

*Asia Regional Workshop on Scientific and Technical Support for Implementation of the Ramsar Convention,  
Changwon, Korea, 7-11 October 2013*

# **How does your formal Ramsar Implementation team work?**

**Hiromi Yamashita**

Associate Professor

**Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, JAPAN**

STRP member

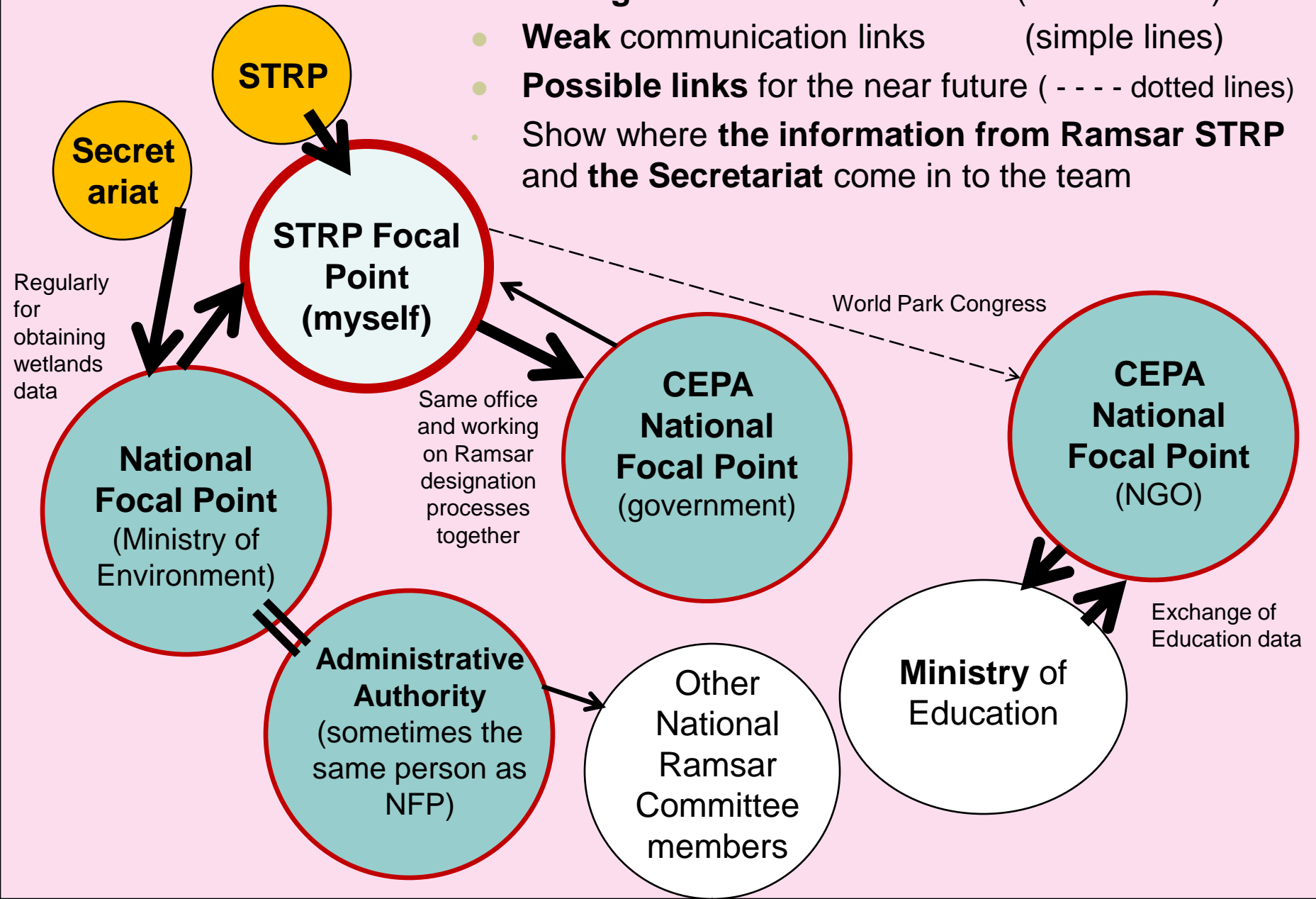
[hiromiya@apu.ac.jp](mailto:hiromiya@apu.ac.jp)

***Looking INWARD to visualise your work within a formal Ramsar implementation team in your country, and what is working or what is missing in terms of information flow***

- *Each person has one A3 sheet, please put your country at the top and your name on the back of the sheet. Fold in half and only use LEFT side for this exercise, but put yourself in the middle.*
- *How does communication about Ramsar work within the team?*  
**USE ARROWS**

# Example

- Who initiate the communication? (Arrows →, ⇔)
- Strong communication links (BOLD lines)
- Weak communication links (simple lines)
- Possible links for the near future ( - - - - dotted lines)
- Show where the information from Ramsar STRP and the Secretariat come in to the team



## To start exploring some of the barriers and possibilities of communications among them (Organizational – Political – Personal – Economical - etc?)

---

- What are the **barriers identified**?
  - How those could be overcome?  
[**who or what could be helpful?**]
- What are the **success stories**?
- Any other thoughts ...

In a group of 4 or so (*ideally not all from the same countries*)

- Group discussions (about 15 minutes)
- A whole group feedback discussion(15 minutes)

# **Group feedback discussion**

---

- **Anything which made you think**
- **Any thing you heard which could be helpful**
- **Commonalities and differences**

# **What network do you use?**

***Looking OUTWARD of your role and organisation to link up with wetland experts/ enthusiasts***

**Hiromi Yamashita**

Associate Professor  
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, JAPAN  
[hiromiya@apu.ac.jp](mailto:hiromiya@apu.ac.jp)

# The aim for this 40 minutes

---

1. To map out existing or possible wider **“Ramsar family members”** (wetland experts and enthusiasts) in each country
2. To start exploring **some of the barriers and future possibilities** for better communication among them  
(Organisational - Political – Personal – Economical, etc.?)

# **1. To map out existing and possible wider “Ramsar family members” (wetland experts and enthusiasts) in each country**

---

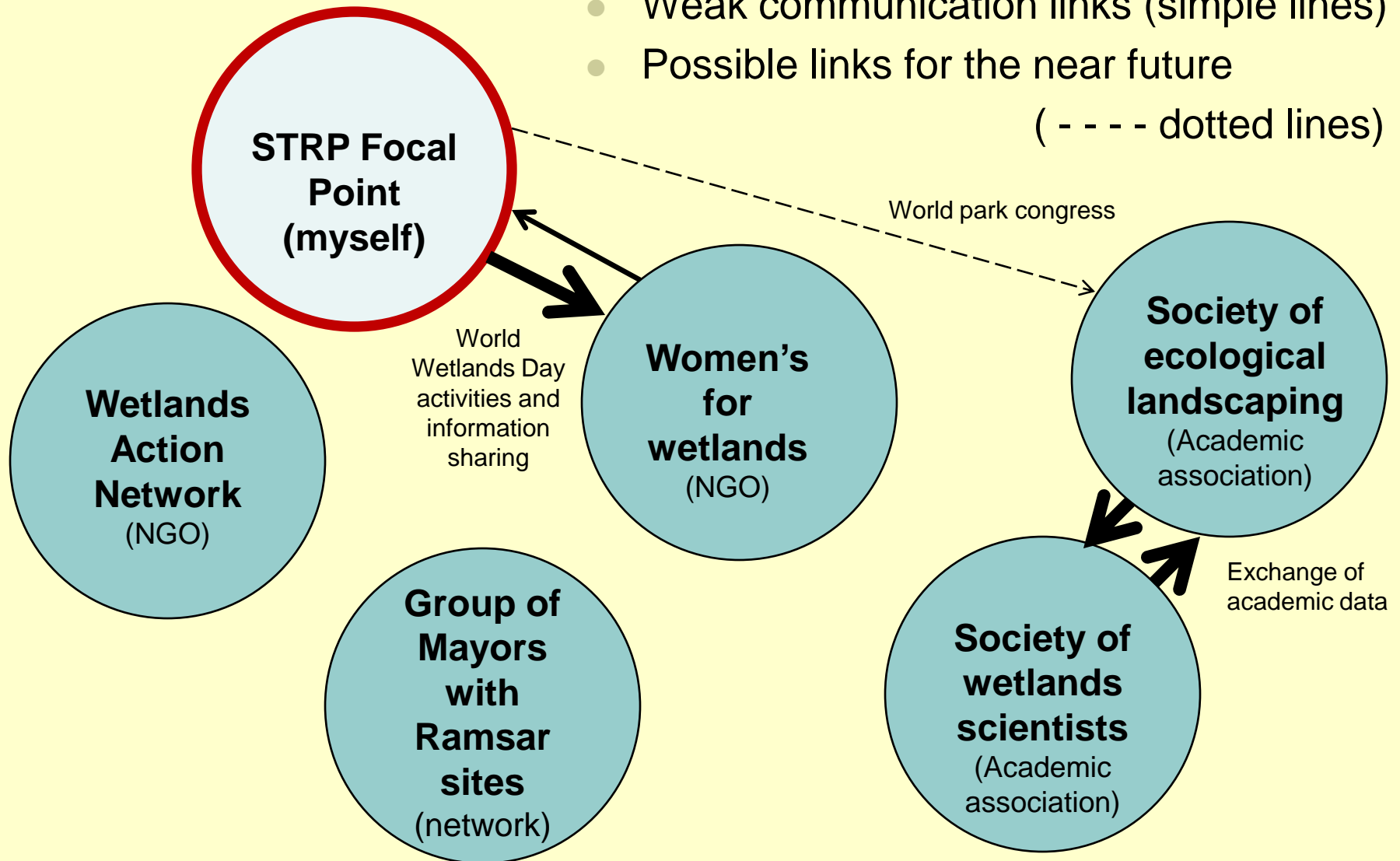
A. Prepare the A3 paper used in the previous session

B. To **map out any organisation/groups which you work with** or have **a potential to work with in relation to wetlands conservations** in your own country  
(individually for 10 minutes)



# Example

- **Who initiate the communication?**  
(show them with arrows →, ⇌)
- **Strong communication links (BOLD lines)**
- Weak communication links (simple lines)
- Possible links for the near future  
( - - - - dotted lines)



## 2. To start exploring some of the barriers and possibilities of communications among them (Organizational – Political – Personal – Economical - etc?)

---

- What are the **barriers identified**?
  - How those could be overcome?  
[**who or what could be helpful?**]
- What are the **success stories**?
- Any other thoughts ...

In a group of 4 or so (*ideally not all from the same countries*)

- Group discussions (about 15 minutes)
- A whole group feedback discussion(15 minutes)

# **Whole group feedback discussion**

---

- **Anything which made you think**
- **Any thing you heard which could be useful**
- **Commonalities and differences**

# Stronger and wider links will prepare us for “ **windows of opportunities** ”

---

- To promote wetlands conservation and to make changes in laws, policies, and their implementations



# “Windows of opportunities”



## ① Regular and planned windows

Something which comes regularly over certain periods. One can plan ahead with experts and enthusiasts to use opportunities for wetland conservation policy changes (e.g. Events, World Wetlands Day, Water Week, World Parks Congress, Ramsar COP, CBD COP)

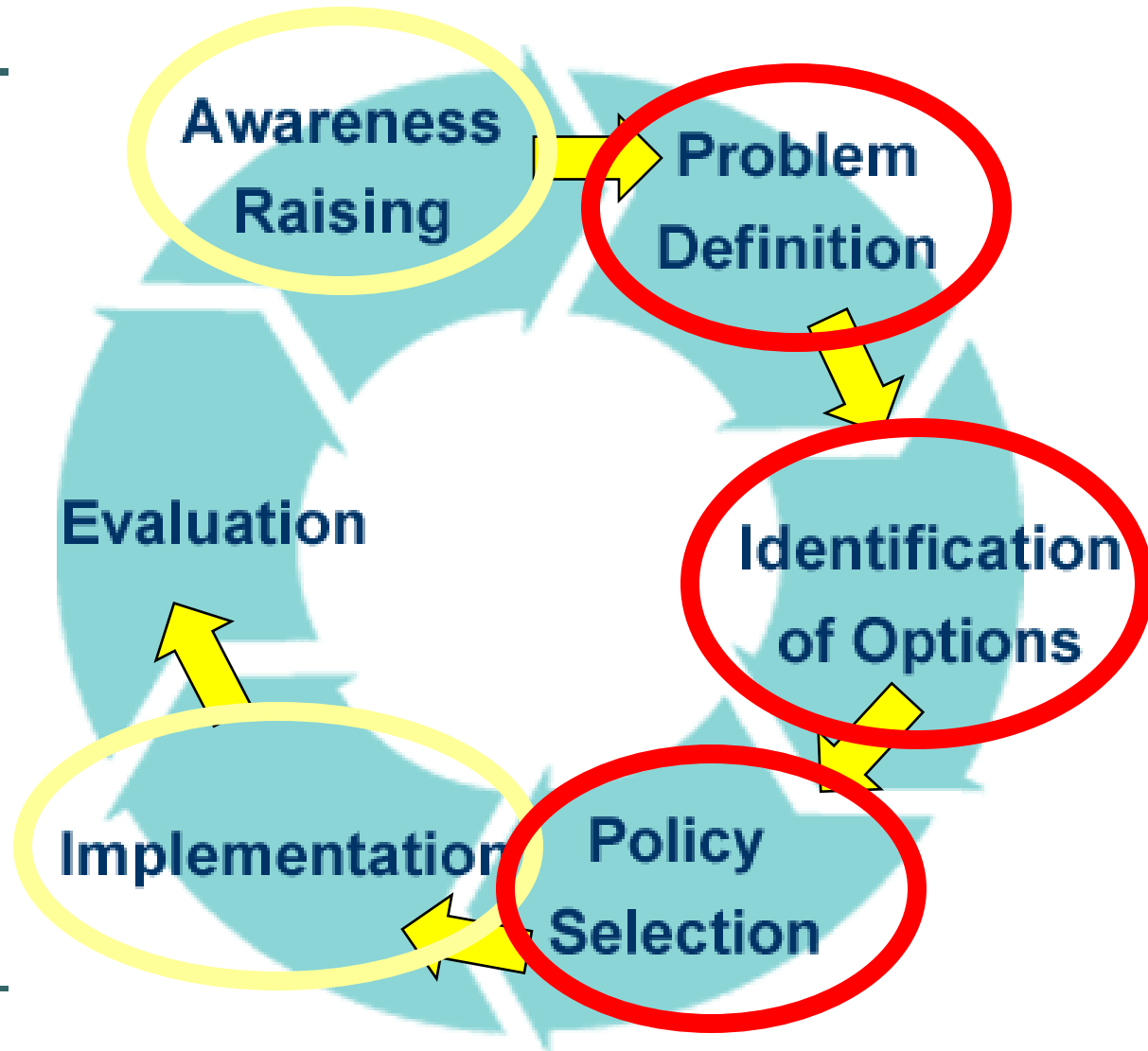
## ② Irregular but exciting windows

Something unexpected – a short time span, but could bring a radical change (e.g. natural disasters, sudden political leader change, statements made by famous people)

# Enough personnel to meet a **Policy cycle** opportunity



# Enough personnel to meet a **Policy cycle** opportunity



# **Scientific and Technical experts for conservation of wetlands**

---

- **Experts for different types of wetlands**  
(coastal, lakes, rivers etc.)
- **Lawyers**
- **Educationalists**
- **Biologists**
- **Botanists**
- **Landscape planners**
- **Anthropologists**
- **Political scientists**
- **Economists**
- **Communication /journalisms**
- **Fishery studies**
- **Agriculture studies**
- **Marketing**
- **Finance / accounting**  
etc, etc...



# Possible starting points could include:

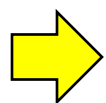
---

- Creating a **contact list** (names and areas of expertise)
- Creating a **wish list of contacts** (new contacts)
- Developing a **filing system** for relevant information on various area of wetlands research and information (for possible windows of opportunities, and to prevent an institutional memory loss)
- Repeating a past **successful interventions** (e.g. parties)

# Summary of the sessions

---

- The communication flows **within Formal Ramsar Implementation team**
- The communication flows **in the wider wetlands experts and enthusiasts**
- Some communication **barriers** and possible **positive attempts** for the future



**We will come back to these on the last day in the Capacity Building session**