

A local wetland CEPA project:

Ramsar Jouyaku-wo Katsuyou-shiyou
ラムサール条約を活用しよう

- **Introducing Ramsar tools for conservation and
wise use of wetlands in Japanese language** -

- 湿地保全のツールを読み解く -

(Biwa-ko Wetland Study Group)

Edited by Biwa-ko Ramsar Kenkyu-kai, 2001-2008

琵琶湖ラムサール研究会



<http://www.biwa.ne.jp/~nio/ramsar/projovw.html>

- ☒ *So, what is your effort
in your local language?*
- ☒ *Your idea could help us
to improve our efforts!*
- ☒ *Provide your web site
address for link from ours!*

Biwa-ko Ramsar Kenkyu-kai (BRK)
contact:

Mr. Satoru MURAKAMI

biwa@@mugen-ss.net

[Please reduce from double
to single at-mark.]

Kaminiu 2289, Yogo-cho,
Shiga-ken, 529-0512 Japan

Summary of the project

A wetland CEPA effort in local language and contexts in Biwa-ko

Some wetland scientists established a study group, *Biwa-ko Ramsar Kenkyu-kai* (BRK), and started the project in 2001 towards enhancement of conservation and wise use of wetlands and its resources in Biwa-ko, the largest lake and a *Ramsar Site* no. 617, as well as an *Anatidae Network Site*, in Japan, by introducing basic documents and information from the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, 1971) in Japanese language on the worldwide web as well as publications. The concept was raised through discussions while members developed their reports to a symposium at Lake Biwa Research Institute (LBRI) of Shiga Prefecture Government, on waterbirds and wetlands in the lake, December 2000, in recognition of the need of wetland CEPA efforts *in local language and contexts* as guided in *The Convention's Outreach Programme 1999-2002* from the Ramsar COP7 in 1999, and later the programme for 2003-2008.

Each member of the study group has prepared an overview document on wetland issue relevant to the effort of his own, which is aimed at introduction to the Ramsar guideline or guidance to the issue. These documents have been compiled in Chapter 2, on such issues as local involvement, CEPA efforts, invasive species, riverbasin management, wetland restoration and mitigation, and migratory waterbirds. Additional authors have been sought for the issues not covered by members themselves, and so will be for issues raised in future.

Based on the overview in Chapter 2, the study group provided ideas and concepts which were useful for the on-site conservation efforts to be integrated in Biwa-ko in Chapter 3. Ramsar documents to be referred to in the 9th International Conference on the Conservation and Management of Lakes, which was held at Biwa-ko in November 2001, were also suggested in the chapter.

The study group also invited contributions from former staff of Ramsar Secretariat with brief introduction to the Convention in Chapter 1, as well as reports from the 2000 LBRI symposium.

The appended section of references has covered all of available Japanese translation of Ramsar

Resolutions and Recommendations by permission of the publishers (Ministry of the Environment, Kushiro International Wetland Centre (KIWC), International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC), Ramsar Center Japan, and Japan Federation of Bar Associations), and some other basic information translated by the study group themselves.

At the initial stage in 2001, financially supported by the Shiga Prefecture Government within its project commemorative of the new (21st) century, *Movement Shiga*, which enabled publication of booklet. The Biwako Waterfowl Wetland Center, which was established by Ministry of the Environment and has been managed by the local township government of Kohoku-cho, has hosted the portal site of the project in its worldwide web server. Mapped below were all the documents in this site in Japanese language.

Contents of the site

Chapter 1: Introduction to the Ramsar Convention

1. *What is the Ramsar Convention* by Dr. S. Kobayashi, presentation at *Ramsar Symposium Niigata 1996*.
2. *The objectives and roles of the Ramsar Convention* by Dr. M. Smart, presentation at *Asian Wetland Symposium 1993*.

Reports from LBRI symposium on waterbirds and wetlands in the Biwa-ko, December 2000:

1. *Ramsar Convention and future wetland conservation* by Prof. T. Tsujii, Hokusei Gakuen Univ.
2. *Key areas for waterbirds in the Biwa-ko* by Mr. H. Sugawa, Ryukoku Univ.
3. *Significance of the Biwa-ko in the East Asian Flyway of Anatidae species* by Mr. Y. Miyabayashi, Anatidae Flyway Officer.
4. *Wintering ecology of Middendorf's Bean Goose and conservation of their habitat in the northern part of Biwa-ko* by Mr. S. Murakami et al., Univ. of Shiga Prefecture.
5. *Biwa-ko as a Ramsar Site* by Dr. M. Ando, Kankyo Kagaku Co. Ltd.

Chapter 2: Wetland issues considered in the Convention

1. *Local planning guided by the Strategic Plan of the Convention* (2008), introduction to the draft Strategic Plan for 2009-2014 (COP10 DR 1).
2. *Wise use of wetlands* (2006), introduction to RES IX.1 Annex A.
3. *Local involvement* (2001), introduction to RES VII.8.
4. *Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA)* (2001), introduction to RES VII.9.
5. *Invasive species* (2001), introduction to RES VII.14.
6. *Integrated riverbasin management* (2001), introduction to RES VII.18.
7. *Wetland restoration and mitigation* (2001), introduction to RES VII.23, RES VII.24, RES VII.17, and RES VII.20.
8. *Waterbird Population Estimates and Criteria for Ramsar sites* (2007), attaching data table of 1% threshold for the populations applicable to the Japanese wetlands.
9. *Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy* (2001), introduction to REC 7.3.

Chapter 3: Towards the conservation and wise use of wetlands in Biwa-ko

1. *Conservation efforts in Biwa-ko suggested under the Convention* by Mr. S. Murakami, 2001.
2. *Ramsar initiatives and 9th International Conference on the Conservation and Management of Lakes, Shiga Japan 2001* by Mr. S. Murakami, 2001.
3. *Wise use in Biwa-ko, in past 10 years after Ramsar designation and future efforts* by Dr. M. Ando, 2003.
4. *Reviewing wetland conservation in the lake Biwa-ko in line with the Ramsar Strategic Plan* by Mr. S. Murakami, Mr. Y. Miyabayashi, & Mr. H. Sugawa, 2008.

Appendix: References covering all of available Japanese translation of Ramsar Resolutions and Recommendations

