

ISSUES BRIEF

Fostering inclusive and cross-sectoral action for wetlands: Building a Community of Practice supporting Ramsar Resolution XIV.17



The **Community of Practice for Wetland Restoration** launched in the framework of the Horizon Europe project RESTORE4Cs seeks to mobilise a wide range of stakeholders to accelerate joint action for restoring and conserving wetlands across Europe and beyond. By involving site managers, private businesses, researchers, decision-makers, civil society organisations and other restoration champions, this Community aims to:

- Build evidence on the **restoration potential of diverse wetland types for climate action** (coastal wetlands, peatlands, floodplains and more).
- Incentivate cross-regional learning through the replication of best management and restoration practices
- Identify shared interests, challenges and relevant topics of exchange, following an inclusive and bottom-approach.

The first Working Group of this Community is working to assess wetland's potential to act as a sink or source of greenhouse gases (CO_2 , CH_4 and N_2O) based on their condition - whether well-preserved, altered or restored - and land use type.





Contribution of the Community of Practice for Wetland Restoration to the Convention on Wetlands

The development of this Community of Practice supports the implementation of <u>Resolution XIV.17</u> of the <u>Convention on Wetlands</u> on the <u>protection</u>, <u>conservation</u>, <u>restoration</u>, <u>sustainable use and management of wetland ecosystems in addressing climate change</u>, approved during COP Ramsar 14.

Indeed, this resolution requests 'the Convention Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and in collaboration with the Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet), other interested Ramsar Regional Initiatives, and interested Contracting Parties, to facilitate the establishment of a community of practice on addressing climate change through the protection, conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of wetland ecosystems, while simultaneously providing biodiversity and human wellbeing benefits'.

This Community of Practice is also strongly aligned with the principles of European environmental policies, such as the Nature Restoration Regulation (art. 14) - by promoting stakeholder engagement linked to the development of National Restoration Plans - and the EU Biodiversity Strategy - to bridge gaps between science, policy.

How to participate in the Community of Practice

The 15th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands will see the public launch of the online portal **Wetland-based Solutions**. The Wetland-based Solutions platform hosts the Community of Practice developed in the RESTORE4Cs project.



This platform has been conceived as a collaborative hub to share and compile success stories, good practices and practical resources to inspire action for restoring and conserving wetlands. If you wish to participate and support the growth of this community, please visit: https://www.wetlandbasedsolutions.org/join-us/





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Learn more about the RESTORE4Cs project

