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UNDP- GEF Strengthening the Protected Area Network for Migratory Bird Conservation Along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China

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Threats and Root Causes

Populations of globally significant waterbird species in the EAAF are declining at alarming rates. The following factors have been identified as contributors among others:

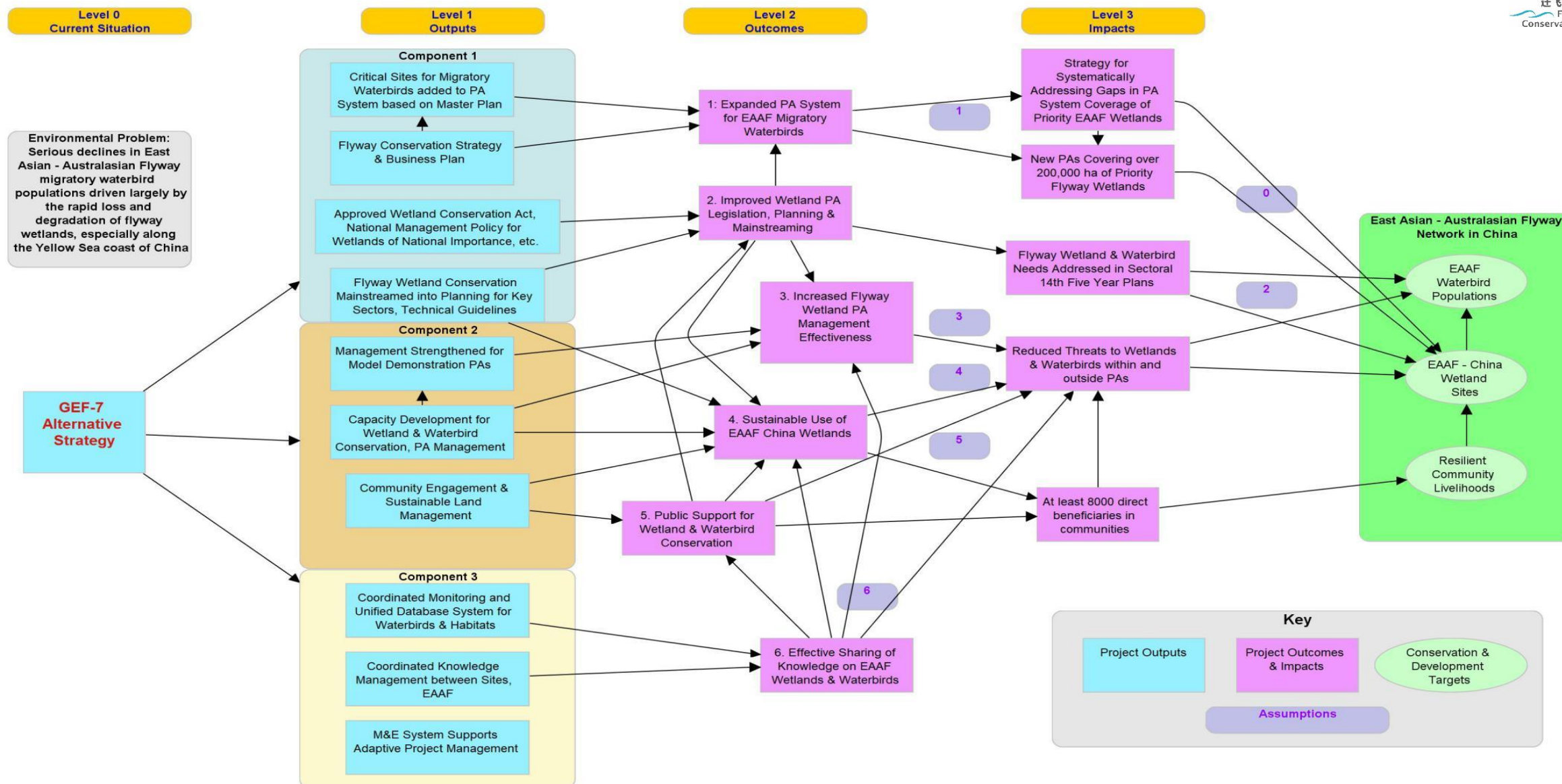
- Loss and degradation of habitat
- Unsustainable fishing, mariculture and aquaculture
- Water pollution
- Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
- Hunting, utilization and trade of birds
- Climate change

Three barriers are currently hindering the achievement of the vision:

Barrier 1: Absence of a strategic approach towards migratory waterbird conservation with inadequate representation of critical functional sites in the PA system, and insufficient sustainable financing.

Barrier 2: Limited integration of flyway wetland conservation priorities into the policies, plans and operations of other sectors, and a lack of technical mechanisms and skills to support wetland-compatible co-management at site levels.

Barrier 3: Lack of awareness of the value of wetland ecosystem services and management needs, and limited knowledge and information exchange on waterbird population status and best practice management techniques.



The **Project Objective** is to secure the conservation of globally significant migratory waterbirds through the establishment of a robust, resilient and well-managed network of protected wetlands across the East Asian - Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China.

The project adopted a strategy with the following **three integrated components** to remove the barriers aforementioned and the GEF funding will be used to achieve the objective through achievement of key results under the following **components & outcomes**:

Component 1: Flyway PA network planning, expansion, financial sustainability and mainstreaming

- **Outcome 1:** Expanded and more representative PA system for migratory waterbird conservation with sustainable financing
- **Outcome 2:** Flyway wetland conservation advanced through strengthened legislation, planning and sector mainstreaming

Component 2: Site-based demonstrations of adaptive habitat management and rehabilitation for migratory waterbird conservation

- **Outcome 3:** Increased management effectiveness over 305,505 ha of flyway wetland protected areas
- **Outcome 4:** Threats to migratory waterbirds arising from unsustainable land uses reduced over 600,000 ha.

Component 3: Knowledge management, awareness, gender mainstreaming and monitoring & evaluation

- **Outcome 5:** Strong public support for wetland and migratory bird conservation
- **Outcome 6:** Effective sharing of knowledge supports learning across the project, China and EAAF Partnership

Liaohe River Estuary National and Provincial Nature Reserves

Ramsar Site number: 1441

NNR Area: 80,000 ha & PNR Area: 29,150 ha

Global Biodiversity Significance

- 1) Listed as a Ramsar site in 2005;
- 2) Listed in the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Site Network as a key stopover site in 1996 and upgraded to EAAF Network Site in 2006;
- 3) Key stopover sites for cranes including red-crowned crane and Siberian crane; largest breeding population of Saunders's gull in the world; at least 18 species of waterbirds occur in numbers exceeding 1% of their global population.



Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve

Ramsar Site number: 2187

Area: 153,000 ha

Global Biodiversity Significance

- 1) Listed as a Ramsar site in 2013;
- 2) Listed in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Network in 1996 and upgraded to EAAF Network Site in 2006;
- 3) The largest breeding site for Oriental white stork; At least 2,000 nests for the breeding of Saunders's gull are found annually, representing the second largest breeding site; 38 species of waterbirds occur in numbers exceeding 1% of their global population.



Chongming Dongtan Birds National Nature Reserve

Ramsar Site number: 1144

Area: 24,151 ha

Global Biodiversity Significance

- 1) Listed as a Ramsar site in 2002;
- 2) Listed in the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Site Network in 1999 and upgraded as EAAF Network Site in 2006;
- 3) Over a million individuals of migratory birds stay or pass through the site each year; 11 species of waterbirds reach or exceed 1% of flyway population.



Dashanbao Black-necked Crane National Nature Reserve

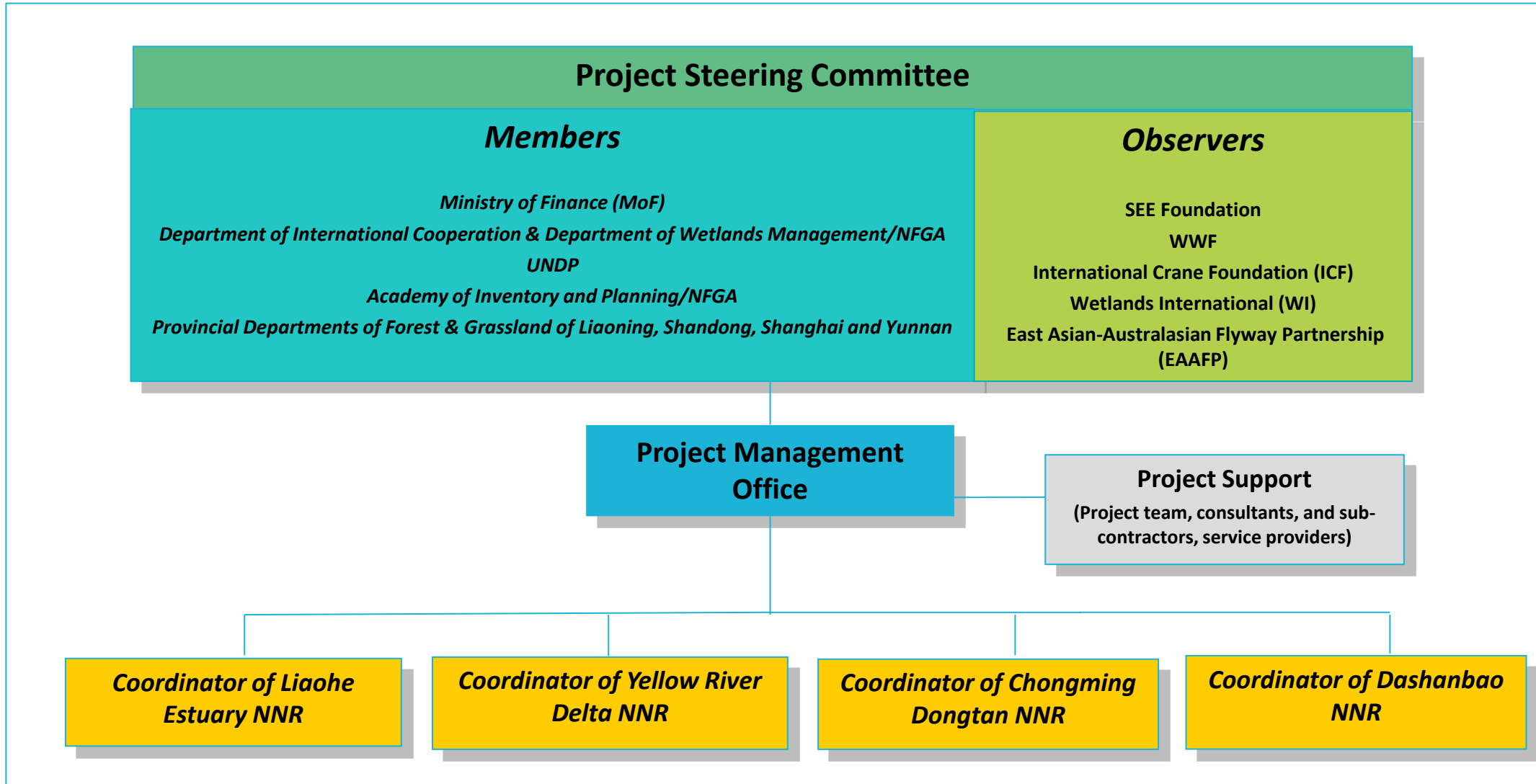
Ramsar Site number: 1435

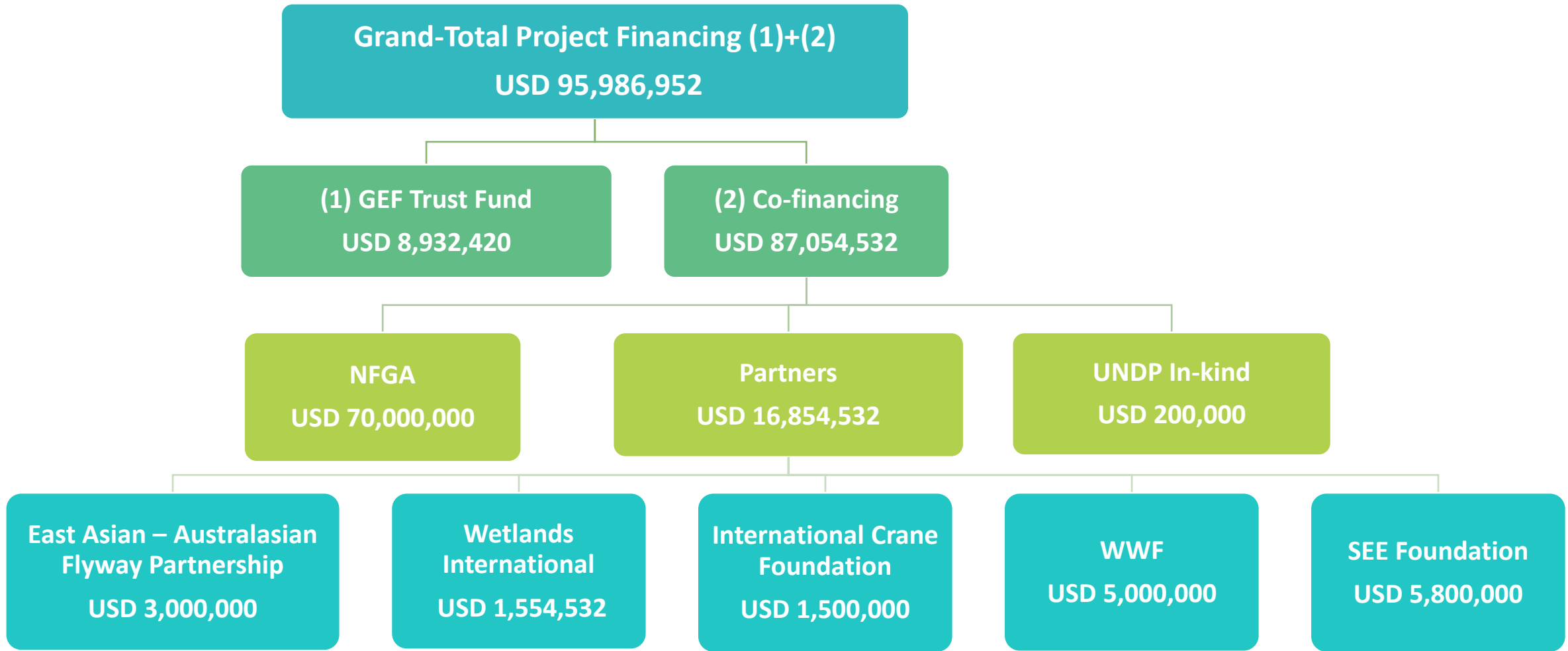
Area: 19,200 ha

Global Biodiversity Significance

- 1) Listed as a Ramsar site in 2004;
- 2) Listed in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Site Network in 2005;
- 3) An estimated population of 1,200 individuals or 10 percent of the total population of the world's black-necked crane winter in the reserve.









Thank You!