coordinated action of focal points of different conventions).

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	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 implementation of this action.]

The book “Invasive Plants in Hungary” contains chapters on the impacts and eradication methods of several species that have an impact on wetlands, such as *Amorpha fruticosa* and *Solidago* species. Eradication projects have also been undertaken, and of course, had been preceded by risk assessments for the concrete sites.

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

1.- Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed and communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant Article 3.2 of the Convention (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	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	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
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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.*]

Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed in numerous cases, eradication measures have taken place, but not yet reported to the Ramsar Bureau. Actions undertaken in 2003 and 2004 will be reported in 2005.

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.*]

A good example is the joint control of invasive species in wet meadows of the Hungarian Aggtelek NP and the Slovak Karst NP.

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

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.*]

A 408-page publication "Invasive Plants in Hungary" was published by the Ministry of Environment and Water in 2004, and a 20 page English booklet came out in 2003 on the subject (the latter is also available on the internet, titled "Invasive Alien Species in Hungary"). Both publications have been disseminated to stakeholders.

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

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 book "Invasive Plants in Hungary" contains assessments of the impact of terrestrial invasive species on wetlands, as well as maps on the Hungarian distribution of these plant species. Comparisons of impacts have also been made, for example of impact of *Amorpha fruticosa*, *Fraxinus pennsylvanicus* and *Acer negundo*.

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

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

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

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 Vásárhelyi Plan annexed; another example was the communication project of IUCN at Lake Tisza to involve local communities in the management of the Ramsar site.

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

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.]*

Traditional fishing practices have long been documented in Hungary. A recent development in this field is the opening of the traditional Fishing and Fishermen Museum at Retszilás Fishponds Ramsar site. Application of such knowledge (including traditional fishing, pollarding and wickerwork, etc.) is encouraged particularly in protected areas.

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	<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 promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]			
Designation, including Ramsar site designation is subject to a conciliation procedure among ministries. The management planning exercise includes involvement of local stakeholders.			
3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites)	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
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.]			
The management planning exercise includes involvement of local stakeholders, but the selection of new Ramsar sites does not. Lake Öreg at Tata, however, is a Ramsar site designated by the local government (and <u>not</u> by the national government). Designation of wetlands (as well as other sites) into the Natura 2000 network includes a consultation procedure with local stakeholders, including landowners, which will take place in 2005.			
Action r6.1.i.- Implement, where appropriate, Resolution VII.8 on <i>Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands</i> 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 <i>Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management</i> , and Resolution VIII.14 on <i>New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands</i> . (Resolution VIII.2)			
1. Local stakeholders have been involved in wider issues related to water resources management at basin level	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.]			
See Vásárhelyi plan, summary annexed. Other development projects also need to be agreed with local governments.			
Action 6.1.5.- Elaborate for consideration by COP9 further guidance on the application of the <i>Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands</i> (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 <i>CBD-Ramsar 3rd Joint Work Plan</i> .			
GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Elaborated guidelines, developed jointly with CBD, available to COP9.			
1. Resource information on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management has been compiled	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the resources compiled about local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management.]			

3. The Party has contributed with case studies and other materials to the elaboration of further guidance on the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]		

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

1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied	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.- 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.]		
See summary of Vásárhelyi Plan, annexed: Complying with EU requirements, the preparatory phase of the planning process was an open, transparent one, at public hearings with large audiences all potential stakeholders were given opportunity to voice their opinion. Over one-hundred village meetings and eighty other consultations have been organised.		

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

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]		
Cultural values of wetlands are taken into account during habitat restoration as well as maintenance (see habitat restoration in alkaline marshes above and Traditional Fisheries and Fishermen Museum).		
3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]		
The book titled “Wetlands: the connections between the natural and social environment”, published in 2002, has a chapter on traditional oxbow management, as well.		

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	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.]		

The best example is the Hungarian Council of the World Heritage „Fertő Area” established in 2003 for the transboundary management of the Lake Fertő cultural landscape World Heritage site and Ramsar site.

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

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 Lake Fertő Ramsar site received World Heritage status in the cultural landscape category in 2002. The cultural monuments of the site are widely used to raise awareness for the natural heritage, as well, and visitors (ecotourists) appreciate both natural and cultural values. Whole communities depend mostly on eco-tourism in this area.

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

1. Educational and training activities have been developed in relation to cultural aspects of wetlands

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

Action 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

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 best examples are the cultural landscape World Heritage sites, i.e. Lake Fertő and the Hortobágy, as well as Lake Öreg at Tata. These are Hungary's most important Ramsar sites with cultural values that are associated

with the wetlands. Maintenance of traditional fishing methods can be mentioned in other sites.

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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RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Private sector is aware of the wise use principle	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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

1. The private sector has been encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands	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 the implementation of this action.]		
Private sector involvement has occurred during the CEPA project at Lake Öreg of Tata (local pension managers and other local businesses concerned with the lake).		

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

1. The private sector, academia and specialized institutions have been brought into decision-making related to wetlands	B	<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.]		
The private sector is represented by a fishpond manager, universities are represented by the president of the National Ramsar Committee. For NGOs, BirdLife Hungary is also represented.		

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

1. A private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forum or equivalent mechanism has been established	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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

1. A review of domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products has been carried out	C	<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. Legal, institutional and administrative measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable harvesting of wetland products	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the measures taken to ensure sustainable harvesting and trade of wetland products.]</i>		

In addition to already existing legal and institutional measures, the Ministry of Environment and water has taken over ownership of the Hortobágy Fish Ponds and the Balaton Fishing Company, both of which are important for both fish and reed harvesting. Other similar acquisitions are planned, for example for the management and harvesting rights of Lake Fertő's reedbeds.

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	<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):	Wise use principle is applied at pilot wetlands	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	ESA (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) program is continued at wetlands as well	

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

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

1. A review of positive and perverse incentive measures in relation to the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	F	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	B	
3. Actions have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the promotion and implementation of incentive measures and removal of perverse ones.]</i>		

1. It is obligatory to consult the Ministry of Environment and Water, as well as other ministries, on drafting any pieces of legislation, including incentive measures. Therefore, the Ministry can

incorporate the concept of wise use of wetlands into these provisions of law. The Chief Authority for, as well as the regional environmental protection, nature conservation and water management authorities immediately report on any provision of law contradictory to the wise use of wetlands if they encounter such a provision of law during their activities. Such problems are also discussed at the quarterly meeting of these authorities. The establishment of these complex authorities responsible for environmental protection, nature conservation and water management, in effect from 1 January 2005 onwards, also serves a better harmonisation of these sectors. A questionnaire specifically asking information on any problems caused by provisions of law contradictory to the wise use of wetlands concept will be circulated to the national park directorates as well as to the regional environmental protection, nature conservation and water management authorities later in 2005.

2. Some pilot areas of the Environmentally Sensitive Areas scheme are in flood plains and thus affect wetlands.

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	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;
2. Actions have been taken to remove or replace agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular	C	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on agriculture subsidies and incentives and their impacts on water resources and wetlands.]</i>		

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	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i> No such subsidy programme exists in Hungary.		

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

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

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

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Wetland CEPA is incorporated into sectoral policies	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Consultation process started through Ramsar National Committee	

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.]

Wetland CEPA was incorporated into some sectoral policy e.g. the Vásárhelyi Plan aiming at raising awareness for wetland values and services of local populations living along river Tisza. This action is still on the agenda of the Ramsar National Committee.

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:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Lessons learnt are properly documented	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Review of existing CEPA programmes started	

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

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.]

Through the Environmentally Sensitive Areas program BirdLife Hungary held courses for landowners and

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).

managers especially dealing with wetlands.

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	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. Lessons learnt in implementing CEPA programmes have been documented	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on implementation of CEPA programmes and information available.]		

The Environmental Education and Communication Programme Office (EECPO) is an interdepartmental institution of the Ministry of Environment and Water and the Ministry of Education coordinating environmental communication and environmental education policies in Hungary. The Office regularly reviews and evaluates CEPA programs.

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:	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):	Task force established in the framework of RNC	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Implementation of national CEPA action plan is continued	

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	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 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].		

Based on the opinion of the Ramsar National Committee, the focal points have been appointed by the Ministry of Environment and Water.

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.

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).

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	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.]		
During the IUCN-PEBLDS project aiming at strengthening the effectiveness of CEPA in nature conservation in Eastern European countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary and Slovenia) a CEPA working group was established.		

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	<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.]		
During the above mentioned IUCN-PEBLDS project the National Wetland CEPA action plan was finalised and since that time implementation has begun.		

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	F	<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.]		
The CEPA working group has already started a consultation process with relevant groups in this regard.		

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	<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.]		
The re-formed National Ramsar Committee includes members from the Ministry of Environment and Water as well as the other most concerned ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Inter-ministerial consultation is compulsory with all ministries on drafting new legislative acts and major programmes.		

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	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>		

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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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:	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):	Email network is established by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Wetland CEPA incorporated into the general communication framework of Bureau of Nature Conservation	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
As an outcome of the Tempus training courses several documents were published e.g. J. Ángyán-A. Bóhm-M. Szabó (eds.) 2003: Selected studies discussed during the Tempus nature conservation training courses. Eötvös Loránd University – Szent István University – Ministry of Environment and Water, Budapest.		

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

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 CEPA working group was established during the IUCN-PEBLDS project aiming at strengthening the effectiveness of CEPA in nature conservation in Eastern European countries. An email network was created for these countries (not national but includes national experts).

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)

E

Choose an answer

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

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

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

Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° 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.]

The party has indicated the willingness to join the Wetlands Link International program.

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.]

In Hungary, it is some national park directorates that work on wetland conservation (they manage wetlands for nature conservation, operate wetland exhibitions at their visitor centres, etc.). It is the directorates that twin with other similar organisations. A good example is the Fertő-Hanság NP Directorate that has excellent relations with the Nationalpark Neusiedl-Seewinkel in Austria and they work together on the joint management of Lake Fertő/Neusiedl, as well as on CEPA (e.g. a map of the whole lake, with the natural highlights, visitor centres, trails, etc., produced by Hungary before COP8).

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:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Formal education curricula reviewed	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The Ramsar National Committee is to formulate proposals	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

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

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

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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	D	

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).

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

Due to the financial constraints, just limited budget was available for wetland CEPA actions and capacity building.

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

1. A review of formal educational curricula in relation to wetland services and wise use has been carried out	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
2. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected	C	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 consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]		

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Regular national campaigns and programs implemented	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Celebration of World Wetlands Day annually	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In some cases local and regional campaigns were organised and implemented in national parks. The European Day of National Parks is organised annually and includes numerous CEPA actions (free guided visits, slide shows, etc.) also on wetlands.

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

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. World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out	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>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]

The World Wetlands Day is being celebrated annually. The 2005 event was a great success.

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

1. Collaboration with the media has been systematically used to convey the wetland message

D

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.]

Since January 1 2005 the Bureau for Nature Conservation has been employing a new staff member who is a professional communication expert. Her tasks include a close contact to media, and has actively worked on the success of WWD2005, for example.

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)

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
All 23 Hungarian 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.]

For celebration of WWD 2005, the official poster and stickers of the convention were translated into Hungarian and published in many copies. As a common action with the Ministry of Education, the materials are being sent to all schools and municipals in Hungary.

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:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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).

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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.]

When formulating such multi-stakeholder bodies, communication aspects were also incorporated.

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

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

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
20

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

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:	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):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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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 (if available, please include number of centres and 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° centres
8
N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
8

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).

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres established and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]		
The visitor centre at Anna-liget, by the headquarters of the Körös-Maros National Park Directorate, was inaugurated in 2003. It has a high-tech exhibition on the wetlands of the national park, as well as a 2 km nature trail introducing visitors to the natural beauty of a flood plain gallery woodland. This was the venue of WWD2005. Other visitor centres were established before COP8.		
3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (if available, please include number of centres and sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
		N° centres 1 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 foundation stone of an ecocentre at Lake Tisza Ramsar site was laid in 2004. The first stage of the implementation will be the creation of a 1200 m long boardwalk. Plans for other visitor centres also exist, but funding is uncertain.		

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

1. The information provided at wetland education centres has been reviewed to ensure that it is in line with the Convention's principles and goals	C	<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.]		
Education centres that exist at wetlands are operated by national park directorates. The information they provide is in line with the Convention issues.		

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

1.- Places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens, etc.) are involved in national CEPA efforts and activities (if available, please include number of facilities)	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° facilities 6-8
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the facilities involved in national CEPA efforts and activities, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	3 new sites to be designated in 2005	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	A list of candidate sites elaborated by COP9	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List	E	<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 National Wetland Inventory exercise was started in 2004 and is nearly completed. The inventory also lists sites that are to be designated as Ramsar sites. The National Ramsar Committee will identify the strategy and priorities and provide it with a timeframe in 2005.

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	<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 National Wetland Inventory exercise was started in 2004 and is nearly completed. The inventory also lists sites that are to be designated as Ramsar sites. The National Ramsar Committee will identify the targets for future designations in 2005.

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 <i>Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition</i> have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6</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
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.]			
No site designated under this criterion since COP8, but probably all sites that reach this threshold have already been designated.			

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.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory has been done (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated</i>).	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	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
Three sites (Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó, 770 ha, Böddi-szék and Sóséri-puszta 2734 ha, and Upper Tisza, 22 310,7 ha) were designated under, among others, this criterion in 2003-2004. Representative, rare or unique wetland types will be prioritised by the National Ramsar Committee on evaluating the National Wetland Inventory (to be done in 2005).			
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>).	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	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.]			
Underrepresented wetland types will be prioritised by the National Ramsar Committee on evaluating the National Wetland Inventory.			

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

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.”

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

See action 1.1.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites supporting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic, or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species, has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

F

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

Three sites (Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó, 770 ha, Böddi-szék and Sóséri-puszta 2734 ha, and Upper Tisza, 22 310,7 ha) were designated under, among others, this criterion in 2003-2004. Three other sites will be considered for designation as Ramsar sites in 2005 (Nyirkai-Hany, a stretch of the river Rába, and Ferencmajori fishponds). They all hold globally threatened and unique species.

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**

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

Over 80 per cent² of Ramsar sites were designated in 2004 as Special Protection Areas under the Birds Directive of the European Union. This includes the most important sites for migratory species. These are the following sites:

Aggtelek Karst (although the site has been designated for Ramsar as a subterranean site, its surface hold important populations of birds, including migratory ones).

Lake Balaton

Kis-Balaton

Bodrozug

Gemenc

Béda-Karapancsa

Pacsmagi Fishponds

Lake Öreg at Tata

Lake Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area

Ipoly Valley

Lake Fertő

Upper Tisza

Hortobágy

Közép-Tisza (including Mártély Ramsar site)

Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó
Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes

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).	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 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]		
Three sites (Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó, 770 ha, Böddi-szék and Sóséri-puszta 2734 ha, and Upper Tisza, 22 310,7 ha) were designated in 2003-2004. These sites were not protected in any way, but were later included in the Natura 2000 network (in November 2004). No site that is not protected and/or is not part of the Natura 2000 network is planned for designation under Ramsar in 2005.		

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).	B <i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]		
<p>Transboundary wetlands designated as Ramsar sites by Hungary <u>before</u> COP8:</p> <p>Lake Fertő (good co-operation between the Hungarian and the Austrian national parks for Lake Neusiedl)</p> <p>Béda-Karapanca (good co-operation established with the Croatian Kopacki Rit Nature Park, under a 2003-2005 project supported by the Netherlands and organised by ECNC, to harmonise management and establish the joint ecological network)</p> <p>Biharugrai and Begécsi Fishponds (good contacts with the Romanian partners)</p> <p>Ipoly Valley (good contacts with the Slovak partner)</p> <p>Transboundary wetland designated as Ramsar sites by Hungary <u>after</u> COP8:</p> <p>Upper Tisza (jointly designated by Hungary and Slovakia as announced by the Ramsar Secretariat in November 2004). The Ukraine and Romania have been invited several times, for the last time during the 5th European Regional Meeting in December 2004, to designate the Upper Tisza within their territories.</p>		

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 <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.]		

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

1. The Party has contributed to the elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 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.]

Comprehensive studies were published in 2002 (but possibly not reported to COP8) on the subject in a compilation by the Ministry of Environment, with the following titles: "The interactions of the natural and social environments in the example of oxbow management", "Fish farming and nature conservation", and "The interactions of the natural and social environments from the ecological point of view". Unfortunately, the studies only exist in English and there is presently no capacity for translation.

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

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 contributions made.]

The latest (3rd) Water Bird Population Census by Wetland International was published in 2002, to which Hungary provided data and would be ready to do so again in case it is requested.

3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International

C

Choose an answer

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

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information provided.]

No request for such information has arrived to Hungary, but the Ministry of Environment and Water would be ready to provide certain data, as earlier when information was requested on wetland habitats.

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

1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<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 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.]

BirdLife Hungary provides information to Wetlands International on wintering waterbird populations (January censuses). The latest (3rd) Water Bird Population Census by Wetland International was published in 2002, to which Hungary provided data and would be ready to do so again in case it is requested.

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	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	All missing data gathered and old RISs are renewed	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Collection of data is started in 2004	

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	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 implementation of this action.]

In late 2004, all outdated RIS-s were renewed (to be submitted to the Secretariat in the first half of 2005). The RIS-s explain the cultural and social values of the sites.

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

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 no missing data sheets to our knowledge. GIS maps were submitted for all Hungarian sites in early 2005 (before, only paper maps existed for some sites).

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

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

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 late 2004, all outdated RIS-s were renewed and will be submitted to the Secretariat in the first half of 2005.

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):	MPs are developed and implemented in 80% of Ramsar Sites by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Consultation process is started	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

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**

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

Measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined in the RISs (recently renewed for 15 sites out of 23). Management plans (even if not officially approved ones) exist for several sites. Active management measures applied in Ramsar sites since COP8 (apart from restrictions, nature education, etc.):

Small-scale habitat restorations at Lake Kolon and at Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes

Elimination of invasive tree species at Lake Öreg of Tata

Grazing livestock numbers increased to level required by conservation purposes at Lake Fehér of Kardoskút

2003-2004: Wetland restorations at Gemenc, e.g. Decsi Nagy-Holt Duna (Danube) water supply measures (500 ha) and Vén-Duna (Danube branch) restoration (700 ha)

2003-2004: Drying bog meadow vegetation control at Ócsa (35 ha)

2003: Water retention dam and water governing measures at Ócsa, Nagy-Turján (200 ha)

2003: Szőce bog meadow vegetation control (2 ha)

2003: Wetland restoration at Béda (oxbows) (30 ha)

2003-2004: major wetland restoration at Béda-Karapanca (GEF project)

2003: A major wetland restoration (re-flooding) continued at the Nyírkai Hany to restore a part (423 ha flooded) of the formerly flooded Hanság marshes.

2003: Mekszikópuszta alkaline lake (150 ha)

2003: Dredging of canal system to supply water to reedbeds of Lake Fertő (2500 m)

2003-2004: Restoration of grasslands and alkaline marshes to govern surface waters (Angyalháza, Szelencés, Malomháza, Zám, Pentezug, Kónyai pond) (8000 ha)

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

1. The *New Guidelines for management planning* have been used in the development of management plans or strategies

B

Choose an answer

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

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]

Decree No. 30/2001 (XII.28.) of the Minister of Environment on nature conservation management plans integrates the main guidelines of Resolution VIII.14. as well as other (e.g. IUCN) international guidelines for management plans. However, the decree made the management planning process much too complex and presently hardly any protected areas in Hungary have a management plan accepted under this legislation. Thus, the Ministry of Environment and Water plans to amend and simplify the decree in 2005.

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES

N° Ramsar sites

3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place

10+1

4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied

10+1

5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared

2

6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated

4

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.]

3.-4. Ten sites have management plans for the whole site, the Upper Tisza site has a management plan for about half of the site.

The ten sites that do have a management plan: Aggtelek (Baradla), Lake Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area, Lake Fertő, Hortobágy, Ócsa, Pacsmagi Fishponds, Lake Kolon, Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes with Lake Böddi, Mártély, Pusztaszeri Landscape Protection Area.

5. Lake Fehér of Kardoskút, Biharugra Fishponds

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES	N° Ramsar sites
6. Aggtelek (Baradla), Lake Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area, Lake Fertő, Hortobágy.	

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>10+1</u>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]</i>	
All management plans are made for nationally protected areas. Most Ramsar sites are fully under national protection, and thus, the management plan (if exists) covers these. The Upper Tisza Ramsar sites is only partly covered by the Szatmár-Bereg Landscape Protection Area and its management plan.	

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	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Decree No. 30/2001 (XII.28.) of the Minister of Environment on nature conservation management plans integrates the main guidelines of Resolution VIII.14. as well as other (e.g. IUCN) international guidelines for management plans. For example, the guidance on the description and maintenance of ecological character and designing a monitoring programme has been used.		

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	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The management planning exercise now includes involvement of local stakeholders as well as all ministries since Decree No. 30/2001 (XII.28.) of the Minister of Environment on nature conservation management plans was issued. Practically no management plan is accepted in accordance with this legislation, partly because of the consultation procedure described therein. Management plans prepared before (but not accepted under this decree yet) did not go through a full consultation process.		

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.]

Maintaining the statement that the management plans existing for Ramsar sites are not accepted officially under the legislation on management plans.

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**

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

Measures to maintain ecological character form a part of management plans.

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

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.]

Increasing wetland resilience to climate change, especially droughts, is a major factor considered in wetland restoration programmes.

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.]

Since 1997/1998, waterbirds (a total of 51 species) have been monitored monthly between August and April at

49 major wetland units throughout the country.

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.]

Action r11.1.xii.- Identify examples of effective management and exemplary models at Ramsar sites and other wetlands for listing on the *San José Record* and submit nominations for consideration through the approved procedure, once established. (Resolution VIII.15)

1.- Best-practice examples of effective management of Ramsar sites have been identified for possible nomination to the San José Record (if applicable, please include number of sites)

C

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

Action 11.1.4.- Promote, as necessary, the establishment and implementation of zoning measures for larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves, and other wetlands (Recommendation 5.3 and Resolution VIII.14) and strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3).

1.- Zoning measures have been established for larger Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)

D

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

On the basis of Hungarian legislation, the zonation of national parks has been done. This covers the following Ramsar sites: Hortobágy, Baradla (Aggtelek), Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes and Lake Kolon, Gemenc, Béda-Karapanca, Kis-Balaton, Biharugra, Lake Fertő, Lake Fehér of Kardoskút.

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

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

**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.]

19 640 ha (over 10 %) are strictly protected out of the total area of 180 000 ha of Ramsar sites in Hungary. Strictly protected areas occur in particularly sensitive sites, such as Kis-Balaton, Gemenc, Béda-Karapanca, Biharugra Fishponds, Bodrozug, Lake Fertő, Lake Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area, Lake Fehér of Kardoskút and at Szaporca, Ó-Dráva-meder. The latter two are also relatively small sites.

No Ramsar site has gained strict protection since COP8, however.

Action 11.1.5.- Consider as a matter of priority the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, involving relevant government agencies, local community representatives, and other stakeholders, including the business sector.

		N° Ramsar sites
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	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.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

Action r11.1.xiv.- Give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale; and give priority to projects addressing these issues in the future operation of the *Small Grants Fund*. (Resolution VIII.10)

1. Actions have been taken to develop coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management as a tool for combating poverty	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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

Action r11.1.xv.- Take into account the *General guidance for interpreting “urgent national interest” under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention* (Resolution VIII.20) when invoking the right under Article 2.5 and considering compensation in those cases where the boundaries of sites included in the Ramsar List are restricted or a Ramsar site is deleted from the List. (Resolution VIII.20)

1.- Article 2.5 of the Convention has been invoked to reduce the area of Ramsar sites and/or to delete sites from the List, and Article 4.2 (compensation) has been applied <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
No Ramsar site has been reduced or deleted in Hungary.			

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):	Monitoring programs are included in management planning in Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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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>
2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B	
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>The Kis-Balaton monitoring has been implemented under the national biodiversity monitoring programme since 2000. Its main topics are the monitoring of zooplankton, periphyton, algae, macrozoobenton, invasive plant species, molluscs, Diptera, Northern Vole, colonial breeding birds and reed-dwelling birds.</p> <p>Under the Water Framework Directive, Hungary plans to start monitoring the ecological character of 258 wetlands that form part of the Natura 2000 network. This includes the following Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Aggtelek Karst Lake Balaton Kis-Balaton Bodrogzug Gemenc Béda-Karapanca Pacsmagi Fishponds Lake Tata of Öreg Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area Ipoly Valley Lake Fertő Hortobágy</p>		

		<u>N° Ramsar sites</u>
Upper Tisza Lake Fehér at Kardoskút Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes and Lake Kolon Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó		
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 (if applicable, please include number of sites)	C	<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 (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Under the Water Framework Directive, Hungary plans to start monitoring the ecological character of 258 wetlands that form part of the Natura 2000 network. This includes the following Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Aggtelek Karst Lake Balaton Kis-Balaton Bodrogzug Gemenc Béda-Karapanca Pacsmagi Fishponds Lake Tata of Öreg Velence and Dinnyés Nature Conservation Area Ipoly Valley Lake Fertő Hortobágy Upper Tisza Lake Fehér at Kardoskút Upper Kiskunság alkaline lakes and Lake Kolon Csongrád-Bokrosi Sós-tó</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.]		
<p>Climate Change: Cs. Szalkay, V. Schlanger (2004): The effects of climate change on developing of freshwater scarcity and conflicts in Hungary. <i>Tájökológiai Lapok</i> 2 (2): 305-311. In Hungarian with an English summary.</p> <p>Desertification: Hungary joined the Convention to Combat Desertification in 1999 and the Parliament enacted it in 2003. The first national report was submitted to the International Secretariat in 2002. Presently, a comprehensive national drought strategy is drafted and its technical and inter-ministerial consultation process has begun. A National Drought Committee will co-ordinate the implementation of the strategy. Based on the national drought strategy, a national action plan will also be elaborated.</p>		

Action 11.2.3.- Ensure that at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character may occur as a result of proposed developments or changes in territorial and/or water use which have potential to affect them, an impact assessment is carried out which considers the full range of environmental, social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau, in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned.

See action 2.2.3

1. Proposed developments that may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been subject to EIAs, and the results communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2

C

Choose an answer

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

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

No EIA has been carried out at Ramsar sites, because no major development is planned for these sites.

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.

1. Mechanisms have been established to collect information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites in accordance with Article 3.2

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.]

See Action 11.2.2. Monitoring under the water Framework Directive will be a mechanism that indicates changes in ecological character, as well.

Action 11.2.4.- In fulfillment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites “where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur” in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) (if applicable, please include number of sites)

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

N° Ramsar sites

2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2

C

2.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 (if applicable, please include number of sites)

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.]

Positive: wetland restorations described earlier have positively affected the ecological character of numerous Ramsar sites.

Negative: Changes may occur at Kis-Balaton due to phosphate pollution.

No such changes have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau and no Hungarian Ramsar site has been included in the Montreux Record.

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]

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

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 actions taken.]

No Hungarian Ramsar site has been included in the Montreux Record.

Action 11.2.5.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record* request a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* of independent experts, where appropriate, to review the problems affecting the site and offer recommendations for remedial actions.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: For all sites on the *Montreux Record*, and which have not been subject to a *Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM)*, CPs to request such a Mission prior to COP9.

1.- Ramsar Advisory Missions have been requested to review the problems at Ramsar sites included in the Montreux Record, if any (*if applicable, please include number of sites*)

A

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

No Hungarian Ramsar site has been included in the Montreux Record.

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).

(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)

**N°Ramsar
sites**

1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions (*if applicable, please include number of sites*)

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.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record (*if applicable, please include number of sites*)

A

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [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.]

No Hungarian Ramsar site has been included in the Montreux Record.

Action r11.2.viii.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record*, regularly provide the Ramsar Bureau with an update on progress on taking action to address the issues for which these Ramsar sites were listed on the Record, including reporting fully on these matters in National Reports to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Resolution VIII.8)

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites were listed in the Montreux Record (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;	
2.- Actions taken to address issues at Montreux Record Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	A	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]			
No Hungarian Ramsar site has been included in the Montreux Record.			

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:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	wetland systems are identified	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Within the Ramsar National Committee a consultation process is to be started	

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Action 12.1.1.- Identify all wetland systems in each Contracting Party shared with other Parties and with non-parties and promote cooperation in their management with the adjoining jurisdiction(s), applying, where appropriate, the *Guidelines on integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook 4, Section A1 of the Guidelines), and the *Principles and Guidelines for integrating wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)* (Resolution VIII.4).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have identified their transboundary wetlands. 50% of CPs to have identified cooperative management mechanisms.

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	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° wetlands/ wetland systems
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
The management of all transboundary wetland systems (not necessarily Ramsar sites) is co-ordinated by joint transboundary wetland committees. Identification of shared wetland systems took place before COP8.			

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	<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 management of all transboundary wetland systems (not necessarily Ramsar sites) is co-ordinated by joint transboundary wetland committees.		

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	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.]		
Successes in this respect: the dam constructed at Gabčíkovo (Slovakia) before COP8 seriously affects the Hungarian Szigetköz area, but recently an agreement has been made on water supply to the Hungarian side. The planned dam at Novo Virje, on the Croatian side of the river Dráva, has been negotiated between the two countries for several years. Hungary is entirely against the plan as it would destroy the natural character of the river and would also destroy ecotourism opportunities, livelihoods, etc. At present, the project has been postponed for at least ten years.		

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	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 examples under r12.1.i. Another example is the refusal of the proposed Verespatak mining project in Romania, which would have posed a serious risk to the joint wetland system of the Upper Tisza area. The refusal was strongly urged by Hungary, too.		

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	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
See Vásárhelyi Plan, but WWD 2005 was also a good example for this activity. The 2002 publication		

“Wetlands: the relations of the natural and social environments” also included a study on river basin management, with regard to biodiversity issues.

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):	Lead shots are depleted by 1, August 2005 in wetlands	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Internal consultation with the hunting agencies launched	

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Action 12.2.1.- Identify and designate as Ramsar sites all wetlands which satisfy the relevant Ramsar Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species, giving priority in the first instance to waterbirds, fish, and marine turtles, especially those that are globally threatened. (Section B1 of the Guidelines)

1.- Wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites designated)	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° Ramsar sites
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]	2% of Hungary's territory has been designated as Ramsar sites, including the most important wetlands for waterbirds and fish.		

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]	Hungary designated its most important wetlands as part of the Natura 2000 network of the European Union (over 20% of Hungary's territory is in the network) in November 2004. Most Ramsar sites have been included in the network. Those sites that are important for migratory waterbirds were designated as Special Protection Areas (a part of the Natura 2000 network) under the Birds Directive.		

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> <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>		
In the 23 most important sites for migratory waterbirds, hunting waterbirds has been banned. From 1 August 2005 onwards, lead shots will be eliminated from all wetlands that are considered important for waterbirds by the nature conservation authorities. Hunting seasons are in line with the requirements of the Birds Directive.		

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	<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):	Enhanced role of Hungary in the Carpathian Initiative	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.3.2.- Encourage development of regional arrangements under the Convention similar to *MedWet*, where appropriate, applying the *Guidance for the development of regional initiatives in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands* (Resolution VIII.30) for example in the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, the Caribbean, South America and the Altaj-Sayansky region.

1. Party has been involved in the development of a regional initiative in the framework of the Convention	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>		
Hungary participated in the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and as part of this Slovak-led initiative, contributed to the inventory of Carpathian wetlands. The inventory contains information on the conservation status of each wetland.		

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 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.

<i>See action 18.1.1</i>		
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	<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 MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]		
The focal points of all these conventions are employees of the Ministry of Environment and Water. Daily working relations exist with the focal points of CBD, CMS and the WHC. The focal points of CCD and UNFCCC are contacted in or contact the Ramsar focal point in case it becomes necessary.		

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)

<i>See action 18.1.2</i>		
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	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 information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]		

Action 13.1.2.- Maintain and, where appropriate, seek opportunities to further promote cooperation with UNESCO, in particular its *Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)*, especially as regards wetlands within *Biosphere Reserves*, and in the area of the development of curricula to integrate wetland issues.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the National Committees and contacts of UNESCO MAB Programme	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]</i>		
The focal point of the UNESCO MAB Programme is also an employee of the Ministry of Environment and Water. Daily working relations exist between the two focal points.		

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		<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]</i>		
The focal point of the Danube River Protection Convention is also an employee of the Ministry of Environment and Water. Daily working relations exist between the two focal points.		

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	<u>Choose an answer</u> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the mechanisms in place.]</i>		
Hungary is a member of the European Union since 1 May 2004. As such, the Ramsar activities are deeply embedded in EU activities, as well. Co-ordination of contacts with the Council of Europe as for nature conservation issues is also operated from the Ministry of Environment and Water, and contacts are good.		

Action 13.1.6.- Support and contribute to the development and implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement Africa's Wetland Management Strategy under the Environmental Initiative of NEPAD, *the New Partnership for Africa's Development*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: NEPAD's Action Plan to have fully incorporated Ramsar issues and mechanisms, and being implemented by relevant CPs, in lines with WSSD targets.

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

Action 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*

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 13.1.8.- Continue the development and implementation of joint work plans under the Memorandum of Cooperation between the *Ramsar Convention* and the *South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)*

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the Ramsar/SPREP Joint Work Plan

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action r13.1.vi.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *UNEP Guidelines on Enhancing Compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and on National Enforcement, and International Cooperation in Combating Violations of Laws Implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements* in enhancing and supporting compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, including the *Ramsar Convention*. (Resolution VIII.24)

1. The Party has made use of the UNEP guidelines in relation to Ramsar

C

Choose an answer

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14.1. Promote the sharing of expertise and information

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	More twinning agreements in place by COP9	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 14.1.1.- Using mechanisms such as the national focal points for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) and for the STRP, promote the sharing of knowledge (traditional, indigenous, and more recently derived technologies and methods) at the global, regional, and national levels. (Section D1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to share knowledge at the global and/or regional and/or national level

B

Choose an answer

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

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

At Rétszilás Fish Ponds Ramsar site, the private manager of the site has established, with government support, the Museum of Hungarian Fishermen and Fishing, introducing visitors to the history and instruments of traditional fishing. Application of such knowledge (including traditional fishing, pollarding and wickerwork, etc.) is encouraged particularly in protected areas.

The book titled "Wetlands: the connections between the natural and social environment", published in 2002, but possibly not yet reported to COP8, has a chapter on traditional oxbow management, as well.

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

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.]

Hungary has not organised international training for wetland managers. Under the Dutch – Hungarian MoU on nature conservation, a twinning programme was established between De Biesbosch NP, the Netherlands, and the Fertő-hanság NP, Hungary. The first activity was a visit by Dutch experts to the FHNP in 2003 in order to study wetland management there. On the other hand, the wetland restoration and maintenance courses organised by Wetlands International in Wageningen are available with Dutch support for Hungarian experts. One expert is planning to participate in one of these courses in 2005.

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

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 wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]

Hungary participated in the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and as part of this Slovak-Norwegian project, contributed to the inventory of Carpathian wetlands (Hungary's only mountain wetlands). The inventory contains information on the conservation status of each wetland. Carpathi, a publication on the results was published and disseminated to parties concerned by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (Project co-ordinator), with information on the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas. The Slovak partner is presently seeking funds to continue the project and maintain the functioning of this network.

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

Under the Dutch – Hungarian MoU on nature conservation, a twinning programme was established between De Biesbosch NP, the Netherlands, and the Fertő-hanság NP, Hungary. The first activity was a visit by Dutch experts to the FHNP in 2003 in order to study wetland management there. No activity took place in 2004, but it is planned that a Hungarian delegation from FHNP will visit DeBiesbosch in 2005.

Former twinning relations still exist and are active on daily management issues between the Hungarian Fertő-hanság National Park and the Austrian Lake Neusiedl-Seewinkel NP).

Under a 2003-2005 project supported by the Netherlands and organised by ECNC, a twinning relation has been established between Duna-Dráva NP and the Croatian Kopacki Rit Nature Park, to harmonise management and establish the joint ecological network between the Hungarian Béda-Karapanca Ramsar site and the Croatian Kopacki Rit.

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	<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.]

The homepage of the Ministry of Environment and Water contains pages on the Ramsar Convention, the Hungarian Ramsar sites and news related to Ramsar, such as WWD 2005, the laying of the foundation stone of an ecocentre at Lake Tisza Ramsar site with a 1200 m long boardwalk, etc.

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	<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.]

Hungary participated in the Carpathian Wetlands Initiative and as part of this Slovak-Norwegian project, contributed to the inventory of Carpathian wetlands (Hungary's only mountain wetlands). The inventory contains information on the conservation status of each wetland. Carpathi, a publication on the results was published and disseminated to parties concerned by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (Project co-ordinator), with information on the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas. The Slovak partner is presently seeking funds to continue the project and maintain the functioning of this network.

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

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.1.1.- Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies in order to assist developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. (Based on Section E1 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Each CP with a bilateral donor agency to have encouraged it to give priority for funding for wetland conservation and wise use projects in relation to poverty alleviation and other WSSD targets and priorities.

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues	C	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.]		
Hungary is a recipient of international support for wetland restorations, management, etc. See examples above (GEF and Dutch government funded projects, etc.). Hungary has good relations with the European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC) and has received Dutch funding in an ECNC-coordinated transboundary project (Béda-Karapanca - Kopacki Rit, see above).		

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	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.]		
The Dutch-funded and ECNC-coordinated transboundary project (Béda-Karapanca - Kopacki Rit, see above), included wetland inventories.		

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)	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 [Please list the sites involved and include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
The Dutch-funded and ECNC-coordinated transboundary project (Béda-Karapanca - Kopacki Rit, see above)			

helps to implement the management plan of the Béda-Karapanca Ramsar site as well as that of the Croatian Kopacki Rit.

EU funded (LIFE) projects (see below) also help to implement management plans of Ramsar sites and other important wetlands:

Project title	Year of start	Applicant	EU support (euros)	Ratio of EU support (%)
Habitat management of Hortobágy eco-region for bird protection, wetland and steppe restoration at Nagy-Vókonya	2003	Hortobágy Nature Conservation Society	622 151	75
Restoration of pannonic steppes and marshes of Hortobágy National Park	2003	Hortobágy National Park Directorate	546 521	70
Complex habitat rehabilitation of the Central Bereg Plain, Northeast Hungary – Restoration and preparation for long term maintenance of active raised bogs, mires, fens, grasslands and parkland meadows		Hortobágy National Park Directorate	700 302	67
The practical protection of <i>Angelica palustris</i> habitats	2003	E-misszió Nature Conservation and Environmental Protection Society	665 000	50
Grassland restoration and marsh protection in Egyek-Pusztakócs	2005	Hortobágy National Park Directorate	858 325	70
Management of floodplains on the Middle Tisza	2001	Applicant: WWF Implementing partner: WWF Hungary	187 190	43
Integrated (Multi-level inundation) water management system solving flood-protection, nature conservation and rural employment challenges	2004	Tisza-Szamos KHT	257 358	30
Sustainable use and management rehabilitation of flood plain in the Middle Tisza District	2004	KÖTIKŐVIZIG	691 508	50

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

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 main goal of the Dutch-funded and ECNC-coordinated transboundary project (Béda-Karapanca - Kopacki Rit, see above) is to establish a transboundary ecological network.

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 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	<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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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.

<i>(For CPs with development assistance agencies)</i>		
1. Work has been done with the development assistance agency in relation to Ramsar’s <i>Guidelines for international cooperation</i> (Res. VII.19)	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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)

<i>(For CPs with development assistance agencies)</i>		
1. The performance of the development assistance agency in relation to wetland issues has been assessed	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.5.- For those Parties involved in the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the *modus operandi* of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies, seek to ensure that wetland conservation and wise use is afforded due attention and priority.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Relevant CPs to report to COP9 on ensuring that multilateral donor agencies afford priority to wetlands within poverty alleviation schemes.

1. The Party has worked with multilateral agencies to ensure that wetland issues receive due attention	A	<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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.6.- Provide financial support, preferably on a medium and/or long-term basis, to the operations of the *Ramsar Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, and the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, seeking to have available a minimum of one million US dollars annually for the former and half a million US dollars for the latter. (Based on Sections E4 and E9 of the Guidelines.)

See action 16.1.2

1. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Endowment Fund	C	
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.]		

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	<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 foundation stone of an ecocentre (visitor/training centre with ecotourism facilities) was laid in 2004 in Poroszló, by Lake Tisza Ramsar site, Hungary.		

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	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.]		
See GEF project, Dutch-funded and ECNC-coordinated project as well as EU-funded (LIFE) projects above.		

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)	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 implementation of this action.]

2003-2004: a major wetland restoration took place at Béda-Karapanca (GEF project)

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

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.]

Negotiations have been held with ECNC who had contacted EBRD and other banks to finance conservation projects in Europe. Among others, wetland restorations with an ecotourism potential have been suggested for the priority list if funding becomes available.

Environmental foundations, such as Göncöl Foundation also support nature conservation projects, for example, nature trails, etc.

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

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 Ministry of Environment and water has taken over ownership of the Hortobágy Fish Ponds and the Balaton Fishing Company, both of which are important for both fish and reed harvesting. Extensive, nature-friendly utilisation is thus encouraged by government support.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.2. Ensure that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 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	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The same legislation applies to international agencies, banks, etc. as regards environmental impact assessments, permits, etc.		

Action 15.2.3.- Review wetland-related project development approval and consider the introduction of mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back to hands-on wetland management in the country. (Based on Section G3 of the Guidelines.)

1. Work has been done to introduce mechanisms to direct resources derived from wetlands back to wetland management	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 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	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):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 16.1.1.- Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year.

1. Ramsar dues have been paid in full and in a timely manner	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 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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.

<i>In addition to any contributions listed under Action 15.1.6 above, voluntary contributions have been made:</i>		
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</i> <i>(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	E	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]</i>		
Hungary provided funding to the organisation of the 5 th European Regional Meeting of Ramsar. Support to COP9 is also being considered.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17.1. Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Bureau are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Strategic Plan

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 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</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 <i>[Please include information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Unfortunately, no contact has been made to STRP National Focal Points from STRP. The 5 th European Regional Meeting discussed this problem and recommended establishing the contact and surveying the capacities and skills of National Focal Points.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18.1. Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 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:

- 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;
- 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;
- 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
- 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	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 information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]		
No full review of institutions concerned with wise use of wetlands has been made.		
<i>See action 13.1.1</i>		
3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	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>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]		
National focal points of environment-related conventions co-operate well within the Ministry of Environment and Water (see above).		

5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
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	B	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]		
See National Ramsar Committee below. Intersectoral co-operation is based on inter-ministerial co-operations and the normal functioning of the government.		

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	<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.]		
Research study on this topic: Cs. Szalkay, V. Schlanger (2004): The effects of climate change on developing of freshwater scarcity and conflicts in Hungary. <i>Tájökológiai Lapok</i> 2 (2): 305-311. In Hungarian a with an English summary.		

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.

<i>See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii</i>		
1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)	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 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].		
The Minister of Environment and Water issued an order on establishing the Ramsar National Committee in November 2004. According to this order, the Bureau for Water Management of the Ministry of Environment and Water has to be represented in the Committee, and this is in fact so. The Committee resumed work, after about three years of absence, in December 2004. The Ramsar National Committee includes members from various sectors (fishfarming, private farming, Ministry of Agriculture responsible for fishing and hunting, water management, environmental protection).		

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

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 capacity of STRP and CEPA Focal Points have been assessed. Based on this assessment, the non-governmental CEPA Focal Point was replaced in 2004. The re-organisation of the National Ramsar Committee in 2004 also brought along some changes in the membership due to capacity reasons.

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

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.]

It helped to summarise ongoing and future tasks on handing over responsibilities to a new national focal point in 2004.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20. TRAINING

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20.1. Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 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	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>		
In order to satisfy training needs, the wetland restoration and maintenance courses organised by Wetlands International in Wageningen are available with Dutch support for Hungarian experts under the Dutch – Hungarian MoU on nature conservation. One expert is planning to participate in one of these courses in 2005.		

Action 20.1.2.- Identify at national, provincial, and local levels the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Convention and, in particular, use of the *Wise Use Guidelines and Ramsar Handbooks*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least half of CPs to have assessed national and local training needs.

1. An assessment has been completed of national and local training needs in the implementation of the Convention and use of the Wise Use Handbooks	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 20.1.3.- Identify and disseminate, nationally, regionally and globally, information describing the current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the further development of the *Bureau's Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_index.htm) and the *Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_training_directory.htm).

1. The wetland-related training opportunities that exist in the country have been identified	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 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	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>
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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.]

The Ramsar Convention Manual: a Guide to the Convention on Wetlands was translated into Hungarian and published in 1999. It is still available for experts working with wetland conservation.

Action 20.1.6.- Provide opportunities for manager training by:

- encouraging personnel exchanges for on-the-job training, possibly between twinned sites;
- holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites;
- siting wetland manager and wetland educator training facilities at Ramsar sites;
- obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world;
- establishing further regional training initiatives such as the *Wetlands for the Future Initiative* funded by the Government of the USA for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

1. Opportunities for manager training in the country have been provided

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 20.1.7.- Continue to encourage the development of projects for submission to the *Small Grants Fund* for support for training activities.

1. Training-related projects have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 20.1.8.- Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and research centres, including a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training 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).

2.- Support has been provided to the development of regional wetland training and research centres (if applicable, please include number of centres)

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**

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

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.]

Under the Dutch – Hungarian MoU on nature conservation, a twinning programme was established between

De Biesbosch NP, the Netherlands, and the Fertő-hanság NP, Hungary. The first activity was a visit by Dutch experts to the FHNP in 2003 in order to study wetland management there.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

- a) seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties to provide information on the benefits of membership and advice or assistance in overcoming obstacles;
- b) intensifying contacts with the diplomatic representatives of non-Contracting Parties;
- c) seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including the Regional Seas Conventions, and in-country offices of the *United Nations Development Programme*, the *World Bank* and others;
- d) organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties;
- e) providing assistance for the identification of *Wetlands of International Importance* that could be listed as Ramsar sites upon accession;
- f) encouraging attendance by observers from non-Contracting Parties at regional meetings and meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and
- g) publishing and disseminating an accession kit to assist countries in the Oceania region (and Small Island Developing States more generally) through the accession process. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adherence to the Convention of new Contracting Parties	C	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]		

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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Please include additional comments on the COP9 National Planning Tool, National Report Format. (For instance, adequacy of the questions, the difficulties in completing them, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved)

Questions under Operational Objective 15 were unclear as to whether they refer to recipient activities, as well (Hungary makes efforts to mobilize international funding for wetland conservation – of course, primarily in Hungary itself, which is a country with economy in transition).

In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?	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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Annex:

SUMMARY OF THE VÁSÁRHELYI PLAN

During the 1998 to 2000 period four abnormal flood waves have passed down the River Tisza. The total costs of flood fighting, emergency measures and reconstruction have amounted to some HUF 120 billion (thousand million). Both public awareness of the hazard potential and the demand for a higher level of safety have grown in the wake thereof.

The government, at its special meeting on the 26th of February, 2003, at Szolnok, had approved of the conceptual plan of enhancing flood safety in the Tisza Valley and obliged the competent ministries to elaborate detailed plans for Stage I of the development program by the 30th of September. The plans were duly submitted to the government by the deadline prescribed.

The development proposal comprises a complex program, which covers beyond the creation of a higher level of flood safety, the improvement of the living standards of the rural- and urban population in the region, the formulation and introduction of new types of agro-ecological land use in the area of the emergency flood retention reservoirs and the modernisation of the infrastructure in the settlements along the River Tisza.

In Stage I, which covers the years 2004 to 2007, the proposed flood safety enhancement measures include the restoration of the flow conveying capacity of the flood bed, the conservation oriented revitalisation thereof along the Tivadar section of the river, as well as along that between Szolnok town and the southern national boundary. Work will also be started on the emergency retention reservoirs, of which six are contemplated at strategic sites.

Agreement has been reached on the principles according to which a) the reservoir sites are selected and their area secured, b) the compensation to the farmers is awarded when they make available their fields temporarily for the purpose of flood storage, and c) the methods of subsequent farming are decided upon.

The costs of the first four years have been estimated at HUF 130 billion, one-half thereof devoted to flood control measures, the other to rural development, agro-ecological farming and infrastructure modernisation projects. Of this total HUF 8 billions have been earmarked for flood control projects. EU support is expected to cover approximately one-fourth of the total costs of the program.

Progress towards program implementation has been achieved according to schedule. Preparatory activities so far have included surveys on the potential reservoir sites for ecological and archaeological values. The findings have revealed no obstacles to further designing work. The Strategic Environmental Assessment has been completed to EU standards, the rural- and regional development opportunities related to the program have been explored together with the demands for intensifying economy and improving the infrastructure.

Complying with EU requirements, the preparatory phase of the planning process was an open, transparent one, at public hearings with large audiences all potential stakeholders were given opportunity to voice their opinion. Over one-hundred village meetings and eighty other consultations have been organised.

The tasks carried out in 2004 include the environmental impact assessments, the preparation of the permit drawings, the procurement of official permits for the structures designed, the preparation of the detailed rural and regional development programs and the selection of contractors by an open tendering procedure.

Continuous and outstanding care has been devoted to providing detailed information to the communities concerned and to obtaining public approval to the implementation of the program.

Work on the first reservoirs and on clearing the high-water bed has been scheduled to start in 2005.

Parallel to the implementation of Stage I of the program, the scientific and professional foundations of the subsequent Stage II will be prepared by the middle of 2005.