



Report 2015

Ramsar Regional Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO)





Credits

REPORT CREHO 2015

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in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO)

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INTRODUCTION

For another consecutive year, the Ramsar Regional Center presents the REPORT 2015, and equally present the projects to be developed by 2016.

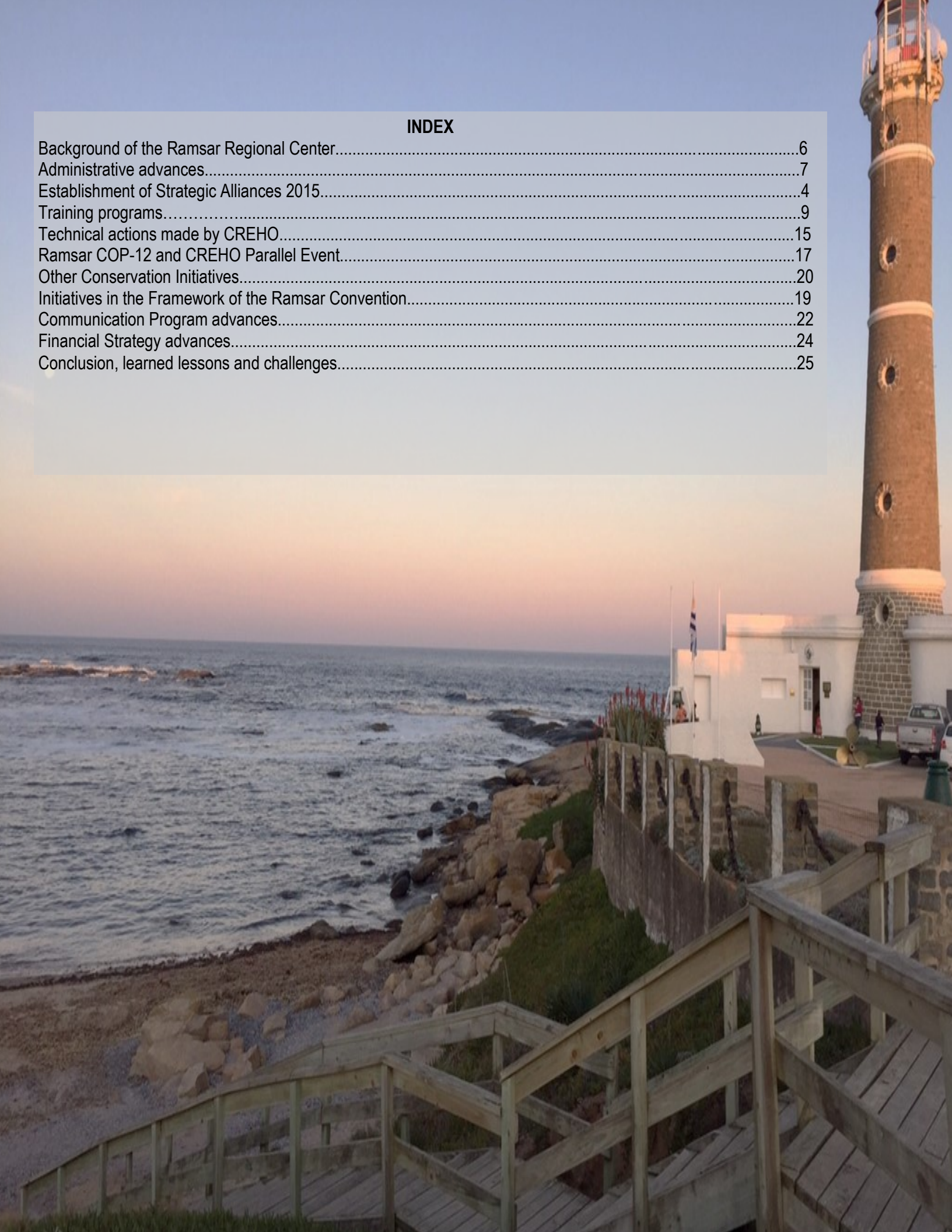
Like previous years, this has been full of great challenges, carried forward for our training programs, counting with the valuable collaboration of *Wetlands International* in two of our major courses, like: **Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in Marine and Coastal Areas** and **Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment with focus on Climate Change** and we hope to continue carrying forward part of new projects for this 2016.

We also conduct research studies that validate the technical capacity of our organization in the field of management and wise use of wetlands of high importance such as diagnostics Environmental Partner Lagoon Matusagaratí where new strategic alliances were established with major partners interested in contribute to the work done by CREHO. Similarly, we have been present in various events related to the commitments of the Center, as an international organization and Regional Initiative operates within the framework of the Convention on Wetlands such as COP-12 Ramsar in Punta del Este - Uruguay, the Workshop strengthening Ramsar Regional Initiatives and centers, as well as the 51st Meeting of the Ramsar Standing Committee. During 2015 also the Centre's participation in international conferences, strategic meetings with Focal Points in countries of the region and definition of alliances with research and training centers in different parts of the world is highlighted.

Our work every day becomes more relevant with regard to creating a better understanding of wetlands and the Ramsar Convention in the Americas.

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Vision

It has stopped the loss of wetlands in the Western Hemisphere and are preserved and rehabilitated through an integrated management ensuring rational use and enjoyment along the lines of the Ramsar Convention.

Mission

CREHO contributes to the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the Western Hemisphere, vital resource for human populations and biodiversity, through capacity building, based on the technical implementation of the Ramsar Convention.

Action Area

CREHO has the mandated to work with the member countries of the Ramsar Convention in America.



Background of the Ramsar Regional Center (CREHO)

The Ramsar Regional Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere, had its origin in the consensus of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, which adopted its creation and establishment at COP 7 (Costa Rica, 1999) through Resolution VII.26, within the complex of the City of Knowledge in Panama, following up on the proposal of the Government of Panama through its diplomatic mission at the 20th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention 1997.

Thus, CREHO born in response to the call of Article 4.5 of the Ramsar Convention to "Contracting Parties shall promote the training of competent personnel for research, management and custody of wetlands" and the recommendations (6.5 and 6.6) for the establishment of training programs and strengthening the management of the Convention through focal points in the regions. In this regard, the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention recognized that research, training and the establishment of mechanisms of cooperation and coordination are a priority in the Western Hemisphere.

As a result, the Government of the Republic of Panama monitored the design process and establishment of the Regional Centre Ramsar, consolidating the initiative in 2003 with the signing of an agreement with the Office of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance as Waterfowl Habitat.

With this agreement the bases for operation in Panama Ramsar Regional Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere, which began operations in 2004. It was agreed CREHO was conducted by a group of people and institutions initiative committed conservation of wetlands, and Panama as host country through its Ministry of Environment, has been an important part of each of the processes of the organization.

CREHO started since 2013 to a review process in which the Board of Directors, including the Ministry of Environment of Panama, and the Ramsar Secretariat have played a prominent role, so that the CREHO as an organization is strengthened and can cope with the new challenges and continue to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge in the management and wise use of wetlands in the Americas, through training and research.



Administrative Updates



This REPORT 2015 aims to present the main goals achieved by the CREHO, associated with the Institutional Strategic Objectives and, the most important achievements of the work of the organization. During 2015 CREHO fully complies with the financial aspects of the organization, evaluation of priorities for the implementation of resources and a situational analysis for better management of the center's activities, as stipulated in our Work Plan 2015.

Among the achievements during 2015 allowing greater operational independence, due to the renewal of the status of CREHO within the category of International Mission or MI by March 2015, with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama and the Ministry of Environment.

This executive order is to acknowledge to the countries of the region, the work of the center has been carried forward in research, training and protection in all aspects on wetlands, through our courses, workshops, seminars and continued participation since its inception, in the most important activities that have been carried forward as a reference the environment throughout the Americas region both as an organizer and trainer.

With this new certification MI could overtake firm memorandums of understanding with entities with which they successfully worked throughout this year.

We begin to approach more with representative other centers around the world, located in (East Asia, Africa and Central Asia-Middle East); with which you want to strengthen and consolidate future alliances.

Since June 2015, from COP 12, Ramsar CREHO has a new Board of Directors, composed of Suriname on behalf of the contracting parties of the Caribbean, the United States by the contracting parties of North America, Honduras on behalf of the Contracting Parties Central America; the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) by research centers worldwide related to the theme, Wetlands International as IOP associated with Ramsar, the Ramsar Secretariat and Panama as host country and the Presidency of the Board.

Understanding memorandums are consolidated with organizations such as Wetlands International, Applus, and start conversations with other institutions to expand the network of organizations with which they are expected to work towards wetlands in countries of the region.





Training Program



We continue forward and continuously with the training program and providing technical input with different actors, establishing new alliances that allowed expanding knowledge and strengthening of capacities in the management and wise use of wetlands and the implementation of the Ramsar Convention Americas.

Within the training conducted during 2015 they are:

Course Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA):

During June and July 2015 it was held in two phases, which aimed to "improve basic knowledge about wetlands and the overall adaptation to mitigation of coastal and marine areas to strengthen or improve the performance of technical personnel working *in situ* in protected areas in Panama and other handlers of wetlands in the region and increase the use of technical concepts applicable to management tools to plan activities towards mitigation and adaptation to climate change in coastal areas ". This course introduced basic concepts related to wetlands, the Ramsar Convention guidelines and tools available for the management of climate change on these ecosystems.

The course had 28 participants, of whom 11 were women and 17 men, among them Heads of protected areas with wetlands of government institutions, links Regional Technical Climate Change Ministry of Environment, technicians whose performance of their duties is given in protected areas with wetlands and permanent interaction with other visitors or the general public or communities of protected areas.

As a contribution to the Cooperation Agreement between Wetlands International and the Ramsar Regional Center (CREHO) have international participants by the CREHO, between countries, had of Ecuador, Puerto Rico, Peru and foreign residents in the country, all they gave presentations, experiences and lessons learned, offering the international context of regional projects focused on adaptation to climate change within the perspective of the given course. Regarding the trainers two international facilitators (Alejandro Jimenez Wetlands International, Costa Rica) and Arturo had Bocos - (Trainer- CREHO, Mexico), tutors CREHO (Executive and Chief Technical Director) and two by Wetlands International, plus seven exhibitors national and two international exhibitors.

Through the course managed to provide the elements needed for officials who assume functions or tasks in wetlands, to access a course to introduce them to basic concepts necessary for decision-making or management of wetlands for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. the collective exchange and constructive dialogue that contributes to a better understanding of the role that each actor has in relation to the wise use of wetlands is also encouraged, being an official, coach, educator, communicator, visitor or resident of a community, for thus improve the relationship with these ecosystems.

To carry out the same we have the important collaboration of Wetlands International, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) through the International Climate Initiative (ICI), who awarded funding for Sinkholes Protection and the carbon stocks in Mangroves and Protected Areas of Panama project. Also the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for all the support through the Mrs. Isis Pinto, General Coordinator of the Project by UNDP, Ministry of Environment, Conservation International and ARAP.



Both local and international exhibitors dictated it and the two phases were divided as follows: Virtual Stage June 12 to July 10 and the stage presence of 13 to 17 July 2015. It was issued in Spanish, in old facilities in Tryp Hotel at Albrook Mall, Panama City.

The collective exchange and constructive dialogue that contributes to a better understanding of the role that each actor has in relation to the wise use of wetlands is also encouraged, being an official, coach, educator, communicator, visitor or resident of a community, for thus improve the relationship with these ecosystems.

The methodology was carried out with the use of four modules:

Module 1: Introduction and aims to standardize concepts and give a basic context of the importance of wetlands.

Module 2: dedicated to the general concepts of adaptation and mitigation of climate change gives us an overall view.

Module 3: introduces a group of key management in coastal marine areas adaptation tools.

Module 4: dedicated to the case study of a successful project adaptation to climate change in coastal marine areas.

During the residential phase of the course, a field trip where participants took the wetlands of the Bay of Panama, accompanied by Rosabel Miró, Executive Director of Audubon Society of Panama, who brought knowledge to all participants was conducted through an overview of the areas within the pier show significant changes and current problems of the site, suggesting a decrease in the quality of this wetland a discussion-lunch with community leaders and the alternate representative of the village of Juan Diaz, was performed. Mitzuka Fuentes who instructed all attendees through a presentation related to community management of sectors within the township in conjunction with community leaders, which likewise have included environmental and social management as important factors for all inhabitants of different areas.



Thus, the procedures for monitoring, cleaning and other aspects that provide welfare to the community, mitigating and adapting to existing and future risks for all inhabitants with the support of other public entities and non-governmental organizations in establishing experience, international participants were able to exchange ideas with representatives of communities and their countries' experiences transmitting both knowledge and lessons learned from previous experiences and future plans.

By reviewing and final evaluation of the results, an exchange of views and brainstorming by the team of Wetlands International and Ramsar-CREHO Regional Centre was achieved, performing future recommendations for better program performance based training content and activities established for the course.

b. International Course on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment with focus on Climate Change.

The International Course on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment with Focus on Climate Change was a course organized by the Regional Center for the Western Hemisphere CREHO-Ramsar for training and wetland conservation, with support from the Ministry of Environment through Project improving capabilities through the Comprehensive Plan on Wetlands of Panama, Wetlands International contributed under the sinks within the project cooperation agreement for the training of key actors and Reserves in the Protected Areas and Mangroves in Panama. Natura Foundation gave a financial contribution for registration and technical participation of NGOs in Panama

The course was attended by 26 participants of which 12 were women and 13 men, of these 21 experts from the Ministry of Environment of different departments and provinces nationwide, an Independent Consultant, two members of organizations such as the Center for Environmental Advocacy (CIAM) and the National Association for the Conservation of Nature (Ancon), a private company owned by Panama and Educator of the Polytechnic School of Ecuador.

The course was conducted by a group of experts in the subject, associated with CREHO, all certified by the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, among which were: Alejandro Jimenez (Costa Rica), Manuel Contreras (Chile), Daniel Suman (USA) and Arturo Domínicí Arosemena (Panama) and under the coordination of our Technical Officer CREHO: Rebeca Magaña (El Salvador)

The course aimed to: provide professionals in the region related to wetland management or activities of environmental impact, technical and methodological guidelines of the Ramsar Convention as well as the skills necessary for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Evaluation Strategic Environmental (SEA) in Ramsar sites and other wetlands. The course lasted five weeks. The first four weeks were developed virtually from September 28 to October 23 and the last week in person full time in Panama City from 26 to 30 October 2015



The subjects were divided into six areas around the environmental impact assessment according to the technical guidelines of the Ramsar Convention and other interest:

EIA conceptual framework:

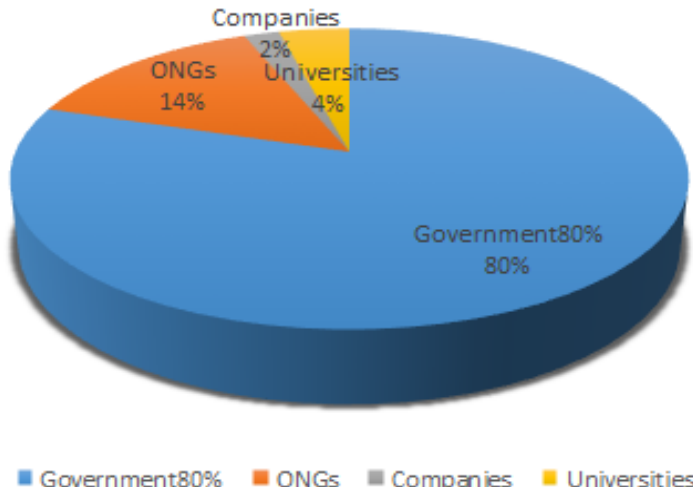
- Environmental impact.
- Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Environment Effect investigation.
- Importance of EIA for wetland management.
- Guidelines of the Ramsar Convention on EIA.
- Guidelines Environmental Impact Commission.
- International legal aspects of EIA in practice. Stages of EIA and inclusion of issues related to wetlands.

Two field trips where participants learned firsthand the situation of mangroves in the sites visited due to urban impact were made, met with authorities in the region and conducted a discussion where participants offered contributions to how to deal with changes in their environment and heard testimony from residents.

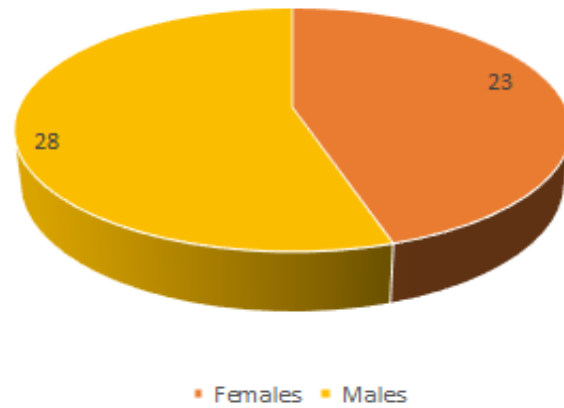


2015 Courses Statistics

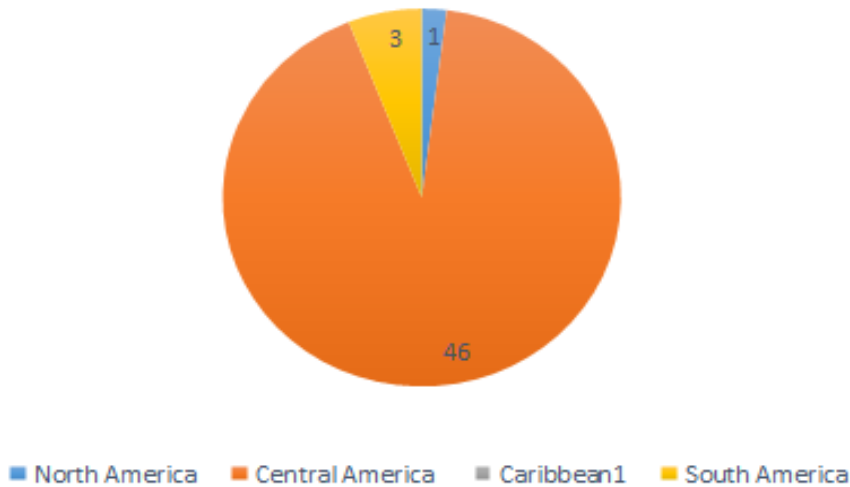
Participants by Type of Institution



Courses Assistance by genera in 2015



CREHO Courses Assistance by Region



Establishment of Strategic Alliances During 2015

In 2015 the Ramsar Regional Center strengthened memorandum of understanding with new organizations.

A memorandum of understanding with Wetlands International with who henceforth courses successfully carried forward on issues Adaptation Based on Ecosystem and Course Coastal Wetlands and Climate Change Adaptation and other International Course on Environmental Impact Assessment and Evaluation signature Strategic environmental with the focus on Climate Change.

A memorandum of understanding is signed to work together and exchange of future courses and services CATHALAC and Applus Company.



Technical actions by CREHO During 2015:

We are developing scientific studies conducted to broaden the knowledge of wetlands, and thus diversify center services.

Socio-environmental diagnosis of the Matusgaratí Lagoon, one of the largest inland wetlands in Latin America located in the province of Darien and had the technical collaboration and logistics of the Ministry of Environment of Panama; the Centre for the Study of Social Action was developed (CEASPA) and the Alliance for Conservation and Development (ACD).

Monitoring the proposed GEF-CI Concept occurred with CREHO, ANAM, CEASPA and Zoological Society of London for the implementation of the Management Plan and preparation of Damani Guariviara Management Plan Escudo de Veraguas.

Work continues on the development of new processes of project profiles among these a proposal for capacity building for protected areas managers Caribbean, with the coordination of a proposal with the focal points of these countries with predominantly English speaking, proposed a new profile will also be developed for a study of the variations that occur in the reefs of the Caribbean and the Pacific to the impacts of climate change and invasive species (lionfish) between other possibilities.





Ramsar COP12 Side Event and CREHO



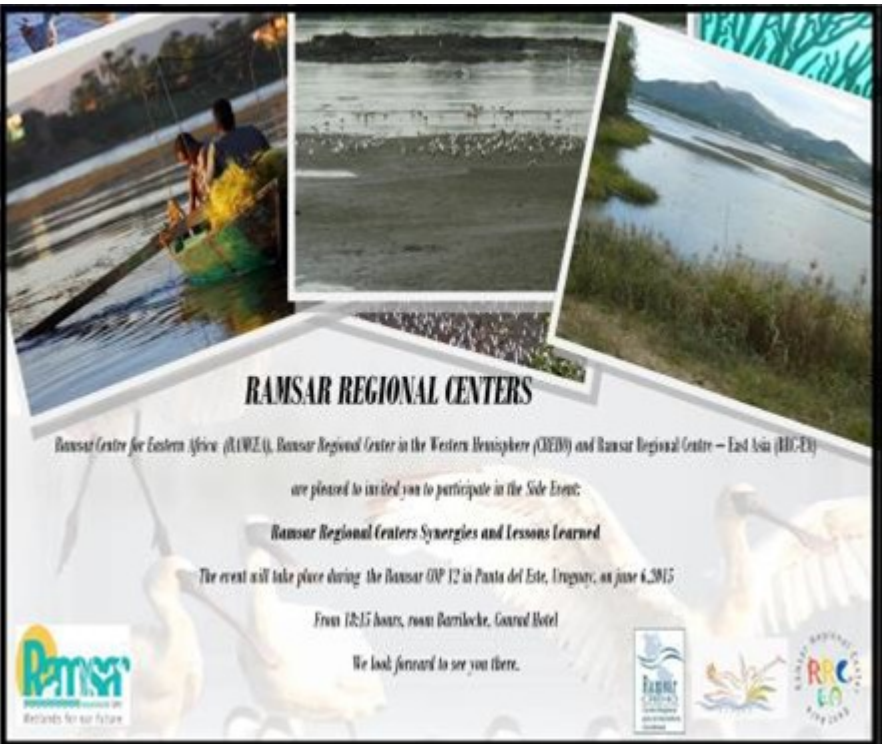
12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties Ramsar COP-12 "Wetlands for our future"

This event was held in Punta del Este - Uruguay on June 1 to 9, 2015 and organized by the Ramsar Secretariat. The Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) is the governing body of the Convention. The representatives of the Contracting Parties meet every three years to receive national reports, approve the work program and budget for the next three years. At COP 12, 16 resolutions were also including the Fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan for the period 2016-2024.

During this event he had the support of the Ramsar Secretariat and Senior Advisor for the Americas a side event of the Ramsar centers, in which participated the Ramsar Center East Africa (RAMCEA), RAMSAR Regional Center (CREHO held) and the Asia Regional Center of the East (RRC-EA), the theme of the event was "Centers Ramsar Regional synergies and lessons learned", it was held on June 6 in Punta del Este Uruguay, in the Barriloché room (Hotel Conrad).

Among the topics presented at this event are: achievements to date, challenges and key lessons, CREHO strategic framework, milestones for the next triennium by Arturo Dominici Arosemena (CREHO) and Mr. Paul Mafabi (RAMCEA) difficulties and problems and possible solutions and future direction by D. Suh Seung Oh (RRC-EA).

Follow up and joined work in topics such as: visibility, support with media and technical coordination were considered in discussions.



We share with the other coordinators our willingness to collaborate as required in reference to its scheme and independent governance structure, whereas our center for the Americas is the first worldwide and has a structure and operation of the first level.

Similarly parallel events were held and which had participation, such as organized by the Wetlands Centre LAC Network (REDLAC) held on June 3, where lines of work between local communities and organizations defined, were performed and workshops in which representatives of government, public and private organizations and actors of civil society, with the intention of getting a joint collaboration for the work of the network will bear fruit in the medium term.

June 5th for the event organized by the CCAD, under the slogan "Success stories of sustainable community-based alternatives in wetlands in the region of the Central American Integration System" was held. Topics discussed support for RAMSAR site management 2016: Wildlife Refuge Punta de Manaquibe, Gulf of Fonseca, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Panama Bay Wetland.

On June 8 took part in the presentation of the project to promote participatory management in Biodiversity Conservation (MAPCOBIO) and the International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with the theme "Sustainable Production in Wetlands in the region American center".

That same day side event "Wetlands Symposium" organized by Wetlands International Japan, WI China, the Government of Japan and the Ramsar Regional Centre for East Asia (RRC-EA) was held; where the potential coordination of a congress of wetlands for the Americas positioned.

Besides the side event, CREHO participates in a breakfast meeting coordinated by the MedWet initiative in favor of all regional initiatives and Ramsar Centres together with the new Vice Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, Ania Grobicki on June 6. It was an opportunity to share with the Secretariat and check on the necessities,

In addition to the Parallel Event, CREHO participated in a breakfast meeting coordinated by the MedWet Initiative to all regional initiatives and Ramsar centers in conjunction with the new Under Secretary of the Ramsar Convention, Ania Grobicki, on 6 June, at which time he had the opportunity to exchange with the secretariat and review of the needs, challenges and lessons learned and the search for better cooperation schemes between regional initiatives and the Ramsar Secretariat.

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Initiatives in the Ramsar Convention Framework

Standing Committee Meeting

In November 2015, CREHO held a workshop collaborative Ramsar Regional initiatives together with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention.

In this workshop operational guidelines were revised, a draft communications strategy was formulated to publicize the work of regional initiatives and an evaluation report on the achievements and lessons learned in the implementation and management of regional initiatives was prepared Ramsar. He was also a space that allowed for greater cooperation and exchange of information.

Thus the importance of regional initiatives to promote the objectives of the Ramsar Convention and as recognized through them, since 2002, has managed to increase the capacity for the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Group (GETC-STRP)

In collaboration with the Technical Ramsar (GETC-STRP) Scientific Review, through coordination with the chairman Roy Gardner, a teleconference was held with students of environmental law Stetenson University, United States on 7 January; a Webinar was also conducted on the Ramsar Regional Center for all STRP Focal Points of the countries of the Americas in both English and Spanish on Feb. 5.

In the context of the COP 12, Ramsar, on June 2, we participate in an informal meeting of representatives of the Scientific and Technical Review Review Group Panel (STRP-STRP) for the purpose of strengthening relations with a view that there is a more proactive exchange between focal points of the STRP, identify barriers that have focal points to fulfill their role, discuss the needs of capacity building and exchange of ideas to improve the interaction between members of the main panel of STRP national focal points.



OTHER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

On September 2015 and as part of the Month of the Oceans, the CREHO actively participated as a point of obligatory reference on mangroves and their co-relation to the oceans and the importance of them to house vast majority of migratory species they depend on them.

The month of the oceans begins with the celebration in the Trip Hotel at Albrook Mall, the opening of the Regional Forum of the IUCN Conservation first held in Panama under the motto "Giving a voice to people and nature" in where our director Arturo Dominici Arosemena gave a brief historical overview of our work in the region and progress to be achieved according to our plan Triennial under the Panel for sharing Experiences: Lessons Learned and Best practices of Panama conducted Lessons simultaneously in the event.

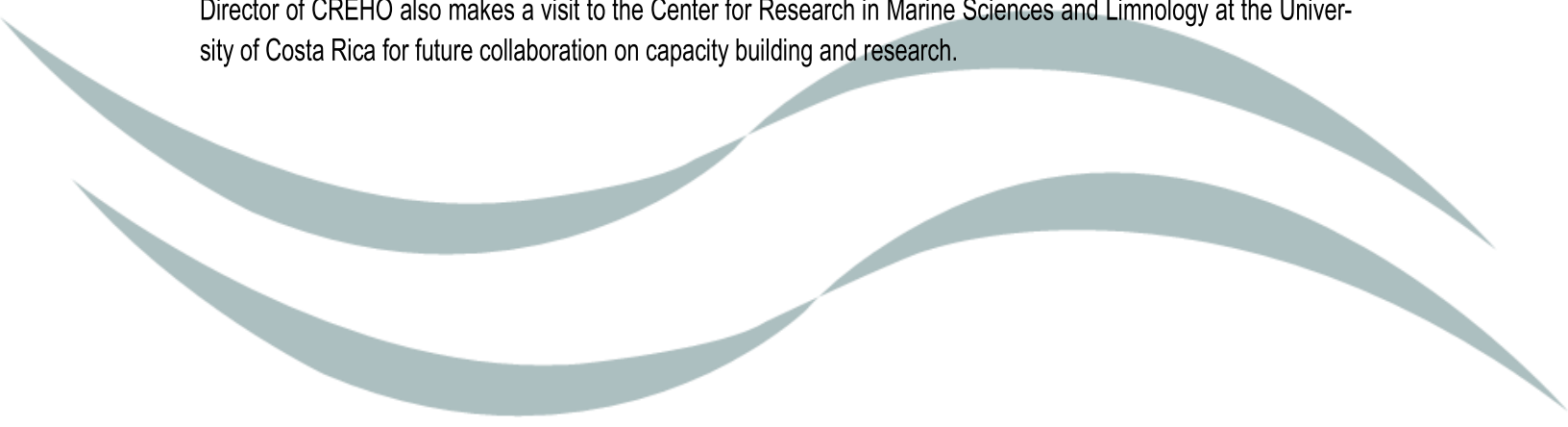
Also we were invited as speakers at the workshop not parties to the CMS within the month of the oceans where our Director gave a full explanation on the work of the center and our triennial plan countries.

Also as in previous years we participate in the Annual Beach Cleanup in the Republic of Panama for the area of Costa del Este, which had the support of private enterprise, National Service of Borders (SENAFRONT), locals and area schools.

He supported the National Wetlands Committee of Panama in the various activities conducted during 2015, including the celebration of World Wetlands Day 2015.

ICHTHYOLOGY CONGRESS AND AQUARIOLOGY

Last November 2015, the Costa Rican capital, San Jose, hosted the Congress of Ichthyology and Aquariology, where the Executive Director of CREHO, Arturo Dominici, participated as a speaker, achieving new potential partnerships for the mission of the Centre in region. He also managed to discuss with scientists, more than five case studies in the context of watersheds, discussions that served as support for CREHO training program, through the inclusion of these researchers in our training for the region. Finally, a meeting with representatives of the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), agreeing to some collaborative actions to the involvement of some officials scheduled for 2016 and definition of proposals and projects training was held. On this occasion, the Executive Director of CREHO also makes a visit to the Center for Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology at the University of Costa Rica for future collaboration on capacity building and research.



REGIONAL INITIATIVES RAMSAR

The meeting took place on November 22, 2015 in Gland, Switzerland. At that meeting, the CREHO managed to report on the latest developments, ideas for improving synergies with other initiatives on wetland ecosystems.

This trip was a priority to consolidate and position the CREHO worldwide, achieving expectations integration advances the center, technical collaboration for the definition of the guidelines that will govern the regional initiatives, and the importance was emphasized that had Center as a reference for other centers and initiatives. There was also a joint work with the Secretariat to initiate collaborative center with the various bodies of the Ramsar Secretariat.

ALLIANCES WITH ZMT

In late November 2015 Strategic Plan CREHO was presented at the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT) of Germany, moreover, they were announced regional initiatives and seeking synergies with actors in Europe for the Western Hemisphere.

An important contacts that may contribute to the establishment of new partnerships especially in the context of plans for carrying the CREHO plans for capacity building in the region with concrete actions for 2016 are achieved.

OTHER ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2015

CREHO offers a class on the importance of wetlands and the actions of the Center Panama SIT program, just as the possibility of providing such services to private schools in the future is explored.

CREHO participated in a meeting webinar with NGOs and other organizations of civil society working with wetlands, which was organized by the Ramsar Secretariat and whose aim was to create teaching about it was the COP-12 and to contribute in it by joining through the webinar held on April 23.

CREHO participated in the side event of the CCAD conducted on 5 June under the theme: "Successful cases of sustainable community-based alternatives in wetlands in the region of the Central American Integration System"; support for the 2016 RAMSAR site management: Wildlife Refuge Punta de Manaquibe, Gulf of Fonseca, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Panama Bay Wetland in which issues as addressed.



Advances in Communication Program



In communication the Ramsar Regional Center this year gave continuity to all activities scheduled for the better development of this tool:

1. Proceed to the capture and updating the database center for onward go feeding it with each new contact from either universities, research centers and government organization and non-governmental, dedicated to the management, conservation and / or research on wetlands.
2. The department is reorganized by a new communications consultant who initiates Phase I of communications consultancy and starts with the continued promotion of the course offered by the center including "Adaptation Course Based on Ecosystem" and the "Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment" and all initiatives in which the center participated.
3. We kept updated all social networking tools (Facebook, Twitter) for informational and educational articles on topics of wetlands in the hemisphere and services center as well as all the activities in which we participate throughout the year and likewise a new page on YouTube where all the audios and videos that are made by the Centre to be shared is stored is created.
4. It was possible to print for our EIA and SEA course, an a total promotional brochures thousand, two hundred of which were destined to who was next (one hundred and one hundred in Spanish in English and the rest will be used as promotional material for Course.



Likes” to the CREHO content in Facebook in 2015.

Source: Facebook.com



Total Reach from CREHO posts in 2015.

Source: Facebook.com



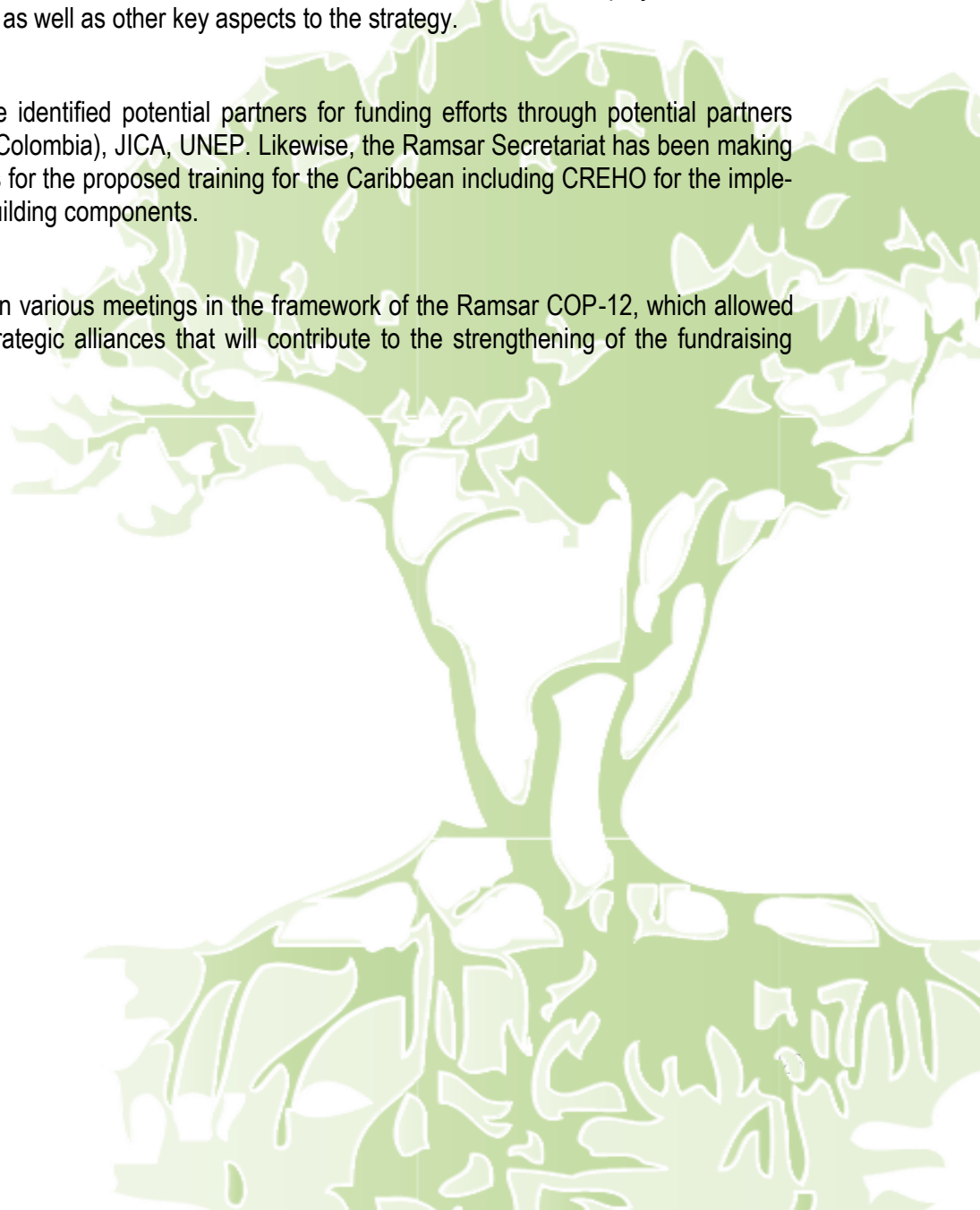
ADVANCES IN FINANCIAL STRATEGY

It is Ramsar Regional Center (CREHO) moves towards financial stability in view of its self-sustainability. 2015 and achieved an income of \$ US \$ 190,039.06, this through projects, course enrollments, services, consulting and increased financial support by the Panamanian government for operating costs and reinforce the country's commitment to the management of the center as regional initiative. Important to note the contributions of heading against executed through the center which in turn contributed to the implementation of national and international action in the amount of \$ 55,370.24 US dollars
Once hired the services of a specialist for the development of the fundraising strategy proceeds to perform the following tasks:

It is assumed in the process of a fundraising strategy draft and advances with SWOT, where it will include proposals for the revision of the mission and vision, an assessment of project revenues, courses and projections as well as other key aspects to the strategy.

For this period we have identified potential partners for funding efforts through potential partners such as WWF (Bolivia, Colombia), JICA, UNEP. Likewise, the Ramsar Secretariat has been making efforts to identify donors for the proposed training for the Caribbean including CREHO for the implementation of capacity building components.

Similarly it participated in various meetings in the framework of the Ramsar COP-12, which allowed the establishment of strategic alliances that will contribute to the strengthening of the fundraising strategy.





CONCLUSION, LESSONS LEARNED AND CHALLENGES

2015 was for CREHO an important year as it is in it that we acquire our status international mission, recognizing the work we have been doing since its creation, and which have contributed positively in terms of: research, conservation and has resumed continuously our training program on the theme of wetlands in Panama.

We have a team of trainers made up of thirteen members, all professionals and certified by the Ramsar Secretariat, which this year we have the support of three, in our two international courses developed successfully.

We were part of the most important meetings held, both in the Americas and Europe, resulting in important contacts in conservation and with which we plan future alliances or conducting joint projects.

We generated strategies for the benefit of conservation, research and training of wetlands in the region, with which we have gained even more credibility and respect of government and civil society, training 51 professionals, around 2015 men and women.

We support a number of initiatives wetlands of which we have built a close working relationship with civil society groups and responsible for managing, protecting and sustainable use these institutions.

The work we have been doing has proved crucial to promoting the conservation of wetlands throughout the region. We have carried out significant achievements, however much remains to be done. The wetlands are at risk, many are threats to which they are exposed and thus to its people.

Our work has resulted in significant progress and we hope to continue doing so. Helping Panama as all the countries in the region that require it and continue to create awareness for the benefit of future generations.



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