

The Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel



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OVERVIEW



- STRP mission and composition
- STRP products, outputs, and advisory role
- Proposed restructuring of STRP



SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL

Mission and Composition



- Core group of 18 Members (plus Chair) appointed for expertise “in their own right”
- Appointed by STRP Oversight Committee and endorsed by the Standing Committee
- Responsible for providing scientific and technical advice and guidance at the request of Parties
- Also ‘horizon-scanning’ to pro-actively advise on new and emerging issues
- Supported by: invited experts, Observer Organisations, STRP National Focal Points



STRP 2013-2015



Roy Gardner



Christine Prietto



Cui Lijuan



Guéladio Cissé



Hiromi Yamashita



Lars Dinesen



Matthew McCartney



Randy Thaman



Reda Fishar



Ritesh Kumar



Stanley Liphadzi



Pierre Horwitz



Matt Walpole



Randy Milton



WWF: Eugenio Barrios



IUCN: Stefano Barchiese



IWMI: Sonali Senaratna



WI: Stephan Flink



BirdLife : Vicky Jones



Dave Pritchard



Mike Acreman



Max Finlayson



David Stroud



Amiro Perez-Leroux

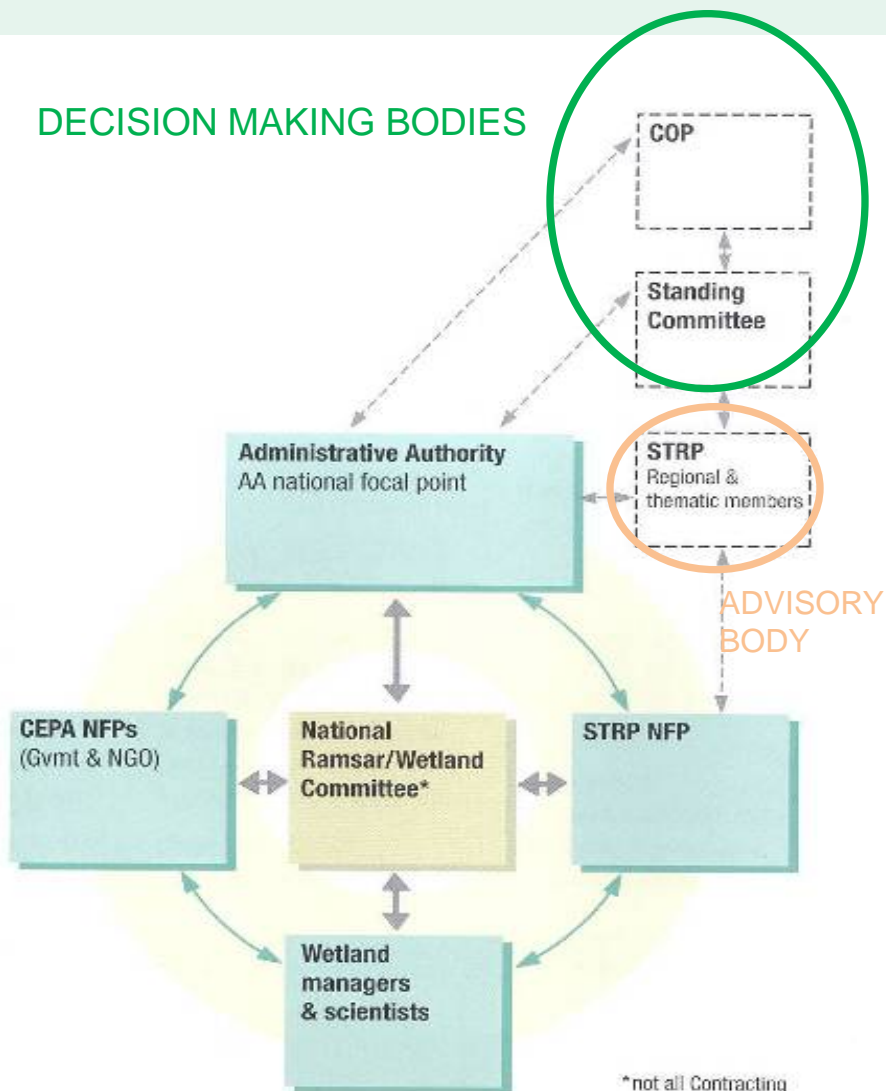
**13
Appointed
members +
the Chair**

**5 International
Organisation
Partner
representatives**

**5 Appointed
invited experts**

STRP is an advisory body

DECISION MAKING BODIES



*not all Contracting Parties have yet established a National Ramsar/Wetland Committee

Administrative Authority (AA) is the main government agency responsible for the application of the Convention

STRP national focal point provides liaison between the STRP members and national experts

CEPA (Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness) **Government and NGO focal points** provide leadership to spread the Convention's approaches to wetlands management

National Ramsar Committee provides a mechanism to spread the Convention's tools beyond individuals and develops national policies.

STRP meetings

- STRP17: 45 participants, including appointed STRP members, invited experts, observer organisation representatives, and STRP NFPs.



STRP outputs and products



- New STRP Web Portal

STRP The Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Go to the STRP Workspace

Home | About Us | STRP National Focal Points | News & Events | STRP Publications | Contact Us

Welcome to the STRP Platform

Quick Links

- Go to the main Ramsar Website
- List of STRP National Focal Points
- List of STRP Members
- STRP Work Plan
- Ramsar Site Information Service (RSIS)
- Upcoming events
- FAQs

STRP Newsletter

- Latest issue
- Subscribe
- Submit an article

Information Requests from STRP

- Invasive Species and Wetlands

Latest STRP News

- Managing healthy wetlands
- Launch of Ramsar Briefing Notes

This website is designed to provide STRP National Focal Points and the whole Ramsar Community with easy access to information on the work of the STRP, and also to enable STRP NFs and anyone else to contribute to the requests of the Panel.

It is an instrument to promote the steady improvement of information-exchange within the STRP and the Ramsar community.

STRP The Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

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Welcome! You are viewing the Information Requests forum.

STRP Workspace

Welcome to the STRP Workspace. The Workspace comprises a three level hierarchy: the Message Board (this page); Forums (second level, as listed below by category); and Discussions (third level). Each Forum contains a Library of files/attachments that were added to Conversations or directly uploaded to a Forum.

General matters

Forum name	Conversations	Most recent comment
GM: Assessments & Requests	1	by fudperson3 fudperson3, strpadmin January 27, 2013
GM: STRP & Ramsar Meetings	0	No conversations started
GM: Topics of Regional Interest	0	No conversations started

1 - Communication, Education, Participation & Awareness (CEPA)

Forum name	Conversations	Most recent comment
CEPA: General Thematic Forum	1	by Richard Cooper January 22, 2013
CEPA: STRP Tasks	2	By STRP Site Administrator

Key Resources

- Current STRP work plan
- List of STRP Members
- List of STRP National Focal Points
- Main Ramsar website

Recent Messages

- Test
SEO: General Thematic Forum
- task 2.2 regional development
CEPA: STRP Tasks
- task 2.1 capacity building
CEPA: STRP Tasks
- Test conversation 2
CEPA: STRP Tasks
- Start of a new discussion
SEO: STRP Tasks
- GM: Announcements & Requests
GM: Announcements & Requests

Information Requests from STRP

- Invasive Species and Wetlands

STRP outputs and products

Type of STRP output/product	Review mechanism
ISSUED FOR COP	
Draft Resolutions (DRs) to COP -on scientific and technical issues	SC review Secretariat review STRP review
Guidelines on aspects of Convention implementation -annexed to COP DRs	SC review Secretariat review STRP review
COP Information Papers -supporting scientific and technical DRs	SC review Secretariat review STRP review
ISSUED WHEN FINALISED	
Ramsar Technical Reports (RTRs) -more detailed reviews and methodologies as a contribution to scientific literature and broader wetland conservation objectives	STRP review External peer review
Scientific & Technical Briefing Notes (BNs) -issue papers, often preceding preparation of guidance for COP	Secretariat review STRP review External peer review as appropriate
STRP Review Request note (to Parties) -briefing on the approach to an STRP-requested task intended to invite feedback from others (e.g., AAs, STRP NFPs, wetland managers) on approach, focus and content	Secretariat review STRP review
Other types of outputs -flexible (e.g., web portal for alerting on issues, news stories, etc.; STRP Newsletter; databases and online tools; fact sheets; training/capacity building tools for Parties)	Secretariat review STRP review Other review (as required)

STRP outputs and products



11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

"Wetlands: home and destination"

Bucharest, Romania, 6-13 July 2012

Resolution XI.9

An Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses

1. RECALLING that the objective of Contracting Parties, as set out in the preamble of the Convention text, is to "stem the progressive encroachment on and loss of wetlands now and in the future"; that Article 3.1 of the Convention urges Contracting Parties to "formulate and implement their planning so as to promote the conservation of wetlands included in the List, and as far as possible the wise use of wetlands in their territory"; and that Article 3.2 and subsequent Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties express the Parties' responsibility to detect, report, and respond to adverse human-induced changes in the ecological character of wetlands included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites);
2. NOTING that the term "wetland loss" is taken to cover both loss of wetland area and/or the loss or degradation of the ecological character of a wetland, regardless of whether or not there is any change to its overall area;
3. ALSO RECALLING that the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) reported that wetlands were being lost and degraded in many parts of the world and at rates faster than other ecosystems, and that such wetland losses and degradation jeopardise the future provision of their ecosystem services to people;
4. CONCERNED that the total area and condition of natural wetlands in many countries, and the species they support, are still declining;
5. NOTING that these wetland losses are occurring despite the provisions of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the existence of wetland protection laws and practices in many countries that require that adverse wetland impacts be avoided, and where this is not possible, mitigated or compensated by offsets such as wetland restoration;
6. REITERATING that, as agreed in Resolution VII.24 on *Compensation for lost wetland habitats and other functions*, effective wetland protection begins with avoidance of adverse wetland impacts;
7. AWARE that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP10) instructed the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) to "develop guidance on

State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People: A compilation of recent analyses

Wetlands continue to decline globally, both in area and in quality. As a result, the ecosystem services that wetlands provide to society are diminished. Contracting Parties and their policymakers are urged to take immediate action to meet the Ramsar Convention's objective to stop and reverse the loss and degradation of wetlands and services to people.



Background

Ramsar Resolution XI.17 requested the Convention's Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) to report on the state of the world's wetlands and their services to people. The Standing Committee identified this task as among the STRP's highest priorities. As a contribution to this task, the Briefing Note summarizes and highlights for Contracting Parties and other decision makers key points from selected scientific reports and articles published in 2013 and 2014. In particular, the Briefing Note discusses wetland status and trends, the loss of wetland ecosystem services, and future steps for data collection and assessment.

Purpose

This Briefing Note provides Contracting Parties with an overview of selected aspects of the status and trends of wetlands and the loss of ecosystem services drawn from recently published analyses, as a contribution towards assessing the effectiveness of the Convention. The negative trends shown by recent studies should serve as a call to Contracting Parties to avoid further wetland loss and degradation and to strengthen wetland assessment, monitoring and restoration.

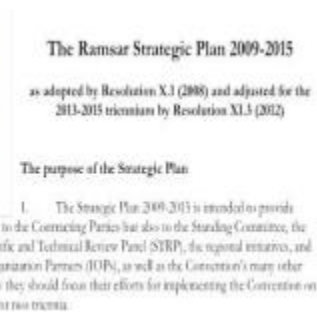
Key messages

- The global extent of wetlands is now estimated to have declined between 64-71% in the 20th century, and wetland losses and degradation continue worldwide.
- Because of wetland losses and degradation, people are deprived of the ecosystem services that wetlands provide. Adverse changes to wetlands, including coral reefs, are estimated to result in more than \$20 trillion in losses of ecosystem services annually.
- Despite some positive news about Ramsar Sites, even these are under threat. For example, although populations of wetland species appear to be increasing in Ramsar Sites overall, populations of wetland species in Ramsar Sites in the tropics are decreasing.
- While there are ongoing initiatives that will provide a more precise picture of the extent of the world's wetlands, it is clear that there is a negative trend and wetlands are still being lost or degraded, resulting in negative impacts on biodiversity and other ecosystem services.
- Policymakers have sufficient scientific information to understand the urgent need to take appropriate actions to conserve wetlands and their services to people.

Examples of STRP's advisory role




- Montreux Record Removal: Bañados del Este, Uruguay
- Draft Resolutions
- Ramsar Strategic Plan
- CMS/FAO Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds
- Sultanate of Oman: advice on establishing a national wetland committee
- Bangladesh: advice on oil spill in the Sundarbans



STRP Webinar Series




Towards the sustainable planning and management of urban wetlands



Robert McInnes
Managing Director
IRM Wetlands & Environment Ltd

Society of Wetland Scientists
Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel




Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel Wetlands September 2014

RAMSAR STRP WEBINAR, 18th February 2014

Wetlands, Agriculture and Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa

Prof Adrian Wood & Dr Alan Dixon (Wetland Action)
and
Dr Matthew McCartney (IWMI)



MARN MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES

PLAN NACIONAL PARA EL MEJORAMIENTO DE LOS HUMEDALES EN EL SALVADOR



Vision for the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands



Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Moving forward: XI.16 science review



- Resolution XI.16 called for “a review of the delivery, uptake and implementation of scientific and technical advice and guidance to the Convention”
- Draft Resolution XII.5 proposes a new framework for delivery of scientific and technical advice
- Significant proposed changes include STRP appointment process, provision of advice to “other wetland users,” and provision of “nationally specific” advice
- Opportunities to contribute to the work of the STRP ...

Thank you for your attention!

