

# Ramsar National Report to COP14

## Section 1: Institutional Information

**Important note:** the responses below will be considered by the Ramsar Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points, and will be used to update the information it holds. The Secretariat's current information about your focal points is available at <https://www.ramsar.org/search?f%5B0%5D=type%3Aperson#search-contacts>

Name of Contracting Party

The completed National Report **must be accompanied by a letter** in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP14 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below)

> Denmark

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[National\\_report\\_Submission.docx](#) - National report from Denmark

### Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority

> Ministry of Environment / Miljøministeriet

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title

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### Designated National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

Name and title

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Name of organisation

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**Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)**

Name and title  
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**Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)**

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## **Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges**

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP13 reporting)

### **A. What have been the five most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?**

- 1)
  - › Finalization of management plans 2016-21 for the 28 Danish Ramsar sites and other Natura 2000 sites setting conservation objectives, targets and measures for the implementation phase. The next regime of management plans covering the period 2022-27 will be prepared during 2021.
- 2)
  - › Finalization of the national Danish EU Birds Directive article 12 report covering all regular occurring bird populations by end 2019 with 80 % of populations based on complete surveys including short term and long term trends, populations size, hunting bag, share of population inside designated areas, trends, pressures and conservation measures.
- 3)
  - › A comprehensive update of the designation basis for all Danish 125 Special Protected Areas including all Danish Ramsar sites completed by the end of 2020.
- 4)
  - › Continuation of the established N2000 national monitoring programme covering breeding and staging migratory waterbirds and their habitats, other species as well as water quality covering the designated N2000 areas.
- 5)
  - › Implementation of a quantitative method to assess quality of the feeding habitats of herbivorous waterbirds in relevant management plans of selected Danish coastal Ramsar and Special Protected Areas.

### **B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?**

- 1)
  - › To set the necessary national targets for the reduction of nitrogen discharges into the aquatic environment that will be necessary to meet environmental objectives of good ecological status
- 2)
  - › To initiate the necessary environmental effort to achieve the objective of good ecological status in both fresh and marine wetlands
- 3)
  - › To provide sufficient financial resources to be able to restore the necessary space and ecological quality for biodiversity on land as well as in wetlands
- 4)
  - › Reverse the biodiversity decline
- 5)
  - › Reverse the biodiversity decline

### **C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?**

- 1)
  - › Termination of open art. 3.2. and Montreux cases (Nissum Fjord, Ulvedybet og Nibe Vredning, Vadehavet and Ringkøbing Fjord)
- 2)
  - › Final accession of Denmark's RIS and publication of these
- 3)
  - › Expansion of Danish marine Special Protected Areas in order to ensure significantly better protection of a number of marine waterbirds that may include two Ramsar sites
- 4)

> Fulfillment of the EU's ambitious biodiversity strategy in Denmark - which is also expected to lead to improvements in Ramsar sites

5)

> Fulfillment of the Danish government's new nature and biodiversity plan (4 December 2020), which i.a. allocates financial resources for the set-aside of lowland carbon rich soils and which is expected to be converted to nature as well as the designation of 13 new nature national parks and a massive change of commercial grown forest to untouched natural forest.

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

> Continued support from the Ramsar secretariat to the Danish authorities in our efforts to get Danish Ramsar sites of art 3.2 and the Montreux lists including precise feedback on what it takes to lift areas off the lists

E. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)? (including ongoing partnerships and partnerships to develop)

> Initiation of a knowledge sharing and training programme between parties to the convention about how we get Ramsar sites optimally linked with other international designations and legal frameworks such as the EU's nature directives and also emphasizing financing, monitoring, management, climate change adaptation and stakeholder involvement e.g. through study visits, posting between countries, conferences, seminars and the like

F. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the 'biodiversity cluster' (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), World Heritage Convention (WHC), and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)?

> Initiation of a knowledge sharing and training programme between parties to the convention about how we get Ramsar sites optimally linked with other international designations and legal frameworks such as the EU's nature directives and also emphasizing financing, monitoring, management, climate change adaptation and stakeholder involvement e.g. through study visits, posting between countries, conferences, seminars and the like

G. How is the Ramsar Convention linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., on sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity) and how this could be improved?

> In Denmark the link is via environmental policies and laws (e.g. EIA) and via the national nature planning system

I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

> Please refer to the answers of questions E. and F.

J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report

> Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## Section 3: Indicator questions and further implementation information

### Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15]

#### Target 1

Wetland benefits are featured in national/ local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level.

[Reference to Aichi Target 2]

1.1 Have wetland conservation and the identification of wetlands benefits been integrated into sustainable approaches to the following national strategies and planning processes, including: {1.3.2} {1.3.3} KRA

1.3.i

Please select only one per square.

a) National Policy or strategy for wetland management	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
b) Poverty eradication strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
f) National forest programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

i) National policies on energy and mining	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
j) National policies on tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
k) National policies on urban development	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
l) National policies on infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
m) National policies on industry	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not Relevant

### 1.1 Additional information

> Re: h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD: The Danish National Biodiversity Strategy is called (in Danish) "Naturplan Danmark 2014-2020" (The Danish Nature Plan 2014-20), which is delivered to UN/CBD as Denmark's contribution. This strategy is currently being updated.

## Target 2

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone.

[Reference to Aichi Targets 7 and 8], [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

2.1 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed to support the implementation of the Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1, VIII.2) ? 1.24.

C=Partially

2.2 Have assessments of environmental flow been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands (Action r3.4.iv)

C=Partially

2.3 What, if any, initiatives been taken to improve the sustainability of water use (or allocation of water

resources) in the context of ecosystem requirements across major river basins (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12)? (Action 3.4.6.)

C=Partially

### 2.3 Additional Information

> In 2016, the Danish Agency for Water and Nature Management published water area plans for the second planning period (2015-2021) with accompanying executive orders on environmental objectives and action programs, as well as consultation notes and summary statements. The water area plans are a plan to improve the Danish water environment. They must ensure cleaner water in Denmark's coastal waters, lakes, streams and groundwater in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive. The water area plans aims to improve the Danish water environment. They must ensure cleaner water in Denmark's coastal waters, lakes, streams and groundwater in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive.

2.4 Have projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands been developed (Action 3.4.ix.)

A=Yes

### 2.4 Additional Information

> In a number of cases, both the state, municipalities and private organizations have carried out nature restoration of wetlands, in order to restore the ecological function of streams, lakes and lagoons. eg Skjern Å estuary, Ringkøbing Fjord, Århus river and meadows, Filsø etc.

2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 90

### 2.5 Additional Information

> The total wastewater supply to the treatment plants in Denmark corresponds to the wastewater from approx. 7 million people. In 2015, the treatment plants discharged a total of almost 768 million cubic meters of treated wastewater.

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (percentage)

> 92

### 2.6 Additional Information

> The total sewered area is 250,000 hectares, corresponding to approx. 6% of Denmark's area. There are basically three sewerage systems. Common systems where wastewater and rainwater are collected in one pipe that is led to treatment plants are mainly used in older sewered areas. Separate systems where wastewater and rainwater are led in separate pipes to the treatment plant and recipient, respectively, are preferably used in newer sewered areas.

Wastewater systems, where properties are only drained for domestic wastewater and have to dispose of the rainwater themselves (eg by seepage on their own land) are mainly used in the open country and in holiday home areas.

In general, the distribution is approx. 40% shared sewers and approx. 60% separately sewered areas

2.7 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine if relevant to your country?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

F=Less than (percentage)

> 10

2.8 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

B=No

### 2.8 Additional Information

> Constructed wetlands/ponds are partially used for treating nitrogen- and phosphorus-containing drainage water from agricultural land - but this method is NOT used for treatment of sewage water

2.9 Number of wastewater treatment plants (or volume treated exist at national level)?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

E=Exact number (plants)

> 840

## 2.9 Additional Information

> In comparison, in 1989, when the first National Aquatic Environment Plan was launched, there were just under 2,000 treatment plants. The treatment plants that have been closed down in the intervening period are primarily the low-tech treatment plants, and the wastewater from those is now being treated at larger and more advanced treatment plants. Today, 92% of wastewater is treated at the 287 largest and most advanced treatment plants.

2.10 How is the functional status of the wastewater treatment plants? If relevant to your country  
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

A=Good

## 2.10 Additional Information

> See 2.9 above

2.12 Number of wastewater reuse systems (or volume re-used) and purpose?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

> 1

## 2.12 Additional Information

> Number is unknown and therefore "1". In Denmark, we generally have abundant amounts of groundwater and Denmark has a water supply that is 100% based on groundwater abstraction. We use groundwater for drinking water and other purposes. There is a growing interest in reusing water in Denmark.

2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ?

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

X=Unknown

## 2.13 Additional Information

Please indicate if the wastewater reuse system is for free or taxed or add any additional information.

> See 2.12 above

2.14 Does your country use a wastewater treatment process that utilizes wetlands as a natural filter while preserving the wetland ecosystem?

B=No

2.14 Additional information: If Yes, please provide an example

> Today not by purpose, but historically wetlands have been used unintentionally / unconsciously.

See also answer to 2.8

## Target 3

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}

[Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

3.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in its activities and investments concerning wetlands? {1.10.1}

KRA 1.10.i

C=Partially

## 3.1 Additional Information

> The wise use of wetlands takes place pursuant to national environmental legislation and EU directives. The Ramsar handbooks are not well known in DK.

3.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the conservation, wise use and management of {1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

*Please select only one per square.*



a) Ramsar Sites	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

### 3.2 Additional information

> Actions for conservation of wetlands have been undertaken by certain ideal nature conservation foundations such as Aage V Jensen Charity Foundation, Fugleværnsfonden and others.

### 3.3 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.1} KRA 1.11.i

A=Yes

#### 3.3 Additional information

> All Danish Ramsar sites are also designated as Natura 2000 sites and thus covered by the protection in EU directives. Within the designated Natura 2000 areas, special guidelines apply for processing plans and projects, including applications for permits, etc., that may affect the areas' species and habitat types. In addition, there are requirements for monitoring and reporting on the state of nature. For the period 2016-2021, Natura 2000 management plans have been prepared for 250 Natura 2000 sites. Furthermore a number of Water plans under the EU Water Framework Directive have been developed and are under implementation. They cover almost all major Danish wetlands.

### 3.4 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.2} KRA 1.11.i

B=No

## Target 4

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment.

{Reference to Aichi Target 9}

### 4.1 Does your country have a comprehensive national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? {1.9.1} KRA 1.9.i

C=Partially

#### 4.1 Additional information

> Denmark is continuously undertaking inventories of certain introduced species including wetland species and the impacts are assessed. The inventory can be found at the website of the Environmental Protection Agency and includes search opportunities for invasive species in specific habitats including wetlands.

### 4.2 Have national policies or guidelines on invasive species control and management been established or reviewed for wetlands? {1.9.2} KRA 1.9.iii

A=Yes

#### 4.2 Additional information

> Denmark has an "Action Plan for Invasive Species" from 2017, which is a policy document with actions towards the management of invasive species. Moreover, implementation of the EU Regulation of Invasive Alien Species are undertaken.

### 4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems?

B=No

### 4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?

A=Yes

4.5 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed?  
 B=No

## **Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network**

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 13, 14, 15]

### **Target 5**

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}

[Reference to Aichi Targets 6,11, 12]

5.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i

B=No

5.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.1} KRA 2.2.ii

B=No

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 28

5.4 Of the Ramsar Sites with a formal management plan, for how many of these is the plan being implemented? {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i

E=Exact number (sites)

> 28

5.5 Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i

Y=Not Relevant

#### 5.3 - 5.5 Additional information

> A management planning framework has been established for all 28 Danish Ramsar sites which all are fully included in the Natura 2000 network and a six years rolling planning proces has been implemented of which a first rolling planning phase is from 2009-15 and the second from 2016-21. A third phase 2022-27 is currently under preparation.

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with either a formal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii

C=Partially

#### 5.6 Additional information

> All Ramsar sites are monitored on a regularly basis including waterbirds, some aquatic mammals, amphibians and wetland nature types as part of the national monitoring program NOVANA. The assessment of effectiveness of specific management activities is being planned as part of the Natura 2000 implementation.

5.7 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv

E=Exact number (sites)

> 0

### **Target 7**

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}.

[Reference to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 12]

7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.1} KRA 2.6.i

A=Yes

#### 7.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some sites', please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established

> An evaluation of conservation status takes place as part of the rolling Danish Natura 2000 planning, which also includes all Danish Ramsar sites. In addition, the ecological condition of wetlands including all Danish Ramsar sites is evaluated according to the rolling Danish water planning scheme.

7.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.2} KRA 2.6.i

B=No

#### 7.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Some cases', please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made

> The assessment of ecological character is reported in the Ramsar Information Sheets uploaded in 2019.

7.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, such as requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.6.3} KRA 2.6.ii

B=No

#### 7.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the actions taken

> The Danish authorities are working to clarify what further measures will be necessary to remove Rinkøbing Fjord from the Montreux list.

The Ramsar site Ringkøbing Fjord were added to the Montreux record in 1995 and a Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM) were performed. Several years of focused management and implementation of a number of significant efforts has considerably improved the ecological character of the site. As result of this the water quality has improved considerably and the submerged vegetation as well as high numbers of waterbirds have returned.

### Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]

#### Target 8

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

[Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

A=Yes

#### 8.1 Additional information

> The National Water and Nature Monitoring Programme (NOVANA) established to cover all Danish N2000-sites does also include all Danish Ramsar sites. The programme covers relevant breeding and migratory waterbirds including those present in internationally important numbers. Furthermore NOVANA includes habitat assessments of some species and habitats following the EU Natura 2000 classification system. Other species listed on the annex 2 of the Habitats Directive are monitored including e.g. relevant amphibians, fish and dragonflies as well as

aquatic mammals. For two species of amphibians confined to ponds a habitat assessment tool has been developed and data collection is taking place. Water quality is also monitored in relevant lakes, rivers and streams as well as coastal areas and data on fauna, flora and chemical, physical parameters is collected.

8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?

A=Yes

#### 8.2 Additional information

> The NOVANA programme (8.1) are revised every six years. Currently Danish authorities are planning the next periode 2022-27. Furthermore a number of wetland parameters including selected species, physical and chemical substances is subject to a more general environmental monitoring.

8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii

A=Yes

#### 8.3 Additional information

> Se 8.1. and 8.2

8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii

A=Yes

#### 8.4 Additional information

> NOVANA data (8.1) are processed, analysed and published in printed/digital reports covering different aspects and e.g. species groups. Data are stored in an online database ("Miljøportalen") which is a portal for environmental data that is open to public access.

8.5 Has the condition\* of wetlands in your country

8.5 Has the condition\* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed during the last triennium? {1.1.3}

Please describe on the sources of the information on which your answer is based in the free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please describe the principal driver(s) of the change(s).

\* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved <input type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated
b) Wetlands generally	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P=Status Improved <input type="checkbox"/> O=No Change <input type="checkbox"/> N=Status Deteriorated

8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)

> As a result of both site specific actions and more general measures in the National environmental protection scheme including the reduction of nutrients to coastal waters over the last 30 years the situation has improved in e.g. Ringkøbing Fjord, Nibe & Gjol Bredning, Vest Stadil Fjord, Prasto Fjord - Nyord - Jungshoved and Agger Tange. For other Ramsar sites such as e.g. Nissum Fjord the condition has not improved due to local conditions.

8.6 Based upon the National Wetland Inventory if available please provide a figure in square kilometres for the extent of wetlands (according to the Ramsar definition) for the year 2020 and provide the relevant disaggregated information in the box below. This Information will also be used to report on SDG 6, Target 6.6, Indicator 6.6.1, for which the Ramsar Convention is a co-custodian.

X=Unknown

8.6 Additional information

Additional information: If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years. Please note: For the % of change in the extent of wetlands, if the period of data covers more than three years, provide the available information, and indicate the period of the change.

> Such statistics are not available

8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges) to develop, update or complete a National Wetland Inventory

> Not prioritized in present work plans

## Target 9

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}.

[Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

9.1 Is a Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) that promotes the wise use of wetlands in place? {1.3.1} KRA 1.3.i

If 'Yes', please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box

B=No

9.1 Additional information

> A specific wetland policy do not exist in Denmark, however, various policy instruments are in place. In particular the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and the EU Birds and Habitat Directives into national Danish legislation most notably in the Act on Environmental Objectives (Miljømålsloven, 2003) and a number of related acts, statutory orders and guidelines which aims at protect natural fresh- and salt water environments

9.2 Additional information

> Assessments of habitat quality of a number of aquatic mammals, amphibians and breeding as well as staging migratory waterbirds are finalised and will be implemented in existing legislation in the regulatory order on Natura 2000 objectives (Målbekendtgørelsen BEK nr 439 of 19/05/20169) as well as in the site management plans during the next the Natura 2000 planning period (2022-27).

9.3 Are wetlands treated as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {1.7.1} {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii

A=Yes

9.3 Additional information

> River Basin Management Plans are prepared for all Danish river basins.

9.4 Have Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {1.7.2}{1.7.3}

A=Yes

9.4 Additional information

> The watershed management plans are subject to public consultation and hearing. Moreover, water catchment committees at catchment level have been established for each of them.

9.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or adapting to climate change? {1.7.3} {1.7.5} KRA 1.7.iii

C=Partially

9.5 Additional information

> Not fully comprehensive but stand-alone examples of such legislative instruments and guidelines exist e.g. a guideline to farmers about how to apply for financial support to convert organic soils to pastures

9.6 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? {1.7.4} {1.7.6} KRA 1.7.v

C=Partially

9.6 Additional information

> Wetlands are not an integrated part of Danish agriculture industry

9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	<input type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) valuation of ecosystem services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

9.7 Additional information

> Considerable research has been undertaken in relation to water quality and eutrophication caused by Nitrogen and Phosphorus loss.

Research in climate change and ecosystem services has only been partially conducted.

9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10 ?

B=No

9.9 Has your country made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolution XIII. 21?

A=Yes

9.9 Additional information: (If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented)

If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented

> A number of Danish environmental laws are protecting wetlands of which one of the most important is the Danish Nature Protection Act, which (in § 3) conserves marshes, bogs, meadows, streams and lakes above 2500 square meters and stand alone lakes and ponds above 100 square meters. That means that it is forbidden to destroy, alter or change the biological state of such habitats.

**Target 10**

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels.

[Reference to Aichi Target 18]

10.1 Have case studies, participation in projects or successful experiences on cultural aspects of wetlands been compiled. Resolution VIII.19 and Resolution IX.21? (Action 6.1.6)

B=No

10.1 Additional information

If yes please indicate the case studies or projects documenting information and experiences concerning culture and wetlands

> Indigenous people does not exist in Denmark (Greenland excluded)and this point are considered not relevant.

Local communities are mainly using wetlands for leisure activities, fishing & hunting which are utilization types that often conflict with conservation objectives e.g. bird protection.

10.2 Have the guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands been used or applied such as (Resolution VII. 8) (Action 6.1.5)

Please select only one per square.

<p>a) stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous people are represented on National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned  <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Preparation  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No  <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes</p>
<p>b) involvement and assistance of indigenous people's and community-based groups, wetland education centres and non-governmental organizations with the necessary expertise to facilitate the establishment of participatory approaches</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned  <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Preparation  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No  <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes</p>

10.3 Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been documented and their application encouraged (Action 6.1.2)

B=No

**Target 11**

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.} [Reference to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 14]

11.1 Have ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands been researched in your country, recorded in documents like State of the Environment reporting, and the results promoted? {1.4.1} KRA 1.4.ii

C1=Partially

11.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many wetlands and their names

> Basis for further demonstrations and projects are documented in a national report "Status for mapping of Ecosystems, Ecosystem Services and their values in Denmark" prepared by Aarhus University in 2015 for the

Ministry of Environment. An English summary is available on request.

11.2 Have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.4.2} KRA 1.4.i

Y=Not Relevant

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {1.4.3}{1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii

B=No

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19)? {1.4.3}{1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii

B=No

## Target 12

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.} [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

12.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i

C=Partially

### 12.1 Additional information

> In Natura 2000 areas raised bogs, coastal meadows and meadowbirds have been targeted for EU LIFE reastoration and management projects. This has led to restoration projects in a number of sites including Lille Vildmose, Holmegaards Mose & Porsmose, Sølsted Mose and Horreby Lyng, Sandlyng and Verup Moser in 2013-18. Coastal meadow habitats are being restored and habitat quality enhanced in e.g. Bøjden Nor, Læsø and Vejlerne for the benefit of e.g. meadowbirds.

12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i

A=Yes

### 12.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored

> The prioritized restoration projects that has received LIFE Nature funding are being effectively implemented (some projects are still ongoing).

12.3 Have the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands and on Peatlands, climate change and wise use (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.11) been implemented including?

*Please select only one per square.*

a) Knowledge of global resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) Education and public awareness on peatlands	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) Policy and legislative instruments	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

d) Wise use of peatlands	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
f) International cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
g) Implementation and support	<input type="checkbox"/> Y=Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> X=Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

### 12.3 Additional Information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, the progress in implementation

> Research regarding peatlands, climate change and wise use are done at the University of Aarhus and University of Copenhagen. A restoration project aiming at restoring raised bog at large scale has been initiated in the Ramsar site Lille vldmose as a direct implementation of Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.11. Lille Vildmose are the largest remaining raised bog in Denmark.

Another example regarding restoration of raised bog have been undertaken at the site Horreby Lyng, Sandlyng and Verup Moser in 2013-18 at the island of Falster in the southern part of the country.

### Target 13

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods

[Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

13.1 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.3} {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii

A=Yes

#### 13.1 Additional information

> SEA and EIA is mandatory and broadly incorporated in a number of Danish laws thereby also implementing EU legislation and the EU SEA Directive. SEA is mandatory to new programmes or plans or at major revisions of existing ones. The Danish act can be found at the site:

<https://www.retsinformation.dk/Forms/R0710.aspx?id=190145> - lov om miljøvurdering af planer og programmer og af konkrete projekter (VVM).

13.2 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, extractive industry) from key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries that may affect wetlands?

{1.3.4} {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii

A=Yes

#### 13.2 Additional information

> The EU Directive on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) has been implemented in Danish law and EIA is mandatory for plans or projects or at major revisions of existing ones. The Danish act can be found at <https://www.retsinformation.dk/Forms/R0710.aspx?id=190145> - lov om miljøvurdering af planer og programmer og af konkrete projekter (VVM).

Since all Danish Ramsar sites are also designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs or Bird Areas) according to The EU Birds- Directive specific assessments to rule out significant impact on the species and their habitats for which the Bird Area has been designated are mandatory.



## Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17]

### Target 15

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

15.1 Have you (AA) been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention? {3.2.1} KRA 3.2.i

B=No

15.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {3.2.2}

B=No

### Target 16

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}

[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 18]

16.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {4.1.1} KRA 4.1.i

Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this in the Additional information section below

*Please select only one per square.*

a) At the national level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
b) Sub-national level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
c) Catchment/basin level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress
d) Local/site level	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes <input type="checkbox"/> C=In Progress

#### 16.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'In progress' to one or more of the four questions above, for each please describe the mechanism, who is responsible and identify if it has involved CEPA NFPs

> No systematic Ramsar Communication Education Public Awareness program has been conducted

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii

a) at Ramsar Sites

C=Partially

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii

b) at other wetlands

X=Unknown

#### 16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks

> A few visitor information centres have been established in Ramsar sites including those sites mentioned in

16.1 e.g.in the Wadden Sea.

### 16.3 Does the Contracting Party {4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

Please select only one per square.

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input type="checkbox"/> B=No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

### 16.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved

> The public is invited to participate in a public consultation as a part of the Natura 2000 planning process, including management plans. Furthermore the public including local communities are also invited to a dialogue re the water framework plans in so called "water committees".

### 16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

B=No

### 16.5 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral body equivalent to a National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

B=No

### 16.6 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and a), b) or c) below? {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi:

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> D=Planned <input type="checkbox"/> C=Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B=No <input type="checkbox"/> A=Yes

### 16.7 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 February or at another time of year), either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP13? {4.1.8}

B=No

### 16.8 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP13 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.1.9}

B=No

## Target 17

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 - 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}

[Reference to Aichi Target 20]

### 17.1a Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2018, 2019 and 2020? {4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i

A=Yes

17.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.2.2} KRA 4.2.i

B=No

17.3 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management in other countries? {3.3.1} KRA 3.3.i

B=No

#### 17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12

> Denmark is providing core contributions to the Global Environment Facility and the UN Environment that both have Ramsar relevant activities.

17.4 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii

X=Unknown

17.5 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}

Z=Not Applicable

17.6 Has any financial support been provided by your country to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?

B=No

### Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

18.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.1} {3.1.2} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv

B=No

18.2 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO)? {3.1.2} {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv

B=No

18.3 Has your country received assistance from one or more UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO) or the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.ii.

The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, WWF and Wildfowl & Wetland Trust (WWT).

Y=Not Relevant

18.4 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {3.4.1}

C=Partially

#### 18.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate the networks and wetlands involved

> Such networks exists in the Wadden Sea (a trilateral cooperation btw The Netherlands, Germany & DK) and more broadly for the Baltic sea including all those countries that shares access to the baltic Sea (HELCOM)

18.5 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made public (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.4.2} KRA 3.4.iv

A=Yes

#### 18.5 Additional information

> All Danish Ramsar sites are included in the Natura 2000 network and therefore included in the N2000-planning scheme which means that basis analysis, status reports and management plans are available for the public on the website of the National Environmental Protection Agency ([www.mst.dk](http://www.mst.dk)).

Furthermore updated Danish Ramsar Site Information Sheets was submitted to the RIS website in 2019 (though these are still pending according to feedback from the Ramsar secretariat).

18.6 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i

A=Yes

18.7 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {3.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii

C=Partially

18.7 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place

> A trilateral management and monitoring programme is established in the Wadden Sea involving Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. Furthermore bilateral cooperation are established btw the countries sharing the Baltic Sea (HELCOM) and the North Sea (OSPAR).

18.8 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii

A=Yes

18.8 Additional information

> Denmark is a signatory to the Bern Convention and the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) which covers a number of important waterbird populations in part of Asia, Europe and Africa.

Denmark has a government membership of Wetlands International.

As explained previously a tri-lateral Wadden Sea cooperation exists between Denmark, Germany and the Netherland. Denmark is also a Party to ASCOBANS, the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans in the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas.

## Target 19

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced.

[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17]

19.1 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii

B=No

19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes?

C=Partially

19.2 Additional information

If you answer yes to the above please provide information on which mechanisms and materials

> The answer option should have been "Not known".

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

a) at Ramsar Sites

X=Unknown

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv

b) at other wetlands

X=Unknown

19.3 Additional information

including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training

> There's only a few full time wetland site managers in Denmark.

19.4 Have you (AA) used your previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention? {4.3.1} KRA 4.3.ii

B=No

## Section 4. Optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on those

### Goal 1

#### Target 1: Wetland benefits

Wetland benefits are featured in national / local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level. [Reference to Aichi Target 2]

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority

C=Low

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

> National targets for water quality (and partly for Nitrogen deposition) have been set in connection with the water planning process (according to the Water Framework Directive).

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

> In 2021, Denmark plans to publish its first maritime spatial plan. The purpose of the maritime spatial plan is to form the basis of the coordination of the many uses of Denmark's sea area in a manner that can support the conditions for sustainable growth in Blue Denmark. The maritime spatial plan is to establish which sea areas in Danish waters can be used for, inter alia, offshore energy extraction, shipping, fishing, aquaculture, seabed mining and environmental protection towards 2030. The maritime spatial plan will create more safety for maritime businesses and better predictability of the uses of the sea and the impact on the marine eco systems.

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> In 2021, Denmark plans to publish its first maritime spatial plan. The purpose of the maritime spatial plan is to form the basis of the coordination of the many uses of Denmark's sea area in a manner that can support the conditions for sustainable growth in Blue Denmark. The maritime spatial plan is to establish which sea areas in Danish waters can be used for, inter alia, offshore energy extraction, shipping, fishing, aquaculture, seabed mining and environmental protection towards 2030. The maritime spatial plan will create more safety for maritime businesses and better predictability of the uses of the sea and the impact on the marine eco systems.

## Target 2: Water Use

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone. {Reference to Aichi Targets 7 and 8}, [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

### Target 2: Water Use - Priority

A=High

### Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

B=Adequate

### Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

> Danish groundwater policy is based on prevention rather than treatment. In Denmark, we protect our groundwater from pollution rather than purifying it. We do this because we use groundwater for drinking water, and we want our drinking water to be produced from the purest possible groundwater. Almost 100% of the Danes' drinking water is clean groundwater.

We also protect groundwater because it supplies water to our streams and lakes, which we want to have good water quality and be a habitat for animals and plants.

The protection of the Danish groundwater takes place through:

\* The national water plans.

\* Pesticide action plans.

\* The national approval scheme for pesticides, which states that all pesticides used in Denmark must be approved by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency.

\* Harmony requirements for spreading livestock manure, etc.

\* Permit and approval schemes for a range of activities such as sludge spreading.

\* Permit and approval schemes for the location and operation of facilities such as wastewater treatment plants, list companies, livestock farms, etc.

\* Public action against soil pollution.

### Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

> A broad political agreement 2017-2021 aims at phase out the use of pesticides in the so-called well-protected areas, where the Danes' drinking water is extracted from the groundwater.

### Target 2: Water Use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> The total annual extraction of water in Denmark (without field irrigation) was around 1990 at 700 million m<sup>3</sup>/year. By 1999 it was reduced to 530 million m<sup>3</sup>/year, and has gradually stabilized around 500 mill. m<sup>3</sup>/year. For the public waterworks, the extraction during the period 1989-2000 fell from around 600 million to 400 million m<sup>3</sup>/year. Thereafter, consumption fell more slowly to the current level, and in 2018 was approx. 377 million m<sup>3</sup>/year. Groundwater abstraction for field irrigation, horticulture and fish farming (category 'Commercial irrigation') in 2018 was around 433 million m<sup>3</sup>, which is the highest level for the whole period (1989-2018).

The extraction of surface water in Denmark is very limited and halved in the period 1989-2018 and now stands at around DKK 10 million m<sup>3</sup>/year. Surface water is not included in the drinking water supply i DK.

### **Target 3: Public and private sectors**

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Priority

B=Medium

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

> To continue the policy pursued so far for water supply and protection, including the promotion of sustainable water management.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

> The Danish water planning is based on a rolling planning scheme at 7-year intervals. The next program period is 2021-2017. The government prepares river basin management plans with associated executive orders on environmental goals and action programs. The water area plans with executive orders set environmental goals for all the water areas that are covered by the water planning, and the action programs state how the environmental goals are achieved. In general the planned activity is to continue the previous water planning with a view to promoting sustainable water management and ensuring cleaner water in Denmark's lakes, streams, coastal waters and groundwater in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive.

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> See Target 2 - Outcomes achieved by 2021 (above).

#### **Target 4: Invasive alien species**

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment. [Reference to Aichi Target 9]

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Priority

B=Medium

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

C=Limiting

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

> National targets are set out in a national action plan published in 2017. The plan describes the overall framework for action against invasive species in Denmark. The action plan was revised in 2016. In continuation of this, action plans have been prepared and necessary legislation has been drawn up for individual species.

In addition, a number of control guidelines for invasive species have been prepared. These have been prepared under the auspices of the Pesticide Strategy and therefore focus on pesticide-free control. Water samples for analysis for invasive alien species are taken from certain stations in the national nature monitoring programme NOVANA following a technical guide.

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

> Marine non-native species will be registered by the national nature monitoring programme NOVANA sea and fjord.

Selected invasive species will be tentatively identified with environmental DNA from the end of 2018. This method along with other technologies will be further developed as from 2021.

##### Target 4: Invasive alien species - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.



## Goal 2

### Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}.[Reference to Aichi Target 6,11, 12]

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Priority

A=High

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

> National targets for Ramsar Sites will be for the period 2022-27

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

> National targets for ecological character (according to the Habitats Directive) will be set for the Ramsar sites both in the national water planning for the period 2021-27 and in the forthcoming Natura 2000 plans for the period 2022-27, which are expected to be published in 2021 as well.

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Three Danish Ramsar sites are listed in Article 3.2 of the Convention. as a result of a deteriorating ecological character: The Wadden Sea, Nissum Fjord and Ulvedybet and Nibe Bredning. In addition, Ringkøbing Fjord is listed on the Montreux List.

The Danish authorities estimate that the forthcoming water planning with a goal of achieving good ecological status together with new Natura 2000 plans will be able to improve conditions in the Wadden Sea as well as in Nibe Bredning. In these two areas, monitoring data show that more waterfowl populations are now thriving again.

In Nissum Fjord, the ecological character is still poor, but there is hope that a future water area plan will be able to improve conditions.

In Ringkøbing Fjord, the ecological character has been significantly improved after a great effort, the eelgrass has re-immigrated and populations of herbivorous waterfowl have almost been restored. Unfortunately, in 2019 there was an unexpected setback for the state of the environment, the cause of which has not yet been fully clarified. In continuation of this, in 2020 the Danish authorities asked the Ramsar secretariat to maintain Ringkøbing Fjord on the Montreux list. However, it is the Danish authorities' expectation that the ecological character of Ringkøbing Fjord will be improved again as a result of a new water plan and Natura 2000 initiatives.

## Target 7: Sites at risk

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 12]

Target 7: Sites at risk - Priority

A=High

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

> Sites at risk are targeted in the national water and Natura 2000 planning including the forthcoming site management plans.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

> Sites at risk are targeted in the national water and Natura 2000 planning as well as in the forthcoming national sea plan. Actions will be laid out in the forthcoming N2000 site management plans.

Target 7: Sites at risk - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Outcomes of the previous Natura 2000 action program (2016-21) are not yet evaluated. This evaluation is planned to take place in 2021.

## Goal 3

### Target 8: National wetland inventories

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i. [Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Priority

C=Low

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

D=Severely limiting

Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

> No national targets is set for national wetland inventories.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

> No national activity is planned for national wetland inventories.

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.

## Target 9: Wise Use

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

### Target 9: Wise Use - Priority

B=Medium

### Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing

C=Limiting

### Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

> Wise use of wetlands in Denmark is addressed in the water planning scheme. The new river basin management plans for the third phase 2021-2027 will be published no later than 22 December 2021.

In the third water plan period, the plans are updated with new knowledge about the aquatic environment obtained since the beginning of the second plan period (2015-2021).

Prior to the third planning period, new basic analyzes have been prepared, which constitute a revision and update of the analyzes and assessments made in the most recent basic analysis and the river basin management plans for the second planning period.

The basic analysis is i.a. updated with:

- \* Use of new biological quality elements
- \* Adaptation of water area delimitation
- \* The latest monitoring data

The current basic analysis must be used as a basis for river basin management plans 2021-2027.

### Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

> See Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets above.

### Target 9: Wise Use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.

## Target 10: Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels. [Reference to Aichi Target 18].

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Priority

D=Not relevant

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Resourcing

E=No answer

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

> Not relevant.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

> Not relevant.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not relevant.

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Additional Information

> Not relevant.

### **Target 11: Wetland functions**

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.}.  
[Reference to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 14]

Target 11: Wetland functions - Priority

C=Low

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

B=Adequate

## Target 12: Restoration

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

Target 12: Restoration - Priority

B=Medium

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

> In December 2020, the Danish government announced a new nature and biodiversity package, which allocates 120 million Euros to e.g. nature restoration including nature restoration in the sea in the coming years.

The Danish government will work to fulfill the EU's new biodiversity strategy towards 2030.

Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

> Upcoming plans for nature restoration will be determined during 2021.

Target 12: Restoration - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> For a number of years, the Danish authorities and some private charity foundations have carried out a large number of nature restoration projects, mainly in wetlands throughout the country. One of the largest being the restoration of the Skjern river delta that were finished in 2003. 2200 ha of former drained agriculture land were reestablished as lakes, natural flowing river, meadows and pastures.

### **Target 13: Enhanced sustainability**

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods.[Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Priority

B=Medium

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

> Integrated in various sectors and a number of policy areas.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

> The Danish government has adopted an action plan for Denmark's follow-up of the UN's global goals for sustainable development. The action plan sets the framework for the government's approach and priorities for the follow-up to the world goals. It also forms the basis for action and partnerships across Danish society. The plan proposes that new Danish legislation, when relevant, be assessed in relation to the world goals. The world goals thus apply to all the countries of the world, and not just the poor of the world. According to international analyses, Denmark is in the absolute top among the world's countries in terms of realizing the world goals. And Denmark makes an ambitious contribution to the global achievement of the world goals by following up nationally and internationally.

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated at national scale.



## Goal 4

### Target 15: Regional Initiatives

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Priority

B=Medium

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

> No national targets.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

> Denmark will continue its institutional cooperation at regional level, including the networking and knowledge sharing that takes place in the biogeographical processes on the initiative of the EU Commission as part of the implementation of EU nature directives.

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> The Ministry for Environment and Food has participated in EU biogeographical process seminars in the Continental region and in the Atlantic region of Europe.

## **Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use**

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 18].

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Priority

A=High

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

> No national target.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

> Wetlands conservation and wise use is part of the Danish nature planning and nature information at many levels, including the universities and education sector as well as in water planning and Natura 2000 planning processes, etc.

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.

## **Target 17: Financial and other resources**

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 - 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}.[Reference to Aichi Target 20]

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Priority

A=High

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

> Implementation of the fourth Ramsar strategy 2016 - 2024 and resources for this will be provided through financing of the Natura 2000 planning and the associated action program, which also covers all Danish Ramsar areas. Resources allocated to the implementation of the National water planning, river basin management plans and the aquatic environment effort also contribute to the fulfillment of the strategy.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

> The funds are negotiated politically through the state's annual finance laws.

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not settled.

## Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

A=High

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

B=Adequate

Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

> Denmark is leading the way when it comes to green transition, as is described in the Government's long-term strategy for global climate action, "A Green and Sustainable World". We have the experience and we have the green solutions. We have shown that economic growth and green transition can go hand in hand. Through stronger collaboration, dialogue and alliances with countries and non-state actors, we will inspire and influence others to raise ambitions to tackle both the climate and environment crises. These are closely interlinked, and Denmark has joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature with an ambition to protect 30% of land and sea areas globally, and is a signatory country to the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership. Success in our efforts for a green and sustainable transition globally will require political support at the highest level in all countries and comprehensive solutions involving all sectors and stakeholders. The Government will therefore activate all relevant areas of international policy and coordinate the Danish approach to ensure an ambitious, persistent, multifaceted and integrated effort.

Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

> Basically, a continuation of the policy pursued so far.

Target 18: International cooperation - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.

## Target 19: Capacity Building

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17].

Target 19: Capacity Building - Priority

A=High

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing

C=Limiting

Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

> Denmark's development engagement is based on partnerships with actors who can and wish to create change. The cooperation involves implementing concrete programmes as well as developing new and better methods.

Danida is the term used for Denmark's development cooperation, which is an area of activity under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

> The overarching objective of Danish support for civil society is to contribute to the development of a strong, independent and diversified civil society in the developing countries. Danish private organisations, among others, assist with this.

The aim of granting support to the organisations' development activities is to support democracy and poverty reduction through development of an active civil society in the developing countries.

Denmark has a wide interface in many countries with public and local authorities, civil society organisations, private businesses, the research environment and other relevant actors.

The most important development policy partners are:

\* International organisations such as the UN, the EU, the World Bank, GEF and the OECD/DAC

\* Companies and trade organisations

\* Civil society organisations

\* Humanitarian organisations

\* Research institutions and think-tanks

\* Other ministries

Public authorities, i.e. state, provincial and municipal administrations, are important partners in the great majority of cases. NGOs, companies, research institutions and many others are involved in the work of development in both Denmark and the recipient countries.

Target 19: Capacity Building - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

**Note:** this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

> Not evaluated.

