



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

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

HEADLINE ACTIONS AND INDICATORS ONLY VERSION

MAY 2005

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	
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SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION (OPTIONAL)

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

Some Ramsar Convention activities in addition to those mentioned in the different Action Items:

- 1st Philippine Wetlands Conservation Award (PWCA) was launched on February 2, 2004 to generate public and private interest in the wise use of wetlands. It is a nationwide incentive award which recognizes and honors the achievements and contributions of individuals, local government units and non-government organizations (local) to the wise use of wetlands. Seven (7) winners were awarded with plaques and cash prizes. Two of the winners were nominated to the Ramsar Conservation Award. San Miguel Corporation and Unilever from the business sector were partners in this endeavor. Results are posted at <http://www.pawb.gov.ph>. PWCA will be held every three years.
- For caves, a National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act of the Philippines was enacted to conserve, protect and manage caves and cave resources as part of the country's wealth. Its implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) was drafted and approved in the mid-2003. The IRR is posted at <http://www.pawb.gov.ph>. A policy on cave assessment and classification is being formulated to support the implementation of the IRR.
- Five sites were identified for possible nomination to Ramsar namely: Malampaya Sound (estuary) and St. Paul Subterranean (cave) both in Palawan; Cordova wetlands (mudflat) in Cebu; portion of Manila Bay (mud/tidalflat) in Metro Manila; and, Candaba Swamp in Pampanga.
- The conduct of Asian Waterbirds Census for several years resulted in the initial identification of several important wetland areas nationwide. Management plans will be prepared for the identified sites.
- Celebration of world wetlands day (WWD) nationwide. Activities in the event included lectures on wetlands in general and Ramsar in particular, mangrove reforestation, contests like on-the-spot painting, dedication ceremony of Naujan Lake National Park, production and dissemination of information materials, television and radio plugs of the event, coastal/river clean up, and launching of some wetland related activities, among others. Audience/participants were from different sectors of all ages. WWD results are posted at <http://www.pawb.gov.ph> and <http://www.ramsar.org>
- A multi-sectoral technical working group on lakes was formally launched in 02 February 2003. It organized the 1st Philippine Lake Congress in the last quarter of 2003. The proceeding is in press.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

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

<p>1.- Country has a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory (<u>if inventory exists, please include the number of sites</u>)</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><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</p>	<p>N° wetlands / Ramsar sites +200/4</p>

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

1. The water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands has been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assessment reports of the Philippine water quality and quantity published in the Philippines Environment Monitor 2003 and 2004 by World Bank. 		

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

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

1. Wetland issues have been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development called for by WSSD	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	B	
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	B	
4. Wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) have been integrated into other sectoral strategic or planning processes and documents at any of the following levels: national, regional, provincial, and local	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wetlands concerns are incorporated in the following major plans - Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010; Philippine Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land, Degradation, Drought and Poverty 2004-2010; and, Department of Environment and Natural Resources General Plan of Action 2004-2010. ○ The Clean Water Act of the Philippines was enacted in 2004. It provides a comprehensive water management program to guarantee effective water utilization and conservation. It aims to protect country's wetlands from land-based sources of pollution such as industries, mining, agricultural operations as well as community or household activities. ○ The Department of Environment and Natural Resources adopts the coastal resource management approach to address the growing problems of coastal resources degradation. ○ The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources implements the integrated coastal resource management program to utilize and conserve coastal and marine resources and the fisheries resource management program to address poverty in the coastal areas. 		

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

1. Progress has been made in the development and/or application of methodologies for the valuation of economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	I	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		
Examples of application of methodologies are discussed in the "Economic Valuation of Philippine Coral Reefs in the South China Sea Biogeographic Region" published in 2004 by United Nations Environmental Programme and Marine Science Institute.		

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

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

1. Action has been taken to implement at national level the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
A proposal on the preparation of a national action plan for Philippine peatlands was prepared and submitted in 2005 to the Global Environment Center for funding support.		

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

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

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

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

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

D

Choose an answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4. RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

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

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

B

Choose an answer

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

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

Some on-going projects on wetland restoration/rehabilitation:

River Rehabilitation Program of the Laguna Lake Development Authority (started in 1999) - to arrest the further deterioration of Laguna de Bay and its tributaries, and to undertake rehabilitation efforts for these waterways. It utilizes an integrated approach to watershed management which takes into account both water quality and quantity in the continuum to the downstream areas of thriving urbanization all the way to the lake basin covering 24 micro-watersheds draining at Laguna Lake.

Pasig River Rehabilitation Program (1999-2014) - overall objective for the Pasig River, its tributaries, and "esteros", is to achieve a clean and green environment for the river basin by 2014. It aims to achieve water quality Class C standard and encourage urban renewal in the Pasig River basin.

Pansipit River Rehabilitation Program - addressed the problem of river and lake pollution made possible by the collaborative efforts of the provincial government and the municipalities through the declogging of the only outlet of Taal Lake towards Balayan Bay and the dismantling of illegal obstructions, sustaining cleanup operations and providing alternative livelihood to displaced fishers.

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

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

1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]		
Examples are: - Caves are assessed to determine their importance which include archaeological/cultural value. - In protected areas with indigenous people, the management plan incorporates the traditional practices/ cultural values of the indigenous people		
3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]		
Compilation is on-going.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ¹

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

1. Pilot projects have been developed to evaluate different approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands	C	<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 r9.iii.ii.- Establish a national *Wetland CEPA Task Force* (if no other mechanisms exist for this purpose), ensuring suitable stakeholder and NGO representation, to undertake a review of needs, skills, expertise and options, and to set priorities for the implementation of this programme of work.

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

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
It is one of the major recommendations during the National Wetlands CEPA Action Planning Workshop held in 02 February 2005, a joint initiative of the Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands and Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.		

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

1. A National Action Plan for wetland CEPA has been developed	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
A workshop was conducted in 02 February 2005 which formulated the National Action Plan for wetland CEPA. It was decided in the workshop that the action plan developed will be subject to further consultation.		

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

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).

1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being 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 Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities is an additional basis in the selection and nomination of		

Ramsar sites.

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

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

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

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

1. The <i>New Guidelines for management planning</i> have been used in the development of management plans or strategies	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]		
Distributed to all DENR Regional Offices nationwide for reference/guidance in the preparation of management plans on wetlands.		
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES		N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place		4
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied		
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared		
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated		2
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites whose management plans fall under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant.]		
All Ramsar sites (Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary, Naujan Lake National Park and Tubattaha Reef National Marine Park) have management plans. The Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary management plan had been revised while the Tubattaha Reef National Marine Park management plan is being revised.		

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

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	C		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]</i>			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]</i>			

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

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

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).

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	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° wetlands/ wetland systems
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Some transboundary/shared wetlands:

- **South China Sea** - Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea (UNEP-GEF); participated in by Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam
- **South China Sea** - Philippines-Vietnam Joint Oceanographic and Marine Research Expedition
- **Sulu Sulawesi Seas** - Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (WWF); Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines
- **Manila Bay** - Building Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (GEF-UNDP-IMP); Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam
- **Turtle Islands** – Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area; Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines

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

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 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

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.

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.]

The National Capacity Self Assessment for Global Environmental Management in the Philippines is on-going. With this endeavor the need to synergize the three major conventions may be realized and mechanism may be recommended.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

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.

1.- Networks among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training	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 information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Involved in the Anatidae and Shorebirds Site Networks.		
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>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

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

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).

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Some on-going/completed projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ADB Technical Assistance for a Master Plan for the Agusan River Basin (on-going) ○ Lanao Lake Integrated Development Plan (completed) ○ Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Project – Conservation International-Philippines (on-going) Other forms of funding support, if minimal, comes from the Philippine government or non-government organizations.		

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

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



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.

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

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.]

Ongoing or newly completed GEF projects -

- Ligawasan Marsh Integrated Conservation and Management – (2002–2004) The project seeks to protect and rehabilitate the remaining resources through community participation.
- Lake Mainit Upland Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation – (2002-2004) The project aimed to conserve the biodiversity in the lakes influence area and restore the different life support systems and enhance increased agricultural and fishery production on a sustainable equitable basis.
- Community-based Coastal Resource Management Program towards Sustainable Integrated Area Development (2002-2004) The project aims to rehabilitate and regenerate the remaining marine and coastal resources of the municipality, increased the net income of the fisherfolk especially women, strengthen participation of various sector and formed multi-sectoral structure.
- Malasila River Watershed Development and Biodiversity Conservation – (2002 - 2204) The project aims to undertake community based activities for the protection and conservation of the Malasila River ecosystem which is the primary source of irrigation of Makilala, M'lang and Tulunan municipalities in Cotabato
- Siquijor Integrated Management of Coastal Resources - (2002 – 2004) The project aims to undertake community based conservation of coastal and marine resources of Siquijor including support system to enhance the living conditions of the coastal communities.
- Biodiversity Conservation and Policy Formulation in and around Snake Island and Honda Bay – (2002 –2004) – The project intends to develop a community-based management plan for the conservation and protection of resources in and around Snake Island and Honda Bay, specifically covering 3 coastal communities.
- Mangrove Conservation, Coral Reef Management, and Kitang Fishing in the Tagabinet-Ulugan Bay Area (2002 – 2004) The project involves planting of mangrove tree species, coastal clean-up and coral reef monitoring and management
- Conservation of Marine Ecosystem and Sustainable Livelihood in Lingayen Gulf – (2003 –2005) – The project aims to undertake community-based activities that will promote/establish the rehabilitation, conservation and management of the coastal and marine resources in Bolnao to sustain the strengthening of 8 POs towards comprehensive initiatives, conseving the coastal and marine resources in another 5 new barangys in Bolinao and Lingayen Gulf.

For Funding –

- Watershed Resources Management and Micro-hydropower Development for Maducayan Tribe in Mt. Province – (2005-2007) The project will involve the development and establishment of community based resource management plan.

For possible funding:

- o Integrated Conservation and Management of Malampaya Sound in Palawan, Philippines (2005-2007)

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

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)

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

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 information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]

For replacement.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

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

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 review and other comments you consider relevant.]

A review of the Philippine Wetlands legislations and policies including concerned institutions was completed and due for publication. It recommended a national wetland policy to rationalize laws and policies on access to wetland resources, management jurisdictions and enforcement as well as to consider menu of options for institutions close to the site to protect specific wetland areas and their associated ecosystems.

3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place

C

Choose an answer

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

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]		
5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity	H	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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	H	
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]		
If there are wetland concerns/activities, the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Ramsar Administrative Authority) usually calls for a meeting with or refers documents to or invites active participation of concerned institutions (government, non-government, academe) or individuals (experts, scientists).		

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.

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; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)	F	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].		
Task Force on Wetlands created in 2001 became inactive. Through the UNEP-GEF South China Sea Project, a Project National Wetlands Committee was created in 2003 composed of representatives from government and non-government organizations and academe. It is planned that the said Committee will be expanded and become the National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee for the Philippines.		

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

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

<p>1.- Support has been provided to the development of regional wetland training and research centres <i>(if applicable, please include number of centres)</i></p>	<p>I</p>	<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>	<p>N° centres</p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of centres and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i></p>			

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