Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI)

Countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam

Coordination: The IBRRI is a regional cooperation network with no physical centre. It is supported by IUCN acting as the Secretariat through its Asia Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand, and its country offices in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. The IBRRI Steering Committee (SC) will provide oversight of the Initiative’s operations. The IBRRI SC is composed of the Heads of the Ramsar Administrative Authorities of the five countries or their duly appointed substitutes, as well as the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and IUCN as the IBRRI Secretariat as observers. In addition, an IBRRI Technical Committee will be established to provide the IBRRI with technical guidance and to ensure inclusive, transparent and multi-stakeholder participation in its activities.

Main objectives:

The Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI) is an operational means of support for the effective implementation of the Ramsar Convention and its Strategic Plan in the five countries of Cambodia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. The IBRRI is intended to provide lasting structural and operational support to facilitate the coordinated implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the region.

The four objectives of the IBRRI include:

1. **Science and knowledge:** Promoting scientific and technical cooperation by supporting joint research on management and wise use of wetlands;

2. **Site designation and management:** Developing or supporting the development of management plans and regulatory/management tools for the wetlands;

3. **Policy and advocacy:** Promoting regional dialogues on the development of wetlands conservation policy by sharing existing policies and working jointly on improvement;

4. **Capacity building and awareness:** Supporting capacity building through the development of training and educational programmes and courses.

Activities: The IBRRI will develop a regional strategic plan defining specific objectives and activities to be carried out during each three-year phase between Meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention (COPs). This plan will be in line with the overall approved and adopted Ramsar Strategic Plan.

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