THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

64th meeting of the Standing Committee

Gland, Switzerland, 20-24 January 2025

**SC64 Inf.3**

**Draft Indicator Framework for the 5th Strategic Plan of the Convention on Wetlands: Preliminary STRP advice**

# Summary

1. The Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) invited the STRP to provide advice on indicators for the Goals and Targets of the draft Strategic Plan, working with the consultant team supporting the process.
2. Following the request from the SPWG, received 11 October 2024, the STRP Chair and Secretariat coordinated a task group of 11 experts with an understanding of indicators and reporting on wetlands under the Convention and other international processes. The task group included representatives from the STRP, consultant team, and STRP National Focal Points.
3. A draft indicator framework for Goals 1-3 of the Strategic Plan was presented by the STRP Chair at the SPWG meeting on 13 November 2024.
4. During STRP27, held 2-6 December 2024, the task group continued its work, focusing on Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan.
5. This information paper presents the preliminary advice of the STRP, and includes a draft indicator framework for Goals 1-4, and associated Targets (Annex 1). The indicator framework presents indicators at two levels, Goal Indicators and Target Indicators, and contains a balance of outcome indicators (e.g. ecological character of Ramsar Sites) and process indicators.
6. Where time allowed, alignment with indicators applied in the 4th Strategic Plan (for consistency) and other international reporting processes, particularly the indicator framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity (KM-GBF) Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is noted. Disaggregation of the KM-GBF indicators for wetlands, for example, presents an opportunity to streamline reporting under the Convention on Wetlands and under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

1. Further development of the indicator framework for the 5th Strategic Plan will be required, considering any amendments to the Goals and Targets following Contracting Parties input at SC64 and COP15. Additional technical review is also considered necessary to ensure there are adequate information sources and to enhance synergies with reporting under the KM-GBF and SDGs. It is proposed the finalisation of the indicator framework occurs as part of the work plans of the Secretariat and STRP for the 2026-2028 triennium.

1. A potential approach for the ongoing development and review of indicators is presented for consideration by the SPWG and at the 64th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC64).

**Proposed approach for development of the indicator framework for the 5th Strategic Plan**

Refinement of draft indicator framework

1. Consider feedback received during SC64 on the following matters:
   1. The structure of the indicator framework, including alignment with existing indicator systems, and
   2. The preliminary indicators developed for Goals 1-4.
2. Prior to submission of the 5th Strategic Plan to COP15, if requested, the STRP may prepare a revised version of the draft indicator framework (Annex 1) considering the feedback received during SC64.

Confirmation of indicators and development of data support systems

1. Following adoption of the 5th Strategic Plan at COP15 it is proposed:
   1. The STRP, as a priority task, continues the development of indicators and data support systems for the 5th Strategic Plan and report on its progress to the 67th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC67)[[1]](#footnote-2), with input and support from the Secretariat.
   2. The task will include:
      1. Establishing a working group on indicators to develop and refine the proposed indicator framework with details on access to data sources,
      2. A secondary review of the proposed Goal and Target indicators, to ensure the indicators are adequate for reporting on the effectiveness of the Strategic Plan, and to enhance synergies with existing frameworks, such as those from the KM-GBF and the SDGs.
      3. Refinement and testing of indicators that are in ‘development’ to ensure their feasibility, adaptability, and relevance.
      4. Presentation of a final indicator framework to SC67 for consideration, including guidance documents and options for capacity-building to support Contracting Parties implementation of the indicator framework.

**Annex 1**

**Draft indicator framework for 5th Strategic Plan for the Convention on Wetlands: Preliminary STRP advice**

Note: The indicator framework is a draft only. Further development will be required, including to account for any amendments to the Goals and Targets following Contracting Parties input at SC64 and COP15. Additional technical review is also recommended to ensure there are adequate information sources to report on each indicator, and to enhance synergies with reporting under the KM-GBF and SDGs.

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| **Goal 1: Address and reverse wetland loss and degradation** |
| Goal Statement: The impacts of key drivers of wetland loss and degradation are addressed and effective restoration actions are implemented to conserve wetlands and to reverse loss and degradation of wetlands for the benefit of all life on Earth. |
| **Goal Indicators**:   * Extent of wetlands under effective restoration * Extent of wetlands under effective management * Impact of climate change, agriculture and urbanization direct drivers on wetland loss and degradation (metrics to be developed) * Change in the population status of threatened wetland-dependent species |

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| **Target 1.1 Conserve and restore wetlands** | [At least xx% of] existing wetlands are effectively managed, [at least yy% of] degraded and lost wetlands are under effective restoration [and wetland representation is increased and improved within restoration policies and programs]. | | | | |
| **Target Indicators** | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Total area of restored inland, coastal and human-made wetlands and total linear kilometres of restored river systems that restore lost wetlands (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type).    Note: To achieve this a baseline assessment of the total area of inland, coastal and human-made wetlands and linear kilometres of river systems (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type) is required along with an assessment of wetland area and linear kilometres that has been lost. This is supported by national wetland inventories. | % of Parties that have complete national wetland inventories. (Data source: National Reports).    % of Parties that have updated their national inventories in the last decade. (Data source: new question for National Reports). | Target 2 – Restoration | Target 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes6.6.1Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems | [Freshwater Ecosystem Explorer](https://www.sdg661.app/)  [Global Mangrove Watch](https://www.globalmangrovewatch.org/)  [River connectivity status index](https://world-wildlife-fund.gitbook.io/free-flowing-rivers/introduction-to-free-flowing-river-assessments)  [Freshwater Health Index](https://www.freshwaterhealthindex.org/).  [IUCN Red List of Ecosystems](https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2016-035.pdf)  [Key Biodiversity Areas](https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/)  [Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas](http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/ibacriteria)  [Wetlands of International Importance](https://rsis.ramsar.org/)  [Global Wetland Watch](https://www.globalwetlandwatch.org/home/)  [The Freshwater Challenge](https://www.freshwaterchallenge.org/)  [Critical Site Network Tool](https://criticalsites.wetlands.org/en)  [River connectivity status index](https://world-wildlife-fund.gitbook.io/free-flowing-rivers/introduction-to-free-flowing-river-assessments)  [IUCN Red List of Ecosystems](https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2016-035.pdf)  [Key Biodiversity Areas](https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/)  [Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas](http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/ibacriteria)  [Wetlands of International Importance](https://rsis.ramsar.org/)  [Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures](https://www.protectedplanet.net/en/thematic-areas/oecms?tab=OECMs)  [Recommended indicators for reporting on the effectiveness of area-based conservation measures](https://s3.amazonaws.com/cbddocumentspublic-imagebucket-15w2zyxk3prl8/416705076b58135c0d1b27b6dfbaa907)  [Global Lakes and Wetlands Database](https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/global-lakes-and-wetlands-database)  [HydroATLAS Database](https://www.hydrosheds.org/hydroatlas)  [Global Ecosystem Typology](https://global-ecosystems.org/)  [Ramsar Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (R-METT)](https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/guide_r-mett_e.pdf)  [IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas](https://www.iucn.org/resources/conservation-tool/iucn-green-list-protected-and-conserved-areas)  [A Pathway for Inland Waters in the 30 x 30 Target](https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/Pathway_for_Inland_Waters_Nov_2022.pdf) | Partial National  Development Global |
| 2. Percentage (%) of total area of degraded wetlands and linear kilometres of degraded river systems that are under effective restoration (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type).  Note: To achieve this a baseline assessment of the total area of inland, coastal and human-made wetlands and linear kilometres of river systems where the ecological character of the wetland has been degraded (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type) is required. This is supported by national wetland inventories that assess the condition of the ecological character of the wetland. | % of Parties that have established restoration plans [or activities] for sites. (Data source: National Reports).    % of Parties that have implemented effective restoration or rehabilitation projects. (Data source: National Reports). | Target 2 – Restoration |  | Partial National  Development Global |
| 3. Percentage (%) of total area of wetlands and linear kilometres of rivers systems that are under effective management (within a country, region, globally and disaggregated by wetland type). | Number of Ramsar Sites that have effective, implemented management plans. (Data source: National Report).    % of Parties that have made assessments of effective management of Ramsar Sites. (Data source: National Reports).    % of Ramsar Sites that have updated Ramsar Information Sheets. (Data source: Ramsar Sites database). | Target 3 – Effective management of protected areas |  | Partial National  Development Global |

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| **Target 1.2 A. Address the impacts of climate change on wetland degradation and loss** | Prioritise specific actions to combat the impacts of climate change as a key driver of wetland degradation and loss. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Percentage (%) of degraded wetlands that have deteriorated due to climate change where effective mitigation programs or adaptation measures, to address adverse hydrological change, have been implemented (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type).  Note: To achieve this a baseline assessment of the total area of inland, coastal and human-made wetlands and linear kilometres of river systems where the ecological character of the wetland has deteriorated due to climate change (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type) is required. This is supported by national wetland inventories that assess the condition of the ecological character of the wetland. |  | Target 8 Climate Change |  |  | Development National  Development Global |
| 2. Number of countries that have assessed the implications of hydrological change on wetlands, including but not limited to drought stress, flood frequency and sea level rise, resulting from climate change. |  | Target 8 Climate Change |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |
| 3. Number of countries that have demonstrated specific mitigation and adaptation actions to address the impacts of climate change as a driver of wetland degradation and loss |  | Target 8 Climate Change |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |

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| **B. Address the impacts of unsustainable agricultural practices on wetland degradation and loss** | Prioritise specific actions to combat the impacts of unsustainable agricultural practices as a key driver of wetland degradation and loss. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Percentage (%) of agricultural land that applies sustainable practices that maintain the ecological character of wetlands (within a country, region and globally and disaggregated by wetland type). |  | Target 10 |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |
| 2. Number of countries that have demonstrated specific actions to address the impacts of unsustainable agricultural practices as a driver of wetland degradation and loss |  | Target 10 |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |

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| **C. Address the impacts of urbanization on wetland degradation and loss** | Prioritise specific actions to combat the impacts of urbanization as a key driver of wetland degradation and loss. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Percentage (%) of urban areas that have effective measures in place to maintain the ecological character of wetlands from the impacts of urbanization (within a country, region and globally).  Note: effective measures include spatial planning that incorporates wetland protection, wetland restoration measures, community involvement etc. |  | Target 12 |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |
| 2. Total area of urban areas certified as Wetland Cities (within a country, region and globally). |  | Target 12 |  |  | Immediate National  Immediate Global |
| 3. Total area of new human-made wetland green/blue space for public use for all [sustainable drainage, reservoirs, flood control, water treatment] in urban areas |  | Target 12 |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |
| 4. Number of countries that have demonstrated specific actions to address the impacts of urbanization as a driver of wetland degradation and loss |  | Target 12 |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |

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| **Target 1.3 Address and reverse the loss of threatened wetland-dependant species** | Prioritise actions that improve the population trajectories of key threatened waterbird, fish, and other wetland-dependent species. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. The % of waterbird populations that are stable or increasing. |  | Target 4 – Threatened species |  | The Living Planet Index for wetland species (KMGBF CIndicator) | Partial National  Immediate Global |
| 2. The % other threatened wetland-dependent fauna populations that are stable or increasing. |  | Target 4 – Threatened species |  |  | Partial National  Immediate Global |
| 3. The % of threatened wetland flora that are stable or increasing. |  | Target 4 – Threatened species |  |  | Partial National  Immediate Global |
| 4. The Red List Index for freshwater species (KMGBF Indicator A.3) |  | Target 4 – Threatened species |  |  | Partial National  Immediate Global |
| 5. Number of countries that have demonstrated priority actions to improve the population trajectories of key threatened wetland-dependent species |  | Target 4 – Threatened species |  |  | Partial National  Development Global |
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| **Goal 2: Achieve the wise use of wetlands** | | | | | |
| Goal Statement: Wetland wise use is achieved, where the multiple values, functions and services of wetlands are understood and recognised in policy and planning, the inclusive participation of all is enabled in decision-making, and action is taken for wetlands for the benefit of present and future generations | | | | | |
| **Goal Indicators**:   * Extent of wetlands (Global, regional) * Ecological character state of wetlands (Global, regional) | | | | | |

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| **Target 2.1 Recognise and transform humanity’s relationship with wetlands through enhancing our understanding of wetland values, functions and services and wise use.** | Promote the values wetlands provide to people and nature and the contributions wetlands make to achieving sustainable development, including food security and poverty eradication, to transform the human-wetland relationship from one of exploitation, unsustainable resource extraction, and depletion to one where humans and nature live in harmony, including by incorporating wise use and an ecosystem approach within policy and planning at all levels. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Number of countries having implemented assessments of wetland values. | Target 11 - % of Parties that have made assessment of ecosystem services of Ramsar Sites (partial indicator) | Target 11 - B.1 Services provided by ecosystems (partial indicator) | Target 15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts | UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting  Assessment of the multiple values of wetlands using the IPBES six-step guide | Partial national  Development global |
| 2. Number of countries having a national knowledge base on the multiple values of wetlands. | Target 11 - % of Parties that have made assessment of ecosystem services of Ramsar Sites (partial indicator) | Target 11 - B.1 Services provided by ecosystems (partial indicator) | Target 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature | UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting  Assessment of the multiple values of wetlands using the IPBES six-step guide | Partial national  Development global |
| 3. Number of countries having the multiple values of wetlands embedded in sectoral plans, programmes, policies and investments. | Target 9 - % of Parties that have adopted policies or equivalent instruments that promote the wise use of wetlands | - | - |  | Partial national  Development global |
| 4. Number of countries where wetland wise use is contributing to poverty eradication and/or food security | Target 11 - % of Parties that have incorporated wetlands issues into poverty eradication strategies  Target 11 - % of Parties that have implemented programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans. | Target 10 - 10.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture | Target 15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts |  | Partial national  Development global |

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| **Target 2.2 Maintain the ecological character of wetlands through implementing an Ecosystem Approach, including by improving scientific methodologies** | Take effective legal, policy and administrative measures at all levels, by 2034, to ensure the ecological character of wetlands is maintained and an ecosystem approach is applied to the planning and management of [all] wetlands, within the context of sustainable development. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Number of countries having robust guidance on describing the ecological character of wetlands | - | - | - | Ramsar Handbook 19: Addressing change in wetland ecological character | Partial national  Development global |
| 2. Number of countries having monitoring systems in place which utilise scientific and traditional knowledge to detect adverse changes in the ecological character of wetlands | Target 10 – No indicator cited | Target 23 - Complimentary indicator | - |  | Development national  Development global |
| 3. Number of countries having embedded information on the change in the ecological character of wetlands in legal, policy and planning frameworks | Target 9 - % of Parties that consider wetland policies or equivalent instruments that promote the wise use of their wetlands |  | Target 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes |  | Partial national  Development global |

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| **Target 2.3 [Ensure] [Strengthen] inclusive participation in wetland decision-making and address the needs of wetland communities** | Fully recognize the rights of all [Indigenous Peoples [and local communities]] well as the rich cultural connections and traditional knowledges that have sustained the connection between wetlands and people, support the livelihoods of wetland communities, and facilitate the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and youth- and gender-responsive participation for all aspects of wetland decision-making. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Number of countries having functioning National Wetland Committees with representation from all relevant sectors and especially youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities and marginalized sections of society | - | Target 22 | Target 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels | Ramsar Handbook 2: National wetland policies  Ramsar Handbook 7: Participatory skills | Partial national  Development global |
| 2. Number of countries having formally established systems of stakeholder review and feedback on national wetland policies and sector policies and programmes | - | - |  |  | Partial national  Development global |
| 3. The number of countries with national Youth Focal Points | - | - | - |  | Development national  Development global |

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| **Goal 3: Conserve and manage Wetlands of International Importance effectively** |
| Goal Statement: Wetlands of International Importance are recognized, effectively conserved and managed and, through designating sites that qualify, there is a significant increase in area, numbers and ecological connectivity across the Ramsar Site Network. |
| **Goal Indicators**:   * Number of Wetlands of International Importance * Area of Wetlands of International Importance * Change in the ecological character (state) of Wetlands of International Importance * Number of Wetlands of International Importance within protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures * Measure of ecological connectivity of Wetlands of International Importance (indicator development needed) |

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| **Target 3.1 Designate [quantitative target] Wetlands of International Importance** | There is a [significant] [ quantitative target] increase in the area and number of sites in the [global] Ramsar Site network, and their inclusion in ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures is promoted contributing to global conservation targets and aligning with the KM-GBF. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. The number of Wetlands of International Importance (by type, bioregion) |  | Target 3 – Effective management of protected areas |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| 2. The area of Wetlands of International Importance (by type, bioregion) |  | Target 3 – Effective management of protected areas |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| 3. The number [area] of Wetlands of International Importance within protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures |  | Target 3 – Effective management of protected areas  Target 1 |  | RSIS  WDPA | Partial Global  Partial National |
| 4. Percentage (%) of wetlands of international importance which cover a KBA (area of particular importance for biodiversity) |  | Target 3 |  | KBA | Immediate Global |
| 5. Percentage (%) of qualifying wetlands of international importance designated for migratory waterbirds on each flyway |  | Target 3 |  | Flyway agreements | Partial Global  Partial National |

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| **Target 3.2 Effectively manage Wetlands of International Importance** | The management effectiveness of Wetlands of International Importance is enhanced, to maintain or improve their ecological character. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. The number [and area] of Wetlands of International Importance that are being managed effectively (based on RMETT) |  | Target 3 – Effective management of protected areas |  | RMETT | Development Global  Partial National |
| 2. The number [and area] of Wetlands of International Importance that have maintained or enhanced ecological character |  | Target 3 |  | RSIS (RIS reporting) | Immediate Global |
| 3. The number [and area] of Wetlands of International Importance that have reported a negative, human-induced change in ecological character (Article 3.2) |  | Target 3 |  | RSIS (RIS reporting) | Immediate Global |
| *Alternatives (to review):*  4. Percentage (%) of wetlands of international importance with equitable governance systems in place /  5. Percentage (%) of wetlands of international importance covered by a biodiversity-inclusive spatial plan or management plan  6. Percentage (%) of wetlands of international importance with up-to-date Ramsar Information Sheets (RISs) |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **Target 3.3 Establish national and regional networks of site managers** | Networks of professionals and volunteers that manage wetlands of international importance are established, strengthened, and expanded, improving effective information exchange on best practice management. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. The number of countries and regions with effective networks of site managers. |  | Target 20  Target 21 |  | National Reports  RRI Reports | Immediate/Near |
| 2. Percentage (%) of wetlands of international importance supported by a network of site managers |  | Target 20  Target 21 |  | RSIS | Immediate/Near |
| 3. Number of countries with National Wetland Committees |  |  |  |  | Immediate |

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| **Target 3.4 Enhance the resilience of Wetlands of International Importance** | Guidance is available and best practices are implemented to enhance the resilience of sites to current and emerging pressures from drivers of wetland loss and degradation. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| 1. Percentage (%) of Wetlands of International Importance under significant pressure/threat of degradation (all pressures) |  | Target 3  Target 1 |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| 2. The number [and area] of Wetlands of International Importance under significant pressure/threat of wetland degradation due to climate change. |  | Target 3  Target 1 |  | RSIS | Partial Global  Partial National |
| 3. Percentage (%) of Wetlands of International Importance under significant pressure/threat of wetland degradation due to non-sustainable agriculture |  | Target 3  Target 1 |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| 4. Percentage (%) of Wetlands of International Importance under significant pressure/threat of wetland degradation due to urban development. |  | Target 3  Target 1 |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| 5. Number of Wetlands of International Importance restored / under effective restoration |  | Target 2 |  | RSIS | Partial Global  Partial National |

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| Goal 4: Enhance implementation of the Convention |
| Goal Statement: The implementation of the Convention is enhanced through scientific, technical and other cooperation, capacity building, [effective legal and policy instruments] and resource mobilization [from all sources]. |
| **Goal Indicator/s:**   * Resources mobilised for implementation of the Convention (Global, Regional, National) * Effective collaboration by Contracting Parties with partners and stakeholders |

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| **Target 4.1 Cooperation with partners and stakeholders** | Contracting Parties collaborate effectively with partners and stakeholders at all scales (global, regional, transboundary, national, local and site levels) and across all sectors to achieve the goals of the Convention, increasing complementarity [and synergies] with other multilateral processes. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of countries that have aligned national wetland policies (or other national wetland instruments) for wetland conservation and wise use with KM-GBF targets (under CBD) and NDC targets (under UNFCCC) | % of Parties where co-ordination mechanisms for the implementation of MEAs exist at a national level. | Target 14 – Integrate biodiversity in decision-making | By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate | Data source: National Reports. | Immediate National |
| Number of countries with improved wetland management due to collaboration with regional initiatives | % of Parties that have been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention |  |  | R-METT  Data source: National Reports  Reports from RRIs | Immediate National |
| Number of countries that have implemented effective capacity-building activities to enhance wetland management | % of Parties that have established national action plans for wetland CEPA | Target 20 – Strengthen capacity-building, technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation |  | Data source: National Reports. | Immediate National |
| Number of countries that have established a cross-sectoral committee, or equivalent, to enhance stakeholder cooperation for wetland conservation and wise use | % of Parties having national Ramsar Committees that include both governmental and non-governmental representation |  |  |  | Immediate National |
| Number of countries with active CEPA, STRP, NGO and Youth Focal Points |  |  |  | Data source: National Reports | Partial National |
|  | Number of Regional Initiatives successfully implemented |  |  | Data source: National Reports | Immediate Global |
|  | Number of World Wetland Day activities or events reported to the Secretariat [by CP]. |  |  | Data source: Ramsar CEPA programme. | Immediate Global |

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| **Target 4.2 Improve information, data [and technology] sharing** | Improve information, data [and technology] sharing to support evidence-based policy and management decision-making, promote scientific and technical cooperation and capacity-building related to wetland conservation, wise use, monitoring, and reporting, taking into account the knowledges of Indigenous peoples and local communities [and their free, prior and informed consent]. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of countries (Contracting Parties) that have analysed data and information needs to deliver evidence-based policy and management decision-making for wetlands | % of Parties that have made an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention |  |  | Data source: National Reports. | Partial National |
| Number of countries that have established information, data [and technology] sharing arrangements to promote wetland conservation and wise use: 1) nationally (cross-sector) and 2) globally | % of Parties that have established networks including twinning arrangements nationally or internationally for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands. |  |  | Data source: National Reports. | Partial National |
| Number of countries that regularly access data and/or technical publications produced by the Convention, incl. STRP products | Number of ‘hits’ on scientific and technical guidance pages of the Ramsar web-site and associated subtotals by country and Ramsar Region  Number of practical tools and guidance documents for wetland conservation and wise use, developed by either STRP, Parties or others, and available via the Ramsar website |  |  | (Data source: Ramsar web-site analytics). | Immediate Global |
| Number of countries with wetland information and data sharing that integrates and applies local and indigenous knowledge in decision-making |  |  |  |  | Partial National |

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| [**Target 4.3 Strengthen existing legal and policy measures to enhance implementation** | Contracting parties have effective legal and policy instruments in place to fully implement the Convention, its resolutions and decisions.] | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of countries with national legal and policy measures in place to halt wetland loss and achieve wetland conservation and wise use |  |  |  |  | Immediate National |
| Number of countries that have reviewed policies or subsidies that conflict with wetland conservation and wise use |  |  |  |  | Immediate National |
| Number of countries that have implemented regulatory approaches to avoid, compensate or mitigate for wetland loss or degradation |  |  |  |  | Immediate National |
| Number of countries that have taken enforcement action for unlawful wetland loss or degradation |  |  |  |  | Immediate National |

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| **Target 4.4 Advance national wetland inventories** | Wetland inventories are progressed and their databases are updated in line with the Ramsar wetland classification system. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of countries with a comprehensive national wetland inventory, covering all wetland types and considered suitable for reporting on changes in wetland extent, protection and restoration | % of Parties that have complete national wetland inventories. (Data source: National Reports). |  | **6.6.1** Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time | [National Wetland Inventory Toolkit](https://www.ramsar.org/news/new-toolkit-national-wetlands-inventories) | Immediate Global |
| Number of countries that have updated their national wetland inventory within the last 6 years | % of Parties that have updated their national inventories in the last decade. (Data source: new question for National Reports). |  | **6.6.1** Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time | [National Wetland Inventory Toolkit](https://www.ramsar.org/news/new-toolkit-national-wetlands-inventories) | Immediate Global |

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| **Target 4.5 Awareness of wetland issues and visibility of the Ramsar Convention is improved** | Wetland conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity building and development, education, participation and awareness. | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of countries that have incorporated wetland conservation and wise use in national policies or strategies for non-environment/biodiversity sectors |  |  |  |  | Immediate National |
| Number of countries with wetlands included in national educational curriculum |  | See GBF #21 |  |  | Partial National |
| Number of businesses reporting on disclosure of risks, dependencies and impacts on wetlands |  | See GBF #15 |  |  | Partial National |

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| **[Target 4.6 Reporting** | [Enhance national reporting and maintain Ramsar Information Sheets for all Wetlands of International Importance up-to-date, with support from the Secretariat and Ramsar Regional Initiatives.] | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Number of wetlands of international importance with Ramsar Information Sheets that are less than 6 years old |  | Target 3  Target 1 |  | RSIS | Immediate Global |
| Number of national reports that utilise a participatory process to enhance national reporting |  |  |  | National Reports | Immediate Global |

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| **[Target 4.7 Financial** | Mobilize financial resources [from all sources] [needed] to achieve [support achieving] the goals of the Convention, including through international [public] funding [from all sources] and innovative [financial] mechanisms where appropriate, [recognizing the need of enhanced support for developing countries,] and [improve] access to those resources.] | | | | |
| **Target indicators**: | **SP4 indicator** | **NBSAPs/GBF** | **SDGs** | **Resources / Information Sources** | **Readiness** |
| Amount of public funding supporting wetland conservation and wise-use (national, global) |  |  |  |  | Partial National |
| Amount of private funding (incl. corporate, civil society, NGO) supporting wetland conservation and wise-use (national, global) |  | Target 19 |  |  | Development Global, National |
| Proportion of the annual budget required to fully implement the Strategic Plan at a national level that is mobilised |  |  |  |  | Development National |
| Proportion of the annual budget required for the Convention (Secretariat) to fully implement the Strategic Plan that is mobilised |  |  |  |  | Partial Global |
| Number of countries that have received funding for wetland conservation and wise-use from GBFF, GEF, or similar funds | % of Parties that have received funding support from development assistance agencies for national wetlands conservation and management. | Target 17 |  | Data source: National Reports. | Immediate Global |
| Number of countries that have provided wetland-related funding to less developed countries from their international development assistance budgets | % of Contracting Parties that have provided additional financial support through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities. |  |  | National Reports  Secretariat financial databases | Immediate Global |

1. The proposed STRP work plan for the 2026-2028 triennium (SC64. Doc19) has identified Task 5.2. *Improved global reporting on wetlands: synergies in development of indicators and methods for the Convention’s 5th Strategic Plan and other global processes*. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)