

# Generel introduktion til Ramsar

## **Implementering af Ramsar konventionen og Biodiversitetskonventionen i nordiske små samfund 11 – 12. september 2014 i Tórshavn**

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**[www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org)**

# Biodiversity Environmen



Konvention om biodiversitet CBD

CITES – handel med truede dyr og planter

Bonn og underaftaler – migrerende arter

**Ramsar konventionen – vådområder og vand**

World Heritage Konvention – Verdensarv

International Plant Protection Convention

International Treaty on Plant Genetic  
Resources

- Mission
- Retningslinjer , anbefalinger og resolutioner
- Konventionens historie
- Konsekvenser / implikationer - udvalgte artikler
- Udpegning af Ramsar områder og tilhørende skemaer

# Ramsar Mission



The mission of the Ramsar Convention, as adopted by the Parties in 1999 and refined in 2002, is “the conservation and wise use of all wetlands

through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world”

# Ramsar trend



Over the years, however, the Convention has broadened its scope of implementation to cover **all aspects** of wetland conservation and wise use,

recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are vital for biodiversity conservation and for the well-being of human communities.

# Who can join?



No state is too small to join

as long as it can designate a wetland which  
meets one or more of the Criteria for Identifying  
Wetlands of International Importance

# Definition af vådområder



“areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres”

“may incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands, and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands”

# Fokus på menneskelige behov



Adgang til vand, sundhed, fødevare produktion, økonomisk udvikling og politisk stabilitet er gjort usikker som følge af forringelsen af vådområder

Kløften mellem forsyning og behov for vand stiger

Og selv med de nuværende forsøg på at sikre vand til økosystemerne falder kapaciteten af ydelser fra jordens vådområder



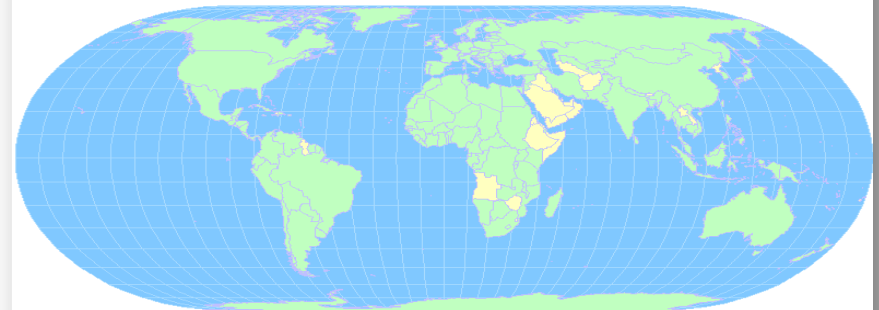
# Why a Convention on Wetlands?



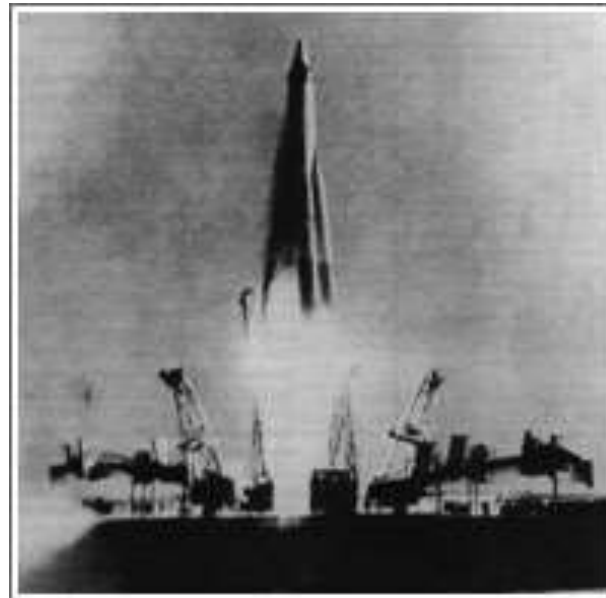
- The Ramsar Convention was developed in the 1960s because of **concerns over destruction of wetlands** and its impact on **people** and **biodiversity** – especially waterbirds
- Opened for signature in the town of Ramsar, I.R. Iran on 2 February 1971
- First of the modern global intergovernmental environmental agreements
- Pre-dates significant UN environmental attention
- Now 168 Contracting Parties (member governments) globally



USSR A. FIROUZ (chair) S-AFRICA M.F.MÖRZER BRUIJNS G.MATTHEWS E. CARP



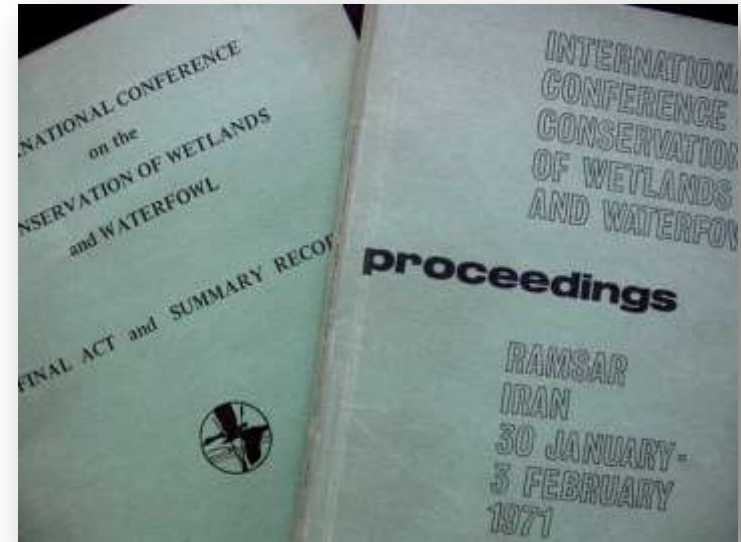
It started in 1962 ...



# 1971: The Convention's text

Three 'pillars' of implementation

1. “wise use” of all wetlands
2. Designation & management of **Wetlands of International Importance** (Ramsar sites) to maintain their *ecological character*
3. International cooperation





# 1971: The Convention's text

Scope: *wetlands & water; ecosystems & people*

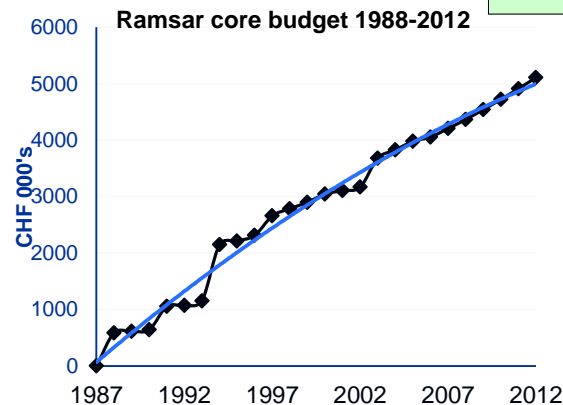
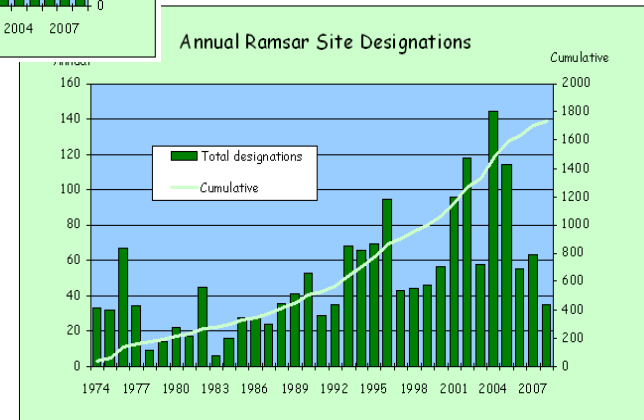
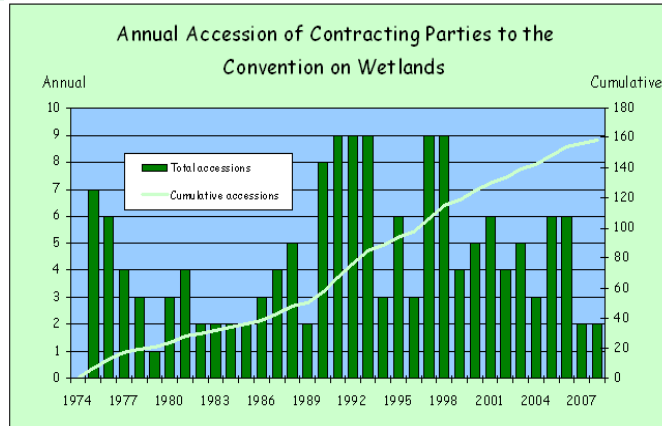
- Initial focus on waterbirds, and Ramsar sites
- 40 years evolution of implementation to respond to full scope of water and wetlands



# Ramsar Convention growth since 1971



- Convention membership
- Ramsar sites
  - Now 2186 sites, 2+ million square km
  - Largest global 'protected areas' network
- Budget
  - Contributions from Parties
- Secretariat
  - Now 18 people: hosted by IUCN, Switzerland



# Ramsar



Partskonferencer

Stående komite

Scientific Technical Review Panel

Sekretariat

Medlemslande

- AA, Focal Point, STRP, CEPA

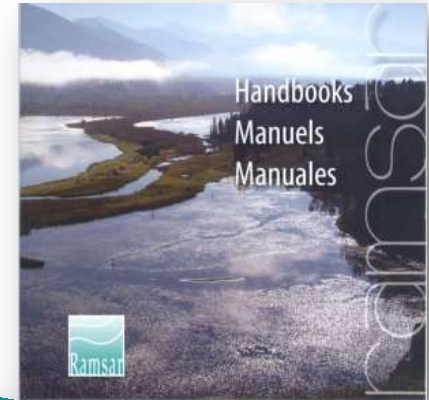
5 Internationale Partnerorganisationer

Liaison grupper mv. CBD, IPBES, CMS, AEWA, WHC

# Ramsar Toolkit: *Wise Use Handbooks*



- *Major range of guidelines to support for implementation by Parties*
  - Provide all STRP guidance prepared over the years (adopted at different COPs)
  - Compiled **thematically** for ease of use by Parties and others
- 4<sup>th</sup> edition
  - 21 *Handbooks*
  - Ramsar Website [www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org)
  - Fem sprog



# Ramsar Handbooks



<b>Handbook 1</b>	<b>Wise use of wetlands</b> <b>Concepts and approaches for the wise use of wetlands</b>
<b>Handbook 2</b>	National Wetland Policies Developing and implementing National Wetland Policies
<b>Handbook 3</b>	Laws and institutions Reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands
<b>Handbook 4</b>	Avian influenza and wetlands Guidance on control of and responses to highly pathogenic avian influenza
<b>Handbook 5</b>	Partnerships Key partnerships for implementation of the Ramsar Convention
<b>Handbook 6</b>	Wetland CEPA The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation, and public awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015
<b>Handbook 7</b>	Participatory skills Establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands
<b>Handbook 8</b>	Water-related guidance An Integrated Framework for the Convention's water-related guidance
<b>Handbook 9</b>	River basin management Integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management
<b>Handbook 10</b>	Water allocation and management Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands



# Ramsar Handbooks



Handbook 11	Managing groundwater Managing groundwater to maintain wetland ecological character
Handbook 12	Coastal management Wetland issues in Integrated Coastal Zone Management
Handbook 13	Inventory, assessment, and monitoring An Integrated Framework for wetland inventory, assessment, and monitoring
Handbook 14	Data and information needs A Framework for Ramsar data and information needs
Handbook 15	Wetland inventory A Ramsar framework for wetland inventory and ecological character description
Handbook 16	Impact assessment Guidelines on biodiversity-inclusive environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment
Convention pillar 2: Ramsar sites designation and management	
Handbook 17	Designating Ramsar Sites Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance
Handbook 18	Managing wetlands Frameworks for managing Ramsar Sites and other wetlands
Handbook 19	Addressing change in wetland ecological character Addressing change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites and other wetlands
Convention pillar 3: International cooperation	
Handbook 20	International cooperation Guidelines and other support for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
Companion document	
Handbook 21	The Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Goals, strategies, and expectations for the Ramsar Convention's implementation for the period 2009 to 2015



Ramsar  
Convention  
Brisbane  
Australia  
1 9 9 6

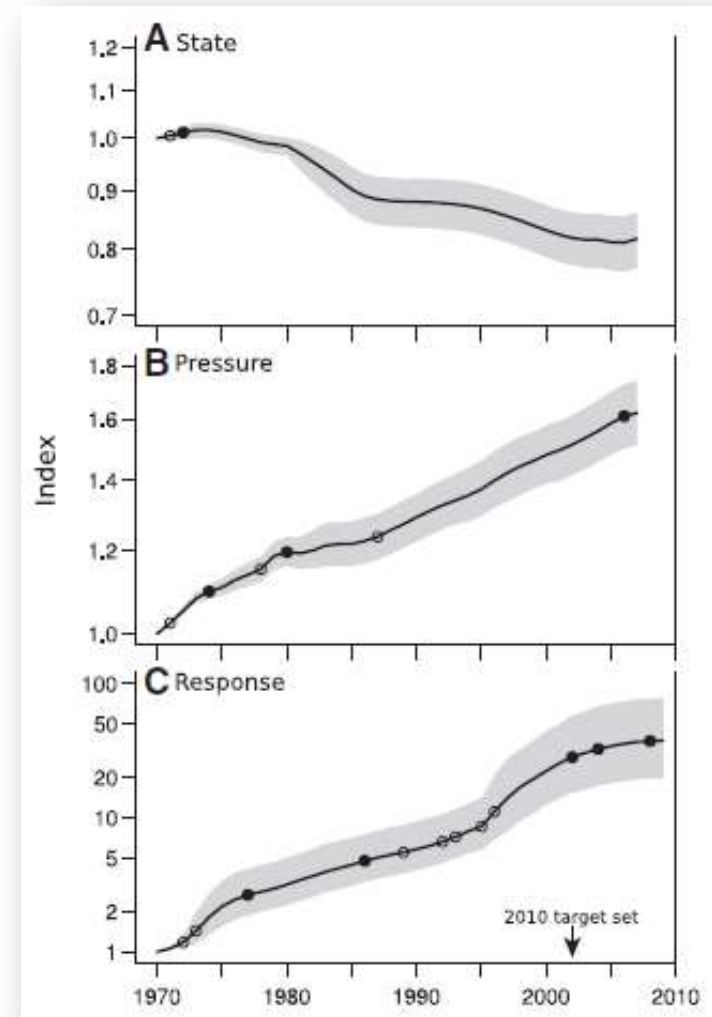
- **COP6: Brisbane**

- Full recognition that Ramsar mission cannot be achieved without attention to water
- Adopted **Resolution VI.23 on *Ramsar and water***
- recognized the “**important hydrological functions of wetlands, link between water resources and wetlands**”
- recognised **freshwater quality and quantity as vital for maintaining coastal and marine ecosystem services – e.g. fisheries**
- ... and set out a **range of actions**

# Global trends in biodiversity

- Clear that 2002 biodiversity target “By 2010, to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity”
- was not being met by the governments of the world
- **State** of biodiversity continues to decline
- **Pressures** continue to increase
- **Responses**, whilst increasing, have *slowed down* since target set

Source: Butchart *et al. Science*. May 2010



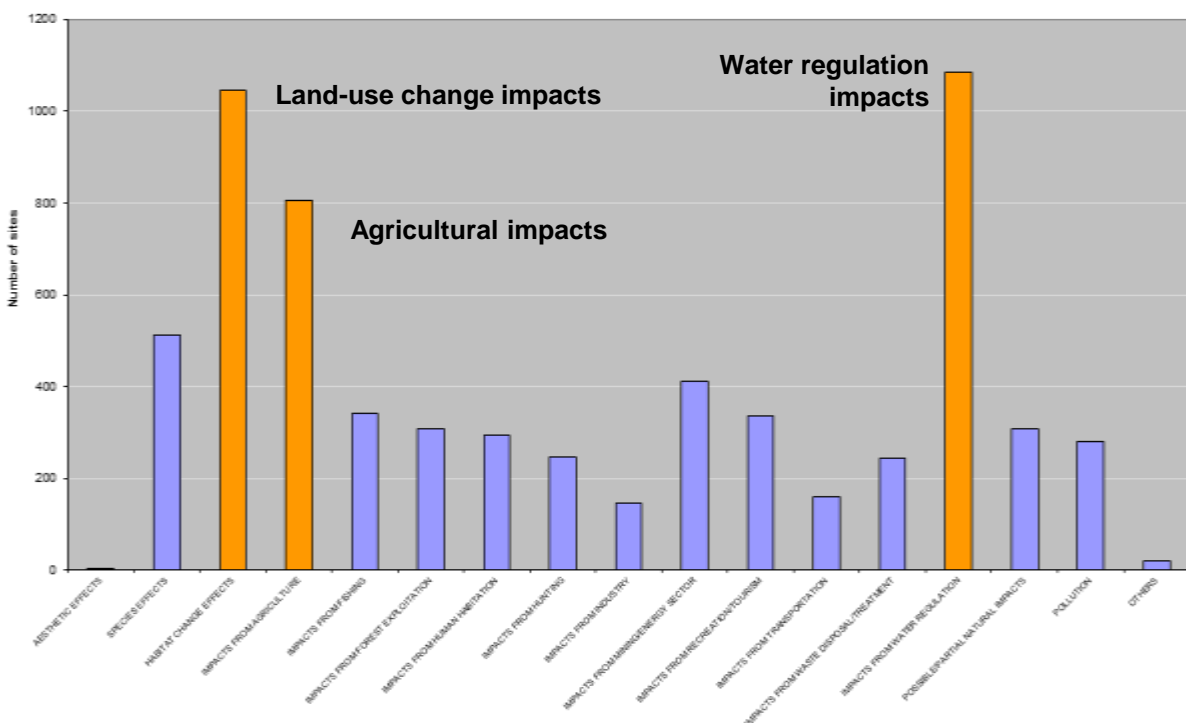
# We know what is driving wetland loss ...

Millennium Ecosystem  
Assessment (MA) in  
2005:

“degradation and loss of  
wetlands (both inland and  
coastal) is continuing more  
rapidly than for other  
ecosystems”

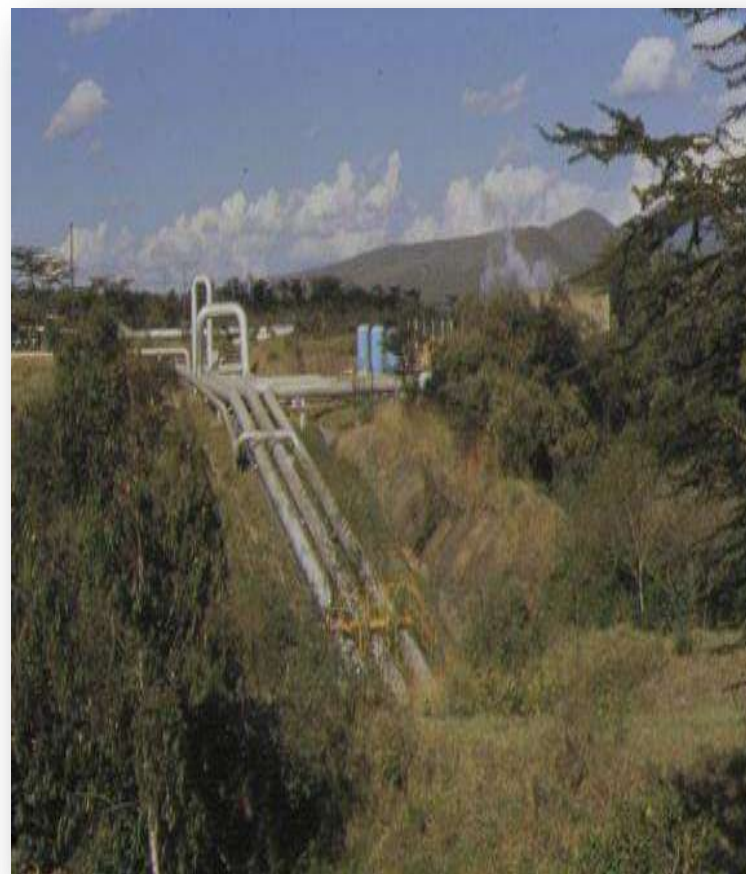
## Frequency of threats to Ramsar sites:

- Reported by Parties in  
Ramsar Information  
Sheets
  - Water regulation
  - Agricultural impacts
  - Overall land-use  
change



# 2008: The “Changwon Declaration”

- Powerful key messages for decision-makers managing **other** sectors (not the “biodiversity-converted”)
  - Water
  - Climate change
  - Human health
  - Energy
  - Spatial (land-use) planning
  - etc



# 2008: The “Changwon Declaration”

To close this “water gap”, we need to:

- use our available water more efficiently;
- stop our wetlands from becoming degraded or lost
- wisely manage our wetlands ... **wetlands are the major source of water we have ...**





# Current & future challenges

- Despite the 40 years of global efforts of implementing Ramsar our wetlands (and resources and services) continue to be in serious trouble, and
  - their capacity to deliver all the benefits people get from them is declining



# Current & future challenges

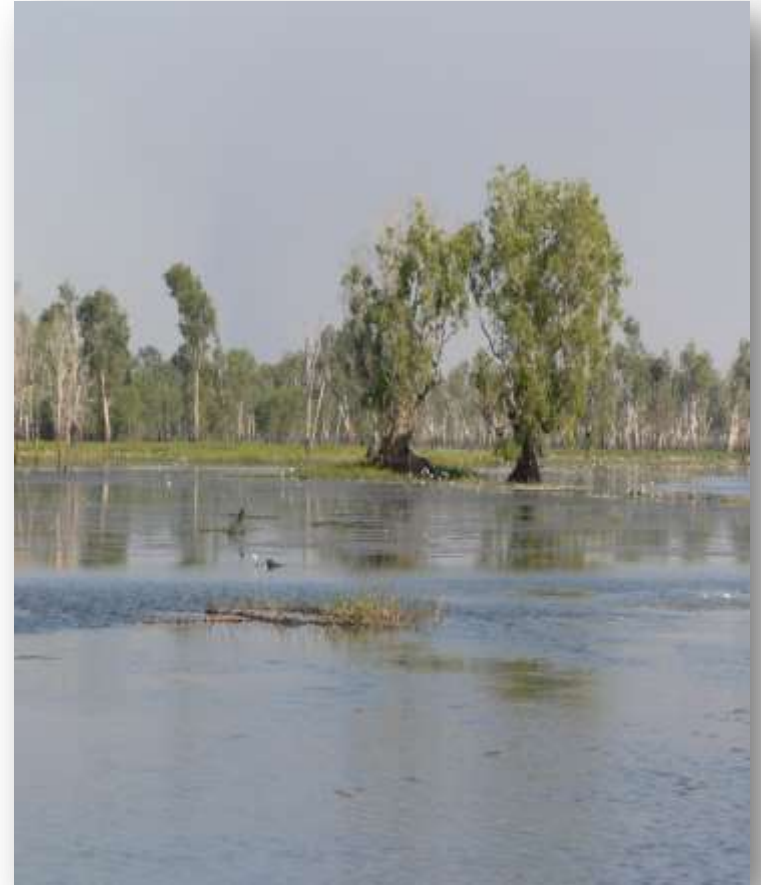
- Biodiversity conservation *per se* has not delivered globally ...
- Ramsar has not delivered sufficiently
- The ‘biodiversity sector’ must change its own approach and stop just talking to ourselves about how important are wetlands and wildlife
- **Our urgent priority now and for the future must be to come out of the “biodiversity silo”**





# Current & future challenges

- To work to increase greatly the grasp and understanding by *all sectors of government and society* that
  - **Your business success depends, and will continue to depend, just as much on the natural infrastructure of wetlands and the water they deliver**
  - as does biodiversity business...



# Lovmæssige implikationer



- Ramsar konventionen er ikke et regulerende regime i sig selv og der er ikke sanktionsmuligheder
- Men det er en international aftale, der er bindende som en international lov i sin egen ret
- Konventionen er baseret på en forventning om gennemsigtighed og accountability.
- Hvis man ikke lever op til dette, kan det føre til politisk og diplomatisk “discomfort” i højt profilerede internationale fora eller medierne
- Ramsar kravene integreret i national lov har en direkte effect ved nationale domstole

# Article 2



- Each Contracting Part shall designate suitable wetlands within its territory for inclusion in a List of Wetlands of International Importance..
- Each party shall designate at least one wetland to be included in the list when signing this Convention

# Legal implications



Article 2.3 siger “inklusion af et område på listen over Ramsarområder overruler ikke landets nationale suverænitet”

Motivation og gevinst og ikke pisk og bøder..

# Article 3



3.1. The Contracting Party shall formulate and implement their planning so as to promote the conservation of the wetlands included in the List, and as far as possible the wise use of wetlands in their territory

3.2. Each Contracting Party shall arrange to be informed at the earliest possible time if the ecological character of any wetland in its territory and included in the List has changed, is changing or is likely to change as a result of human interference and should pass on information without delay to the Secretariat

4.1 of the Convention provides that

“each Contracting Party shall promote the conservation of wetlands and waterfowl by establishing nature reserves on wetlands, whether they are included in the List or not, and provide adequately for their wardening”.

6.1. The Contracting Parties shall as the necessity arises convene Conferences on the Convention

6.2. - To discuss the implementation etc.

6.3. Parties shall ensure that those responsible at all levels for wetlands management shall be informed and take into consideration recommendations of the Conferences..

# Article 7



7.1. The representatives of the Contracting Parties at such Conferences should include persons who are experts on wetlands or waterfowl by reason of knowledge and experience gained in scientific, administrative or other appropriate capacities.



# Article 8 – sekretariatets rolle



- IUCN skal være vært for Ramsar sekretariatet
- Sekretariatet skal assistere arrangere partskonferencerne
- Administere listen af internationale vådområder og informeres vedr. enhver nyudpegning, ændring eller ophævelse af Ramsarområder
- Informeres om ændring i økologisk status
- Videregive anbefalinger fra partskonferencerne vedr. ændringer i Listen af vådområder af international betydning

# Nogle anbefalinger i resolutioner



Gennemføre miljøkonsekvensvurderinger

Gennemføre nationale inventories

Udarbejde nationale rapporter

Betale kontingent

Opfordre til research vedr. vådområder

Træne personale indenfor vådområde research og forvaltning

Udvikle forvaltningsplanlægning for Ramsar sites

# Ramsar Information Sheet



11Z003\_RIS\_2003.pdf - Adobe Reader

File Rediger Vis Vindue Hjælp

1 / 17 156%

Underskriv Kommentar

**RECEIVED**  
19 JUN 2002

**Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS)**  
*Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.*

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:  
2 May 2002

2. Country: United Republic of Tanzania

3. Name of wetland: The Kilombero Valley Floodplain

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.**

DD MM YY  
25 04 02

1 T Z Ø Ø 3

Designation date Site Reference Number

CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES • CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

# 2012 RIS – What is it?



**NEW** and **ELECTRONIC** format of the RIS

It is a **MONITORING TOOL** - baseline and RIS Updates

New Ramsar Sites and all Updates!

Enters into force January 2015 or latest at COP12

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK** - resolution XI.8

# Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS)



- ALL Parties have at least 1 Ramsar Site
- All Parties have filled in a RIS
- Core in the RIS is Ramsar criteria for designation
- 2012 RIS contains 35 themes to be addressed

# 2012 RIS - List of context



## **Part 1. Administrative and locational details**

- Part 1.1 About this form; Part 1.2 About the site's location

## **Part 2. Why is this site internationally important? (Criteria for designation)**

## **Part 3. What is the site like? (Ecological character description)**

- Part 3.1 Ecological components; Part 3.2 Ecological processes
- Part 3.3 Ecosystem services

## **Part 4. How is the site managed? (Conservation and management)**

- Part 4.1 Land tenure and responsibilities ('Managers')
- Part 4.2 Ecological character threats and responses ('Management')

## **Part 5. Providing additional information relevant to this Ramsar Site**

# Part 2 Criteria for designation



## Field 12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- **Criterion 1:** Representative, rare or unique natural or near natural wetland types
- **Criteria 2-9:** Biodiversity including birds, fish, threatened communities, non-avian species

# 2012 RIS Field 20

cop11-dr08-e-RIS-anx1 (Kompatibilitetstilstand) - Microsoft Word

File Startside Brevskabeloner Indsæt Sidelayout Referencer Forsendelser Gennemse Vis Udvikler Tilføjelsesprogrammer Design Layout

Garamond 11 A A Aa

F K U abe x<sub>2</sub> x<sub>3</sub> ab A

Udklipsholder Skrifttype Afsnit Typografier

AaBbCcI AaBbC AaBbC AaBbCcI AaBbC

Normal Style1 Style2 Ingen af... Overskrift 1

Skift typografier

Søg Erststat Marker

Nyt dokument Gem som Redigér oplysninger Flet

Redigering Captia

## 20. Water regime

Water sources, destination, permanence and stability of water regimes. Please tick all options that apply under each heading below:

Presence?		Changes at RIS update No change/ increase/ decrease/ unknown
<b>Water permanence</b>		
Usually permanent water present; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Source of water that maintains character of the site</b>		
	<b>Predominant water source?</b>	
Water inputs from rainfall (is this the predominant water source?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from surface water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Marine water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Water destination</b>		

For further guidance see section 7.3.9 of the Strategic Framework

Field #2.10 from 2000 Ecological Character Description Sheet

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# Gennemgang af national rapport

