

National planning tool for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(And the approved format for National Reports to be submitted for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Spain, 2002)

file 1

Institutional information

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Note – Not all actions from the Convention Work Plan 2000-2002 are included here, as some apply only to the Bureau or Conferences of the Contracting Parties. As a result, the numbering system that follows contains some gaps corresponding to those actions that have been omitted.

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 1

TO PROGRESS TOWARDS UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

Operational Objective 1.1: To endeavour to secure at least 150 Contracting Parties to the Convention by 2002.

Actions – Global Targets

1.1.1 Recruit new Contracting Parties, especially in the less well represented regions and among states with significant and/or transboundary wetland resources (including shared species), [CPs, SC regional representatives, Bureau, Partners]

- **The gaps remain in Africa, central Asia, the Middle East and the Small Island Developing States. Refer to Recommendation 7.2 relating to Small Island Developing States.**
- **Global Target - 150 CPs by COP8**
- **These are the countries which at present are not CPs of the Convention: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African**

Republic, Cook Islands, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Niue, Oman, Palau, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Is your country a neighbor of, or does it have regular dealings or diplomatic-level dialogue with, one or more of the non-Contracting Parties listed above? (This list was correct as of January 2000. However, accessions to the Convention occur on a regular basis and you may wish to check with the Ramsar Bureau for the latest list of non-CPs.) **Yes** If **No**, go to Action 1.1.2.

If **Yes**, have actions been taken to encourage these non-CPs to join the Convention? **No**

If **Yes**, have these actions been successful? **Not relevant**

If **No**, what has prevented such action being taken? **This department has no direct dealings with those countries.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Sri Lanka, through the Ministry of Foreign affairs, can request those countries to join the convention.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Sri Lanka.**

1.1.2 Promote membership of Ramsar through regional meetings and activities, and through partners' regional offices. [SC regional representatives, Bureau, Partners]

- **These efforts are to continue and to focus on the above priority regions and the Small Island Developing States.**
- **The current member and permanent observer States of the Standing Committee are Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Costa Rica, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, and Uganda**

Is your country a member of the Standing Committee? **No** If **No**, go to Action 2.1.1.

If **Yes**, have actions been taken to encourage the non-CPs from your region or subregion to join the Convention? **Yes/No**

If **Yes**, have these actions been successful? **Not relevant**

If **No**, what has prevented such action being taken? **Not relevant**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Not relevant**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Not relevant**

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 2**TO ACHIEVE THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS BY IMPLEMENTING AND FURTHER DEVELOPING THE RAMSAR WISE USE GUIDELINES**

Operational Objective 2.1: To review and, if necessary, amend national or supra-national (e.g., European Community) legislation, institutions and practices in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the Wise Use Guidelines are applied.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>2.1.1 Carry out a review of legislation and practices, and indicate in National Reports to the COP how the Wise Use Guidelines are applied. [CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This remains a high priority for the next triennium. The <i>Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions</i> (Resolution VII.7) will assist these efforts. Global Target – For at least 100 CPs to have comprehensively reviewed their laws and institutions relating to wetlands by COP8.
Has your country completed a review of its laws and institutions relating to wetlands? No
If No , what are the impediments to this being done? This kind of a comprehensive revision of laws needs technical support from experts in the relevant disciplines.
If a review is planned , what is the expected timeframe for this being done? Protected Area Management and Wildlife Conservation Project, which is implemented under this Department, is expected to do the review and revision, within the next couple of years
If the review has been completed , did the review result in amendments to laws or institutional arrangements to support implementation of the Ramsar Convention? Yes/No
If No , what are the impediments to these amendments being completed? Not relevant
If Yes , and changes to laws and institutional arrangements were made, please describe these briefly. Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: As indicated above
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation.

2.1.2 Promote much greater efforts to develop national wetland policies, either separately or as a clearly identifiable component of other national conservation planning initiatives, such as National Environment Action Plans, National Biodiversity Strategies, or National Conservation Strategies. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- The development and implementation of National Wetland Policies continues to be one of the highest priorities of the Convention, as does the integration of wetland**

<p>conservation and wise use into broader national environment and water policies. The Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies (Resolution VII.6) will assist these efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, at least 100 CPs with National Wetland Policies or, where appropriate, a recognized document that harmonizes all wetland-related policies/strategies and plans, and all CPs to have wetlands considered in national environmental and water policies and plans. The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Resolution VII.18) will assist these efforts.
<p>Does your country have in place a National Wetland Policy (or similar instrument) which is a comprehensive statement of the Government's intention to implement the provisions of the Ramsar Convention? No</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to this being put in place? Lack of proper guidelines for the formulation of a National Policy on Wetlands.</p>
<p>If the development of such a Policy is planned, what is the expected timeframe for this being done? Not relevant</p>
<p>Has your country taken its obligations with respect to the Ramsar Convention into consideration in related policy instruments such as National Biodiversity Strategies, National Environmental Action Plans, Water Policies, river basin management plans, or similar instruments? No</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to doing so? Responsibility of formulation of such policies were under the purview of different agencies, until recent times.</p>
<p>If Yes, please provide brief details. Not relevant</p>
<p>Has your government reviewed and modified, as appropriate, its policies that adversely affect intertidal wetlands (COP7 Resolution VII.21)? No</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented this from happening? Lack of proper coordination between the relevant agencies</p>
<p>If Yes, what were the conclusions of this review? and what actions have been taken subsequently? Not relevant</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: To formulate the National Action Plan/Policy for wetlands</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Wildlife Conservation.</p>

Operational Objective 2.2: To integrate conservation and wise use of wetlands in all Contracting Parties into national, provincial and local planning and decision-making on land use, groundwater management, catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning, and all other environmental planning and management.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>2.2.2 Promote the inclusion of wetlands in national, provincial and local land use planning documents and activities, and in all relevant sectoral and budgetary provisions. [CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving integrated and cross-sectoral approaches to managing wetlands within the broader landscape and within river basin/coastal zone plans is another of the Convention's highest priorities in the next triennium. Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to be promoting, and actively implementing, the management of wetlands as integrated elements of river basins and coastal zones, and to provide detailed information on the outcomes of these actions in the National Reports for COP8.
Is your country implementing integrated river basin and coastal zone management approaches? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this being done? Not relevant
If integrated management approaches are being applied in part of the country, indicate the approximate percentage of the country's surface area where this is occurring and to which river basins and coastal areas this applies. 25% , Mahaweli River basin and South western coastal area.
If Yes , are wetlands being given special consideration in such integrated management approaches? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this being done? Not relevant
Has your country undertaken any specific pilot projects to implement the <i>Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management</i> (COP7 Resolution VII.18).? No
If Yes , please describe them briefly. Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: To formulate the guidelines for interrated elements of river basins and coastal zones with assistance of Coast Conservation Department, Department of Irrigation and proposed River Basin Authority.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Irrigation, Department of Wildlife Conservation, Coast Conservation Department, Department of Irrigation.

Operational Objective 2.3: To expand the Guidelines and Additional Guidance on Wise Use to provide advice to Contracting Parties on specific issues not hitherto covered, and examples of best current practice.

Actions - Global and National Targets
2.3.1 Expand the Additional Guidance on Wise Use to address specific issues such as oil

spill prevention and clean-up, agricultural runoff, and urban/industrial discharges in cooperation with other bodies. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - Following COP7, the Bureau, with other appropriate collaborators, will produce a series of Wise Use handbooks, based on the outcomes of Technical Sessions at COP7.**
- **(added by the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Resolution VII.14 *Invasive Species and wetlands*) CPs are requested “to provide the Ramsar Bureau with information on databases which exist for invasive species, information on invasive species which pose a threat to wetlands and wetland species, and information on the control and eradication of invasive wetland species.”**

Does your country **have** resource information on the management of wetlands in relation to the following which could be useful in assisting the Convention to develop further guidance to assist other CPs :

- oil spill prevention and clean-up? **No**
- agricultural runoff? **No**
- urban/industrial discharges? **No Reply**
- invasive species? **Yes**
- other relevant aspects such as highway designs, aquaculture, etc.? **No – Please elaborate.**

In each case, if the answer was **Yes**, has this information been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre (see 2.3.2 below)? **No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Relevant agencies should be contacted to collect necessary informaton.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

2.3.2. Publicize examples of effective application of existing Guidelines and Additional Guidance on Wise Use. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Promoting and improving the availability of such resource materials is a priority under the *Convention’s Outreach Programme* (Resolution VII.9)**
- **Global Target - By COP8, to have included in the Wise Use Resource Centre 500 appropriate references and publications as provided to the Bureau by CPs and other organizations.**

Further to 2.31. above, has your country, as urged by the Outreach Programme of the Convention adopted at COP7 (Resolution VII. 9), **reviewed** its resource materials relating to wetland management policies and practices? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this being done? **Yet we have not developed wetland management policies but several outreach programs have been conducted.**

If **Yes**, have copies of this information been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau? **No Reply**

If **No**, what has prevented this being done? **Lack of experties and funds.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To develop wetland mangement policies and practices and to expand the outreach programs arounds the wetland sites.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Operational Objective 2.4: To provide economic evaluations of the benefits and functions of wetlands for environmental planning purposes.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.4.1 Promote the development, wide dissemination, and application of documents and methodologies which give economic evaluations of the benefits and functions of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Given the guidelines available for this activity (see below: *Economic Valuation of Wetlands* handbook), this will be an area of higher priority in the next triennium.**
- **Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to be incorporating economic valuation of wetland services, functions and benefits into impact assessment and decision-making processes related to wetlands.**

Does your government **require** that economic valuations of the full range of services, benefits and functions of wetlands be prepared as part of impact assessments and to support planning decisions that may impact on wetlands? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being done? **Not relevant.**

If this applies in some, but not all cases, what is the expected timeframe for this to be required in all cases? **This applies to all and expected timeframe is 3 years.**

If **Yes**, has the inclusion of economic valuation into impact assessment resulted in wetlands being given special consideration or protection. **Yes 1**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To draw up a plan to achive above global target.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Wildlife Conservation.**

Operational Objective 2.5: To carry out environmental impact assessments (EIAs) at wetlands, particularly of proposed developments or changes in land/water use which have potential to affect them, notably at Ramsar sites, whose ecological character “is likely to change as the result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference” (Article 3.2 of the Convention).

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.5.2 Ensure that, at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character is likely as a

result of proposed developments or changes in land/water use which have potential to affect them, EIAs are carried out (with due consideration of economic valuations of wetland benefits and functions), and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned. [CPs]

- **Global Target - In the next triennium, CPs will ensure that EIAs are applied to any such situation and keep the Bureau advised of the issues and the outcomes of these EIAs.**

Has an EIA been carried out in **all** cases where a change in the ecological character of a Ramsar site within your country was likely (or possible) as a result of proposed developments or changes in land/water use? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, has this EIA, or have these EIAs, given due consideration to the full range of environmental, social and economic values of the wetland? (See also 2.4.1 above) **Yes**

AND: Have the results of the EIA been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not Known.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **All developments within the buffer zones need to have a EIA report, submitted**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation and Central Environment Authority**

2.5.3 Carry out EIAs at other important sites, particularly where adverse impact on wetland resources is likely, due to a development proposal or change in land/water use. [CPs]

- **Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to require EIAs under legislation for any actions which can potentially impact on wetlands and to provide detailed reports on advances in this area in their National Reports for COP8.**

Are EIAs required in your country for **all** cases where a wetland area (whether a Ramsar site or not) may be adversely impacted due to a development proposal or change in land/water use? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, are such EIAs required to give due consideration to the full range of environmental, social and economic values of the wetland? (See COP7 Resolution VII.16, also 2.4.1 & 2.5.2 above.) **Yes**

Are EIAs “undertaken in a transparent and participatory manner which includes local stakeholders” (COP7 Resolution VII.16)? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **Not relevant.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Department of Wildlife Conservation will require**

EIA reports for all developments within the buffer zones of Wildlife Protected Areas including wetlands.

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:

Department of Wildlife Conservation

2.5.4 Take account of Integrated Environmental Management and Strategic Environmental Assessment (at local, provincial and catchment/river basin or coastal zone levels) when assessing impacts of development proposals or changes in land/water use. [CPs]

(Refer to 2.5.3 above) In addition to the assessment of the potential impact of specific projects on wetlands, has your country **undertaken** a review of all government plans, programmes and policies which may impact negatively on wetlands? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Lack of Cooperation among the relevant agencies**

If **Yes**, has this review been undertaken as part of preparing a National Wetland Policy or similar instrument? (refer 2.12 above) **Yes/No**

Or as part of other national policy or planning activities? **No** –

Proposed national actions and targets: **To review the existing laws relating to the wetlands**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Wildlife Conservation.**

Operational Objective 2.6: To identify wetlands in need of restoration and rehabilitation, and to implement the necessary measures.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.6.1 Use regional or national scientific inventories of wetlands (Recommendation 4.6), or monitoring processes, to identify wetlands in need of restoration or rehabilitation. [CPs, Partners]

- **The completion of such inventories is a continuing area of priority for the Convention.**
- **Global Target - Restoration/rehabilitation inventories to be completed by at least 50 CPs by COP8.**

Has your country **completed** an assessment to identify its priority wetlands for restoration or rehabilitation? (COP7 Resolution VII.17) **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from being done? **Not relevant.**

If this has been done for only part of the country, please indicate for which areas or river basins. **All the river basins except the Northern part and some areas in the Eastern part of the country.**

If **Yes** (that is, an assessment has been **completed**), have actions been taken to undertake the restoration or rehabilitation of these priority sites? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from being done? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Most important wetlands have been included in the net work of wildlife protected areas**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Management planning for the new protected areas**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

2.6.2 Provide and implement methodologies for restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Partners]

- **There is considerable information resource on this subject, although it is not as readily accessed as desirable.**
- **Global Target - The addition of appropriate case studies and information on methodologies, etc., to the Convention's Wise Use Resource Centre (refer to 2.3.2 above also) will be a priority in the next triennium.**

Refer to 2.3.1 and 2.3.2. Does your country **have** resource information on the restoration or rehabilitation of wetlands? **Yes**

If **Yes**, has this been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre and for consideration by the STRP Expert Working Group on Restoration? **No**

If this material has not been forwarded to the Bureau, what has prevented this from occurring? **Compilation of data is not yet completed**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Relevant data will be made available to the convention's WURC**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

2.6.3 Establish wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes at destroyed or degraded wetlands, especially in association with major river systems or areas of high nature conservation value (Recommendation 4.1). [CPs]

- **The Convention will continue to promote the restoration and rehabilitation of wetlands, particularly in situations where such actions will help promote or retain the 'health' and productivity of waterways and coastal environments.**
- **Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to have identified their priority sites for restoration or rehabilitation and for projects to be under way in at least 100 CPs.**

Refer to 2.6.1 above.

Operational Objective 2.7: To encourage active and informed participation of local communities, including indigenous people, and in particular women, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>2.7.1 Implement Recommendation 6.3 on involving local and indigenous people in the management of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - In the next triennium, the implementation of the Guidelines on local communities' and indigenous people's participation (COP7 Resolution VII.8) is to be one of the Convention's highest priorities. By COP8, all CPs to be promoting local stakeholder management of wetlands.
Is your government actively promoting the involvement of local communities and indigenous people in the management of wetlands? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Not relevant.
If Yes , describe what special actions have been taken (See also 2.7.2, 2.7.3 and 2.7.4 below) (COP7 Resolution VII.8). People living around the Protected areas are consulted in the process of management planning, they also are provided with employment opportunities in Protected areas
Proposed national actions and targets: Local people are consulted in the process of management planning.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation
<p>2.7.2 Encourage site managers and local communities to work in partnership at all levels to monitor the ecological character of wetlands, thus providing a better understanding of management needs and human impacts. [CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Convention's Outreach Programme (COP7 Resolution VII.9) seeks to give such community participation higher priority as an education and empowerment tool of the Convention.
Does your government actively encourage or support site managers and local communities in monitoring the condition (ecological character) of Ramsar sites and other wetlands? (Also refer to Operational Objective 5.1.) Yes
If No , what prevents this from occurring? Not relevant.
If Yes , does this include both site managers and local communities, where they are not the same people? Yes Both parties have been educated on importance of wetlands.
AND, where such monitoring occurs, are the findings being used to guide management practices? Yes

If No , what prevents this from happening? Not relevant.
Proposed national actions and targets: Benefit sharing with the local people
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

2.7.3 Involve local communities in the management of wetlands by establishing wetland management committees, especially at Ramsar sites, on which local stakeholders, landowners, managers, developers and community interest groups, in particular women's groups, are represented. [CPs, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - Ramsar site management committees operating in at least 100 CPs, and including non-government stakeholder representation.
Are there wetland site management committees in place in your country? No
If No , what are the impediments to such being established? Lack of trained officers in outreach work
If Yes , for how many sites are such committees in place? Not relevant.
AND: How many of these are Ramsar sites? Not relevant.
AND: Of these committees, how many include representatives of local stakeholders? Not relevant.
AND: Of these, how many have women's groups represented? Not relevant.
Proposed national actions and targets: Future management planning for protected areas will include public outreach programmes
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

2.7.4 Recognize and apply traditional knowledge and management practice of indigenous people and local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to 2.7.1 above. Global Target - This will be addressed in the next triennium, possibly in partnership with the Convention on Biological Diversity and Convention to Combat Desertification, which have already initiated work in this area.
Has your government made any special efforts to recognize and see applied traditional knowledge and management practices? Yes
If No , what has prevented this from occurring? Not relevant.
If Yes , please provide details of how this traditional knowledge was recognized and then put into practice. Traditional knowledge of local people is recognized through PRA and RRA

s and integrated into the management plans of the Protected Areas.

Proposed national actions and targets: **Traditional Knowledge of the local people is used in the management of Protected Areas**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Operational Objective 2.8: To encourage involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.8.1. Encourage the private sector to give increased recognition to wetland attributes, functions and values when carrying out projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - In the next triennium, the efforts to work in partnership with the private sector will be further increased and the Bureau will seek to document and make available case studies on some of the more effective and innovative approaches. By COP8, the target is to have private sector support for wetlands conservation in more than 100 CPs.**

Have **special efforts been made** to increase the recognition of wetland attributes, functions and values among the private sector in your country? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, describe these special efforts. **Help of the private sector has been obtain for special projects such as gabage disposal, implemented in some of the wetlands**

AND: Have these efforts been successful? **Yes**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, how do you judge this success? Financial support for management or monitoring? Active involvement in management or monitoring? (Refer to 2.8.3 below) Application of Ramsar's Wise Use principles by private sector interests? (Refer to 2.8.2 below)? Other criteria? **They were successful projects implemented with the financial support of the private sector, to dispose garbage in the protected areas and supply water for wild animals during the drought period.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To escalate the participation of the private sector in protected area management**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

2.8.2 Encourage the private sector to apply the Wise Use Guidelines when executing development projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - In the next triennium the application of this tool for promoting Wise Use will be a priority under the Convention. By COP8, the target is to have more than 50 CPs which have completed reviews of their incentive measures.**

Refer to 2.8.1 above. Has your government **completed** a review of its “existing, or evolving, policy, legal and institutional frameworks to identify and promote those measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to identify and remove measures which discourage conservation and wise use” (COP7 Resolution VII.15)? **No**

If **No**, what has been the impediment to this being done? **Lack of coordination among the different relevant agencies**

If **Yes**, what actions have been taken to introduce “incentive measures designed to encourage the wise use of wetlands, and to identify and remove perverse incentives where they exist” (COP7 Resolution VII.15). **Not relevant.**

AND: Have these actions been effective? **Yes/No**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, please describe how. **Not relevant.**

AND if **Yes**, COP7 Resolution VII.15 requested Parties to share these “experiences and lessons learned with respect to incentive measures and perverse incentives relating to wetlands, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources generally, by providing these to the Ramsar Bureau for appropriate distribution and to be made available through the Wise Use Resource Centre of the Convention’s Web site”. Has this been done? **Yes/No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Dessemination of relevant information among other agencies**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

2.8.3 Encourage the private sector to work in partnership with site managers to monitor the ecological character of wetlands. [CPs]

- **This action will be promoted further in the next triennium.**

Refer to 2.7.2 above. In addition, have **any special efforts** been made to encourage the private sector involvement in monitoring? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Please elaborate.**

If **Yes**, describe these special efforts. **Outside researchers are encouraged to conduct research studies in protected areas**

AND: How successful has this been? **They have made the reports of the studies to the Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Proposed national actions and targets: **More people will be encouraged to involve in**

monitoring ecological character of wetlands (Recommendation for managements of wetlands)

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Wildlife Conservation

2.8.4 Involve the private sector in the management of wetlands through participation in wetland management committees. [CPs]

- **Global Target - As indicated under 2.7.2 and 2.7.3 above, the establishment of cross-sectoral and stakeholder management committees for wetlands, and especially Ramsar sites, will be a priority in the next triennium.**

Refer to 2.7.3 above

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**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 3
 TO RAISE AWARENESS OF WETLAND VALUES AND FUNCTIONS
 THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND AT ALL LEVELS**

Operational Objective 3.1: To support and assist in implementing, in cooperation with partners and other institutions, an international programme of Education and Public Awareness (EPA) on wetlands, their functions and values, designed to promote national EPA programmes.

Actions - Global Targets

3.1.1 Assist in identifying and establishing coordinating mechanisms and structures for the development and implementation of a concerted global programme of EPA on wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to Operational Objectives 3.2 and 3.3 below

3.1.2 Participate in the identification of regional EPA needs and in the establishment of priorities for resource development. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Has your country **taken any action** to help with the identification of regional EPA needs and in the establishment of priorities for information/education resource development? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, please provide details, and as appropriate, provide samples to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre's clearing house for Wetland Communications, Public Awareness, and Education (CEPA) (COP7 Resolution VII.9).

Number of awareness programmes has been conducted for villagers, school children and government officers around the wetland protected areas, with special emphasis on Bundala National Park, the first Ramsar site in Sri Lanka.

Proposed national actions and targets: **Create conservation awareness among the local people around Protected areas**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

3.1.3 Assist in the development of international resource materials in support of national EPA programmes [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 3.1.2 above also. Has your country **taken any action** to assist with the development of international wetland CEPA resource materials? **No**

If **Yes**, please provide details, and as appropriate, provide samples to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre's clearing house for Wetland CEPA (COP7 Resolution VII.9). **Not relevant.**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Programmes are still ongoing**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Details will be provided in future**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

3.1.4 Support international programmes that encourage transfer of information, knowledge and skills between wetland education centres and educators (e.g., Wetland International's EPA Working Group, Global Rivers Environment Education Network (GREEN), Wetland Link International). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 3.2.4 also. Does your country support any international programmes that encourage transfer of information, knowledge and skills among wetland education centres and educators? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **Lack of support staff to handle such correspondence.**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not relevant.**

Is your country specifically supporting the Wetlands Link International initiative (COP7 Resolution VII.9)? **No**

If **No**, what is preventing this from happening? **As indicated above, lack of support staff**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not relevant.**

AND indicate which Wetland Centres (refer 3.2.3 below), museums, zoos, botanic gardens, aquaria and educational environment education centres (refer 3.2.4) are now participating as part of Wetlands Link International. **Not relevant.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To communicate with such international programmes**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:

Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 3.2: To develop and encourage national programmes of EPA on wetlands, targeted at a wide range of people, including key decision-makers, people living in and around wetlands, other wetland users and the public at large.

Actions - Global and National Targets

3.2.1 Encourage partnerships between governments, non-governmental organizations and other organizations capable of developing national EPA programmes on wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8 to see the global network of proposed CP and non-government focal points for Wetland Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) in place and functioning effectively in the promotion and execution of the national Outreach Programmes in all CPs. To secure the resources to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme.**

Did your Government **inform** the Ramsar Bureau by 31 December 1999 of the identity of its Government and Non-Government Focal Points for wetland CEPA (COP7 Resolution VII.9)?

Yes

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not relevant.**

Has your country **established** an "appropriately constituted Task Forces, where no mechanism exists for this purpose (e.g., National Ramsar Committees), to undertake a review of national needs, capacities and opportunities in the field of wetland CEPA and, based on this, to formulate its National Wetland CEPA Action Plans for priority activities which consider the international, regional, national and local needs" (COP7 Resolution VII.9). **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, please provide details of the organizations, ministries, etc., represented on this Task Force. **A National steering Committee for Wetland conservation was established in February, 2001. This committee is represented by Department of Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Environment, Dept. of Fisheries, Coast Conservation Dept., Central Environmental Authority, Forest Dept., Irrigation Dept., National Aquatic Resources Department, IUCN Sri - Lanka, Etc.**

AND: Has a National Wetland CEPA Action Plan been finalized by 31 December 2000?

Yes

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, is the Action Plan being implemented effectively? **Yes**

If **No**, what is preventing this from occurring? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, what are the priority target groups of the Action Plan and the major activities being

undertaken? School children were the priority target group. A series of activities was organized to mark the National wetlands day in the year 2001, at Bundala National Park.
AND: Has a copy of this plan been provided to the Ramsar Bureau? No
Proposed national actions and targets: Education and Public Awareness Programmes around Ramsar sites and other Important Wetlands will be conducted to promote the peoples awareness.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

3.2.2 On the basis of identified needs and target groups, support national programmes and campaigns to generate a positive vision of wetlands and create awareness at all levels of their values and functions. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - see 3.2.1 above.**

3.2.3 Encourage the development of educational centres at wetland sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - The Convention will aim to have more than 150 active education centres (and similar venues - see 3.2.4 below) promoting the principles of the Convention by COP8 and to ensure that all CPs have at least one such centre.**

Has your country **encouraged** the establishment of educational centres at wetland sites? **Yes**

If **No**, what has been the impediment to such action being taken? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, how successful has this been? **Quite successful**

AND: How many such centres are in place? and at what sites? **Three , (Bundala, Maduru Oya, Giritale)**

How many centres are being established? and at what sites? **One (Horton Plains National Park)**

How many centres are being planned? and at what sites? **Pls. see above**

Of the sites in place, how many are participating as part of Wetlands Link International (Refer 3.1.4 above)? and at which sites are they? **None**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To develop the existing Interpretation Centres and establish new centres at other important wetlands.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

3.2.4 Work with museums, zoos, botanic gardens, aquaria and environment education centres to encourage the development of exhibits and programmes that support non-

formal EPA on wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - see 3.2.3 above
Do all museums, zoos, botanical gardens and similar facilities in your country have exhibits and/or programmes that support non-formal wetland CEPA? Yes/No
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Lack of coordination among relevant agencies
If such exhibits or programmes are in place for some facilities, how many and what types of facilities are they? Naitonal Zoological Garden in Colombo, Botanical Garden in Peradeniya, have natural areas which can be used for CEPA programmes
If Yes , how many facilities does this apply to and how many of these are participating as part of Wetlands Link International (Refer 3.1.4 above)? and which facilities are they? None
Proposed national actions and targets: To use the facilities available with other agencies for CEPA programmes
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

3.2.5 Encourage the inclusion of modules related to wetlands in the curricula at all levels of education, including tertiary courses and specialized training courses. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to see wetland issues incorporated into curricula in over 100 CPs.
In your country are there modules related to wetlands in the curricula at all levels of education, including tertiary courses and specialized training courses? Yes
If No , what is preventing this from occurring? Not relevant.
If this is the case for some levels of education, or some parts of the country, please provide details. Not relevant.
If Yes , have samples of this curriculum material been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? No
Proposed national actions and targets: To encourage Educational institutes to update their curricula and include contemporary information on wetlands to the same.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 3.3: To improve the Ramsar Bureau's communications activities and to develop a Convention Communications Strategy, capable of further promoting the Convention and its wider application, and of raising awareness of wetland values and functions.

Actions - Global and National Targets
3.3.1 Review the Bureau's communications activities, especially those related to the creation and functioning of regional and national communication networks; develop new material and use of technology, and improve existing material. [Bureau]
Refer to 3.2.1 "To secure the resources to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme.". Has your government provided any voluntary contributions to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme? No
If Yes , please provide details. Not relevant.
Proposed national actions and targets: To explore the possibility of providing voluntary contributions to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation
3.3.4 Seek the support of an electronic communications carrier to provide and maintain an electronic mail network and electronic bulletin board/ mailing lists linking the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee members, the STRP, the Bureau, and partner organizations. [All]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to gain a sponsor(s) for the Convention's Web site, to ensure that all CPs have Internet access, to increase the use of French and Spanish in the Ramsar Web site, and to see over 300 Ramsar site managers also communicating with the Bureau, and each other, via the Internet.
The Standing Committee and Bureau will consider the issue of a sponsor for the Convention's Web site, and increased presence of French and Spanish materials on the Web site. With respect to Ramsar site managers, has your government taken steps to provide for Internet links for these people? No
If No , what are the impediments to this action being taken? Lack of funds to establish internet links to regional offices.
If Yes , how many Ramsar site managers have Internet access? Not relevant.
AND: Which Ramsar sites have this facility? Not relevant.
Proposed national actions and targets: To provide a Internet link to Bundala national Park within the next one year period.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Please go to file 2.

National planning tool for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(And the approved format for National Reports to be submitted for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Spain, 2002)

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file 2

GENERAL OBJECTIVE 4

TO REINFORCE THE CAPACITY OF INSTITUTIONS IN EACH CONTRACTING PARTY TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

Operational Objective 4.1: To develop the capacity of institutions in Contracting Parties, particularly in developing countries, to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets
4.1.1 Review existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]
Has your country reviewed the national institutions responsible for wetland conservation and wise use and the “designated national Administrative Authority for the Convention to ensure [that] these have the necessary resources to support the increasing demands being placed upon them by the growing expectations of the Convention” (COP7 Resolution VII.27)? Yes
If No , what is the impediment to this being done? Not relevant.
If Yes , what were the conclusions and outcomes of the review? (Refer to 4.1.2 also). Coordination among the relevant agencies should be strengthened to ensure the conservation and wise use of wetlands
Proposed national actions and targets: Strengthen the coordination among the relevant agencies and develop a integrated programme to ensure the protection and wise use of wetlands
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

4.1.2 On the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- increase cooperation and synergy between institutions;
- promote the continued operation of these institutions;
- provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, for these institutions.

[CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to see coordinating mechanisms in place in all CPs, and more particularly to see National Ramsar Committees including government and non-government stakeholder representatives, in place in more than 100 CPs. In addition, by COP8, all CPs that have reported the existence of NRCs at COP7 to have evaluated their effectiveness (COP7 Resolution VII.27).
Refer also to 8.1.9. Does your country have a National Ramsar Committee or similar body? Yes
If No , what has prevented the establishment of such a committee? Not relevant.
If Yes , is the committee cross-sectoral, including representatives of appropriate government ministries and non-government expert and stakeholder groups? No
What is the composition of this Committee? It includes only the government agencies
Has there been an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Committee? Yes
If No , what has prevented this from happening? Not relevant.
If Yes , did the review show the Committee was proving to be effective? Yes
If No , why not? Not relevant.
Refer also to 7.2.1 with reference to coordinating the implementation of international conventions.
Proposed national actions and targets: To formulate a integrated work programme to ensure the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Leading non- government experts and other key stakeholder groups will be included into the National Wetland Steering Committee.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 4.2: To identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries, and to implement follow-up actions.

Actions - Global and National Targets
4.2.1 Identify at national, provincial and local level the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have training needs analyses completed in more than 75 CPs.
Has a training needs analysis been completed? Yes
If No , what has prevented this from happening? Not relevant.

If Yes , have the results of this analysis been used to provide direction for training priorities in the future? Yes
If No , why not? Not relevant.
If Yes , how has this been done? Training needs of the staff of the Department of Wildlife Conservation have been done through a workshop, with the assistance of National Wildlife Training Centre.
AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? Syllabus of the regular Training Programmes for the Department of Wildlife Conservation staff has been smmended, accordingly.
Proposed national actions and targets: Train the Department of Wildlife Conservation staff and the people living around Protected areas, in wise use of wetland resources
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

4.2.2 Identify current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have reviews of training opportunities completed in more than 75 CPs.**

Has your country **completed** a review of the training opportunities which exist therein? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being done? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, have the results of this review been used to provide direction for training priorities in the future? **Yes**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant.**

If **Yes**, how has this been done? **Officers of Department of Wildlife Conservation are directed to these training opportunities. Training activities also are conducted with the assistance of other agencies such as IUCN.**

AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? **Staff of Department of Wildlife Conservation and people around the Wetland Protected areas are made aware of conservation and wise use of wetlands. Contribution of them towards the same will ensure the long term existance of the wetland resources.**

Has this information on training opportunities been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities? (Refer to 4.2.3 below also) **No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To conduct training courses in order to pormote the skills, knowledge and attitudes of the staff of the Department of Wildlife Conservation and other relavant target groups and obtain their contribution for the conservation of wetlands**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:

Department of Wildlife Conservation

4.2.3 Develop new training activities and general training modules, for application in all regions, concerning implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines, with specialized modules covering [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - To launch a major wetland manager training initiative under the Convention, possibly in partnership with one or more of the Convention's International Organization Partners, which can promote and take advantage of these new training tools. Refer also to 4.2.4 below regarding the *Wetlands for the Future Initiative*.**

Following its review of training needs and opportunities, has your country developed any new training activities, or training modules? **No**

If Yes, please provide details. **Not relevant.**

AND: Has information on these training activities and modules been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities and the Wise Use Resource Centre? (Refer to 4.2.2 above also) **Yes/No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **A new short term training module will be developed on wetland conservation and be provided to the staff of Bundala National Park, and other relevant wetland protected areas**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:

Department of Wildlife Conservation

4.2.4 Provide opportunities for manager training by: personnel exchanges for on-the-job training; holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites; siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites; obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - Refer to 4.2.3 above. Also to seek the resources from donors or interested CPs to establish *Wetlands for the Future Initiatives* for the Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, and African regions.**

Refer to 4.2.1, 4.2.2, and 4.2.3 above. Has training been provided for wetland managers:

- Through personnel exchanges for on-the-job training? **Yes**,
- Holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites? **Yes**, **Training courses has been conducted for Bundala Ramsar site managers**
- Siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites? **Yes**, **Bundala Ramsar site has been provided with a auditorium and other training equipments.**
- Obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers? **Yes**, **Information on Training courses are obtained through the Ministry of**

Foreign Affairs
Has your country provided resources to support the establishment of <i>Wetlands for the Future</i> style programmes in any part of the world? (COP7 Recommendation 7.4) No
If Yes, please provide details. Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: To have the staff of Department of Wildlife Conservation and other relevant target groups participated in the training courses on the management of wetlands
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

4.2.6 Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about the conservation and wise use of wetlands, also with regard to South-South cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Refer to 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 4.2.1-4 above. Has your country specifically undertaken activities as indicated here which could be deemed to be South-South cooperation? No
If No , what has prevented this from happening? Lack of communication links with the other contracting parties.
If Yes, please provide details. Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: To initiate a dialogue with the other contracting parties and exchange information with them.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 5

TO ENSURE THE CONSERVATION OF ALL SITES INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE (RAMSAR LIST)

Operational Objective 5.1: To maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites.

Actions - Global and National Targets
5.1.1 Define and apply the precise measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, in the light of the working definitions of ecological character adopted at the 6th COP (1996) and amended by by Resolution VII.10 of COP7. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, each CP will seek to ensure that the measures required to maintain the ecological character of at least half of the Ramsar sites have been documented.

Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites in your country been documented? Yes
If No , what has prevented this being done? Not relevant
If Yes , has this documentation been developed as part of management planning and associated action at the sites? Yes
AND: Has a copy been provided to the Ramsar Bureau? No
Proposed national actions and targets: To implement the management plan of Bundala National Park Ramsar site with the assistance of Asian Development Bank, To prepare a Management Plan for Annaivilundawa Sanctuary Ramsar site with the assistance of IUCN Sri Lanka
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

5.1.2 Conduct regular internal reviews to identify potential changes in ecological character, with input from local communities and other stakeholders; take remedial action and/or nominate the site for the Montreux Record. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to 2.5.2 - In the COP7 National Reports, 35 CPs reported Ramsar sites where some change in ecological character had occurred or was likely to occur in the near future. This was true for 115 sites in 33 CPs, and two other CPs stated that changes had occurred to all or some of their sites. In COP7 Resolution VII.12, these CPs were urged to consider nominating these sites to the Montreux Record. Global Target – In the period up to COP8, promote the application and benefits of the Montreux Record as a tool of the Convention through disseminating reports and publications on the positive outcomes achieved by a number of countries which have now removed sites from the Record.
Refer to 2.7.2 and 2.8.3 also. Are regular internal reviews undertaken to identify factors potentially altering the ecological character of Ramsar sites? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Not relevant
If Yes , have these reviews detected situations where changes in ecological character have occurred or may occur? Yes
If Yes , for how many sites was this case, which sites were they, and what actions were taken to address these threats? Ecological characters such as water quality has been changing at Bundala Ramsar site. Department has prepared a management plan to address these issues. It has been reported that wetland characters has been changing at Anaivillundawa Ramsar site too. A management plan is being developed with the assistance of IUCN Sri Lanka
AND: Were these sites where change in ecological character was detected, or may occur,

added to the Montreux Record? No
If No , why not? Changes are not very severe which will cause a total collapse in the system. These can be corrected by taking suitable management measures.
Proposed national actions and targets: To complete the studies and implement management measures to correct the situation.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

5.1.3 Review and regularly update the Montreux Record (Resolutions 5.4, 5.5, and VI.1). [CPs, STRP, Bureau]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - CPs with Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record, and for which Ramsar Advisory Missions (RAMs) have been completed prior to COP7, are expected to have taken the actions necessary to warrant their removal from the Record before COP8.
For those CPs with a site, or sites, included in the Montreux Record, and for which RAMs (previously Management Guidance Procedures, MGPs) have been completed, have all actions recommended by the RAM been undertaken for each site? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Not relevant.
If Yes , have these actions resulted in a restoration of the ecological character? Yes
AND: If Yes , has the site been removed from the Montreux Record following the completion of the necessary questionnaire (COP6 Resolution VI.1)? Yes/No No Ramsar site has been included in the record
Proposed national actions and targets: Changes in the natural characters of the Ramsar sites will be continuously monitored.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 5.2: To develop and implement management plans for all Ramsar sites, consistent with the Convention's Guidelines on Management Planning and emphasizing involvement of local communities and other stakeholders.

Actions - Global and National Targets
5.2.3 Ensure that, by the 8th COP (2002), management plans or other mechanisms are in preparation, or in place, for at least half of the Ramsar sites in each Contracting Party, beginning with pilot programmes at selected sites with input from local communities and other stakeholders. [CPs, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, management plans will be in preparation, or in place, for at least three-quarters of the Ramsar sites in each CP and all CPs will seek to

ensure that these are being implemented in full.
Do all the Ramsar sites in your country have management plans in place? Yes
If No , how many sites do not have management plans in place and which sites are they? Not relevant
If plans are being prepared for some sites, please indicate which sites these are. Not relevant
For those sites where management plans are in place, how many of these are being implemented fully, and which sites are they? One, Bundala National Park
Where plans are not in place, or not being fully implemented, what has prevented this from being done? Management plan for Annaivillundawa Ramsar site awaits funds for implementation
Proposed national actions and targets: Management plan for Ramsar sites will be implemented within the next five years time.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

5.2.4 Promote the establishment and implementation of zoning measures related to larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves and other wetlands (Kushiro Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]
For those sites where it is warranted, are zoning measures being used to regulate the activities allowed in different parts of the wetlands? Yes
If No , what is preventing these from being implemented? Not relevant
If Yes , for which sites are these in place? Bundala National Park
AND: Are they proving a successful management tool? Yes, all management practices are done in accordance to the management plans
Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases of zoning for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? No
Proposed national actions and targets: Management plans for Bundala and Annaivillundawa will be implemented as scheduled
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation and IUCN Sri Lanka

5.2.5 Promote the establishment and implementation of strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This aspect of Ramsar site management was not considered in the COP7 National Reports and will have to be reviewed in time for COP8.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - Provide for consideration at COP8 detailed information on the implementation of strict protection measures at small and/or sensitive sites.
For those sites where it is warranted, are strict protection measures being used to regulate the activities allowed in different parts of the wetlands? Yes
If No , what is preventing these from being implemented? Not relevant
If Yes , for which sites are these in place? Bundala National Park and a large number of other wetlands which are not Ramsar sites, but have been declared as Wildlife protected areas
AND: Is this proving to be a successful management tool? Yes, natural resources of these sites are protected effectively by the staff of Department of Wildlife Conservation
Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? No
Proposed national actions and targets: Protection provided to the wetlands will be further strengthened by adding more and more such sites to the network of wildlife protected areas of Sri Lanka
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 5.3: To obtain regularly updated information on wetlands of international importance, in accordance with the approved standard format.

Actions - Global and National Targets
5.3.1 Ensure that the maps and descriptions of Ramsar sites submitted to the Ramsar Database by the Contracting Parties at the time of designation are complete, in the approved standard format of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands, and provide sufficient detail to be used for management planning and monitoring of ecological character. [CPs, Bureau, Wetlands International]
5.3.2 Ensure that missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites are submitted as a matter of priority and in the shortest possible time, as a means to enhance the relevance and use of the Ramsar Database. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target – By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites for which appropriate sites descriptions and maps are still required.
If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided a Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet in the approved format, with a suitable map, in one of three working languages of the Convention, has this now be rectified? Yes
If No , what is preventing this from being done? Not relevant

5.3.3 Ensure that data sheets on Ramsar Sites are regularly updated, at least for every

second meeting of the COP, so that they can be used for reviewing the achievements of the Convention, for future strategic planning, for promotional purposes, and for site, regional and thematic analysis (Resolution VI.13). [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]

- **Global Target - By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites designated before 31 December 1990 for which updated site descriptions are still required.**

If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided an updated Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet for sites designated before 31 December 1990, has this now be rectified? **Yes**

If **No**, what is preventing this from being done? **Not relevant**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Information on the Ramsar sites will be updated and provided to the convention**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Operational Objective 5.4: To keep under review the content and structure, as well as the hardware and software, of the Ramsar Database, in order to ensure that it retains its relevance in light of evolving information and communication technology.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.4.1 Assess data currently available in the database and identify any gaps in the data provided by Contracting Parties. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]

Refer to 5.2.2, 5.2.3, and 5.2.4 above.

5.4.4 Support the establishment of national wetland databases compatible with the Ramsar Database and develop a common protocol to facilitate exchange and interaction. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland databases in over 50 CPs which are accessible globally.**

Refer also to 6.1.1 and 6.1.2. Does your country have a national wetland database? **No**

If **No**, what is preventing such a database being established? **Lack of necessary funds required for the establishment of such a data base**

If **Yes**, is this database generally available for reference and application by all ministries and stakeholders? **Yes/No**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant**

AND: Is it available through the Internet? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) **No**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not relevant**

If **No**, why not? **Will be available after the establishment of such a data base**

AND: Is it available on CD-Rom? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) No
If Yes , please provide details. Not relevant
If No , why not? Will be available after the establishment of such a data base
Proposed national actions and targets: To establish a data base on wetlands of Sri Lanka within the next two years
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 6

TO DESIGNATE FOR THE RAMSAR LIST THOSE WETLANDS WHICH MEET THE CONVENTION'S CRITERIA, ESPECIALLY WETLAND TYPES STILL UNDER-REPRESENTED IN THE LIST AND TRANSFRONTIER WETLANDS

Operational Objective 6.1: To identify those wetlands that meet the Ramsar criteria, and to give due consideration to their designation for the List.

Actions - Global and National Targets
6.1.1 Develop, regularly update -- especially in the case of Africa -- and disseminate regional wetland directories, which identify potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Partners]
Refer to 6.1.2 and 6.2.1. Does there exist for your country a directory or similar listing of sites which are potential Ramsar sites? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to such a list of sites being prepared? Not relevant
If Yes , when was it prepared and was it prepared taking into consideration the <i>Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance</i> (COP7 Resolution VII.11)? 1990, No
AND: How many potential Ramsar sites are identified within the important sites directory for your country? Ten
Proposed national actions and targets: On priority basis, prepare proposals to include the important wetlands of Sri Lanka in the global list of Ramsar sites
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

6.1.2 Establish, update and disseminate national scientific inventories of wetlands which identify potential Ramsar sites and wetlands of provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland inventories completed by over**

50 CPs and the information housed in databases (Refer to 5.4.4) which are accessible globally
Does there exist a comprehensive national inventory (as opposed to a directory of important sites; see 6.1.1 above) for your country? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to such an inventory being prepared? Not relevant
If only some parts of the country have had inventories completed, please indicate which parts these are. Directory of important Wetlands of Sri Lanka prepared by Central Environmental Authority and IUCN covers the whole country
AND: What is the likely timeframe for completing the national inventory? It is already completed
If a national inventory has already been completed, when was it finalized? 1990
AND: Is the information housed where it is accessible to stakeholders and the international community? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Not relevant
Has national/subnational inventory information been provided to the Ramsar Bureau (if it is not accessible through the Internet)? Yes
Proposed national actions and targets: To update the information provided in the directory within the next next five years
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

6.1.4 Support the work of Wetlands International and IUCN in updating information on population sizes of waterfowl and other taxa, and utilize these data in identification of potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Does your country regularly gather waterbird population data? Yes
If No , what prevents this from happening? Not relevant
If Yes , is this information provided to Wetlands International? No
If No , why not? The annual waterfowl count is done by a NGO, namely the Ceylon Bird Club and some surveys are done by Dept. of Wildlife Conservation.
Proposed national actions and targets: To participate the water count annually
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

Operational Objective 6.2: To increase the area of wetland designated for the List of Wetlands of International Importance, particularly for wetland types that are under-represented either at global or national level.

Actions - Global and National Targets

6.2.1 Promote the designation for the Ramsar List of an increased area of wetland, through listing by new Contracting Parties, and through further designations by current Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries, in order to ensure the listing of a representative range of wetland types in the territory of each Contracting Party and in each Ramsar region. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - As proposed in the Strategic Framework, the short-term target of the Ramsar List should be to achieve the designation of 2000 sites, in accordance with the systematic approach advocated therein, by the time of COP9 in the year 2005. In addition, by COP8 the target is to have at least 20 CPs that are applying a systematic approach to site selection nationally.**

Refer also to 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.2.3. Has your country taken a systematic approach to identifying its future Ramsar sites (as promoted in the *Strategic Framework for the List – COP7 Resolution VII.11*)? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being done? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, has this included considerations to ensure the designation of a representative range of wetland types? **Yes**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, has this resulted in the designation of a representative range of wetland types? **Yes**

Proposed national actions and targets: **At first stage, Four new sites will be proposed to be declared as Ramsar sites**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

6.2.3 Give priority attention to the designation of new sites from wetland types currently under-represented on the Ramsar List, and in particular, when appropriate, coral reefs, mangroves, sea-grass beds and peatlands. [CPs]

- **Global Targets - The long-term targets are set by the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (COP7 Resolution VII.11). Based on this, short-term targets for each wetland type will be derived [by the STRP].**

Further to 6.2.1 above: If your territory includes under-represented wetland types, has special attention been given to identifying suitable sites for designation? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, has this included designations of wetlands including:

- coral reefs? **Yes**
- mangroves? **Yes**

- seagrass beds? **Yes**
- peatlands? **Yes**
- intertidal wetlands? (COP7 Resolution VII.21) **Yes**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To designate four new sites within the next two years**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Wildlife Conservation

6.2.4 Pay particular attention to the designation of new sites currently enjoying no special conservation status at national level, as a first step towards developing measures for their conservation and wise use. [CPs]

- **This question was not considered in the National Reports for COP7. It will be included for consideration in the NRs for COP8.**
- **Global Target - All CPs to consider this approach to ensuring the long-term conservation and wise use of wetlands that are subject to intense human use.**

Has your country designated wetland sites for the Ramsar List which previously had no special conservation status? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Special attention is given to the wildlife protected areas which have already been declared**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not relevant**

AND: Are there plans for further such designations? **Yes**

If **No**, why not? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, please elaborate. **Four new wildlife Protected areas will be sesignated**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Four new wildlife Protected areas will be designated within the next two years**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Wildlife Conservation

6.2.5 Consider as a matter of priority the designation of transfrontier wetland sites. [CPs]

- **The issue of transfrontier or shared wetlands is addressed in the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention* (COP7 Resolution VII.19) and the *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into river basin management* (COP7 Resolution VII.18).**
- **Global Target - By COP8, for there to be over 50 transfrontier wetland sites designated under the Convention.**

For those CPs which 'share' wetlands with other CPs, have all suitable sites been designated

under the Convention? No
If No , what has prevented this action being taken? Sri Lanka being an island, does not share wetlands with other CPs
If Yes , are there arrangements in place between the CPs sharing the wetland for the cooperative management of the site? No
If No , what has prevented such arrangements from being introduced? Sri Lanka being an island, does not share wetlands with other CPs
Proposed national actions and targets: Not relevant
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Not relevant

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 7

TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MOBILIZE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION AND WISE USE IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND AGENCIES, BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL

Operational Objective 7.1: To identify international and/or regional needs for managing shared wetlands and shared catchments, and develop and implement common approaches.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>7.1.1 Identify transfrontier wetlands of international importance (including those within shared catchment/river basins), and encourage preparation and implementation of joint plans for such sites, using a “catchment approach” (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]</p> <p>Refer to 6.2.5 above.</p>
<p>7.1.2 Encourage twinning of transfrontier wetlands, and of other wetlands with similar characteristics, and use successful cases for illustrating the benefits of international cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention</i> (COP7 Resolution VII.19) and the <i>Convention’s Outreach Programme</i> (COP7 Resolution VII.9) promote site twinning as a mechanism for accelerating the flow of knowledge and assistance and promoting training opportunities. Global Target - By COP8 to have in place over 100 Ramsar site twinning arrangements. The Bureau will keep a record of which sites are twinned and make this available through the Convention’s Web site.
Does your country have Ramsar sites twinned with those in other CPs? No

If No , what has prevented this from happening? Sri Lanka being an island, does not share wetlands with other CPs
If Yes , please note how many such twinning arrangements are in place and indicate which sites are involved. Not relevant
AND: Do these arrangements involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sharing of information resources? Yes/No • transfer of financial resources? Yes/No • exchanges of personnel? Yes/No • other activities? Please elaborate.
Proposed national actions and targets: Not Relevant
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Not relevant

Operational Objective 7.2: To strengthen and formalize linkages between Ramsar and other international and/or regional environmental conventions and agencies, so as to advance the achievement of shared goals and objectives relating to wetland species or issues.

Actions - Global and National Targets
7.2.1 Participate in, or initiate, consultations with related conventions to foster information exchange and cooperation, and develop an agenda for potential joint actions. [SC, Bureau]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Ramsar Convention and the Convention to Combat Desertification which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.
Refer also to 4.2.1. Does there exist a mechanism (such as an inter-ministry committee) at the national level with the charter of coordinating/integrating the implementation of international/regional conventions/treaties to which your country is a signatory? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to such a mechanism being introduced? Not relevant
If Yes , describe the mechanism and the conventions/treaties it is expected to consider. Holding meetings with relevant officials from different implementing Authorities.
AND: Has the mechanism proven to be effective? No Reply
If No , why not? Not functioning well, no regular meetings
If Yes , please elaborate. Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: To have regular discussion on overlapping areas of conventios with relevant agencies
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Ministry

of Environment and Natural Resources

7.2.2 Prepare project proposals together with other conventions and partner organizations, and submit them jointly to potential funding agencies. [CPs, SC, Bureau, Partners]

For eligible countries, have there been project proposals prepared and submitted to funding agencies which were intended to assist with implementation of the Ramsar Convention? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, were such proposals successful in gaining funds? **Yes - Management plan for Bundala Ramsar site is being funded by Asian Development Bank, Management plan for Annaivilundawa Ramsar site awaits funds under the Department of Wildlife Conservation and Ramsar**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To implement the existing management plans**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

7.2.3 Strengthen cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular as regards inclusion of wetland concerns in national biodiversity strategies, and planning and execution of projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - To see the Joint Work Plan implemented in full and resulting in cooperative implementation of both Conventions at the international, national and local levels.**

Further to 7.2.1 above: Has there been a review **completed** of the Joint Work Plan between Ramsar and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to establish the areas of priority for cooperative implementation of these Conventions? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented such a review being done? **Lack of coordination**

If **Yes**, what are the areas established as priorities for national cooperation between Ramsar and CBD implementing agencies/focal points? **Not relevant**

Proposed national actions and targets: **to establish a coordination and make a review**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

7.2.4 Develop cooperation with the World Heritage Convention and UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), especially as regards wetlands designated as World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and/or Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with the Man and the Biosphere Programme, leading to Joint Work Plans with the MAB Programme and with the**

World Heritage Convention which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local, levels.
Refer to 7.2.1 above.
<p>7.2.5 Enhance Ramsar's contribution to international cooperation on shared wetland species, notably through cooperative arrangements with the Convention on Migratory Species, flyway agreements, networks and other mechanisms dealing with migratory species (Recommendation 6.4). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention</i> propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CMS (COP7 Resolution VII.19) • Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, regional and national and local levels.
Refer to 7.2.1 above.
<p>7.2.6 Develop Ramsar's contribution to wildlife trade issues affecting wetlands, through increased interaction with CITES. [Bureau]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention</i> propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CITES (COP7 Resolution VII.19) • Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with CITES, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which sees cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.
Refer to 7.2.1 above
<p>7.2.7 Initiate links with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in view of the potential impacts on wetlands of climate change. [CP, Bureau]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with UNFCCC, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.
Refer to 7.2.1 above.
<p>7.2.8 Extend cooperation with conventions and agencies concerned with conservation and wise use of wetlands at regional level, and in particular: with the European Community, as regards application of its Habitats Directive to wetlands, and adoption and application of measures like the Habitats Directive for wetlands outside the states of the European Union; with the Council of Europe (Bern) Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats as regards the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy; with the Barcelona Convention and Mediterranean Action Plan in relation to the MedWet initiative; with the Western Hemisphere Convention; with UNEP programmes, in particular the Regional Seas Conventions; and with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). [CPs, Bureau]</p>

- **Global Target - With the European Commission and SPREP, develop and sign a Memorandum of Cooperation and prepare and implement a Joint Work Plan. For Medwet, secure the long-term funding base for this important initiative and continue to develop new programmes of regional action. For the others referred to, and others which are appropriate, develop an appropriate working relationship.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.9 Develop relationships with other specialized agencies that deal with wetland-related issues, such as the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the World Water Council (COP7 Resolution VI.23). [Bureau]

- **Global Target - To progress to closer working relations with these and other relevant initiatives, as appropriate.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

Operational Objective 7.3: To ensure that the development assistance community, and multinational corporations, follow improved wetland practices such as the Wise Use Guidelines in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.3.2 Work with multilateral and bilateral development agencies and multinational corporations towards a full recognition of wetland values and functions (Recommendation 4.13), and assist them to improve their practices in favor of wetland conservation and wise use taking account of the *Guidelines for Aid Agencies for Improved Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Wetlands*, published by OECD's Development Assistance Committee (Recommendation 6.16). [Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - At the Bureau level, to consider ways and means to increase its ability to work more systematically in this area, so as to increase the level of donor agency support for wetland conservation and wise use activities, and to see an increasing number of multinational corporations adopting voluntary codes of conduct for protecting wetlands.**

While this action is directed at the Bureau principally, CPs also have a role to play in this area; refer to 7.4.2 below with respect to bilateral development agencies. For the multilateral donors: Is your government represented on the governing bodies or scientific advisory bodies of the multilateral donors, or the GEF? **No**

If **Yes**, has this person/agency/ministry been briefed on the obligations of your country under the Ramsar Convention, and the relevant expectations raised of each CP by the Strategic Plan and COP decisions? **No Reply**



7.3.3 Interact with multilateral development agencies and through bilateral development

programmes, to assist developing countries in meeting their Ramsar obligations, and report on actions taken and results achieved (Recommendation 5.5). [CPs]

Refer to 7.4.2 to 7.4.6 below.

Proposed national actions and targets: **To interact with other agencies and find out means of assisisting other countries**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Operational Objective 7.4: To obtain funds to fulfil obligations contracted under the Convention, notably for developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.4.1 Allocate funds for conservation and wise use of wetlands in the budget of each Contracting Party. [CPs]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to see allocations for wetlands made by all CPs and also for specific wetland programmes in more than 40 CPs.**

Does your government allocate funds for wetland conservation and wise use activities? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this happening? **Not relevant**

If **Yes**, is this:

- As a separate allocation to a Wetlands Programme (or similar)? **No**
- As part of a broader allocation for the environment? **Yes**
- As part of the programmes maintained by a range of Ministries? **Yes**

AND: What mechanisms are in place for determining priorities and coordinating the expenditure of these funds? **Proposals for annual workplans of the Wildlife Protected areas are reviewed and prioritised for implementation**

Is it linked to a National Wetland Policy, Biodiversity Plan, Catchment Plan or something similar? **Yes , this is linked to the National Wildlife Policy**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Allocations are used to implement effective programmes which ensure the protection of the natural rosources within the protected areas**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

7.4.2 Include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in development plans funded by development assistance agencies, and ensure the latter consult the Ramsar administrative authority in each Contracting Party. [CPs]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To see this trend continue such that all eligible CPs are receiving donor support for a range of major wetland-related projects by the time of COP8. In particular, to see this support being provided, as appropriate, for the priority areas of policy development, legal and institutional reviews, inventory and assessments, the designation and management of Ramsar sites, training and communications.
If your country has a bilateral development assistance programme, does it allocate funds for wetland-related projects on a regular basis? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Not relevant
If Yes , are these projects subjected to rigorous impact assessment procedures, which take account of the full environmental, social and economic values of wetlands? Yes
If No , why not? not relevant
If Yes , is the Ramsar Administrative Authority consulted during the screening and assessment phases of the projects? No
If No , why not? Imlemetation of such programmes are still in the initial stage
AND: Is there a formal consultative process in place (such as a National Ramsar Committee) which ensures that the development assistance agency is fully aware of the Ramsar Convention obligations of the country with respect to international cooperation? Yes
If No , why not? Not elevant
If Yes , please elaborate. National steering committee on wetlands will monitor the porgramme
Proposed national actions and targets: To implement the programmes effectively
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

<p>7.4.4 Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies to assist developing countries and countries whose economy is in transition, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. [CPs. Bureau]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8 for all the bilateral donors from appropriate CPs to have funds earmarked for wetland projects, and for all of these CPs to have in place mechanisms for consultation between the development assistance agency and their Ramsar Administrative Authority.
Refer to 7.4.2 above

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 8

TO PROVIDE THE CONVENTION WITH THE REQUIRED INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS AND RESOURCES

Operational Objective 8.1: To maximize achievement of Ramsar’s mission and objectives by evaluating and, if necessary, modifying the Convention’s institutions and management structures.

Actions - Global and National Targets
8.1.9 Promote the establishment of National Ramsar Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, governmental and non-governmental organizations, key stakeholders, indigenous people, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Refer to 4.1.2.
8.1.10 Review the designated national focal point in each Contracting Party, with a view to increasing involvement in the work of the Convention from all agencies concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]
Refer to 4.1.1

Operational Objective 8.2: To provide the financial resources required to carry out Ramsar activities.

Actions - Global and National Targets
8.2.1 Pay invoiced contributions to the Convention’s core budget in full, and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - During this triennium to achieve full and timely payment of all dues by all CPs. The SC to prepare a proposal on sanctions for non-payment for consideration at COP8 (COP7 Resolution VII.28).
Is your country completely up to date with its annual contributions to the core budget of the Convention? Yes
If No , what is the impediment to this being done? Not relevant
Proposed national actions and targets: To continue the payment
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Wildlife Conservation

8.2.4 Give priority to funding for training programmes, education and public awareness work, development of the Ramsar Database, and the Convention’s Communications Strategy. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To secure the resources needed to establish regional training

initiatives (like *Wetlands for the Future*) in other regions, to allow the Bureau to progress the implementation of the Outreach Programme, and to support the proposed developments for the Ramsar Sites Database into a fully online and Web-based promotional and planning tool of the Convention.

Refer to 3.3.1 (Convention Outreach Programme), 4.2.4 (Wetlands for the Future).

Operational Objective 8.3: To maximize the benefits of working with partner organizations.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.3.1 Strengthen cooperative planning mechanisms with the partners and improve communications and information exchange, including exchange of staff. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 3.2.1 and 4.1.2. Does your country include representatives of the Convention's official International Organisation Partners (BirdLife International, IUCN, WWF, Wetlands International) on its National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies, where they exist? **Yes**

If **No**, what prevents this from occurring? **Not relevant**

Proposed national actions and targets: **To continue to cooperate with such agencies**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Wildlife Conservation**

Operational Objective 8.4: To secure at least one million US dollars per annum for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund for Wetlands Conservation and Wise Use (Resolutions 5.8 and VI.6) and to allocate these funds effectively.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.4.1 Develop a strategy for securing at least one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund, to be approved by the first full meeting of the Standing Committee after the 6th COP (1996) and proceed immediately to its implementation. [Bureau, SC, CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - To establish a mechanism to ensure one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund (COP7 Resolution VII.28).**

Refer also to 8.2.4. For developed countries, do you provide additional voluntary contributions to support the Small Grants Fund? **No**

If **No**, what prevents this from happening? **Lack of resources**

If **Yes**, is an irregular or regular voluntary contribution? **Not relevant**

Proposed national actions and targets: **No comments**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Not**

relevant

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