



World Wetlands Day

2 February 2018

Wetlands for a sustainable urban future

Zambia's wetlands which cover 14% of the total land area, contribute to economic development through supporting various economic sectors such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries, forestry among others. They also support livelihoods and provide ecosystem services such as provision of clean domestic water, prevention of soil erosion, nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration. Wetlands in Zambia also play a key role in providing habitat to many species of mammals and birds. Additionally, they are a rich source of fish as well as grazing ground for rural pastoralists.

World Wetlands Day is celebrated every year on 2 February. This day marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea.

Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future the theme for World Wetlands Day in 2018 aims to raise awareness about how urban wetlands contribute to the future of sustainable cities. Urban wetlands make cities liveable in many important ways. They reduce flooding, replenish drinking water, filter waste, provide urban green spaces and are a source of livelihoods.

