

Specialist Group Workshop

Priorities for Action

This Priorities Table contains many actions, the implementation of which are the primary responsibility of the International Coordination Unit. A Workplan and regularly (monthly) updated progress chart will be posted on the Wetlands International global website, to provide feedback on the progress achieved. Many other staff and members of Specialist Groups will also be asked to become more active and to take responsibility for actions and outcomes, as a result of which we are confident that not only communications, but also effective scientific programmes will be improved.

Need or issue	Priority	Who to action?	Deadline
Strategic and governance			
Planning cycle of the WI need to harmonise SG networks, associate groups, research groups	HIGHEST	BOARD	Ongoing
Whole of WI needs a focussed strategic planning process with an outcome oriented approach that is object led, target driven	HIGHEST	BOARD	Ongoing
Send out existing forward plans of Wetlands International to all SG Coordinators	HIGHEST	All via ICU	January 2001
Provide longer lead times to work on Projects, but must enable fast track also	HIGHEST	All	Ongoing
Joint meeting with each SG /staff to produce three year joint forward plans for tasks, with targets; review annually	HIGH	SGs, ICU+focal points	October 2001
Coordination and management			
WI should restate its relationship with SGs and other groups using an MoU approach. Clear agreements which place responsibilities on parties are needed, especially between Wetlands International and Specialist Groups	HIGHEST	ICU	Drafts by February 2001
Staff and SG Coordinators should identify new	HIGHEST	All	Develop

African Asian, and Central.S. American SG contacts, aim to improve gender balance, and produce the necessary funding for network development			project by March 2001
WI staff require comprehensive and active briefing and direction on the role of SGs and their value to WI	HIGHEST	ICU, SGs	By February 2001
<p>Communications improvements must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of focal points for clarity and accountability, including regional WI to regional SG contacts • Production of a WI communications plan for 2001 • Annual review of MoUs and annual feedback on needs and actions • Annual reporting against targets • Promote better network function and communication within Groups. 	HIGHEST	ICU+focal points	Ongoing
<p>Specialist Groups require a renewed and continuing close partnership with Wetlands International staff to retain interest and to enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better use of and access to skills in the network • Synergy in project development • Effective workplans to be developed for thematic and species issues 	HIGHEST	ICU+focal points	Ongoing
SGs need guaranteed weekly time commitment from the Science Coordinator	HIGHEST	ICU	Ongoing
WI should carry out a systematic needs identification of partners and others, culminating in the Advisory Council meeting in 2001	HIGH	ICU+focal points	Sept. 2001
Task-based working with <u>all</u> Specialist Groups	HIGH	All – ICU	From

should be developed: incorporate in MoUs and workplans		to lead	February 2001
SGs need money for coordination, including related travel, and communications	HIGH	ICU+focal points	Ongoing
Ensure Specialist Groups are engaged on science, focus on tasks not administration.	MEDIUM	All	Ongoing
Re-instate Hunting Specialist Group or equivalent in co-operation with IUCN SSC	MEDIUM	ICU, IUCN	June 2001
Implement actions using a pro-active approach jointly by SG and WI staff	LOW	All	Ongoing
Programme and projects			
Need return on investment for SGs to wish to work with WI, identified in forward plans and in project proposals	HIGH	ICU, SG	Ongoing
SGs should present concise projects and ideas to staff for co-development, consistent with forward plans. Staff should identify focal points, in addition to ICU	HIGH	SG, ICU	Ongoing
Develop the Ramsar Training and Advisory Service for funding and cooperative working with Partners and other	HIGH	ICU	Ongoing
Re-activate the Hunting Specialist Group or equivalent, and check with IUCN-SSC about possible links to other Specialist Groups	HIGH	ICU, SG, IUCN	March 2001

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