



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

PRESS RELEASE

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Wetland Conservation in Afghanistan

Kabul, Afghanistan – As part of its overall wetlands strategy for Afghanistan, UNEP is supporting a short term consultancy to develop initial priority management activities in two locations: Dasht-e Nawar in Ghazni province, the highest breeding location for Greater Flamingos in the world, and Kol-e Hashmat Khan a well known small wetland on the outskirts of Kabul city near the Logar road. In addition, Dasht-e Nawar will be proposed as Afghanistan's candidate for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as an initial step towards acceding to the convention. On site work to develop management activities has already begun and a two-day workshop is being held from 12-13 April at the Ministry of Agriculture. The 25 participants from the National Environmental Protection Agency, the Ministry of Agriculture, UNDP, SEA and UNEP will be the technical group involved with the management of the wetlands. During the workshop an overview of the convention, and details and methodologies for management planning for protected areas are being given.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. The convention covers all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities.

For further information and interviews, please contact:

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More information on the Ramsar Conventions can be found on [http:// www.ramsar.org/](http://www.ramsar.org/)