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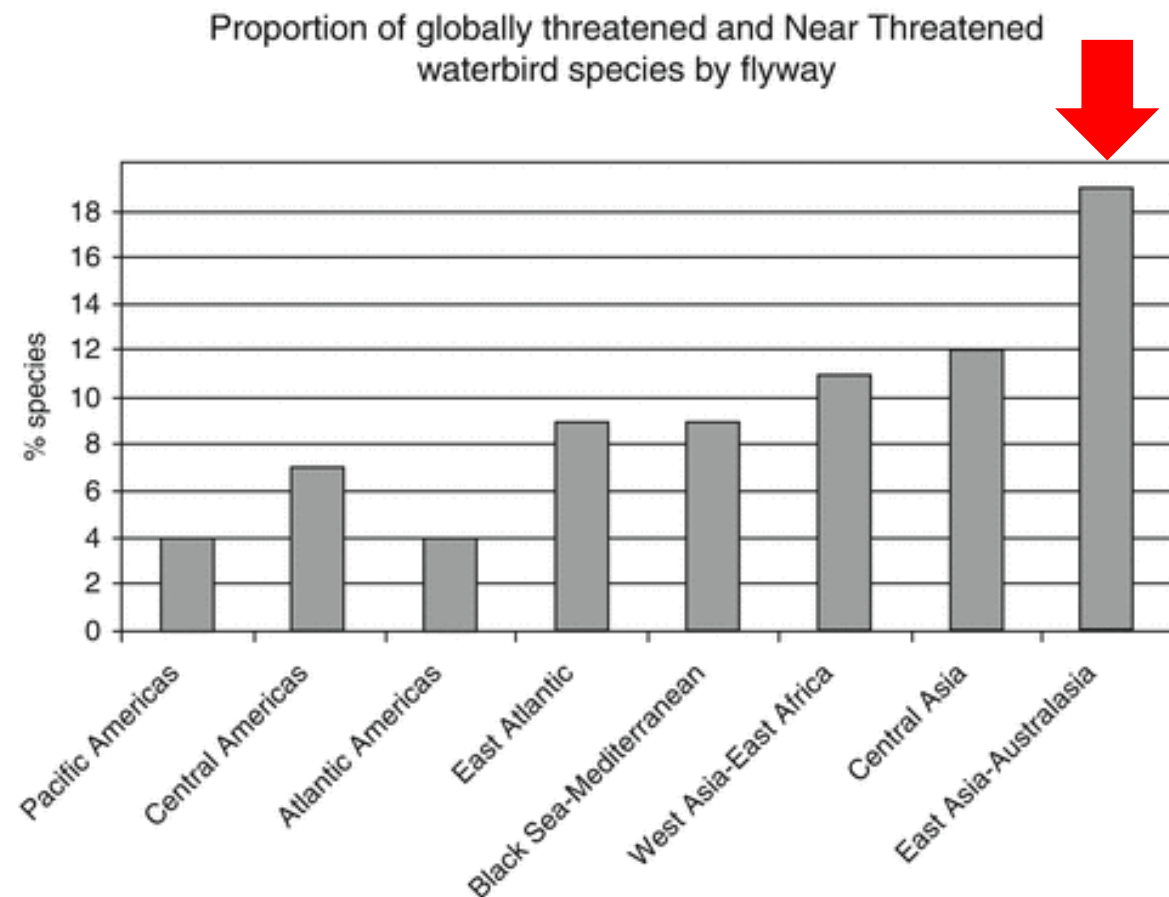
EAAFP: Securing Internationally Important Wetlands for Migratory Waterbirds and Local Communities

Doug Watkins, Chief Executive, EAAFP Secretariat



Migratory Waterbirds of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway

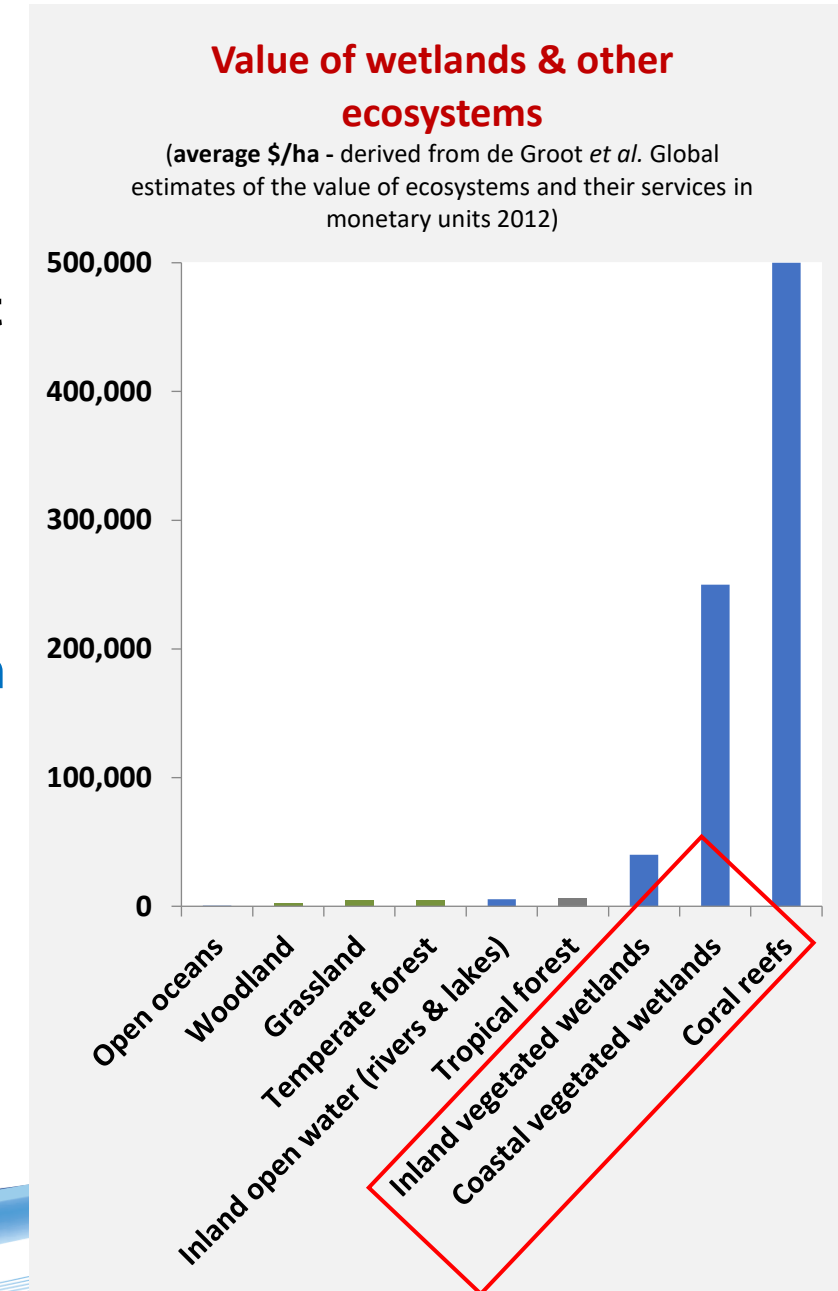
50 million migratory waterbirds
250+ populations
36 globally threatened
9% annual declining rate of some shorebirds



Mackinnon *et al.* 2012 IUCN Situation Analysis Yellow Sea

Key Challenges

1. **Building a Flyway network of internationally important wetland sites** that are sustainably managed to maintain migratory waterbird populations and their broader ecosystem services.
2. **Increasing awareness of the range of ecosystem services** that are provided by these important wetlands, in particular related to **livelihoods, carbon storage** and opportunities to **mitigate some impacts of climate change**.
3. Increasing the required **technical skills, capacity and resources of site management staff** to enable sound wetland management and **engagement with local communities**.





Key Challenges (continued)

4. **Addressing poor socio-economic conditions** that are resulting in unsustainable use of natural resources.
5. Maintaining and enhancing the **knowledge base** that is essential to inform **sound policy development and planning** for the management of a **Flyway Network of Sites**.
6. **Increasing cooperation, support and resources** to address these key challenges!



Key Opportunities provided by the ADB Regional Flyway Initiative

1. **Restore and secure ecosystem services** provided by wetlands for the **benefit of local communities** and migratory waterbirds.
2. Increasing **cooperation within government, research institutions and “citizen scientists”** on the monitoring of wetland services.
3. Ensuring **national workplans for multilateral environmental agreements** (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands) **address the need for a Flyway approach** to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their key sites.



Key Opportunities (continued)

4. Develop **Support Programs** that enable country-driven initiatives, within a Flyway approach, to strengthen institutional capacities, governance mechanisms, and to develop programs, at scale, for the conservation of migratory birds and the internationally important sites they depend on.
5. Enhance the **implementation of existing Flyway and National Plans for maintaining key sites** used by migratory waterbirds through the development of new financing mechanisms.



The East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP)

- Established in 2002 – as a Type II initiative at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. It built on 8 years of Flyway experience from the “Kushiro Initiative”.
- EAAFP is a network of Partners in a non-legally binding Partnership.
- Also recognised as a Regional Initiative of the Ramsar Convention.
- The EAAFP has a Secretariat hosted by Incheon Metropolitan City and the Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea.
- **PR China** – EAAFP MoP 2 & 10; EAAFP Science Unit; 19 Flyway Network Sites





39 Partners of EAAFP

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (6)



Convention on Biological Diversity



Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION (1)



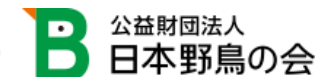
PRIVATE SECTOR (1)

RioTinto

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS (18)



INTERNATIONAL NGOs (13)





Objectives of the EAAF Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-2028 (adopted EAAFP MoP10)

1. Development of the **Network of sites of international importance** for the conservation of migratory waterbirds along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.
2. **Enhance communication, education and public awareness** of the values of migratory waterbirds and their habitats.
3. **Enhance flyway research and monitoring activities**, build **knowledge and promote exchange of information** on waterbirds and their habitats.
4. Build the **habitat and waterbird management capacity of natural resource managers, decision makers and local stakeholders**.
5. Develop, especially for priority species and habitats, **flyway wide approaches to enhance the conservation status of migratory waterbirds**.

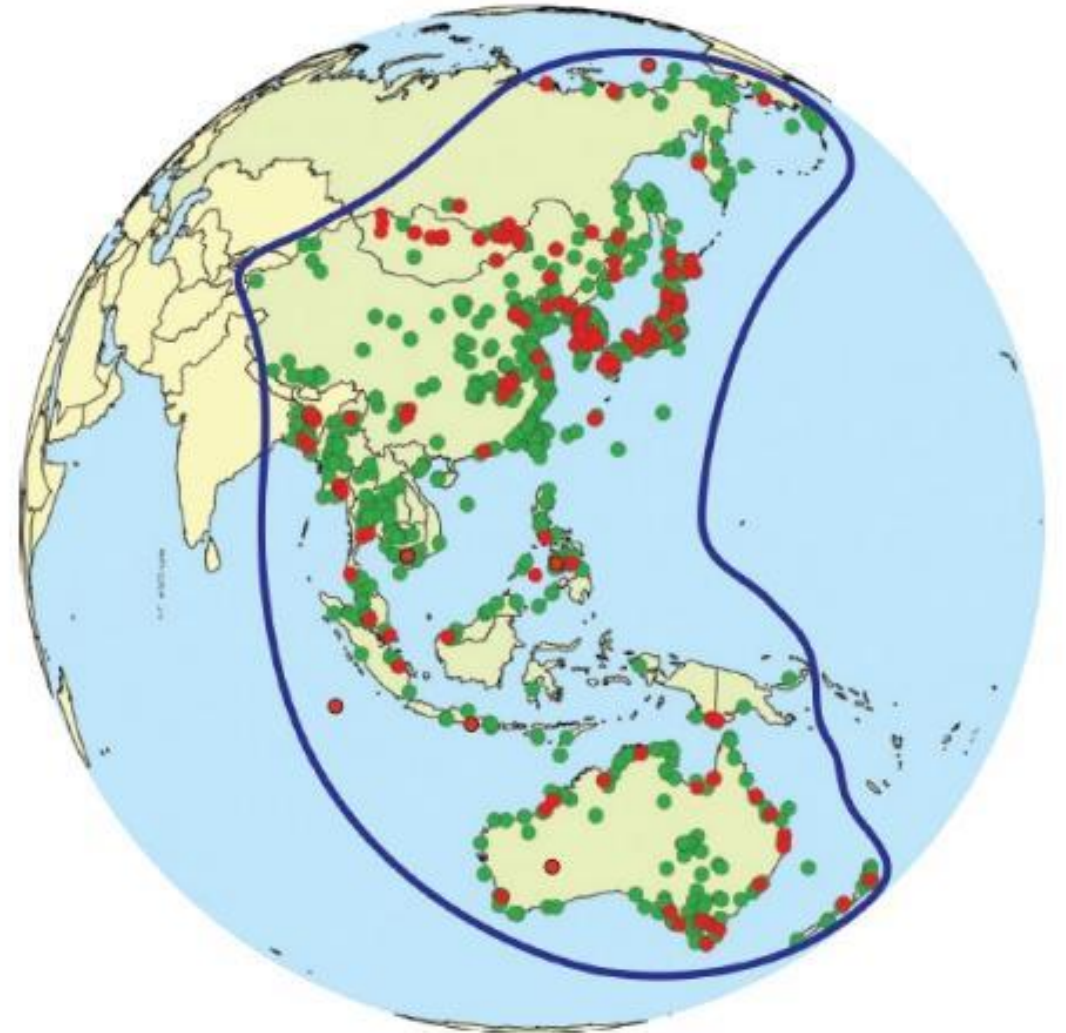
Under these five Objectives the **Strategic Plan identifies 23 Key Result Areas**.



Sustaining Internationally Important Wetlands

Currently - 149 Flyway Network Sites

- Sustainably managed network of **internationally important sites** to maintain migratory waterbird populations and **support local communities**.
- Sites nominated by National Government
- **Engagement of Local Communities**
- **Maintaining ecosystem services**
- 1000+ Internationally Important sites for migratory waterbirds





19 EAAFP Flyway Network sites

R Anqing Yangtze Riverine Wetland

Cao Hai

R Chongming Dongtan

R Dalai Hu

R Mai Po - Inner Deep Bay

R Poyang Hu

R Sanjiang

Shengjin Hu

R Shuangtai Hekou

R Xiang Hai

R Xingkai Hu

YaluJiang

R Yancheng

R Yellow River Delta

R Zhalong

Dashanbao Black-necked Crane

Hengshui Lake

Nandagang Wetland

R Nanjishan Wetland

19 Flyway Network Sites

(68% of these are also Ramsar listed)

