

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake the systematic designation of additional Ramsar sites using the data of national inventory on important wetlands. Increase the number of Ramsar sites in Japan to 22 (from 11), at least. • In undertaking Action 10.1.1., give priority attention to the designation of wetland types that are unique or represent a significant proportion of the global extent of these wetland types, as well as to wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List. • In addition to the action in 10.1.2, consider 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. • Undertake efforts to establish management institutional regime by related organizations, same as designation as Ramsar site, after appropriate protective regulation measures have been established in this wetland. (In Japan, legal measures for wetland conservation are undertaken before designation of Ramsar sites.) • None (Japan does not share transboundary wetlands with neighbouring countries, as Japan is an island country.) • Continue to support the work of Wetlands International, other International Organization Partners, and others in providing analyses and information to help Parties to apply the Strategic Framework to identify and designate Ramsar sites. • 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; seek to provide such population information for other wetland-dependent taxa; and apply this information for the designation of Ramsar sites.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proceed in necessary works to designate additional Ramsar sites, such as designation or extension of protected areas under relevant law, using the data of national inventory on important wetlands. • Give priority attention to the designation of wetland types that are unique or represent a significant proportion of the global extent of these wetland types, as well as to wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List, using the data of national inventory on important wetlands compiled in 2001, which includes major wetlands of coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds etc. • Consider 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, using national inventory on important wetlands compiled in 2001, which include information on status of major species. • Undertake efforts to establish management institutional regime by related organizations, same as designation as Ramsar site, after appropriate protective regulation measures have been established in this wetland. • None (Japan does not share transboundary wetlands with neighbouring countries, as Japan is an island country.)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support the work of Wetlands International, other International Organization Partners, and others in providing necessary information relating to Asia-region including Japan. • Continue to support the work of Wetlands International in conducting international and regional waterfowl census by providing updated information. <p>Seek to provide related organizations with information for other wetland-dependent taxa, if necessary. And designate Ramsar sites applying Criterion 6 on waterfowl, based on available data.</p>
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

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

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.]

Japan has set the national target to increase the number of Ramsar sites to more than 22 by COP9. In response, 54 candidate sites were selected from “500 Important Wetlands in Japan” which was developed in 2001, taking into account that various wetland types and criteria should be used for designating new Ramsar sites by COP9.

With the political support provided by ‘Japanese Lawmakers’ League for Increasing the Ramsar Sites in Japan’, which is a cross-party group of lawmakers established in 2003 aiming to increase the number of Ramsar sites in Japan through facilitating the coordination with local authorities, we will designate these sites sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.

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

See action 1.1.2

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

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.]

Japan has set the national target to increase the number of Ramsar sites to more than 22 by COP9. In response, 54 candidate sites were selected from “500 Important Wetlands in Japan” which was developed in 2001, taking into account that various wetland types and criteria should be used for designating new Ramsar sites by COP9. With the political support provided by ‘Japanese Lawmakers’ League for Increasing the Ramsar Sites in Japan’, which is a cross-party group of lawmakers established in 2003 aiming to increase the number of Ramsar sites in Japan through facilitating the coordination with local authorities, we will designate these sites sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.

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)

<p>1.- The appropriate 1% thresholds contained in Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 (if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6)</p>	E	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	N° Ramsar sites
<p>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.]</p>			
<p>For selecting candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9, the appropriate 1% thresholds contained in Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition were used when Critetion 6 was applied.</p>			

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.

<p><i>See action 1.1.2</i></p>			
<p>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).</p>	E	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	N° Ramsar sites
<p>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.]</p>			
<p>2. - COP8以降の実施進捗状況 [登録した湿地のリスト、およびこの行動の実施に関連すると考えられる他の追加コメントを含めて下さい]</p>			
<p>Candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9 were selected from various wetland types based on the situation in Japan. These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.</p>			
<p>3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</p>	E	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	N° Ramsar sites
<p>4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]</p>			
<p>Wetland types which are currently under-represented in Japanese Ramsar List including coral reefs and karst were selected as candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9. These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.</p>			

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 2012.¹

<p><i>See action 1.1.2</i></p>			
<p>1.- Designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites has been done (if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</p>	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	N° Ramsar sites 5

¹ 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."

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

Currently, 5 Ramsar sites include coastal and marine wetlands in Japan.

Coastal and marine wetlands such as tidal flats, seagrass/seaweed beds, coral reefs, mangrove forests, and sand beaches are included in the candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9. These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.

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

See action 1.1.2

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

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
8**

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

Currently, Criterion 2 is applied to 8 out of 13 existing Ramsar sites in Japan.

16 out of 54 candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9 fulfill Criterion 2. These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.

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
12**

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

Currently, 12 out of 13 existing Ramsar sites in Japan take part in Site Networks under Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy.

5 out of 54 candidate Ramsar sites to be designated by COP9 take part in the Site Networks. These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.

Also, we will promote participation of the sites which currently do not take part in the Site Networks even though they meet the required criteria.

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).

H

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

At Kabukuri-numa, an important mitigating site for *Anser albifrons* (White-fronted Goose), surrounding paddy fields are used as feeding sites and roosting site for Anatidae species. In this regard, attempts have been made

designate the site including the surrounding paddy fields as Ramsar site.

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).

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.]

Japan is an island country and does not share transboundary wetlands with other countries.

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 VIII.10)

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

Paddy fields, which are the typical artificial wetlands in Japan, are not only used for agricultural production but also habitats for rich wildlife. At Kabukuri-numa, an important mitigating site for *Anser albifrons* (White-fronted Goose), surrounding paddy fields are used as feeding sites and roosting site for Anatidae species. In this regard, attempts have been made to designate the site including the surrounding paddy fields as a Ramsar site.

Also, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries and Ministry of the Environment implemented joint case studies on semi-natural environment including paddy fields where wildlife habitat management are promoted.

The results were published as a brochure called "Initiating Nature Rehabilitation Projects in rural landscapes and paddy fields" in 2002. Also, a brochure about "Winter-Flooded Rice Fields"(creating wildlife habitats such as roosting area for migratory birds) was produced in 2005.

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

1. The Party's experience with the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, and lessons learned, have been communicated to the STRP for inclusion in its review	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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 10.1.8.- Continue to support the work of *Wetlands International* and others in the updating for each COP of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations for the application of Criterion 6 for Ramsar site designation, having first undertaken international scientific consultation on its contents; seek to provide such population information for other wetland-dependent taxa; and apply this information for the designation of Ramsar sites. (Refer also to Operational Objective 12.2.)

1. Contributions have been made to the updating of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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 contributions made.]</i>		
The waterbird population data were collected regularly and provided to Wetlands International as necessary.		
3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information provided.]</i>		

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

1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<u>Choose an answer for each indicator</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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 population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]</i>		
The population data on shorebirds and Anatidae species were collected regularly and provided to Wetlands International as necessary.		

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:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit complete RIS and maps to the Ramsar Bureau at the time of designation are complete, and collect and provide information to be used for 	

	<p>monitoring the ecological character of designated wetlands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek 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. • Ensure that all Ramsar site descriptions are in the format of the approved Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. • Seek to revise and submit the updated RIS as frequently as necessary, and at least for every second meeting of the COP.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare RIS and maps in accordance with the standard format in the process of designating Ramsar sites, and submit these documents to the Bureau. Collect and provide information to be used for monitoring the ecological character of designated wetlands. • Undertake efforts to increase the recognition on the social and cultural values and features of listed sites by stakeholders regarding wetland management, by documentation and publication of the social and cultural values and features using RIS. • Add and revise the information described on RIS in accordance with the format of the updated and approved Information Sheet, as necessary, and submit it to the Bureau. • Seek to revise and submit the updated RIS as frequently as necessary, and at least for every second meeting of the COP.

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

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 10.2.3.- 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

Choose an answer

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

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

All Ramsar Information Sheets and maps of existing Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau.

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

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

E

Choose an answer

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

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

Required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar sites are now under discussion with Ramsar Bureau.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with Article 3.1 of the Convention, define and apply the measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, and ensure that this information is included in the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. • Encourage application of the Convention's <i>New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands</i> adopted by COP8 to develop management plans for Ramsar sites. • Undertake necessary actions to cooperate and provide information with related organizations following the decision adopted at COP8. • Make use of existing zoning system and strict protection measures for conservation and wise use of Ramsar sites and other wetlands. • Consider and encourage the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, as necessary. • Continue to give high priority in the Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile the information on necessary and ongoing measures to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, and include this information to RIS on the occasion of revision. • Disseminate the Japanese translation of the Convention's <i>New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands</i> adopted by COP8 to related ministries/agencies, local governments and others, and encourage the use of these guidelines. • Undertake necessary actions to cooperate and provide information with related organizations following the decision adopted at COP8. • Promote conservation and wise use of wetlands through utilization of existing zoning/designation systems including such mechanisms under the Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law and Natural Parks Law. • Consider and encourage the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, as necessary. • Provide comments and advises, as necessary, to the Standing Committee and the Bureau to continue giving high priority in the Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.

COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

1.- The measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined and applied <i>(if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied).</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 13
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of sites involved and any additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]</i>			
By applying the national level zoning systems for nature conservation such as Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law and National Parks Law, implementation of wetlands conservation and management has been endured.			

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

1. The <i>New Guidelines for management planning</i> have been used in the development of management plans or strategies	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 way the guidelines have been used.]</i>		
In Japan, all Ramsar sites are designated as National or Quasi-National Parks and/or Special Protection Zone of Wildlife Protection Areas. Within these designated areas, wetland conservation and management are conducted based on Park Plans of Natural Parks and Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas but those plans have not been developed in consistent with the <i>New Guidelines for management planning</i> directly. However, there are some cases that the guidelines was used for development of management plan for Wildlife Protection Areas and it may be used as reference when drawing up such management plans. In addition, there are some cases that conservation and management plan concerning Ramsar sites have been formulated by relevant local governments.		
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES		N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place		13
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied		13
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared		0
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated		3
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites whose management plans fall under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

Action r11.1.i.- When reviewing and updating existing management plans, recognize that other management planning processes exist, especially where other designations apply to the same areas that are listed as Ramsar sites, and that these may be valid alternatives for delivering management planning where such approaches adequately and fully implement clearly stated conservation objectives to ensure the conservation and wise use of these wetlands. (Resolution VIII.14)

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES (CONT.)	N° Ramsar sites
1.- Ramsar sites in which management plans developed under other processes (e.g., Biosphere Reserves) are being applied	13
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]</i>	
In Japan, all Ramsar sites are designated as National or Quasi-National Parks and/or Special Protection Zone of Wildlife Protection Areas. Within these designated areas, wetland conservation and management are conducted based on Park Plans of Natural Parks and Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas.	

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.]		
All the resolutions adopted at COP8 were translated into Japanese and distributed to relevant ministries, local governments, NGOs and also provided through the internet.		

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.]		
When Park Plans for Natural Parks and Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas that function as management plans are developed or updated, careful coordination are conducted between relevant ministries, local governments and other important stakeholders.		

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	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.]		
When Park Plans for Natural Parks and Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas that function as management plans are developed or updated, careful coordination are conducted between local governments, relevant ministries that administer wider management implications such as agriculture, river and coastal management, and other important stakeholders.		

Action r11.1.v.- Include in each management plan for a Ramsar site an objective of maintenance of the ecological character of the site so as to provide a basis for implementation of Article 3.1 of the Convention, in recognition that this greatly facilitates the identification, reporting and resolution of changes in ecological character (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2). (Resolution VIII.8)

1.- Measures to maintain ecological character have been incorporated into the site management plans (if available, please include number of sites)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 13
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
By applying the national level zoning systems for nature conservation such as Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law and National Parks Law, implementations of wetlands conservation and management have been endured.			

Within these designated areas, wetland conservation and management have been conducted based on Park Plans of Natural Parks and Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas.

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

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.]

When Designation Plans for Wildlife Protection Areas are developed or updated, the population data of migratory waterbird is utilized.

Action r11.1.x.- With the support of Contracting Parties and IOPs, the Ramsar Bureau should identify agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites, and contribute this information to the preparation of the guidelines as requested in Action r11.1.ix and share this information with the secretariats of CBD and the *Convention to Combat Desertification* (CCD). (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Assistance has been provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

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

1.- Zoning measures have been established for larger Ramsar sites <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° Ramsar sites 13
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
At all Ramsar sites in Japan, necessary protections are guaranteed by Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law and National Parks Law. Those legislations have zoning systems that are also applied to Ramsar sites.			
3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity <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° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with strict protection measures, and any additional comments you may consider relevant.]</i>			
At all Ramsar sites in Japan, necessary protections are guaranteed by Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law and National Parks Law.			

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

			N° Ramsar sites
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	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;	
2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	D	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
At Kushiro-shitsugen, Nature Restoration Committee based on the Law for the Promotion of Nature Restoration was established with the involvement of various local sectors. Also, committees for wetlands conservation were established at some Ramsar sites including Kuccharo-ko, Fujimae-higata, and Biwa-ko.			

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

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

Action 11.1.6.- Continue to give high priority in the *Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund* to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.

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

Action 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)

C

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

In Japan, the area of Ramsar sites have not been reduced and/or deleted from the List so far.

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:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider methodologies for effective monitoring programme at Ramsar sites, and continue to implement such programme. Seek to implement environmental monitoring to detect ecological change including the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the processes of desertification at Ramsar sites and other sites. Report on status and trends to the meeting of the COP, as necessary. Carry out an impact assessment considering the full range of environmental, social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, 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, in accordance with the related laws. And report the resulting conclusions to the Ramsar Bureau in line with accordance with Article 3.2 of the Convention. In fulfillment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and consider necessity to include Ramsar sites “where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur” in the Montreux Record. None (There is no Ramsar site in Japan that included in the Montreux Record.)
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement necessary monitoring activities including census of migrating birds at Ramsar sites, and encourage such activities by related organizations including local governments. Grasp status and trends on the loss of biodiversity and other changes, using the Ramsar sites and other nationally important wetlands as reference areas, through implementation of the "Monitoring Sites 1000" project as long-term monitoring surveys at monitoring sites in all parts of the country utilizing the establishment of information network with local NPOs and experts. Carry out an impact assessment considering the full range of environmental,

	<p>social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, 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, in accordance with the related laws. And inform the resulting conclusions of the Ramsar Bureau in line with accordance with Article 3.2 of the Convention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect information on the changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites as appropriate, and report to the Ramsar Bureau as necessary. Then, consider necessity to include Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record. • None (There is no Ramsar site in Japan that included in the Montreux Record.)
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Monitoring programmes have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	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.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	C		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites falling under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant about monitoring programmes.]</i>			
<p>“Monitoring -Sites 1000” project that sets up about 1000 fixed points and conducts long-term monitoring of wildlife habitat started in 2003. Also, the population surveys on shorebirds and Anatidae species have been conducted regularly.</p> <p>The wetlands survey was conducted at 2,196 wetlands nation wide in 1993, as part of National Surveys on the Natural Environment. Information on the locations, area, water quality and inhabitation of major fauna and flora were gathered, however, the information has not been updated since COP8.</p>			

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

1.- Ramsar sites are used as baseline and reference areas for national environmental monitoring <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	D	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; 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>			
<p>“Monitoring -Sites 1000” project that sets up about 1000 fixed points and conducts long-term monitoring of wildlife habitat started in 2003. Also, the population surveys on shorebirds and Anatidae species have been conducted regularly.</p>			
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>			
The results of the surveys are now being compiled. The latest information is posted on the website.			

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

See action 2.2.3

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

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

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being 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 11.2.4.- In fulfillment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites “where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur” in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

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

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites
7**

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

C

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

C

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]

1) Biwa-ko

- a. Changes already occurring: Changes of composition of fish-eating avifauna and fish fauna
b. Measures taken: Survey on current condition and population management

2) Izu-numa and Uchi-numa

a. Changes already occurring: change of composition of Anatidae species, water contamination by feeding and inflow of household wastewater, decreasing of emergent plant communities and submerged aquatic grass.

b. Measures taken: Izu-numa and Uchi-numa Environment Conservation Basic Plan was formulated and based on discussions of the Committee made up of relevant organizations, measures have been taken based on the plan, including establishment of feeding sites outside of the lake, sewage improvement, planting of indian rice (*Zizania latifolia*)

3) Katano-kamoike

- a. Changes already occurring: decreasing and progressing of drainage of surrounding paddy fields, decline in the population of migratory ducks, spreading of reeds and accumulation of plant residue, adverse effects to native species caused by alien species including largemouth bass (*Macropterus salmoides*) and common raccoon

(Procyon lotor).

- b. Measures taken: To deal with increasing drying and encroachment of dry land in Kamo-ike, projects to maintain habitat such as surveys on improvements of habitat and feeding environment, and the paddy field restoration around Kamo-ike were conducted. Also, alien species such as common raccoon trapping project was conducted.
- 4) Kushiro-shitsugen
- a. Changes already occurring: expansion of alder forest distribution
- b. Measures taken: monitoring of ecological character by using environmental factors (index plants and groundwater level) of wetland ecosystem, surveys to establish technical methodologies for conservation and rehabilitation of wetland ecosystem were conducted.
- 5) Sakata
- a. Changes already occurring: decline in plant diversity caused by spread of large emergent plants such as reed and indian rice, population increase of migratory Anatidae species, eutrophication of water
- b. Measures taken: Niigata-city government formulated Sakata Natural Environment Protection Plan in 2000 and implemented measures to prevent the lake's sedimentation based on the Plan. This Plan was revised in 2005 and new item to enhance the relationships between the lake and local communities was added.
- 6) Utonai-ko
- a. Changes already occurring: reduction in water depth and open water surface by soil inflow, increase of dissolved nitrogen, introduction of raccoon (alien invasive species)
- b. Measures taken: under consideration
- 7) Yatsu-higata
- a. Changes already occurring: progress of sandiness of the sediment, increase of sea lettuce on the tidal flat's surface, decline in shorebirds and benthos.
- b. Measures taken: The liaison committee comprised of relevant government entities conducted the survey on changes on ecological character. The measures are under consideration.

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

Action r11.2.vi.- Utilize all appropriate mechanisms to address and resolve as soon as practicable the matters for which a site may have been the subject of a report pursuant to Article 3.2; and once those matters have been resolved, submit a further report, so that both positive influences at sites and changes in ecological character may be fully reflected in reporting under Article 3.2 and in the reporting to all meetings of the COP in order to establish a clear picture of the status and trends of the Ramsar site network at three-year intervals (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Actions have been taken to address the problems that have originated a report to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2

A

Choose an answer

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

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken.]

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

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

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

A

Choose an answer

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

**N°
Ramsar
sites**

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

No Ramsar sites are included in the Montreux Record in Japan.

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

<i>(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)</i>			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, comments on RAM missions, results of the actions taken, including possible removal of sites from Montreux Record.]</i>			
No Ramsar sites are included in the Montreux Record in Japan.			

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

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

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:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and encourage cooperation in the management of wetland systems shared with other Parties and with non-parties, if exists. Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through consideration for the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions, if necessary. None (There is no case of shared wetland system in small scale, as Japan is an island country.) Seek to 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.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and support existing cooperation among NGOs of Japan, P.R.China and Korea (Rep.) on conservation and wise use of Yellow Sea. Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through consideration for the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions, as necessary. None (There is no case of shared wetland system in small scale, as Japan is an island country.) Seek to 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.

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

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

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified (if applicable, please include number of sites)	A	<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
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Japan is an island country and does not share transboundary wetlands with other countries.			

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

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.]

Japan is an island country and does not share transboundary wetlands with other countries.

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

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.]

Japan is an island country and does not share transboundary wetlands with other countries.

Action 12.1.3.- Where appropriate, engage in joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries that share wetlands, international river basins, or coastal systems, taking note, where applicable, of the terms of the *Espoo Convention on impact assessment* in a European transboundary context.

See action 2.2.3

1. Joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems

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.]

Japan is an island country and does not share transboundary wetlands with other countries.

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

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;
G = Being 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 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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and, as necessary, 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, especially those that are globally threatened. Continue to participate and support actively to the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy, in collaboration with Wetlands International and Environment Australia. Seek to ensure that national hunting legislation is consistent with the wise use principle for migratory waterbird and other wetland-dependent species.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote designation of Ramsar sites, especially taking into account globally threatened waterbird, based on the national inventory on important wetlands which compiled in December 2001 using Ramsar Criteria as reference. Continue to promote the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy through funding support to activities of flyway site networks on 3 species groups, organizing international conferences and others. Implement appropriately the Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law to be consistent with the wise use principle, taking into account the results of research and monitoring on wildlife such as migratory waterbirds.

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

1.- Wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites (if applicable, please include number of sites designated)	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 10
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Currently, 10 out of 13 existing Ramsar sites satisfy the Criteria related to wetland-dependant migratory species (Ramsar Criterion 4, 5, 6). 19 out of 54 candidate Ramsar sites also satisfy the Criteria (Ramsar Criterion 4, 5, 6). These sites will be designated sequentially when approval of local governments and other necessary conditions are met.			

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

<i>See action r10.1.iv</i>			
1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed	E	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			
At World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002, Japan, Australia and Wetlands International registered the project on conservation of habitats for migratory birds as a Type 2 Partnership Initiative Project. To further promote waterbird conservation activities that have been implemented through <i>Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy</i> , the framework of WSSD Partnership Initiative will be developed, which facilitates the wider participation of relevant bodies including national governments, enhances international			

networks of the habitats of migratory birds, and promote sustainable use thereof.

Action 12.2.5.- Ensure that national hunting legislation is consistent with the wise use principle for migratory waterbird and other wetland-dependent species, taking into account geographical range, life-history characteristics of species, and research on sustainable harvesting.

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

Wildlife Protection and Hunting Law has been implemented appropriately in line with wise use principle, considering the results of surveys on wildlife population including migratory waterbird.

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

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

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

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

At World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002, Japan, Australia and Wetlands International registered the project on conservation of habitats for migratory birds as a Type 2 Partnership Initiative Project.
To further promote waterbird conservation activities that have been implemented through *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, the framework of WSSD Partnership Initiative will be developed, which facilitates the wider participation of relevant bodies including national governments, enhances international networks of the habitats of migratory birds, and promote sustainable use thereof.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13.1. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote close cooperation between the Ramsar management authority and relevant departments in charge of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the World Heritage Convention and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at national level. • None (Biosphere Reserves in Japan have not designated for wetland ecosystems.) • Develop working relationships with appropriate regional bodies or programmes which have an interest in wetland conservation and wise use.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote close cooperation between the Ramsar management authority and relevant departments in charge of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the World Heritage Convention and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at national level. • None (Biosphere Reserves in Japan have not designated for wetland ecosystems.) • Undertake exchange of information and views between related regional bodies or programmes, as necessary.

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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)

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 information on the MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]

In Japan, instead of establishing an inter-ministerial committee for coordinating Ramsar Convention and other Conventions concerned, Global Environment Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs as diplomatic authority, administers all multilateral environmental conventions/agreements (MEAs) en bloc. Also, consultation and coordination are undertaken among the relevant Focal Points of other MEAs by providing information as necessary.

Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee for implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan under CBD, and consultation and coordination regarding actions on biodiversity conservation are implemented through this mechanism.

Action r13.1.iii.- Make renewed efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, including through ensuring their participation in National Ramsar Committees, so as to foster synergies and harmonization. (Resolution VIII.5)

See action 18.1.2

1. Amongst other efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, focal points of other MEAs have been encouraged to participate in the National Ramsar / Wetland Committee

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

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

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the National Committees and contacts of UNESCO MAB Programme

C

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

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

Action 13.1.3.- Give priority to the implementation of the Memoranda of Cooperation or Understanding with the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)*, the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Mediterranean Sea (Barcelona Convention)*, the *Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea*, other regional seas conventions, and the *Danube River Protection Convention*, and seek to establish similar cooperative arrangements with other regional instruments, such as the *Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of the applicable regional seas conventions

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 information on the relevant mechanisms.]

Japan has not joined any regional seas conventions.

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

D

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

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the mechanisms in place.]

In Japan, Ramsar Administrative Authority also handles *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, in which UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP-GEF Regional Co-ordination Units and other intergovernmental organizations participate.

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

H

Choose an answer

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

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

Japan commits to support NEPAD that shares the same philosophy with TICAD, *Tokyo International Conference on Africa Development*, in many areas through its process.

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*

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 technical cooperation project, "Palau International Coral Reef Center Strengthening Project" has been implemented in Palau.

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

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 Grant Aid, "South Pacific Regional Environment Program Training and Education Center Construction Plan" has been implemented in Samoa.

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

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

C

Choose an answer

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14.1. Promote the sharing of expertise and information

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using mechanisms such as the national focal points for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) and for the STRP, promote the sharing of knowledge at the global, regional, and national levels. Recognize training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention, and provide opportunities and information on training, especially for wetland managers and those others responsible for implementing the Convention. Develop twinning and/or networks of transboundary wetlands and wetlands sharing common features, as an important mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing training opportunities. Cooperate with the work of the Ramsar Bureau through providing information as necessary, to review and develop Internet-based resource kits and knowledge and information sharing. Further develop, use and advertise the availability of the Convention’s Wetland Expert Database.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the sharing of knowledge among related stakeholders, fully using Internet and mailing list(ML) systems, in cooperation with focal points for CEPA and for the STRP. Develop and implement the training courses relating to wetland conservation for developing countries, organized by Japanese International Cooperation Agency, as necessary. Organize training workshops on environmental education regarding shorebirds and wetlands as their habitats, as appropriate. Extend site networks for 3 species groups (shorebirds, cranes and Anatidae) under the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy, and implement training and information exchange as part of network activities. Encourage local government bodies to develop wetland site twinning. Cooperate with the work of the Ramsar Bureau through providing information as necessary, to review and develop Internet-based resource kits and knowledge and information sharing. Cooperate with the work of the Ramsar Bureau on the availability of the Convention's Wetland Expert Database through activities such as providing information and advertisement, as necessary.

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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	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.]		
Focal point of Ramsar Administrative Authority, CEPA national focal points and STRP national focal point have joined mailing lists of CEPA, STRP, and River Basin Initiatives to access knowledge and information at global level.		

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	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Japan is supporting various training programs on lake and marsh environment management technologies implemented by UNEP/IETC Shiga regional office.</p> <p>JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) has been providing training courses for wetland managers from developing countries on conservation and wise use of wetlands, conservation of coral reefs, and conservation of mangroves.</p> <p>Japan has been organizing training workshops on wetland management for wetland managers in Southeast Asia including Thai, Vietnam, Myanmar and Cambodia.</p> <p>Japan supported “Asian Wetland Symposium 2005” held in Bhubaneshwar, India in February 2005, which gained participation of government officials, NGOs and experts on wetland conservation and management throughout Asian region.</p> <p>Training workshops are organized as part of actions implemented under <i>Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservaton Strategy</i> that has been supported by Japan.</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	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; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>Japan has contributed to expanding Shorebird, Crain and Anatidae Site Networks developed under <i>Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservaton Strategy</i> and promoting information exchange and training programs as part of network activities.</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>	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° wetlands / Ramsar sites 4</p>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>1. Kushiro-shitsugen, Akkeshi-ko and Bekambeushi-shitsugen, Kiritappu-shitsugen (Japan) and Hunter River Estuary Wetlands (Austraria).</p> <p>2. Yatsu-higata(Japan) and Boondall wetlands (Australia)</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	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 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

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

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

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	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize direct funding support from 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. • Mobilize resources to support the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition. • Have consideration to apply the contents of the the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands</i> , in the international cooperation by bilateral development assistance agency. • Report on performance with regard to wetland-related activities by bilateral development assistance agency at each COP. • Seek to take into consideration on wetland conservation and wise use on the occasion of involving the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the <i>modus operandi</i> of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies. • Japan is providing additional voluntary contribution to SGF. While it is irregular contribution, Japan recognize the importance of SGF for the purpose of capacity building etc. in developing countries, and is planning to make efforts to provide such contribution every year. • Consider and seek to implement mobilisation of resources to support the wetland training and education activities at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. • Pursue involvement of the private sector (including corporations and foundations) in wetlands conservation and seek opportunities for private sector funding of wetland projects under Ramsar. • Provide advice to the Bureau, as appropriate, in promoting environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites. • Provide advice to the Bureau as appropriate, in investigating the feasibility of creating a “Ramsar Label” to certify wetland products that are produced in both environmentally sound and socially equitable manners. 	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support through bilateral development assistance programmes for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, where appropriate, based on the requests by eligible countries. • Provide support through bilateral development assistance programmes for the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries, where appropriate, based on the requests by eligible countries. • Have consideration to apply the contents of the the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands</i> , in the international 	

	<p>cooperation by bilateral development assistance agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect information on record of performance with regard to wetland-related activities by bilateral development assistance agency as appropriate, and document such information on the national report at each COP • Request to take into consideration on wetland conservation and wise use as necessary, on the occasion of involving the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the <i>modus operandi</i> of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies, under the consultation and information exchange with the multilateral development assistance agencies. • Seek to make efforts to provide additional voluntary contribution to SGF every year. • Consider the possibility to support the wetland training and education activities at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, if necessary. • Encourage the support by the private sector in wetlands conservation projects. • Provide advice to the Bureau, as appropriate, in promoting environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites. • Provide advice to the Bureau as appropriate, in investigating the feasibility of creating a “Ramsar Label” to certify wetland products that are produced in both environmentally sound and socially equitable manners.
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

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

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

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues	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 implementation of this action.]		
<p>Japan has given high priority to the cooperation projects in environmental field including wetland conservation. During fiscal year 2001- 2003, 32 technical cooperation projects related to Ramsar Convention have been implemented in total.</p> <p>Also, Japan has been providing voluntary contribution to Small Grant Fund. Japan recognizes the importance of SGF for the capacity building etc. in developing countries, and is planning to make efforts to provide voluntary contribution to SGF continuously.</p>		

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	H	<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>Ministry of the Environment supported the research on wetlands and development of wetland inventory in Myanmar, and also supported a government officer in Myanmar to participate Ramsar COP8, and thus extensively contributed to Myanmar’s joining Ramsar Convention.</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment also supported Wetlands International concerning development of</p>		

methodologies, data gathering and distribution of Asian wetlands inventory.

Action 15.1.2.- Mobilize resources to support the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition. (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)

1.- The Party has worked with donors to mobilize resources for implementation of Ramsar site management plans (*if applicable, please include number of sites*)

B

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

N° Ramsar sites

2

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

A development survey, “The Study on Integrated Management for Ecosystem Conservation of the Anzali Wetland” in Iran and a technical cooperation project, “The River Management Model Project for the Conservation Wetland Ecosystem and its Sustainable Use” in Mongolia have been implemented.

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

H

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

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

The activities of Shorebird, Crain and Anatidae Site Networks (including Ramsar sites) under *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservaton Strategy* have been promoted. The activities of “Swan Goose task force” and “Baikal Teal task force” established by Anatidae Working Group have been also promoted.

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

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.]

Each public agency established the guidelines on environmental and social consideration and have applied them to implementation of the projects. Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), the public exporting trust agency and also implementing agency of ODA loan, has the guideline which includes the criteria for screening the projects, duties on implementation of environmental assessment when necessary, develops checklists for major sectors and identifies items to be assessed with description. The environment guideline developed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the implementing agency of ODA technical cooperation, is utilized as guidance for enduring appropriate environmental and social consideration of JICA projects. The guideline requires implementation of consultation between relevant stakeholders and information disclosure at preparation stage of the projects, and to include domestic external experts, when the projects are envisioned considerable environmental and/or social impacts.

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	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 technical cooperation project, “Palau International Coral Reef Center Strengthening Project” has been implemented in Palau.		

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	<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 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	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 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	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.]		
Japan, as one of the major donors of UNEP, has given attention to wetlands conservation and wise use of wetlands, and supports southern Iraq marsh environment management through UNEP and various training programs on lake environment management technologies implemented by UNEP-IETC.		

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.)

<i>See action 16.1.2</i>		
1. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund	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. 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 <i>[Please include additional comments on contributions made to support the funds and services indicated above.]</i>		
Japan has been providing voluntary contribution to Small Grant Fund. Japan recognizes the importance of SGF for the capacity building etc. in developing countries, and is planning to make efforts to provide voluntary contribution to SGF continuously.		

Action 15.1.7.- Mobilize resources to support the development of wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites and the training of wetland educators in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1. Actions have been taken to mobilize resources to support wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) has been providing training courses for wetland managers from developing countries on conservation and wise use of wetlands, conservation of coral reefs, and conservation of mangroves.		

Action 15.1.8.- For those Parties eligible for development assistance, include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in national portfolios and plans for consideration by development assistance agencies, and give priority among these for projects to build institutional capacity. (Based on Sections E8 and E12 of the Guidelines)

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

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

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

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

Action 15.1.12.- 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	D	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>By disseminating “500 Important Wetlands in Japan”, conducting the national monitoring surveys on Shorebirds and Anatidae species and the National Surveys on the Natural Environments, and publication of the results from above surveys, development entities including the private sector were encouraged to recognize more about wetland characteristics and the need for conservation.</p>		

Action 15.1.13.- Promote establishment of effective mechanisms to encourage environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites, compatible with international trade agreements.

1. Mechanisms have been established to encourage environmentally sound trade of wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		

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

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

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the work of related organizations including 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. • Ensure that domestic laws and regulations include environmental safeguards and environmental impact assessment requirements for development projects that affect wetlands. • Review wetland-related project development approval and encourage the introduction of mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back to hands-on wetland management in the country. 	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage application of the Guidelines by 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. • Consider ensuring that domestic laws and regulations such as the Environment Impact Assessment Law include environmental safeguards and environmental impact assessment requirements for development projects that affect wetlands, as necessary. • Collect existing information on the previous practices and others, as appropriate, on the review of wetland-related project development approval and on the mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back 	

	to hands-on wetland management in the country. Also disseminate these information to related stakeholders.
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Action 15.2.1.- Work with international development agencies, including banks, financial institutions and private investors and developers, to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects include environmental safeguards and environmental assessments of possible impacts upon wetlands. (Based on Section G1 of the Guidelines.)

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

B

Choose an answer

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

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

Each public agency established the guidelines on environmental and social consideration and have applied them to implementation of the projects. Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), the public exporting trust agency and also implementing agency of ODA loan, has the guideline which includes the criteria for screening the projects, duties on implementation of environmental assessment when necessary, develops checklists for major sectors and identifies items to be assessed with description. The environment guideline developed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the implementing agency of ODA technical cooperation, is utilized as guidance for enduring appropriate environmental and social consideration of JICA projects. The guideline requires implementation of consultation between relevant stakeholders and information disclosure at preparation stage of the projects, and to include domestic external experts when the projects are envisioned considerable environmental and/or social impacts.

JBIC and JICA examine each project based on these guidelines to ensure environment and social consideration. For example, regarding considering lending Sakhalin II Phase2 Project that exploits oil and natural gas in Sakhalin, JBIC will check whether appropriate consideration is taken by the project company regarding for various environmental and social impacts including those on wetlands.

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:	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):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year. • Consider providing additional voluntary contributions to the Convention to support SGF and other priority activities as determined by the Strategic Plan.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and

(text answer):	promptly, in accordance with the fiscal year's schedule in Japan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake efforts to provide additional voluntary contribution to SGF every year.
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Action 16.1.1.- Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year.

1. Ramsar dues have been paid in full and in a timely manner	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Japan has paid invoiced contribution completely and appropriately, consistent with the fiscal year of Japan.		

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	H	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]		
Japan is now considering supporting participants to COP9 from Asian developing countries.		

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:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure to nominate a national focal point for the work of the STRP and two focal points (one government, one non-government) for the Outreach Programme on wetland communication, education and public awareness 	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None (Japan has already nominated the national focal points for STRP and CEPA.) 	

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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.]

Japan has already nominated the National Focal Point for STRP.

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:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions. 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; d) provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect. • Continue to organize National Ramsar Committee composed of related ministries/agencies, local government entities and representative of NGO, to implement the Convention's resolutions. Also, undertake efforts to ensure the proper functioning of the Committee. • Review the designated Ramsar national Administrative Authority, focal points at local governments, and STRP and CEPA national focal points, as necessary. • Assist in achieving a cohesive and coordinated national effort with the implementation of the Convention, using Ramsar's national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) as an ongoing planning and monitoring mechanism.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, as necessary, and on the basis of such a review, organize National Ramsar Committee meeting and Inter-ministrial Coordinating Committee meeting regularly to promote information exchange etc.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs has jurisdiction over all multilateral environment conventions and agreements en bloc. Also, there is an inter-ministerial coordinating committee for National Strategy on Biological Diversity under CBD. Seek to coordinate and cooperate with related activities on implementation of environmental conventions/agreements through these mechanisms. • Promote enhanced contact and coordination between Ramsar Administrative Authority and national related organizations through organizing CEPA national committee and National Ramsar Committee as necessary. • Take necessary measures to secure necessary staff to implement the Convention, including reviewing the setting-priority and allocation of works among related divisions and sections. • Continue to organize regularly the National Ramsar Committee meeting established in 1996, and composed of related ministries/agencies, local government entities and representative of NGO, to promote exchange of information and views on the implementation of the Convention, including compilation of national report to each COP and announcement of the resulting decision at COP. • In response to the change of social situation such as re-organization, review and, if necessary, revise the designated Ramsar National Administrative Authority, focal points at local governments, and STRP and CEPA national focal points. • Translate and disseminate Japanese version of Ramsar's national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) to related ministries/agencies and others.
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Action 18.1.1.- Encourage the review of existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and on the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

a) increase cooperation and synergy among institutions with direct or indirect responsibility for wetland issues, especially those responsible for the management of water resources and for biodiversity and wetland conservation and management;

b) promote enhanced cooperation, and where appropriate integrated approaches, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions, and consider establishing a coordinating committee to ensure that integrated approaches are taken;

c) promote enhanced contact, and where appropriate close coordination, between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and national professional, technical, scientific and educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including those involved in social and cultural heritage issues; and

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

1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]

Review of the existing national institutions responsible for conservation and wise use of wetlands such as National Ramsar Committee and Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee to the Ramsar is conducted as necessary.

See action 13.1.1

3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place	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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4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]

In Japan, instead of establishing an inter-ministerial committee for coordinating Ramsar Convention and other

Conventions concerned, Global Environment Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs as diplomatic authority, administers all multilateral environmental conventions/agreements (MEAs) en bloc. Also, consultation and coordination is undertaken among the relevant Focal Points of other MEAs by providing information as necessary.

Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee for implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan under CBD, and consultation and coordination regarding actions on biodiversity conservation are implemented through this mechanism.

5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
6. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant professional, scientific or educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including social and cultural heritage issues	B	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]

Meetings of National Ramsar Committee and Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee are convened as needed, in order to facilitate liaison and coordination between Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant ministries/agencies, local governments, and organizations.

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

<i>See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii</i>		
1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)	B	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].		
Meetings for National Ramsar Committee composed of representatives of relevant ministries, local governments (prefectures and municipalities), and NGOs are convened as needed for information exchange.		

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

1. The institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the Convention – including the Ramsar Administrative Authority, National Wetland Committee (or equivalent body) and STRP and CEPA focal points– has been assessed	C	<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 18.1.4.- Assist in achieving a cohesive and coordinated national effort towards the implementation of the Convention, using Ramsar’s national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) as an ongoing planning and monitoring mechanism. Ideally, this tool should be used by all relevant government departments/agencies and include input from National Ramsar/Wetland Committee members and other stakeholders as appropriate.

1. The National Report Format has been used as a national planning tool for the implementation of the Convention	D	<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>		
Japan had developed provisional national targets and actions before COP8. Also, the National Report Format was effective as a monitoring tool for implementation of the Convention.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20. TRAINING

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

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement, and further develop and publicize, the Convention’s Wetland Training Service. • Seek to identify the needs and target audiences for training in conservation and wise use of wetlands. • 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 and the Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities. • Assemble and develop new training activities and general training modules as necessary, giving high priority in the following fields: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring; b) national wetland policies and plans; c) integrated river basin management; d) environment impact assessment. • Provide opportunities for manager training, giving high priority in the following activities; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites; b) obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world. • Continue to give high priority in the Operational Guidelines of the Small Grants Fund to support for training activities. • Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and 	

	<p>research centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about training for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake necessary cooperation with the Wetlands International and the Bureau on implementation and development of the Convention's Wetland Training Service, especially through providing information on training services conducted by Japan. • Collect information, as necessary, to identify the needs and target audiences for training in conservation and wise use of wetlands in the country. • Provide information on training opportunities for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, if exists, to the Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre and the Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities. • Assemble and develop new training activities and general training modules, if necessary, in the training activities conducted by Japan International Cooperation Agency and/or National Environmental Training Institute. • Undertake efforts to continue the JICA's group training course on "conservation of wetland ecosystems and their biological diversity" at Ramsar sites including Kushiro-shitsugen, in fiscal year 2003. Disseminate information on contents of the training course and procedure for application to eligible countries. • Provide advises to the Standing Committee and the Bureau if necessary, to continue giving high priority in Operational Guidelines of the Small Grants Fund to support for training activities. • Promote appropriate utilization of organizations/facilities relating to training, education and research of wetlands including the Waterfowl and Wetland Centers and other existing facilities used in JICA training courses. • Provide information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about training for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, to the Bureau and IOPs as necessary, to promote the exchange of such information.

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



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

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

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



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

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.]

Information on the subjects and the way of application for each training course implemented by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) namely; "Conservation, Restoration and Wise Use of Wetland Ecosystem and their Biological Diversity", "Management and Conservation of Coral Reef Ecosystem in Asia-Pacific Region", and "Conservation and Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystem" has been provided to relevant countries appropriately.

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.]

The training course on wetlands conservation provided by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) was reorganized to include the elements of rehabilitation, restoration and wise use of wetlands from 2004, in addition to existing wetland and biodiversity conservation.

National Environmental Research and Training Institute provides the Nature Restoration Course that targets field officers for nature conservation of the Ministry of the Environment in response to Law for the Promotion of Nature Restoration enacted in 2002. Also, the training course on nature conservation that targets local governments officials mentions the values of wetland conservation.

River Environment Course provided by College of Land, Infrastructure and Transport includes the subject related to wetland restoration.

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

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.]

JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) implements the training courses of “Conservation, Restoration and Wise Use of Wetland Ecosystem and their Biological Diversity”, “Management and Conservation of Coral Reef Ecosystem in Asia-Pacific Region”, and “Conservation and Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystem” that target developing countries.

The information exchange project is implemented between the twinning sites, Yatsu-higata, Japan and Boondall wetlands in Brisbane, Australia, and in this project, staff training courses are conducted.

National Environmental Research and Training Institute provides the Nature Restoration Course that targets field officers for nature conservation of the Ministry of the Environment in response to Law for the Promotion of Nature Restoration enacted in 2002. Also, the training course on nature conservation that targets local governments officials mentions the values of wetland conservation.

River Environment Course provided by College of Land, Infrastructure and Transport includes the subject related to wetland restoration.

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

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

A

Choose an answer

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

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

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

Japan has joined the mailing list of CEPA.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to recruit 2 more Contracting Parties in East Asia region by 2005 through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties in East Asia sub-region (Myanmar, Brunei, Laos and Singapore) to provide information on the benefits of membership; • seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including in-country offices of the United Nations Development Programme, and other conventions; • Seek to organize subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties.
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek direct contact with non-Contracting Parties in East Asia sub-region including Myanmar and Brunei to provide information on the benefits of membership. • Seeking the possibility on implementation and support to wetland-related project as necessary, through information exchange with other related organizations and conventions. • Consider organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties, in cooperation with other parties in the region.

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

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

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

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.]

Ministry of the Environment supported the research on wetlands and development of wetland inventory in Myanmar, and also supported a government officer in Myanmar to participate Ramsar COP8, and thus extensively contributed to Myanmar's joining Ramsar Convention.

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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