Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project (CIWP) — Ecosystem Management Plans That Could Not Refill Lake Parishan (Iran)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Iran

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

UNDP/GEF project that piloted Ramsar-style ecosystem management at Lake Uromiyeh, Lake Parishan and Shadegan. Plans were adopted and 1.5 billion m³ was allocated to Lake Uromiyeh, but Parishan has been largely dry since 2009 and its pelicans fell to zero.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-12

Department of Environment of Iran (DOE) with UNDP/GEF — accessed 2026-11-12

UNDP/GEF terminal evaluation of CIWP (Krijnen & Rahmani, 2013) — accessed 2026-11-12

UNDP Evaluation Resource Centre — CIWP evaluations — accessed 2026-11-12

Tehran Times — Parishan wetland at a drought tipping point (wells count) — accessed 2026-11-12

MDPI Land (2025) — remote-sensing drivers of Parishan wetland drying — accessed 2026-11-12

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