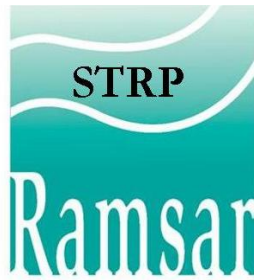


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The Scientific and Technical Review Panel
Convention on Wetlands

STRP work plan 2009-2012 – Updated March 2010

STRP 2009-2012 Work Plan- Updated March 2010

Notes.

All High Priority actions (Res X.10 Annex 1) and all other tasks (Resolution X.10 Annex 2) are listed. Task numbers are those as in Resolution X.10 Annex 2. However, the grouping of tasks has been slightly modified from that in the Resolution to group the tasks under each Thematic Work Area (TWA) to facilitate STRP delivery.

The STRP Work Plan, approved by the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee in May 2009 has now been updated following the STRP mid-term workshops held in Gland, in February 2010. Each Work Plan task is summarized here in a standard pro-forma table.

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Task No. 10.5: Providing tools to improve planning and cross-linkages in the STRP Work Programme

Task No. 10.6: Planning for STRP Participation in COP 11

Task No. 1.4: CEPA advice on guidance preparation

TWA 10: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

Task No. 10.2: Preparation of outreach materials based on STRP substantive guidance

THEMATIC WORK AREA 1: REGIONAL NETWORKING

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Thematic Work Area name: | Regional networking |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Rebecca D'Cruz |
| Co-lead(s): | Regional Networkers, STRP support Officer, CEPA Lead. |

TWA 1: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 1.3: STRP National Focal Points - support and network development | |
|--|--|
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Continue to strengthen the role and participation of STRP National Focal Points (NFPs) in the work of the Panel, <i>inter alia</i> by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) enhancing the methods for and frequency of regular contacts between Panel Members and STRP NFPs; ii) identifying opportunities and mechanisms for holding intersessional regional or sub-regional meetings of STRP NFPs; iii) compiling improved information on the interests and expertise of all STRP NFPs; iv) engaging the STRP NFPs in the identification of relevant national experts who may, in relation to specific individual STRP tasks, be able to review draft documents and make other inputs as appropriate; v) at the request of a given Administrative Authority, involving its STRP NFP in monitoring and evaluating any SGF projects in that country; vi) keeping the terms of reference and <i>modus operandi</i> of STRP NFPs under review, with a view to identifying potential future improvements and to providing any further guidance to STRP NFPs that may be required. <p>(Resolution VIII.28; Resolution IX.11, Resolution IX.2 task 4, Resolution X.9)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Rebecca D'Cruz |
| Task force members | Regional networkers, Secretariat Regional Teams, Monica Zavagli (STRP support officer), Elif Okumus (Invited expert), Teresita Borges (STRP Member-at-Large), Chris Prietto |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simple diagram to illustrate the tasks of the STRP NFP – summary of the NFP brochure 2007. 2. Web-based FAQs based on Terms of Reference of the STRP National Focal Points – what, how and examples or info sources 3. List of specific tasks in the STRP work programme which STRP NFPs are asked to provide input to, and/or identify experts in-country who could assist. |

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| | 4. A database of in-country experts. Lead: Rebecca Lee |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | CHF 20,500 (to support participation of Regional Network Members in relevant meetings; potential membership to the Society for Wetland Scientists). <i>Note: Does not include participation of Regional Network Members in meetings of the STRP NFPs at the regional level, which we hope will be funded by the host country.</i> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a simple diagram to illustrate the tasks of the STRP NFP, and make this available via the Ramsar web site and the STRP Support Service. <i>Lead: Philippe G., working with Chris Prietto</i> Timeline: 30 June 2009 2. Develop a web-based FAQs based on ToR of the STRP NFPs – what, how and examples or info sources. <i>Leads: Randy Milton & Montse Carbonell</i> Timeline: 30 June 2009 3. Following STRP 15, develop a task list and send this out to STRP NFPs with request to provide input and/or identify experts who can provide input <i>Lead: Rebecca D’Cruz</i> Timeline: 31 May 2009 for first list; and ongoing 4. Compile information on in-country experts into a searchable database for STRP’s use. <i>Lead: Rebecca Lee</i> Timeline: Ongoing 5. Regional meetings of the STRP NFPs – to work with the Secretariat to pin down the dates. <i>Lead: Rebecca D’Cruz</i> 6) Continue development of the programme of work for the triennium including key events, products, timelines to allow planning. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly STRP Newsletter targeted to STRP Focal Points has been introduced since July 2009 • Communication with new STRP NFPs: a welcome email + welcome pack (sent via normal post) & instructions on the use of the Support Service. • Updated list of STRP NFPs regularly sent to Regional Networkers • An STRP NFP appointment form and Expertise form has been developed to encourage appointments and to gather information on the expertise of the Focal point. These were sent by the regional teams to the Administrative Authorities during the months of December/January, and so far the secretariat has received fourteen completed forms, and a couple of new appointments (without completed forms). • 2. STRP Portal – test-run for the Europe region |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue with the quarterly newsletter, with more structured and strategic contribution from regional networkers. <i>Lead: Monica Zavagli/Philippe Gerbeaux</i> 2. STRP Portal – test-run for the Europe region, including web-based FAQs based on ToR of the STRP NFPs, diagram to illustrate the tasks of the STRP NFP; and searchable database of experts. <i>Lead: Rebecca Lee</i> 3. Following the mid-terms, compile list of specific tasks which require regional input, and engage with STRP NFPs |

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| | <p>and other expert networks to provide this input. Lead: ALL, by regional task force (i.e. networker + regional teams).</p> <p>4. Keep under review of the <i>modus operandi</i> of the regional networkers. This includes enhancing collaboration with the regional teams at the Secretariat. Lead: ALL</p> <p>5. Work with regional teams to organize meetings of the STRP NFPs (if feasible); and to discuss and agree STRP input to the pre-COP regional meetings, and other meetings at regional level. Lead: Rebecca D'Cruz</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Link to TWA 10: CEPA on the toolkit for regional meetings, and input to the development of the guide to guidance. Note: There is an accompanying report from the discussions held during the mid-term workshops.</p> <p>Issues arising from the discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional networkers can do more to support the work of each TWA as well as the regional teams at the Secretariat. Several actions have been identified towards this end and will be tested in the coming 12 months. • Need to define a structure/mechanism to show how regional networkers work with the regional teams to avoid overlap/misunderstanding. • Recommendation to the STRP Chair: Need to ensure that the regional networkers are provided a budget allocation per triennium to enable them to participate in relevant meetings of the Convention, to enhance networking opportunities, and to support the work of the regional teams at the Secretariat. |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 2: STRATEGIC, EMERGING & ONGOING ISSUES

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Strategic, emerging & ongoing issues |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Heather MacKay |
| Co-lead(s): | TWA leads. |

TWA 2: ESSENTIAL TASKS

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| Task No. 1.1: Strategic scientific and technical advice | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Provide both proactive and reactive advice to the Convention on relevant strategic scientific and technical matters, including overall progress with scientific and technical aspects of the implementation of COP Resolutions, trends, emerging issues, and other priority matters requiring expert review (see also tasks listed in section 2 of this annex). (Resolution IX.2 tasks 2 & 3) |
| Task lead person: | Chair |
| Task force members | STRP |
| Type of product/output(s): | Current STRP processes. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p><i>STRP Contributions:</i></p> <p><i>January 2010</i> STRP partner with lead of the Nature Conservancy and others such with WWF, Wetlands International, the World Bank as well as several academics in the US and UK, to undertake a global review of ecosystem based adaptation for coastal protection.</p> <p><i>December 2009</i> Writing Team for the Chapter "Water" of the Issue Management Group on the post 2010 biodiversity targets of the Environment Management Group (EMG)</p> <p><i>December 2009</i> Comments to the 2nd draft of the Arctic biodiversity trends - 2010: selected indicators of change report</p> <p><i>December 2009</i> Advise to IUCN on top articles re "linkages with wetlands to reduced occurrence of flooding, and also policy measures"</p> <p><i>November 2009</i> STRP requested to comment on Draft Strategy of the International Waters GEF Focal Area</p> <p><i>October 2009</i> Input to the chapter on Wetlands and impacts from drought of the project document: "An Exercise to Assess Research Needs and Policy Choices in Areas of Drought (http://www.feem-project.net/xerochore/) "</p> <p><i>September 2009</i> Comparative analysis of work plans for CSAB3 meeting</p> <p><i>August 2009</i> Input into the two draft White Papers for the World Climate Conference-3 from 31 August to 4 September 2009</p> <p><i>August 2009</i> Comments on the UNECE Water Convention's guidance on water and climate adaptation</p> |

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| | August 2009 | Ramsar/CBD joint submission of comments to the draft AR5/IPCC "scoping document" |
| | June 2009 | Contribution to the 4th World Water Assessment Report |
| | June 2009 | Participation in the 4th World Water Assessment Report survey |

| Task No. 1.2: Ongoing advisory functions | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Continue to provide advice under the following functions as and when requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) advising, when requested, on Ramsar site designation and management issues, including on Article 3.2 reports concerning change in ecological character; ii) advising the Secretariat on requests from Contracting Parties for removing Ramsar sites from the Montreux Record of sites facing damaging change in ecological character; iii) advising on any request from a Contracting Party to participate in the activities of a different Ramsar region to that which it is assigned under the regional categorization of the Convention; iv) assisting Contracting Parties and bilateral development agencies in screening, developing and evaluating wetland projects; v) receiving progress reports and advising on future needs and developments of the Ramsar Sites Information Service; and vi) ensuring cooperation, exchange of information, and coordination of activities related to wetlands science, where appropriate, with the scientific and technical subsidiary bodies (and their related processes) of other MEAs and relevant regional fora, through actions defined in Joint Work Plans, through the Chairs of Scientific Advisory Bodies (CSAB) process and by other means, with a view <i>inter alia</i> to: promoting cross-adoption and endorsement of principles, guidance, resolutions; sharing work programmes in order to identify common areas, gaps and opportunities for joint work; and improving scientific collaboration in general. (vii) Provide technical advice and guidance to Parties on ad hoc basis, through direct discussion, Support Service, Standing Committee discussions, Ramsar Advisory Missions, regional meetings, COP technical briefings. <p>(Resolution VIII.28; Resolution IX.11, Resolution IX.2 task 4, Resolution X.11, Resolution X.1: strategies 1.5, 3.1)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Chair |
| Task force members | STRP |
| Type of product/output(s): | As appropriate. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert | As required. Need to consider resources necessary for some activities in this task, such as Advisory Missions, participation in international processes, ad hoc assistance to Parties. |

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| consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>As required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP Chair, David Pritchard and DSG to draft short guidelines on handling MR requests to STRP, and possibly other ad hoc tech assistance requests, until MR procedures have been reviewed in TWA3 task (Done) • Regional networking TWA will develop tasks related to interactions and support at regional level. (See TWA1 and TWA10.) • CEPA TWA10 (Christine Prietto) to co-ordinate planning of STRP scientific and technical contributions to COP11. (See task in TWA10 pro forma). |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Links to CEPA (strategy) and Secretariat support (logistics and budget)</i></p> <p><i>Consider external sources of funding for advisory activities requiring funding, such as Advisory Missions.</i></p> <p><i>Involve NFPs and regional networkers in advisory missions.</i></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>sub (i):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Pritchard represented STRP in Ramsar Advisory Mission to Marromeu Complex in Mozambique during 2009. <p>sub (ii):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP responded to requests from Algeria (2008/09) and Egypt (2009) for removal of sites from the Montreux Record. <p>sub (vi):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP Chair participated in IPBES2 meeting (October 2009). • STRP Chair participated in CSAB3 meeting (October 2009). <p>Sub (vii):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing note on wetlands and climate change was provided to CPs by STRP for the UNFCCC Copenhagen meeting (December 2009) |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>sub (i):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations related to reporting on change in ecological character and Generic Art 3.2 issue is included under <p>sub (vi):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP Chair will address a discussion on IPBES2 meeting (October 2009), and further actions for STRP inputs to IPBES3 (plenary agenda).through the Support Service. STRP chair will prepare a short input paper for the IPBES3 meeting with assistance from other STRP members. • STRP Chair will address a discussion on CSAB3 meeting, matters arising and further actions related to collaboration with other MEAs on ecosystem restoration and hunting/harvesting (plenary) through the Support Service. SERI offered assistance with developing ideas for MEA collaboration on ecosystem restoration. |

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| | sub (vii): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options for revising current wetland classification system and provide recommendations for a way forward on this issue was discussed in plenary. The issue is taken up under TWA7 (Strat Framework and RIS). With assistance from STRP members, DSG will lead in preparing a review of the various wetland classification systems currently in use for Convention purposes, with recommendations for which types of classification are useful for each purpose. DSG will table a draft information paper at STRP16. |
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| Task No. 1.5: Review of draft COP Resolutions | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Review and comment on proposals from Contracting Parties for COP Resolutions with scientific or technical content, and provide this advice to the Standing Committee and COP. (Resolution IX.2 task 1) |
| Task lead person: | Chair |
| Task force members | TWA leads and task leads. |
| Type of product/output(s): | Advice as needed. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | No. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Via Support Service. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | No proposals submitted yet by Contracting Parties. A number of Draft Resolutions are listed as products from various TWAs and will be submitted by the STRP. |

TWA 2: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 2.3: Wetlands and extractive industries – guidance review | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Working with UNEP, IUCN, and other relevant organizations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review available technical guidance on assessing, avoiding, minimizing and mitigating the direct and indirect impacts of extractive industries on wetlands in the exploration, development, operation, closure and post-closure phases, taking into account the potential for adoption of new or emerging extraction technologies and paying particular attention to restoration options, and on the basis of this review, to make recommendations regarding the suitability of available technical |

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| | guidance and the need, if any, for development of new technical guidance. (STRP14, Resolution X.26) |
| Task lead person: | Heather MacKay/David Stroud |
| Task force members | Ramsar STRP –Stanley Liphadzi, Randy Milton, Dave Pritchard, Roy Gardner, Rob McInnes, Max Finlayson. AEWA TC - David Stroud, Sergey Dereliev. IUCN - Andrea Athanas. USGS - <i>Mineral Resources Program (still waiting for response)</i> . IAIA – <i>Susie Brownlie</i> . Ramsar Secretariat regional advisers. Birdlife - Vicky Jones / Lincoln Fishpool Wetlands International - Jaime Garcia Moreno, Tatiana Minaeva. Industry – <i>Jan van Hoydonck</i> (South America), <i>Alexander Shestakov</i> (ex BP), <i>Julie Gelfand</i> (Mining Association of Canada, NA Bird Conservation Initiative (Canada) Council), <i>Martin Ginster</i> (SASOL in South Africa), <i>Jonathan Stacey</i> (Rio Tinto – BirdLife International Programme), <i>Christine Copley/Andrew McKenzie</i> (ICMM) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Principal end users AEWA and Ramsar AAs. Eventual outcomes: Ramsar and AEWA AAs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have sufficient information to allow them to identify sites likely to be vulnerable to or impacted by mining activities ; • have access to technical guidance to allow them to determine scope of EIA for mining applications, review permit applications, and if appropriate recommend permit conditions for all phases of the mining cycle. Products of this task: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology for desktop identification of wetlands likely to be vulnerable to mining impacts/activities. • Strategic review of technological, economic & political drivers and how this might affect mining & hence need for new guidance. • Review of available guidance on managing impacts of mining/extractive industries. • Recommendations on new guidance needed. • Possible new guidance |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Suggest joint funding by AEWA and Ramsar, with targeted voluntary contribution from UK already committed. Total estimated CHF32 000. 1. Develop & test assessment methodology on a flyway using available public domain data – approx CHF 17 000 including prof time, travel & accommodation (assume UBC Vancouver venue, 5 people, 3 days) and 3 days preparation & write up 2. Review emerging technologies & drivers – approx CHF6 000 for contracted expert. 3. Collate & review existing guidance and scope additional work if needed – approx CHF 9000 if student used. 4. Possible new guidance – cost unknown at this point. |
| Approach/steps | 1. <u>From AEWA TC task formulation</u> : Undertake a desk study to identify sites/areas, especially wetlands, likely to be |

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| (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>vulnerable to the impacts of the extraction of minerals and other geological products. This will aim to identify hotspots for mineral resources, and overlay that with information on site/wetland distributions. Mining and geological information will be obtained from one of several mining intelligence groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group workshop (4-5 people) to develop and test, on a selected flyway, a possible vulnerability assessment framework that incorporates information from mapped mineral resources for selected commodities, economic & political risk assessments for the flyway area from mining industry information, WOW critical sites information for waterbirds (as surrogate for wetlands information). If this approach shows promise, then seek additional funding to develop it further to (a) regional or global level desktop assessment or (b) in-country or in-flyway assessment methodology. <i>(late 2009?) CHF17000</i> <p>2. <u>From AEWA and Ramsar task formulation:</u> Review emerging/changing technologies as well as economic and regulatory drivers, to ascertain whether substantial shifts in mining sector activities are likely, either in terms of how mining is conducted or where it is conducted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short but strategic review paper to inform review of guidance. <i>(June-July 2009) CHF 6000</i> <p>3. <u>From AEWA and Ramsar task formulation:</u> Review existing guidance for managing impacts of mining/extractive activities in all phases from exploration to post-closure. <i>CHF 9000</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate and first-cut review of available guidance in collaboration with ICMM (?) - student task at UBC. <i>(July-August 2009)</i> • Review guidance to suitability for Ramsar & AEWA needs <i>(Sep-Dec 2009)</i> • Provide recommendations as to whether additional/new guidance needed and at what levels (policy, regulatory, technical); whether guidance needed for all aspects or only to fill gaps for selected mining phases/commodities/wetland types, or whether a guide to guidance might be appropriate; how to integrate with Ramsar's existing EIA guidance. Develop detailed terms of reference for further work if needed. Discuss and agree on ToR at mid-term meetings. <i>(Jan-Mar 2010)</i> <p>4. Possibly develop new guidance if needed – cost not known.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task corresponds directly with AEWA TC task on mining/extractives, approved at MOP4. Should be conducted jointly with Ramsar STRP and AEWA TC. Will need to clarify objectives and needs of both before starting work. • Links to STRP Task 2.4 (review of energy sector issues), especially with regard to oil & gas and uranium mining. • Possibly links to task 2.5 (economic review) but links to reformulated 2.5 are less clear now. • Consider feasibility of addressing the following in guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scale of mining activity to cover from artisanal through to large commercial operations ○ Include offshore extractive activities |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Address processing, storage and distribution of products, not just extraction ○ Note influence of political and economic factors in decisions regarding extractive industries. Clarify scope of technical guidance – tech only, regulation, policy and economic issues should be addressed in EIA guidance (refer to and ensure consistency with EIA guidance) ○ Note influence of lending and financial policies on mining/extractive industries. ○ Include best practices and guidance from corporate sector, technical as well as corporate social responsibility aspects, recognizing that mining companies are also actively involved in managing and restoring wetlands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target audience: include countries whose governments or private sector bodies invest in or undertake mining activities in other countries, not just AAs in countries where mining is actually happening (consider whether to address this in guidance or in a Resolution). • In undertaking this task, involve the corporate sector since corporate social responsibility is important in supporting implementation of guidance (also as potential funders of the work) • Will require CEPA activities: some form of capacity building for Parties, and to disseminate products and information to groups in other flyway areas through AEWA.. • Key messages should reinforce the need for effective regulation and oversight – link to EIA and SEA guidance and CSR guidance. • Regional networkers to assist in communicating issues and information, and in identifying priorities to be addressed. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>subtask 1: Work initiated in 2009 to set up prototype desktop model for testing and review at mid-term meeting.</p> <p>subtask 2: Insufficient funds available to advance the task on review of emerging technologies and drivers. Held over until additional resources can be found.</p> <p>subtask 3: Work initiated in 2009 to collate and review available technical guidance.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>Extractive industries 2.3A: Undertake a desk study to identify sites/areas, especially wetlands, likely to be vulnerable to the impacts of the extraction of minerals and other geological products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented & discussed results of pilot for Africa at the mid-term workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Methodology is appropriate and meets Ramsar/AEWA needs • Work still needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify data sources for other regions – Sensitivity analysis – Testing at different resolutions (watershed levels) |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Test for other commodity types • Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – RTR: Low cost flyway-scale methodology for identifying wetlands likely to be vulnerable to the impacts of extractive industries. – <i>Final draft for STRP16 signoff December 2010</i> – <i>Journal paper submission in parallel with RTR – Journal of Environmental Management as likely destination for this paper.</i> • No additional resources needed: fully funded from UK contribution. • Regional networking tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – need information from selected African countries to help us “ground truth” the methodology. – test the method for another commodity (coal?) in southern Africa, if additional funding can be found for a student/researcher in 2010. <p>Extractive industries 2.3B: Review available technical guidance on assessing, avoiding, minimizing and mitigating the direct and indirect impacts of extractive industries on wetlands in the exploration, development, operation, closure and post-closure phases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented & discussed review of guidance at the mid-term workshops: • Work still needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Order table of guidance according to search criteria agreed at workshop. – Add references from Russia and China – Add internal oil & gas industry guidelines – Write front end guide to guidance • Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – RTR – Recommendations for additional guidance if needed. – <i>Final drafts for STRP16 signoff December 2010.</i> • No additional resources needed: fully funded from UK contribution. • Regional networking tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provide guidelines from Russia and China – Identify “end users” to help us review the guide to guidance for usability. – Identify and provide case studies of good operational practice and good “process” practice (EIA, EMP) <p>COP11 products ? Unlikely that a Draft Resolution on extractive industries will be needed for COP11. May require only that we bring</p> |
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| | the products to the attention of Parties, in fulfillment of the request to STRP associated with Res X.26. The possible DR on wetlands and the energy sector may contain references to extraction of fuel products, including oil & gas, uranium, peat. We should get the extractives RTRs out before COP11 if at all possible. |
| Task No. 2.4: Wetlands and energy issues | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Conduct a scoping review of the implications for wetlands of energy generation and distribution activities, covering both the conventional and renewable energy sectors, having regard to issues concerning climate change and wetlands, linking as appropriate to work done in relation to the task on extractive industries defined separately in the present Annex above, and taking account of up-to-date evolving policy perspectives in these sectors and on issues of energy security in general. (STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | MacKay (will identify suitable task lead with assistance of Global Water Partnership) |
| Task force members | UNIDO/IAEA/IEA/IHA for energy expertise (Bob Williams at UNIDO can help us to identify suitable experts) Wetlands expertise from STRP. |
| Type of product/output(s): | Scoping review – possibly Ramsar Technical Report. Target audience STRP, Contracting Parties. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Yes. 15 days for contracted expert(s)? CHF9000 (starting 2010 after mid term workshops) |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | The objective of the paper would be to help Parties to understand how energy policy at national, regional and global levels might influence wetlands, and should assist Ramsar AAs to communicate with their counterparts in the energy sector and to be able to participate meaningfully in policy debates related to energy policy issues in their country or region. A secondary objective might be to provide information and understanding to enable the Convention to raise the profile of wetlands to ensure they are considered in international energy debates. The energy sector comprises several sub-sectors, each of which may influence wetlands in different ways: including fossil fuels, hydropower, nuclear, wind, biofuels, tidal, solar & other. The scoping review should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • characterize these sectors and identify the likely scope and nature of their impacts on wetlands, depending on how these different energy strategies are incorporated into overall national/regional/global energy policy; • provide a snapshot overview of current energy policy drivers and possible future scenarios for energy policy; • provide recommendations on whether sectoral guidance is needed for managing the impacts on wetlands of different energy policies and different energy production and transfer systems. |
| Additional comments/information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Links to task 2.3 (extractive industries) and to 6.3 (biofuels – 6.3i and 6.3v).</i> • <i>Indirect link to climate change (6.2 mitigation and adaptation) with respect to influence of climate change negotiations on energy policy.</i> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information from WWF renewable energy program and hydropower program – contact Lifeng Li for information. • WI also working in this area – will have relevant information. • CC GAP has information that is relevant. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Not initiated yet. Held over until after the UNFCCC Copenhagen meeting in December 2009, since the outcomes of that meeting are expected to have significant influence on global energy policies and trends. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>At midterm workshops it was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Invited expert should be contracted to prepare initial paper to review current & future trends in global energy sector, including Global Energy Outlook, post-Copenhagen trends. Address all sectors: fossil fuels, renewables, hydro, biofuels, nuclear, peat. – Writing group or workshop with energy and wetlands people/STRP members in 2010. – Prepare STRP briefing note for STRP16, to support possible DR for COP11. – Resources: fully funded from UK contribution. |

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| Task No. 2.13: Corporate "water footprint" assessments | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Assess guidelines, such as those of the Water Footprint Network, that have been developed to support companies in assessing their water 'footprint' as a part of programmes of corporate environmental and social responsibility. (Resolution X.12) |
| Task lead person: | MacKay (pending suitable lead person/organization to be identified) |
| Task force members | Lifeng Li (WWF), Ania Grobicki (GWP) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Briefing note from STRP to Parties via Standing Committee and STRP report to COP |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | No. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP Chair will write to WWF and GWP requesting them to collate useful information on this issue of which they are aware, and forward references or original source material to STRP, preferably via the Support Service. • STRP will make this information available to Parties via a short briefing note and references to relevant materials. |
| Additional comments/information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF active in this area of sector based accounting tools. Their Water footprint working group could prepare a summary of existing guidance and work in this area. • Swedish EI and SIWI should have info. • GWP as possible lead/task force member ? |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |

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| What Progress so far? | No progress as at 4 Jan 2010. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Updates from WWF and GWP representatives on available information. Discussion will be conducted via email and Support Service. STRP Chair will request GWP and WWF to provide information via the Support Service. |
| Any other comments? | This would make a good intern or student project. |

| Task No. 2.6: Wetlands and poverty eradication – guidance scope | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Working with the IOPs and other interested organizations and networks to review the framework for actions set out in Resolution IX.14 and Resolution X.28, and on the basis of this to develop proposals for the most appropriate form and specific scope of scientific and technical guidance on wetlands and poverty eradication for Contracting Parties to support the implementation of these Resolutions, which might include <i>inter alia</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) development of an integrated framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication, including the identification of the most appropriate scale at which each type of poverty eradication action should take place, and also taking into account the possible effects of hunting and harvesting in wetlands; ii) identification and development of indicators relating wetland wise use with livelihoods and poverty eradication; iii) development of a practical structured 'guide to the available guidelines and tools' for addressing poverty eradication in relation to wetlands; and iv) collation and review of examples of how wetland degradation affects people's livelihoods and how maintenance or restoration of the ecological character of wetlands can contribute to poverty alleviation, including from documented case studies provided Contracting Parties, the IOPs, and others that demonstrate that the wise use of wetland resources by local communities can provide a significant contribution to poverty eradication <p>(Resolution IX.14, Resolution IX.2 task 19, Resolution X.28)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Ritesh Kumar (WI) |
| Task force members | Sonali Senaratna, Pierre Horwitz, Lucy Emerton , Max Finlayson, Randy Milton, Dave Pritchard, FAO , Mark Smith, |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Framework Paper : aimed at development of an integrated framework for linking livelihoods and wetland conservation and wise use including indicators b) Structured Guide to existing guidelines and tools for addressing poverty eradication and wetlands c) Case study document (format to be decided) on linkages of wetland conservation and wise use and livelihoods |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert | Funds for a writing workshop: CHF 22,500/ Funds for translation – CHF 5000 |

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| consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Framework Paper</u>: (First Draft by Mid Term Review Workshop) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review of currently existing frameworks used in poverty reduction, sustainable use, common property resources management, institutional analysis in terms of their applicability and suitability to address livelihoods and wetland conservation and wise use linkages b. Propose an integrated framework for linking wetland conservation and wise and livelihoods c. Suggest an indicator system pertaining to the framework 2. <u>Guide to existing guidance and toolkits for addressing poverty eradication and wetlands</u> (First Draft by Mid Term Review Workshop) (Targeted to the site managers) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Collate existing guidance and toolkits existing within development and conservation sectors (summarization , web links, short annexes) b. Classify and sequential categorization of the guidance 3. <u>Case studies on wetlands and poverty eradication</u> (Case study library by Mid term, finalized outputs by Triennium close) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Finalize appropriate CEPA mechanism on targets, messages and formats b. Review available cases under GAWI, Wise Use, - with IOPs – WWF, IUCN c. Request additional cases through IOPs, Ramsar NFPs d. Undertake documentation / dissemination |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Linkages with TWA 4 – Task 3 on interpretation and conceptual thinking on applicability of health to wetland ecosystems</i></p> <p><i>Linkages with TWA 3 - Indicator (Table 2 set of indicators proposed for further consideration and development by STRP – Resolution IX.1 Annex D - wetland ecosystem services / benefits and wise use policy)</i></p> <p><i>Available literature / material:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) Outcomes of the Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project of Wetlands International, and design of Wetlands and Livelihoods Project</i> <i>b) Existing frameworks and toolkits available from – Institutional Analysis Framework; IWMI – WI Wetlands and Livelihoods Framework; ; DFID livelihood guidance sheets; poverty.net; livelihoods.org ;Oxfam, IUCN Sustainable Use specialist Group etc.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Following achieved during the STRP Mid term workshops (here):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General framework for Poverty – Wetlands Interactions - Framework for Guide to Guidance on Wetlands and Poverty Reduction - Proposal for workshop for finalizing framework and establishing case study analysis processes |
| Update following the STRP mid-term | <p>CoP Deliverables:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Framework Paper – December 2010 |

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| workshops | b) Structured Guide to Guidance – December 2010 c) Technical Report / Paper on Case Study Analysis (would be outcome from workshop) |
| Any other comments? | Work on indicators would run concurrent with similar task under Wetlands and Human Health. |

| Task No. 2.10: Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>i) Maintain an active overview of and input to issues relating to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), especially in relation to surveillance, information-exchange and response strategies, including by continued participation in the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, and including a determination of whether lessons learnt from best practice responses to HPAI H5N1 have implications for Ramsar guidance relating to protected sites and other aspects of wetland wise use, followed by the development of any necessary proposals for modifying such guidance; and</p> <p>ii) In collaboration with other relevant organizations, consider how best to develop practical guidance on the prevention and control of other diseases of either domestic or wild animals in wetlands, especially those diseases that have implications for human health, and how such guidance can be best incorporated into management plans at Ramsar sites and other wetlands.</p> <p>(Resolution IX.23, Resolution IX.2 task 62, STRP14, Resolution X.21)</p> |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud, Rebecca Lee and Ruth Cromie (WWT) |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Rebecca Lee, Ruth Cromie (WWT) and the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza & Wild Birds |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>i) Advice & input to the third technical meeting of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds; assess meeting's outputs for lessons learnt and determine the implications for Ramsar guidance; where possible re-package meeting's outputs into guidance materials for Contracting Parties; maintain guide-to-guidance to ensure it fully reflects current good practice; identify guidance gaps; disseminate existing guidance materials (particularly the guidance on reducing risks at protected wetlands) and guide-to-guidance to Contracting Parties (via regional networkers and CEPA?); consider developing HPAI CEPA toolkit for avian influenza and wild birds/wetlands resources permitting (via CEPA?)</p> <p>ii) Work with the Scientific Task Force on Wildlife Disease (established by FAO and CMS at CMS COP9) to consider how best to develop practical guidance on the prevention and control of diseases of either domestic or wild animals in wetlands, especially those diseases that have implications for human health; convene meeting of small group of experts (subset of task force?) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prioritize diseases and issues of relevance to wetlands; - how guidance could be best developed; |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - determine what disease information would be useful to wetland managers and how it would most effectively be presented and disseminated; and - how guidance could be incorporated into management plans for Ramsar sties and other wetlands. <p>Produce information sheets for wetland managers.</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <p>i) Delegate support for task force meeting: CHF 5,000 Guidance preparation/re-packaging, translation and publication: CHF 5,000</p> <p>ii)Support for scoping meeting as required: CHF 8,000 Information sheet preparation: CHF 2,000</p> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>i)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to provide advice to the Convention on issues arising from the development and spread of HPAI H5N1 as necessary and required [ongoing] 2. Continue to contribute to the work of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza & Wild Birds on behalf of the Convention [ongoing] particularly in developing the scope and structure of the third technical meeting [May 2009] 3. Attend and provide input to the third technical meeting [late 2009] 4. Assess meeting outputs to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - determine implications for existing guidance [spring 2010]; - determine guidance gaps [spring 2010]; and - where possible, re-package outputs into guidance [mid 2010]. 5. Discuss re-packaging current guidance and meeting outputs, and developing CEPA HPAI toolkit with CEPA [spring 2010] 6. Continue updating guide-to-guidance [ongoing, with outputs at the end of each calendar year] 7. Provide updated guide-to-guidance, re-packaged workshop outputs and other re-packaged guidance to Contracting Parties [at the end of each calendar year]. <p>ii)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore potential for academic or other collaboration on producing list of diseases and issues relevant to wetlands (Dirk Pfeiffer, RVC?) utilizing already existing work on water-related diseases by WHO-TDR and other organizations [mid 2009] 2. Consider cost-effective means of getting together expert group to scope task [mid 2009] 3. Meet with expert group [early 2010] 4. Report back outputs to convention as appropriate [mid 2010] 5. Prepare information sheets resources permitting [before COP11] |
| Additional | Task ii) has strong linkage with TWA4 (Wetlands and Human Health) and TWA9 (Wetlands and Agriculture) |

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| comments/information | Target audiences: i) Contracting Parties especially including wetland site managers and others responsible for wetland management ii) Wetland site managers and others responsible for wetland management |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Wildlife disease tasks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ruth, Rebecca and David got together at WWT on 26 January to brainstorm a possible format for an info sheet to deliver key information on wetland diseases to various parties (wetland managers and others) as called for in Res X.21. 2. Prepared an example of possible format to bring to the mid-term STRP workshops for comment and discussion. 3. A questionnaire to assess the exact audience for guidance has been prepared and circulated widely 4. Subsequent to that, we'd use the opportunity of the AI Task Force meeting at FAO in Rome in March to further discuss format and content. (a small group of relevant experts meeting on 17 March to further elaborate info sheet structure but also to come up with a prioritised list of diseases of wetland wildlife for which such information sheets would be developed.) 5. The aim would be to have a set of advance drafts completed by the end of 2010. Please look here. For more details. <p>HPAI tasks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Scientific Task Force on AI and wild birds is currently planning a third meeting, to be held at FAO HQ in Rome from 15-16 March. We are current finalising the programme and that will go out with invites by the end of next week. There is some allocated STRP support for this meeting, and we'll need to call on that at some point. I'll be in touch separately about that. There are two main aims for the meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. review current H5N1 status quo and knowledge of the virus, and our current understanding of its impacts of waterbirds and wetlands. My guess is that some of this material might be usefully summarised as a Ramsar Technical Report and/or CoP Info paper to update parties on current knowledge. I'll be able to report progress on planning that meeting in February; and b. review the current role of the Task Force and how, if it is to continue its work, that should be refocused given the changed policy landscape since H5N1 emerged some years ago. This review would be more process orientated. <p>Task Force on Wildlife Diseases</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. CMS CoP9 called for a Task Force on wildlife diseases. That may be launch in Rome on 18/18 March in which case we would have the discussion at #3 above in the context of that meeting rather than a stand-alone session on the 17th. David to update on that when relevant decisions will be taken. |

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| Update following the STRP midterm workshops | HPAI scientific task force – new report due out shortly, David Stroud will forward information to STRP and update us at STRP16. Rebecca Lee presented the proposed layout and contents for the wildlife diseases task. Draft materials to be ready for STRP16. |
| Any other comments? | For a brief update on progress on Tasks 2.10ii (wildlife diseases) and 5.1.ii (part of the human health task) go to the support service at Developing guidance on wildlife/wetland diseases |

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| Task No. 3.1: MA response options – further advice | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Continue to develop ways in which to further promote and best utilize the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, especially those concerning response options, and in particular by developing Ramsar guidance on response options which address broad implementation themes not currently covered by the toolkit of Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks, including <i>inter alia</i> nutrient cycling, food, and climate change, and including advice on responses at sub-global scales. (Resolution IX.2 task 13, STRP 14, Resolution X.18) |
| Task lead person: | Rebecca D’Cruz |
| Task force members | Rebecca D’Cruz, Max Finlayson, Randy Milton |
| Type of product/output(s): | 1. Ramsar Technical Report 2. Modules to supplement Ramsar Management Guidelines; 3. Products to external audience (e.g. health and finance sectors) |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Mini brain storming and writing workshop – 9000 CHF (following mid term) |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Ramsar Technical Report: distribution to STRP for comment – 31 May 2009; comments by 30 June 2009; final text 31 July 2009. 2. Reviewing guidance from TWA2: Economics, Poverty; TWA3: GWOS- indicators to measure effectiveness of responses; TWA4: Health; TWA5: Climate Change; TWA6: Water; TWA9: Agriculture; [Tentative list] - mid term 3. Addendum to RTR or MA Wetland Synthesis |
| Additional comments/information | Additional task force members from identified TWAs? Link to TWA 10: CEPA; |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | 1. Information Paper on gaps in current toolkit; guidance being developed which is contributing to filling some of the gaps identified (e.g. from TWA2: Economics, Poverty; TWA3: GWOS- indicators to measure effectiveness of responses; TWA4: Health; TWA5: Climate Change; TWA6: Water; TWA9: Agriculture); and remaining gaps (to advise future tasks). TIMELINE: Distribution to STRP for comment – 31 May 2010; comments by 30 June 2010; |

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| | final text 31 July 2010. 2. CEPA products arising from the review, for external audiences. TIMELINE: in draft by December 2010. |
| Task No. 3.2:Wise Use case studies – dissemination | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare advice on maximizing the utility, both to the STRP and others, of case studies prepared in recent years on aspects of wetland wise use, to include proposals for the design of appropriate Web-based resources to assist in making such case studies more widely available. |
| Task lead person: | Randy Milton |
| Task force members | Rebecca D'Cruz, Sandra Hails, Monica Zavagli, Mark Smith (IUCN) |
| Type of product/output(s): | 1. <i>Ramsar Technical Report</i> (update of 1993 publication) 2. Web-based Resource: Hosted on Ramsar web site and/or STRP Support Service |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | 1. Carry-over from last triennium: Update of Wise Use Case Studies (1993), DJEnvironmental 2. CEPA Guidance: Who are the end users? STRP, wetland managers, Admin Authority, NFPs 3. Web-design, maintenance, translation costs?? |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Preparation of draft Update of 1993 publication for STRP review by 30 April 2009; Finalization of text for RTR by 30 September 2009; 2. Collate case studies from previous triennium (e.g. river basin management, poverty reduction and wise use – WI, IMWI, WWF) - spreadsheet with URLs 3. Explore how the case studies can be identified for future use: theme, searchable key words; translation needs, regional coverage 4. Develop, layout and upload protocols: Lead?? Timeline??? Information required on each case 5. Report at the mid-term on possible options. |
| Additional comments/information | Links to TWA 3.1 MA Response Options; TWA 4 Wetlands and Human Health;; TWA 2.6 Wetlands and Poverty Eradication, TWA 2.5 Economic Sector Issues; TWA 2.7 Urban wetlands (China case studies); TWA 2.8 Wetlands and Fisheries; TWA 7.3 Wetlands and Water Quality; TWA 7.5 Water Resource Management in dry and semi-humid lands; TWA 8.9 Transboundary Ramsar sites; TWA 4.4 Ecological Character; |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Draft under review, further edits and amendments required for completion. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | Update on progress. |
| Update after midterm | To be completed by year end 2010. |

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TWA 2: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 2.5: Economic sector issues for wetlands – review | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Conduct a scoping review of technical aspects of relevance to the Ramsar Convention in the finance, banking, investment, insurance and other economic sectors, with a view to developing enhanced understanding of the implications for wetland-related policy and decision-making of economics-based approaches to investment and insurance risk analysis, tradeoffs, incentives, perverse incentives, modeling, forecasting, water and wetland commodities pricing, hunting and harvesting in wetlands, trade in wetland products, flood risk management, floodplain planning controls, health costs and benefits, and other aspects, taking into account evolving perspectives on valuation of wetland ecosystem services, having regard to opportunities for raising awareness of wetland issues in the financial sector. (Resolution IX.2 task 167, STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | Ritesh Kumar |
| Task force members | Lucy Emerton, Randy Milton, Roy Gardner, Mary Kentula USEPA , George Lukacs (Bob Costanza), ISEE (Peter May), Mark Smith (Andy Seidl / Joshua Bishop) , Kassim Kulindwa |
| Type of product/output(s): | Scoping paper - STRP Mid-Term Technical Report + Guidance – As per outcome of midterm review |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | For expert consultant - Can be assessed after a review of the scoping paper |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Drafting of a scoping review paper on 'Wetlands and Economic Sectors'. The paper would elaborate on following aspects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conventional wetland ecosystem valuation and economic sector decision making – missing links Building business case for investing into wetland conservation and wise use Public policy instruments for encouraging business to take into account wetland ecosystem services Ecosystem services marketplace Needs, gaps and opportunities (for b,c and d – provide conceptual framework, tools and cases) Review by STRP during the midterm meeting, decide whether to take up tasks further |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Available documentation from World Business Council, International energy agency (incl World Energy Outlook 2008), practical application of incentive systems, SEA for business to be referred Linkages with tasks on wetlands and tourism ; wetlands and urbanization; UN Habitat</i> |

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| | <i>Based on the outcomes of the scoping, we could link up with appropriate agency /corporate for further support Scope up economic mechanisms and instruments to enhance financial and economic viability of wetland management</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Scoping Paper drafting in progress |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Paper outline revisited and the following confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Wetland ecosystem services and economic sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Positive Linkages b. Negative Linkages b) Economic valuation and economic sector decision making – missing links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economic valuation of wetland ecosystem services – approaches and tools b. Business applicability of ecosystem valuation c. Missing links / catalysts c) Building business case for investing into wetland conservation and wise use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lessons / experiences from other ecosystems (eg. forests) b. Matrix – Economic Sectors vs Ecosystem Services (Theoretical aspects / Case Studies (Corporate Wetland Restoration Programme - US /Approaches) d) Public policy instruments for encouraging business to take into account wetland ecosystem services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. (offsets, trading, .es market place., wetland mitigation banking, PES, ...) e) Needs, gaps and opportunities <p>Journal paper drafted by December 2010.</p> |
| Any other comments? | Include an update note on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity Study as an information paper for CoP |

Task No 2.7: Planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands - guidance.

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | In the light of advice from Contracting Parties through their STRP National Focal Points on issues concerning urban wetlands and peri-urban wetlands that would benefit from additional scientific and technical guidance, consider the preparation of guidance for Contracting Parties and consider ways to disseminate information to Contracting Parties on managing urban and peri-urban wetlands, in accordance with an ecosystem approach, and taking into account issues such as climate change, ecosystem services, food production, human health and livelihoods. (STRP14, Resolution X.27) |
| Task lead person: | Rob McInnes |
| Task force members | Stanley Liphadzi, Chris Gordon, Lijuan Cui, Christine Prietto, Ritesh Kumar, Kevin Erwin, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Lifeng Li, Maria Rivera, Bill Mitsch, Max Finlayson, Pierre Howitz + Other identified 'conduits' through which information |

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| | can be accessed and exchanged. |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summary report on principles of best practice wetland management and restoration in urban and peri-urban areas in order to maximize delivery of ecosystem services. 2. CEPA guidance on how best to communicate and disseminate results to appropriate audiences. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <p>External Consultant to co-ordinate final synthesis CHF9,000</p> <p>Post-graduate student to address specific urban wetlands / human health issues CHF3,000</p> <p>Workshop (in, or close to, an important urban wetland), including Consultant costs, participant's travel and per diem CHF30,000</p> <p>Translation costs CHF2,000</p> <p>TOTAL CHF 44,000</p> <p>Note: Investigate possibility of corporate or local governmental funding.</p> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review current best practice guidance on the management and restoration of urban and peri-urban wetlands from different member states and regions. Specific tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Undertake a background contextual review on the relationship between urban and peri-urban wetlands and world cities including their relationship with major river systems and coastal zones and the specific relationship between Ramsar sites and urban areas. ii) Review existing Ramsar guidance and handbooks for guidance on the management and restoration of wetlands. iii) Collate and synthesize existing guidance documents and practical examples. Ensure liaison with Secretariat, Regional Networkers, Wetland Link International, IOPs, UN HABITAT, FAO Food for the Cities Programme, CBD Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity and local municipalities and authorities. iv) Collate and review specific issues germane to urban and peri-urban wetlands including <i>inter alia</i> human health (including both threats and opportunities), recreation, education, agriculture, waste water treatment, storm water regulation and poverty reduction. 2. Undertake an initial review of the scientific literature to identify research gaps and strengths in order to assist in refining guidance and substantiating the scientific credibility and robustness of the work. 3. Undertake an assessment of the utility of the existing information. Specific tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Identify significant knowledge gaps and research/guidance needs. ii) Assess transferability of guidance within and beyond states. iii) Identify linkages to existing Government policies and economic incentives. iv) Identify linkages with existing initiatives such as the FAO Food for the Cities Programme and CBD Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity. 4. Summary of case studies. Specific tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Produce a summary of exemplar projects, including evidence on how <i>inter alia</i> institutional, legislative, |

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| | <p>economic, indigenous knowledge, scientific and practical elements combined to facilitate delivery.</p> <p>ii) Produce a summary of less successful projects identifying the causes of failure or the obstacles to delivery.</p> <p>5. Integration of CEPA and consideration of the process of dissemination and the form of guidance. Specific tasks:</p> <p>i) Based on the review of guidance define what's already 'out there' and what's being used successfully?</p> <p>ii) Define and evaluate the current processes of dissemination and communication.</p> <p>iii) Formulate a process on how best to disseminate appropriate guidance to appropriate audiences.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Need to ensure close linkage is maintained with other Thematic Work Areas, especially: especially TWA4: Wetlands and human health; TWA8: Wetland management – restoration, mitigation, compensation; TWA2: Task 2.6 Poverty Reduction; TWA2: Task 2.5 Economic sector issues; TWA9: Wetlands and agriculture; TWA6: Wetlands and water resource management.</p> <p>Need to address in some form the linkage between this work and the emerging issue of population trends and migrations which defines the urgency and need. This needs to consider both the movement of people into cities as well as out of cities to rural and peri-urban areas.</p> <p><u>It is suggested that this should be elevated to a high priority task.</u></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Expert Workshop held in Naivasha, Kenya on 16-17th November 2009 supported by UN HABITAT and Ramsar Convention. Approximately 30 participants from around the world including urban planners and managers and wetland experts attended the Workshop.</p> <p>Draft report produced. The report summarizes the issues relating to urban development and wetland management and outlines the stages to take this initiative forward.</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drafted overarching principles. 2. Identified priority audiences to receive 1. and technical guidance. 3. Identified two priority products and a third secondary product. (see also here) 4. Product 1 – Policy paper describing overarching principles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Dec. 2010 – Draft Resolution to COP 11 - 2012 and to UN HABITAT Governing Council 2011. 5. Product 2 – Integration with UNHABITAT SCP process. (Integration with HBs?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope and develop individual guidance within structure Product 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phased – scope and design in 2010, draft and development post 2010 dependent on resources. • Ensure synergies with existing and developing Ramsar products are utilised. • Testing utility and applicability of guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Against existing UN HABITAT projects. • Within new UN HABITAT city initiatives. 6. Defined workplan to take this Task forward to implementation to COP11 and beyond. |

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| | 7. Estimated resources and budgetary requirements. |
| Any other comments? | Still looking into securing additional resources to support this activity as currently there are limited funds available. The initial priority of this task may need to be reassessed. |

| Task No. 2.8: Wetlands and fisheries – guidance needs review | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Review remaining needs and gaps in guidance relating to wetlands and fisheries, taking account of the materials produced to date in response to tasks 17 and 18 in Resolution IX.2, and prepare advice on what further scientific and technical guidance may be required, if any, with a suggested work plan for its completion. (STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | Zavagli |
| Task force members | Lukacs |
| Type of product/output(s): | A Ramsar Technical report: “A review of Ramsar sites and fisheries maintenance.” |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Nil |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lukacs/Zavagli to consider existing status and comments on draft report by Welcomme 2. Lukacs/Davidson/Zavagli to write the report preamble 3. Zavagli: (i) Integrate/incorporate comments from 2005 into existing report (ii) Update the draft Report with the most recent Ramsar information. 4. Zavagli consult with Lukacs, Davidson and STRP members previously engaged on Task to identify any extra information needs. 5. Invite potential peer reviewers (David Coates (CBD), Anne vanDam (UNESCO-IHE) and Chris Gordon) 6. Finalise review early 2010 and advise report’s lead author. |
| Additional comments/information | <i>This Task primarily relates to revising an existing draft report by Robin Welcomme.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | All comments have been included into the report (except the suggestion from WWF about inserting case studies), all figures are update to August 2009 as well as recommendations from Res.IX.4 (adopted after the report was written). Some further edits might be required for completion. A glossary is under preparation. In the process to gather photos for the report . |
| Updated following the STRP Mid-term | Identify two or three potential reviewers to provide comments in the coming months so to finalize the report as soon as possible. |

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| workshops | Timeline: April 2010 sent for peer review May 2010 sent to author for final comment June 2010 completed and ready for typeset/publication as RTR |
| Any other comments? | <i>This Task primarily relates to revising an existing draft report by Robin Welcomme.</i> |

| Task No. 2.9: Wetlands and tourism – scoping review | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Conduct a brief scoping review of needs, options and opportunities for development of advice on scientific and technical aspects of tourism, sustainable tourism, ecotourism and related recreational activities in relation to wetlands, also taking into account the effects of tourism-related hunting and harvesting in wetlands. (Resolution IX.2 task 164, STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | MacKay |
| Task force members | Abou Bamba, Sandra Hails, Roy Gardner, Archana C, David Coates, David Stroud |
| Type of product/output(s): | Scoping review – internal issues paper for STRP to identify scope of future more detailed work if needed. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Yes. Approx 2 weeks work (10 days) for contracted expert. For scoping review only. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>Target audience: guidance should be primarily for site managers.</p> <p>Focus of the guidance should be on tourism in relation to sustainable livelihoods and benefits for local communities.</p> <p>Additional product could be information for government level and policy makers, to draw attention to the value of wetland-related tourism using MA services terminology (link to the economic sector review) – might be possible to quickly repackaging CBD and WHC materials into a suitable product for government and policy makers, then focus the rest of the task work on site-level guidance.</p> <p>1. Work with likely end users to identify their needs for guidance on managing tourism in wetlands and with people/organizations with experiences in tourist developments and their impacts in and around Ramsar sites, to provide scope of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review various definitions in use and clarify for Ramsar purposes; • What sectors to cover – eg wilderness areas, general recreational areas, urban areas; • What activities and types of recreation to cover – eg aesthetic only, trails & foot paths, boating & vehicles, |

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| | <p>recreational fishing & hunting & harvesting; hotels in and around wetlands and their impact on wetlands (such as water and waste issues)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there any special issues related to tourism and poverty reduction at the local level • What level of guidance is needed, i.e. policy, planning or operational. <p>2. Review available guidance and check if or to what degree this matches user needs, especially whether guidance is wetland-specific enough.</p> <p>3. Recommendations for scope of further work (3 possibly levels of intensity, perhaps), and resources needed in each case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is new standalone guidance required that STRP should lead, or facilitate through collaboration with other suitable organizations ? • Is only a guide to guidance needed? • Should we simply review, restructure and update the existing tourism mini website? |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Link to poverty eradication task. Tourism important in achieving PR/PE goals.</i></p> <p><i>Check IUCN and WI poverty eradication programmes for useful information.</i></p> <p><i>Check CBD for plenty of information on sustainable tourism.</i></p> <p><i>Likely end users: Target audience also includes tourism managers ?how to engage with that sector.</i></p> <p><i>Could be source of funding through carbon offset programs in tourism sector.</i></p> <p><i>Potential for corporate funding sources.</i></p> <p><i>Available guidance on tourism and biodiversity – use this.</i></p> <p><i>World Tourism Association willing to work with us.</i></p> <p><i>Secretariat are planning Seychelles event 2010 re importance of wetlands for econ and social value. Need support from STRP to provide info or case studies, help organize.</i></p> <p><i>Need Ramsar definition of ecotourism irt wetlands.</i></p> <p><i>UK gov project review of tourism and biodiversity.</i></p> <p><i>CBD can help with this task.</i></p> <p><i>Clarify scope tourism vs recreational uses of wetlands.</i></p> <p><i>MA info on value of recreational fishing.</i></p> <p><i>Which kinds of wetlands are most at risk from tourism, sensitivity to habitats, seasons. GLOF effects on tourism.</i></p> <p><i>Small island states – tourism in coastal areas. Need understanding of impacts of climate change, also impacts of tourism in coastal zone.</i></p> <p><i>Ghana – local perceptions of tourism can be negative. Benefits don't reach people on the ground.</i></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |

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| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | No progress – this task does not have resources allocated. |
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| Task No. 2.11: Waterbird flyway initiatives knowledge sharing | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Contribute as appropriate to joint efforts with the Ramsar Secretariat and the secretariats and subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Migratory Species, the Agreement of African-Eurasian Waterbirds, and other interested organizations to establish a mechanism for sharing knowledge and experience on best practices in the development and implementation of flyway-scale waterbird conservation policies and practices, including successful means of disseminating critical supporting data and information to stakeholders and others. (Resolution X.22 Resolution X.1: strategy 3.5) |
| Task lead persons: | David Stroud with Vicky Jones, Taej Mundkur and DSG |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Lew Young, Rebecca Lee, Vicky Jones, Secretariat (DSG), Wetlands International (Taej Mundkur) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Workshop; workshop proceedings (Status & further development of global waterbird [and other migratory bird] flyway initiatives: best practices and lessons learnt); advice & input to Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Scientific Council Working Group on Flyways |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Funds will be needed for preparing and hosting workshop, delegate participation in workshop (c. 30-50 people), report publication. Estimated costs: delegate support for workshop: CHF 60-70,000. [Potential support of c. \$40,000 identified February 2010. Still to be confirmed] Report preparation and publication: CHF 25,000 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish liaison with secretariats of CMS, AEW, WHSRN, WHIMSI, East Asia Australasia Type II partnership and other relevant initiatives and with CMS SC flyways working group leads [April/May 2009] 2. Jointly identify all relevant flyway-scale initiatives, agreements, action plans etc. 3. Identify mechanism for electronic discussion and information sharing between secretariats and initiatives [potentially discussion forum on STRP Support Service web-site] [May 2009] 4. Agree and develop scope and structure of a workshop of practitioners involved in implementing flyway initiatives and different components of this implementation (<i>inter alia</i> population status and trends; research networks, key site network identification & establishment, capacity-building & training, local government & community engagement, national and international governance support etc.) Taxonomic scope could focus on just waterbirds, or alternatively look at full range of bird flyway initiatives (e.g. also soaring birds, passerines etc.) since these approaches could also inform waterbird initiatives re non-site based approaches etc. [May/June 2009] 5. Hold workshop [late 2009] |

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| | 6. Compile workshop report and publish [early 2010] 7. Provide workshop outputs to inform CMS SC working group, potential information paper to AEWA MOP, and Ramsar SC etc. 8. Continue knowledge and information sharing through Web-based mechanism [2010 onwards] |
| Additional comments/information | This process will provide key input, for waterbird flyways, to the work of the CMS SC working group on flyways established by CMS COP9 (December 2008), led by CMS Scientific Councillors Taej Mundkur and John O'Sullivan. CEPA product for AAs. Slippage in timing of workshop means linkage with CMS SC working group (#5 above) now more difficult. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | 1. Programme developed through email and teleconferences. Concept and programme drafted 2. Key participants identified |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | 3. Establish liaison with secretariats of CMS, AEWA, WHSRN, WHIMSI, East Asia Australasia Type II partnership and other relevant initiatives and with CMS SC flyways working group leads [March 2010] 4. Jointly identify all relevant flyway-scale initiatives, agreements, action plans etc. 5. Agree and develop scope and structure of a workshop of practitioners involved in implementing flyway initiatives and different components of this implementation (inter alia population status and trends; research networks, key site network identification & establishment, capacity-building & training, local government & community engagement, national and international governance support etc.). Taxonomic scope could focus on just waterbirds, or alternatively look at full range of bird flyway initiatives (e.g. also soaring birds, passerines etc.) since these approaches could also inform waterbird initiatives re non-site based approaches etc. [April 2010] 6. Hold workshop [November 2010] 7. Compile workshop report and publish [early 2011] 8. Provide workshop outputs to inform CMS SC working group, potential information paper to AEWA MOP, and Ramsar CoP11 etc. 9. Continue knowledge and information sharing through Web-based mechanism [2010 onwards] 10. Identify mechanism for electronic discussion and information sharing between secretariats and initiatives [potentially discussion forum on STRP Support Service web-site] [post-workshop] |

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| Task No. 2.12: Invasive species and wetlands guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare comprehensive and up-to-date global guidance on invasive species in relation to wetlands and their management, in cooperation with the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) and other relevant organizations. (See also task 6.1 iv.) (Resolution X.1: strategy 1.9) |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud |

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| Task force members | Stroud, Sara Simons (GISP) Finlayson, DSG, G Howard (IUCN) [to be invited] |
| Type of product/output(s): | Initial scoping – internal note to STRP. [June 2010] Possible next product would be “guide to guidance”, similar to that prepared for HPAI in Res. X.21. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Possibly not for 1 and 2 below, if someone from STRP core or observers/IOPs can do this. Will not know how much funding needed for 3 until ToR clearer after mid term meeting. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initial review of previous material prepared for COP8, and new material/information emerging in relation to climate change & invasive species, in discussion with GISP to identify such new material/information. (note from Max F: the draft wetland guidance, based on CBD, was “wetlandised” and could be resurrected and presented, either as guidance or RTR.) 2. Assess scope and likely suitability of currently available and emerging guidance and information. 3. Revisit at mid-term meetings, and there agree on terms of reference (including resources needed) for possible “guide to guidance”, in consultation with climate change TWA and restoration TWA in order to ensure delivery of task 6.1(iv) also. |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Significant guidance materials exist but possibly not in a form immediately accessible to managers of Ramsar sites. A ‘guide to guidance’ would be a useful product but the initial scoping notes would need to clearly define the intended audience is for this work: site managers (operational) or policy-levels within government (i.e. is the issue ‘cure’ [eradication/control] or prevention?? A crucial issue in terms of where to focus this issue!</p> <p>Note that this issue is particularly one that will be relevant to island CPs (especially, though not exclusively, SIDS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional networkers to assist in identifying suitable information/ materials/guidance before mid term meetings. • Audience ?? site or policy level ? • include admin authorities since invasives being discussed in transboundary context in other conventions, MEAs. • Links to restoration TWA • Shorter info product (CEPA) on priority species, areas, impacts, invasive traits and control. Top 10. • Neotropics are source for many invasive plants in wetlands. • Parasite and pathogen load should be included – invasives move with these loads and affect wetland and human health. Links to task 2.10 wildlife diseases. • Relative vulnerability of fresh water wetland ecosystems to invasive species compared to other biomes. • Short case studies with examples from all regions to show costs and benefits, effectiveness of programs, costs of invasive species ito services lost and removal/management programs. • Additional linkage – to Climate Change tasks – effect of CC on invasiveness – work with GISP – and also connect with IPCC 5AR |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note also existing tools in IF-WIAMS, e.g. EIS, ERA, VA The Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC, is producing two reports for the European Commission (EC) in support of the emerging EC strategy on invasive species. One report (which is finalized but not publicly available yet) assesses the impacts of invasive species, including the economic impacts. The other study assesses the impacts of policy options on invasive species, including a cost - benefit analysis of policies. This study will be finalized in the 2nd half of this year. Peter Herkenrath can make reports available to us when ready. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | 1. Discussion of possible approaches with GISP at mid-term workshop. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | 2. List of AIS issues where may be a Ramsar angle to be progressed with GISP during March/April 2010. This will provide an initial scoping document. 3. Review of previously un-adopted annex to CoP8 DR on AIS (March) and assess whether still useful.together with new material/information emerging in relation to climate change & invasive species, in discussion with GISP to identify such new material/information. (Note from Max F: the draft wetland guidance, based on CBD, was "wetlandised" and could be resurrected and presented, either as guidance or RTR.) 4. Assess scope and likely suitability of currently available and emerging guidance and information. In the light of the plethora of existing guidance, a fundamental issue remains determining how Ramsar's contribution can usefully contribute to existing activity. This requires <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The identification of target audiences (policy makers or site managers or both)? Type of product to be developed? How any Ramsar product should best be packaged and disseminated? |
| Any other comments? | Possible DR for CoP11. Regional networkers to assist in identifying suitable information/ materials/guidance |

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| Task No. 2.13: Corporate "water footprint" assessments | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Assess guidelines, such as those of the Water Footprint Network, that have been developed to support companies in assessing their water 'footprint' as a part of programmes of corporate environmental and social responsibility. (Resolution X.12) |
| Task lead person: | MacKay (pending suitable lead person/organization to be identified) |
| Task force members | Lifeng Li (WWF), Ania Grobicki (GWP) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Briefing note from STRP to Parties via Standing Committee and STRP report to COP |
| Funds needed for | No. |

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| contracting an expert consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRP Chair will write to WWF and GWP requesting them to collate useful information on this issue of which they are aware, and forward references or original source material to STRP, preferably via the Support Service. • STRP will make this information available to Parties via a short briefing note and references to relevant materials. |
| Additional comments/information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF active in this area of sector based accounting tools. Their Water footprint working group could prep summary of existing guidance and work in this area. • Swedish EI and SIWI should have info. • GWP as possible lead/task force member? |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | No progress. STRP Chair will communicate with GWP and WWF. |

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| Task No. 2.14: Rice paddy biodiversity and management - <i>[this task moved to TWA9 Wetlands & Agriculture]</i> | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Working with other interested organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> prepare a technical report on the role of rice paddy in supporting the conservation of wetland biodiversity and the delivery of wetland ecosystem services, taking into account differences in the ways in which rice fields are managed, considering also the work of the GAWI partnership; and review, disseminate, and exchange available guidance and information related to rice paddy planning, management practices and training on sustainable rice farming that protect or enhance wetland biodiversity and ecosystem services while also supporting essential food production, in collaboration especially with FAO, IWMI, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the Africa Rice Centre (WARDA), the GAWI partnership, and others. <p>(Resolution X.31)</p> |
| Task lead person: | George Lukacs |

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| Task No.2.15: Other sectoral and /or emerging issues - watching brief | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Maintain a “watching brief”, including opportunistic collation of relevant information, on the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> soil and land degradation impacts on wetlands, including the potential scope for collaboration with the UN Convention to Combat Desertification – <i>links to water TWA task on managing water resources in dry and sub-humid lands, could be taken up into that task.;</i> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) shifting patterns of human population distribution and the impacts of these on wetlands, including the potential scope for developing a better understanding of information needs, linked <i>inter alia</i> with relevant aspects of work on climate change – <i>links to task on urban and peri-urban wetlands – should be addressed in that review</i>; iii) beyond the consideration of forest issues within the tasks defined elsewhere in the present Annex on climate change and energy, other aspects of the effects on wetlands of afforestation, deforestation and reforestation, awareness needs in the forests sector concerning forested wetlands and wetland-dependent forests, and knowledge needs concerning representation of relevant wetland types in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance (Resolution IX.2 task 165); iv) governance issues of relevance to wetlands, including policy options concerning corporate social responsibility, and prevention of and responses to governance failures (including corruption), having regard <i>inter alia</i> to Resolution X.18; v) wetlands and conflict, taking account of the background information exchanged within the STRP during the 2006-2008 triennium, and having regard as appropriate to Article 5 of the Convention; vi) any need for guidance on specific scientific and technical implementation issues in transboundary contexts – <i>note any new guidance/information/initiatives on TB watersheds and river basins. Note task in TWA7 on tb Ramsar sites partially addresses this issue</i>; vii) wetlands and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), in collaboration where appropriate with the Convention on Biological Diversity. <p>(STRP 14)</p> |
| Task lead person: | STRP Chair |
| Task force members | STRP |
| Type of product/output(s): | STRP reports, briefing notes as required. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | No. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Within STRP meetings. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>sub (i): No new information. Cross-ref Support Service postings regarding potential work on impacts of droughts.</p> <p>sub (ii): Potentially new information on population trends available from CIESIN (Alex de Sherbenin). Max Finlayson to update us at the mid-terms. Might be an aspect of the GWOS.</p> |

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| | <p>sub (iii): Note prepared by Nick Davidson on Ramsar wetlands and forests, included in CBD Technical Series No. 47 <i>Water, Wetlands and Forests. A Review of Ecological, Economic and Policy Linkages</i>, published March 2010.</p> <p>sub (iv): no progress.</p> <p>sub (v): no progress</p> <p>sub (vi): survey of Ramsar sites in transboundary situations will be undertaken by Roy Gardner's students in 2010. Cross-ref task number 8.9 in TWA7. See TWA7 updated pro forma. Info paper for STRP16.</p> <p>sub (vii): no progress on GMOs. Request CBD colleagues to update us on any new information from their processes and networks.</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Continue the discussions and maintain the "watching brief "</p> <p>(Consider adding reactive nitrogen & nitrogen cycles to the list as an emerging priority – HM will initiate a discussion on the support service)</p> |

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| Task No.2.16: Future priorities – assessment | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>In addition to any proposals arising from the "watching brief" task defined above, consider what priority, if any, might need to be given to work or further work in relation <i>inter alia</i> to the following issue areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) social aspects of water management and social impact assessment; ii) industrial sectors not mentioned in the list of other tasks defined in the present Annex; iii) biodiversity conservation, protected areas and wildlife population management - (<i>see information note on Skukuza Freshwater Group and IUCN-WCPA task force – continue to communicate and develop collaboration with these groups</i>); iv) hunting and harvesting in wetland ecosystems, whether for subsistence, commerce or recreational purposes; v) and in general utilise the "Changwon Declaration" (Resolution X.3 <i>The Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands</i>) in the establishment of priorities, feeding back experiences on its uptake to the Secretariat (<i>needs some strategy development, including CEPA</i>). <p>(Resolution IX.2 task 167, STRP14, Resolution X.3)</p> |
| Task lead person: | STRP Chair |
| Task force members | STRP |
| Type of product/output(s): | As required. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | No. |
| Approach/steps | Within STRP meetings. |

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| (including timelines) for delivering the work: | |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | sub (iv) hunting and harvesting in wetland ecosystems, whether for subsistence, commerce or recreational purposes. See report of CSAB3 meeting (Nov 2009): Note that CITES have agreed to lead collaborative work on hunting and harvesting generally, and we need to consider how to best engage with them on that issue. |

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| Task 2.14: Redevelopment of STRP Support Service (new priority task after midterm workshops in Feb 2010 – see also task 1.3) | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Design and redevelopment of the STRP Support Service during the 2009-2012 cycle. |
| Task lead person: | Monica Zavagli, Heather MacKay |
| Task force members | Rebecca Lee, Sandra Hails, other STRP |
| Type of product/output(s): | Redeveloped STRP Support Service, ready to implement at beginning of 2012-2015 triennium, on appointment of new STRP. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Yes: potentially 20,000 CHF in 2011. No additional resources needed in 2010. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HM is reviewing document management & archiving approaches in other scientific advisory organizations as part of the development of STRP editorial & review policy. Will provide recommendations on suitable doc management and archival system. 2. Review other electronic communication options e.g. AEWA workspace, for cost, suitability, maintenance issues. 3. Obtain inputs from STRP and NFPs to identify user needs for a communication, library and document management system. 4. Prepare recommendations for STRP16, including potential costs of various options. |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 3: WETLAND INVENTORY, ASSESSMENT, MONITORING & REPORTING

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetland Inventory assessment, monitoring & reporting |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Dave Pritchard |
| Co-lead(s): | |

ISSUE CLUSTERING

| | <i>High</i> | <i>Low</i> |
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| Data & inf needs | (4.3) | |
| Baselines | 4.4, (4.5) | 4.1 |
| Ecocharacter/Montreux Record | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| G-WOS | 4.2 | |
| Indicators | 4.8, 4.9 | 4.10, 4.11, 4.12 |

(Bracketed items being examined on joint basis with TWA7)

Core group: David Pritchard, Peter Herkenrath, Marc Paganini, Pierre Horwitz, Vicky Jones, George Lukacs, Szabolcs Nagy, [others?]

Others involved: Lisa-Marie Rebelo, Montserrat Carbonell, Kevin Erwin, [others?]

Primary CEPA link: Pierre Horwitz (+ David Pritchard)

[Re-check which outputs may be expected to be COP11 DRs]

TWA 3: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 4.2: Global Wetland Observing System (G-WOS) – development | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Draw up a specification for a global system for wetland observation (G-WOS), which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) draw on collaboration, data and analyses from relevant earth observation programmes and agencies, the WSSD Type II partnership with FAO-GTOS, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, and other relevant sources; ii) include elements of a Web-based wetland inventory meta-database; and iii) serve to support relevant Ramsar effectiveness indicators (primarily indicator A(i) on status and trends |

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| | in ecosystem extent) and other needs specified in Resolution X. [COP10 DR 14 on Data and information needs for management of wetlands], including those relating to inventory and wetland condition associated with agriculture, climate change, and human health. (Resolution IX.2 task 50, STRP14, Resolution X.14, Resolution X.1: strategy 1.2) |
| Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| Task force members | Marc Paganini, George Lukacs, Lisa-Marie Rebelo, Nick Davidson, Ake Roseqvist, Philippe G, Osamu Ochiai. (And link to Chris Prietto re CEPA issues) |
| Type of product/output(s): | (i) Concept paper on what specifically is meant by a “system” in this context, and the ways in which it will add value (ii) Report for COP11 on how the regional GlobWetland II pilot project could be applied more widely, including as a “global” approach (ii) Data, to feed to effectiveness indicators (indicator A(i), and possibly others). |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Funding available from ESA [how much, and will it cover all elements listed below?] |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Write a concept paper on what specifically is meant by a “system” in this context, and the ways in which it will add value to streams of relevant activity. Concentrate <i>inter alia</i> on the “system” not necessarily being a physical thing, but a set of facilitated connections (or clearing-house) to achieve optimal matching of data sources to defined Ramsar-relevant user needs. Max to do[?] [By when?] (ii) Desk exercise and liaison with CEPA and others to scope the various relevant data users and desirable uses for the “system” [who to do? By when?] (iii) Compile an up to date description of the state of play with relevant data-supply initiatives – eg ESA/TdV N Africa Med Observatory; FAO et al WSSD Type II partnership (FAO dropped out – but can register by an alternative route), JAXA-ALOS 2, IPBES, MA Sub-global assessments, GEO etc. George Lukacs to do [by when?] with Max Finlayson supporting. (iv) Review Med work/Globwetland II and comment/make recommendations on the experience gained as a pilot for a global WOS concept, and produce a report on results (GWII) by end 2010. ESA to lead, with input from UNEP-WCMC, & in coordination (via Max) with TdV -OMW/MedWet. [Does this need a meeting?] (v) Review options for widening/translating the pilot to other regions/scaling-up for global use, and produce report, by end 2011. ESA to lead. (vi) Marc Paganini and Max Finlayson to liaise with Peter H and David Pritchard re data that can feed in to |

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| | effectiveness indicator A(i), and potentially other Ramsar indicators. |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Link element (ii) above to TWA 10 and to Task 4.3</p> <p>Link to inventory review task 4.1</p> <p>In reviewing options for scaling-up, include testing best sampling efficiency.</p> <p>Include post -2010 target/BIP end-uses as appropriate in (ii) above.</p> |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | <p>The inventory component of the G-WOS is being addressed separately (task 4.1).</p> <p>The JAXA K&C team has drafted an overview of the potential for long-band radar imagery being used for G-WOS.</p> <p>DIVERSITAS has been kept informed about the G-WOS, and GEO BON has also been contacted.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines of a G-WOS concept (or GWO – Global Wetland Outlook) have been sketched out from sessions at the mid-terms. The overall approach leans more now towards targeting audiences in non-wetland sectors, and as well as addressing the situation with wetlands globally, providing an interpretation of this in terms of implications for ecosystem services delivery for the policy objectives of relevant other sectors. • The concept also includes optimising partnership links with other wetland observation initiatives and processes (eg Mediterranean Wetland Observatory, GlobWetland II, Living Planet Index, Red Lists, Waterbird Indices etc). • Max Finlayson to pursue development of links with GEO BON – unfunded proposal for a freshwater observation system, and to generate interest in developing a global wetland (inland and coastal) observation system through partnerships and devolved components. • Issues to tackle early in the concept development work will need to include governance and data management issues and structures that enable a devolved system to be developed and maintained. • Key element is a planned production of a Ramsar Convention <i>State of the World's Wetlands and their services to people</i> (SoWWS) as “the Convention's flagship publication presenting comprehensive and objective information and analysis on the current global state of coastal and inland wetlands and their capacity to continue to deliver major benefits to people. To be issued and updated regularly, SoWWS will be designed to inform public debate and policy-making at national and international levels, through increased understanding of, and actions to maintain, the role and natural capital of wetlands in supporting all sectors involved in the achievement of sustainable development”. • Task 4.11 is now integrated here into the SOWWS report proposal. • SOWWS will also draw significantly on input from indicators work (tasks 4.8/4.9). • Fuller concept paper now to be worked up by Max Finlayson/Nick Davidson/David Pritchard/Heather |

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| | <p>Mackay, to include purpose and audience; scope and content; format and style; authors/contributors/editors; partnerships; launch/promotion; schedule – delivery by Feb 2012; and costings (estimate for now, CHF 30K).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full cost of overall G-WOS system in region of CHF 500K. • David Coates/Nick Davidson to lead development of a bid for funding, having regard to CBD-related contexts. |
| Any other comments? | <p>See task 4.8 for link from SOWWS to possible COP11 DRs.</p> <p>Regional inputs: Advice on potential input from relevant regional observing initiatives.</p> |

| Task No. 4.3: Ramsar data and information needs – further elaboration. | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>In relation to Resolution X.14 on <i>A framework for Ramsar data and information needs</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> update and further develop the Convention's <i>Framework for Ramsar data and information needs</i>, drawing on implementation experience, end-user perspectives, and analysis of further needs defined in the decisions of COP10, in particular in relation to the data and information needs for identification and designation of Ramsar sites; produce a companion document identifying actions and action gaps of relevance to meeting the needs defined in the Framework at different scales; make use of the Framework <i>inter alia</i> to inform harmonization/interoperability activities with other MEAs; construction/prioritization of relevant project proposals either developed or supported by the Ramsar Convention; and the future development of the Ramsar Sites Information Service; with the Secretariat, continue to cooperate with the CBD Secretariat, UNEP, and UNEP-WCMC in the development of a framework for harmonized reporting on implementation on inland waters for the CBD and the Ramsar Convention. <p>(Resolution IX.2 task 52, STRP14, Resolution X.11, Resolution X.14)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Dave Pritchard? [But time availability a problem?] |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Peter Herkenrath, Christine Prietto |
| Type of product/output(s): | Updated version of Framework document. To Standing Committee? COP11 as INF doc? |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <p>Short contract to compile info into an update. 5000 CHF</p> <p>Further workshop (to follow 2008 one) at UNEP-WCMC in 2010? 10000 CHF?</p> |
| Approach/steps | (i) Scan the identified gaps in the Table Annex to Res X.14 and flag links to any other STRP tasks that will help to fill |

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| (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>them (Chris P to have first go, during STRP15; DEP to support).</p> <p>(ii) Need to give particular attention to completing the “national level” part of the Framework, perhaps by using STRP NFPs and STRP regional networker members to canvas networks for input to the Framework. Ask Rebecca d’Cruz what’s possible in this regard.</p> <p>(iii) Concerning the “companion document”, begin with this pro-forma and simply keep a live rolling list of action points. (DEP to do; on-going).</p> <p>(iv) Concerning use of the Framework to inform harmonization/interoperability activities, take it to & refer to it at upcoming meetings on the subject, eg Hanoi April 2009 (PH, ND to do).</p> <p>(v) Concerning use of the Framework in prioritizing Convention project support, this is mainly a Secretariat function.</p> <p>(vi) Concerning use of the Framework in future development of the RSIS, ND to post to SuSe the Terms of Reference for work by WI on future RSIS development (with appropriate confidentiality caveats) with a request for STRP comment on how well the proposals will assist users (aiming particularly to draw comment from those who are or work with CP AAs, eg David Stroud, Randy Milton).</p> <p>(vii) Present an updated version of Framework to ? STRP mid-term workshops 2010? DEP to do? If resourced?</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Link to (take input from) task 4.10 (“Convention monitoring and assessment” re Strategic Plan).</p> <p>Take input from TWA7 work on data & info for Ramsar site criteria guidance.</p> <p>In relation to strategy 1.5, refer to information elements coming from synergy/harmonisation activities.</p> <p>In relation to strategy 1.6, explore possible relationships with publishing houses who might be prepared to take Ramsar products on a regular basis.</p> <p>In relation to strategy 1.11, feed in from the TWA2 task on economics.</p> <p>In relation to strategy 2.7, copy in relevant parts of what’s already in 2.1 and 2.2.</p> |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | <p>Peter H provided some trial examples of gap-filling insertions in to the Framework</p> <p>David Prithard updated all Strategic Plan goals/strategies/KRAs to match the final version of the Plan adopted at COP10, and updated all Handbook cross-references to refer to titles/numbers in forthcoming 4th edition.</p> <p>“Companion document” (task element (ii), on actions) now envisaged (at least pro tem) as an integrated section of the Framework itself.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>Rough working update of the Framework, annotated with first few additions and amendments.</p> <p>Actions agreed as follows:</p> <p><i>Immediately</i></p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEP/PH/ND to continue with responsibility for maintaining the Data & information needs Framework as a rolling document, and to devise a version/release control protocol; • DEP to check with DAS the timeframe for input of relevant TWA7 content to the Framework (ie revised description of info needs to fit revised structure of SF guidance, RIS guidance, ECDS links etc); • DEP to post the current (ie workshop update) version of the Framework on SuSe with an invitation to all STRP to check it for correctness and to contribute to gap-filling, having regard to the examples provided by PH, mentioning the data-flows issue and inviting suggestions/examples on ways of reflecting that issue; <p><i>During remainder of 2010</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAS to make input to Framework on TWA7 issues referred to above, (timeframe to be inserted); • DEP/PH/ND to make plan for small Cambridge workshop in 2011 (involving DEP/PH/ND plus DAS/Jerry H); • PH to experiment with possible ways of reflecting data-flows, using his choice of an example group of KRAs in the Framework; • PH to look at what might need including on harmonisation and interoperability issues, using Goal 3 as an example section; • DEP to undertake the check of the Framework against all COP10 Resolutions, to catch things that weren't caught at the time of adoption of the Framework; • All to take opportunities to promote the existence of the Framework, and its rationale and benefits, in other fora, (including those relating to coordination and cooperation among MEAs), among relevant regional networks (including STRP NFPs) and at national level; <p><i>For and at workshop in 2011</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop participants to collate and input wide range of additions to fill gaps in Framework; • Workshop participants to investigate options for including hyperlinks to other "layers" of documentation/websites etc; • Workshop participants to elaborate content of actions and data-availability columns, being clear in relation to the former (as far as possible) who is responsible and the timelines; and being clear in relation to the latter where the intent is to flag something that <i>is</i> available versus <i>should be</i> available (and using the actions column as appropriate for the latter); • Workshop participants to highlight main items in the Framework where CP National Reports are a key source of information; • Workshop participants to attempt to distinguish "mandatory" vs "optional" items in the Framework |
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| | <p>("mandatory" might be a minority, eg Art 3.2 reporting elements, RIS/RIS update elements, triennial national report elements etc);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop participants, in light of the experience of elaborating further elements in the Framework, to compile reflections on the formulation of the KRAs and their workability (from a data & information needs perspective), and to feed recommendations as appropriate to the Secretariat for any future modifications to the Strategic Plan; <p><i>At COP 11</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress information to be included in STRP Chair's report to COP; • Possibly present the updated Framework as a COP Information Document (which could also be the vehicle for requesting CP feedback on/input to the Framework); <p><i>Other</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibly package a future version of the Framework as a 5th edition Handbook. <p>Resources required: now reduced estimate of CHF 5K for the small workshop described above.</p> |
| Any other comments? | <p>Note significant link with TWA7, re input on RIS/criteria aspects.</p> <p>Regional inputs: Scan the Framework and suggest additions to the items in any of the fields. Possible advice on considerations of data-flows between national/regional/international levels.</p> |

| Task No. 4.4: Describing ecological character – guidance | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Develop further the Convention's guidance on describing ecological character (Resolution X15) to include, to the extent practicable:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> further operational guidance for practitioners on completing the ecological character description sheet for sites; guidance and information on using relevant conceptual models; cross-references, where available, from each relevant description sheet data field to worked examples, case studies or other appropriate sources of potential, actual or <i>de facto</i> standards for completing the fields; guidance on the scope for using Ramsar information fields in enhancing harmonisation and streamlining of reporting under related MEAs; and a review of practical implementation experiences, with lessons learned. <p>(STRP14, Resolution X.15)</p> |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud |

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| Task force members | Peter Herkenrath (for task element (iv), regional network STRP members, re finding case experiences [others?]) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Guidance, as COP Resolution & annex. (Possibly separate, and possibly to more targeted audience than COP?) guidance/technical communication on MEA harmonisation aspects. Information paper on review of implementation and lessons learned |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | [Contract for consultation and guidance drafting – 15000 CHF] |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Conduct up to date review of available conceptual models (inc Australia, and any from more minimal approaches), and their applicability to this task. (ii) Put out call? for case-studies, together with other implementation experiences and lessons learned, review these together with existing case study material. (iii) Write worked examples. (Perhaps include a transboundary site example). Look at how far one can read in info from existing RISs. (iv) Compile draft guidance, including links to worked examples and case studies. [Replace relevant parts of X.15, or supplement it?] (v) Road-test draft guidance with selected practitioners and AAs? (vi) Examine further what guidance to give on the treatment of natural/background variability, including droughts, in describing ecological character (link to task 4.6i, where this is covered). (vii) Review issues and compile technical communication on task element concerning MEA harmonisation aspects (PH to do? with input from ND, D Coates, and DEP). |
| Additional comments/information | Look at distinguishing minimum standards or essential vs desirable elements of the description? (Cf core inventory concept). Or will this need to be variable from case to case and depend on the circumstances of a given situation? Note potential link with Ramsar Technical Report awaiting completion on “Methods for the vulnerability assessment of wetlands” by Habiba Gitay (Max to address peer-review comments and finalise). Get input/advice re water quality aspects from task 7.3. |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | Some email discussions have taken place in relation to specific interpretation/application questions that have arisen, with some overlap with task 4.6. DAS has worked up test examples of RIS data read-across to EC description sheet. |
| Update following the | [See corresponding sections of TWA7 task pro-formas] |

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| STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft section of STRP Chair's report produced, explaining proposals for further consolidated architecture of RIS/SF guidance, ECDS and core inventory • Actual consolidated architecture now to be worked up, led by DAS. • Secretariat, working with the task group, to generate procedural guidance on handling of RISs/RIS updates during the expected transition period between COP11 adoption of revised structure and eg 2014 date for it coming fully into effect. • DAS will compile further worked examples of meshing RIS & ECDS, using a situation that contrasts with the Gough I example. • GL pursuing with Queensland Wetland Programme the options for collaboration on the development of global/Ramsar applications for conceptual models based on existing QWP models, including options for training materials/processes. A guide to conceptual models and their use should be one product. • Guidance on taking account of natural variability in defining EC baselines should be taken up in the revisions to guidance in the Strategic Framework for Ramsar sites under TWA7. • Harmonisation issues to be considered at a later stage when development of new materials has advanced a bit further (ie concerning use of data collected at the point of designation for other MEA reporting purposes). • Products for COP11 will probably include conceptual models illustrative material; and options may also be explored for a side training event on this issue. • Resourcing requirements (for the non-TWA7 elements) probably limited to (minority?) joint funding for collaborative efforts with QWP on conceptual models; yet to be quantified. |
| Any other comments? | <p>Note joint attention to this by TWA3 and TWA7.</p> <p>Regional inputs: Advice on tailoring of conceptual models materials, in due course.</p> <p>Continued specific inputs to RIS/SF work, including advice on compiler and database data-entry perspectives (see TWA7).</p> |

| Task No. 4.5: Harmonisation of RIS – options review <i>[Task moved to TWA7]</i> | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Review options for, and as necessary prepare proposals for, re-structuring and/or revising the format of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) and its accompanying Explanatory Notes and Guidelines to take account of the recommendations in Resolution X.15 on <i>Describing wetland ecological character, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance</i>, other relevant decisions adopted by COP10, other requirements (including protocols regarding shared sites), and the outcome of other tasks listed in the present Annex which relate specifically to the RIS, including (but not necessarily limited to) the tasks on Ramsar site Criteria,</p> |

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| | ecological character description, and Ramsar site information needs. (Resolution IX.2 task 106, STRP14, Resolution X.15) |
| Task No. 4.6: Detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character - further guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | In the context of Article 3.2 and the guidance in the Annex to Resolution X.16 on <i>A framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character</i> , develop further guidance on issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) “limits of acceptable change”, including guidance on defining the range of natural variability of a site; ii) determining confidence limits and degree of likelihood in cases of “likely” change in the context of Article 3.2; iii) the application of a precautionary approach in the Ramsar Convention; and iv). appropriate procedures for the Secretariat and Contracting Parties to consider reports made by third parties of change or likely change to the ecological character of Ramsar sites. (STRP14, Resolution X.13, Resolution X.16) |
| Task lead person: | Pritchard/Stroud |
| Task force members | Roy Gardner re legal aspects of elements (ii) and (iii)? Monica Zavagli re element (iv). Max Finlayson & George Lukacs ? re LAC. [Others to add] |
| Type of product/output(s): | Brief guidance for adoption by COP11 (and information document?) For Contracting Parties. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | [To add?] |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>(i) Review limits of acceptable change approaches that are in use around the world, and draft conclusions on applicability to the Ramsar ecological character change system. As an extension of the thinking to be done about defining the range of natural variability, consider also what advice can be crafted to assist Parties on Art 3.2 responses to changes in ecological character caused by anthropogenic climate change, and feed this also across to work of TWA5.</p> <p>(ii) Develop guidance on confidence limits/degree of likelihood issues.</p> <p>(iii) Develop an expanded treatment of precautionary approach issues in the Ramsar context (building on COP10 Doc 27, and having regard eg to the IUCN guidelines on pp).</p> <p>(iv) Consult and develop principles and procedures regarding 3rd party reports, in conjunction with ND/MZ/Secretariat, limiting STRP engagement to factors relating eg to task elements (ii) and (iii). (Some earlier</p> |

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| | work done in Secretariat to draw on). |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Build all on what's already in COP10 DOC27.</p> <p>Fold in task 4.7 (Montreux Record) under this one.</p> <p>Note link mentioned with TWA5 on climate change.</p> <p>Check mitigation/compensation work from TWA8; inc drawing anything relevant for the LAC element (i) above from TWA8's review of no net loss policies.</p> <p>Consider role for STRP NFPs in element (iv).</p> |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | <p>To a small extent some exchanges of views and identification of relevant points have taken place within STRP, including reviving earlier discussions that have a bearing on the TWA5 link mentioned in step (i) above.</p> <p>Preliminary review undertaken of new Australian government guidance publication on Art 3.2 reporting, and STRP input made to further advice/analyses on Art 3.2 in relation to two major casework interventions, which may be worth building in to this task in some appropriate way; although none of these has had the specific task elements above as its primary focus.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed review paper on limits of acceptable change, to be brought to COP11 as annex to DR, or an Inf Doc, combined with EC conceptual models issues from Task 4.4. It may not go fully into implications of intelligence from the LAC review for operation of Art 3.2, and that might be flagged in a DR as an issue for further work in the following triennium. Requires resourcing for consultant time to write the LAC review – c12K. Input also from DAS/GL/MC/MR/KE/DEP. Proposed COP11 DR to point Parties towards key issues concerning LAC, plus EC conceptual models issues from Task 4.4. This would also itemise tasks for STRP to tackle in the following triennium leading to a DR at COP12 on update/rationalisation of Art 3.2 issues (including proper review of the way forward with the Montreux Record – see task 4.7). The task element on 3rd party Art 3.2 reporting is considered not to be an STRP matter but to be a matter for the Secretariat in its dealings with CPs. It may however be worth circulating/posting the 2005 internal procedural handling guidance on this (tweaked if necessary to bring it up to date). Confirmed also (with reference to intersessional discussions on the issue) that change in wetland EC as a result of climate change should be regarded as lying beyond the scope of Art 3.2 (regardless of whether or not it is anthropogenic), and that the use of Art 3.2 in this context should be discouraged; the context for consideration of it being instead Res X.24. (This point could be included in any guidance on LAC). |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The task elements on determining confidence limits and degree of likelihood in cases of “likely” change in the context of Article 3.2, and the application of a precautionary approach in the Ramsar Convention, are not well specified as yet and are not seen as high priorities for immediate work. |
| Any other comments? | Regional inputs: Consult with MC/MR on their input to the LAC work. |

| Task No. 4.8: Indicators of effectiveness - operationalising the 1 st tranche | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Assist the Secretariat in operationalising the first tranche of Ramsar indicators of effectiveness of implementation of the Convention agreed by COP9, including implementation of Indicator Collaboration Agreements, publishing and disseminating results and conclusions, contributing to 2010 biodiversity target activities and other relevant assessments, and reporting to Standing Committee and COP11. (Resolution IX.1 Annex D, Resolution IX.2 task 59, STRP14, Resolution X.1: strategy 2.6) |
| Task lead person: | Dave Pritchard |
| Task force members | Peter Herkenrath (UNEP-WCMC), Szabolcs Nagy (WI), Alexia Dufour, Vicky Jones (BirdLife International), DSG |
| Type of product/output(s): | Series of indicator reports, for CPs and wider audiences including BIP, CBD, (following model tabled at STRP15 for indicator A(ii)). For each indicator: (a) a technical report (b) illustrated summary/ies. Put through Standing Committee, in ways to be discussed at SC40. Journal articles? Progress overview report, for Standing Committee and COP11. Advice to CPs on priorities among Strategic Plan implementation objectives, in light of indicator findings. (This to be discussed in SC). |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | (Two workshops already held). Funding required for probably 4 further workshops, hosted by UNEP-WCMC in UK.: 4x14000 = 56000 CHF Analysis, eg of NRF data? Or can this be done by WI/Secretariat without funding? Report-writing and editing, for 8 reports – CHF 25000[?] Production of illustrated summary headline reports [add figure] (38000 of the above to be spent on work in 2009). |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Draw up plan of workshops required for individual indicators; timing; key participants required; scope for combining 2 or more indicators in same workshop – Peter Herkenrath to lead, with David Pritchard and DSG. Rough draft already completed during STRP15 - working version to be in place by end April 2009. Probable next indicator priorities: A(i) (linked to G-WOS task 4.2); E (management effectiveness); G (Red List |

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| | <p>Index)</p> <p>Subsequent priorities: C (water quality); H (designation progress).</p> <p>Outline plan suggests Sept 2009 (Ai), Nov 2009 (E), Jan 2010 (G), Mar 2010 (C) and Jun 2010 (H) as workshop dates. Or possibly bring G further forward (ie earlier) than this.</p> <p>Do something May/Jun 2009 [if possible?] to produce what we can for GBO-3 and CBD requirements.</p> <p>Also see what packaging we can do of several indicator reports together for eg WWD use.</p> <p>(ii) Edit and complete (with additional analyses, and aspects of statistics from SN) the draft report on indicator A(ii).</p> <p>(iii) Test format of A(ii) report with a sample of end-users (D Coates, C Prietto to assist). Learn any lessons for use of this report as a model for others.</p> <p>(iv) Hold workshops, as above.</p> <p>(v) Write other indicator technical reports.</p> <p>Next priorities: B (Ramsar site status); Indicator D (threats), F (waterbird populations).</p> <p>Subsequent priorities – indicators coming from the workshops listed above.</p> <p>(vi) Write, print and disseminate summary reports (input from Sandra Hails, Heather MacKay, Chris Prietto).</p> <p>(vii) Participate in expert workshop on post-2010 indicators, Reading, UK, 6-8 July 2009 (ND, P Herkenrath, SN).</p> <p>(viii) Make further input to cooperation with CBD, inc GBO-3, IW PoW IDR and CBD Strategic Plan, and incorporate Ramsar indicator thinking in post-2010 plans. Also look at how CBD (indicator) info can feed in to Ramsar indicators, ie a two-way link.</p> <p>(ix) Attend 2010 BIP Partnership meeting, Cambridge, UK, July 2009.</p> <p>(x) Identify opportunities for high-profile use of indicator reports/information, eg World Wetlands Day, other global fora etc. (DEP, ND, PH, with input from Sandra H).</p> <p>(xi) Check CAFF biodiversity indicators work and identify scope for synergies with Ramsar indicators.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>One of highest TWA3 priorities.</p> <p>What “cuts” do we want each indicators workshop to grapple with, eg regions, flyways, inland/coastal?</p> <p>Note links identified with tasks 4.2, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12.</p> <p>Get input also re Indicator C from task 7.3 on water quality.</p> |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | <p>Since STRP15, 2 further technical meetings/workshops held (2 post-COP10 workshops had already been held prior to STRP15).</p> <p>Draft report on indicator A(ii) produced, still awaiting completion.</p> <p>Additional correlation analyses undertaken on indicator A(ii), not included in report.</p> |

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| | <p>Trial statistical analyses piloted on indicator A(ii) information: future approach to this still to be settled.</p> <p>Rough analyses undertaken on indicator B; yet to be written up.</p> <p>Rough analyses undertaken on indicator D; yet to be written up.</p> <p>First stage analyses for shorebird cut of indicator F undertaken, and journal paper on this nearing completion.</p> <p>Source information collated and initial trial analyses nearing completion in relation to indicator A(i).</p> <p>Paper on wetland status & trends, drawing on indicator analyses to date, prepared for CBD review of inland waters programme of work.</p> <p>Paper drawing on Ramsar indicator work addressing 2010 target and post-2010 wetland/water targets and indicators prepared for CBD deliberations on post-2010 regime.</p> <p>Three other papers drawing on Ramsar indicators information contributed to conferences/workshops on the post-2010 regime during 2009.</p> <p>Input made (via Secretariat) to GBO-3.</p> <p>Progress report (SC40-18) tabled at Standing Committee in May.</p> <p>Report produced for UNEP-WCMC by BirdLife relating to the approach for indicators D and G.</p> <p>Report produced by UNEP-WCMC and WWF relating to the approach for indicator E.</p> <p>Comments exchanged on the CAFF information referred to in step (xi) above, and comments sent to CAFF; but relationship to specific Ramsar analyses still needs to be evaluated.</p> <p>Based on experiences arising from the indicators work, proposals for the design of questions in the COP11 National Report Format have been collated and fed in to the work on updating the Format.</p> <p>Specific discussions on CEPA dimensions held with CP.</p> <p>Although progress in finalising the originally-envisaged individual reports for each 1st tranche indicator continues to be slow, during 2009 the products delivered into the CBD inland waters programme review and the broader post-2010 indicators process (which were temporarily given higher priority) have capitalised well on these opportunities and have provided valuable additional outputs in the meantime.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>A special workshop session on 21 Feb on tasks 4.8 and 4.9 reviewed a separate rolling list of (c60) currently-live actions for both tasks, and task group members continue to keep this updated.</p> <p>Specific short-term actions assigned from the session include:</p> <p><i>Overall management of the process</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEP to produce updated description of the indicator set, with explanation of changes <i>cf</i> COP9-adopted version, and addition of comments on priority target audiences for reports on each indicator, in time to feed to ND/HM for orally augmenting indicators progress report to SC41; |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PH to continue building the “calendar of reporting opportunities”; • All to provide suggestions to PH for items to include in the calendar of reporting opportunities, including comments on specific ways in which Ramsar storylines can be used; • DC to advise further on planning for a side-event at CBD COP; • DEP/ND/PH during the STRP week to outline a proposed plan for further work(shops), to conclude work by the end of 2010 or early 2011; <p><i>Indicator A(i): wetland extent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MZ to polish the provisional analysis of mangrove data for Indicator A(i), including the introductory explanation of methodology/approach, then send to Mette Loyche Wilkie at FAO requesting advice on data quality caveats (and copying also to KE for any similar advice from him); • L-MR to send MZ info on JAXA K&C Landsat time-series sources that might feasibly be incorporated alongside FAO dataset to bolster mangrove element of Indicator A(i); • ND/MZ/DEP to draft a proposal to FAO (MLW) for the future regular mangrove assessment programme we would ideally want them to undertake in order to supply the requisite data for a mangrove element of Ramsar Indicator A(i); • MZ/ND/DEP/PH to locate and acquire datasets on extent of other wetland types that would be suitable for providing a basis for Indicator A(i) assessments (seagrass beds, shellfish reefs, tidal flats, coral reefs, temporary arctic lakes, and ND to ask Matthew M re artificial wetlands), and to propose a plan for a (“Cambridge”?) workshop to generate analysis and report material on this indicator, involving key specialist data custodians as appropriate, considering LPI methodology for standardising time-periods, and investigating ways of offering the data-collation template to others (<i>inc eg</i> IPBES) to populate it with their own information; • JGM to investigate the scope for any relevant “peatland extent” datasets to contribute to the activity above; <p><i>Indicator F: waterbird population trends</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD/DEP to look at how to revise the “proportion of CPs saying yes” metric in her graphs to be comparable from one time-period to another; • AD to run a couple more correlations - against NRF question on international cooperation, and against something relating to protected area/Ramsar site coverage per country (and maybe per wetland type); • AD/ND with input from DAS to look at splitting the data for flyways into geographical sub-zones (breeding/wintering countries etc); • AD to produce a demonstration example of presentation of these data as visual map overlays; |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ND/DAS to work further on finalising ND's shorebird population analyses, with accompanying narrative on method and interpretation; <p><i>Indicator A(ii) Wetland ecological status</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEP to collate an updated version of the draft A(ii) report "shell", including the various comments compiled during 2009, as a pilot example of ways of presenting indicator findings; • AD to run further correlations to add in to the report, on the additional NRF co-variables listed from the Cambridge workshops and the 3-4 others cited such as GDP, NBSAPs, date of accession etc (for all these correlations, at least to begin with, create the requisite "place-holder" in the report, and fill with actual analyses as time allows); • All to peruse the full range of correlations indicatively presented in the A(ii) report, and confer on the relative worthwhileness or otherwise of each, with a view to identifying a core set of correlates that we would seek to use for all indicators, as well as any others that might be specifically relevant for A(ii) or for other individual indicators; • AD to illustrate some examples of alternative options for presentation of graphical results and storyline conclusions statements, <i>in situ</i> in the report; <p><i>Indicator K Water quality</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC with ND to propose a way to draw in relevant (UN?) experts who could assist us in defining an indicator formulation that could deliver Indicator K, drawing on FAO AQUASTAT web-accessible datasets and possibly sources on flood insurance premiums, so that this becomes an example of a wetland ecosystem services indicator; <p><i>Indicator E Management effectiveness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEP to meet Bastian Bomhard UNEP-WCMC to explore METT data extraction issues, then quantify scope of work involved in doing this for SB/AC to pursue possible resourcing from WWF. <p><i>Other issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC to confer with ND on options for publishing the two DEP reports to CBD, separately from their appearance in SBSTTA documents; • DC in the meantime to alert all to the web location of the two documents when they become posted as SBSTTA papers, so people can be directed to them as part-outputs of Ramsar indicators work; • AD to circulate final agreed version of COP11 National Report Format after SC41. • DEP to confer further with LC/CB over linkages between Ramsar indicators and OMW indicators, and with MP re feed in of data from Globwetland II. (Dialogue with OMW/GWII will be important during 2010 to |
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| | <p>strengthen coordination of indicator design, operation, and reporting as their programme solidifies during the year.)</p> <p>In addition, linkages with G-WOS were further fleshed out (see separate pro-forma on task 4.2); and some further discussions held with WWF on securing their inputs to indicator E.</p> <p>For COP11, various information products should probably be made available. Expect probably to put forward a DR on something concerning COP attitudes in response to findings of report on global status & trends (SOWWS – see task 4.2).</p> <p>Resourcing needs, (in addition to SOWWS-related resources in task 4.2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicator A(i) workshop - 10K? • WWF resources for Indicator E? • Small meeting on aligning indicators with OWM/GWII? • Other workshops – poss indicators G, H, (and in 2011) K? • Key need is compilation, synthesis & writing time • Total 60K? With 15K of this in 2010 |
| Any other comments? | <p>Regional inputs: Operation of indicators at regional and national scales has not advanced much yet; but in principle that is an aspiration, and ideas/input will be welcome on that dimension.</p> <p>Otherwise, a range of specific detailed data and analysis questions will arise from time to time on particular indicators.</p> <p>Also later on, advice will be needed on targeting indicators report products.</p> <p>Input now would be welcome to the “calendar of opportunities”.</p> |

| Task No. 4.9: Indicators of effectiveness – development of the 2nd tranche | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Further develop, test and put forward for use by Parties and others as appropriate the second tranche of indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention agreed by COP9. (Resolution IX.1 Annex D, Resolution IX.2 task 60, STRP14, Resolution X.1: strategy 2.6) |
| Task lead person: | Dave Pritchard? |
| Task force members | Peter Herkenrath/UNEP-WCMC, DSG |
| Type of product/output(s): | Confirmed list of indicator titles and definitions. Indicator specifications/full factsheets. Initial pilot analyses for the one or two most feasible indicators. |
| Funds needed for | Expert workshop, UK. 14000 CHF. |

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| contracting an expert consultant? | Preparation of analysis/report materials – consultant [amount?] Further work on feasible indicators, as per 1 st tranche approach [amount?] |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Review outline specifications for 2 nd tranche indicators and confirm/amend as appropriate. DEP to initiate consultation with DSG/ Peter Herkenrath – August 2009? (Including looking for links/synergies with 1 st tranche work, CBD/2010 BIP activities etc). (ii) Hold expert workshop in first half of 2010 to: - Develop full specifications/factsheets for each indicator. - Draw together relevant data (with engagement of relevant specialists?) for the one or two most feasible indicators. (iii) Check CAFF biodiversity indicators work and identify scope for synergies with Ramsar indicators. |
| Additional comments/information | Ritesh Kumar will contribute to Indicator J, from tasks 2.5/2.6 (and possibly Pierre Horwitz from health TWA too), and possibly to indicator M. Link with Mike Acreman re indicator J in relation to Envage/IH work on costs of floods in UK. |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | Most of the progress reported in the pro-forma for task 4.8 applies to both 4.8 and 4.9 together. Some decisions to drop or re-cast certain of the 2 nd tranche indicators have been made: the outcome of those decisions will be reflected in the action step concerning a revised description of the indicator set (described in the accompanying action steps document). Initial thinking concerning Indicator K (water) has become prominent in the inputs being made to CBD processes and described in the pro-forma progress information for task 4.8. The priority given to operationalising this indicator is now higher. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | See outcomes for task 4.8: material there now largely addresses both 1 st and 2 nd tranche indicators together. Indicator K is a specific 2 nd tranche issue which should now be addressed in the current triennium. |
| Any other comments? | For other details see the pro-forma for task 4.8. Regional inputs: as for task 4.8. |

WTA 3: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 4.1: Status of wetland inventories | |
| Task description (from | Prepare a summary update report on the status of global and regional wetland inventories, referring as appropriate |

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| Res X.10 Annex II) | <i>inter alia</i> to the update of the <i>Global Review of Wetland Resources and Priorities for Wetland Inventory</i> (GroWI-2), the WSSD Type II partnership with FAO-GTOS, Web-based dissemination of regional inventories and directories, and other relevant collaborations, in particular those with earth observation agencies, and including appropriate recommendations on methodologies, coverage gaps, harmonization, awareness and knowledge-exchange. (Resolution IX.2 task 51, STRP14, Resolution X.1: strategy 1.1) |
| Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| Task force members | (Re EO expertise) - Lisa-Marie Rebelo (IWMI), Marc Paganini (ESA), Ake Rosenqvist; (Re inventory expertise) - Rob McInnes (SWS); wetland experts for corals, seagrasses, mangroves, mudflats....etc |
| Type of product/output(s): | Outcomes – information on the extent of wetlands and wetland inventory (what we know about location, distribution, extent of wetlands) and gaps for national/regional wetland decision-makers and information on inventory techniques for managers and researchers. Process – GlobWetland & ALOS K&C; mangrove, seagrass, reef specialist networks. Output - Information paper on status of inventories and inventory approaches, with action recommendations. Web-portal for accessing inventories and directories? |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Consultant? 1 x writing workshop [5000 CHF?] |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Prepare an outline of the task/report structure based on the recommendations (on wetland types and methods) on inventory from GRoWI and subsequent developments or information sources (e.g. GlobWetland, ALOS K&C, Peatlands Assessment). (ii) Identify lead authors to consider information on each recommendation; coordinate component text and prepare draft.....review and finalise draft in dedicated writing session. (iii) Working group to outline recommendations. |
| Additional comments/information | Users: primarily Contracting Parties. Provides an information source for proposed G-WOS (see task 4.2). Note potential link with Ramsar Technical Report awaiting completion on “Inventory metadata” by John Lowry (Nick to do quick re-edit, and re-check with author). |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | An outline of an approach to review wetland inventory information has been prepared and submitted to the DSG for discussion. This builds from the recommendations contained in GRoWI-1 and can incorporate information obtained from GlobWetland, and the JAXA K&C projects, and can support the development of a G-WOS. The outline for a |

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| | review has been converted into a draft outline for a book with contributed papers that cover the main recommendations from GRoWI-1 which included gaps in inventory coverage and methods. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetland inventory book proposal as described above being worked up; and publisher (Springer) lined up. It will build on past books/reports on wetland inventory, and will provide a summary of current knowledge of: i) wetland classifications and inventories, ii) major wetland types and their distribution/status, and iii) inventory methods. To be submitted March 2012. No costs to Ramsar budget. RTR on metadata will be completed by July 2010. Web-based version of metadatabase of wetland inventory: is almost ready to load up. Links with RSIS ("tools for Parties" section) need to be clarified. A mechanism needs to be identified to support the implementation and subsequent on-going maintenance, reporting and future development of the database. Timeframes and costs to be clarified in light of discussions about RSIS links discussion (MF/ND/HM & WI). |
| Any other comments? | This activity can support the work on indicators and the G-WOS. Regional inputs: tbc |

| Task No. 4.7: Montreux Record questionnaire redesign | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare advice on redesigning the Montreux Record questionnaire to ensure consistency with the recommendations in Resolution X.15 on <i>Describing wetland ecological character, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance</i> and Resolution X.16 on <i>A framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character</i> , and to take account of other perceived priority requirements. (Resolution IX.2 task 56, STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | DEP? |
| Task force members | Max Finlayson, Heather MacKay, Nick Davidson, David Stroud, Denis Landenbergue/WWF (experience re RAMs). |
| Type of product/output(s): | Elements of draft COP11 Resolution. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Small contract for wider review option? 7000 CHF. Build into this contract some consultation with Senior Regional Advisers, Standing Committee, relevant national contacts (perhaps AAs rather than STRP NFPs?) |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Consider wider review of Montreux Record process and associated processes (3.2, RAMs etc), drawing on collation of discussions in preceding triennium, and including reviewing the role of STRP, including re advice on removal decisions (and possible standards eg re verification/standard elements to cover in these decisions), drawing <i>inter alia</i> also on the discussion at STRP15. |

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| | Check linkage/overlap between 3.2 report form and MR questionnaire. Parts of this are contingent on final outcomes of tasks 4.5 and 4.6 above. Other parts could be completed earlier (2 nd half of 2009). In interim, DSG/Heather MacKay/David Pritchard to compile some procedural guidance on STRP input to MR removal consultations and equivalent advice requests from Parties (mid 2009). |
| Additional comments/information | Fold in under task 4.6. |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | No further concrete progress so far, apart from a few more exchanges of email comments. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | This task is now regarded as encompassed within the scope of task 4.6. It is contingent on elements of other tasks and would not need to begin immediately. See task 4.6 outcomes, which propose flagging at COP11 the intention for work leading to a DR at COP12 on update/rationalisation of Art 3.2 issues, including proper review of the way forward with the Montreux Record. |
| Any other comments? | Regional inputs: None until later. |

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| Task No. 4.10: Convention monitoring and assessment – scientific and technical aspects. | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | In ways which are complementary and supplementary to the work on effectiveness indicators specified in other tasks in the present Annex above, assist the Secretariat, Standing Committee and Parties in relation to the scientific and technical aspects of their monitoring and assessment of the performance of the Convention through the Key Result Areas defined in the Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2009-2015 and assessment of information in COP National Reports. (STRP14, Resolution X.1) |
| Task lead person: | Dave Pritchard? |
| Task force members | Heather Mackay?, Nick Davidson? David Coates |
| Type of product/output(s): | Recommendations to Standing Committee |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Small contract 5000 CHF. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for | May need some re-describing to make clearer. Appears to be aiming to provide sci/tech evaluation of performance against Strategic Plan targets, beyond what will be done via effectiveness indicators. |

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| delivering the work: | <p>(i) Review Strategic Plan KRAs against STRP work plan and other on-going activities, and make suggestions for each relevant KRA of appropriate sources of sci/tech information that could be used to evaluate performance.</p> <p>(ii) Nat Report aspect too...</p> <p>(iii) Deliver recommendations to SC41, eg on format of a "Strategic Plan monitoring report", and follow-through thereafter in light of decisions they may take.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Link to indicators tasks 4.8 and 4.9, in sense of being complementary to those.</p> <p>Work closely with task 4.3 (data & inf needs framework), and use that framework perhaps as the basis for the Strategic Plan monitoring report.</p> <p>Link to (take info from) task 4.12 as appropriate (METT).</p> <p>Be alive to possible recommendations for future NRF questions.</p> |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | <p>No specific work done on this.</p> <p>Strategic Plan KRAs have been examined in the course of cross-matching indicator and target schemes in the context of work referred to under other tasks above on post-2010 global biodiversity targets and indicators, and the review of the CBD inland waters programme.</p> |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>Not specifically covered during the mid-terms.</p> <p>Ad hoc discussions could be held at some later stage to take stock of relevant evolving thinking and potential inputs from other streams of work (both within the STRP's programme and in relation to the finalisation of the COP11 National Report Format, potentially resulting in a refined task specification and possibly further thinking on the scope of a short consultancy contract to advance the task.</p> <p>Issues concerning this task may need factoring in to discussions and outputs relating to other tasks, eg 4.3.</p> <p>Discussions could be held at some point with DC and the DSG on aligning strategic plan monitoring ideas between Ramsar and CBD (in the context of anticipated adoption in 2010 of a new CBD plan).</p> |
| Any other comments? | Regional inputs: covered in other tasks. |
| Task No. 4.11: Status and trends of wetlands, including Ramsar Sites – assessment | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Prepare an analysis of the status and trends in the ecological character of sites in the Ramsar List, set as far as possible in the context of the status and trends of wetlands more generally and drawing as appropriate on the Ramsar Sites Database, the Convention's indicators of implementation effectiveness, the results of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, and other assessment initiatives, and seeking in turn to contribute to relevant assessment processes including those relating to international 2010 biodiversity targets.</p> |

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| | (Resolution IX.2 tasks 57 and 58, Resolution X.1: strategies 1.2 & 2.6) |
| Task lead person: | Dave Pritchard? |
| Task force members | Wetlands International, Peter Herkenrath, Max Finlayson, DSG, David Coates. |
| Type of product/output(s): | Review and proposals document, on needs, opportunities and potential approaches to Ramsar sites status & trends reporting. (Reports on Indicators A, B and D from task 4.8 will be a product for this task). |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Deliver through G-WOS and indicators activities. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) List aspects of status & trends information available or potentially available from existing sources/initiatives (principally via Indicators A, B and D). (ii) Define more precisely the uses and users, (eg 2010 BIP and similar processes) of more comprehensive status & trends information than will be provided eg by relevant indicators in task 4.8. (iii) Deliver this task otherwise through tasks 4.8, 4.9 (indicators) and 4.2 (G-WOS). |
| Additional comments/information | Need to re-phrase the definition of this task to reconcile heading and task content, vis-à-vis Ramsar sites vs wetlands generally: DSG suggests its scope should be wetlands in general, in particular Ramsar sites. Coverage of any required status & trends reviews could consist of samples and subsets, pending ability to do anything more comprehensive. Link to relevant indicators in task 4.8, inc B and D for Ramsar sites (which could be seen as substantially delivering a portion of this task). Ditto indicator A on wetlands generally. Link to G-WOS task 4.2 (ie G-WOS providing the info), GlobWet II and JAXA. Cooperative work in 2009 between Ramsar and CBD on status & trends of wetlands for CBD inland waters PoW review may contribute part of this task (though probably not any Ramsar sites specific cut). |
| UPDATE from STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| Progress since STRP15 | A paper on wetland status & trends, drawing on Ramsar indicator analyses to date (task 4.8), has been prepared for the CBD by the task lead in the context of the review of the CBD's inland waters programme of work, and is incorporated in a background document to be tabled on that issue at the 14 th meeting of SBSTTA in May 2010. This probably delivers a substantial portion of this task; although not the part that envisaged findings relating specifically to Ramsar sites. Input has also been made via the Secretariat to the 3 rd edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO3). |
| Update following the | See task 4.8 pro-forma for actions concerning the SBSTTA paper referred to above. |

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| STRP mid-term workshops | It seems most practical now to view this task as catered for by elements of tasks 4.2 and 4.8/4.9, specifically the “Status of the World’s Wetlands and their Services” report concept. |
| Any other comments? | Regional inputs: covered in other tasks. |

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| Task No. 4.12: Management effectiveness tools – guidance. | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare guidance on how the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) developed by WWF, the World Bank and others can be applied by Contracting Parties for regularly assessing detection, reporting and responses to change in wetland ecological character. (Resolution X.16) |
| Task lead person: | Archana Chatterjee (WWF) |
| Task force members | Peter Herkenrath, UNEP-WCMC, David Stroud |
| Type of product/output(s): | Draft guidance to accompany METT documentation. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | None (Internally WWF needs to allocate some funds) |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | (i) Aug 2008 METT document (“Effectively managing the world’s wetlands”) to be posted on Support Service inviting comments regarding best approach to this task. (May-July 2009). (Archana to do). (ii) WWF to review comments received in response to (i) above and make proposals on content and targeting of draft guidance by mid-Sept 2009. (Archana to do). (iii) TWA3 working group to discuss proposals provided in (ii) above and agree next steps/drafting of text. |
| Additional comments/information | Note that one small element of METT data is destined to feed directly in to indicator E in task 4.8. The present task aims to look at potential application of other aspects to other Ramsar end-uses (and link to KRAs in Strategic Plan, as far as possible). Feed in to task 4.10 as appropriate (Strategic Plan). |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Progress has not been made on this so far. Reason being that there was not enough clarity on internal WWF process and associated budgets required to take this forward. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | WWF will inform STRP about the timeline for getting this task completed. The integrated METT has been posted on STRP Support Service for initial discussion at the STRP mid term workshops . Here is the link |
| Any other comments? | |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 4: WETLANDS & HUMAN HEALTH

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetlands & human health |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Pierre Horwitz |
| Co-lead(s): | tbd |

TWA 4: ALL HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 5.1:Wetlands and human health – advice and guidance | | | | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Investigate further the links between wetlands and human health and well-being, in particular by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) developing, from the STRP's 2008 report and other relevant sources, further products for the human health sector concerning human health and wetlands; ii) further assessing the interactions between wetland ecosystems and their services and human health and well-being, having regard also to the human health dimension of the task defined separately in the present Annex above concerning Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1, and the risks posed to human health and to wetlands by the spread of diseases through illegal trade in or movement of wetland products and species; iii) developing interpretations and conceptual thinking in a Ramsar context of the applicability or otherwise of "health" to wetland ecosystems, the relationship of wetland ecosystem health to the concepts of ecological character and ecosystem services, and the implications for implementing and monitoring wise use and ecological character objectives under the Convention, taking into account both socioeconomic and ecological considerations; iv) identifying gaps in knowledge and information on wetlands and human health for different regions, and identifying ways and means of filling such gaps; v) identifying opportunities to promote the importance of Ramsar sites which are significant for human health; and vi) preparing guidance for wetland managers and the human health sector on processes for identifying appropriate responses to the co-management of wetlands and human health issues, including trade-offs and including application of health impact assessment approaches, increased transparency of information, representation of marginalized stakeholders, and engagement with the core business of other sectors such as water management. <p>(STRP14, Resolution X.23)</p> | | | |
| TASKS | Output 1 | Tasks 5.1.i, ii, iii in part. | Complete RTR | 2009 |

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| MAP | Cost neutral except Funds required for production of report and stand alone summary High priority | | |
| Deliverable | Output 2 Task 5.1.i | Engagement with WHO in strategic projects | 2009-2012 |
| | Deliverables = Framework for collaboration (MoU?) → funding application for project, Report products for Health Cost neutral | | |
| STRP decisions made | Output 3 Task 5.1.ii | Factsheets and Information sheets (diseases and processes) | 2010 |
| | Information sheets zoonotic diseases where humans are accidental hosts. Factsheet. Funds probably required see TWA 2 | | |
| | Output 4 Task 5.1.v | Case studies for promotion of wetlands and human health | 2010-2011 |
| | Scoping workshop, case studies analysis of W&HH framework, preparation for distribution Funds required | | |
| | Output 5 Task 5.1.vi | Adapt wetland management guidelines (hh module) | 2010-2011 |
| | Deliverable – boxed text into Handbook revision Cost neutral High priority | | |
| | Output 6 Task 5.1.iii | Extend conceptual and systemic thinking | 2010 |
| | Deliverable = Draft manuscript (from this report and recommendations) Cost neutral | | |
| | Output 7 Task 5.1.ii in part | Re-examination of wetlands, natural disasters and hh | 2010 |
| | Deliverable = Scoping Paper Cost neutral | | |
| | Output 8 Task 5.1.iv | Conduct regional analysis | 2011 |
| | Discussion Paper on regional needs Cost neutral Scoping document: Interim low cost assessment of data and information available for each of nine determinants of health. Cost neutral | | |

Output 1 (Tasks 5.1.i, ii, iii in part):

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| Complete RTR “Wetlands and Human Health” | Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| | Task force members | Pierre Horwitz, Ritesh Kumar, Rebecca D’Cruz, Robert Bos WHO |
| | Type of product/output(s): | 1. Completed RTR 2. Stand alone summary 3. Publications emanating from individual chapters 4. Short targeted media items |
| | User, target group | Wetland managers (but this will also serve to introduce our activities to the health sector) |

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| | Funds needed | 3 days writing workshop 3 people per diems = 2500 CHF 2 nd half 2009 Publication and distribution costs 2010 – not really known. |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Distribute chapters to lead authors as appropriate immediately. 2. Work on individual chapters, more urgent with ones in need of revision and alteration. 3. Three day writing workshop in August 2009 (around SERI in Perth) for final review, collation and integration, and preparation of standalone summary. 4. Devise and implement peer review process. 5. Identify appropriate journals and submit chapters for publication. |
| | CEPA | Format and production issues, media statements |
| | Links to other TWAs? | Will know a bit more about this when we get to finalise the recommendations |
| | Additional comments/information | <i>Highest priority immediate action. Gateway activity (everything else will follow from it)</i> <i>Achieves Task 5.1.i, ii, and iii in part</i> <i>N.B. make sure that the RTR includes a comparison between wetland-related illnesses and type of wetlands (i.e. reservoirs (World Commission on Dams may have data)).</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | Writing workshops and individual contributions have resulted in a full draft of the RTR ready for peer review. Leading up to the STRP Mid-terms the peer review process will be devised and implemented, and standalone summary will be drafted. | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peer comment and discussion concerning detail and content of the RTR Still awaiting internal feedback on report as a whole – will seek further comment from members of STRP (PH) 2. Will Key Message and Exec Summary suffice as stand alone? Further work required to produce a standalone summary from these two sections. Informing document to our audience (see comment below). Circulate to regional focal points with specific questions of them concerning relevance for audience (RD'C, CP, RK, PH) 3. Report to STRP on peer review process. Three external reviewers invited – small honorarium (3 x CHF 200 = 600). Secretariat to coordinate? Seek agreement from RB/WHO. Appoint from: -Epidemiologist with an understanding of regional issues (any of the authors on the MA Health Synthesis) -Governance institutional personal economic issues -Wetland management experience Basin level not necessarily site level (again with a regions perspective); someone | |

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| | <p>with a systems ecology perspective. WANI IUCN?</p> <p>-Someone with a detailed understanding of development issues, planning and so on</p> <p>4. Engagement with WHO and discussion/agreement on authorship and 'co-badging'.</p> <p>Four/Five step process - Many benefits in doing this, major problem would be the time it would take (18 months).</p> <p>STRP decision - we do peer review process with WHO input, seek foreword from WHO if possible. So co-badge where possible, but not joint production due to time constraints.</p> <p>5. General matters from the discussion</p> <p>Post peer review revisions – Final Report as deliverable.</p> <p>Omitted chapter on "Global Trends" needs separate treatment– put it into the GWOS agenda?</p> <p>Questions of audience – what is a 'wetland manager'? - individuals and institutions who make decisions about the wise use of wetlands at the practical, planning and strategic level. Perhaps need separate key messages for each of these?</p> <p>Costs: If agreed to the above, then only peer review and production costs required. The rest is cost neutral to STRP.</p> |
| Any other comments? | <p>Discussion Pierre Horwitz and Robert Bos Tuesday 23rd February 2010 @ WHO in Geneva concerning the technical report and other Task activities. His view is that he would like to see the report as a joint production WHO and Ramsar (he has read the first 3 chapters so far and commented that it was interesting, balanced, well-focused...).</p> <p>WHO processes would involve a Clearance process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concept Clearance 2. Peer Review Public Health reviewers – Internal with WHO, external globally 3. Address peer review comments as desired, updated version goes to dual parallel processes - <u>technical</u> (check evidentiary claims) and <u>policy</u> (determine the policy implications of the work for WHO). 4. Production process (we assumed that Ramsar will do this). <p>Robert estimated that this whole process could take 18 months.</p> |

Output 2 (Task 5.1.i):

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| Engagement with WHO: emergent and strategic areas. Possibilities: A. Climate change, wetlands and human health | Task lead person: | Co-leads: Pierre Horwitz (Ramsar) + (WHO) |
| | Task force members | To be determined. SG, DSG, STRP Chair as appropriate and relevant. Ramsar Secretariat for support, CEPA (cross-sectoral process guidance) |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Products to be determined as ones of mutual benefit |
| | User, target group | Specific contribution to international process – probably written outcome of project. User group determined by the process. |

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| B. Biodiversity and human health | | <p>Otherwise dual user group to be negotiated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wetland managers, Ramsar Contracting Parties - Public health agencies in nation states, others as determined by WHO |
| | Funds needed | Travel 1500 CHF, 5 days per diem 1250CHF for networking 2 nd half 2009. = 2750 CHF |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>A. Commence negotiations with WHO immediately to seek mutual agreement of work agenda. Develop communication plan for within Ramsar to maximise the opportunities to engage. Entry point will be i) relevance and interest from Ramsar; ii) the RTR on W+HH. Develop relevant work agenda. Ramsar-WHO agreement will need to involve Secretariat.</p> <p>Wetland biodiversity and human health. It would make sense to derive a relevant synthesis from the RTR to contribute to the Biodiversity and Human Health 2010 CBD process. (Will need to engage with CBD, WHO to make sure our synthesis is welcomed and relevant).</p> |
| | Links to other TWAs? | Climate Change TWA5 |
| | Additional comments/information | <p><i>Achieves Task 5.1.i</i></p> <p><i>Strategic importance: this topic is (these topics are) very conceivably one(s) where Ramsar will be asked to contribute something anyway over the triennium.</i></p> <p><i>Potential partners for CC+W+HH:</i></p> <p><i>WHO (Water Sanitation Health; Environment and Health; Environment, Agriculture Health TRG)</i></p> <p><i>TDR (Special programme – UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO) Research and Training in Tropical Diseases</i></p> <p><i>IDRC(COPEH). NESH.</i></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Initial discussions held between PH and staff in WHO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very early days but some encouraging leads, particularly with respect to a proposal to develop a project around health impact assessment for wetland-related matters in Africa. - Discussion between PH and RB 23/2/10- Develop a WHO/Ramsar framework for on-going work between WHO and Ramsar to set out the nature of the evidence base, determine the technical assistance to countries interested in this area, determine the training and educational materials necessary for both public/environmental health practitioners and wetland managers. | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term | <p>Three deliverables by the end of 2010:</p> <p><i>*Develop a WHO/Ramsar framework for cooperation that could lead to a Memorandum of Understanding for</i></p> | |

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| workshops | <p>Technical Collaboration. (PH and RB to develop conceptual document to get this process going).</p> <p>Determine other products from the Report – Key messages for Health sector? (This deliverable can be part of the technical collaboration)</p> <p>Application for funding for joint project.</p> <p>The above is cost neutral to STRP.</p> <p>*STRP confirmation gained</p> |
| Any other comments? | <p><u>Other key linkages</u></p> <p>Urban and Peri-urban wetlands and human health and UNHABITAT</p> <p>Wetlands and poverty reduction</p> <p>Tourism and ecosystem services</p> <p><u>Have we got the partnership right?</u> Good cooperation with WHO so far – need to go broader in that organisation. But should this also be wider than WHO? Engagement across other organizations UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNHABITAT? Humanitarian organizations? These are higher level strategic decisions. Engagement is different to informing.</p> |

Output 3 (Task 5.1.ii):

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| A. Adaptation of information sheets for zoonotic diseases in wetland ecosystems | Task lead person: | Rebecca Lee |
| | Task force members | Pierre Horwitz, Chris Gordon (Ruth Cromie WWT ?) (potential to involve conservation medicine practitioners @ Wildlife Trust, and IAEH) |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Adaptation or adoption of information sheets for key zoonotic diseases likely to be important to wetland management Preparation/adaptation of factsheet for the relationships between disease, trade and translocations |
| B. Prepare Factsheet on disease, trade and translocations | User, target group | Wetland managers, site managers specifically. |
| | Funds needed | 5000 CHF for a student project in 2010 |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>A. i) Determine what zoonotic disease information would be useful to wetland managers and how it would most effectively be presented and disseminated</p> <p>ii) Literature review and scanning of existing information sheets and promotional/educational material concerning significant zoonotic diseases that wetland managers in the world are likely to need to engage with, be aware of, or plan for .</p> <p>iii) Adapt existing information into information sheets for wetland managers</p> |

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| | <p>iv) Disseminate information sheets according to results of i), e.g. via Ramsar website, regional networkers, management planning guidelines.</p> <p>B. i) Literature, website search for documents where the relationships between wildlife and human diseases, trade and translocations are covered and relevant to wetlands. ii) Prepare summary report, mainly through collation of existing information. iii) Work with CEPA to prepare factsheet and plan for distribution</p> <p>For both, consult with regional network for usability etc. Align with proformas for other tasks listed below?</p> |
| Links to other TWAs? | Strong linkage to Task 2.10 and 2.12 (TWA 2) and TWA8 Task 2.1 |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Achieves Task 5.1.ii in part. Depends on progress of Task 2.10-ii and may depend on securing academic or other relevant collaboration</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Will commence 2010 |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Trade and translocation – factsheet on its way.</p> <p>Information sheets for zoonotic diseases only – TWA 2 processes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disease control and prevention and why it's important for wetland managers – aimed at policy makers 2. General methodologies and procedures, one of which is risk assessments 3. Information sheets on specific diseases <p>Three criteria for determining priority (equally weighted) Consequences for biodiversity conservation Consequences for domestic animal health Consequences for human health (other criteria might revolve around potential spread)</p> <p>This task needs to focus on zoonotic diseases where humans are accidental hosts – these can be piggy-backed onto the TWA 2 processes. Examples include WNV, RRV, Leptospirosis etc. Need assistance from human health experts to participate in a workshop or work on a steering group. PH to provide names to RL, and help where possible.</p> |

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| STRP confirmation gained: zoonotic diseases only, not ones where humans are the main reservoirs of the disease. | | |
| Output 4 (Task 5.1.v): | | |
| Case Studies for promotion of wetlands and human health for Ramsar sites | Task lead person: | Pierre Horwitz |
| | Task force members | Max Finlayson, CEPA |
| | Type of product/output(s): | To be determined in discussion with CEPA. Possibilities for case studies to be boxed and used in RTR. Possibilities to use any or all of narratives/stories; picture stories; written case studies, short movies, CD compilation, etc. |
| | User, target group | To be determined as part of the processes (but task asks for promotion which suggests public). |
| | Funds needed | Scoping workshop 3 days three people 5000 CHF in 2010 Production costs in late 2010 and 2011 = 20000 CHF |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Collate existing case study materials which deal with the broad range of wetlands and human health (breadth should cover regions, physical health, mental health, socio-economic determinants of health, nutrition effects etc.) 2. Examine documentation from FAO, WWD III, IWMI, UNEP and others for their case studies relevant to wetlands 3. Determine appropriate messages and audiences and medium (scoping workshop with all case studies collated, might be the best approach here). Ultimate aim will be to determine what we want the case studies to achieve (i.e. redress misperceptions, misinformation; promote ecosystem services and health, etc.) to identify the target group (indeed the same case studies might end up being used / repackaged in different ways for different audiences). 4. Select high priority stories and develop for promotion. |
| | Links to other TWAs? | TWA10, TWA2 (3.2) wise use case studies. |
| | Additional comments/information | <i>Achieves Task 5.1.v in toto</i> <i>Important to note that such promotional documents do exist (i.e. WWF's Freshwater and Poverty Reduction; Schuyt 2005)</i> <i>Global Wetlands Network, WLI (WWT), Flyway networks, and others good opportunities to scope for message and medium.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | Some collation of case study materials | |

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| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Case studies open up potential for different audiences and different modes of distribution. Clear synergies with those needed for ecosystem services, Case studies for urban wetlands, case studies for poverty alleviation area. Need to be <i>much</i> clearer on the strategic need for these case studies. In the interim we can continue to produce <i>examples</i> of the points we need to make, as in the W&HH at the moment. One possibility is to develop a small number of case studies to test the 'nine health determinants' framework used in the report for a wetland system.</p> <p>After a long discussion we decided that the approach as above as specified at STRP 15, should stand.</p> <p>So:</p> <p>Scoping workshop 3 days three people 5000 CHF in 2010 to determine the objective, number and nature of case studies. Production costs in late 2010 and 2011 = 20000 CHF</p> <p>Discussion in the STRP Plenary: Review this in the light of the potential book process. External to the STRP processes but complimentary, this might source case studies. If it happens, then the above resources may not be required.</p> |
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Output 5 (Task 5.1.vi):

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| Adapt wetland management guidelines to incorporate human health matters | Task lead person: | Rebecca D'Cruz |
| | Task force members | Pierre Horwitz and others tbc Ritesh Kumar (WI) |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Module(s) on Wetlands and Human Health - Frequently asked questions and their answers. End product to be determined. |
| | User, target group | Wetland managers |
| | Funds needed | Facilitation 2 days STRP FP 1200 CHF 2011. Not required |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesize Wetlands and Human Health RTR to derive key issues 2. Use STRP focal point processes to consult and determine what site managers might want to know 3. Prepare Frequently Asked Questions prompts based on 1. and 2. above. 4. Prepare reference materials for answers to FAQs 5. Determine where in the suite of instruments available in Ramsar where this module might best sit. Planning or Managing? 6. Consult CEPA concerning appropriate promotion and application. Might need some training here so may need to consider the development of small training modules, perhaps as on-line modules (UNESCO-IHE might be interested in helping) |
| | Links to other TWAs? | TWA1. TWA2 urban and peri-urban wetlands. TWA2 Poverty and Wetlands. |
| | Additional comments/information | <i>Achieves Task 5.1.vi in part</i> |

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| | | <i>Need to consider sequence of activities here: Number 3 – Information sheets and factsheet – might be best for these to be developed after this process has run its course.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | Will commence in 2010 | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Initial planning and discussion</p> <p>Start by sending out exec summary standalone doc. Questions we ask focal points are: read the report and tell us whether there is information you need to know re W&HH</p> <p>Regional teams CEPA task list – guide to the guidance – first thing we are dealing with is the questions they ask – does Ramsar have ...</p> <p>One pager quickly now for the Handbook – possible – yes, into the Wetland Management Handbook.</p> <p>Need a box for the Handbook – half or full page – not to confuse this with adopted guidance – put a plug in there now to make sure the key messages are in there, with a watch this space message. High Priority.</p> | |

Output 6 (Task 5.1.iii):

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| Extend conceptual and systemic approaches for assessing wetland health | Task lead person: | Pierre Horwitz |
| | Task force members | Ritesh Kumar (WI), Max Finlayson, Chris Gordon, Sasha Koo-Oshima (FAO), Matthew McCartney (IWMI) (Work with WHO TDR, NESH/IISD, IAEH) |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Report, conceptual models (maybe even interactive ones) |
| | User, target group | Rolling consultation and audience: STRP in first instance, Contracting Parties next, eventually Wetland/Site managers |
| | Funds needed | None – can be done by email/Skype |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Build upon RTR's conceptual development (Ecological character+ecosystem services+ human health). Wetlands as social ecological systems. Multiple dimensionality of health of systems. Review literature for social ecological systems and its application for wetlands Review models for systemic health Review application of systemic health in wetland contexts |
| | CEPA | Appropriate consultation approaches. Appropriate dissemination |
| | Links to other TWAs? | Eventually all of them? |

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| | Additional comments/information | <i>Completes Task 5.1.iii</i> <i>This work may eventually need to be located outside of the Wetlands and Human health theme area and perhaps located as a work agenda in Ecological Character.</i> <i>A suggestion is to investigate the concept of 'wetland ecosystem health' perhaps as collaborative symposium, with STRP involved.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | Will be conducted in second half of 2010 (as part of PH study leave in Gland) | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | Stands unchanged. No funds required. Principal deliverables are draft manuscript for publication, and drawn from it a concept paper for discussion at STRP 16. | |
| Output 7 (Task 5.1.ii in part): | | |
| Re-examination of wetlands, natural disasters and human health | Task co-leads: | Ritesh Kumar + Pierre Horwitz |
| | Task force members | Max Finlayson, Chris Gordon, Sasha Koo-Oshima (FAO), Matthew McCartney (IWMI) |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Review report that deals with the degree to which wetland policies of contracting parties (need to) deal with this issue. |
| | User, target group | Contracting Parties |
| | Funds needed | Consultant fees: 20 days x 600 CHF = 12000CHF |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Identify FAO, CEM, IUCN, IPCC etc and other key literature that deals with the links between natural disasters (hurricanes, fire, flood, tsunamis, earthquakes etc.), wetlands, human health and livelihoods. 2. Review documentation for trends in the relationship 3. Select 5 national examples as case studies and examine the degree to which wetland policies incorporate the relationships |
| | Links to other TWAs? | Link to TWA7 (Task 8.8), TWA5 (obviously), TWA6 task on storage, TWA8, |
| | Additional comments/information | <i>Achieves Task 5.1.ii in part</i> <i>Consider the following in the development of this activity:</i> <i>- Resolution IX.9. The role of the Ramsar Convention in the prevention and mitigation of impacts associated with natural phenomena, including those induced or exacerbated by human activities</i> <i>- Report of an Advisory Group to the Secretary General of UN on water related disasters</i> <i>- IPCC work agendas</i> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues of Wetland mismanagement - Documents produced by IWMI. - Insurance work (and Costanza et al. paper) - Entry points outside of Ramsar proc not nec wetland policies two tasks one inward one outward? |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | | |
| What Progress so far? | Will commence 2010 | |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | Being aware of other things that are happening, where others are working on similar themes, we need to prepare a scoping paper . Possibility for Insurance sector funded support. Otherwise no funds required. Participants: RK, PH, MZ, RMc (UNHABITAT side for responses to natural disasters), IUCN Water programme member, others. | |

Output 8 (Task 5.1.iv):

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| Conduct regional information gap analysis | Task lead person: | Pierre Horwitz |
| | Task force members | To be determined |
| | Type of product/output(s): | Report on the information needs for regions in terms of wetlands and human health |
| | User, target group | In the first instance the target group will be the Lead Authors of the RTR for them to identify the regional information issue as a cross-cutting theme. Beyond that, Wetland managers. Wetland Policy audience. |
| | Funds needed | Consultant fees 20 days 12000 CHF |
| | Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. This will need to be addressed as part of the RTR, and recommendations from/of that report will specify how to conduct the gap analysis. 2. Determine objectives, methodology 3. Will involve a review of IPCC, WHO, WWD Reports where they involve wetland ecosystems and human health issues. 4. May need to drill down to individual nations' health reports (those nations where it is freely available) to see how the relationship is reported on by the health sector in contracting parties |
| | Links to other TWAs? | TWA5 Climate Change task – direct applicability (need to consolidate TWA5 approach to Task 6.1.ii with the above approach) |
| | Additional comments/information | <i>Achieves Task 5.1.iv</i> <i>Things will become clearer with the completion of the RTR, and agreed to revisit this mid term.</i> |

| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
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| What Progress so far? | None |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Things haven't really become clearer. Relate to TWA5 progress.</p> <p>Can link with other tasks involving the regional focal points and exec summary etc. to gain an understanding of what the regions need with respect to understanding wetlands and human health locally and regionally. Likewise we can send the exec summary of the report out to a bunch of other agencies ie. UNDP, UNHABITAT, development agencies and ask what are the regional issues that are relevant here. Collate and review. This can be done as per above tasks. No funds required.</p> <p>But this is not a gap analysis...</p> <p><u>Option 1:</u> hire a consultant as per the above and original approach to produce a regional information gap analysis. Deliverable = Report with recommendations. Cost 12000 CHF.</p> <p><u>Option 2:</u> Engage with the IPCC process and look for the regional analyses that are emerging from this process... Costs?</p> <p><u>Option 3:</u> Interim, low cost scoping exercise to determine what data is available and where it is. Collate and review results, then recommend whether we need to do Option 1. A process for this can be to use the nine determinants of health table, and add a column for the data and information, using the same format as data and information needs (see DP).</p> <p>STRP decision – Option 3. This still needs resources and time – hopefully can be cost neutral.</p> |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 5: WETLANDS & CLIMATE CHANGE

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetlands & climate change |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Max Finlayson |
| Co-lead(s): | Pierre Horwitz, George Lukacs, Kevin Erwin, Mike Acreman, Christine Prietto |

TWA 5: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 6.1: Wetlands and climate change - further review and guidance [Task split in five sections: (i),(ii), (iii), (iv) and (v)] | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p><i>Develop guidance, working with the IPCC and others, on the latest knowledge of the current and potential impacts of climate change on wetlands and on appropriate policy and management responses for addressing these impacts on wetlands, including inter alia:</i></p> <p>i) building on initial work done in the 2006-2008 triennium, further development of methods for assessment of hydro-ecological impacts of climate change on wetlands, including the testing of such methods in data-poor areas;</p> |
| Task lead person: | Finlayson/Zavagli |
| Task force members | Max Finlayson, Mike Acreman, Maria Rivera, Chris Gordon, Philippe Gerbaux |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Outcome – information for wetland managers and decision-makers on extent of information already available; cross-reference with VA approach</p> <p>Processes – engage with STRP members and the STRP NFP network</p> <p>Product - Collation and listing of existing material on assessment methods and examples of application; completion of VA report</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <p>NIL for collation task</p> <p>Further report to be provided at mid-term discussions</p> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>Collation task:</p> <p>Send material to Monica Zavagli – approach STRP NFPs – 3 months</p> <p>Collation and summary - Finlayson</p> <p>Check the methods in draft VA report – Gitay et al</p> |

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| | Testing task: Discuss options for testing the method with WWF, Kevin Erwin, WI and Chris Gordon Provide proposal to mid-term discussions |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Paper provided by Acreman et al on hydro-ecological approach now available</i> <i>Opportunity to test in data-poor areas needs conformation – can we identify opportunities and leads for testing in data poor regions?</i> <i>-Ask ASWM (Association of State Wetland Managers- USA) project team to review Mike Acreman's paper and consider testing it in their project (Heather MacKay and Kevin Erwin)</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | See the summary at the bottom of 6.1 v) |

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | 6.1 ii) a review of wetland distribution in relation to land use and population distribution trends, in order to demonstrate potential effects on human health if wetlands are lost due to climate change impacts; |
| Task lead person: | Finlayson |
| Task force members | CIESIN (de Sherbinin)?, GIS-expert?, Pierre Horwitz (Health) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Outcome – i) information for wetland managers and decision-makers on the extent of land use and population (change?) in vicinity of wetlands in specific areas, e.g. deltas, and current and likely impacts; ascertain how much health data/information is available, and ii) provide technical information to IPCC 5AR Processes – link with CEISIN data on population etc; provide input to IPCC 5AR; check the MA-SGA for further information Output - Report/paper |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | GIS expert needed – 2 weeks? CEISIN costs? Workshop – 3-5 people – 10,000 |
| Approach/steps | - Discuss with CEISIN to ascertain extent of and access to data layers (population, land use, health issues), and |

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| (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>extent of analysis required for specific wetland types or geographic locations (e.g. deltas or coasts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirm team and structure of report, and provide cost estimates - Plan meeting in Addis Ababa and draft report (IWMI office) |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Proposed not to do global analysis – scale not that useful for national managers.</i></p> <p><i>Proposal to address wetland types considered most vulnerable to CC – not actually listed but deltas are highly vulnerable and support major population centres, and important for food products; lot of biophysical information available on deltas (eg Wolanski et al books/papers)</i></p> <p><i>Information on climate change and health will continue through IPCC 5AR</i></p> <p><i>Establish links with Periurban TWA (Rob McInnes), David Stroud, and UN population analyses</i></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | See the summary at the bottom of 6.1 v) |

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>6.1 iii) guidance on how wetland management and restoration can contribute to improving adaptation to climate change (linking as appropriate with the other tasks on wetland restoration and rehabilitation defined separately elsewhere in Res. X.10 Annex II);</p> <p><i>[To be undertaken under TWA 8 tasks]</i></p> |
| Task lead person: | Kevin Erwin |
| Task force members | Max Finlayson, Rob McInnes, Randy Milton, Roy Gardner, Mark Smith (IUCN), Kevin Erwin |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Outcome: to be developed</p> <p>Processes: to be developed</p> <p>Outputs: to be developed</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Coordinate with TWA8 wetland management and restoration |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | See the summary at the bottom of 6.1 v) |

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | 6.1 iv) review emerging information on the ways in which, <i>inter alia</i> , changes in wetland thermal and chemical regimes, hydro-patterns, and increases in water storage and conveyance infrastructure, including impoundments, potentially alter the pathways by which non-native species invade wetlands and influence their spread, persistence and ecological impacts on native species (see also task 2.12); |
| Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Mike Acreman |
| Type of product/output(s): | Outcome – importance of invasive species and pathways of spread & hydro-changes and role of dams in change in ecological character Processes – Invasives - link into IPCC, GISP Outputs – Discuss with team members |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Provide information on funding at mid-term discussions |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | - Discuss possible links with TWAs that cover invasives, water resource management |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | See the summary at the bottom of 6.1 v) |

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | 6.1 v) liaise with the Arctic Council on an assessment of the vulnerability of Arctic wetlands to climate change and the development of guidelines for wise use while taking account of the ongoing Arctic Biodiversity Assessment. |
| Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| Task force members | Randy Milton, Tatiana Minaeva (CC GAP), David Stroud, Dave Pritchard, Peter Herkenrath (WCMC), Tim Badman (WHC) |
| Type of product/output(s): | Outcomes – messages about the importance of climate change for Arctic wetlands and identification of suitable adaptation mechanisms |

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| | Processes – Arctic Council Outputs – Arctic Council assessment report |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | - Support attendance at occasional meetings / for liaison and limited involvement in assessment |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Contact Arctic Council and ascertain state of assessment and identify potential role/input from STRP Seek contact with Arctic Council through Arctic country NFPs Establish a watching brief and report to STRP Check common ground with Ramsar indicator processes |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Background and technical information collation commenced, but only a few documents obtained; these and the draft VA report is being revised based on STRP review comments CIESIN approached to develop an analysis, and agreed to include in their proposed workplan. STRP members provided review comments to Arctic Council. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | i) WWF report on vulnerability assessment: Ladakh, India – c. July 2010 RTR on vulnerability assessment – resubmit April 2010 Develop a proposal to assess resilience of specific wetland types as part of the vulnerability processes – and then seek contributors for specific wetland types (e.g. TNC for shellfish reefs) – July 2010 ii) proposal on population density around coastal wetlands being developed by CEISIN – submitted this week as part of their program; need to discuss further how to address the health aspect of this task....what data sources are available; discuss further with CEISIN iii) Now linked with proposal to revise existing guidance in TWA 8 on wetland restoration Complete draft RTR on wetland restoration and climate change iv) Undertake a synthesis of information in IPCC 4AR on wetlands to identify key issues and extent of information – RTR: first step - next 3 months identify authors and establish suitable schedule and budget etc Liaise with GISP to identify tasks for invasive species and climate change v) Liaise further with Arctic Council on vulnerability assessment of Arctic wetlands – WI, WCMC and others |
| Any other comments? | None at this stage – expect proposal for 15,000 CHF for task iv) review of IPCC 4AR docs The potential exists for further work on adaptation to climate change, and extension of partnerships with climate change organizations etc. |

| Task No. 6.2: Climate change and wetlands mitigation and adaptation - collaborative activities | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Climate change and wetlands mitigation and adaptation – collaborative activities. In conjunction with the Ramsar Secretariat, collaborate with relevant international conventions and agencies, including UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, IPCC, UNEP, UNDP, FAO and World Bank, in the development of a multi-institutional coordinated programme of work to investigate the potential contribution of wetland ecosystems to climate change mitigation and adaptation, in particular for reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience to climate change, and in addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) establish ways and means of collaborating with the UNFCCC and other relevant bodies to develop guidance for the development of mutually supportive adaptation and mitigation programmes that recognize the critical role of wetlands in relation to water and food security as well as human health; ii) bring scientific issues and information on wetlands and climate change to the attention of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB) at the next available opportunity, and use this forum to encourage enhanced scientific collaboration on issues related to wetlands and climate change; iii) establish ways of collaborating with the IPCC on scientific issues specifically related to wetlands and climate change, and contribute to its future work in order to raise the awareness of the climate change community regarding the importance of wetlands, including through the preparation and publication of relevant scientific reports on wetlands and climate change. <p>(STRP 14, Resolution X.24)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Max Finlayson |
| Task force members | Heather Mackay, Secretariat and Nick Davidson |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Outcomes – strengthen and expand messages to IPCC, UNFCCC, CBD etc about the importance of climate change for wetlands and develop greater attention to these in other processes</p> <p>Processes – IPCC, UNFCCC, CBD..... WHO?</p> <p>Outputs – contributions/chapters etc in assessment reports undertaken by above mentioned processes</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | 10-15,000 CHF for IPCC inputs |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for | - Establish group comprising representatives from all TWAs to feed information that could be used as input by Ramsar/STRP to other relevant international processes |

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| delivering the work: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nick Davidson to coordinate Secretariat processes and inputs; Max Finlayson to coordinate input on technical issues from STRP to the IPCC in particular, and keep Heather Mackay informed - Handle all requests for information on wetlands, or offers to facilitate analyses including wetlands based on Ramsar data sets and/or information/knowledge - Collate information from STRP TWAs as basis for input to, for example, IPCC 5AR - Complete RTRs on Carbon in Wetlands & Vulnerability Assessment & Health and Wetlands & Agriculture – as sources of input to IPCC 5th Report |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Expected to be a rapidly evolving and expanding activity – coordination and prioritization within STRP will be essential Coordination and liaison with Ramsar/STRP partners - seek synergies and support for common messages and inputs; All STRP TWAs could contribute to and support these activities.....</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Links have been made with IPCC, but not to the extent that STRP is involved in the 5AR being undertaken by the IPCC.</p> <p>Links with UNFCCC and other international bodies being addressed by Secretariat.</p> <p>Draft material on carbon and wetlands now available after exhaustive workshops and meetings.</p> <p>DANONE project running in parallel with wider STRP activities.</p> <p>Ramsar information paper on climate change prepared and distributed through secretariat sources to CPs as an information source for preparing positions at UNFCCC COP15.</p> <p>Identification of specific products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Report to STRP on links with and inputs to UNFCCC ii) Report to STRP on links with and inputs to CSAB - REASSESS iii) Report to STRP on links with and inputs to IPCC with potential contributions to the 5AR which will report after Ramsar COP11 |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) A) Further discussion with Secretariat and others on how to develop adaptation activities / guidance for wetlands, taking into account MOU with World Bank Undertake project in Murray-Darling Basin, Australia, on adaptive approaches for water management /allocation and wetlands; partners agreed to prepare proposal; undertake work in July-August 2010; submit report/paper to STRP in 2011; no costs to STRP B) Investigate with UNFCCC and other relevant organisations the potential for REDD to be applied to wetlands and provide advice to STRP on potential future activities. (Sasha Alexander) |

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| | <p>C) Review implications for wetland management from the documentation available from the UNFCCC Copenhagen COP15 and provide a report to STRP: Approach - form a team from STRP members to undertake a review and report to STRP16. The review will also inform discussions between STRP Chair and Chairs of other technical subsidiary bodies (refer TWA 6.2 (ii))</p> <p>ii) ongoing discussion with Chair STRP and DSG on how to develop enhanced scientific collaboration between Conventions on climate change</p> <p>iii) Nominate authors for IPCC 5AR and identify support to attend meetings – estimate (5)10-15K/year; 5 year process Prepare review paper on the carbon cycle and wetlands – paper draft in prep; further work by email etc; available Sept 2010; no further costs</p> |
| Any other comments? | Main issue here is coordination within Ramsar – STRP and Secretariat and whether or not Ramsar has a strategic approach for engaging with UNFCCC |

TWA 5: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 6.3: Biofuels and wetlands review and guidance <i>[Task moved under TWA9 – Wetlands & Agriculture]</i> | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Biofuels and wetlands – review and guidance.</p> <p>i) review the global distribution of biofuel production in relation to impacts on wetlands;</p> <p>ii) review and collate existing best management practice guidance and social and environmental sustainability criteria for growing biofuel feedstocks in relation to wetlands, and where appropriate develop such guidance and criteria;</p> <p>iii) consider further discussion between the Contracting Parties on addressing sustainable biofuel issues in relation to wetlands;</p> <p>iv) advise the Standing Committee of the conclusions; and</p> <p>v) work with relevant international bodies dealing with biofuels.</p> <p>(Resolution X.25)</p> |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 6: WETLANDS & WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetlands & water resources management |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Mike Acreman |
| Co-lead(s): | Matthew McCartney (IWMI), Heather MacKay |

TWA 6. HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 7.3: Wetlands and water quality guidance | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Develop guidance on water quality issues related to wetlands, building on the materials collated and drafted by the STRP during the 2006-2008 triennium, with a view to integrating the final outputs into the <i>Integrated Framework for the Ramsar Convention's water-related guidance</i> . (Resolution IX.2 task 91, STRP14). Briefing paper completed. Technical report draft and comments provided (needs completion) Guidance no yet started. |
| Task lead person: | To be confirmed – possibly approach Rick van Dam, IHE Delft ? |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mike Acreman Others – Jos Verhoeven, Ed Maltby Secretariat – CEPA |
| Type of product/output(s): | Technical report (finalisation) Guidance |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | CHF 20,000 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Finalise the technical paper produced by Jos Verhoeven during 2006-2008 triennium (Dec 2009). 2. Prepare ToR for guidance based on briefing paper (Oct 2009) 3. Identify target audience (internal, site managers?) 4. Produce outline of guidance for mid-term workshop (Feb 2010) 5. Produce first draft of guidance (Jun 2010) |

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| | <p>Principal aims are:</p> <p>Recognize water quality is a fundamental element of and in determining ecological character</p> <p>Review approaches to water quality monitoring and characterisation</p> <p>Define methods to assess the response of wetlands to changes in water quality inputs</p> <p>Specify the extent to which wetlands have potential for tertiary water treatment</p> <p>Define limits to water purification capacity</p> <p>Provide guidance to site managers</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Comments from STRP 15 working sessions:</p> <p>Emphasise:</p> <p>Much human waste is already processed by wetlands</p> <p>There are thresholds/limits to processing rates in wetlands</p> <p>a trade-off with other functions such as biodiversity</p> <p>Specific wetlands may be created to treat waste but may not perform other functions and services</p> <p>Lack of baseline water quality data, guidance on suitable data may be available from other sources, (e.g UN sustainable development indicators work)</p> <p>Isotope may be used as tracers</p> <p>Climate change may alter temperature and process rates</p> <p>Land use may impact indirectly, especially agriculture</p> <p>Abstraction of water from coastal aquifers may promote salt-water intrusion</p> <p><u>Guidance needs to specify:</u></p> <p>Types of data collection (chemical data, biotic indicators)</p> <p>Methods to assess the response of wetlands to changes in water quality</p> <p>Thresholds of nutrients/pollutants to maintain ecological character</p> <p>Economic implications of water quality issues</p> <p><u>Use:</u></p> <p>Case studies from Uganda</p> <p>Links:</p> <p>CEPA and promotion of wetland ecosystem functions</p> <p>River basin and coastal zone management</p> |

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| | Wetlands and human health Wetlands and climate change Wetlands and agriculture Ecological character (task 4.4) |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>No specific progress. Finalisation of the technical report and production of guidance are awaiting funding. However, some other work has been undertaken in the general area of wetlands and water quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Lucas is working on wetlands and agriculture for the FAO “state of land and water” report – this cover some aspects water quality. • Wetlands International’s publication on wetlands in the Water Sanitation and Health (WASH) programme includes water quality aspects. • Wetlands International is developing indicators of water quality for human health, which is part of Ramsar task force on wetlands and poverty eradication (Task 2.6). • Wetland ecosystem services of urban wetlands, including spatial planning of towns and cities with UN Habitat, also relates to water quality. • The IUCN review of ecological impacts of droughts has sections on water quality and drought. <p>There are important linkages with this task (7.3) to: urban wetlands work (2.7), poverty reduction (2.6), human health (5.1), extractive industries (2.3)</p> <p>Water quality and wetlands remains a fragmented issue within Ramsar. The need for a consolidated view and position, which was the intention of the original of technical report and guidance, still remains.</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | The top priority in this task is to complete the technical report CHF 5,000 (Mike Acreman to confirm funding required with Jos Verhoeven) with cross-references to other on-going work. If no specific funding is available, water quality will remain fragmented and implicit within other areas, but not explicit as a separately analysed issue. If funds become available, the next step is to distil the essential elements of the technical report into guidance. |
| Any other comments? | Work would need to start very soon to complete all activities in time for next COP. |
| Task No. 7.4: Wetlands and water storage interactions guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare a technical report on wetlands and water storage (including <i>inter alia</i> dams and groundwater) interactions, to provide further information and expanded guidance for supporting the implementation of the Resolution IX.1 |

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| | <p>Annex C ii <i>Guidelines for the management of groundwater to maintain wetland ecological character, including inter alia:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) issues concerning emerging perspectives on water storage in relation to security of supply of water, food and energy <i>inter alia</i> in the context of climate change; ii) options for guidance on optimizing the operation of dams and other water management infrastructure (including flood defence and flood alleviation systems) for the benefit of upstream and downstream wetland ecosystems; and iii) taking into account the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands (task 8.8). (Resolution IX.1 Annex C ii, Resolution IX.2 task 90; STRP14). |
| Task lead person: | Mike Acreman, Matthew McCartney, |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mark Smith Others – World Bank, DFID, International Hydropower Association, IUCN Secretariat – CEPA |
| Type of product/output(s): | Technical report |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | CHF 25,000 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare ToR for work (June 2009). 2. Produce table of contents and report outline and engagement strategy (Sep 2009) 3. Produce first draft of report (Dec 2009) 4. Working session at mid-term workshop (Feb 2010) <p><u>Principal aims are:</u> Formulate Ramsar's position on water storage options including wetlands as natural infrastructure for water management Develop a strategy for engaging in global water management debate</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Comments from STRP 15 working sessions:</p> <p><u>Emphasise that:</u> \$ 22 trillion to be spent on water supply and sanitation wetlands provide natural infrastructure for water management</p> |

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| | <p><u>Report needs to address:</u></p> <p>Merits of different forms of water storage and comprehensive options assessment including ecological value of man-made wetlands [from TWA7: task 8.8 (i)]</p> <p>Multiple use of storage (including flood protection)</p> <p>Human health issues</p> <p>Equity (who gains and who loses from storage)</p> <p>Virtual water issues</p> <p>Adaptation strategies for climate change TWA and desertification</p> <p>Feedbacks of wetlands on climate</p> <p>Downstream impacts, water quality, environmental flows – restoration (task 9.2)</p> <p>Displacement of people</p> <p>Governance issue, corruption, political risk</p> <p>Catchment management and regional biogeography</p> <p>Inter-basin water transfer</p> <p>How Ramsar can engage in global water debate</p> <p><u>Links</u></p> <p>Wetlands and agriculture (soil water storage , peri-urban areas);Wetlands and human health;Wetlands and climate change; Wetland management and restoration (task 9.2); Ramsar sites – man-made wetlands (task 8.8); CEPA – dissemination of messages</p> <p><u>Use</u></p> <p>IWMI storage types project ; WMO Integration flood management work; Dams and Development Project outputs (stakeholder platforms); South Africa – working for water, working for wetlands</p> <p><u>Case studies:</u> Indian water tanks, Congo dams</p> <p>Million ponds project – is it underpinned by science?</p> <p>International Hydropower Association/WWF sustainability criteria</p> <p><u>Target audiences</u></p> <p>World Bank</p> <p>Global Water Partnership</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | No specific progress. Preparation of the technical report is awaiting funding. However, some other work has been undertaken in the general area of water storage. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IWMI has produced a CPWF working paper on “Use of decision support systems to improve large dam planning and operation in Africa” • IWMI has produced a water policy brief funded by GTZ entitled “Flexible water storage options and adaptation to climate change” that includes wetlands as storage options. • CEH has completed a review of hydrological aspects of water storage that highlighted the contribution of natural infrastructure; this contributed to a DFID policy paper on water storage • CEH provided input to International Hydropower Association/WWF “Sustainability assessment protocols” for dams • Wetlands International’s wetlands and livelihoods programme, to be completed in mid-2010, is addressing storage options • The IUCN Water and Nature Initiative is reviewing experience including natural infrastructure as adaptation to climate change. The toolkit book “Change” will be updated to include results of review; case studies ready late 2010 • Wetlands International is to produce a decision-support system – ODPIN – for environmental impacts of dams based on upper Niger/ inner Niger delta experience. <p>Many of the fundamental aspects of water storage and wetlands have been reviewed under the above-mentioned activities. Information from these projects could be used by Ramsar to produce outputs.</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Option (1) prepare an STRP briefing note (<5 pages) reviewing global policies on water storage and dams and implications for wetlands, particularly for climate change adaptation including alternatives (desalinisation, recycling). Mike Acreman and Matthew McCartney could start this process. CHF 2,000</p> <p>Option (2) prepare guidance/resolution directly from existing technical reports of other organisations/activities, which provides the majority of the evidence base. This guidance will provide support for engagement in the process of options assessment for storage and construction and operation of dams if this is the selection option. CHF 10,000.</p> <p>Option (3) produce a new Ramsar specific technical report on storage and then guidance. This technical report would develop the concept of natural infrastructure and the role of wetlands to provide scientific evidence for Ramsar policy. CHF 20,000</p> <p>An opportunity to present the Ramsar view on storage is anniversary of the WCD report and proposed workshop in Stockholm WWW 2010 on “sustainable dams”</p> |
| Any other Comments? | Task 8.8 Reservoirs and other human-made wetlands – ecological significance review and designation guidance is |

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| | considered under this task. |
| Task No. 7.5: Water resources management in dry and sub-humid lands – guidance. | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Develop guidance on water resources management in dry and sub-humid lands, including aspects relating to climate change and desertification, in consultation with the Convention on Biological Diversity in the context of the Ramsar-CBD Joint Work Plan, and in consultation with the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. (Resolution IX.2 task 86, STRP14). |
| Task lead person: | To be decided Katherine Cross to recommend from IUCN network |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mark Smith, Mike Acreman Others – Katherine Cross (IUCN), CBD, UNCCD Secretariat – CEPA |
| Type of product/output(s): | Guidance (Re-title to focus on role of wetlands in water management in arid areas) |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | CHF 20,000 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Prepare ToR for work (Sep 2009). 2. Scope issues and available technical material, produce table of contents and outline (Dec 2009) 3. Attendance at IUCNworkshop 4. Produce first draft of guidance (Jun 2010) 5. Engage with global debate on sustainable use of water in arid areas – timing depends on other initiatives <u>Principal aims are:</u> Scope issues of wetlands and water management in dry and sub-humid lands Develop guidance of the role of wetlands |
| Additional comments/information | Comments from STRP 15 working sessions: <u>Emphasise that:</u> Climate change may impacts on dry and semi-humid areas Intense competition for water Reliance on groundwater |

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| | <p>International context, staging areas on flyways, corridors</p> <p><u>Report needs to address:</u></p> <p>Are wetlands in dry and semi-humid areas more or less vulnerable? (on the margins of existence)</p> <p>Are people (social and economic) reliance on wetlands in dry and semi-humid areas</p> <p>Wise use of wetlands</p> <p>Wetlands as natural infrastructure (see task 7.4)</p> <p>Seasonal role of wetlands</p> <p>Virtual water issues</p> <p>Changes in soils - desertification</p> <p><u>Links:</u> Wetlands climate change; Wetlands and agriculture; Convention on Biological Diversity (Ramsar-CBD Joint Work Plan); UN Convention to Combat Desertification; IUCN groundwater initiative; World Bank groundwater initiative</p> <p><u>Use:</u></p> <p>Case study of rainfall generation by wetlands – important process in arid areas e.g. inner Niger delta</p> <p>Sudd wetland studies</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>No specific progress. Preparation of the technical report is awaiting funding. However, some other work has been undertaken in the general area of wetlands in dry and sub-humid lands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Lake Eyre basin Australia, management strategies have been developed for variable and unpredictable water availability in arid areas. • The Niger River Basin Authority and Lake Chad Basin Commission and the Nile Basin secretariat have good experience and have undertaken studies in arid and semi-humid areas. • Presentations were made on ecology and hydrology of ephemeral rivers at the Flood Pulse conference Botswana, Feb 2010 • IUCN has studied Ecological impacts of drought, including Mediterranean temporary ponds • MEDWET possibly has publications on arid areas. (Denis Landembergue / Laurant Chazee to explore) • The IUCN WANI programme had projects in Middle East, eg Azraq oasis Jordan on socio-economic issues of oasis and groundwater system in arid area. • Ramsar provided input to World Water Development report and UN Water |
| Update following the | It is recognised that there are many and varied issues in arid and semi-humid areas, particularly the exploitation of |

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| STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>groundwater. Ramsar is not well-placed to advise on the groundwater management per se, but can contribute on the management of wetlands in arid and semi-humid areas. However, information on this topic is very fragmented and substantial work is still required to pull-together a technical document on the subject. This would need to followed by production of guidance.</p> <p>Option (1) Hold a workshop on wetlands in arid and semi-arid zones in collaboration with an influential organisation that could provide funding, such as the Arab League, which has shown interest in cooperation, plus CBD and UNCCD. The background papers needed for this workshop could include a review of general issues, such as groundwater management, and the role of wetlands in these zones. The output from the workshop would be definition of the (potential) role of Ramsar in arid and semi-humid zones. Preparation of the papers would cost CHF 20,000 (other meeting costs would be extra). This option needs a short (<1 page) summary to define the workshop concept, format and outputs.</p> <p>Option (2) Await substantial funds for an independent review. Funding of at least CHF 30,000 is still required to make any progress in this work, given the magnitude of the task.</p> |
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| Task No 7.7a: Ramsar water and wetlands – review of strategy for engaging in the global water debate | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>In discussion at STRP15, participants identified the need for an additional task in reviewing the water-related issues and activities of Ramsar. This new task would develop a strategy for Ramsar to engage in the global water debate, focusing on the role of wetlands as natural water infrastructure. This would include specifying aims, mechanism for engagement and products needed to support the engagement.</p> <p>This strategy may influence the review all adopted Ramsar COP Resolutions concerning water and wetland interactions (Task 7.7b) and may require some revisions to water-related guidance.</p> |
| Task lead person: | To be decided |
| Task force members | <p>STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mark Smith, Mike Acreman</p> <p>Secretariat – CEPA</p> |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>A strategy for Ramsar to engage in global water-related issues</p> <p>Recommendations for revising water-related guidance to support the strategy</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert | CHF 10,000 |

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| consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare ToR for work (Sep 2009). 2. Scope water-related issues relevant to Ramsar (Oct 2009) 3. Produce draft of strategy paper (Jan 2010) 4. Hold discussion session at mid-term workshops (Feb 2010) |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Comments from STRP 15 working sessions:</p> <p><u>Emphasise that:</u></p> <p>Producing a good strategy for engagement is the key to orientating all Ramsar water-related guidance</p> <p>Need to review global concepts of river basin management, IWRM, ecosystem approach, Dublin principles</p> <p><u>The strategy needs to address:</u></p> <p>Scope of current Ramsar guidance and SWOT analysis</p> <p>How Ramsar should engage with water management issues and processes</p> <p>Review of water-related concepts and terminology see what has been used and what works</p> <p>Assess and recommend appropriate concepts for organizing water-related guidance</p> <p>UN guidance on IWRM weak on wetlands</p> <p>Review Global Water Partnership IWRM approach may not address wetland issues well</p> <p><u>Links:</u> Major role for CEPA - communications/advocacy</p> <p>Will provide overview for tasks 7.1 and 7.2</p> <p>Joint work with international river organisations</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>No specific progress. Preparation of the strategy paper is awaiting funding. However, some activities have been undertaken to engage in the global water debate. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Acreman was nominated by Ramsar to join GWP Technical Advisory Committee • Mike Acreman presented concepts of natural infrastructure at World Water Week Stockholm • Ramsar is to nominate Max Finlayson, Matthew McCartney and Colin Lloyd to appropriate committees under IPCC • Engagement was a key element identified in GWOS programme of determining the extent and functioning of wetlands worldwide. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>STRP has identified a range of potential water-related target audiences with which to engage, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water treaties especially related to regional initiatives, such as transboundary river basins, and conventions that are interested in water |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional development banks, World Bank - new MoU with Ramsar • Institution of Civil Engineers, International Commission on Large Dams, International Hydropower Association • WHO, Water Sanitation and Health (WASH) • Water agencies • Private sector, eg. hydropower companies • UN agencies: FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UN Habitat <p>Engagement with external agencies and organisations is a generic Ramsar issue. There is scope for a wider examination of this issue led by CEPA.</p> <p>Option (1). Hold a brain-storming session at the next STRP meeting. In preparation, each Thematic Work Area would need to examine its relationship with external organisations; who to influence, who to partner and who to partner. Mike Acreman to provide a short paper from TWA6 on external engagement and to circulate to other task force members.</p> <p>Option (2) Prepare a document defining a strategy for engaging in the global water debate. This would include specifying aims, mechanism for engagement and products needed to support the engagement. CHF 20,000</p> <p>Option (3) Implement engagement, based on strategy. This may require the production of tools, such as powerpoint slides on specific issues to ensure consistency of messages. An important opportunity is the 40th anniversary 2011.</p> |
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| Task No 7.7b: Ramsar water and wetlands Resolutions - review. | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Building on work done through the Standing Committee in the 2006-2008 triennium under Resolution IX.17 on the <i>Review of the decisions of the Conference of the Contracting Parties</i> , by COP12 review all adopted Ramsar COP Resolutions concerning water and wetland interactions, make recommendations concerning consolidation, updating and retirement of aspects of these Resolutions in relation to recent developments, and prepare a new draft Resolution concerning water and wetlands issues, including any necessary updating of the <i>Integrated Framework for the Ramsar Convention's water-related guidance</i> adopted by COP9 in Resolution IX.1 Annex C. (STRP14, Resolution X.19). |
| Task lead person: | To be decided |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mark Smith, Mike Acreman Secretariat – CEPA |

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| Type of product/output(s): | New draft resolution encompassing past water-related resolutions |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | CHF 15,000 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>2013 onwards</p> <p>Review past water-related resolutions</p> <p>Make recommendations for consolidation, updating and retirement of aspects of these Resolutions in relation to recent developments</p> <p>Prepare a new draft Resolution concerning water and wetlands issues</p> <p>Approach to be reviewed and steps defined following completion of Task 7.7a</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>No specific progress.</p> <p>A broad review of resolutions (9.17) was undertaken by David Pritchard (conflicts, overlaps, identified) noted by Standing Committee. There are political issues over retirement of resolutions and guidance, although some COP10 resolutions included word 'supersedes other guidance'. No concrete action has been taken. Water-related guidance was identified as a specific example of where success may be achieved, based on David's "method".</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>For other tasks, a team approach can be undertaken to collate information from external activities. This task requires a single person with specific skills and experience of Ramsar procedures and documentation. It is too large and important a task for student to undertake alone as many resolutions need considerable interpretation, although a student could help with the mechanics of identifying key resolution elements.</p> <p>Option (1) Contract David Pritchard to review and recommend consolidation, updating and retirement of water-related Resolutions. CHF 15,000 . The output would either be an over-arching resolution that supersedes all others, or a briefing note references all water-related resolutions and thus supports their navigation.</p> <p>This would ideally be undertaken in advance of revision of the Handbooks, although the Handbooks can be complete without full consolidation of resolutions and guidance.</p> <p>The priority for this work depends on appetite for the Standing Committee to act on outcomes and retire resolutions.</p> |

TWA 6. LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

| Task No. 7.1: Implementation of river basin management plans – review | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Review, to the extent practicable, available experience in implementation of river basin management plans, including experience in applying national laws on environmental flows, and document the lessons emerging. (STRP14) Integrate with 7.2 below |
| Task lead person: | Heather Mackay |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mike Acreman |
| Type of product/output(s): | Case studies of including wetlands in IRBM |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Not yet known |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Undertake literature search for examples of wetlands in IRBM 2. Review scope of new literature (Jun 2010) 3. Prepare proposal and ToR for synthesis, if required (Sep 2010) |
| Additional comments/information | Comments from STRP 15 working sessions: <u>Emphasise:</u> Wetlands as natural infrastructure than can deliver IRBM Investing in wetlands is viable and sustainable option Topdown process (national planning) Bottom up process (local actions/initiatives) <u>Use:</u> WETWIN examples of wetlands in integrated river basin management Ghana example WWF river basin guidelines Vision for wetlands (England) UK landscape scale wetland restoration and management <u>Links:</u> Next triennium guidance on using IRBM to guide river basin scale wetland restoration Planning and management of wetlands in urban and peri-urban areas |

| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
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| What Progress so far? | <p>No progress by STRP. Some other work has been undertaken in the general area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TNC has reported on implementation of environmental flows – Heather Mackay has reviewed the report and will explore if it can be made available to STRP • Lucia has completed her MSc thesis on BC Hydro. • Many case studies are likely to be available in Europe from implementation of the Water Framework Directive through River Basin Management Plans due for publication in March 2010. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Several useful new reports and papers have been published, mostly dealing with environmental flows.</p> <p>Option (1) Heather Mackay to collate examples of wetlands in IRBM</p> |

| Task No. 7.2: Integrated water and coastal management - case studies | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Investigate ways of making optimal use of existing collated case studies for illuminating good practice concerning river basin management, integrated coastal zone management, and national laws on environmental flows and other water management issues, with reference to relevant volumes in the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks series. (STRP14, Resolution X.1: strategy 1.7).</p> <p>Integrate with 7.1 above</p> |
| Task lead person: | Heather MacKay |
| Task force members | STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates, Mike Acreman |
| Type of product/output(s): | Case studies of good practice |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Not yet known |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake literature search for examples of linking IRBM and ICZM 2. Review scope of new literature (Dec 2009) 3. Prepare proposal and ToR for synthesis, if required (Mar 2010). |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Case studies on transboundary wetlands may be useful</p> <p>http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |

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| What Progress so far? | <p>No progress by STRP. Some other work has been undertaken in the general area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The European Framework Programme 7 project PEGASO has produced case studies in Spain, France, Croatia and other countries • The new concept of “ridge-to-reef” is likely to provide information. Mike Acreman to ask James Dalton at IUCN • The Abidjan Convention is active in coastal zone management in west Africa. PRCM includes FIBA. Barcelona Convention may have useful information. • A case study is being undertaken on Hula Lake (Israel) by Cohen. Laurent Chazee to provide details. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Option (1) Collate case studies that integrate IRBM and ICZM.</p> <p>STRP needs to identify a lead to do this.</p> |
| Any other comments? | <p>Possible link with World Delta Dialogues 2010 ?</p> <p>This would make a good intern or student project.</p> <p>How do we make case studies available?</p> |

| Task No. 7.6 (new): Environmental water requirements for non-river inland wetlands – options for guidance | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Res X.10 proposed a review of needs and possible options for development of guidance on the determination of environmental water requirements for palustrine wetlands. (Carried forward from STRP 2003-5 work plan, STRP14).</p> <p>This Task was reformulated during STRP15. Participants felt that there was insufficient information on water requirements of palustrine wetlands to justify a full task. The task of the remit was therefore widened to keep a watching brief on water requirements of all inland wetlands other than rivers (for which guidance has been produced)</p> |
| Task lead person: | Mike Acreman, Rebecca Tharme (TNC) |
| Task force members | <p>STRP - Chris Gordon, Archana Chatterjee, Tatiana Mineeva, Ritesh Kumar, Stanley Liphadzi, Lifeng Li, Sasha Koo-Oshima, Ania Grobicki, Anne van Dam, Matthew McCartney, Sonali Sellamuttu, David Coates</p> <p>Others – Rebecca Tharme, Jackie King, Jay O’Keffe</p> |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Database of studies on water requirements of non-river inland wetlands</p> <p>Potential synthesis paper to cover all non-river inland wetlands</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Not yet known |

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| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 1. Undertake literature search on recent work in water requirements of wetlands (other than rivers) 2. Review scope of new literature (Feb 2010) 3. If sufficient literature exists, prepare a proposal and ToR for synthesis (May 2010). |
| Additional comments/information | Comments from STRP 15 working sessions: Strong link to production of guidance on management and restoration |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | No progress by STRP. Some other work has been undertaken in the general area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Froend has undertaken a literature review in this area, particular focused on methodologies. • There is a Australian Government report on water needs of non-riverine wetlands. Pierre Horowitz to provide details on Australian examples. |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | Option (1) Mike Acreman to produce an annotated bibliography of existing/recent work on water needs of non-river wetlands. This could activity of the global Environmental Flows network – Stefano Barchiesi to help. The E-flows web-site could be used to get feedback from members of the network and to identify new sources of information. |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 7: WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetlands of International Importance |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | David Stroud |
| Co-lead(s): | tbc |

TWA 7: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS:

8.4/4.5/8.3 = TOP PRIORITY TASKS FOR THIS TWA

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| A. Task No. 8.4: Strategic framework and guidelines for the future development of the list of Wetlands of International Importance - review and harmonization of Criteria | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Building on preliminary analyses begun during the 2006-2008 triennium, and without prejudice to the ongoing task of keeping the Ramsar site Criteria and Guidelines generally under review (task 8.1 above), conduct a thorough review and make proposals concerning the consistency, completeness, logic, coherence and clarity of the targets, guidelines and other materials that support the implementation of the Criteria, including (but not limited to) targets in the Convention's Strategic Plan, sources of contextual data for scientific evaluations, and guidance in the <i>Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance</i> as amended. (Resolution IX.2 tasks 110 and 112, STRP14). |
| B. Task No. 4.5: Harmonization of RIS - options review [<i>Moved from TWA3</i>] | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Review options for, and as necessary prepare proposals for, re-structuring and/or revising the format of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) and its accompanying Explanatory Notes and Guidelines to take account of the recommendations in Resolution X.15 on <i>Describing wetland ecological character, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance</i> , other relevant decisions adopted by COP10, other requirements (including protocols regarding shared sites), and the outcome of other tasks listed in the present Annex which relate specifically to the RIS, including (but not necessarily limited to) the tasks on Ramsar site Criteria, ecological character description, and Ramsar site information needs. (Resolution IX.2 task 106, STRP14, Resolution X.15) |
| C. Task No. 8.3: Guidance on selection of Ramsar Sites for particular wetland types user-needs review | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Following, and in light of, the findings of the general review of the availability and utility of the Convention's scientific and technical guidance undertaken during the 2006-2008 triennium, conduct with input from CEPA experts |

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| | a more detailed and specific review of user needs in relation to the Convention's guidance on selection of Ramsar sites for particular wetland types and the effectiveness of the guidance in meeting those needs; and develop proposals for any improvements or additions that may be necessary. (Resolution IX.2 task 107, STRP14). |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud |
| Task force members | STRP, David Stroud, Secretariat staff (including CEPA), Dave Pritchard, ?Randy Milton, ?WCMC, George Lukacs, Eric Onyango, ?Sang-Don Lee, Philippe Gerbeaux, ?IUCN + prob others as we get going, Inputs also from Carmen Revenga (TNC) |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Scoping/issues paper for STRP mid-term workshop in February 2010 ii) Options paper for SC41 mid 2010 iii) Potential proposals for CoP11 to be determined. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds for small workshop in late 2009 (@WCMC?) to brainstorm issues: 10,000 CHF • Funds for consultant to write-up workshop outcomes into draft scoping/issues paper following short workshop: 5,000 CHF • Possible further funding needed post-midterm workshop in 2010/11 |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Some work undertaken last triennium which has scoped some of the issues. ii) Undertake scoping survey and prepare by Feb 2010, (and possibly as basis of paper to SC41 in mid 2010?) a paper summarising issues where current criteria and guidelines are unclear, ambiguous and where terminology might be better harmonized with that adopted by other Convention processes using information drawn from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inputs from Secretariat staff responsible for assessing and Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) and entering data into database [mid 2009]; • targeted questionnaire sent to those individuals within administrative authorities or otherwise who have recently (?since mid 2008) drafted RISs seeking their input with regard to identifying issues of unclarity and ambiguity [by end of 2009]; and • review of Strategic Framework by Task Group members with the aim to identifying those data and information needs require for the effective identification, delineation and designation of |

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| | <p>Ramsar sites [end of 2009].</p> <p>iii) Consider results of scoping survey of issues at mid-term workshop in January 2010 with aim to develop options on how best to address issues raised through the workshop and scoping survey;</p> <p>iv) Following mid-term workshop develop proposals for modification of <i>Strategic Framework</i> and RIS as necessary and appropriate, considering especially format and audiences.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>NOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Task 8.3 strongly links to 4.5 (RIS revision options), and 8.3 (user-needs analysis) so propose to progress these together.</i> • <i>Note sensitivities re changes to criteria and RIS and risk of unintended consequences. Need to ensure that guidelines retain the flexibility required for their global application but address issues of unclarity where additional guidance would aid their application by Contracting Parties.</i> • <i>There may be further guidelines developed at national scale that might usefully inform this review. Try to identify via networkers?</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>1) Comments on RIS ambiguities provided by Secretariat Regional Teams and consolidated as background paper for Workshop.</p> <p>2) Discussion paper on issues prepared for workshop about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarity as to scope and nature of Ramsar's guidance on site identification, selection and designation. 2. Whether we proceed with a questionnaire to users re their experiences re use of existing Strategic Framework and RIS Guidelines. 3. Identification of other sources of relevant information re identification, selection and designation of internationally important sites (e.g. Natura 2000) <p>3) Work programme and timetable to draft products for CoP 11.</p> |
| Update following the STRP Mid-term workshops | <p>Type of Products/Outputs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Draft DR with a) revise RIS and b) a single revised and consolidated guidance document supporting designation processes for Ramsar sites ii) Info paper and Technical Briefing notes for CoP11 |

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| | <p>iii) Strategy to communicate proposed changes to Contracting Parties in the lead up to CoP 11 (2011).</p> <p>iv) Draft text with summary proposed actions prepared for Standing Committee 41.</p> <p>Funds needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,000 CHF for small drafting workshop at Gland, October 2010. • 15,000 CHF travel and subsistence to ensure STRP representation at Regional meetings in 2011/12 to explain and brief on proposed changes. <p>Mid-term workshop in February 2010 concluded:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. STRP are working to the principle of trying to simplify the guidance associated with the site selection Criteria, 'repackaging' the various existing agreed guidances which have developed separately over time and accordingly have a degree of unnecessary overlap. A further principle being adopted is to ensure that guidances and proposals reflect the very variable extent of data and information on sites available in different countries. The scientific 'ideal' may simply be impracticable in some developing countries owing to resource and other constraints. STRP are accordingly exploring hierarchical approach to some aspects of guidance that recognises that some countries are less 'data-rich' than others. 2. A central need, repeatedly expressed by Contracting Parties and others is the need for an unambiguous description of ecological character at the point of designation which can act as a baseline description. STRP work has shown that a significant amount of the data and information used with the Convention's Ecological Character Description Sheet (as defined in Resolution X.15) can be delivered by the Ramsar Information Sheet. Ensuring the RIS delivers the necessary information on ecological character has the advantage of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. reduces reporting burdens by seeking to collect data once that has utility for several different processes; ii. ensuring that data collected at the point of designation much better defines ecological character against which future changes of site status can be assessed; and iii. potential (still to be explored in detail) of using data collected at the point of designation (and updates thereof) for other MEA reporting processes. 3. Specific STRP proposals are to: |
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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Merge the guidance on the completion of the RIS with the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the development of the Ramsar list to produce a single supporting document that will provide the necessary information on all aspects of the process of Ramsar site identification and designation. b. This new document will largely comprise existing adopted guidance, but re-ordered, better structured and with duplication removed so as to be more easily understood by Contracting Parties and other users. It will also bring together a range of other guidance agreed by Ramsar into this single document and will more coherently integrate links with the Ecological Character Description Sheet adopted in Resolution X.15. c. Emphasis will be given to simplifying guidance, and giving worked examples and illustrative case-studies which may help those compiling (or revising) Ramsar Information Sheets. d. It is aimed to provide a more consistent structuring for the guidance associated with each Criterion. e. There will be the need for additional guidance associated with some Criteria where this is currently limited. f. It is proposed that there will be some simplification and restructuring of the fields in the Ramsar Information Sheet. It is stressed that there will be no implications for Contracting Parties to resubmit RIS for existing sites but, as in the past, it is intended that these changes will become effective for new designations and/or as RIS are revised on the normal update cycle. g. Currently each Criterion has an associated 'Long-term Target', however there are inconsistencies and ambiguities in the expression of these, and some of them are elaborations of the criteria or rather general statements of intent, rather than specific 'targets'. STRP propose to re-work these targets to better express objectives for the global List of wetlands of international importance, and to move them to be situated in overarching text associated with The Vision for the global List. They would also be reflected in the associated guidance, and linked to relevant Key Result Areas in the current Strategic Plan. 4. With the assistance of Secretariat, STRP will be seeking input from individuals in Contracting Parties and others with recent experience of compiling and submitting RIS. Learning from such experience will be important to avoid potential ambiguities. STRP would welcome Standing Committee assistance with identifying individuals who may be in a position to contribute experience to this work. 5. Recent international assessments have highlighted the 85% global loss of bivalve (shellfish) reefs a wetland type which provide a wide range of ecosystem services and are of significant economic benefit in the regions where they occur. Few, however, have been listed at Ramsar sites. To promote consideration for such |
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| | <p>listing, STRP accordingly proposed to draft specific additional guidance for the inclusion of bivalve (shellfish) reefs in the Ramsar List. This will be included in the reformulated guidance described above.</p> <p>6. The introduction of a new format for the Ramsar Information Sheet as described above, will raise concerns with Contracting Parties as to work needed to reformat forms for proposed sites that have already been drafted. STRP suggest that such genuine concerns may be alleviated by introducing new format RIS at a defined future date after CoP 11 (possibly two years after, in January 2014). Such a transition period would allow adequate time for the submission of those forms in the current format that are 'in the pipeline', whilst allowing Parties preparing new proposals to commence this using the new format from the point of its adoption by CoP in 2012. It is recognised that through any such transition period, the Secretariat will need to assist Parties with necessary technical support activity which will need resourcing. The STRP will work with the Secretariat in drawing up a proper plan for management of the issues involved in this transition.</p> <p>TIMELINES</p> <p>March 2011 - targeted consultation to sent to a sample of 'users'</p> <p>May - working meeting Task Lead + Secretariat staff, Gland</p> <p>September - first full draft text circulated to core group</p> <p>October- small workshop here to discuss first draft [CHF 2k]</p> <p>December - second draft circulated to STRP</p> <p>Feb 2011 - final draft submitted for STRP 16</p> <p>2011 - attendance at Regional meetings to provide briefings for Contracting Parties</p> |
| Any other comments? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note sensitivities re changes to criteria and RIS and risk of unintended consequences. Need to ensure that guidelines retain the flexibility required for their global application but address issues of unclarity where additional guidance would aid their application by Contracting Parties. There may be further guidelines developed at national scale that might usefully inform this review. Try to identify via networkers? |

| Task No. 8.1: Ramsar Site Criteria and Guidelines – ongoing review | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | In addition to specific tasks listed below concerning the Ramsar site Criteria, keep the Criteria and Guidelines as a whole under review on an ongoing basis to ensure that they reflect global wetland conservation and wise use priorities (ongoing STRP function). |

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| | (Resolution IX.2 task 112). |
| Task lead person: | tbd |
| Task force members | tbd |
| Type of product/output(s): | Draft Ramsar Technical Report - needs update to include COP 9&10 developments and editing. Target for STRP consultation end June 2009 . [Stroud, D.A. (in draft). Selecting Ramsar sites: the development of criteria from 1971 to 2005. <i>Ramsar Technical Report XX</i> .] Task will be delivered within the context of 8.4. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Task will be delivered within the context of 8.4. No separate activity needed. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| | Task will be delivered within the context of 8.4. |

| Task No. 8.6: Biogeographic regionalization schemes - availability and further assessment | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Following the work completed during the 2006-2008 triennium on biogeographic regionalization schemes of relevance to the application of the Ramsar Criteria: i) develop a Web-based portal for downloadable GIS-based information on the relevant schemes for realms, provinces, and ecoregions, to be hosted within the Ramsar Sites Information Service; ii) investigate further the usefulness of existing terrestrial and inland biogeographical regionalization schemes for supporting the application of the <i>Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance</i> . (STRP14, Resolution X.20). |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud |
| Task force members | IWMI, Wetlands International, Philippe Gerbeaux, and others |

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| Type of product/output(s): | <p>i) Develop roll-out of MEOW via Ramsar Sites Information Service.</p> <p>ii) <i>Ramsar Technical Review</i> and possible materials for CoP11 (packages as part of revision of <i>Strategic Framework</i> guidance review)</p> <p>Draft Technical Report giving background to Resolution X.20 and work to date (MEOW analyses). Needs chapter on policy, update with CoP10 developments and edit. Target for STRP consultation by end May 2009. [Rebelo, L-M., Finlayson, M. & Stroud, D.A. (in draft). Ramsar site under-representation and the use of biogeographical regionalisation schemes to guide the further development of the Ramsar List. <i>Ramsar Technical Report XX</i>.]</p> |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Further review of inland biogeographic regionalisation schemes: 25,000 CHF |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>i) To be developed following discussion with Wetlands International re RSIS re-development. [2009]</p> <p>ii) Develop ToR</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Links to Task 8.7</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <p>Task will be delivered within the context of 8.7</p> <p>Target for STRP consultation by end March 2010.</p> |

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| Task No. 8.7: Assessing under-representation in the Ramsar List - advice on gaps, targets and data and information sources | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Further develop advice on identifying and addressing under-representation in the Ramsar List, and investigate methods for defining targets for representation of wetland types in the List, including advice on data sources and methods for evaluating representativity of particular wetland types, and making links to relevant indicators of Convention effectiveness, with an overall emphasis on connectivity and other aspects of functional coherence of site networks, and including a review of experience at regional and other levels with such network concepts. (Resolution IX.2 task 104, STRP14, Resolution X.20). |
| Task lead person: | IWMI |
| Task force members | IWMI, Wetlands International, Philippe Gerbeaux, Skukuza Freshwater Group, David Stroud, Tim Badman, IUCN |

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| | WCPAs |
| Type of product/output(s): | Analytical report reviewing types of under-representation especially for inland wetlands |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Analysis and report: 15,000 CHF |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>Work in last triennium has progressed understanding of under-representation of coral reefs and will shortly be reported in a near-final <i>Ramsar Technical Report</i>. Several elements to the work are envisaged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An assessment of both the global and regional extent of different wetland habitat types (in broad terms accepting the lack of precision with the data available). To the greatest extent possible the wetland types used will aim to follow the Ramsar wetland classification, although it is noted that some 'higher' groupings may need to be used (for example treating Forested and Non-forested peatlands together as a single Peatland category). 2. A 'best' assessment of the extent of these same wetland type categories within the List of Ramsar sites – accepting that many sites will not have details of the mapped extent of wetland types and thus assumptions will need to be made as to the extent of wetland types with the overall site series. 3. Derived from 1) and 2) above, the proportion of different wetland types within the Ramsar List at three scales: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Global; b. Regional (using Ramsar's geographic regionalisation); and c. Regional (using an appropriate biogeographic regionalisation). 4. Informed by the output of 3) above, an assessment of possible approaches to the setting of targets for the inclusion of wetland types within the Ramsar List. This should consider approaches to the setting of both global and regional targets (as outlined above). |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Strong conceptual links to Task 8.6 and these two tasks should probably be undertaken together, with initial work on inland water regionalisation preceding analysis of under-representation. Most likely to be more productive to undertake analysis at regional scale owing to lack of relevant global datasets.</i></p> <p><i>Wetlands International noted that there are different aspects of under-representivity, as follows:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>"Global coverage – the global distribution of designated wetlands in relation to the global wetland resource.</i> |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Regional or national under-representation, according to appropriate biogeographical classifications, and notable in those Parties who have designated only one or very few sites.</i> 3. <i>Numbers of sites designated or certain of the wetland types of the Ramsar Classification of Wetland Type.</i> 4. <i>Numbers of sites designated for their wetland-dependent biodiversity (under Criteria 2-8), for example gaps in the site networks for migratory waterbirds and globally threatened species."</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>No funding needed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No further analytical work proposed owing to lack of access to appropriate global datasets that could be used for further analysis. 2. Further elaborated description on existing terrestrial biogeographical regionalisation schemes (regional as well as global), how they were derived, what their scientific strengths and weaknesses are, and how each might be used for Ramsar purposes. It is not intended to recommend a single terrestrial biogeographical regionalisation scheme. |

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| Task No 8.8: Reservoirs and other human-made wetlands – ecological significance review and designation guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Having regard to the tasks defined separately elsewhere in this Annex relating to urban wetlands and to dams and other water management infrastructure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) review the ecological significance of reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, including their use by aquatic and other water-dependent biota; and ii) prepare further 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 and in collaboration with other interested bodies. <p>(Resolution IX.2 task 108, STRP14).</p> |
| Task lead person: | Mike Acreman |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Randy Milton and probably others as we get going, TWA2 folk, TWA6 folk |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>Ramsar Technical Report</i> and possible information paper for CoP11. ii) Potential addition to <i>Strategic Framework</i> if agreed necessary. |

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| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Co-funding for literature review = 20,000 CHF |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>i) Seek academic collaboration to undertake literature review. Much information probably exists. (The issue is of developing strategic significance [emerging issue] for the Convention given the potential significance of artificial wetlands in climate-change adaptation strategies.)</p> <p>a. Develop ToR for review – probably refocusing the task in starting to think about the role of artificial/human-made wetlands with respect to climate-change adaptation.</p> <p>i. Also assess RIS data for Ramsar sites that are human-made (especially assessing issues such as what was prior-land-use).</p> <p>b. Seek collaborators or engagement with appropriate consultant.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOVE THIS SUB-TASK TO TWA6 WATER RESOURCES <i>[Integrated into Task 7.4 on Wetlands and Water storage interactions]</i></p> <p>ii) The main driver related to this issue (abuse of designation processes by destruction of natural wetland of international importance justified by development of internationally important human-made wetland in same area – e.g. reservoir) was actually addressed in text added to <i>Strategic Framework</i> at CoP9 and is contained within Handbook 14. Task group will review that text and assess whether it is adequate, and if not, whether further guidance is required and what form that might take.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p><i>Note that issue is sensitive with markedly different attitudes to the designation of human-made wetlands between Contracting Parties. Might be difficult to adequately develop appropriate guidance beyond that which already exists.</i></p> <p><i>Issue with respect to terminology and implications: restoration, rehabilitation, re-creation, enhancement, conversion, ...</i></p> <p><i>Note links between sub-task i) and Restoration and Climate Change tasks. Also environmental flows etc. etc...</i></p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | This task is Integrated into Task 7.4 on Wetlands and Water storage interactions (TWA6) |

TWA 7: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS:

Task No. 8.2: Population estimates for applying Ramsar site Criteria 6 & 9 -updating

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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Periodically secure the updating (by other qualified bodies where appropriate) of the list of relevant population estimates and 1% thresholds for the application of Ramsar site Criteria 6 and 9 (ongoing STRP function). (Resolution IX.1 Annex B, STRP14) |
| Task lead person: | David Stroud |
| Task force members | David Stroud, Wetlands International & IUCN-SSC |
| Type of product/output(s): | Updated population estimates for Criteria 6 & 9 as available: a) updated edition of <i>Waterbird Population Estimates</i> b) updated population estimates from IUCN-SSC as available – revised RTR. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Dialogue with Wetlands International needed re projected timetable and processes for delivering <i>Waterbird Population Estimates</i> to be undertaken in the context of Wetlands International's Global Waterbird Advisory Group (WIGWAG) [May 2009]. Dialogue with IUCN-SSC needed about updating Criterion 9 population estimates in 2011. Draft Ramsar Technical Report - Needs final edit only. Target for STRP consultation by end April 2008 at latest . [Luedtke, J. Powell, A. & Stroud, D.A. (in draft). Population estimates and 1% thresholds for non-avian wetland-dependant fauna. <i>Ramsar Technical Report XX</i> .] |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Draft Ramsar Technical Report - Needs final edit only. Target for STRP consultation by end April 2010 at latest . |

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| Task No. 8.5: Criterion 9 contextual information needs – review | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Conduct a specific review of the contextual information that can and should support the application of Criterion 9, and make recommendations in this regard. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Propose deletion of this task as contextual background and further interpretation to Criterion 9 application is already provided by: Luedtke, J. Powell, A. & Stroud, D.A. (in draft). Population estimates and 1% thresholds for non-avian wetland-dependant fauna. <i>Ramsar Technical Report XX</i> . |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| | Task integrated into tasks8.4/4.5/8.3 |

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| Task No.8.9: Management of formally confirmed transboundary Ramsar sites – review of case studies | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Assess a selection of case studies drawn from the Transboundary Ramsar Sites initiative, in order to summarise the existing range of flexible options regarding the designation and management of formally confirmed Transboundary Ramsar Sites. (Standing Committee Decision 38-6; COP10 plenary) |
| Task lead person: | Roy Gardner |
| Task force members | STRP Chair, David Stroud, Tobias Salathe, Rebecca Lee |
| Type of product/output(s): | Short information paper |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Not seen as priority for external funding. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Review information related to the 9-10 formally confirmed Transboundary Ramsar Sites using information in RIS and other related information (possibly involving consultation with the relevant Contracting Parties). |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Suggest make explicit that the task relates just to those 9-10 sites that have been formally confirmed as Transboundary Ramsar Sites by the relevant Contracting Parties and not related to other wetlands that are either adjacent or straddle boundaries.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Information from Stetson case studies, and outputs from the TRS meeting in France in January 2010. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Review information related to the 12 formally confirmed Transboundary Ramsar Sites using information in RIS and other related information (possibly involving consultation with the relevant Contracting Parties), information from Stetson case studies, and outputs from the TRS meeting in France in January 2010. Roy Gardner will prepare a draft information paper prior to STRP16. |
| Any other comments? | Information paper will include reference to transboundary wetland sites that are not formally confirmed TRSs, as examples and lessons concerning cooperative management can be drawn from those situations as well. |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 8: WETLAND MANAGEMENT – RESTORATION, MITIGATION & COMPENSATION

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetland management – restoration, mitigation & compensation |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Kevin Erwin |
| Co-lead(s): | Roy Gardner |

TWA 8: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS:

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| Task No. 9.1: Mitigation and compensation for wetland loss - guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Develop guidance on mitigation of and compensation for losses of wetland area and wetland values, in the context of Resolution X.16 on <i>A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character</i> , and including lessons learned from available information on implementation of “no net loss” policies, the “urgent national interest” test, and other aspects relating to situations in which Article 2.5 and 4.2 and/or Resolution VII.24 are relevant. (Resolution IX.2 tasks 128 and 166, STRP14, Resolution X.16). |
| Task lead person: | Roy Gardner |
| Task force members | Tatiana Minaeva Roy Gardner Stanley Liphadzi Lijuan Cui Mike Acreman Lew Young Sasha Koo-Oshima Sonali Senaratna-Sellamuttu Archana Chatterjee Maria Rivera Ritesh Kumar Rob Mc Innes Sasha Alexander Philippe Gerbeaux Colin Lloyd Mark Smith Randy Milton Dave Pritchard Kevin Erwin Max Finlayson Names in bold identify core task force members |
| Type of product/output(s): | Draft methodologies, produce draft guidance, workshops, refine drafts, review by full STRP, - Draft Resolution |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | 20,000 CHF is estimated to fund time for an outside consultant to collect and synthesize information and to fund two small workshops |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | The scope of this task will include reference to the question of determining at what point, proposed or existing changes in a wetland’s ecological character would require mitigation and compensation for losses and the process required to assess the changes in a wetlands functional capacity as a result of positive or negative ecological change. (Dec 2009) |

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| | <p>In the beginning of the scoping process the end users will be determined (e.g. contracting parties, TWAs and IOPs) and their input and needs, will be collected. (August 2009)</p> <p>Early in the scoping process of this task definitions of terms will be produced. This step will ensure that all parties engaged in mitigation and compensation activities have the same understanding of the meaning of terms (e.g., restoration, rehabilitation, re-establishment, creation). This effort will start with a survey and synthesis of existing Ramsar, international and institutional definitions. The final peer-reviewed agreed definitions of mitigation, compensation, and related terms will be published and incorporated into future related documents. Dec 2009</p> <p>The next task will be to collect and review relevant information on implementation of "no net loss" policies and review of national laws and policies regarding mitigation. Review-refer to "urgent national interest" case studies and how it relates to international importance. This information will be submitted to TWA 3 for evaluation and eventual incorporation. Dec 2009</p> <p>Two small workshops (5 to 7 attendees) to be held to prepare working and final drafts of the guidance. Nov 2009 and June 2010</p> <p>If needed a brief CEPA report would be prepared at the beginning of this task to circulate advance the activities and process to organizations outside of Ramsar that have experience dealing with the topic of wetland mitigation and compensation. This will enhance the initial scoping. In addition, a recommendation will be made on how mitigation and compensation should apply to the MA framework. June 2009</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Need to develop linkages with other TWAs and communication protocols. Having (SuSe) up as soon as possible is important.</p> <p>Probable TWA links include: Inventory, assessment and Agriculture</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified the framework that clarify how and when wetland restoration as a tool can and should be applied in relation to avoidance, mitigation and compensation. here |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <p>Type of products:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Draft COP11 Resolution, with Annex: Guidance on Avoiding, Mitigating, and Compensating for Wetland Losses (based on flowcharts presented at mid-term workshop). |

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| | <p>2. COP11 Information Paper discussing lessons learned from “no net loss” policies, the “urgent national interest” test, and other aspects relating to wetland mitigation and compensation.</p> <p>Funds needed: Summer research assistant: CHF 1,000. Review and writing workshop: CHF 12,000.</p> <p>Approaches/Steps: Roy Gardner will draft initial version of the DR and Information Paper by end of August 2010. Possible task group review and writing workshop, autumn 2010. Draft guidance will be tested, if feasible, in national/regional restoration-related workshops which may take place during 2010/2011.</p> |
| Any other comments? | Funding for undertaking this STRP task has been provided by the government of the UK. |

| Task No. 9.2: Wetlands restoration updating and expansion of guidance | |
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| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare proposals for updating and expanding existing Ramsar guidance on restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands, in the context of Resolution X.16 on <i>A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in ecological character</i> , including approaches to prioritization and links with other Ramsar tools and guidance, <i>inter alia</i> those on climate change and on economic values of ecosystem services. (Resolution IX.2 task 127, STRP 14, Resolution X.16, Resolution X.1: strategy 1.8). |
| Task lead person: | Kevin Erwin |
| Task force members | Tatiana Minaeva* Roy Gardner* Stanley Liphadzi Lijuan Cui* Mike Acreman Lew Young* Sasha Koo-Oshima* Sonali Senaratna-Sellamuttu Archana Chatterjee Maria Rivera*, Ritesh Kumar* Rob Mc Innes* Sasha Alexander*Philippe Gerbeaux* Colin Lloyd*Mark Smith Randy Milton* Dave Pritchard Kevin Erwin* |
| Type of product/output(s): | -Evaluation of existing Ramsar guidance -Guidance and Handbook -Possible COP11 Resolution |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | 75,000 CHF (anticipate reducing with cost-sharing from partners when possible) Six workshops, travel, small grants to consultants, report writing and publication |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for | The strategy for the development of a new or modified guidance will begin at the watershed level and integrate wetland restoration and management at the end user level. Building from a general concept to a specific framework |

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| delivering the work: | <p>in time to present for discussion at mid-term meeting.</p> <p>The existing Ramsar Guidance on wetland restoration was prepared for COP 8. Wetland restoration is now widely recognized as a significant issue at all levels of wetland management and conservation. It will be important early in this task to determine who are the primary end users of this guidance and extent of integration with other TWAs and other processes. Early comments from the STRP suggest the importance of targeting policy-makers/ wetland as well as managers to build their understanding of the issues related to wetland restoration at different scales. The task will then commence with an evaluation of existing Ramsar guidance documents dealing with wetland management and restoration. (Dec 2010)</p> <p>Approximately three regional workshops would be planned for purpose of incorporating local needs and knowledge into developing guidance, including guidance for planning restoration at regional level. Obtaining consensus amongst the broad range of end users may not be possible, so the opportunities for their input into the guidance development are very important. (August 2009 through June 2010)</p> <p>We anticipate a CEPA report at commencement of the task(6/10) to circulate in advance the anticipated activities and process to organizations outside of Ramsar that have experience dealing with the topic of wetland restoration, such as SERI,SWS, SCB, etc. This step will enhance the initial scoping. In addition, a recommendation will be made on how mitigation and compensation should apply to the MA framework. (Dec 2010)</p> <p>The end product is envisaged to a revised Guidance document on wetland restoration and management along with a new Handbook developed on wetland restoration and management specifically for end users. More than one handbook may be appropriate given the diversity of end users. (Dec 2010)</p> <p>During STRP 15 the consensus was for TWA 8 to complete Task 6.1(iii) and contribute to Task 6.1(i). A guidance document will be produced on how wetland management and restoration can contribute to improving adaptation to climate change. Feb 2011</p> <p>Approximately three regional workshops would be planned for purpose of incorporating relevant science and policies into a guidance document. Nov 2009 through Sept 2010</p> <p>Both guidance documents should incorporate protocols for the Guidance interfacing with other TWAs (see common</p> |
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| | threads below) |
| Additional comments/information | <p>Guidance document working group (Rob, Mike, Tatiana, Ritesh, Maria Rivera, Lew, Cui, Kevin)</p> <p>Common Threads with other TWA's</p> <p>"The need for technical information and advice related to wetland restoration is expected to far exceed some of the specific items of concern in the two TWA 8 tasks contained in the STRP Program for 2009-2012. One ongoing responsibility of this TWA will be to assist the other STRP thematic work areas in integrating wetland restoration science, strategies and practices into their tasks, as well as providing guidance for Contracting Parties as they seek to implement Ramsar strategies. This will require communication and consultation with other TWAs and Working Groups, particularly climate change, water, agriculture and health."</p> <p>Initial input from the other appropriate TWA leads may include;</p> <p>TWA 1: Regional Networking: Utilize the network to assist in setting up and facilitating workshops to develop guidance while providing technical assistance to partners/end users.</p> <p>TWA 2: Strategic, emerging and ongoing issues: Provide wetland management and restoration input on wise use of wetlands principals. Restoration of wetlands/watersheds will be an emerging issue.</p> <p>TWA 3; Wetland Inventory: Provide assistance on Article 3.2 and help parties with suggestions and guidance relative to the significance and variability of ecological change.</p> <p>TWA 4; Human Health: Implications of wetland restoration and management on improving/reducing human health. Provide advice to relevant health authorities to mitigate or promote.</p> <p>TWA 5: Climate Change: Wetland restoration and management will be one of the tools applied to mitigating the effects of climate change, specifically as it relates to restoring and sustaining basin hydrology.</p> <p>TWA 6: Water Resources Management: Advise on impacts/compensation/mitigation on proposed water projects. Interface with water management programs and organizations. Use wetland restoration as a tool at the watershed level of assessment and management.</p> <p>TWA 7: Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites): Work with local managers to evaluate their management plans and where appropriate incorporate some restoration focused at mitigating changes in ecological character.</p> <p>TWA 9: Agriculture: Provide input on reports (e.g. IWMI, FAO/GAWI) Good Wetland Agriculture Practices should</p> |

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| | <p>include state of the art wetland management and restoration practice to mitigate drought and climate change impacts. Provide advice on assessments.</p> <p>TWA 10: CEPA: Utilize CEPA to target appropriate groups, organizations, meetings and prioritize at what level TWA8 should be involved.</p> <p>Other activities undertaken by TWA 8 may include: Publish RTR from published CC paper (Erwin, 2008). Participate on Danone-IUCN Project Promote wetland restoration as a part of World Wetlands Day and other international fora Possible generation of new, priority tasks responding to needs of other TWAs and end users</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing proposals for reviewing existing Ramsar restoration guidance, in the light of the draft framework guidance • Provide advice to STRP16 on whether the restoration guidance needs to be revised or updated • Develop a process for further reviewing and testing with a range of wetland restoration practitioners in different parts of the world with inclusion of subsequent testing with users. |
| Any other comments? | |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 9: WETLAND & AGRICULTURE

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Wetlands & agriculture |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | George Lukacs |
| Co-lead(s): | |

TWA 9: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 2.1: Agriculture and wetlands - guidelines | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | In the light of the outcomes of the “Comprehensive Assessment on water management in agriculture” (CA), the “Water for food and ecosystems” initiative and the “Guidelines on Agriculture and Wetland Interactions” (GAWI) Framework for guidance, contribute to the testing of existing guidance and/or development of further guidance on wetlands and agriculture interactions, in the context of Resolution VIII.34. (Resolution IX.2 tasks 149 and 150, STRP 14) |
| Task lead person: | George Lukacs |
| Task force members | FAO rep, McCartney, Horwitz, Finlayson, van dam, Lifeng Li, Young, Erwin, van Halsema, Wood |
| Type of product/output(s): | Ramsar technical report |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultant costs to convene writing workshop to produce RTR (CHF650x 5 days) = CHF 3250 - Travel costs for writing workshop (5 people)= CHF10000 (estimate) - NB: it is hoped that FAO-Dutch government. joint programme (FNPP) will support this Task. The FNPP would provide the financial resources for developing and evaluating the guidance within key geographical areas/agricultural systems. Final scope of this Ramsar task will be dependent on this support being secured. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p><i>[to be further refined]</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) seek continuation of FNPP arrangement between the Dutch ministry and FAO for GAWI Phase 2. 2) Ramsar secretariat to formally write to FAO and Dutch Ministry top request continuing support for GAWI phase 2 as a tripartite arrangement in the development and evaluation of this guidance 3) Define key geographical areas/agricultural systems for use in guideline development – 3 potential work areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) large scale irrigation in SE Asia and multiple use of supply waters ii) rice paddies and multiple ecosystem services (link to other agricultural task on rice paddies) |

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| | iii) build on past FNPP activity with IWMI, Wetland Action, Wetlands International in sub Saharan Africa on small wetlands used for livelihood support 4) develop and test guidance based on the creating of a technical compendium for Good Agricultural Wetland Practices (GAWP) within the work areas: --distinguishing in-situ and basin-wide practices - target the introduction of wetland ecological criteria into GAPS (where that exists) 5) develop methodological guidance for acknowledging and revitalizing regulating, supporting cultural services in agricultural landscapes, particularly those in non- OECD countries. |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Link with diseases task (Rebecca Lee)</i> <i>Link with water resources/quality task (re pesticides) (see sasha Koo-Oshima FAO)</i> <i>Linkage with urban-peri urban task (see McInnes)</i> <i>Linkage with biofuel task (see Mark Smith)</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Continue negotiating with FAO to develop a Strategic Scientific Framework and Investment Plan that can further the development of guidance related to good agricultural-wetland practices |
| Any other comments? | |

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| Task No. 6.3: Biofuels and wetlands review and guidance [Moved from TWA5] | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | i) review the global distribution of biofuel production in relation to impacts on wetlands; ii) review and collate existing best management practice guidance and social and environmental sustainability criteria for growing biofuel feedstocks in relation to wetlands, and where appropriate develop such guidance and criteria; iii) consider further discussion between the Contracting Parties on addressing sustainable biofuel issues in relation to wetlands; iv) advise the Standing Committee of the conclusions; and v) work with relevant international bodies dealing with biofuels. |
| Task lead person: | George Lukacs and IUCN Bioenergy team (Andrea Atanas) |

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| Task force members | McCartney (IWMI), Kumar (WI), Koo-Oshima (FAO), Young, van Dam (UNESCO-IHE), Lifeng (WWF), D'Cruz, Milton, Lloyd, Gerbaux, Minaeva (CC GAP), Grobicki (GWP) |
| Type of product/output(s): | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special Issue ▪ Annotated bibliography and metadatabase ▪ Ramsar Technical Report |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | <p>1. Mini-symposium: Travel costs (limited to 10 people) for x days. Estimate ~CHF20,000</p> <p>2. Source of information: Minimal cost</p> <p>3. Impacts: Consultants - estimate 30 days x CHF650 = CHF19,500</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Travel – costs limited to 3 people for writing workshop = CHF6,000 (estimate)</p> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>Objectives</p> <p>NB: A staged approach is proposed to meet the needs of the Task with this triennium only focusing on reviewing the global distribution of biofuels and their impacts on wetlands.</p> <p>1. Identification of key contacts and Stakeholder Committee from food, water/environment and development sectors, including information exchange via a technical mini-symposium.</p> <p>It is clear there are many potential stakeholders associated with this Task. A Stakeholder Committee will be constituted at project initiation to represent the key players across the food, water/environment and development sectors and to work with the Ramsar Task lead(s) and Taskforce members. The Committee will organize a Ramsar mini-symposium on wetlands and biofuels with stakeholders presenting the latest knowledge on the interaction of biofuel production/markets/trends with impacts on wetland ecosystem services. The mini-symposium should seek to coincide with another relevant conference/meeting (advice from steering committee/CEPA needed) and be in a readily accessible location. Output from the mini-symposium should be published as a journal Special Issue. (DECEMBER 2010)</p> <p>2. Identification of sources of information on biofuel production</p> <p><i>[Needs refinement]</i></p> <p>Taskforce members have identified potentially a range of information sources;</p> <p>1. FAO – i) Task Group and 10 expert groups have produced synthesis and supporting document on biofuels, ii) modeled outputs and land & water constraints to biofuel production, ii) Biofuel & Livelihoods project (biofuels and food security project), iv) joint IWMI workshop on water use and biofuels.</p> <p>2. IUCN Bioenergy team....</p> |

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| | <p>3. IWMI - Global modeling of water requirements of biofuel production undertaken for CA</p> <p>4. WI - Summary of side event at COP10 and outputs from Roundtable on Sustainable Palm oil</p> <p>5. WWF - Bioenergy position paper/Roundtable on Bioenergy</p> <p>Output to be meta-database with annotated bibliography on wetlands and biofuels (JUNE 2010)</p> <p>3. Identification of impacts <i>[Needs refinement]</i></p> <p>1. Identification of possible analytical tools (eg models of global change)</p> <p>2. Mapping of production systems vs wetland assets (eg GIS layer)</p> <p>3. Risk assessment based on primary impacts (greenfield development sites; changes in existing land uses) and secondary impacts (eg changes in food security and resultant impacts on wetlands).</p> <p>4. Writing workshop to compile report.</p> <p>Output to be Ramsar Technical Report (DECEMBER 2011)</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Task links with energy sector review ▪ Link with CBD process on biofuel production (See David Coates) to build on work already underway in relation to biofuels, water and biodiversity ▪ Link with information from recent North American conference on biofuels and wildlife (See Randy Milton) |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Identify ways for STRP to participate in the Round-table on Sustainable Biofuels |

TWA 9: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 2.2: Agriculture and wetlands – advice on assessments | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Prepare further advice to the Contracting Parties on the interrelated Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (IWMI, CGIAR initiative) and Global Environment Outlook-4 (GEO-4) of UNEP. (STRP14, Resolution X.18) |
| Task lead person: | Finlayson |

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| Task force members | Lukacs, McKartney, Koo-Oshima |
| Type of product/output(s): | Ramsar Technical Report |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant ? | Nil |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Compile information paper based on STRP12 list of questions, Comprehensive Assessment, GEO-4 Report, UNESCO 3 rd WWDR and FAO/GAWI report /October 09). Request FAO consider the information paper as part of forthcoming State of Land and Water (SOLAW) report and seek ongoing role for Ramsar STRP in development of SOLAW. |
| Additional comments/information | <i>Draft information paper substantially complete minus consideration of GAWI and UNESCO documents.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Completion of RTR funded by the previous cycle. |

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| Task No. 2.14: Agriculture and Wetlands - Rice paddy biodiversity and management | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) prepare a technical report on the role of rice paddy in supporting the conservation of wetland biodiversity and the delivery of wetland ecosystem services, taking into account differences in the ways in which rice fields are managed, considering also the work of the GAWI partnership; and ii) review, disseminate, and exchange available guidance and information related to rice paddy planning, management practices and training on sustainable rice farming that protect or enhance wetland biodiversity and ecosystem services while also supporting essential food production, in collaboration especially with FAO, IWMI, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the Africa Rice Centre (WARDA), the GAWI partnership, and others. |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>Rice paddies and biodiversity to be considered as part of HIGH PRIORITY task 2.1</p> <p><i>Since the high priority task 2.1 includes rice paddy as one of the agricultural system to be reviewed, STRP considered that we would not recommend advancing task 2.14 as part of our 2009-2012 work programme.</i></p> |

THEMATIC WORK AREA 10: COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION & AWARENESS (CEPA)

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| Thematic Work Area name: | Communication, education, participation & awareness (CEPA) |
| Thematic lead STRP member: | Christine Prietto |
| Co-lead(s): | There is no co-lead but this Working Group is strongly supported by the Secretariat's CEPA Programme Officer Sandra Hails |

TWA 10: HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 10.1: Optimal presentation of Ramsar guidance – further advice <i>[STRP considered this task as High Priority]</i> | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Make further contributions to proposals concerning optimal presentation of scientific and technical aspects of Ramsar guidance in the light of findings from reviews of uptake and effectiveness of existing guidance, and in conjunction with actions flowing from Resolution IX.17 concerning consolidation and retrial of COP decisions. (Resolution IX.2 tasks 3 & 5, STRP14). |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | Working Group 10: Heather Mackay, Rebecca D'Cruz, David Pritchard, Pierre Horwitz, Mike Acreman, David Stroud, Rob McInnis, George Lukacs, Max, Finlayson, Kevin Erwin with assistance from Secretariat Regional Staff and Regional Networks |
| Type of product/output(s): | Product 1: Technical Report on the Review of Guidance Product 2: Set of Principles to guide the development of future guidance. Target Group: STRP and Secretariat staff |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | Consultant for finalisation of Review of Guidance |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | 2009 Product 1. Engage a consultant to finalise the Review of Guidance into a Technical Report to be made available. 2009-2010 Product 2. Develop a draft set of Principles using advice from the Review of Guidance Use the guidance to define the subsets of users within the cohort of stakeholders refereed to as Wetland Site Managers |

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| | <p>Work with WG10 members to review the draft principles and the profiles of existing Wetland Managers</p> <p>Use an existing guidance such as Identifying Ramsar Sites, review the suitability of this guidance in light of the draft principles and the user group profiles to further refine the draft Principles</p> <p>Consultation: Refer the draft principles to the following groups: Secretariat Staff, Regional Networks</p> <p>Use feedback to finalise the set of Principles for developing guidance to better meet the needs and context of individual user groups.</p> <p>Make the draft principles available to those working groups developing new guidance.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <p>This task has relevance for the work of many Working Groups, especially those that are considering new guidance.</p> <p>It may also have relevance for Task 8.3 User-needs review towards the development of new guidance on selection of Ramsar sites for particular wetland types.</p> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | |

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| Task No. 10.3: Assessing capacity-building needs of Contracting Party in applying Ramsar guidance | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | <p>Develop effective ways of providing training and capacity-building for relevant stakeholders in Contracting Parties to assist with the interpretation and implementation of scientific and technical guidance and other materials prepared by STRP, with the assessment and definition of future needs.</p> <p>(STRP14, STRP Chair at SC36).</p> |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | <p>Working Group 10: Heather Mackay, Rebecca D'Cruz, David Pritchard, Pierre Horwitz, Mike Acreman, David Stroud, Rob McInnis, George Lukacs, Max, Finlayson, Kevin Irwin, Rebecca Lee, Anne Van Dam, Sandra Hails</p> <p>Members of Working Group 1, Regional Advisors and Network, representatives from the Advisory Board on Capacity-Building.</p> |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Scoping study regarding the optimum Capacity-building approaches for Contracting Parties to support their use of Guidance</p> <p>Target Group: Contracting Parties</p> |

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| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | <p>An opportunity to meet with representatives of the Advisory Board will be identified, linking with another meeting if possible.</p> <p>Consultation with Regional Advisors and their networks will be used to identify the optimum approaches and potentially to assist in the development and delivery of products identified in the consultation phase that are best suited to the needs of the Target audience.</p> <p>Consultation may result in a recommendation regarding the appointment of an expert to develop and deliver training.</p> <p>A proposed budget of CHF 15000 is shown against this work area. If the Task proceeds to the design and delivery of training, this will be insufficient for delivery.</p> |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p><u>2009</u></p> <p>Phase 1</p> <p>Workshop to clarify the capacity-building needs of Contracting Parties regarding application of Guidance</p> <p>Involve Regional Advisors and their networks, the Advisory Board on Capacity Building, members of the CEPA Oversight Panel</p> <p><u>Ask the Regional Advisors to assist with setting up a Contracting Parties Reference Group</u></p> <p>With assistance from this group and the regional advisors, identify the specific Guidance products which represent the greatest challenge to Contracting Parties</p> <p>Look at advice from National reports</p> <p>Investigate the following areas: process, access, labeling, institutional capacity.</p> <p>Seek advice from all other channels (e.g., IOPs) to get their perspective on the needs of Contracting Parties</p> <p>Review the Framework on Capacity Building being developed by the Advisory Board in light of the findings identified in the scoping exercise.</p> <p>Complete a short report on the findings to confirm going forward with Phase 2</p> <p>Initiate development of training program only if the work above indicates that this is needed.</p> <p>Phase 2 (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Discuss models for delivery</p> <p>Agree on the optimum approach for the Target group</p> <p>Agree on delivery mechanisms</p> <p>Conduct consultation through Regional Advisors and Regional Networks to gain feedback on proposal</p> <p><u>2011</u></p> |

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| | <p>Work with existing training processes</p> <p>Investigate whether there is an opportunity to cooperate with IOPs for delivery of training.</p> <p>Seek opportunities to trial capacity-building approach with Target Group in a workshop format to be delivered at a regional level.</p> <p>Revise capacity building products</p> <p>Develop strategy for promotion and distribution of capacity-building products</p> <p><u>2012</u></p> <p>Promote Guidance Training Package at COP 11</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <i>This task will be designed and conducted in collaboration with Working Group 1 and the Regional Advisors and the Advisory Board on Capacity Building with additional advice from IOPs If possible the capacity-building workshop will be delivered with assistance from one of the Regional Centres</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | |

| Task No. 10.4: Promoting the STRP Work plan | |
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| Task description | This was identified as a new Task during STRP 15. It involves developing a concise version of the STRP Work Plan for 2009-2012 using words and graphics |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | Sandra Hails, Heather Mackay, Rebecca D'Cruz |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Short Summary of the STRP Work Plan 2009-2012</p> <p>Target Group: All STRP Focal Points, General Constituency, other Scientific Arenas and Social Arenas where relevant</p> <p>Purpose: Give Target audiences early advice on the priority work areas</p> <p>Let stakeholders know how they can keep track of the work, contribute to the work where relevant</p> |

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| | Make STRP Work more transparent |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Develop a short version of the STRP Work Plan 2009-2012 to profile the work areas and identify the leads for those work areas. Identify the best distribution process for the target audience Finalise the format for each of the target audiences |
| Additional comments/information | This task has arisen during STRP 15 in light of discussions on rationale for and potential benefits to be gained from promotion of the STRP work plan to a broader audience early in the Triennium. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | |

| Task No. 10.5: Providing tools to improve planning and cross-linkages in the STRP Work Programme | |
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| Task Description | This has been put forward as a new Task during STRP 15. It involves developing a mapping tool to improve planning of the STRP scope of work early in the triennium and to identify links with key international processes to optimize opportunities for engagement. |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | Rebecca D'Cruz, Sandra Hails, Chris Gordon |
| Type of product/output(s): | Planning Tool for STRP <u>Target Group:</u> STRP Working Groups, Secretariat Staff <u>Purpose:</u> to improve STRP planning processes by identifying and clarifying the links between tasks. This will assist WG Leads to see the connections with related and/or overlapping tasks and to identify those which will be producing relevant outcomes and those which are similar enough to suggest closer cooperation. Identify the key international processes relevant to the work of the STRP which need to be engaged with to assist with the staging and delivery of tasks and products. |

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| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Conduct a mapping exercise at the start of the triennium that shows the links between the Tasks identified by all of the working groups and the key international processes which have relevance of the work of the STRP. Revisit this regularly to further define how it might be used. Continue to refine the mapping tool. |
| Additional comments/information | This task has arisen during STRP 15 in light of discussions on rationale for and potential benefits to be gained from additional planning mechanisms to assure that opportunities for cooperation and or staging are identified early in the triennium. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established working group (Chris Prietto, STRP Chair, Rob McInnes and George Lukacs) to keep a watching brief on journal publication opportunities that complemented STRP's work programme and afforded opportunities for the dissemination of STRP work through the peer-reviewed journals. To identify potential deliverables and opportunities for the Ramsar 40th Anniversary in 2011 |

| Task No. 10.6: Planning for STRP Participation in COP 11 | |
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| Task Description | This has been put forward as a new Task during STRP 15. It involves gathering advice from STRP Participation in COP 10 and using this advice to develop a plan for participation in COP11. |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | Rebecca D'Cruz, Sandra Hails, Dave Pritchard, Ritesh Kumar, Rob McInnes, Heather MacKay, Nick Davidson, Monica Zavagli |
| Type of product/output(s): | <p>Long Term Participation Plan for COP 11</p> <p><u>Target Group:</u> STRP, Secretariat Staff</p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> to maximise the opportunity presented by the COP to engage with Contracting Parties and plan for the</p> |

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| | involvement of the STRP in the Convention Processes. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Gather advice at STRP 15 on the STRP participation in COP 10 Collect ideas on potential for improving this participation at COP 11 Seek advice from IOPs and Contracting parties on how STRP can best support the parties at COP11 Plan and coordinate STRP contributions to and participation in COP11 |
| Additional comments/information | This task has arisen during STRP 15 in light of discussions on the positive feedback on STRP participation in COP 10. |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | Developed set of recommendations for STRP involvement in COP11 to be addressed to the Standing Committee subgroup on COP11. |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | |

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| Task No. 1.4: CEPA advice on guidance preparation | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Ensure that the preparation of STRP guidance and advice materials draws fully on expertise available to the Convention concerning Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) in order to optimize the effective drafting, design, targeting and uptake of such materials; and ensure that CEPA experts also contribute to promoting and researching uptake of such materials and the scientific and technical profile of the Convention in general, including the ongoing documentation of lessons learned. (see also related tasks in section 10 CEPA.) (Annex to Resolution IX.11, Resolution IX.2 task 152) |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | All STRP Working Groups, assistance from Secretariat to prioritise tasks |
| Type of product/output(s): | Face-to-face contribution to/ participation in other STRP work areas Target Group: All STRP Working Groups |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert | 15,000 CHF |

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| consultant? | |
| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | Prioritise the tasks in which face to face participation will be beneficial Submit travel budget when opportunities are finalized. |
| Additional comments/information | <i>This budget will be reserved to cover the active participation of the CEPA lead in workshops or meetings related to priority work areas identified at STRP 15.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | Continue providing input on guidance preparation and presentation to other TWA tasks. |

TWA 10: LOWER PRIORITY TASKS

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| Task No. 10.2: Preparation of outreach materials based on STRP substantive guidances | |
| Task description (from Res X.10 Annex II) | Seek opportunities to prepare materials for outreach purposes, particularly for decision-makers and other key stakeholders in relevant sectors, to support increased awareness and understanding on topics that are the subject of substantive guidance prepared by the STRP. (Resolution IX.2 task 153). |
| Task lead person: | Christine Prietto |
| Task force members | Working Group 10: Heather Mackay, Rebecca D'Cruz, David Pritchard, Pierre Horwitz, Mike Acreman, David Stroud, Rob McInnis, George Lukacs, Max, Finlayson, Kevin Erwin, Sandra Hails With assistance from Secretariat Regional Staff and Regional Networks |
| Type of product/output(s): | Guide to the Ramsar Guidance for Wetland Site Managers <u>Primary Target Group:</u> Wetland Site Managers <u>Purpose:</u> the Brochure will promote to Site Managers the full range of guidance docs that are available to assist Wetland managers with the management of their Ramsar sites. |
| Funds needed for contracting an expert consultant? | Design consultant may be required. |

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| Approach/steps (including timelines) for delivering the work: | <p>2010-2011</p> <p>Use the work done on profiling the cohort referred to as Wetland Site Managers under Task 10.1.</p> <p>Review the guidance to identify the Handbooks that are most relevant for Site Managers.</p> <p>Develop a guide to the guidance for this target group which promotes those Handbooks, explains where they might be useful and directs Site Managers to other information that will assist them in their work.</p> |
| Additional comments/information | <i>This Task will use the advice obtained from the Review of guidance conducted by the STRP through the CEPA Working Group in 2006-2008. It will also follow on from the work done under Task 10.1. It will be produced with advice from all Working Groups and with specific advice from the Secretariat staff, Working Group 1 and the Regional Networks.</i> |
| UPDATE for STRP 2010 mid-term workshops | |
| What Progress so far? | |
| Update following the STRP mid-term workshops | |