



**Convention on Wetlands**

**Training Workshop Module 1:**  
**Introduction to National Wetland Inventories**

Seocheon, Republic of Korea, 9-13 September 2024



# Why NWI? Objectives of the training programme

Training workshop Module 1

9 September 2024  
Dr Flore Lafaye de Micheaux

# NWI, a long-standing priority for the Convention

## Recommendation 1.5: [National Wetland Inventories]

### 建議 1.5：全國濕地調查

#### The Conference 會議

AWARE that Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention undertake to formulate and implement their planning so as to promote the wise use of wetlands in their territory; 大會瞭解到「拉姆薩公約」締約國承諾制定和實施其規劃，以促進在其領土上濕地的明智使用；

EMPHASIZING that, as mentioned in the World Conservation Strategy, wise use of wetlands involves maintenance of their ecological character, as a basis not only for nature conservation, but for sustainable development; 大會強調在世界自然保護戰略“中提到的濕地明智利用涉及其生態特性的維護，濕地明智利用不僅作為自然保育的基礎，亦是永續發展的根基；

CONVINCED that establishment of comprehensive national policies would benefit the wise use of wetlands, and that such policies should be based on a nationwide inventory of wetlands and of their resources; 大會相信建立全面性國家政策將有利於濕地明智利用，以及這些政策應以其全國濕地和資源調查為基礎；

NOTING that some Contracting Parties have made such an inventory and drawn up such policies; 大會觀察到一些締約國已擬出這樣的調查，並制定了這樣的政策；

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CALLS ON Contracting Parties and on Governments which might be interested to prepare inventories of wetlands and of their resources as soon as possible as an aid to the formulation and implementation of national wetland policies. 大會籲請有興趣將其全國濕地和資源調查的各締約國和各國政府，盡快制定和實施國家濕地政策。

Resolution 1.5 (1980) on ‘National wetland inventories’ = “the establishment of comprehensive national policies would benefit the wise use of wetlands, and [...] such policies should be based on a nationwide inventory of wetlands and of their resources”

1<sup>st</sup> Convention’s Strategic Plan 1997-2002 encompasses a priority area of focus on NWI. Same in 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan. Questions on NWI in National reporting to COPs.

Resolution VII.20 (1999) = importance of comprehensive national inventory as the vital basis to achieve the wise use of wetlands

Resolution VIII.6 (2002) = adoption of a ‘Framework for Wetland Inventory’ prepared by STRP. See Handbook 15.

# Convention's publications and guidance documents

Ramsar  
Handbooks  
4<sup>th</sup> edition

## Handbook 14 Data and information needs



Ramsar  
Handbooks  
4<sup>th</sup> edition

## Handbook 13 Inventory, assessment, and monitoring



Ramsar  
Handbooks  
4<sup>th</sup> edition

## Handbook 15 Wetland inventory



## The use of Earth Observation for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring

An information source for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands



www.ramsar.org



## A new toolkit for National Wetlands Inventories



# What's new?



Fast evolution of EO techniques and data analysis

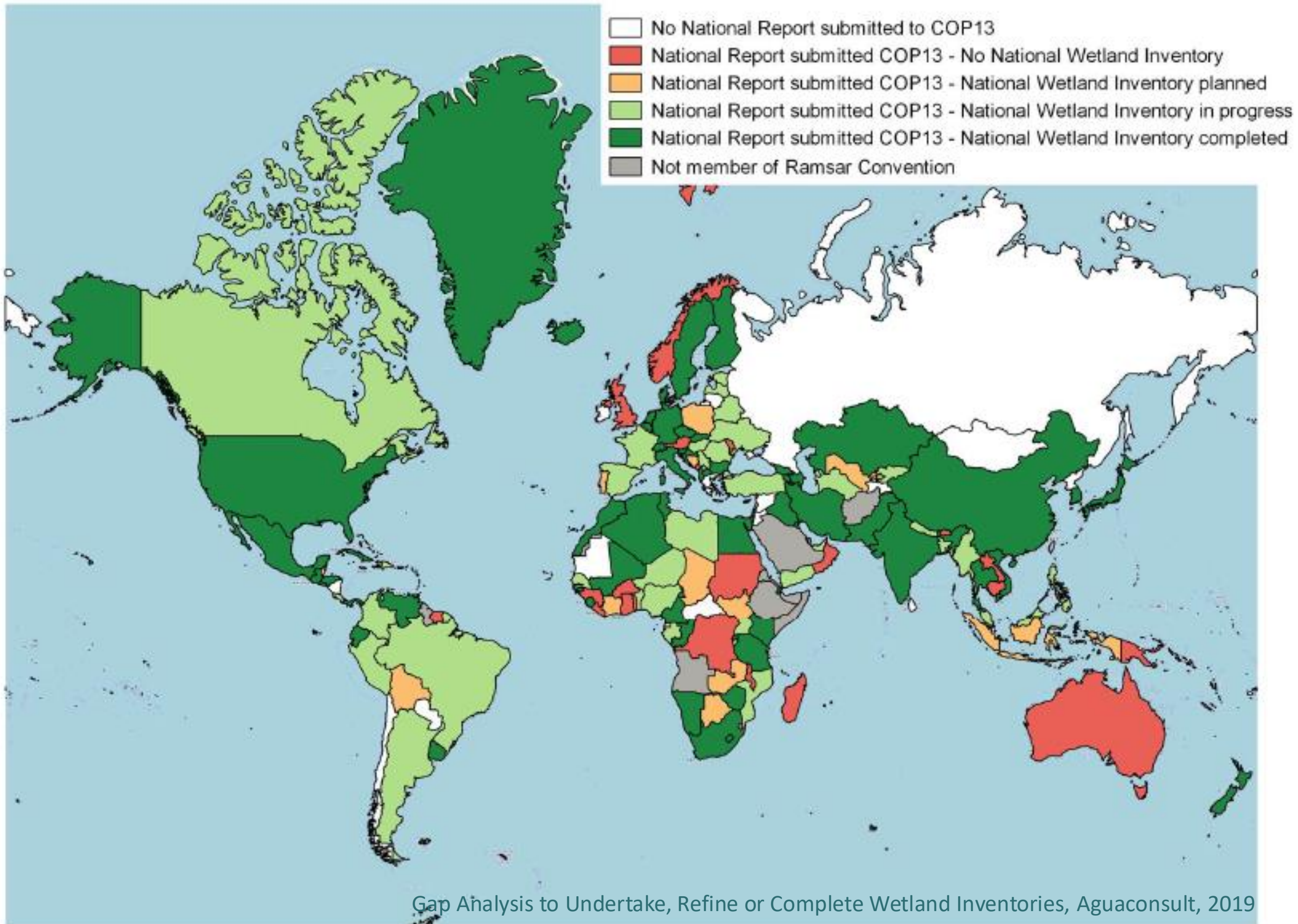
Enhanced professionalisation of national teams and environmental institutions across all regions

Increasing demand for national reporting towards global targets in fields adjacent to wetland issues (climate, biodiversity, land degradation neutrality targets, etc.)

Increasing threats on wetlands due to human activities (e.g. plastics pollution) and climate change

Lack of progress in NWI implementation (STRP25)

Figure 1: World map of National Wetlands Inventory (Source: National Report COP13 - 150 National Reports including late submissions)



Gap Analysis to Undertake, Refine or Complete Wetland Inventories, Aguaconsult, 2019

**Reports to COP14:**

**46% of Contracting Parties reporting to COP14 had completed an NWI.**

**This finding was very similar to those for COP13 (44%) and COP12 (47%).**

**52% of the Parties provided data on wetland extent (SDG Indicator 6.6.1) for COP14.**

# Convention on Wetlands develops a National wetland inventory support mechanism to Contracting Parties

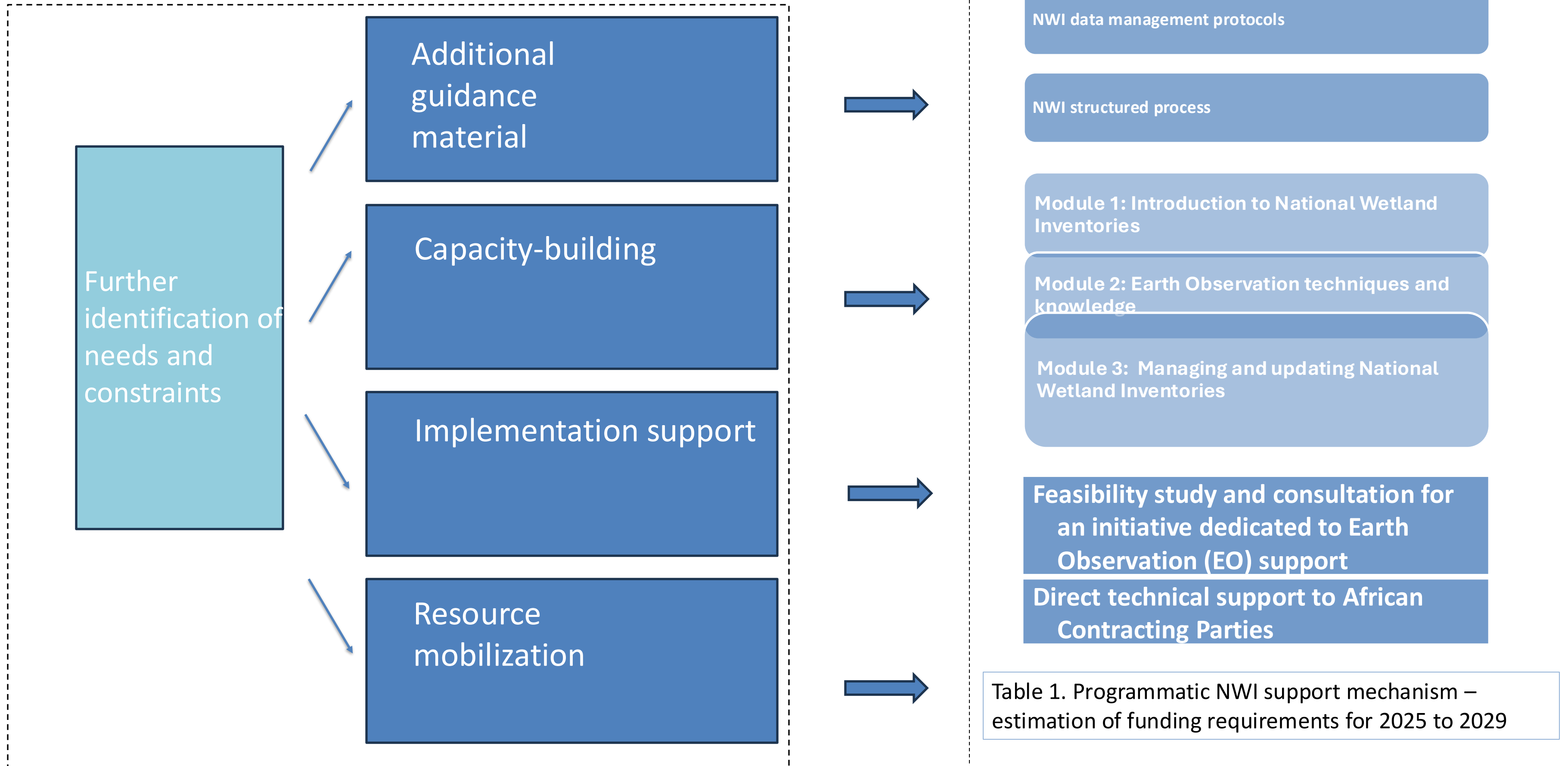


Table 1. Programmatic NWI support mechanism – estimation of funding requirements for 2025 to 2029

# Our ambition



Avoid unnecessary complexity by gradually refining NWI products along a NWI structured process

Clear definition of the objectives assigned to each product, clear repartition of roles and responsibilities for scientifically-robust approaches and methods

Tapping into existing databases and accessible technologies

Breaking silos = integration of global climate, biodiversity and land degradation neutrality targets in NWI process

Investing in “institutional” learning process = requires long-term engagement!



# Post-it session - brainstorming on NWI process



On the white-board, CPs' answers to 3 main questions:

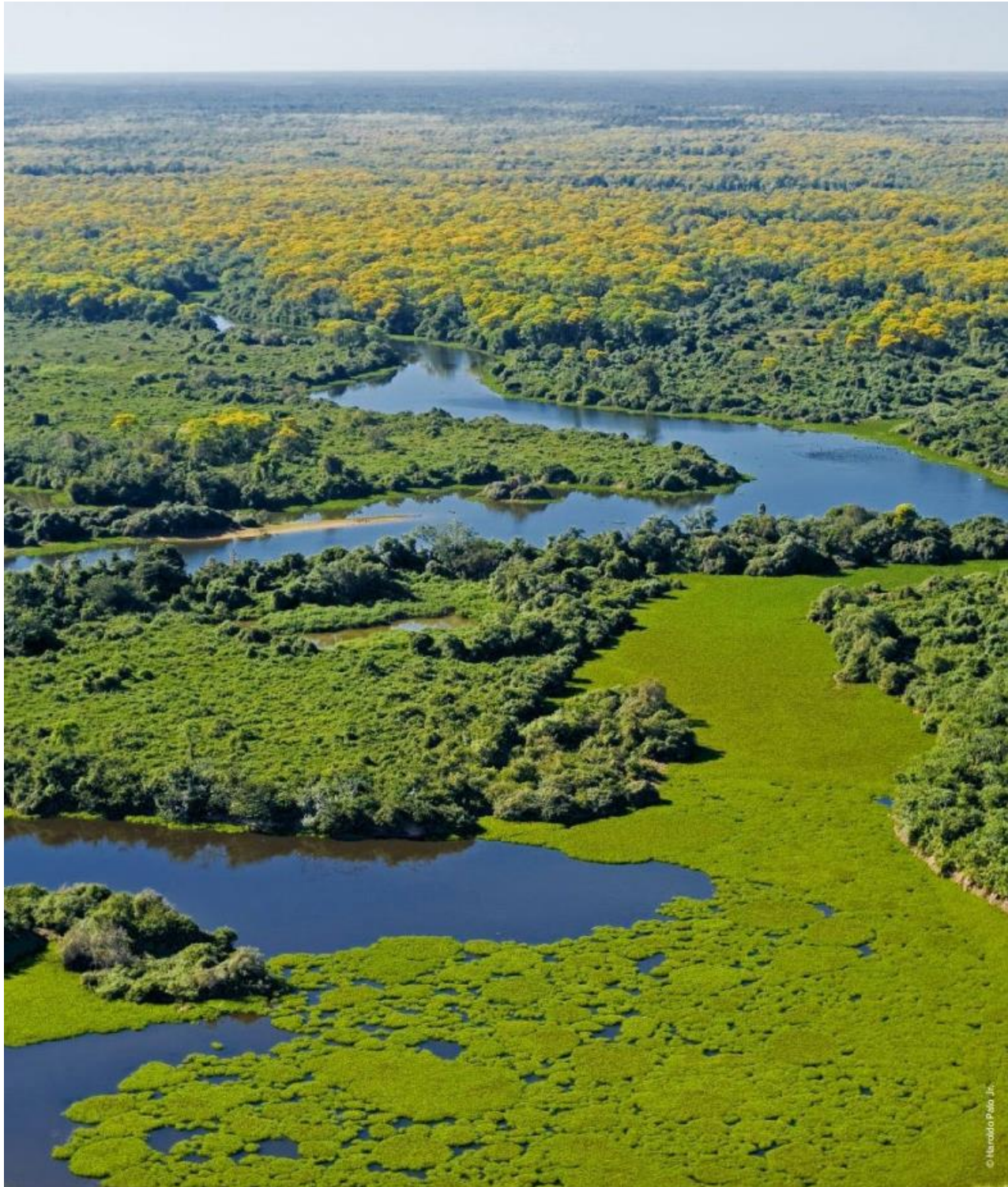
- What were the **initial objectives** of the first experience of the National Wetland Inventory?
- What were the **main obstacles** that you or your colleagues faced in that work, in terms of organisation, governance, data quality, deliverables, uses?
- What are the **supporting factors**, on the contrary, that you benefitted from?

How do you relate to these? Any additions, comments?

In small groups, discuss examples of successes and failures in terms of wetland data management in your own country.

# Structure of the module 1

## Introduction to National Wetland Inventories



9 September: An action-oriented data process

10 September: Achieving scientifically robust and accessible methodologies

11 September: Focusing on inland wetlands

12 September: Focusing on coastal wetlands

13 September: Focusing on human-made wetlands  
+ overview of the post-training work

## Monday 9 September 2024

### An action-oriented data process

9:00- 9:30	Welcome remarks	14:50-15:30	Introduction to NWI structured process by <b>PJ Stephenson</b>
9:30-10:30	Introductions of the participants		
10:30-10:45	<i>Break</i>	15:30-15:40	<i>Break</i>
10:45-11:55	Why NWI? Objectives of the NWI training programme by <b>Flore Lafaye de Micheaux, Secretariat</b>	15:40-16:30	Wetland applications of Earth Observations by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>
12:00-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	16:30-17:00	Participants' experiences with Earth Observations, discussion led by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>
13:30-14:45	Unblocking the flow of data for the effective conservation of wetlands by <b>PJ Stephenson</b>	17:00-17:30	Day 1 recap, Day 2 preview
14:45-14:50	<i>Break</i>	18:00-20:30	Welcome reception hosted by National Institute of Ecology (NIE)



**Tuesday 10 September 2024**  
**Achieving scientifically robust and accessible methodologies**

9:00-9:05	Day 2 overview	13:00-13:30	NWI experience in COSTA RICA by <b>Jacklyn Rivera Wong, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Govt of Costa Rica</b>
9:05-10:00	Uncertainty in national wetland extents, workshop session led by <b>Dan Friess</b>	13:30-14:00	NWI experience in CHINA by <b>Yuan Jun, Chinese Academy of Inventory and Planning</b>
10:00-10:10	<i>Break</i>	14:30-15:00	<i>Mentimeter session and break</i>
10:10-11:05	Objectives and core elements of a National Wetland Inventory by <b>Max Finlayson</b>	15:00-16:00	Approaches and Methodologies developed by the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory by <b>Anis Guelmami, MedWet</b>
11:05-11:15	<i>Break</i>	16:00-16:50	Mediterranean countries' feedback and lessons learned for NWI processes by <b>Anis Guelmami, MedWet</b>
11:15-12:00	Global wetland data & maps by <b>Max Finlayson</b>	16:50-17:00	<i>Break</i>
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	17:00-17:30	NWI experience in GABON by <b>Jean-Hervé Mbeh, Ministry of Water, Forest, Sea and Environment, Govt of Gabon</b>
		17:30-18:00	Day 2 recap, preview Day 3

## Wednesday 11 September 2024 Focusing on inland wetlands

9:00-9:10	Day 3 overview, logistics and reminders	10:50-11:00	<i>Break</i>
9:10-9:40	Wetland mapping classes, activity-discussion led by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>	11:00-12:00	Wetland hydrology and relevant data for NWI by <b>Matthew McCartney, IWMI</b>
9:40-10:00	Ramsar wetland typologies by <b>Max Finlayson</b>	12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
10:00-10:10	<i>Break</i>	13:00-18:00	Field trip to an inland wetland type in South Korea, <u><a href="#">Ungok Wetland</a></u> NWI experience in South Korea by National Ecology Institute's experts (on-site presentation)
10:10-10:50	Inland wetland mapping with Earth Observation data and geospatial tools by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>	18:00-18:30	Day 3 recap, Day 4 preview



**Thursday 12 September 2024**  
**Focusing on coastal wetlands and NWI**

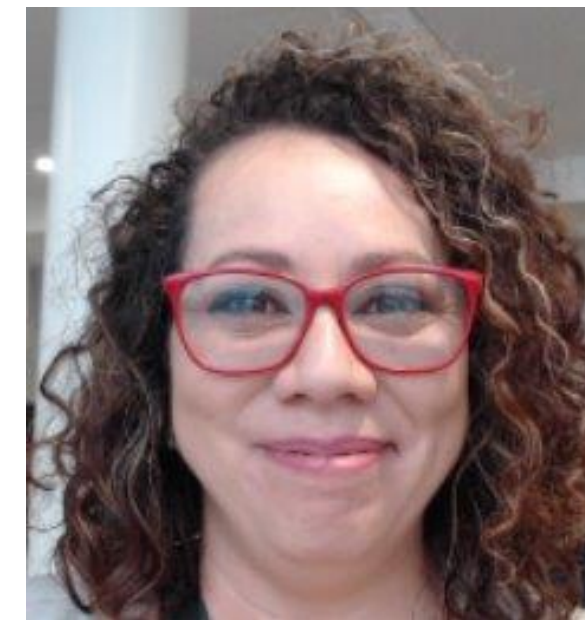
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| 9:00-9:10   | Day 4 overview, logistics and reminders   |
| 9:10-10:30  | Introduction to coastal wetlands by <b>Dan Friess</b>                                   |
| 10:30-10:45 | <i>Break</i>  |
| 10:45-11:55 | Introduction to coastal wetland datasets, interactive lecture by <b>Dan Friess</b>      |
| 12:00-13:00 | <i>Lunch break</i>  |
| 13:00-18:00 | Field trip to a coastal wetland type in South Korea, <u>Gochang and Buan Tidal Flat</u> |
| 18:00-18:30 | Day 4 recap, Day 5 preview  |



**Friday 13 September 2024**  
**Focusing on human-made and agricultural wetlands**

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|---------------|--|
| 9:00-9:10     | Day 5 overview, logistics and reminders  |
| 9:10-10:15    | Inventorying human-made wetlands by <b>Matthew McCartney, IWMI</b>   |
| 10:15-10:30   | <i>Break</i>   |
| 10:30-11:15   | NWI “obstacle courses”, workshop session led by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>   |
| 11:00-11:55   | Overview of the post-training support mechanism and assignment, discussion led by <b>Flore Lafaye de Micheaux, Secretariat</b> |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | Lunch Break  |
| 13:00-13:20   | Training workshop synthesis, discussion led by <b>Iryna Dronova</b>  |
| 13:20-13:40   | Concluding remarks by NIE, UNOSD and Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands   |
| 13:40-14:00   | Feedback survey  |

# Presentation of the speakers and trainers







**Thanks for your attention**

**Any questions?**