

- Side Event -

# Implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the DPR Korea and launch of the “2<sup>nd</sup> National Wetland Inventory of the DPR Korea”

**When:** Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 18:15 – 19:30

**Where:** Festival Arena, Intercontinental Dubai – Festival City

The wetlands of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) are important in providing sufficient quality and quantity of water that supports the country’s irrigation, industrial, domestic, recreational and hydro-electric demands, as well as providing other essential ecosystem services for people and the environment. The extensive wetlands along the west coast of the country, especially the tidal flats in particular, are of global significance for ecosystem and biological diversity, especially for migratory waterbirds.

## DPRK’s history of work on wetland conservation (major milestones):

- 1995:** Establishment of 12 Migratory Bird Wetland Reserves
- 1998:** Publication of the first National Wetland Inventory
- 1999:** Implementation of the UNDP-GEF Project ‘Coastal Biodiversity Management of DPR Korea’s West Coast’
- 2015:** Active steps to accede the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and to become a Partner of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP)  
  
Start of a project on Wetland Conservation and Management with international partner (Ramsar Secretariat, IUCN, WWF, Beijing Forestry University, Hanns Seidel Foundation and others)
- 2018:** Becoming of the 170<sup>th</sup> Party to the Ramsar Convention as well as the 36<sup>th</sup> Partner of the EAAFP

The side-event will celebrate the launch of the “2<sup>nd</sup> National Wetland Inventory of the DPR Korea”. Presentations and videos regarding the implementation process of the Convention in the country, with specific reference to the following topics which are linked to the Draft Resolutions that will be discussed at COP13:

- a) implementation of the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan;
- b) implementation of wetland CEPA activities;
- c) update on the status of Ramsar Sites and other key wetlands in the country;
- d) rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services at Ramsar Sites;
- e) promoting the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands in the DPRK.

