



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

**Asia Regional Workshop on Scientific and Technical Support  
for Implementation of the Ramsar Convention**

Changwon Hotel, Changwon, Republic of Korea  
7-11 October 2013

**Briefing Note for agenda items 7 and 8**

**The Role of STRP National Focal Points (NFPs) and capacity Building Needs  
for NFPs and STRP NFPs**

## **Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA): Working Sessions 1 and 2**

The two sessions below will be led by STRP members Christine Prietto and Hiromi Yamashita. This brief background information note aims to prepare you for the topics and discussions we will be including in our sessions.

### **Working Session 1: the Role of STRP National Focal Points, perceptions and delivery**

Monday 7 October, 13.35-15.35

#### **Objectives**

1. Improve our understanding of:
  - How you, as National Focal Points (NFPs), perceive your Ramsar role
  - How you, as NFPs, deliver your Ramsar role
2. Provide opportunities for individual participants to share and to learn from other countries' attempts and experiences.
3. Gather feedback on how things work in your country and how you interact with other in-country Focal Points or other wetland networks.
4. Identify communication issues that assist, constrain or restrict the delivery of your role within your country or at specific sites.

#### **Background**

This session will explore the NFP role, provide opportunities to share how individuals deliver this role in their country and look at the similarities and differences in individual situations. Participants have been sent a **pre-workshop questionnaire**, and we will be using the results to look at trends. We will also be looking at the organisations that you work in, how you relate to and communicate with the Ramsar Administrative Authority in your country and any other organisations you interact with that support the delivery of your role. During this workshop we will also explore your experience using Ramsar Guidance to fulfil your role's responsibilities.

#### **Feedback requested from participants**

Please bring a copy of your questionnaire responses to the workshop as these will help with some of the exercises in the workshop.

#### **Schedule**

##### **13.35-13.45**

Set the scene for this session (*Christine Prietto and Hiromi Yamashita*)

##### **13.45-14.00**

Overview of STRP National Focal Points and their roles (*Marcela Bonells, Scientific and Technical Support Officer*)

##### **14.00-14.15**

Ramsar brochure overview

**14.15-14.30**

Pre-workshop survey results

**14.30-15.20**

Exercise: how does your organisation work?

**15.20-15.50**

Coffee break

**15.50-16.40**

Exercise: What networks do you use? (*Hiromi Yamashita*)

**16.40-17.20**

STRP NFPs presentations (*Lew Young*)

**17.20-17.30**

Wrap up

# **Working Session 2: Capacity Building Needs for STRP NFPs and NFPs, Identifying Capacity gaps which Constrain Delivery of Ramsar Objectives**

Tuesday 8 October, 8.30-10.30, and Friday 11 October, 11.00-12.30

## **Objectives**

1. Collect feedback from STRP NFPs on constraints on implementation of Ramsar objectives within their country and or at specific sites.
2. Discuss the Ramsar Guidance to determine its usefulness to NFPs.
3. Work with participants to identify the gaps in capacity for Ramsar implementation including where those gaps occur, at the institutional, organisational or individual level. Explore existing tools and strategies for capacity building, including those in place in some countries and those developed by the Secretariat to engage and inform NFPs
4. Workshop proposals for new tools and strategies that would support delivery or improve communication.
5. Provide advance notice of the Scoping Study on Optimum Capacity-building Approaches for Contracting Parties to Support Their Use of Guidance.

## **Background**

This session will consider your capacity to deliver Ramsar objectives in your country, so we will focus on the “job description” for the NFP Role and the associated knowledge and skills requirements and various factors either in your organisation or at the individual level that make delivery difficult. Most of the discussions in the first session will be relevant to this session. We will consider capacity at various levels but with a strong focus on the **individual level**. We will be looking to collect information on capacity building systems and tools that you may already be using, including those that are provided by the Secretariat, to determine which are most effective and which can be shared. Our ultimate goal will be to identify areas where individuals feel less confident and working with you to suggest new tools and products for development that would help fill the gaps.

## **Feedback requested from participants**

Please bring along information on or examples of any tools or materials which help you fill your role.

## **Schedule**

### **Tuesday 8 October**

#### **8.30-8.45**

Communication tools in place from the Secretariat (*Marcela Bonells, Scientific and Technical Support Officer*)

#### **8.45-9.30**

World Wetlands Day overview and discussion

#### **10.00-10.10**

CEPA High Priority Task for this triennium

#### **10.10-10.30**

Identifying existing capacity building tools and gaps

**10.30-11.00**  
Coffee break

**Friday 11 October (session continued) 11.00-12.30**

**11.00-11.30**  
Identifying existing capacity building tools and gaps

**11.30-12.00**  
Ideas for new products

**12.00-12.30**  
New Ramsar Secretariat products and wrap up