



**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)**

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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

Wetland Inventories

- Asian Wetland Directory, 1989 – identified 93 Wetlands of International Importance
- Wetland Directory published in 1990 by MoEF using questionnaire survey
 - 2167 Natural freshwater wetlands covering 1.5 million ha area

- 65253 Manmade freshwater wetlands covering 2.6 million ha area
- WWF – India and Wetlands International ,1993 identified 54 additional Wetlands of International Importance with more details
- Space Application Centre using remote sensing techniques identified 27403 inland and coastal wetlands covering 7.6 million ha
- Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology under UNDP project has undertaken survey and mapping of wetlands on 1:250,000 scale in 10 states covering 72 districts and 1:50,000 scale in 9 states covering 28 districts
- Wetland Inventory for assessing information pertaining to potential Ramsar sites is being undertaken in collaboration with various agencies like Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Forest Survey of India (Dehradun). Information gathered in terms of Ramsar Data Sheets for identified wetlands alongwith maps is being put on website for benefit of user agencies all over the country.

Identification of more sites under National Wetland Conservation Programme

- 68 sites have been identified for conservation in the country, 41 being recently added to the List apart from 35 Mangroves & 4 coral areas and 10 urban lakes.
- Identification of wetlands sites is based on Ramsar criteria which include aspect of waterfowl population, dominance of various plant/animal species, biodiversity values, cultural aspects, religious and sacred sanctities, socio-economic aspects, sustainable fisheries, traditional knowledge and other such issues as are listed in the Ramsar criteria.

Wetland strategy

Most of the strategies/policies made by the Government do not reflect the pragmatic approach, the recent example is Water Policy document by the Ministry of Water Resources which do not mention about the role of wetlands which are pivotal for re-charging of aquifers. With this intention in mind, concept paper for wetland strategy was made and circulated to various experts alongwith terms of reference for various components to be taken up by expert institutes/ consortia of experts. The following project components are to be addressed in the present context :

- Survey & Assessment
- Database development
- Catchment area treatment
- Water management
- Biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable resource development
- Weed control

- Capacity building
- Community & local institutional development
- Pollution control
- Eco-tourism development
- Women & gender sensitization
- Education & awareness general
- Development of Wetland policy and regulatory mechanism

After getting inputs from various experts, draft Wetland Strategy will be finalized for initiating action. Terms of Reference are being finalized and thereafter, strategy will be finalized by expert institutions/consortia of expert organizations.

Capacity building

For implementation of Wetland Conservation programme, capacity building is the major tool as unless and until people are sensitized about importance of wetlands, need for their conservation and role of local people/communities, no tangible results can be achieved. With this intention in mind, series of regional workshops were organized in various parts of the country to make people aware of the importance of wetland and integrate their traditional knowledge in the main plan process. Following workshops were organized in various regions :

1. Western Region, 9-11 February, 2003, Gujarat
2. Southern Region, 4-6 November, 2003, Cochin
3. Eastern Region, 15-17 December, Bhubaneshwar
4. North-Eastern Region, 26-28 February, 2004
5. Central Region, 15-17 June, 2004
6. Northern region, Agra (19-21 April, 2005)

Some more workshops are proposed in Srinagar, Lakshadweep and Chandigarh for reviewing of progress of wetland conservation activities especially Ramsar sites :

1. Punjab & Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh (date to be decided)
2. J&K, Srinagar (End of June)
3. Southern region, Lakshadweep (October, 2005)

These workshops have come out with number of recommendations and after sifting them, these will be sent to the user agencies for implementation.

Apart from workshops, various training programmes on various components of wetland conservation are organized to train people about methodology at conceptual level of understanding for undertaking conservation programmes. We are planning to open Centre for Wetland Management for which already infrastructure is available.

Number of interpretation centres are being opened up in various States to teach various target groups about products coming from wetlands, knowledge of biodiversity and how various components of the wetland ecosystem are used in a wise manner so that they are passed on to next generation in a much better manner.

Initiatives taken up by the Ministry at different levels for protection of wetlands involve following :

- Several wide ranging policies, strategies and action plans have been formulated by the Government which directly or indirectly support wetland conservation.
- National conservation strategy and policy statement on Environment & Development (1992) highlights conservation and sustainable development of wetlands, including coastal areas, riverine and island ecosystems. Similarly, National Forest Policy and National Wildlife action plan emphasize conservation of wildlife on scientific principles of evolution and genetics, including social and cultural aspects.
- Several legislations have been enacted which have relevance to wetland conservation. These include Forest Act, 1927, Forest Conservation Act, 1980, the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 and the Umbrella provision of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Notification declaring the coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and back waters which are influenced by tidal action in the landward side upto 500 meters from the high tide line and the land between the low tide line and the high tide line as the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 under the provision of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. This proposes graded restriction on setting up and expansion of industries, operations and processes including pressures from human activities.
- Environment (Protection) Act also specifies protection of ecologically fragile areas which includes number of wetlands including Ramsar sites for notification.
- Portions of the listed sites have been declared as wildlife sanctuaries and Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur has been notified as a national park.

- Ministry has published several reports/documents on conservation and wise use of wetlands which include six monographs on Ramsar sites in collaboration with WWF-India, eco-tourism guidelines for Chilka lake. Fact sheets have been published for 19 Ramsar sites in collaboration with WWF-India and circulated to user agencies.
- Economic valuation of wetlands has been identified as a priority area and this valuation has been done for Keoladeo National Park by Indira Gandhi National Institute for Development & Research under UNDP project on Capacity-21. The project has also been undertaken under Small Grants Fund for Ramsar for Harike wetland in Punjab.
- 66 wetlands have been identified for conservation and management under the National programme where 100% assistance is given for undertaking conservation activities.
- Catchment area treatment programme is being given due attention involving community participation and water management.
- Emphasis is being given on ecological activities than on engineering measures for catchment area treatment. Traditional knowledge of the people associated with water bodies is emphasized involving cultural aspects of wetland conservation, particularly in and high altitude remote areas.
- Weed control measures have been taken up which involve biological as well as manual methods. Recently, in Punjab, Chief Minister engaged army for control of water hyacinth from Harike lake showing sensitivity of Government towards conservation of wetlands.
- Some of the endangered species of wildlife have been re-introduced in wetlands and certain portions of some of the wetlands have been declared as sanctuaries for protection of wildlife. Construction of mounds and ponds have been initiated for developing suitable habitats for waterfowl.
- Guidelines for sustainable development and management of brackishwater aquaculture have been drawn up. Some State Governments like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh have aquaculture guidelines also at local level. Orissa Govt. have formulated a Task

Force for prawn farming aspects alongwith coastline.

- Community participation has become a most useful tool and at present, practiced as a successful case study in case of Chilka in Orissa and Loktak in Manipur. NGOs are also involved effectively in wetland conservation programmes. The typical example is Shramdan to save Sukhna lake in Chandigarh.
- Awareness and participatory programmes are in operation in number of identified areas which involve various target groups like children/youth/adults/stakeholders, etc.
- Several training programmes are being conducted in collaboration with different academic organizations/research institutes/State Governments/ international NGOs to impart training on various components of wetland conservation which include wise use, catchment area treatment, weed control, hydrological aspects, research methodology, preparation of management action plans, community participation, etc.. This training is imparted to senior managers/middle level managers/research organizers/policy makers/stakeholders, etc.
- Under inventorization, Directory of Wetlands was published in 1990 by Ministry of Environment & Forests on the basis of questionnaire survey giving information about location, geographical coordinates, area and ecological category of wetlands over 100 ha. Similar directory is proposed for mangroves and corals. The Directory on Wetlands has been updated in collaboration with WWF-India incorporating detailed information on 40 more wetlands compared to Asian wetland directory.
- A project on survey and mapping of wetlands involving remote sensing technology has been undertaken by Space Application Centre. Under UNDP-sponsored project, survey and mapping of wetlands less than 56 hectares is being executed by Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History to give more information on those satellite wetlands which cater to larger wetlands in the area. On the basis of results obtained during the present investigations, a more meaningful wetland conservation project can be posed to GEF for holistic conservation of at least one wetland in its totality.
- India is a signatory to Ramsar Convention and plays an important role

in conservation and wise use of wetlands. On the basis of our country's work in the field of wetland conservation, India has been nominated as a member of standing committee from 1993-1996 and at present from 1999-2002.

- For the first time, Ramsar Conservation Award has been given to India for its work on intervention in Chilka lake by opening the maggarmukh mouth. India is the first Asian country to get this award.
- India is also a member of Convention on Climate Change, Biodiversity, Migratory Species, World Heritage and inter-linkages among these Conventions are frequently discussed in the inter-Ministerial and intra-Ministerial meetings to develop comprehensive plans on actions for their implementation.
- The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by our country with Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Russian Federation for conservation of Siberian cranes. Action has also been initiated for conservation of marine turtles. Project Elephant and Project Tiger are also under operation for conservation of these species.
- Project on Conservation of Upper and Lower lake, Bhopal has been supported by OECF, Japan
- Though number of steps have been initiated taking shelter from existing laws as there is no separate legal mechanism for wetland conservation, we feel that more emphasis needs to be given on preventive measures than the curative ones. A comprehensive approach needs to be adopted for wetland conservation on sound ecological basis. Though our experience in wetland conservation is only little more than a decade old, the experience gained over these years would help to draw an appropriate strategy for refining the objectives and addressing issues relating to ecological and social aspects. This would help in rehabilitation of selected water bodies and sustainable utilization of their resources improving water quality enhancing biodiversity and restoring the aesthetic value of wetlands.
- Some States have already constituted authorities for execution of wetland conservation programmes in their respective States. Notable of them are Chilka Development Authority in Orissa, Loktak Development Authority in Manipur, Shore Area Development Authority in Andhra Pradesh, Lakes and Waterways Development Authority in

Jammu & Kashmir, etc. In the interest of the wetland conservation Programme, State Govts. have been asked to form State Development Authorities for wetland conservation so that these authorities are themselves a unit for undertaking wetland conservation activities having different subject matter experts.

Integrated approach

River basin approach has been followed for conservation and wise use of wetlands as unless and until flood plain wetlands of riverine character are taken up for integrated study, successful management cannot be achieved. Two wetlands, namely, Ken River and National Chambal sanctuary from M.P. are identified for the same purpose which are not only taken up from river basin point of view but are also transboundary wetlands between different States. For achieving successful results, discussions are being initiated between various State Governments and ultimately, presentations will be made so that an effective and long-term Management Action Plan could be made in holistic manner to deal with such type of inter-related ecosystems.

Economic evaluation

The concept of economic evaluation for wetlands has been undertaken in Harike (Punjab) for Small Grants Funds and now for Chilika (Orissa). The economic evaluation encompasses values of various functions and activities of the wetlands which can help in developing a framework for efficient allocation of resources for the sustainable development of wetlands. This could be an effective tool for integrating wetland management with overall development, planning and resource management.

Interventions made in dealing with change in ecological character of wetlands through various engineering techniques with the help of community

Successful studies have already been made in Chilika lake (Orissa) through opening of a mouth which was silted up, the mouth was dredged to influx of saline water into the wetland area which otherwise acquired complete freshwater characters in a lagoon structure. This has resulted in maintaining salinity levels and also increase in fish, prawn and has helped in control of obnoxious weed in the area. The most significant part of the intervention is that it has helped to raise socio-economic structure of the community living around the area because of manifold increase in fish production.

Such type of requests are coming from different regions and on the basis of its feasibility and analysis, these will be applied in near future for keeping these wetlands in good health through help of communities.

Community participation

This is the most important tool where participatory rural appraisal exercises (PRA) are undertaken with the help of communities. They are involved in demonstration projects pertaining to low cost sanitation, indigenous methods of income generating avenues so that livelihood issues of communities are taken care of without pressurizing the wetlands. It also involves capacity building programmes to self-help groups for the community's benefits.

Change in guidelines of Management Action Plans

Because of various developments, there is need for changing guidelines for Management Action Plan with the basic aim of wise use principles. These are under preparation. A method for monitoring mechanism has been developed to review management activities from time to time. This will be supported by Research & development. Priority areas of research have been identified with the basic aim to supplement wetland conservation with appropriate research findings to make it more meaningful and pragmatic in nature.

Environment Education

Stress is being laid on environment education particularly in area of wetland conservation. We are in contact of number of educational institutions, wetland authorities to include wetland conservation concept in curriculum both at formal and non-formal level. Various quick methods kits are being developed to help people in assessing water quality, soil texture, eutrophication assessment, etc. Number of labs have been strengthened for scientific research which help in overall wetland conservation

Asian Wetland Symposium

Asian Wetland Symposium-2005 was organized at Bhubaneswar from 6-9 February, 2005 on the main theme of innovative approaches to sustainable livelihood. It was jointly organized jointly by, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Chilika Development Authority and Ramsar Centre Japan where more

than 400 people participated. Experiences gained in wetland management in the Asian region were discussed and shared. Emphasis was laid on wise use, capacity building, innovative partnership and networking, cultural values, community based management, etc. Special session was held on Tsunami to take stock of situation after the great disaster which engulfed a number of Asian countries.

The Symposium came out with Chilika Statement and Tsunami Statement, the salient features of which are as follows :

Chilika Statement

- Maintenance of optimal environmental flows to ensure functional integrity of wetland ecosystems;
- Promotion of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of wetland resources incorporating traditional knowledge and wisdom of local people;
- Documentation and sharing of cultural heritage and values to provide a platform for conservation and management;
- Urgently supporting local livelihoods through traditional knowledge base and ecoenterprises, including eco-tourism, and promoting public-private partnerships for adding value to wetland products to generate additional income and thereby reduce pressures on wetland resources;
- Strengthening of community based institutions and traditional resource user groups to ensure their rights and interests recognized in the process of planning, development and implementation of wetland management plans;
- Mainstreaming wetlands into sectoral development planning at all levels to ensure sustainable development;
- Adoption of wetland conservation and management policies, plans and strategies for the wise use of wetlands;
- Identification, promotion, and replication of successful cases of partnerships for wetland management and conservation, and disseminating these examples at the local, national and regional levels;
- Assignment of the highest priority to education and awareness activities as the foundation towards changing attitudes and perceptions towards sustainable wetland management;
- Strengthening and development of capacity building programs for wetland managers, policy makers, planners, practitioners, media, decision makers and local communities;
- Restoration of wetlands to maintain ecological integrity and productivity to sustain local livelihoods;
- Urgent actions for rehabilitation of coastal wetlands affected by the tsunami to restore sustainable livelihoods of the affected communities and conservation of biodiversity;

And that the organizers seek the support and assistance of the Government of India and the Government of Japan to convey this Statement to Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention in the Asian region, and to the 9th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention to be held in Kampala, Uganda in November 2005 and to the 11th World Lake Conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in October 2005.

Bhubaneswar, 9 February 2005

The AWS 2005 Special Session on the Tsunami and Coastal Wetlands, RECOMMENDS:

1. There is an urgent need for coordinated and harmonised assessments in priority stretches of affected coastline in order to identify areas where ecological restoration would be most effective
2. Develop predictive guidelines on the value and appropriate positioning, structure and composition of natural greenbelts to provide protection to coastal communities from severe storms/tsunamis
3. Integrate wetland restoration and management options with the immediate response to humanitarian needs and the short and medium term action and recovery plans in tsunami- affected countries
4. Develop community-led approaches for protection and restoration of affected and other wetlands, drawing on traditional knowledge and practices and with provision of incentives for sustainable livelihood development.
5. Prioritise the enhancement of natural coastal defenses through greenbelt/coastal "bioshield" development and only consider hard engineering solutions in combination with natural measures and in areas where there are no alternatives to safeguard human life.
6. Establish and enforce "no construction zones" in vulnerable areas and manage them to enable sustainable use by local communities as well as ecosystem recovery.
7. Build on and strengthen the regional/international cooperation mechanisms to connect governments, agencies, institutions, communities and individuals. Combine their competencies in assessment and in developing and implementing action plans, related to the tsunami response and coastal wetlands.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Inventorization of wetlands in India	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Preparation of a inventory on wetlands in India using remote sensing techniques and ground truthing to assess the current status of wetlands including physical aspects and biodiversity.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

1.- Country has a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory (<i>if inventory exists, please include the number of sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory	B		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the application of inventory methodologies, the status of the inventory - end date or expected timeframe, contents of the inventory - and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has prepared an inventory of wetlands in India involving Space Application Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad. Based on the collaborative work carried out by several state government agencies, project report on wetlands of India was published in 1998. Under this project wetland mapping of all the wetlands in the country have been carried out. Mapping for wetland inventory has been done on 1:250 000 scale for most of the states. However, for Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, West Bengal, Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh, Diu, Daman and Nagar Haveli, Andaman & Nicobar islands and Lakshadweep island mapping was done on 1:50 000 scale.</p> <p>Wetland delineation and mapping has been done using IRS LISS I/II data of 1992 / 1993 (pre monsoon and post monsoon seasons) using visual analysis techniques. For the states where cloud free satellite data of 1992 /93 time frame was not available, data of 1991/92 or earlier years has been used. Mapping/monitoring for 21 notified wetlands and their catchments has also been done on 1:50 000 scale using IRS LISS II data.</p> <p>The Government of India, along with UNDP in its country cooperation framework (CCF-1), executed a project "Inland Wetlands of India" through the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) to identify and generate baseline information on wetlands and broad-basing wetland conservation by evolving a "National Network of Inland Wetland Conservation Areas" akin to the Protected Area Network for Wildlife and Forests. A paradigm shift is required in the conservation areas for recognition of the primary stakeholders, that are the local communities.</p> <p>SACON has carried out this challenging task with the active involvement of the Department of Space (Regional Remote sensing Agencies) and more than 500 bird-watchers from all over the countries.</p> <p>Inventorization of coastal wetlands particularly mangroves has been carried by M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation through the support from India Canada Environment Facility. The inventorization has been carried out in the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Earlier the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD) had supported mangrove rehabilitation work in Orissa. An important component of the ICEF project is the chronicling of the current status of mangrove ecosystems in a GIS format.</p>			

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. The inventory assesses and documents potential Ramsar Sites	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	199
2. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>	655
3. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	B	<i>E = In progress;</i>	655
4. The inventory assesses and documents wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	E	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status</i>	=
5. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	E	<i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	=
6. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	E	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>	=
7. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	E	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>	=
8. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	E	<i>E = In progress;</i>	=
9. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	E	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i>	=
10. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	E	<i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	=
11.- The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	B		199
12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]			
<p>The inventory includes assessment of ecological, economic and socio-cultural significance of different wetlands in the country through rapid surveys and assessments using remote sensing and GIS studies. Almost all wetlands have immense role in providing food security to the local communities particularly those economically less privileged. Mangroves in the coastal regimes while providing livelihoods to the communities through fisheries and other products play an important role as coastal defenses. Sunderbans is the largest mangrove area in the country providing livelihoods support to a large population of 3.76 million people. The mangrove areas of Bhitarkanika and Mahanadi Delta have provided strong defenses against the frequent cyclones occurring in the region. Pichavaram mangroves have acted as a strong defense to protect coastal population from damages of recent tsunami in 2004.</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	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.]		
MoEF is the custodian of information on wetland inventory and has established database on wetlands of India. Overall 25 states and 2 Union Territories are covered under inventory on wetlands. Satellite imageries, maps, and other products on wetland inventory are managed by MoEF for wider dissemination. The information on regional basis has been also developed and is maintained by the Ministry.		

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

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

1. National (including provincial) wetland inventory metadata record provided for inclusion in Ramsar's Web-based wetland inventory metadatabase	C	<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.]		
Since COP8 detailed information has been developed on some river basins. A detailed inventory of wetlands associated with Manipur River Basin with a focus on Loktak Lake has been published in the form of 'Atlas of Loktak', few copies of which have been sent to Ramsar Bureau. Inventorization of Chilika Lake indicating information on vegetation and physical changes has been carried out using remote sensing and GIS techniques.		

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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	B	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	B	G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The information collected through inventorization has been widely used by the concerned wetland conservation agencies and developmental planners for formulation of management action plans.		

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	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. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Wetland inventorization is supported through own resources by MoEF and other concerned Ministries. A programme under National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) scheme of the MoEF, several projects have been funded for detailed inventorization at river basin / district levels with the objective of identifying key issues in the management of bio-resources.		

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):	Wetlands of national and international importance have been identified on priority basis for assessment and monitoring of the wetland resources.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The activities include monitoring of ecological, economic and socio-cultural features including the factors governing the features. Monitoring plans have been developed to assess the efficacy of activities leading to the desired management objectives.	

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
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contribution made to the work of the MA.]</i>		
MoEF along with School of Economic Growth, Delhi have identified wetlands as one of the priority areas for assessment under MA. The outcome of the assessment has been widely generated. Wetlands International South Asia has undertaken economic assessment of ecological processes and functions which highlight in concrete economic terms allocation of resources based on evaluation of impacts of developmental activities and the alternate strategies to be adopted for effective management. This has been carried out in detail on Loktak and Chilika Lakes.		

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	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. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale	B	
3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of MA guidance and methods.]		
The guidance of MA has been extremely useful in economic evaluation of wetland processes and functions which are not taken into consideration in the developmental planning process resulting is the loss of wetlands. Agriculture and hydro-power generation has been identified to major causes due to under valuation of economic benefits provided wetlands through the natural processes and functions. The assessment tools developed under MA have provided guidance to develop the methodologies for such assessments.		

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
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the repository of assessment of changes in wetland status, its contents and uses.]		
Application of guidance through MA has been extremely useful in economic evaluation. Wetlands International carried out assessments of Harike Lake in Punjab, Loktak Lake in Manipur and Chilika in Orissa which have greatly helped to develop effective management planning for these wetlands. Several other organizations in the country have carried out such assessments which are being used by the state government agencies for management planning.		

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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The assessments include impacts of climate change	B	
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessments undertaken.]		
Change in ecological character has been assessed in selected wetlands of national and international importance. The vulnerability in regard to invasive species, agricultural farming particularly shrimp culture and developmental activities has been critically evaluated leading to specific actions for mitigation of the impacts.		
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation has carried out assessment of impacts of climatic change on mangrove area and made recommendations to undertake measures such as afforestation and appropriate		

mangrove species withstanding impacts of sea-level rise.

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

1. Past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands documented

B

Choose an answer

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

E = In progress; 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 conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]

MoEF launched Mangrove Conservation Programme in 1987 and has so far, identified 35 mangroves areas for intensive conservation and management in the country. This mangrove areas are identified on recommendation of National Committee on Mangroves & Coral Reefs on the basis of their unique ecosystems, biodiversity etc. Hundred percent central assistance is given under management action plans (MAPs) for undertaking activities like raising mangrove plantation, protection, catchment area treatment, siltation control, pollution abatement, biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource utilization, survey and demarcation, education and awareness etc. This is further supplemented by research and developmental activities which can give scientific inputs for smoot execution of management action plans. Efforts have been made to persuade of the state governments to identified new and additional mangrove conservation areas.

The National Committee on mangroves and coral reefs had earlier recommended intensive conservation and management of corals in four areas, namely Andaman & Nichobar islands, Lakshwadeep islands, Gulf of Kachchh and Gulf of Mannal. Management action plans are being implemented in all the four areas through financial assistance extended by the Ministry through the respective states / Uts. The National Coarl Reef research centre at Port Blair was provided financial assistance for strengthening infra-structure of the centre and to continue bio physical monitoring related to the health of coral reefs.

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.]

India has a long coastal line of 5700 kms covering east coast, west coast and islands of the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. These wetlands are in general under various decades of anthropogenic pressures resulting in degradation and loss of species richness. Changes in salinity regimes, pollution and effective communication with marine and freshwater sources are causative factors for degradation. Coral reefs are effective by high amounts of silt brought in by rivers and their removal for various uses. Mangroves have beens seriously effected by increased human pressures resulting in decrease of overall mangrove forest cover.

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

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

2. Information on conservation status of mangroves has been compiled

B

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

3. Information on levels of use of mangroves has been compiled

B

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 compiled related to mangroves.]

MoEF through Forest Survey of India periodically monitors state of forest including mangroves after every two years. The State Forest Report of 2003 indicates the mangrove cover in the country in the area of 4461 km² (0.14% of geographic area) of which 1162 km² is very dense, 1657 km² is moderately dense and 1642 km² is open mangrove. Compared with 2001 assessment, there has been a marginal net decrease in mangrove cover of the country. Gujarat and West Bengal have shown a significant net increase in mangrove cover while sizeable net reduction has been recorded in Andaman and Nicobar islands. The increase in Gujarat appears to be the result of large scale plantation as well as protection measures taken by the state. The decrease in Andaman and Nicobar islands is mainly because of interpretational corrections as some open forest was incorrectly classified as mangrove in the earlier assessment. The mangrove cover in Kerala, consisting of small and scattered patches, has been assessed for the first time. The overall picture is that the net decrease of 21 km² is not a loss of mangrove cover but is an interpretational correction.

The conservation status of mangroves of India has been compiled by M.S. Swaminathan Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa. The status of these has been published in 'Atlas of Mangrove Wetlands of India' in three volume. The atlas also include information on the levels of use in three states.

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).

<p>1.- The impacts of dams on wetlands have been assessed (if available, please include number of sites affected)</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p><u>N^o wetlands / Ramsar sites</u> 3</p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the impacts of dams on wetlands, sites affected, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</p>			
<p>Environmental flow assessment has been carried out in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes in India. Vembanad Kol also has been assessed in regard to the dams on the hydrological regimes by Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, (CWRDM) Kerala.</p>			
<p>3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands [Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</p>			
<p>The studies carried out have adopted scenario based approach for trade off between ecosystem conservation and development for agriculture and hydro-power generation. The reports on these studies are available with Wetlands International South Asia as well as within Loktak and Chilika Development Authorities. Government of Kerala as well as CWRDM have reports on Vembanad-Kol..</p>			

Action 1.2.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 S'TRP. (Resolution VIII.35).

<p>1.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands have been assessed (if available, please include number of sites assessed)</p>	<p>E</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p><u>N^o wetlands /Ramsar sites</u></p>
<p>2.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands have been assessed</p>	<p>E</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p><u>N^o wetlands /Ramsar sites</u></p>

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on wetlands and people dependent on them, with any other information you consider relevant.]

Tsunami in 2004 has been assessed by the MoEF in collaboration with all concerned Ministries. The impacts of this natural disaster is being assessed by Wetlands International and WWF in collaboration with research organizations, NGOs and local communities. UNDP, ADB, WB and other international donor organizations have initiated specific projects relating to the environmental issues impacting coastal zones. The impacts are being evaluated through participatory processes.

A Special Session on the Tsunami and Coastal Wetlands was organised on 9th February 2005 as part of the Asian Wetland Symposium in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. It was co-organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the Government of India, Ramsar Centre Japan, Chilika Development Authority, Wetlands International, Global Environment Centre and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat. It was chaired by Ms Meena Gupta, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and attended by over 250 experts on wetlands, natural resource management and tsunami issues from many countries in the region as well as international organisations. Presentations were made by 15 experts on different aspects of impacts and response options. Key findings from the session were as follows:

- The major human impacts include massive loss of life, destruction of coastal settlements and infrastructure, loss of fishing boats and facilities, loss and degradation of agricultural lands and forests and salinisation and contamination of water sources.
- According to rapid assessments, the main impacts of the tsunami on coastal wetlands varied according to the location and distance from the epicenter/fault line. Impacts included loss or degradation of mangroves and seagrass beds, silting and degrading of coral reefs, sedimentation/turbidity of coastal waters leading to algal blooms, major changes in intertidal flats and coastal lagoons
- Certain wetland types played a role in reducing the tsunami impact, especially in locations further from the epicenter, including coral reefs and mangroves which broke the impact of the waves and absorbed some of the energy and protected areas further inland. Mangroves also stopped people being washed out to sea and trapped debris, reducing further damage.
- The main response to the tsunami by the affected countries in relation to coastal wetlands has been focused initially on rescue and survival of local communities, followed by rapid assessment of impacts which are leading to the development of action plans.
- Future planning for restoration of wetlands and livelihoods of communities by the participants highlighted on the following:
 - Providing new, sustainable livelihoods in affected communities linked to wetlands
 - Determining Role of wetlands in recovery, securing water supply, fisheries, protection of storms
 - Protecting remaining coastal ecosystems and rezoning development
 - Use of soft engineering versus hard structures
 - Rehabilitation of degraded coastal wetlands
 - Formation of coastal greenbelt (mangroves and coastal forests) for tsunami and storm damage protection
 - Standardizing assessment methodologies
 - Joint assessments and sharing of information
 - Early warning and preparedness, communication
 - Resources, generating and sharing
 - Climate change implications and coastal zone management
 - Partnership framework and the way forward as a group

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

Choose an answer

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

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

Maintenance / enhancement of fish diversity and yield in relation to environmental aspects has been undertaken in a number of the Ramsar sites particularly Loktak and Chilika Lakes

3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders

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

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]

Management action plan on Loktak Lake has been prepared which includes special focus on community based fisheries management and enhancement of diversity through hydrological interventions. The monitoring of fish yield and diversity is periodically carried out in case of Chilika Lake to assess the impact of hydrological intervention carried out in 2001. The fish production has substantially increased from 8000 mt / year to 16000 mt / year. Similarly in other wetlands of national / international importance there is an emphasis on optimizing fish yield for livelihood implement of the people dependent upon its resources for their sustenance.

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

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

Water quality monitoring is periodically being carried out by Central Pollution Control Board in 31 rivers under National River Conservation Plan. Water quality of 28 lakes selected under National Lake Conservation Plan are also monitored by concerned state government agencies. A regular monitoring of water quality for Chilika Lake at 19 stations is monitored by Chilika Development Authority. In case of Loktak Lake information collected on water quality parameters has been assessed by Loktak Development Authority and Wetlands International and the information has been documented in the Atlas on Loktak published in 2004.

Stakeholder endorsed water management plan has been prepared in case of Loktak Lake clearly indicated allocation of water for human and ecological purposes various scenarios have been build up for use by the decision makers for allocation of water during various seasons of the year for habitat improvement of Keibul Lamjao National Park supporting highly endangered ungulate species as well as power generation.

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	National Wetland Policy based on wide ranging consultations at different levels involving concerned stakeholders, local communities, particularly wetland users	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Formulation of National Wetland Policy based on strategy developed.	

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	C	<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	A	
3. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporates WSSD targets and actions	A	
4- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the status of the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument, its contents, and any other information you consider relevant.]</i>		
MoEF has formulated National Environmental Policy which broadly emphasis on conservation of natural resources including wetlands. Further concept note of draft National Wetland Strategy was formulated which was discussed in the National Wetland Committee and consultations are on going for formulation of the strategy which is ecologically viable and effectively implementable on the ground.		

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	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i>
2. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	C	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	C	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i>
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	C	<i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]		
MoEF has developed a draft national wetland strategy which has a focus on sustainable development and poverty reduction. Management action plans formulated by the state governments on identified wetlands are broadly based on conservation and wise use of resources with overall integration into sustainable development programme.		

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	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland tenure systems and user rights in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management.]		
Draft National Wetland Strategy document under component of legal framework is expected to highlight the issues relating to wetland tenure systems and user rights. This could be included in the terms of reference to the consultants who will be identified to lead the initiative.		

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; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i>
2. The conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes	A	<i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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	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 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	All wetlands designated as Ramsar sites and wetlands of national importance will be covered to review policies, legislation, institutions and practices for the effective conservation and sustainable management. Impact assessment and valuation will be followed for these wetlands so far three wetlands have been undertaken for detailed inventORIZATION and assessments.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	MoEF has constituted a national committee to advise the government on the issues relating to research projects which will lead to policy directions for conservation. Wetlands have been identified as a priority area under this initiative of MoEF.	

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	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed	B	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands	C	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

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

A workshop was organized in Jammu & Kashmir for wetland functionaries of northern India in which legal experts were invited to provide guidance on legislation and institutional development to control unwise use of wetlands. The recommendations of the workshop are being followed for development of appropriate legislation and institutional mechanism to promote conservation and wise use of wetlands.

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.]

Water allocation for ecological and human uses is a priority area under National Wetland programme there is a close interaction with water resource development agencies to jointly work for water use for food security and maintenance of ecosystems. National Wetland Committee includes a member having expertise in the area. CWRDM, Kerala a leading organization in this area is working closely with MoEF to develop policies for harmonizing water use for developmental activities and ecosystem conservation.

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.]

Several wetlands including Sundarbans, Chilika lake etc. are included in the heritage list considering being their cultural importance besides their ecological and socio-economic significance.

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

D

Choose an answer for each indicator

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

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

C

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.]

There is a greater concern about the deteriorating consideration of high altitude lakes in the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttranchal, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The wetlands in the himalayan region will receive attention under the proposed national wetland strategy.

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

1. The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment annexed to Resolution VIII.9 are being applied	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]		
Under national policy on environment and sustainable development wetlands have been identified as one of the priority areas considering their fragility and loss due to human activities. Environmental impact assessment is mandatory for any developmental project affecting natural resources including wetlands.		
3. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in impact assessment processes	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 involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessment processes.]		

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	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 =
2. A review of policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands has been completed	C	Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]		
MoEF has organised workshops in different regions of India with the objective of remunerization policies, programmes and plans for effective conservation and management of wetlands. Based on the review, guidelines have been formulated for developing management action plans which would be further discussed with the stakeholders to develop policies and action plans. The process adopted is expected to provide policy direction as well as inputs for National Wetland Strategy under consideration by the government. The review is expected to provide paradigm shift from the present short term sectoral curative approach to more holistic preventive one.		
4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]		

Strategic environmental assessment practices have been applied in case of two Ramsar sites one representing freshwater wetland ecosystem and other coastal ecosystem. The strategic environmental planning has been to integrate catchments and water resources into conservation and wise use of wetlands based on the impacts of landuse practices and water resources developmental activities at the basin level.

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 [Please include comments on Environmental Impact Assessment implementation at national level.]

It is mandatory to carry out environmental impact assessment of the developmental projects on wetlands by the proponent organisations to obtain environmental clearance. A Gazette notification was issued by Government of India to finalise draft notification to amend the EIA notification. The Notification has brought new projects relating to construction of townships, industrial townships, settlement colonies, commercial complexes, hotel complexes, hospitals, office complexes for 1000 persons and above or discharging sewage of 50000 liters/day and above or with an investment of Rs. 50 crores and above and new industrial estates having an area of 50 hectares and above and the industrial estates irrespective of area if their pollution potential is high, under the purview of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994.

MoEF had earlier issued Coastal zone Notification, 1991 under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 for protecting and conserving the coastal environment. The Coastal Regulation Zone includes coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and backwaters which are influenced by tidal action up to 500 metres from the high tide line including the inter-tidal zone. The Notification also imposes restrictions on the setting up and expansion of industries and operations or process etc. in the Coastal Regulation Zone.

The 4th meeting of the expert committee on CRZ Notification, 1991 was held on 24th November 2004. The draft report of the expert committee on review of CRZ has been prepared and was discussed by the committee in its meeting on 8th January 2005 and actions as discussed are being initiated.

As per coastal regulation zone notification, 1991, which regulates developmental activities within 500 mts from the high tide line and the inter tidal region of the country, all 13 coastal states / union territory governments have prepared coastal zone management plans demarcating ecologically sensitive areas, built up areas and rural regions. For the purpose of enforcing the provision of the notification, the Ministry has constituted National 13 state level coastal zone management authorities.

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

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	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on 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 (IALA)*, 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	B	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i></p>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	B	<p><i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</i>		
<p>Economic valuation of Harike wetland has been carried out and the report has been sent to the Ramsar Secretariat which is significant contribution to the Ramsar STRP work relating to application of economic valuation tools to highlight the contributions of biodiversity and values and fuctions of wetlands in general for policy planners and decision makers. Economic evaluation of Chilika Lake carried out by Wetlands Internation in collaboration with Chilika Development Authority has provided significant contribution to the development of policy for freshwater release from the upcoming Naraj barrage within Mahanadi basin. Wetlands International has carried out detailed economic evaluation of Loktak lake through financial support provided by MoEF. The implementation of the project has brought out the strategy for water allocation in regard to human and ecological purposes based on economic evaluation of the Loktak within Manipur River basin.</p>		

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	A	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	Successful models developed through elaborate consultation processes of stakeholders particularly local communities. Involvement of concerned State Government agencies, research institutions and NGOs is critical to the formulation and implementation of management plans, which would be, integrated with the overall sustainable development plans of the region.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Management action plans have been formulated for 30 out of 68 wetlands identified for conservation and sustainable use. Successful models have been developed for conservation and sustainable development of Loktak and Chilika. Strategies developed and experiences gained would be applied in the remaining wetlands in a phased manner taking representative of diverse wetland ecosystems. It is planned to adopt these successful models for the remaining wetlands for which already process through interactive workshop has been under implementation for last more than two years.	

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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the revision of the wise use concept and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		
India has contributed significantly in development of guidelines for integration of conservation and wise use of wetlands into river basin management. A thorough inventorization carried out on social, ecological and economic aspects in consultation with the stakeholders and communities has been basis for further promoting the concept of wise use of wetlands integrating catchments into the management regime.		

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	<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 management practices has adopted in case of Chilika Lake resulting in regeneration of the ecosystem has been widely acclaimed and is being used in the country for other wetlands using the principles, approach and methodologies adopted.

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.]

New management planning guidelines have been applied for formulation of management action plan in case of Loktak Lake.

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.]

National Committee on Wetlands constituted by MoEF advises the government on policy, planning and implementation of wetland programme. Through this committee the Government of India provides advise to the concerned state government regarding formulation and implementation of plans for conservation and wise use of wetlands.

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

<i>See action r2.2.iii</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties	B	
3. National, regional or local strategies and plans for the conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been developed	B	
4. Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with other environment-related and mountain-related agreements and institutions	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on information available and strategies developed concerning mountain and high altitude wetlands.]		
4 high altitude wetlands viz. Tso Morari, Tisgul Tso, Pangong Tsar and Chandratal included in the list of 68 wetlands identified for conservation and management. There is a greater focus on inventorization assessment of biodiversity of these wetlands involving management research institutions, government agencies and defence personnel. These wetlands have received special focus considering their significance from point of view of the water resources development and management. Several NGOs such as BNHS, WWF-India, and State Government Agencies are involved in monitoring and assessment of avifauna as well as development of strategies for conservation and sustainable use.		

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

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

1. Information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially in relation to the participation of local communities and indigenous people, has been exchanged with other Parties and institutions	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.]		
Space Application Centre, and Forest Survey of India are the key institutions involved in monitoring and assessment of the status of mangroves using remote sensing techniques. There are several other organizations which carry out assessment on the status on mangrove in different parts of the country including research institutions, universities and NGOs. The information collected through various sources is primarily disseminated by MoEF,		

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

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

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

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

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

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

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.- 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.]

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):	<p>In the proposed National Wetland Strategy, a lot of emphasis has been given on significance of wetlands for water supply, coastal protection, food security and livelihood improvements of the communities dependent on wetland resources for their sustenance.</p> <p>Loktak Development Authority, Chilika Development Authority, Lakes and Waterways Authority, J&K and Karnataka Lake Conservation Authority have been working on implementation of specific initiatives relating to harnessing benefits of wetlands for water conservation and use of wetlands for food and water security. Integration of wetlands into water resources development is considered as a challenging area in view of several cross cutting issues and mainstreaming of wetlands into water resources development projects.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>It is planned to cover all the identified wetlands of national and international importance for sustainable water resources development and for developing appropriate water regimes for optimizing wetland resources and their sustainable utilization.</p>	

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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.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>		
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	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>MoEF has identified several wetlands with the objective of conservation of biodiversity, water resources management and poverty alleviation. Number of wetlands identified under implementation by MoEF in collaboration with the State Government Agencies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management action plans have been prepared for 30 out of 66 identified wetlands which are at various stages of implementation. These action plans have focus on management of water regimes, poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation. ▪ Management action plans for 35 mangrove areas representing large chunks of mangrove vegetation in the country have been identified for intensive conservation and management. The main objective of these management plans is to restore the mangrove vegetation for coastal protection, flood defense, food security and poverty alleviation. ▪ 4 coral reef areas have been identified for coastal protection and biodiversity conservation. ▪ Most of the wetlands in India are directly or indirectly associated with river systems. Ganga floodplain wetland system constitutes the largest wetland regime in the country. For improving the water quality of this river system, Ganga Action Plan was initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 1985 under which a comprehensive programme has been developed for pollution abatement of the river and water quality monitoring. The methodology for water quality monitoring has been developed for four major components namely surface water quality, sediment characteristics, drain/outfall effluent quality and sewage treatment plant performance to control pollution. These components cover measurement of water quality of the river, long term changes in the river ecosystem and efficacy of the reduction of pollution load into the river from point sources through the implementation of the pollution abatement schemes. ▪ Several other river stretches in the country viz. Yamuna, Western Yamuna Canal, Gomati, Hindon, Damodar, Upper reaches of Ganga, Additional towns in Bihar under GAP Phase II and for rivers Satluj (Punjab), Khan, Kshipra, Wain Ganga, Narmada, Chambal, Tapti, Betwa (Madhya Pradesh), under NRCP have been taken up for water quality monitoring. Recently, the proposals for undertaking water quality monitoring for rivers Godavari (Andhra Pradesh), Damodar (Bihar), Subernrekha (Bihar), Chambal (Rajasthan), Tunga, Bhadra, Tungabhadra, Cauvery (Karnataka) have been undertaken for water quality monitoring and assessment of pollution load. Overall 42 parameters have been identified for monitoring purposes out of which nine have been selected as core parameters in addition to some site specific parameters. The water quality monitoring of these stretches are at various stages of progress. The agencies involved for monitoring include Central Pollution Control Boards, State Pollution Control Boards, university departments and research institutions. ▪ Overall 34 priority lakes have been identified under National Lakes Conservation Plan (NLCP) for conservation and restoration of water bodies in view of their significance in terms of water supply, cultural heritage and scientific research. The focus is on improvement of water quality for water supply and food security. ▪ Under National Wetland Programme several activities have been also undertaken to optimize water regimes for food security and ecosystem conservation. Initiatives have also been undertaken in case of Harike Lake in Punjab, Wullar Lake in Kashmir and other wetlands for water conservation and management. 		

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

See actions r2.2.ii, 6.1.6

1. Actions have been taken to promote the recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands	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 social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management	B	

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

Social and cultural factors are important components of the management action plans developed for priority wetlands, mangroves and coral reefs. Management action plan for Loktak and Chilika Lakes particularly have been developed through elaborate social processes. The overall objective is to restore ecological integrity of wetlands while providing sustain social and economic benefits. The successful models developed are being used in other identified priority wetlands.

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

1. Actions have been taken to ensure that public institutions place emphasis on the hydrogeological, social, economic and environmental aspects of groundwater	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]

A lot of emphasis has been given on groundwater regimes integrating social, economic and environmental aspects. In case of wetlands in Gujarat, floodplain wetlands of River Yamuna in Delhil the role of wetlands in recharging aquifers for sustain withdrawals of groundwater and ensuring socio-economic benefits to the communities living in and around these wetlands have been undertaken . Hydrogeological aspects have received considerable attention by Central Ground Water Board which have several schemes to monitor changes in ground water regimes. This is being integrated into overall management planning for biodiversity conservation and sustained economic benefits.

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> <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. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water	F	
3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management	F	
4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management	F	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]</i>		
<p>Most of the wetlands identified for conservation and management include wetlands of cultural significance in addition to their social and economic values. However, economic valuation carried out for some of these wetlands have highlighted cultural importance of the identified wetlands. Specific programmes have been developed to promote appreciation and revitalization of cultural values.</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> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>A project on Sustainable Development Water Resources and Management of Loktak Lake recently completed by Wetlands International and Loktak Development Authority through the support under India Canada Environmental Facility have brought out strategies for improving water management of lake and sustaining its resources for the benefit of the local communities on long term basis. The ultimate purpose of the project was to provide livelihood security to the local communities while ensuring conservation of the Loktak Lake through managing effective water regimes. The project has developed some initiatives for utilization of phumdis and sustainable fisheries development with the overall objective of improving livelihoods through effective water resources management and value additions to the natural products.</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> <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>		
<p>A Research Sub-Committee has been constituted to advise on research aspects and implementation of projects on conservation of wetlands including mangroves and coral reefs. Several research projects have been undertaken on conservation of wetlands including mangroves and coral reefs by the research institutions, university departments, NGOs and other concerned agencies with the financial support of the MoEF. These projects are expected to provide scientific and technical inputs for conservation and amangement of wetlands on a sound ecological basis.</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.]

Under the project on Assessment of ecological and hydrological functions of floodplains of River Yamuna in Delhi stretch and developing strategies for integrated river basin management, seasonal ponds / pools within floodplain area have been identified which serve as breeding grounds for fish fauna. The recommendations which have emerged from the study are being further evaluated to develop specific action for the protection of these ponds to ensure and maintain a viable population of fish fauna.

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>Integration of catchments into conservation and wise use of wetlands is a higher priority area under all management action plans of identified wetlands under National Wetland Conservation Programme . More than 50% of the funding is allocated for regeneration of catchments to control erosion and regulate the flow regimes. Integration of coastal zones into conservation and wise use plans has been elaborately undertaken to optimize biodiversity by maintaining salinity gradient. Hydrological intervention has been carried out in case of Chilika Lake to ensure effective exchange of water between Bay of Bengal and the wetland. This intervention resulted in optimizing salinity regimes and enhancing the migration of prawn, fish and other associated organisms. The intervention helped to enhance fish productivity from 8000 mt/year in 2000 - 2001 to 12000 mt/year in 2003 – 2004.</p> <p>Wetlands International in collaboration with CDA and other concerned agencies developed scenario approach for allocation of freshwater from upstream Naraj barrage. The operational regimes developed have been extremely useful in</p>	

	decision making for optimizing agriculture in the upstream area and fish productivity in the lake.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	It is planned to develop policies for effective conservation and management in regard to water regimes for representative wetlands in the Himalayan region to coastal wetlands and to floodplain wetlands.

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

1. The *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) have been used/applied

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 application of the *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management.*]

Application of guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management has been carried out in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes. The management action plan formulated on Loktak Lake by Wetlands International has a focus on catchment conservation to regulate flow regimes and minimize the impacts of catchment degradation on wetlands.

3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative

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*

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.*]

The joint work programme of Ramsar / CBD, River Basin Initiative has been substantially promoted by India with strong technical input from Wetlands International. This has been practically implementing in case of Loktak and Chilika Lake and is being further promoting in other wetlands considering the connectivity of wetlands with the river system.

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

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.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	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
Action r3.4.iii.- Take the necessary steps, wherever possible and appropriate, in order to maintain the migration access for indigenous fish and other species past dams. (Resolution VIII.2)			
1. Steps have been taken to ensure that dams are not impeding the migration of indigenous fish and other species	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
Environmental Impact Assessment of the developmental projects in relation to fish migration and other species is a high priority area for assessing the feasibility of developmental projects. Almost all the projects relating to development of dams has EIA component addressed to fish migration in the riverine ecosystem..			
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 <i>Guidelines on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands</i> (Resolutions VIII.1, VIII.2)			
1. Assessments of environmental flow have been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the assessments of environmental flow undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams.]</i>			
Environmental flow assessment in regard to construction of Naraj barrage in the upstream of Chilika Lake involving all concerned stakeholders, particularly local communities was carried out by Wetlands International, Chilika Development Authority and a consultant from World Bank. The scenario approach developed based on wide ranging consultations and hydrological assessment for allocation of water would provide paradigm shift from the current water use practices to sustainable water resources development policy considering ecological and human uses. The study is being further pursued to clarify and define the barrage operation policy to ensure optimum water release from the barrage to the Chilika Lake and silt laden water to the floodplain area in Mahanadi delta. Wetlands International in collaboration with Loktak Development Authority has developed operation policy for Ithai barrage for water allocation for ecological purposes (wildlife, fisheries and vegetation) and human uses particularly hydro-power generation and irrigation. The intervention to be carried out has been proposed in the management action plan recently formulated by Wetlands Internation to the support received from Planning Commission, Government of India.			
3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged <i>(if available, please include number of centres)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N^o 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.]

Wetlands International, Centre for Water Resources Developmental Management (CWRDM), Loktak Development Authority, Chilika Development Authority and National Institute of Hydrology are the main agencies involved in the Environment Flow Assessment.

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

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.]

Action has been initiated for the application of guidelines on integrated wetlands into integrated coastal zone management in case of Chilika Lake.

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

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.]

MoEF, Wetlands International and Chilika Development Authority through various mechanisms are in close touch with Ramsar Convention about the good practices adopted for conservation and sustainable use of Chilika Lake.

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

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

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

B

Choose an answer

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

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

The guidelines developed by Ramsar Convention for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands have been quite useful in developing policy for water allocation. However, these guidelines are quite broad based and their application is being further refined for their applicability in case of wetlands in India.

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.]

A senior level expert from Center for Water Resrouces Developmental Management, Kozhikode, is included in the National Wetland Committee to advise on issues relating to wetlands and water resources development. Consultations are also periodically done with the Ministry of Water Resources.

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

Stakeholder endorsed water management plan developed for Loktak lake focuses on water allocation for ecological and human purposes. The strategies developed through consultation processes and technical assessments have led to the development of barrage operation policy which is being further refined to ensure that it leads to ecological restoration and 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.]

Conservation and wise use of wetlands essentially involves management of water regimes at river basin level, conservation of biodiversity, and resource development for the sustainable livelihoods and benefits to the stakeholders. Coordinated actions at river basin level involving local communities and stakeholders in planning, implementation and decision making ensures sustained benefits from these ecosystems on a long term basis.

Wetland management plans are confined to the notified wetland areas without taking into consideration upstream and downstream regions, which greatly influence the processes and functions of wetland ecosystems. Similarly, catchment area treatment programmes do not have linkages at basin level ignoring the interconnectedness of the wetland systems with their catchments. Such approaches have led to addressing the effects rather than root causes of the problems.

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

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

A

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

A

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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.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

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 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).

<i>See action 4.1.4</i>		
1. The implications of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation have been assessed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the 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	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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

1. The information provided in COP8 documents related to climate change has been considered and used in national policies pertaining to wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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

Action 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	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>		
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation has undertaken studies on role of mangroves. Outcome of these projects are awaited.		

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

1. Studies on the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

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	<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 4. RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4.1. Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	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):	Conservation and management of wetlands is a high priority area of the MoEF, Government of India. Based on the recommendations of the National Committee, 66 wetlands, 35 mangroves ecosystems and 4 coral reefs have been identified for intensive conservation and management purposes. Guidelines have been formulated for preparation of management action plans. The various activities under these action plans include protection, catchment area treatment, pollution control weed control, wildlife conservation, sustainable fisheries development, environmental education and peoples participation. These management plans are supported by the Government of India under centrally	

	sponsored schemes on “Wetlands” and “Mangroves”.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The management action plan has been formulated in case of all 35 identified mangrove areas 27 wetlands, 34 lakes and 4 coral reefs. It is planned to undertake conservation and restoration of all 66 identified wetlands and continue financial support for all the identified areas during 10 th . five year plan.

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

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

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

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

B

Choose an answer

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

E = In progress; 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 last COP 20 mangroves and 40 wetlands area have been additionally included in the priority list and management action plans for newly identified sites are being prepared. In case of ten sites action plans are already being implemented by the concerned State Govts.

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.]

Management Action Plans have been formulated for 30 out of 66 wetlands identified for conservation and sustainable use. These management action plans have focus on biodiversity conservation and restoration of ecosystem processes and functions. The activities carried out include catchment conservation, rehabilitation of wetlands ecosystem by control of alien invasive species, improvement of water quality and sustainable resource utilization.

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

1. The <i>Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been integrated into the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument(s)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 effective monitoring mechanism has been developed as part of the management action plan to assess the impacts of restoration measures undertaken for the priority wetlands. Restoration of Chilika lake through effective water management, community participation and providing sustainable economic benefits to the community dependent upon these resources for their sustenance was carried out by the Government of Orissa, through the support of MoEF, Wetlands International, NGOs and local communities. Restoration of Chilika lake was an example of application of successful model for rehabilitation of biodiversity and livelihood support to a large community dependent upon the lake. Ramsar award was conferred to Chilika Development Authority for this exemplary wetland restoration model.		

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

1. The role of wetland restoration has been taken into account in river basin management	D	<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>India has played a lead role in formulation of Ramsar guidelines on integration of wetlands into river basin management. As a follow up of this, CBD-Ramsar River Basin Initiative was undertaken and a joint programme was developed for the integrated management of wetlands, biological diversity and river basin which operates through cross-sectoral partnership and local, country at national level. The synergy between CBD and Ramsar conventions in India has helped to integrate various developmental sector into planning process at River Basin level for management of wetlands.</p> <p>The models developed for Loktak and Chilika have been extensively used at the regional level to demonstrate successful stakeholder led wetland conservation and management. The management of these wetlands involved extensive consultations at various levels and particularly through elaborate social processes to identify the problems and implement restoration measures. This has helped to generate awareness at various levels for the sustainable development of the wetlands and used as a practical example for Communication Education and Public Awareness initiative undertaken by the Ramsar Convention.</p>		

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

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

1. Information and/or case studies on wetland restoration and rehabilitation is available	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]</i>		
Significant developments have taken place in India for restoration of priority wetlands adopting the river basin approach and involvement of communities at all levels to ensure sustainable management of wetlands. The information on social, economic and ecological aspects available with concerned institutions is being integrated into the management process using indicators for assessing the changes which are constantly monitored in cases of some priority wetlands such as Loktak and Chilika Lakes.		

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

See action 3.4.9

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

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	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>		
Almost all wetlands in India have cultural importance as communities are intricately culturally linked with these wetlands in terms of their religious and other cultural values. Some of the wetlands such as Rudrasagar in Tripura and several wetlands in Rajasthan have tremendous archaeological importance in terms of		

archaeological structures constructed in the past by the rulers of these states. Moti Mahal in Rudrasagar, Jal Mahal in Pichola, and some other archaeological structures constructed within Chilika Lake are specific examples where concerned state governments are keen to conserve these sites considering their importance as cultural heritage sites.

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

D

Choose an answer for each indicator

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

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

D

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

MoEF through National Committee on Wetlands have identified training needs for wetland functionaries involved in the implementation of management action plan. Several workshops have been organized in different regions of the country which had a focus on capacity building and training programmes.

Chilika Development Authority has developed sufficient infrastructure as well as expertise involving experts at local national and international levels to impart training on wetland management. A special session was denoted in the training needs assessment in the Asian Wetland Symposium. Wetlands International is providing technical support and assisting Chilika Development Authority to develop curriculum for specific training programmes.

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.]

Almost all the restoration projects for the identified wetlands have a component on livelihood improvement. In case of Loktak and Chilika Lake consistent efforts have been made to link conservation programmes with the livelihood improvement of the communities with the ultimate objective of poverty reduction in these areas.

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

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

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

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

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

B

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

Community participation and development is one of the key components of all the management action plans formulated for the priority wetlands. A lot of emphasis has been laid on involvement of communities in restoration measures with the objective of sustainable resource development on livelihood improvements of the communities dependent on wetlands for their sustenance.

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

Ramsar website is an extremely important tool for updating knowledge on wetland reatoration. The information provided is being used in updating information and incorporating in the management planning process.

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To control invasive species, particularly water hyacinth, Salvinia and Ipomea in 19 Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Control of water hyacinth and other alien plant species is a high priority under management action plans and measures have been developed to control proliferation of these alien species.	

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

1. National policy, strategy and management responses to threats from invasive species have been developed and implemented	E	<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	F	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	B	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.]		
Draft National Wetland Strategy has a clear focus on control of invasive species. Several initiatives have been undertaken under CBD to control proliferation of invasive species in wetlands and other aquatic bodies.		

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

1. Risk assessments of alien species that pose a threat to wetlands have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 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 (<u>if applicable, please include number of sites</u>)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer		N° wetlands / Ramsar sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the problems of invasion by alien species, sites affected and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

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

1. International cooperation related to invasive species in transboundary/shared wetlands and water systems has been agreed and implemented

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

1. Practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species has been developed and disseminated

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Involvement of local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands is an important component of all the management action plans for the priority wetlands.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Livelihood improvements linked with the wetlands particularly in case of the people living below poverty line is a high priority under all action plans. The activities under implementation are planned to provide ecological and livelihood security associated with all the priority wetlands. Participatory rural appraisals are applied to seek cooperation of communities and identifying their priorities for sustainable management. These activities are planned to be carried out during the next triennium as well.	

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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

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.]

Loktak and Chilika Lakes are the two specific examples where formulation and implementation of management action plans are carried out in collaboration through active participation of local communities. The objective is to conserve wetland resources while providing sustained benefits to the communities. The focus is on enhancing social amenities and harnessing economic benefits through conservation efforts by the people dependent on wetlands for their sustenance.

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.]

Sunderbans, East Calcutta wetlands, Loktak and Chilika are some of the specific examples where lot of emphasis have been given on using traditional knowledge and management practices for livelihood improvements and improving the health of the ecosystems.

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	<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 information on the promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]

Needs and aspiration of local communities developed through elaborate social processes have been incorporated into the management plans developed by Loktak Development Authority and Chilika Development Authority particularly. The successful models developed are being applied to other wetlands.

3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites)	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	N° Ramsar sites 19
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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.]

MoEF has involved WWF for inventorization of 19 wetlands for designation under Ramsar Convention. Based on wide ranging consultations with stakeholders inventory prepared for these wetlands has been submitted to MoEF. So far 13 wetlands have been included in the list of wetlands of international importance under Ramsar Convention which involved participation of local stakeholders. Data sheets for five more sites have been sent to Ramsar Secretariat for their inclusion as Ramsar sites.

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

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

For all the 13 additional Ramsar sites designated by India consultations included water resources management at the basin level in addition to ecological issues linked with the water resource development.

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

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

1. Resource information on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management has been compiled	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the resources compiled about local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management.]		
<p>Resource information on local communities has been elaborately compiled in case of Loktak and Chilika wetlands. The Atlas of Loktak provides a detailed assessment of community profile, community institutions, impacts of wetland degradation on communities, vulnerability context and participatory planning through involvement of local communities particularly economically disadvantaged groups and women. Mainstreaming of local wisdom has been collaborately compiled in case of East Calcutta Wetlands through the lessons learned from waste water utilization for ecological and economic benefits through the application of the traditional knowledge of the local communities dependent on the East Calcutta Wetlands for their livelihoods. Chilika is another case study where information on participatory management planning through the involvement of local communities, NGOs, scientific organizations, planners and decision makers has been compiled.</p>		
3. The Party has contributed with case studies and other materials to the elaboration of further guidance on the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management	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>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]		
<p>Case studies of Loktak, Chilika and East Calcutta wetlands implemented to the involvement of local communities are successful models for replication in other wetlands with similar characteristics.</p>		

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

1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied	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.- Summary on progress and successes in relation to Participatory Environmental Management strategies [Please provide here a summary on progress and successes and other additional comments you consider relevant.]		
<p>Participatory management for Chilika lake is one of the outstanding examples to show how participatory actions involving local communities can help in restoration which is both cost effective and sustainable.</p>		

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

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

very broad in nature and are incorporated directly or indirectly in the management plans formulated by the concerned state governments. Almost all priority wetlands are identified considering their socio-cultural sensitivity.

3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled

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 resource information compiled.]

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

1. Consultation mechanisms on the application of the guiding principles on cultural values have been established

C

Choose an answer

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

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

1. Cultural values of wetlands are being used to improve local stakeholders' involvement in wetland planning and management

B

Choose an answer

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

E = In progress; 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.]

Management planning for Loktak and Chilika Lakes in India have strong focus on developing action plans considering cultural sensitivity of the people. The people living in the catchments of Loktak have traditional rights for land and water resources and these have been legally retained and are enforced by the communities. The traditional practices of different tribal groups have been incorporated into land / water use management. These wetlands are considered as a board of gods and religious functions are organized every year to worship deities associated with these wetlands. This becomes a very strong argument to mobilize communities to conserve these wetlands.

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)

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
19

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.]

All the 19 wetlands designated as wetlands of international importance under Ramsar Convention by India have strong component on cultural values. Socio-cultural values have been taken into consideration while designating these sites under the Convention.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

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

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PRIORITY:	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):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Promote conservation of mangroves for coastal defenses through innovative techniques. 2) Involvement of private sector in research and development of techniques for regeneration of mangroves and other coastal wetlands. 3) Help private sector to enhance their capacity for conservation and management of wetlands in floodplain areas 	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	It is planned to involve private sector in the coastal management planning and development and provide them incentives for undertaking environmental friendly developmental activities. Chamber of Commerce has been invited by the Government to help regulation of trade activities relating to natural resources including wetlands.	

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

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</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The National Wetland Committee which advises government on policy planning and implementation of action plans for wetland conservation management include members drawn from academia, specialized institutions and some private organizations. Almost all the academia and specialized institutions are involved in planning and management of wetlands. As such they are directly and indirectly involved in decision making process related to wetlands.		

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

1. A private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forum or equivalent mechanism has been established	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Although there is not a formal mechansim involving forums of private sector but they are involved in promoting wetland conservation working closely with NGOs and concerned statutory bodies related to wetland conservation.		

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	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Legal, institutional and administrative measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable harvesting of wetland products	D	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

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

Some specific organisations such as Traffic India is involved in domestic and international trade in wetland derived plant and animal products. They are involved in legal issues relating to trade in the wetland products such as tiger, turtles, birds, etc.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8. INCENTIVES

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

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PRIORITY:	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):	Under existing legal provisions penalties are enforced for illegal trade in plant and animal products including wetlands. However, there are no specific incentives for adopting wise use practices.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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

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

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

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; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to remove or replace agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular	C	
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>		

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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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):	The management action plans developed for all the Ramsar sites have a focus on CEPA to generate awareness about the values and functions of wetlands. The activities includes also disseminating awareness about the successful models developed in case of some wetlands such as Chilika and Loktak Lakes.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	It is planned to promote CEPA initiatives to all the priority wetlands in the country.	

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

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).

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes	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>]		
Planning Commission which is a Central Planning body in a country has been involved to promote sustainable management integrating various sectors such as agriculture, water and industries. Mainstreaming of wetlands into developmental planning has been promoted involving decision makers, policy planners and concerned developmental planners.		

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.II. Demonstrate that CEPA processes are effective in achieving Ramsar's wetland wise use objectives at the global, national and local levels

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PRIORITY:	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):	All the Ramsar sites are proposed to be undertaken to promote CEPA concept.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The planned activities are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Generating awareness about sustainable development of wetlands through successful models developed 2) Effective communication among stakeholders with the common objective of sustainable development. 3) Development of effective tools for generating values and functions of wetlands in social, ecological and economic terms 4) Dissemination of information through innovative approaches 	

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

1. Pilot projects have been developed to evaluate different approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands	B	<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>]		
CEPA process has been successfully demonstrated in case of Loktak Lake. Loktak Developmental Authority and Wetlands International developed the initiative to promote overall concept of		

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).

sustainable development involving stakeholders, local communities including youth, students, developmental planners, research organizations and NGOs. The successful model developed has been also applied in case of Chilika Lake.

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.]

A review of the CEPA programmes has been undertaken through a consultation process in various workshops organized by MoEF in different regions of India. The information and successful models developed have been widely disseminated through newsletters, brochures and other material. This has been an effective mechanism to promote CEPA concept among wetland managers involving conservation and sustainable development of wetland of national / international importance in India.

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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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):	Conservation and sustainable development of representative wetland types in the country.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demonstrate impact of successful models developed for conservation and wise use of wetlands. 2) Involved lead agencies such as Centre for Environment Education, WWF, NGOs, Academic Institutions, State Government Agencies and Wetland Authorities wherever established. 3) Communication among various agencies concerned with water, agriculture, forestry, wildlife, developmental planning, NGOs, academia and individual experts for cross sectoral planning and management. 4) Dissemination of information achieved through good practices involving international organization such as Wetlands International, WWF, IUCN etc. 	

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

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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> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. A National NGO Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	B	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

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

The NGO focal point was invited to all meetings organized by National Focal Point to develop strategies for promotion of CEPA and developing an effective mechanism to generate awareness among various stakeholders, local communities and others concerned.

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

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.iii.iii.- Formulate, drawing upon the *Additional Guidance on reviewing and action planning for wetland communication, education and public awareness (CEPA)* developed for this purpose, a national (and, where appropriate, sub-national, catchment or local) action plan for wetland CEPA which incorporates the conclusions to emerge from Action r9.iii.ii above, and provide a copy of this to the Ramsar Convention Bureau so that it can be made available to other Parties and interested organizations and individuals. (The Additional Guidance document is available in hard copy from the Bureau and in html at http://ramsar.org/outreach_reviewsactionplansI.htm)

1. A National Action Plan for wetland CEPA has been developed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.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	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 additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

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

1. Actions have been taken in relation to communication and information-sharing on wetland issues between relevant ministries, departments and agencies

B

Choose an answer

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

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

Sectoral ministries have been consulted regarding critical issues relating to developmental activities impinging upon wetlands. Environmental impact assessment, evaluation and other mechanism through ministries concerned on the issues relating to impacts of developmental activities on wetlands.

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

1. Actions have been taken to encourage synergies on CEPA activities among international conventions and programmes

B

Choose an answer

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

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

The synergies with other Conventions particularly CBD has been developed taking the experiences of Loktak and Chilika Lakes for successful stakeholder led CEPA process for conservation and sustainable development of wetlands. The experiences gained through Ramsar Convention have been integrated with CBDs Integrated Water Resources Management. The joint CBD, Ramsar initiative on river basin has been implemented taking the common approach involved in CEPA implementation for the Conventions.

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

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 roster of experts from leading institutions concerned with CEPA work closely have been made with functionaries of both the Conventions in MoEF and are often consulted to advise the Government on CEPA matters.

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	<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):	Conservation of biodiversity, wetlands and river basins in priority eco-regions.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Transfer and share CEPA experiences to the government agencies involved in biodiversity, water allocation, agriculture and industrial development to promote conservation of biodiversity of wetlands within river basin. 2) Exchange of information among stakeholders, NGOs and local communities. 	

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

1. Materials to support wetland CEPA have been produced and distributed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The experiences of implementation of conservation and sustainable development of wetlands in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes involving communities, stakeholders, government agencies, and others concerned departments have been widely disseminated at local, national and international levels through newsletters, brochures, posters, booklets and other resource materials as part of CEPA materials developed. This was quite significant as entire perspective of conservation and sustainable development was widely disseminated to generate awareness about the approach to achieve sustainable development among various target groups. The communication among the different target groups was quite pronounced as they learned the complex issues relating to conservation and sustainable development.</p>		

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

1. A national email network on wetland CEPA has been established	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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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).

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

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

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are part of the Wetland Link International Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK *(if available, please include number of centres or facilities)*

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

Other status (explain below); I = No answer

**N°
centres**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are part of the Wetland Link International Programme, and any other comments you consider relevant.]*

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)*

C

Choose an answer

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

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

F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

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

**N°
centres**

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

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:	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):	Capacity building of wetland functionaries, NGOs and local communities for conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources in case of all Ramsar sites in India.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES	1) Adopting innovative techniques for conservation and livelihood	

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).

(text answer):	<p>improvement of priority wetlands taking the examples of best use practices in different countries.</p> <p>2) Capacity building of wetland managers and target community groups to sustainably use wetlands and their resources.</p>
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Action r9.v.i.- Review the current national needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA, including in relation to the establishment and operations of wetland education centres (see Operational Objective r9.viii) and use this to define capacity-building priorities within the national wetland CEPA action plan (see Action r9.iii.iii)

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

MoEF through national committee has reviewed the capacity building needs of institutions involved in wetland management. The Asian Wetland Symposium, organized a session on capacity building of wetland functionaries in Asia. This session was exclusively dedicated to developing mechanism to impart training to wetland managers. Chilika Development Authority has developed infrastructure to impart training to various target groups including policy planners, decision makers, communities, school children, youths and NGOs. This has been further promoted in collaboration with Wetlands International and funding agencies with the objective of providing training to the local, national and international level.

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

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.]

India has a network of experts dedicated to conservation and sustainable use of natural resources including wetlands. MoEF, Centre for Environment Education, WWF and Wetlands International are key institutions involved in promoting capacity at various levels.

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

Choose an answer for each indicator

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

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

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

I = No answer

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

B

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

MoEF through its own resources has undertaken several initiatives to promote educational awareness both through non formal activities as well as through formal education system.

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	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. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]		
A pilot project on Environment Education in School System has been launched during 2003 – 2004 with the objective of strengthening environment education in formal school system. A scheme of Global Learning and Observation to Benefit Environment providing “hand on environmental learning” of environmental concept including wetlands. Training is provided in four broad areas namely hydrology, soil, land cover and rainfall. Strengthening environmental education management in schools. Environment appreciation courses, non formal environmental educational systems are some of the ongoing schemes of MoEF to generate awareness about environmental related aspects included wetlands.		

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:	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):	Regional resource agencies have been set up by MoEF under National Environmental Awareness Campaign (NEAC) for programme for mass awareness about environmental issues related to wetlands in the country. Seven thousand five hundred and eighty eight participating organizations were provided financial assistance for organizing padyatras, rallies, public meetings, exhibitions, folk dances, street theaters, essay/debate, painting/poster, competitions for school children, seminars, workshops, training course etc. Diverse target groups ranging from students, youths, teachers to tribal, rural population, professionals etc. were covered under the campaign.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The ongoing schemes for generating mass awareness will be continued and special focus will be laid on wetlands and water related issues in national awareness programmes	

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

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

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 scheme on national awareness compaigns which include awareness generation about wetlands is an ongoing activity and would be continued.		

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

1. World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out	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 information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]		
World Wetlands Day is observed throughout the country to generate awareness about values, functions of wetlands and their importance for ecological and livelihood security of the people living in the different parts of the country.		

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

1. Collaboration with the media has been systematically used to convey the wetland message	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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.]		
Media both printed and electronic has played a vital role in promoting the needs for conservation of wetlands and their biodiversity resources for ecological, and livelihood security of the people. The threats to the wetlands have been highlighted by the media which has played a key role in dissemination of information relating to conservation and sustainable development of wetlands. Issues pertaining to shrinking of wetlands and loss of biodiversity have been periodically brought out through the media which have been instrumental in building public opinion for conservation of wetlands.		

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

1.- Actions have been taken to promote and equip Ramsar site(s) as demonstration sites for the wise use principle <i>(if available, 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^o Ramsar sites 2
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.]			
Two Ramsar sites viz. Loktak and Chilika are model studies to demonstrate application of wise use of Ramsar sites.			

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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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):	<p>The mechanisms to ensure that CEPA processes are incorporated into participatory, multi-stakeholder wetland management have been developed in case of conservation and management of Loktak Lake within Manipur River basin and Chilika Lake within Mahanadi River basin. The experiences gained through the models developed have provided the way forward in incorporating CEPA processes into wetland management planning. The target is to apply the CEPA process in case of all priority wetlands.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide training to the wetland functionaries about the importance of CEPA processes involved in achieving the objectives. 2. Establishment of multi-stakeholder working group through active participation of local communities particularly women and NGOs. 3. Develop effective means of communication among various stakeholders to seek their participation and involvement in decision makings. 	

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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.]

River basin approach has been followed in case of Loktak, Chilika and Vembanad. It is planned to apply river basin approach in case of all priority wetlands.

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

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

1.- CEPA strategies and actions have been incorporated into the management plans of Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 3
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
CEPA process has been applied in case of Loktak, Chilika and Vembanad wetlands. This has helped to develop an effective networking with the stakeholders and providing them information about the status of implementation as well as their cooperation for long term management.			

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):	<p>Education centers have been developed in number of wetlands of international importance. The focus in these wetlands has been on providing basic information on the wetlands using various interpretation mechanisms. However, these centers do not provide enough communication and awareness generation about the basic requirement to promote awareness about overall conservation and sustainable development activities intricately linked in a holistic manner and communication across various stakeholders.</p> <p>CEPA has been promoted by Chilika Development Authority (CDA) in collaboration with stakeholders and communities living both with in islands and some shore land villages. CDA has developed basic infrastructure and necessary tools to generate awareness about conservation and wise use of wetlands for the stakeholders as well as imparting training at various levels involved in sustainable development of wetlands.</p> <p>CEPA model has been also developed in case of Loktak Lake through long process of implementation of a project on Sustainable Development of Water Resources Management.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	It is planned to promote CEPA models successfully developed in case of Loktak & Chilika Lakes for four more wetlands designated under Ramsar Convention by India.	

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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.

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).

1.- Education centres have been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites 7
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the centres established and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Some Ramsar sites have developed interpretation centres to facilitate providing basic awareness about the features of the wetlands problems and approaches needed for wetland conservation. These centers highlight the importance of these wetlands in regard to their biodiversity and resource potentials alongwith livelihood issues of communities associated with these wetlands. Awareness generation for biodiversity conservation is a high priority of the wetland centres established so far. The other objective of the wetland centres is to impart training to the students, youths and stakeholders for conservation and wise use of wetland. In some centres research and development activities are also carried out to supplement R&D inputs into management planning.			
3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</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° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the centres planned and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

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	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>		
National Wetland Committee reviews the progress of implementation of the wetland conservation programme including the component on CEPA. These reviews have been extremely useful in providing future protection in line with the national and international objectives for conservation and wise use of wetlands.		

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 (<i>if available, please include number of facilities</i>)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° facilities
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the facilities involved in national CEPA efforts and activities, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

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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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	The framework and guidelines developed through Ramsar Convention are extremely useful in conservation and management of wetlands of international importance. These guidelines have been applied wherever relevant and further refined as per the local conditions.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Application of guidelines and overall framework for management of wetlands national / international importance.	

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

India has designated 19 wetlands under the list of wetlands of international importance it is proposed to designate six more wetlands to raise the total number of Ramsar sites to 25 as per the commitment given by India in the last COP meeting.

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)

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>		
1. All potential Ramsar sites have been identified and targets for future designations have been defined.	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.]		
Information on 93 well known wetlands of the country has been given in the Asian Wetland Directory which represents important wetland sites of national and international importance . Subsequently WWF-India in collaboration with Asian Wetland Bureau (now Wetlands International) has revised the section dealing with India's wetlands in the Asian Wetland Directory. Information on 40 new sites has been added, while that on most other sites has been updated.		
SACON has identified 199 wetlands as potential Ramsar sites. The inventory carried out on these wetlands has provided a baseline information on the criteria adopted by Ramsar Convention for designation of wetlands under Convention. This is being reviewed in consultation with the concerned State Governments in India, research institutions as well as in relation to sites proposed by other institutions for designation.		

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 (if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6)	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 199
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.]			
Inland Wetland of India - Conservation Priorities published by SACON has incorporated 1% threshold criteria of waterbird population estimates. Based on this and other criteria adopted, 199 wetlands have been identified as potential Ramsar sites.			

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 (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 on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
The information collected on inland water bodies as well as coastal wetlands is being reviewed to examine the wetland representative of rare or unique wetland. The information on other wetland is also being collected to assess the feasibility of wetlands as potential Ramsar sites.			

3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]</i>			

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>	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 Four
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Bhitarkanika & Chilika (Orissa), Point Calimere (Tamil Nadu) and Vembnad (Kerala)			

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

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation of Ramsar sites supporting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic, or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species, has been done (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 5
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Five wetland has been designated as Ramsar site which is supporting globally threatened species viz. Cervus Ildi Ildi in Loktak, Irrawadi Dolphin in Chilika, Siberian Crane in Keladeo National Park, Royal Bengal Tigar in Sundarban and Black necked crane in T'so Murari.			
<p>The highest counts total for 14 globally threatened speecis were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) critically endangered Sibearan Crane (3 in 1997 and 2 in 1999, the number of this small CAF population that used to visit Keoladeo National Park has dwindled with no birds being recorded here in the last few years raising fears that this population may have been extirpated); 2) Endangered White-bellied Heron (10 in 2001), Greater Adjutant (6 each in 2000 and 2001), Nordmann's Greenshank (3 in 2001) and the vulnerable Spot-billed Pelican (199 in 2001), Lesser Adjutant (74 in 2001), Lesser White-fronted Goose (1 in 1997), Marbled Teal (24 in 1999), Baer's Pochard (1534 in 1997), Sarus Crane (178 in 1999), Sociable Lapwing (17 in 2001), India Skimmer (138 in 2001), Pallas's Sea Eagle (4 in 1999) and Greater Spotted Eagle (4 in 1999). <p>Twelve Lower Risk species were also recorded: the highest count of Conservation Dependent Dalmatian Pelican was 81 in 1999. Eleven Near Threatened species, Oriental Darter, Painted Stork, Blanck-neck stork,</p>			

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."

Black-headed Ibis, Lesser Flamingo, Ferruginous Duck, Beach Thick-knee, Asian Dowitcher, Black-bellied Tern, Grey-headed Fishing Eagle and Pallid Harrier were also recorded. Small numbers of Goliath Heron were recorded, a species for which the South Asian population is estimated at 20 individuals.

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
19**

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

19 Ramsar sites designated by India form a part of Central Asian Flyways for migratory species. An effective network of protected areas consisting of national parks, sanctuaries and biosphere reserves has been set up in the country. Many wetlands are included in this network. Efforts are being made to include the remaining identified wetlands under the network and the respective State Governments have been requested for taking the necessary steps. The State Governments have a well structured system to protect these areas. However, assistance is also being provided to the State Governments under the centrally sponsored scheme for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries. Under the Mangrove Conservation Programme, State Forest/Wildlife Departments are being provided financial assistance for various protection measures.

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

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

C

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

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

1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of the national area of transboundary wetlands has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).

C

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

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

1.- High Andean wetlands have been designated as Ramsar sites *(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)*.

A

Choose an answer

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

N° Ramsar sites

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

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

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.]*

India has significantly contributed to the development of socio-economic and cultural values criteria and development of guidelines for wise use of wetlands.

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.]*

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

1. Contributions have been made to the updating of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made.]		
<p>A total of 355 sites in India were counted during 1997 – 2001 under Asian Waterfowl Census conducted by Wetlands International. Totals of waterbirds counted were 157,292 (34 sites), 109,994 (65 sites), 568,658 (178 sites), 45,551 (17 sites), 1,615,664 (194 sites) in 1997 – 2001 respectively. Eight of total 19 Ramsar sites in India were counted viz. Pong Dam Bird Sanctuary (93, 487 in 2001), Vemband Lake (6223 in 2001), Loktak Lake (11301 in 1999), Chilika Lake (781739 in 2001), Harike wetland (13735 in 2001), Ropar wetland (326 in 1999), Keoladeo National Park (61031 in 1997) and Sambhar Lake (920 in 1999).</p> <p>A total of 13 sites including three of Ramsar sites mentioned above recorded maximum of more than 20,000 birds. The others were Patna Bird Sanctuary (148426 in 1999), Kole Wetland (120322 in 2001), Farakka Barrage (89206 in 2001), Palta Water Works (52488 in 2001), Ganga River at Malda (48781 in 1999), Rengali (39980 in 2001), Pobitora Sanctuary (55851 in 1997), Yamuna River, I.S.B.T Nigambodh (34481 in 2001), Nandur Madhemeshwar (21418 in 1990) and Oustery Tank (20245 in 2001).</p> <p>The survey has indicated occurrence of 161 species of waterbirds and nine species wetland dependent raptors. Ten species with more than 50,000 individual have been recorded. The highest counts in 2001 for each of these species were Northern Shoveler (193205), Northern Pintail (158115), Gadwall (141520), Eurasian Wigeon (136232), Tuffed Duck (115234) Lesser Whistling Duck (91619), Garganey (87259), Common Coot (72998), Common Teal (55056) and Red-crested Pochard (54542).</p>		
3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information provided.]		
Chilika Development Authority has carried out a survey of Irrawadi Dolphins and the report has been sent to the Wetlands International informing occurrence of 89 individuals of healthy dolphins in Chilika Lagoon.		

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>
2. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	<i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data	B	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]		
Wetlands International conducts periodic waterfowl census of wetlands in India. Bombay Natural History Society has been identified by Wetlands International as a nodal agency to coordinate with NGOs and other concerned agencies and experts. The information received from various agencies by Wetlands International is compiled and widely disseminated through various reports. The latest report published in 2004 on Numbers and distribution of waterbirds and wetlands in the Asia-Pacific region including India based on results of the		

Asian Waterbird Census carried out using 1997 – 2001.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<p>Information on 93 well known wetlands of the country has been given in the Asian Wetland Directory which represents important wetland sites international importance. Subsequently WWF-India in collaboration with Wetlands International has revised the section dealing with India's wetlands in the Asian Wetland Directory. Information on 40 new sites has been added while that on most other sites has been updated.</p> <p>Wetland mapping of all the wetlands in the country has been carried out by Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad. The information collected in the publication on Wetlands of India is an update of current status of wetlands elaborately dealt for 25 states in the country. Further update on ecological aspects of inland waters has been provided by SACON on Inland Waters. The information on habitat analysis of wetlands, biodiversity, environmental contamination, socio economic values has been compiled by SACON in the publication on Inland Wetlands of India Conservation Priorities. The information collected on all these sources is used by MoEF in updating the information and identified additional Ramsar sites through consultations with the State Government and Scientific Organisations.</p>	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>It was planned to include 25 in the list of wetlands of international importance out of which 19 have been already designated and data sheets for six sites have been communicated to Ramsar Secretariat for their designation as Ramsar sites .</p>	

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 A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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.]		

Social and cultural aspects for their designation under national wetland conservation programme are the main features linked with the prioritization of wetlands by the concerned State Government agencies for their

inclusion under National Wetland Conservation Programme.

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

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	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.]		
Updated information on all the Ramsar sites designated in India has been communicated to the Ramsar Secretariat.		

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	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):	19 Ramsar sites are monitored to assess their ecological characters and the impacts of pressures on changes in ecological features.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assessment habitat features in terms of vegetation, waterbird populations, fish fauna and threatened species. 2) Changes in hydrological regimes and their relationship with biodiversity. 3) Assessment of impact of pollution on water quality and biodiversity 4) Impacts of sectoral developmental plans and mitigation of adverse impacts. 	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

1.- The measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined and applied (if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied).	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 2
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.]			
<p>Measures to maintain the ecological character of Chilika lake has been defined applying hydrological and ecological parameters. Hydrological intervention carried out has helped to maintain ecological character of this wetland. This is being periodically monitored by Chilika Development Authority to undertake remedial measures, if required.</p> <p>Based on detailed inventiorization of Loktak Lake, monitoring parameters have been clearly defined for associated wetlands within Manipur River Basin. Loktak Development Auhtority along with Wetlands International are involved with monitoring of this wetland to maintain ecological characteristics at river basin level by optimizing hydrological regimes and harnessing benefits by the communities for their livelihoods.</p>			

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	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]			
<p>Management action plan on Loktak Lake and its associated wetlands within Manipur River Basin has been formulated by Wetlands International adopting the approach as indicated in the New Guidelines on formulation of Management Action Plan. The approach followed highlights developing management planning framework based on assessment of the ecological, socio-economic and cultural features. The empahsis has been laid more on diagnostic assessment rather than prescription for restoration. Ecological, socio-economic and cultural indicators have been identified for long term monitoring of conservation and sustainable development of Loktak and associated wetlands.</p>			
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES			N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place			17
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied			17
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared			2
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated			1
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.]			
<p>Management Action Plans for 17 wetlands are in place. However, these plans are being further modified in light of the new management planning guidelines developed by Ramsar Convention. A comprehensive management action plan on Loktak Lake within River Basin has been formulated involving Wetlands</p>			

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES	N^o Ramsar sites
International which has been circulated by the Planning Commission to the Sectoral Agencies for their comments. Ramsar Convention has funded Wetlands International under Small Grants Projects to develop management planning framework for Chilika Lake taking into consideration application of New Guidelines of Ramsar Convention. The feasibility of these Guidelines in case of other wetlands is also being persued.	

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^o Ramsar sites
1.- Ramsar sites in which management plans developed under other processess (e.g., Biosphere Reserves) are being applied	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]	

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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The feasibility of application of Ramsar tools and guidance has been assessed for all the Ramsar sites in the nine workshops so far organised by MoEF in different parts of India. The objective of these workshop was to update management plans through participatory processes and develop capacities of the agencies involved in the implementation. These meetings were extremely useful in discussing with the people about approach involved in the Ramsar Guidelines and need for their application in case of all identified wetlands particularly Ramsar sites.		

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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The emphasis in the formulation of Management Action Plans is how to involve stakeholders and develop process for multistakeholder management of wetlands and their resources. This has been already applied in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes which prove quite useful in conflict resolution and involvement of communities in planning and management of action plans for conservation and wise use of Ramsar sites.		

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.]

The overall approach followed for management of wetlands is to address the conservation and wise use of wetlands at the river basin level. This has been successfully applied in case of Chilika lake taking into account integration of wetlands into river basin and coastal zone management planning. It is planned to develop management planning framework for all the Ramsar sites at the river basin level / coastal zones.

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
17**

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

Considering the importance of freshwater flow into the wetlands at the river basin level, assessments have been carried out in consultations with the stakeholders and local communities for harmonizing water use for ecological and human purposes. Environmental flow assessment was carried out in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes with the objective of maintaining ecological character while harnessing multiple benefits provided by wetlands through their natural functioning.

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

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.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	<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.]			
Based on waterbird census some critical wetlands such as Keoladeo National Park, Tso Morari, Pong Dam, Nalsarowar, Wular, Chilika, and several other sites have a focus on waterbird conservation. A planning has been carried out to protect habitat of the endangered species and augment measures to protect and enhance populations of endangered / endemic species of waterbird.			
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 <i>Convention to Combat Desertification</i> (CCD). (Resolution VIII.34)			
1. Assistance has been provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
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 <i>San José Record</i> 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 <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</u>	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	<u>N° Ramsar sites</u>
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 <u>(if available, please include number of sites)</u>	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	<u>N° Ramsar sites</u>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]			
3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity <u>(if available, please include number of sites)</u>	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	<u>N° Ramsar sites</u>

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

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

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	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;	19
2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	B	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	19

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

Realizing the importance of wetlands and developing an inter-sectoral framework for conservation of wetlands, a National Committee on Wetlands has been constituted. Similarly, a National Committee on Mangroves and Coral Reefs has been constituted to address the specific issues of these wetland ecosystems. These committees advise the Government on policy guidelines, identification of priority wetlands for intensive conservation, monitoring, implementation of management action plans, research and preparation of an inventory of wetlands. At the State Government level, Steering Committees have been constituted consisting of members drawn from State Government Departments concerned with wetlands and experts in the subject matter. The Chief Secretary of the concerned State Government is usually the Chairman of Steering committees. Some State Governments have constituted authorities for wetland and lake development, which includes Chilika Development Authority, Loktak Development Authority, Jammu and Kashmir Lakes , Waterways Development Authority and Karnataka Lake Authority. Madhya Pradesh Lake Authority, Powai Lake Authority etc. These committees are responsible for formulation, implementation and monitoring of the progress of the management action plans prepared for each individual wetland ecosystem. At the district level, Coordination Committees have been constituted to coordinate implementation of wetland activities. (The Ministry of Environment and Forest provides financial assistance to the State Governments for carrying out activities for conservation and management of wetlands, mangroves and coral reefs. Similar mechanism exists for the committees constituted for conservation of mangroves and coral reefs.)

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	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.]

Poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods through conservation measures is an important component of almost all the management action plans developed for Ramsar sites. The emphasis is on sustainable resource development and developing innovative techniques including value additions to the products to combat poverty and provide additional incomes to the people particularly living below poverty line. This has been

successfully carried out in case of Loktak and Chilika Lake and Sunderbans mainly through catchment conservation, fisheries development and utilization of aquatic vegetation.

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

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 project on management planning for Chilika Lake submitted jointly by Chilika Development Authority and Wetlands International has been approved under Small Grants Fund of Ramsar Convention. The project involves New Ramsar guidelines for formulation of management action plan.

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 (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

**No
Ramsar
sites**

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

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:		<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Kolleru in A.P. and East Kolkata wetland in W.B. were asked to provide information on status of these sites which have been sent to Ramsar Secretariat.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Concerned State Governments have been asked to monitor status periodically and inform Ministry accordingly in this regard.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 11.2.1.- Establish for each Ramsar site an effective monitoring programme, ideally as part of the site management plan, which is designed to detect and provide early warning of changes in ecological character. In so doing, use the Convention's framework for designing an effective monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1) and its *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10) (Ramsar Handbook 8).

			<u>N°Ramsar sites</u>
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> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	2
2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	2
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>			
Monitoring plans have been established in case of Loktak and Chilika Lakes based on evaluation of the factors relating to ecological, socio-economic and cultural features of the wetlands. Three tier monitoring plans involve trekking of activities with objectives and goals.			

Action 11.2.2.- Ensure that sites on the Ramsar List are used as baseline and reference areas for national, supranational/regional, and international environmental monitoring to detect trends in the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the processes of desertification (Objective 4.1 of the Objectives for the List (Resolution VII.11), and report on status and trends to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

1.- Ramsar sites are used as baseline and reference areas for national environmental monitoring <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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 any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
3.- Status and trends on the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the process of desertification <i>[Please include a summary of the cited issues and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>			

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.

<i>See action 2.2.3</i>			
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	<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 r11.2.iv.- Put in place, as a matter of high priority in fulfillment of 3.2 of the Convention, mechanisms in order to be informed at the earliest possible time, including through reports by national authorities and local and indigenous communities and NGOs, if the ecological character of any wetland included in the Ramsar List has changed, is changing or is likely to change. (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Mechanisms have been established to collect information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites in accordance with Article 3.2	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 11.2.4.- In fulfilment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites “where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur” in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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	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	A		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]</i>			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]</i>			
Several measures have been undertaken for restoration of Keoladeo National Park so as to remove the sites from the Montreux Record. The main issue was relating to the reduced migration of Siberian Cranes due to degradation of wetland habitat. The migration of Siberian Cranes is a wider issue, effecting many range countries in the region and therefore involves management at regional basis. The CAF meeting in Delhi, 2005, recommended some measures for protection of Siberian Crane.			

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	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 actions taken.]</i>		
Several measures have been taken for conservation and management of three Ramsar sites viz. Chilika, Loktak and Keoladeo with the objective of removing these sites from the Montreux Record. Chilika lake has already been taken out of Montreux Record after the visit o an international mission to see conservation measures taken by the State Govt. and this site was removed from the list of Montreux Record during 2002. Action is being initiated also to remove Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur from the Montreux Record. In regard to Loktak lake in Manipur, State Govt. has been asked to go ahead with conservation measures taken so that it can also be processed for taking it of 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 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Ramsar Advisory Mission visited Chilika Lake and were satisfied with the conservation measures adopted by the Chilika Development Authority (CDA). The issue regarding prawn culture in Chilika Lake was since abandoned and effective measures adopted to restore salinity regimes and species migration through hydrological intervention based on extensive scientific studies carried out and involving local communities in the participatory management. The restoration of Chilika was a successful model helping in the restoration of biodiversity and providing economic benefits to the communities through enhanced fish yield. The CDA was conferred Ramsar Award for this outstanding work carried out by a developing country.			

Action 11.2.6.- Where a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* has been completed for a *Montreux Record* site, take all necessary steps to implement the recommendations, and report at regular intervals to the Bureau on the results of these actions. At the appropriate time, seek the removal of the site from the *Montreux Record*, having provided the Bureau and STRP with details of the site condition using the approved questionnaire (Ramsar Handbook 7).

<i>(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)</i>			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	1
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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	1
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.]			
Wetlands International in collaboration with Chilika Development Authority has formulated a project for management planning of Chilika Lagoon as a follow-up of the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Mission. The project has been approved by Ramsar Bureau and is being implemented in close collaboration with the CDA and MoEF involving various stakeholders and local communities.			

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>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;	2
2.- Actions taken to address issues at Montreux Record Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	B	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]			
<p>Loktak Development Authority (LDA) in collaboration with WISA has carried out a detailed inventorization of Loktak Lake within Manipur River Basin and have identified the causative factors responsible for degradation of wetlands system through elaborate social processes. An 'Atlas of Loktak' has been published which has been used as an effective tool for management planning of the wetland.</p> <p>The Management Action Plan (MAP) formulated outlines the commitment of Government of Manipur for conservation and sustainable development of Loktak Lake and associated wetlands within Manipur River Basin (MRB). The DPR has been prepared through comprehensive social and ecological processes involving state and central government departments, community organizations, National Hydropower Corporation, NGOs, research institutions and local communities. The information collected from various sources has been analysed in consultation with experts and concerned government agencies for identification of key issues and formulation of management strategies.</p> <p>The main emphasis in the MAP is on optimizing resources to maintain ecological integrity while providing sustained economic benefits to the local communities through conservation measures. Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach integrating catchments into conservation and wise use of wetlands has been adopted to ensure ecological and economic security of the people in the basin. Additional / alternate income generation programmes have been proposed for the sustained economic development of the region with the focus on social equity and gender sensitivity. The plan envisages adoption of a community based approach to resource management with facilitation from government agencies and scientific institutions in terms of technical and financial resources.</p> <p>The MAP is based on evaluation of ecological and socio-economic features of Loktak and associated wetlands within Manipur River Basin. A critical analysis of these features provides the rationale for identification of objectives including the factors governing these features. These steps are critical to understanding of the basic characteristics of wetland ecosystems and their dynamics within the river basin. Adopting this approach helps to undertake measures to develop specific action plans for long-term sustainable management which can be monitored through indicators sensitive to changes in the ecosystem.</p> <p>Keoladeo National Park (KNP) is an important habitat for waterbirds harboring more than 350 species of birds including some endangered species. KNP is the only wintering site in India for the Central and Western Asian population of Siberian Cranes that visit the park between October to middle of February. The population of Siberian Cranes has been consistently decreasing and it is a matter of concern. At present the Siberian Cranes have stopped visiting the park. Although these problems have much wider dimension though some measures have been pursued in collaboration with the International Crane Foundation and Convention on Migratory Species.</p>			

N° Ramsar sites

The Government of Rajasthan through Wildlife Department has taken several measures for effective habitat management of the Park. The measures undertaken include control of water hyacinth, re-establishment of Siberian Cranes, management of aquatic vegetation, ecotourism and eco-development. The prolific growth of some grass species has been controlled by bulldozing some areas of the park during the draught period, in addition to manual cutting and controlled burning. A definite sequence of flooding of the various blocks in the park is followed to ensure water level for different species of waterfowl. Broad guidelines have been formulated for the tourists visiting the park. To ensure the participation of the local communities in the management of the park, Keoladeo National Park Development Society has been formed under the chairmanship of the District Collector. The primary objective of this society is to delineate the ecological boundaries of the park and to draw up an eco-friendly integrated land use strategy for the over all development of the area. The society will raise funds by increasing the existing park entrance fee and diverting a part of revenue to be used for undertaking eco-development activities.

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.1.1.- 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 <u>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</u>	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands/ wetland systems 3
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Three wetland sites viz. Rann of Kuchch; Sundarbans and Pangong Tso bordering with Pakistan, Bangladesh and China respectively have been identified as shared wetland systems. A portion of Rann of Kuchch and Sundarbans under the jurisdiction of Pakistan and Bangladesh has been already designated as Ramsar sites by these countries. It is proposed to include the adjoining portion of Indian Sundarbans and Rann of Kuchch by India within the overall wetlands sites for designation under Ramsar Convention. Information as per RIS of			

the Ramsar Convention has been collected and the proposals have been processed to obtain approvals at various levels in India.

Action 12.1.2.- Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions. (Section A2 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: 50% of CPs with shared basins and coastal systems to be part of joint management commissions or authorities.

1. Cooperative management of shared wetland systems has progressed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 collaborative project on Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Biodiversity Conservation of Sundarban both within India and Bangladesh through the support of UNDP is under implementation for last few years. Several consultation meetings between governments of Bangladesh and India have been organized for planning and exchange of information on biodiversity and livelihood issues.		

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

Action 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.

<i>See action 2.2.3</i>		
1. Joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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

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):	Information relating to census of tiger population within Sundarban area of both countries is being carried out through collaborative efforts.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Monitoring of biodiversity, habitat features and awareness generation is planned for effective management of Sundarbans.	

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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)*

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
19**

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

All the 19 Ramsar sites designated satisfied criteria in relation to wetland dependent migratory species.

Action 12.2.2.- Continue to promote and support the development of further regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species, as exemplified by the *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)*, the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and others. (Sections B2 and B4 of the Guidelines)

See action r10.1.iv

1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed

B

Choose an answer

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

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

The Second Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Meeting of Range States to develop a common international framework to promote the conservation of migratory waterbirds and wetlands was held at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, India, from 10-12 June 2005 at the invitation of the Minister for Environment and Forests, Government of India. The meeting was organised under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory

Species (CMS), in cooperation with Wetlands International and Wildlife Institute of India.

Representatives from 23 range states including Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and Yemen attended. In addition there were representatives of the United States of America, African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), Central Asian Regional Environment Centre (Kazakhstan), BirdLife International, International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), International Crane Foundation (ICF), Wetlands International, and a number of national non-governmental organisations and institutions, including Bombay Natural History Society, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), and Wildlife Protection Society of India's Indian Cranes and Wetlands Working Group. Range States of the CAF region not in attendance were Bahrain, Georgia, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

The New Delhi Meeting built on discussions held in the First Meeting of the Range States of the CAF in Uzbekistan, in 2001 and had four primary meeting objectives:

- (1) to provide Range State delegations with an overview of flyway conservation issues;
- (2) to finalise and endorse the draft CAF Action Plan;
- (3) to consider, prioritise and endorse selected implementation activities, and lay the basis for exploring and possibly establishing an interim coordination mechanism; and
- (4) to develop a consensus on their preferred option for a legal and institutional framework for the CAF region.

The Central Asian Flyway covers at least 272 migratory waterbird populations of 178 species, including 27 globally threatened and near-threatened species that breed, migrate and spend the non-breeding (winter period) within the region. Species such as the critically threatened Sociable Plover *Vanellus gregarious*, endangered White-bellied Heron *Ardea insignis*, vulnerable Black-necked Crane *Grus nigricollis* and Indian Skimmer *Rynchops albicollis*, and Barheaded Goose *Anser indicus*, Ibisbill *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*, and Brownheaded Gull *Larus brunnicapillus* are completely (or largely) restricted to the Central Asian Flyway region.

The draft CAF Action Plan covers a range of actions to promote the conservation of species, their habitats, build capacity, raise awareness, and promote monitoring and research. The text of the Action Plan was discussed at length and amended by the meeting. A number of new action points were introduced, including, (a) the need for adequate attention to gender issues while developing and implementing alternative livelihood options to manage wetlands and other habitats important to migratory waterbirds, (b) the need to monitor disease occurrence in wild waterbirds and, using a multi-disciplinary approach, assess disease risk and implications for human health, in relation to poultry husbandry and trade practices, trade in wild waterbirds and migratory waterbird movements, (c) development of outcome-oriented medium-term Flyway Strategic Plan and National Strategic Plans to implement actions.

It was agreed that the finalised Action Plan would be circulated by the CMS Secretariat to the Range States for final review and comments prior to its adoption at a future intergovernmental meeting.

Various priority international concepts to support and inform implementation of the CAF Action Plan were reviewed and feedback provided on the order of priority for their implementation. They include the need to develop:

- A directory of sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds in the CAF
- A flyway overview of the status and trends of waterbird populations to determine future monitoring and conservation priorities
- A flyway status overview of national and international conservation aspects of migratory waterbirds and their habitats as a basis for cooperative conservation action
- A monitoring strategy and strengthen capacity for monitoring waterbirds in the CAF

- A flyway network of key contacts and collate an international register of waterbird and habitat projects
- A framework to establish a “Central Asian Flyway Site Network”.

Three additional priorities were suggested and they include the need to develop:

- Single species action plans for threatened species
- A common framework for inventory of wetlands
- An awareness programme for waterbirds and their habitats.

The CMS and AEWA Secretariats were invited to consider the priorities of the Meeting in initiating development of flyway activities to support implementation of the Action Plan. There was also agreement on the need to develop a medium-term Flyway Strategic Plan to support implementation of the Action Plan and for the development of national Strategic Plans. The CMS Secretariat was also invited to further explore with Range States, AEWA and other potential partners, the concept of an interim coordination mechanism to initially support the implementation of the Action Plan, once adopted.

The Range States present were invited to provide an indication of their Government’s or Ministry’s preference to link the Action Plan under discussion either to a legally-binding or non-binding instrument. There was almost complete unanimity for a legally-binding instrument and, of these, there was near unanimity for the Action Plan to be integrated with the existing AEWA Agreement that has been developed under CMS. It was agreed that more detailed consultations within the Range States and Secretariats of CMS and AEWA were need to progress this issue.

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.

<p>1. National hunting legislation is consistent with wise use principle for wetland-dependent species, including waterbirds</p>	<p>A</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.3. Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements

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

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

1. Party has been involved in the development of a regional initiative in the framework of the Convention	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; 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.]	
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OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS
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OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13.1. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint work of CBD and Ramsar Convention on integrated water resources management. 2. Conservation of migratory species and wetlands with CMS 3. Wetland conservation in arid zone areas and to combat desertification 4. Conservation of wetlands designated under World Heritage Convention 5. Climatic change and wetland conservation
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<p>IWRM approach has been followed for conservation and sustainable development of some wetlands in India. Basin level planning has been carried out for conservation and management of Loktak and associated wetlands within Manipur River Basin and Chilika Lake within Mahanadi River Basin. Water management plans have been formulated for allocation of water for human and ecological purposes for these wetlands using scientific and elaborate social processes. Consultations are ongoing with the hydropower agency to ensure that the barrage operations are carried out for maintenance of biodiversity within the lake particularly the protected area which is the habitat for the highly endangered ungulate species.</p> <p>Similar initiatives have been undertaken for Vembanad Kol wetlands within Periyar River Basin; Harike and Ropar wetlands within Sutlej – Beas Basin; and Dal and Wular Lakes within Jhelum Basin</p> <p>Effective linkages have been developed with the government agencies concerned with water resources management, fisheries, agriculture and rural development for conservation and sustainable livelihoods of the communities living in and around the wetlands. Multi-stakeholder approach involving concerned government agencies, NGOs, and community organizations has been elaborately adopted by wetland authorities and conservation organizations</p>

<p>involved in the management of Loktak, Chilika, Bhoj, and Dal lakes. India is also developing a GEF project on conservation and sustainable use and globally significant treatment wetlands of Manipuri (UP) and Kaveri Tank (Tamil Nadu).</p> <p>India has played a lead role in formulation of Ramsar guidelines on integration of wetlands into river basin management. As a follow up of this, CBD-Ramsar River Basin Initiative was undertaken and a joint programme was developed for the integrated management of wetlands, biological diversity and river basin which operates through cross-sectoral partnership and local, country at national level. The synergy between CBD and Ramsar conventions in India has helped to integrate various developmental sector into planning process at River Basin level for management of wetlands.</p> <p>The models developed for Loktak and Chilika have been extensively used at the regional level to demonstrate successful stakeholder led wetland conservation and management. The management of these wetlands involve extensive consultations at various levels and particularly through elaborate social processes to identify the problems and implement restoration measures. This has helped to generate awareness at various levels in the sustainable development of the wetland which was used as a practical example for Communication Education and Public Awareness initiative undertaken by the Ramsar Convention.</p>

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Action 13.1.1.- Continue to strengthen cooperation and synergy with the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements, the *World Heritage Convention*, and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, in particular through the vehicles of Joint Work Plans and collaboration among the respective subsidiary scientific bodies of the conventions and the secretariats, and at national level among the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and Focal Points of the different MEAs.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *3rd CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan* fully implemented. *CMS/AEWA Joint Work Plan* in place and being implemented. Joint activities developed with UNCCD and UNFCCC, including through participation in the Joint Liaison Group with UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD.

See action 18.1.1

1. Mechanisms are in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

B

Choose an answer

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

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]

MoEF is the nodal agency for implementation of MEAs. There is an effective mechanism to coordinate and supplement activities relating to CBD, CCD, CMS, World Heritage and UN Framework, Convention and climate change through joint work plans and collaborations.

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	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 information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]		
Focal points of MEA in the Ministry are invited to participate in the National Wetland Committee which provides an effective mechanism to coordinate with other Conventions and seek their cooperation to effectively develop the programs and avoid duplication.		

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 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]		
Several wetlands are located in the biosphere reserves and efforts are made for collaboration on overall conservation and wise use of the wetlands. Consultations amongst the various agencies dealing with the implementation of elements of various conventions are periodically help to develop a comprehensive national view point regarding issues under various conventions. Inter-ministerial consultations are also held by MoEF to highlight country stand on various elements of the convention.		

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

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

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

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

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

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	<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 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	<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 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	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):	Imparting training to wetland functionaries, decision makers, policy planners and communities at various levels.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize training courses for assessment of values, functions and attributes of wetlands. 2. Impart training for assessment of impacts of water resources development of projects on wetland ecosystems 3. Sharing of expertise for evaluation techniques 4. sharing information of best practices of wetland management 	

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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	<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>The best practices adopted in case of model wetlands such as Loktak and Chilika have been widely disseminated amongst wetland functionaries at the national level. These experiences have been also shared through workshops, seminars and symposia at the global and regional levels. Newsletters specifically published on Loktak and Chilika have been widely disseminated to various organizations at international, national and local levels which has helped to apply the best experiences adopted to the other wetlands at different levels. A detailed inventory of Loktak Lake published in 2004 has been widely circulated to share the knowledge.</p>		

Action 14.1.2.- Recognize training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention and provide access to such training, especially for wetland managers, and wetland educators and those others responsible for implementing the Convention, from other countries that would benefit from these opportunities. (Sections D2 and D3 of the Guidelines).

1. The Party has engaged in international cooperation activities related to training on wetland issues	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Training at various levels involved in wetland conservation and management has been identified as a priority area in India at national level. Lot of training courses are held dealing with various sectors directly or indirectly related to wetland management. The focus so far has been on wildlife conservation which is being further promoted to other integrated sectors such as water resource development, agriculture development and research based development. CDA has developed infrastructure to organize regional training courses on wetland restoration in South and South East Asia. The objective is to enhance skills for assessment of values and functions of wetland and developing capacities for wetland restoration.</p>		

Action 14.1.3.- Develop twinning and/or networks of transboundary wetlands and wetlands sharing common features, as an important mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing training opportunities.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 75 twinning arrangements to be in place and reported to the Bureau for Web publicity on the Ramsar Web site.

1.- Networks among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
<p>Networking has been developed for Sundarban mangrove area between Bangladesh and India to share information on wetland restoration and assessment techniques to be adopted for effective management.</p>			
3.- Twinning arrangements among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites involved)</i>	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
<p>Wetlands International has provided basic training for wetland conservation and management in Loktak and Chilika Lakes to share knowledge and experiences relating to assessment techniques. Biodiversity conservation, poverty reduction and overall river basin management are some of the focal areas where information is communicated through specific training courses are organized periodically.</p>			

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	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Websites have been developed by Loktak Development Authority and Chilika Development Authority for dissemination of information relating to conservation and wise use of wetlands.</p>		

Action r14.1.i.- Share information and experiences on the management, conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems similar to those of the high Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Actions have been taken to share information and experiences on wetlands in mountain ecosystems	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.</i>]		
Funding support for conservation and wise use of Ramsar sites has been mobilized and support has been		

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.1. Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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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):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assistance from Government of Japan has been received for conservation and management of Bhoj wetland 2. Assistance from UNDP in this country cooperation framework on Inland wetlands of India to Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) and Sunderbans in W.B. 3. Funding from World Bank, Asian Development Bank, CIDA, and other donor agencies for conservation and wise use of some Ramsar sites. 	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Secure funding from international donors for implementation of management action plans for 19 Ramsar sites.	

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

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

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	B	<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	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.</i>]		
Funding support for conservation and wise use of Ramsar sites has been mobilized and support has been		

already provided in case of three Ramsar sites viz. Loktak, Chilika and Bhoj wetlands.

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

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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.]

Projects formulated on some Ramsar sites have been posed to international donors for technical and financial support.

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

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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^o Ramsar sites

1

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

Financial support has been provided for management of Bhoj wetland in India through the support of Government of Japan.

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

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.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

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 15.1.3.- For those Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies, respond to sections E1, E2, E5, E7, E10, E11, E14 and E15 of the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), and especially consider issues such as long-term fund generation mechanisms, appropriate monitoring of projects, training of development assistance agency staff, priority for institutional capacity building, the need for cooperation between development assistance agencies, and the importance of coordination between bilateral development assistance agencies and the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in the donor and recipient countries.

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. Work has been done with the development assistance agency in relation to Ramsar's *Guidelines for international cooperation* (Res. VII.19)

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 15.1.4.- Pursuant to 15.1.3, urge all Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies to report on their performance with regard to wetland-related activities at each COP. (Based on Section E5 of the Guidelines)

(For CPs with development assistance agencies)

1. The performance of the development assistance agency in relation to wetland issues has been assessed

A

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 15.1.5.- 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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Action 15.1.6.- 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	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.]		
A training center at Chilika lake is being developed initially to provide training to wetland managers in south and south-east Asia		

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	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.]		
Management Action Plan has been formulated by Wetlands International for Loktak Lake under the scheme of project formulation. The proposal has been submitted to planning commission and is a good candidate for financial support by international donors.		

Action 15.1.9.- For eligible Contracting Parties of both the *Ramsar Convention* and the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, develop wetland conservation and wise use projects suitable for consideration by the *Global Environment Facility (GEF)*, as part of the implementation of the Joint Work Plan with the CBD and in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7 of Decision IV/4 of CBD's COP4 relating to inland water ecosystems.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Assistance provided to at least 15 countries in preparing projects for submission to the *Global Environment Facility*.

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

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION		
PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Environmental impact assessment is mandatory for all the developmental projects including foreign and domestic likely to have impacts on wetlands particularly Ramsar sites.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Apply broad based EIA methodology including impacts of the developmental activities within river basin. Impacts of hydraulic structures on river flows and biodiversity is the key area to ensure conservation and sustainable use of its resources.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.2.1.- Work with international development agencies, including banks, financial institutions and private investors and developers, to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects include environmental safeguards and environmental assessments of possible impacts upon wetlands. (Based on Section G1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to work with investors on possible impacts of their projects on wetlands

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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

1. Work has been done to introduce mechanisms to direct resources derived from wetlands back to wetland management

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16. FINANCING OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16.1. Provide the financial resources required for the Convention's governance mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	India is a Contracting Party in the Convention and it is providing membership dues for implementation of Convention Programme	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	No additional resources can be provided due to limitations of the resources.	

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

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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.]

MoEF has been regularly paying the membership dues to the Ramsar Bureau and nothing is pending.

Action 16.1.2.- Consider providing additional voluntary contributions to the Convention to support the *Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, and the *Training Service*, regionally-based initiatives such as *MedWet*, the undertaking of *Ramsar Advisory Missions* for sites included in the *Montreux Record* and other Ramsar sites, and other priority activities as determined by the Strategic Plan.

In addition to any contributions listed under Action 15.1.6 above, voluntary contributions have been made:

1. to the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. to support regional initiatives under the Convention	C	
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	C	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	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):	Guidelines on critical issues of wetlands particularly relating to formulation of management action plans, water allocation, community participation and criteria for identification of wetlands of international importance are some targets achieved by the Convention.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Provide a lead role in integration of wetlands into overall sustainable development with focus on conservation and livelihood improvement of people	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 17.1.6.- Ensure that each Contracting Party has nominated a national focal point for the work of the STRP (as called for by Resolutions VII.2 and VIII.28) and two focal points (one government, one non-government) for the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme* (as called for by Resolutions VII.9 and VIII.31)

See also Action r9.iii.i. concerning CEPA national focal points.

1. The National Focal Point for the work of STRP has been nominated

B

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

A network of experts has been build up to advice the govt related to Ramsar issues. These experts are invited to provide advise on promoting conventions implementation in the country.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Develop capacity building to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands is one of the key areas which has been discussed in all the regional wetland meetings organized by MoEF.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Institutional capacity building of planning and implementation agencies of 19 Ramsar sites	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 18.1.1.- Encourage the review of existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and on the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- a) increase cooperation and synergy among institutions with direct or indirect responsibility for wetland issues, especially those responsible for the management of water resources and for biodiversity and wetland conservation and management;
- b) promote enhanced cooperation, and where appropriate integrated approaches, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions, and consider establishing a coordinating committee to ensure that integrated approaches are taken;
- c) promote enhanced contact, and where appropriate close coordination, between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and national professional, technical, scientific and educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including those involved in social and cultural heritage issues; and
- d) provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect.

1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
<i>See action 13.1.1</i>		
3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Meetings of Inter-Ministerial Committee are periodically convened to advise MoEF on various issues relating to the convention and its implementation in the country.		
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	<u>Choose an answer for each indicator</u> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
6. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant professional, scientific or educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including social and cultural heritage issues	B	<i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
A Research Sub-committee under the aegis of National Wetland Committee to advise on research aspects and implementation of projects on conservation and wise use of wetlands. Several research projects have been undertaken on conservation of wetlands by the research institutions, university departments, NGOs and other concerned agencies with the financial support of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. These projects provide scientific and technical inputs for conservation and management of wetlands on a sound ecological basis integrating social and economic dimensions.		

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

Action 18.1.2.- Establish National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, relevant government agencies, including national water management ministries and/or agencies, where appropriate, and non-governmental organizations, STRP and CEPA National Focal Points, key stakeholders, indigenous people and local communities, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). When in place, ensure the proper functioning of these Committees.

See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii

1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place	B	<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. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)	B	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].

National Committee on Wetlands are periodically held to take stock of the management action plans on wetlands on priority areas and identified new areas for including in the list of national / international wetlands of importance. The National Committee also advises on research priority, development of guidelines and international cooperation. The National Committee meetings are convened at least once or twice a year. National Committee inclusive a members drawn from scientific community, NGOs and government agencies.

Action 18.1.3.- Review the designated Ramsar national Administrative Authority (and provincial (sub-national) focal points where appropriate) and STRP and CEPA national focal points in each Contracting Party, with a view to ensuring that these positions are being effective in increasing involvement in the work of the Convention of all relevant agencies and organizations concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. The institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the Convention – including the Ramsar Administrative Authority, National Wetland Committee (or equivalent body) and STRP and CEPA focal points– has been assessed	B	<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>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

A review of National Committee takes place periodically and after every three years the Committees are reconstituted. The effectiveness of RAA, STRP and CEPA is discussed in the National Wetland Committee various issues relating to wetlands.

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 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:	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):	Institutional building and training of wetland managers involved in conservation and wise use of Ramsar sites	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<p>Chilika Development Authority has developed a proposal for Regional Training Course on wetland Restoration in India which can be extended to the South Asia region. The main activities planned are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing skills for assessment of values of wetlands and diagnosis of threats to the ecosystems • Applications of standard methods, procedures and tools for sustainable use and restoration of wetlands through tailor made training programmes • Transfer of technology for regenerating wetlands and capacity building for integration of wetland conservation with developmental planning and mitigating threats • Providing knowledge and skills necessary for mainstreaming wetland into developmental planning • Strengthening linkages between wetland managers in South and South East Asia • Developing trained personnel within the region for effective conservation and management of wetlands • Sharing successful experiences and best management practices for wetland management in the region • Networking of trained wetland managers equipped with latest management techniques and national / international perspectives will be established to promote wetland conservation 	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 20.1.1.- Implement, and further develop and publicize, the *Convention's Wetland Training Service*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Ramsar Wetland Training Service in place and fully implemented.

1. The Party has participated in the development and use of the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International

C

Choose an answer

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

E = In progress; 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 20.1.2.- 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

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.]*

Training needs assessment has been carried out involving Wildlife Institute of India and Wetlands International South Asia.

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

1. The wetland-related training opportunities that exist in the country have been identified

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; 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 wetland related training opportunities in the country are relating to integrated water resources management, species conservation, mainstreaming of wetlands into sustainable development and enhancing knowledge base on wetlands.

Action 20.1.5.- Assemble and make available, or develop, new training activities and general training modules as necessary, for the use of the Ramsar Handbooks, with specialized modules including coverage of the following fields:

- a) wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring;
- b) national wetland policies and plans;
- c) integrated catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning and management;
- d) integrated site management planning at the local, provincial or catchment/river basin level;
- e) wetland restoration and rehabilitation;
- f) invasive alien species;
- g) agricultural impacts on wetlands and water resources;
- h) impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment;
- i) impacts of climate change, and adaptive management and mitigation of such impacts
- j) economic valuation of wetlands;
- k) communication, education and public awareness techniques.

1. Training modules and materials on wetland-related issues have been developed

D

Choose an answer

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

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the development of training modules and materials for the issues listed above, and additional comments you consider relevant.]*

Wildlife Institute of India is periodically organizing training on wetland relating issues and specific training modules and materials have been developed to impart training to wetland managers in India and some selected participants from South Asian region.

Action 20.1.6.- Provide opportunities for manager training by:

- a) encouraging personnel exchanges for on-the-job training, possibly between twinned sites;
- b) holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites;
- c) siting wetland manager and wetland educator training facilities at Ramsar sites;

- d) obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world;
e) establishing further regional training initiatives such as the *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

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.]

Managers involved in the conservation and wise use of wetlands in India are provided training in the field of wetland management. Several research organizations including CWRDM, CWPRS, IIFM, Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, BNHS, IITs conduct training courses in the relevant specialized areas relating to conservation and management of wetlands.

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

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 20.1.8.- Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and research centres, including a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (Resolution VII.26) and a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia (Resolution VIII.41).

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

C

Choose an answer

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

N° centres

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include 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

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.]

Several experts from India are invited by the Wetland Training Institutes in India and abroad for imparting training as well as exchange of information on development of tools and materials.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

[Go to previous Operational Objective](#)

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

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

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

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

1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adhesion to the Convention of new Contracting Parties

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.]

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

[Go to last Operational Objective \(21\)](#)

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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)

- A very lengthy format which could have been condensed to make it more precise and user friendly.
- It will be most appropriate to devise a format in such a manner that it contains only gist of action taken rather than going into details. The basic idea of the Report should be to learn from each other's experiences and implement some of the case studies for the programme implementation.
- Most of the queries should be indicative only of the Yes or No and only in specific issues where these need to be shared with other countries, concise note on that particular issue highlighting methodology could be addressed. For more details, there can be direct dialogue between the concerned countries for exchange of information.
- The Report should not be more than 25-30 pages.

<p>In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>