

EAAFP MOP12 Reporting Template for Government Partners

Dear Partners,

To report on the progress of the implementation of the [EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028](#), a Reporting Template was developed at the 10th Meeting of Partners (MOP10) in Hainan, China which was subsequently used to gather progress from Partners for MOP11 held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

The EAAFP Secretariat has amended the reporting template to account for the feedback gathered at MOP11 as well as the MOP11 decisions specifically Key Results Areas 1.2 and 1.6. To streamline the process and reduce the length of the reporting document, three separate templates have been created: for (1) Government Partners, (2) Non-Government Partners, and (3) Working Groups, Task Forces, and the Technical Sub-committee.

The “Reporting Questions” are linked to Key Result Areas to enable an assessment of progress with the implementation of each element of the Strategic Plan. Indicators have been provided to facilitate reporting and assess our achievements.

As this Reporting Template was developed in alignment with the Strategic Plan, some questions may appear to overlap. However, completing them all will provide comparability with the previous [Partner Reports](#) submitted for MOP11.

While the total number of questions for Government Partners is 50, the number of questions for each Partner Group, and each mechanism of the Partnership, is shown below:

Government	50 Questions
Non-Government	43 Questions
Working Groups, Task Forces & Technical Sub-committee	27 Questions

This Reporting Template has been sent to the Focal Point of each Partner, the Chair and Vice-Chair of each Working Group and Task Force, and the Chair of the Technical Sub-committee.

Thank you,

Jennifer George

Chief Executive, EAAFP Secretariat

The EAAFP Reporting Questions

General Information

Name of Reporting Partner	Australia – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	
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Reporting on the implementation of the EAAFP Strategic Plan

Reporting Period: 2023 – 2025

OBJECTIVE 1 Develop the Flyway Network of sites of international importance for the conservation of migratory waterbirds, building on the achievements of the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy, with the ultimate goal of establishing a sufficient and efficient network of sites with sustainable management. (FSN page: <https://www.eaaflyway.net/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/>)

- Supplementary information: [EAA Flyway Network Sites Overview Report 2013](#), [EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028](#)

KRA 1.1 A comprehensive and coherent Flyway Network of Sites is developed for migratory waterbirds, including sites that are not currently Protected Areas.

Indicator 1.1.1 The Flyway Site Network has expanded to include at least 40 additional strategic internationally important sites for migratory waterbird conservation, some of which may not currently be a national Protected Area.

1.

Do you have a publicly accessible list of internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds in your country?

If yes, please provide the web link or the reference in the below box. If not, would you like assistance from other Partners to develop such a list?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

Australia currently has 66 Ramsar wetlands listed as Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands>

- [Ramsar National Report for COP15](#)

The Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (the Directory) identifies nationally important wetlands, and provides a substantial knowledge base of what defines wetlands, their variety, and the many flora and fauna species that depend on them. The Directory is at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/australian-wetlands-database/directory-important-wetlands>. However, it has not been updated since 2006.

To address this, the Australian Government is developing a National Wetlands Inventory that will document and classify Australia's wetlands, including their condition and environmental values.

2.

Have any additional internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds been identified in your country since MOP11 (March 2023)? (for background, see [EAA Flyway Network Sites Overview Report 2013](#), [MOP11 Partner Report](#))

If yes, please provide details on these sites.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

The Australian Government funded the development of the National Directory of Important Migratory Shorebird Habitat - [Migratory Shorebirds - BirdLife Australia](#)

The National Directory of Important Migratory Shorebird Habitat identifies, and guides investment into the

protection and restoration of, important migratory shorebird habitat around Australia. It builds community awareness and Indigenous knowledge, helps achieve the goals of the Australian Government's *Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds* and contributes to the implementation of Australia's international obligations to the conservation and management of migratory shorebirds. It is based on thousands of field surveys by volunteers and experts, millions of bird sightings and uses rigorous methodology to identify key sites, thus providing useful and objective guidance.

The Directory was updated in 2025.

3.

Have high-priority sites been identified for potential nomination to join the Flyway Site Network?
If yes, please provide details on these sites. If not, would you like assistance from other Partners?

☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

Currently, there are no planned additions to the Flyway Site Network.

4.

Have any additional sites been designated or are currently going through the nomination process for the Flyway Site Network since MOP11 (March 2023)?
If yes, please provide the names of these sites.

☐ Yes
☒ No

Additional information:

Currently, there are no planned additions to the Flyway Site Network.

5.

How many designated Flyway Network Sites would you like to have by 2028?

25 site(s)

Additional information:

Currently, there are no planned additions to the Flyway Site Network.

KRA 1.2 National and Site Partnerships have been developed to coordinate the implementation of the EAAFP at national and local levels.

Indicator 1.2.2 At least 50% of Government Partners have an active [National Partnership](#) and [Site Partnerships](#) have been developed for at least 50% of the Flyway Network Sites.

6.

Have you supported a national meeting of your existing and potential Flyway Network Site managers?
If yes, please indicate the number of meetings you held since MOP11 below.

☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

7. Please indicate the stakeholders involved in the national meetings.	<input type="checkbox"/> Universities/Research Institutes <input type="checkbox"/> NGOs <input type="checkbox"/> Site Managers <input type="checkbox"/> Researchers/Experts <input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please indicate below)
Additional information: N/A	

8. Have the Site Managers reported to the national meeting on their work plans related to the EAAFP Strategic Objectives ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information: N/A	

9. Has a regional cooperation or network contributed to developing a National Partnership? e.g. North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental (NEASPEC), ASEAN Flyway Network (AFN), Indo-Burma Regional Ramsar Initiative (IBRRI), Regional Flyway Initiative (RFI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

10. How many of your Flyway Network Sites have a Site Partnership (e.g. 3 out of 5 Sites)?	Site(s): 0
Additional information:	

KRA 1.3 Flyway Network Sites are valued by the community and sustainably managed.

Indicator 1.3.1 At least 50% of Flyway Network Sites have current management plans that address specific objectives for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats and that are being adequately implemented. Management plans have stakeholder participation and are approved by relevant agencies.

11. Which Flyway Network Sites in your country have a Management Plan and when was it last updated? * Please provide the weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.
Your Response: In Australia, sub-national governments have the primary legislative and policy responsibility for natural resource management including management of wetlands and their associated flora and fauna. Of the 25 FNS in Australia, all have a management plan in place or are in development. Management plans are updated as required by relevant legislation and/or individual circumstances. Links to individual Management Plans can be found through the Australian Wetlands Database at: https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/wetlands/alphablist.pl

Indicator 1.3.2 At least 50% of Flyway Network Sites recognise the Flyway Site Network as a brand for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAF.

12.

Please provide examples of how the “Flyway Site Network” brand is being recognised (e.g. installing signages).

* Please provide the web links if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

In Australia, the Flyway Site Network is recognised through interpretive materials such as signage, brochures and other publications. One example is [Celebrating Australia’s Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats](#). This publication showcases 24 East Asian — Australasian Flyway Partnership Flyway Sites in Australia, many of which are Ramsar sites, including Roebuck Bay in north-west Western Australia, Moreton Bay in Queensland, Logan Lagoon in Tasmania and Corner Inlet in Victoria. Flyway Network Sites may be designated regardless of tenure or protected status and several Australian sites are privately managed, e.g. by Indigenous communities. Along with migratory waterbirds, the Flyway Site Network also protects many Australian endemic, threatened and migratory species and threatened ecological communities.

Indicator 1.3.3 All Partners are using and complying with International standards ([International Finance Cooperation](#) or equivalent) for development within and adjacent to FNS and other internationally important waterbird sites.

13.

Please provide brief details on any sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds that may be adversely impacted by a proposed development and describe the assessment process that was used or is anticipated to be applied.

* Please provide the weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is Australia’s primary national legislation relevant to the protection of sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds. The EPBC Act provides Australian Government jurisdiction in the protection of matters of national environmental significance including listed migratory species. Any development or action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a listed migratory species must be referred to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water and undergo an environmental assessment and approval process. This may include public consultation processes.

The assessment process used by the Australian Government to assess potential impacts to listed matters of national environmental significance is available at: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/referral-and-assessment-process>

Unless a migratory species is listed under the EPBC Act, Australia’s sub-national governments have primary responsibility for biodiversity conservation within their jurisdiction. This can also include public consultations on actions that may impact migratory species listed under sub-national legislation.

The EPBC Act public portal is available at: <https://epbcpbpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/>

<p>14.</p> <p>Have any public consultation processes been implemented when a site of international importance for migratory waterbirds could be adversely impacted by a proposed development?</p> <p>If yes, please provide brief details on the site/s and if the development was approved.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned <input type="checkbox"/> Not known
<p>Additional information:</p> <p>Any development or action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a listed threatened or migratory species must be referred to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water and undergo an environmental assessment and approval process. A list of all referrals under assessment is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/</p> <p>The assessment process used by the Australian Government to assess potential impacts to listed matters of national environmental significance is available at: https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/referral-and-assessment-process</p>	

KRA 1.4 Where appropriate, Flyway Network Sites are being sustainably used to support subsistence livelihoods of the local community.

Indicator 1.4.1 Where local communities at Flyway Network Sites depend on the natural resources of the site to support subsistence livelihoods, this is occurring without adverse impacts on migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

<p>15.</p> <p>In your country, are there examples of local communities at Flyway Network Sites that are dependent on the Site's natural resources to support subsistence livelihoods?</p> <p>If yes, please provide details on the site/s and the use of natural resources.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned <input type="checkbox"/> Not known
<p>Additional information:</p> <p>Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to have a cultural responsibility of stewardship – making rules, administering resources and managing the environment according to Indigenous values, knowledges and practices - for environment and wildlife including many of Australia's Flyway Network Sites. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have strong connections with the natural resources of Flyway Network Sites and embed sustainability in cultural practices through traditional hunting, harvesting, and management of plants and animals.</p> <p>More information on local Indigenous community relationship with Australia's natural resources is provided in Australia's State of the Environment Report 2021 at: Indigenous</p>	

KRA 1.5 Partners and local stakeholders are engaged in responding to activities which may threaten Flyway Network Sites.

Indicator 1.5.1 The level of engagement of EAAFP Partners and local communities in responding to threats to Flyway Network Sites is reflected in the number of meetings and events held and the participants attending.

16. Are you aware of any Flyway Network Sites or other sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds that are under threat? If yes, please provide details about those threats and what response have you or your local stakeholders undertaken.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Additional information: Australia's State of the Environment Report 2021 found that in a rapidly changing climate, with unsustainable development and use of resources, the general outlook for Australia's environment is deteriorating. Overall, the state and trend of the environment of Australia are poor and deteriorating because of increasing pressures from climate change, habitat loss, invasive species, pollution and resource extraction. Changing environmental conditions mean that many species and ecosystems are increasingly threatened. Multiple pressures create cumulative impacts that amplify threats to our environment, and abrupt changes in ecological systems have been recorded in the past 5 years. Australia has nearly 34 million hectares of wetlands, covering 4.4% of the continent, half of which are floodplains and swamps. These areas are important to maintain healthy population of migratory waterbirds. Wetlands are often significantly affected by changes in agricultural and urban landscapes through extensive clearing, introduction of non-native species, alteration to flows and concentrated grazing pressure. They are also vulnerable to further hydrological changes and drying under future climate change scenarios. Drought conditions, in conjunction with increased consumptive water use, result in a decrease in flows into wetlands and reduction in inundation. Several major indices for waterbirds show significant declines as drought conditions and consumptive water use result in a decrease in flows into wetlands. The 2019 Aerial Survey of Wetland Birds in Eastern Australia found that the wetland area index was the lowest since surveys began in 1983. Grazing, pests and weeds are also having a significant impact on wetland health, emphasising the need for integrated management of land-based pressures as well as inundation.	

KRA 1.6 The EAAFP Sister Site Programme has expanded.

Indicator 1.6.1 At least five new EAAFP Sister Site relationships have been developed.

17. Is your country interested in establishing relationships and/or formal Sister Site Partnerships with Flyway Network Sites in other countries? If applicable, what challenges are you facing in trying to connect with and/or establish a formal partnership with other Flyway Network Sites?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

18. Were there any collaborative activities for waterbird conservation between sites in your country and those in other countries during the reporting period (2023-2028)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

OBJECTIVE 2 Enhance communication, education, participation and public awareness (CEPA) of the values of migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

KRA 2.1 The achievement of the elements in the EAAFP CEPA Strategy and Action Plan (2023-2028).

Indicator 2.1.1 The CEPA Action Plan has been monitored, reviewed and updated as necessary to inform the EAAFP.

19. Does your country have a CEPA Programme addressing migratory waterbirds and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds? If yes, please provide brief details of the programme.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information (website links if any):	
<p>The Australian Government's Program on Communication, Capacity-building, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) to support Ramsar obligations was established to help raise awareness of wetland values and functions. The CEPA Program calls for coordinated international and national wetland education, public awareness and communication. The Program also encourages the promotion of training in the fields of wetland research and management. https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/programs/communication-education-participation-awareness-program</p> <p>At Ramsar COP 14, a new CEPA approach was adopted which will see the integration of CEPA activities into the next Ramsar Strategic Plan for 2025-2030. The Australian Government will be updating its national CEPA plans to reflect this new approach.</p> <p><i>World Wetlands Day</i></p> <p>World Wetlands Day (WWD) is celebrated each year on 2 February. It marks the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971. WWD was first celebrated in 1997. Since this time government agencies, non-government organisations and community groups across the world, including Australia, have celebrated World Wetlands Day by undertaking actions to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits and promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands.</p> <p>For World Wetlands Day and the fortieth anniversary of the Ramsar Convention, the Australian Government produced a primary school classroom kit. This activity kit includes a unit plan, fact sheets, a DVD, origami and subject book stickers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discovering wetlands in Australia — a primary classroom resource <p><i>Wetlands Australia</i></p> <p>The Australian Government produces a publication, Wetlands Australia - National Wetland Update. The magazine aims to bring attention to Australia's achievements and continuing challenges in wetland conservation and wise use.</p>	

Wetlands Education

The Australian Government has produced several resources about wetlands and their management.

- [Celebrating Australia's wetlands: A showcase of Australian Ramsar sites](#)
- [Australian National Guidelines for Ramsar Wetlands](#)
- [Issues paper: The role of wetlands in the carbon cycle](#)

Australia's amazing wetlands

- [Australia's amazing wetlands - brochure](#)
- [Australia's amazing wetlands - video](#)

Australian wetland education centres

There are many centres across Australia dedicated to wetland education or with a strong focus on wetlands. They are associated with many types of wetlands, including Ramsar sites and range from small, non-staffed interpretation facilities to dedicated centres with trained staff. A list of Australian Wetland education centres is available at: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/programs/education-centres>

20.

Has your country made use of the [EAAFP CEPA Action Plan 2023-2028](#) when planning and implementing the CEPA activities?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Planned

Additional information (give examples of how the Action Plan was reflected e.g. in Flyway Network Sites, targeting the public, etc.):

21.

What CEPA activities have taken place at Flyway Network Sites?

- ☐ Communication
☐ Education
☐ Participation
☐ Awareness

Additional information (list of events and/or news/report links):

See response to Q19 above and more detail provided at:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/programs/communication-education-participation-awareness-program>

22.

Has your country developed, and/or been implementing awareness-raising programmes, particularly at Flyway Network Sites, with the following groups (check all that apply)?

- ☐ National and local governments
☐ Education Department/Ministry
☐ Site Managers
☐ General public
☐ Schools/students
☐ Local communities
☐ Indigenous communities
☒ None
☐ Planned

Additional information (please provide a detailed description of the programme(s) including target groups, aims, and major achievements):

See response to Q19 above and more detail provided at:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/programs/communication-education-participation-awareness-program>

23.

Has your country hosted events for World Migratory Bird Day, World Wetlands Day or other international awareness-raising events since MOP11 (March 2023)?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Planned

Additional information (list of events and any news/report links):

See response to Q19 above and more detail provided at:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/programs/communication-education-participation-awareness-program>

24.

Please add below, the success stories you would like to share (e.g. promoting bird friendly livelihoods, active involvement of Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), youth groups, citizen scientists, etc.).

* Please provide the weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

N/A

OBJECTIVE 3 Enhance flyway research and monitoring activities, build knowledge and promote exchange of information on waterbirds and their habitats.

KRA 3.1 National monitoring systems to assess the status of migratory waterbirds and their habitats are established, maintained and further enhanced.

Indicator 3.1.1 A standardised monitoring methodology for migratory waterbirds and their habitat is developed and used in nationally coordinated monitoring programmes.

25.

Is there a programme in your country to monitor migratory waterbird numbers? If yes, please provide details on the programme, the role of volunteer counters and the monitoring efforts since MOP11 (March 2023).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Planned

Additional information:

Birdlife Australia coordinates national monitoring of migratory waterbirds, see

<https://birdlife.org.au/programs/migratory-shorebirds/>

KRA 3.2 Conservation status reviews for waterbird populations are produced and updated to set and adapt priorities for action.

Indicator 3.2.1 Data describing waterbird population estimates, trends and distributions are available to the Partnership.

26.

Please report briefly on data management in relation to migratory waterbird population estimates, trends and distributions.

* Please provide the weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The Action Plan for Australian Birds 2020 - <https://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7905/> is the most comprehensive review of the status of Australia's avifauna including migratory waterbird species. It is the latest in a series of action plans for Australian birds that have been produced every decade since 1992 and is authored by more than 300 bird experts. The Action Plan documents the increasing impact of climate change on avifauna, and direct and indirect impacts such as bushfires. Profiles of a number of migratory waterbirds are included in the Action Plan which includes information on their threatened status, threats such as climate change and management actions to support their recovery. The Action Plan also includes accounts of over 60 taxa that are no longer considered threatened due to sustained conservation action over decades.

Indicator 3.2.2 Two updates of waterbird population estimates have been produced and published.

27.

Please report on your planned contribution to the migratory waterbird Conservation Status Review II. Please see the [CSR I Report](#) for further reference.

Your Response:

N/A

KRA 3.3 Updated list of sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds for conservation management and prioritisation.

KRA 3.4 A stronger understanding is developed on the anticipated impacts of climate change on waterbirds and their habitats and this is informing planning and site management.

Indicator 3.4.1 Improved knowledge about threats, including climate change impacts, on waterbirds and their habitats is shared and appropriate action taken where possible.

28.

Please provide details on key research your country is involved in on climate change impacts on migratory waterbirds and wetlands in the EAAF, published since MOP11 (March 2023). Please also share any recent similar research programmes, both regionally and globally, that you are aware of.

*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The National Directory of Important Migratory Shorebird Habitat - <https://birdlife.org.au/programs/migratory-shorebirds/> identifies, and guides investment into the protection and restoration of, important migratory shorebird habitat around Australia. It builds community awareness and Indigenous knowledge, helps achieve the goals of the Australian Government's Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds and contributes to the

implementation of Australia's international obligations to the conservation and management of migratory shorebirds. It is based on thousands of field surveys by volunteers and experts, millions of bird sightings and uses rigorous methodology to identify key sites, thus providing useful and objective guidance. The Directory also provides a starting point for more comprehensive assessment of habitat, prioritization of sites according to current or future threats and more targeted conservation action.

A range of contemporary information on climate change impacts on migratory waterbirds and wetlands is available at: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/climate-change-resources>

Australia's National Environmental Science Program [Climate Systems Hub](#) is undertaking research to advance the understanding of Australia's climate, its extremes and associated drivers, including the fundamental drivers of rainfall, drought and bushfires, to inform climate adaptation solutions for Australia. The Climate Systems Hub is:

- maintaining Australia's world-class capability in multidisciplinary Earth-system science and modelling
- advancing understanding of Australia's climate variability, extremes and associated drivers, including the fundamental drivers of bushfires, drought and rainfall in the Australian region
- developing applied decision-making tools and information to inform policy and programs to prepare Australia to manage emerging risks and opportunities.

The [Resilient Landscapes Hub](#) is also undertaking research to inform management of Australia's terrestrial and freshwater habitats to promote resilience and sustainability.

- applied research to support management of Australia's terrestrial and freshwater habitats, including a focus on bushfire recovery, feral animals and invasive species impacts, and accessible science to assist land managers develop and maintain resilient, sustainable and productive landscapes
- targeted biodiversity and taxonomy products to support efficient system monitoring
- environmental monitoring systems and decision-support tools.

The hub is also driving coordinated research across all 4 new hubs under NESP's 'threatened and migratory species and threatened ecological communities' cross-cutting initiative. This research is supporting policy development, program management and regulatory processes aimed at protecting Australia's environmental assets in terrestrial, Ramsar and marine environments.

The [Action Plan for Australian Birds 2020](#) - <https://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7905/> is the most comprehensive review of the status of Australia's avifauna including migratory waterbird species. It is the latest in a series of action plans for Australian birds that have been produced every decade since 1992 and is authored by more than 300 bird experts. The Action Plan documents the increasing impact of climate change on avifauna, and direct and indirect impacts such as bushfires. A number of migratory waterbirds are included in the Action Plan which includes information on their threatened status, threats such as climate change and management actions to support their recovery. The Action Plan also includes accounts of over 60 taxa that are no longer considered threatened due to sustained conservation action over decades.

KRA 3.5 Collaborative research programmes are established to provide effective support for conservation and sustainable management efforts, particularly the sustainable use of resources for local livelihood benefits.

Indicator 3.5.1 Research programmes on improving conservation and sustainable management outcomes have increased.

29.

Please provide brief information on areas of collaborative research programmes your country is involved in since MOP11 (March 2023) about the improvement of conservation and sustainable management outcomes at internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds. Please also share any recent similar research programmes, both regionally and globally, that you are aware of.

*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.

Your Response:

Australia's National Environmental Science Program (NESP) funds environment and climate research, including a range of research programs that are aimed at conservation and sustainable management outcomes for internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds. The first phase invested \$145 million (2014-15 to 2020-21) into 6 research hubs. The second phase is investing \$149 million (2020-21 to 2026-27) into 4 new research hubs. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/science-research/nesp>

During phase 1 of the program there was a specific project that supported the conservation of Far Eastern Curlew and its habitat. The Far Eastern Curlew has experienced one of the most acute declines of any Australian shorebird species. Currently little is known about its exact feeding and roosting habitat requirements. While coastal development can negatively impact populations, it is known to use some artificial habitat for roosting. This project provided the knowledge needed to develop strategic guidelines for Far Eastern Curlew conservation in the context of potential development and associated offsetting. Outcomes of the NESP project can be found at: <https://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/projects/strategic-planning-for-the-far-eastern-curlew>

Two recent programs of specific relevance are Project 1.21 Australia's coastal shorebirds: trends and prospects (<https://www.nespmarinecoastal.edu.au/project-1-21-2/>) and Project 1.3 Scoping for an Australian Wetlands Inventory: identifying knowledge gaps and solutions for mapping marine and coastal wetlands (<https://www.nespmarinecoastal.edu.au/project-1-5-2/>).

[Project 4.17 - Migratory shorebird populations: research for management and recovery](#) – is currently underway and will conclude in late 2026.

Overview

Many of Australia's shorebirds migrate to and from the Northern Hemisphere each year; often staying in the south for up to 6 months. Over the past 50 years, population numbers of most of Australia's migratory shorebird species have declined as a result of habitat loss and hunting. For unknown reasons, the numbers of some species have recently begun to stabilise. Finding out why declines appear to have stopped for some species might hold the key to creating management actions that build on these gains, to support and progress real, sustained population recovery. This project will determine survival rates and reproductive output for several shorebird populations, enabling an understanding of which factors might be important for their further recovery. The project will also analyse which conservation actions for shorebirds have been particularly effective, and summarise all of this information in a series of guidelines for managers.

This project will:

- analyse more than one million shorebird banding and sighting records to create an updatable dashboard of reproductive output and survival parameters for key shorebird populations;

- build a comprehensive database of conservation management actions for migratory shorebirds, indicating those known to benefit reproductive output and survival;
- create a shorebird management handbook to guide practitioner management efforts across Australia and along the East Asian – Australasian Flyway; and
- support many of Australia's international obligations to conserve wetland and migratory species.

Expected Outcomes

- Coastal species and habitats better understood to support regional planning.
- Coastal habitat knowledge expanded to support restoration solutions.
- Habitat values and species pressures assessed and protection needs identified.
- Existing threatened and migratory species monitoring data building knowledge.

[Project 4.26 - Modelling shorebird migration to assess disease risk amid global change](#) – will also conclude in late 2026.

Overview

High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) has become a growing threat to livestock, wildlife, and humans since the end of the last millennium. Migratory shorebirds are considered the main carriers of avian influenza viruses into Australia. To manage current and future HPAI risks, ongoing monitoring of these shorebirds' movements along HPAI hotspots in the East-Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF) is essential.

Assessing the risk of HPAI incursion into Australia is complex. Migratory shorebirds face challenges from climate change and habitat loss within the flyway, affecting their migration patterns and distribution. These influences are not yet well understood, which complicates our ability to predict their exposure to and dispersal of HPAI. Monitoring HPAI hotspots along the EAAF should, therefore, consider both shorebirds' current migration routes and the future impact of global changes on their migratory behaviour.

A detailed understanding of migratory timing and connectivity of Australian shorebird populations along the flyway is vital to predicting and mitigating disease incursion risks. This knowledge helps pinpoint critical periods and the geographic pathways through which HPAI may spread and reach Australia. Moreover, understanding how migration timing and routes adapt to global change is critical for the conservation of shorebirds, a group that has experienced severe declines in recent decades.

This project will:

- Combine citizen science observations, tracking data, and advanced analysis to examine changes in migration timing and connectivity of Australian shorebird populations along the EAAF.
- Assess how global change processes may alter migration timing, enabling targeted disease response protocols at likely Australian arrival sites during critical periods.
- Identify chains of wetlands along the EAAF and the connectivity of breeding of ranges that migratory shorebirds use to enable more focused monitoring of potential HPAI incursion hotspots in Australia.
- Develop a tool to predict shorebird migrations and potential virus transport into Australia under different climate-, habitat, and socio-economical change scenarios.
- Support Australia's international commitments to conserving migratory species.

Expected outcomes

- Strategic insights to guide HPAI disease risk management and species vulnerability assessments.
- Enhanced biosecurity preparedness and a refined response to disease incursions.
- Improved understanding of migration timing and connectivity to support policy development.
- A migration forecasting tool to predict species' responses and vulnerabilities to global change.

Indicator 3.5.2 Knowledge generated is being applied in at least 50% of internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds.

30.

Please give examples of how knowledge generated through research programmes on the improvement of conservation and sustainable management outcomes is being applied at internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds you are aware of regionally or globally.

* Please provide the weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

NESP research is supporting the development of migratory species policy in each Australian state and territory. These projects show how NESP research is informing land and sea country management across a range of management areas, including the World Heritage management, land and sea country management and protection of our coastal reefs and marine biodiversity, including migratory waterbirds such as shorebirds and seabirds.

At Shark Bay World Heritage Area, scientists and traditional owners are working together to assist the recovery of seagrasses from marine heatwaves. Shark Bay is an important area for migratory shorebirds and seabirds. On the World Heritage-listed Macquarie Island, new data about the eradication of feral cats, rats, mice and rabbits is helping protect and recover threatened species such as migratory seabirds.

<https://publish.viostream.com/play/bgoo5gydb85hrb>

Full NESP outcomes report here: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/nesp-outcomes.pdf>

Additional information on the Marine and Coastal Hub can be viewed here -

<https://www.nespmarinecoastal.edu.au/>

KRA 3.6 Best practice guidelines for waterbird and habitat conservation programs, including the incorporation of traditional knowledge, are developed and made available.

Indicator 3.6.1 Best practice guidelines are available on the EAAFP website.

31.

Please provide brief details on the development and application of national-level best practice guidelines your country is involved in for waterbird and habitat conservation, including the application of traditional knowledge, published/made available since MOP11 (March 2023). Please also share any recent similar research programmes, both regionally and globally, that you are aware of.

*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The Australian Government has developed [National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife Including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds](#). The guidelines raise awareness of the impacts of artificial light on wildlife. They can help safeguard Australia's threatened wildlife. The guidelines provide:

- a framework for how to assess and manage the light pollution impacts on protected wildlife
- detailed guidance for how to manage artificial light
- specific advice on how to protect marine turtles, seabirds and migratory shorebirds.

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals endorsed these guidelines in February 2020 during the 13th Conference of the Parties.

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/publications/national-light-pollution-guidelines-wildlife>

32.

In what ways have you considered, or already included traditional knowledge, Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), or citizen science in your work?

Additional information:

Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to have a cultural responsibility of stewardship – making rules, administering resources and managing the environment according to Indigenous values, knowledges and practices - for environment and wildlife including many of Australia's Flyway Network Sites. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have strong connections with the natural resources of Flyway Network Sites and embed sustainability in cultural practices through traditional hunting, harvesting, and management of plants and animals.

More information on local Indigenous community relationship with Australia's natural resources is provided in Australia's State of the Environment Report 2021 at: [Indigenous](#)

The NESP Marine and Coastal Hub also support Indigenous knowledge and partnerships through research projects. Indigenous ecological knowledge and participation is fundamental to the sustainable management of Australia's marine and coastal environment. The Marine and Coastal Hub is committed to including opportunities for the participation of Traditional Owners within projects where achievable, and this participation is expanding as new projects are established. The hub's Indigenous partnerships strategy outlines our approach to two-way engagement relationships that recognise, respect and incorporate the interests, rights and Indigenous ecological knowledge of Traditional Owners. Research in this area strives to build knowledge, skills and experience that will give individuals, communities, and industries a greater capacity to manage and benefit from Country, from the seagrasses of Tasmania to the wetlands of Kakadu. More information on specific projects and outcomes are available here - <https://www.nespmarinecoastal.edu.au/topic/indigenous-knowledge-and-partnerships/>

OBJECTIVE 4 Build the habitat and waterbird management capacity of natural resource managers, decision makers and local stakeholders.

KRA 4.1 EAAFP promotes the use of the range of available training tools and provides assistance to address challenges at Flyway Network Sites.

Indicator 4.1.1 All Partners and Secretariat have mechanisms for capacity building in place to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, tools and experience.

33.

Have you been involved in identifying/developing capacity building activities and materials related to the EAAFP?

If yes, please provide some details.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

34. Have you implemented capacity building activities and materials for migratory waterbirds and the management of their habitats? If yes, please provide feedback on their values.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

Indicator 4.1.2 Partners and the Secretariat include capacity building assessment in project proposals.

35. Have you included a training needs assessment or survey in projects you have developed, funded, and/or implemented since MOP11 (March 2023) related to EAAFP? If yes, please provide some additional information.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

Indicator 4.1.3 The EAAFP online technical training manual for Flyway Site management is supported and used by at least 50% of Flyway Site Managers.

36. Have you used the EAAFP online technical training materials for Flyway Site management? Please provide some additional information on the usefulness of materials.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	

KRA 4.2 Capacity of Partner Focal Points and site managers to pursue the EAAFP objectives has increased.

Indicator 4.2.2 At least one meeting of Partner Focal Points, including Site managers, is held per annum.

37. Have you been able to participate in any meetings of EAAFP Partner Focal Points? (e.g. Science Symposium, AFN workshops, CMS COP, etc.) If yes, have any new collaborations with other EAAFP Partners been developed from these meeting(s)? Please provide details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned
Additional information:	
CMS COP14 in 2024, various webinars throughout the intersessional period.	

KRA 4.3 Corporates with operations impacting on migratory waterbirds are engaged in delivering better outcomes for the conservation of waterbirds and their habitats.

Indicator 4.3.1 An increased number of internationally important sites and programmes, in which Corporates are contributing to positive outcomes for migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

38. Please provide details you have on corporate engagement at internationally important sites and in programmes to develop positive outcomes for migratory waterbirds and their habitats. * Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.
Your Response:
N/A

OBJECTIVE 5 Develop, especially for priority species and habitats, flyway wide approaches to enhance the conservation status of migratory waterbirds.

KRA 5.1 Partners are actively collaborating to develop approaches to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAF across national boundaries.

Indicator 5.1.1 At least 50% of Partners are collaborating across national boundaries initiatives for the conservation of migratory waterbirds, particularly for threatened migratory waterbirds.

39.

Please provide brief details on your transboundary involvement in international collaborative initiatives for threatened migratory waterbirds (e.g. NEASPEC, AFN, bilateral agreements, AMBI, Sister Sites etc.).

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

A summary of Australia's international environment activities can be viewed here - <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/international>

Australia is involved in transboundary collaboration to conserve migratory birds through bilateral migratory bird agreements with Japan in 1974, China in 1986 and the Republic of Korea in 2007. Each of these bilateral agreements provides for the protection and conservation of migratory birds and their important habitats, protection from take or trade except under limited circumstances, the exchange of information, and building cooperative relationships.

- [Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)
- [China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)
- [Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)

Birds listed on the annexes to these three bilateral agreements, together with those on Appendices I and II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) are required to be included on the migratory species list of Australia's national environment law, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Australia also contributes to transboundary protection of threatened migratory waterbirds through the Ramsar Convention and CMS. Australia's primary focus continues to be working within the CMS and the CMS family instruments, including the CMS Flyways Working Group, CMS Energy Task Force and the Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force.

- [Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals](#)
 - [Australian Government's National Report to COP13](#)
- [Ramsar Convention on Wetlands](#)
 - [Australian Government's National Report to COP14](#)
- [Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels \(ACAP\)](#)

40.

What do you consider to be the key innovative and/or improved approaches to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats particularly across national boundaries since MOP11 (March 2023)?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

N/A

KRA 5.2 Threatened migratory waterbirds are protected from threats and populations are stable or increasing.

Indicator 5.2.1 The Partnership, with leadership from IUCN, BirdLife International & Wetlands International, is updating and maintaining a list of threatened migratory waterbird populations and encouraging Government Partners to protect these threatened populations under national legislation.

41.

Which populations of threatened migratory waterbirds are protected under legislation in your country?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is Australia's primary national legislation that provides protections through listing of threatened species including migratory waterbirds. The EPBC Act provides an annual cycle for nominating and assessing species for listing as threatened. Any person may nominate a native species, ecological community or threatening process for listing under the EPBC Act. An independent Threatened Species Scientific Committee provides advice on listing assessments to the federal Minister for the Environment who makes the final decision on which species are listed under the Act.

The EPBC Act list of threatened fauna can be found here: <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=fauna>

42.

Has your country been involved in taking actions to reduce threats to migratory waterbirds?

If yes, please provide some examples of measures taken (e.g. addressing negative impacts of renewable energy, habitat restoration, etc.)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is Australia's primary national legislation relevant to the protection of sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds. The EPBC Act provides Australian Government jurisdiction in the protection of matters of national environmental significance including listed migratory species. Any development or action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a listed migratory species must be referred to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water and undergo an environmental assessment and approval process.

The EPBC Act provides for the identification and listing of key threatening processes and the development and implementation of threat abatement plans. These plans help to guide and coordinate Australia's response to key threatening processes. A threatening process is defined as a key threatening process if it threatens or may threaten the survival, abundance or evolutionary development of a native species or ecological community. For example, incidental catch (or bycatch) of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations' is listed as a key threatening process as it threatens albatross, petrels and shearwaters in Australian waters where the fishing practice is undertaken. Other relevant listed key threatening processes include:

- Injury and fatality to vertebrate marine life caused by ingestion of, or entanglement in, harmful marine debris
- Loss and degradation of native plant and animal habitat by invasion of escaped garden plants, including aquatic plants
- Predation by feral cats
- Predation by exotic rats on Australian offshore islands of less than 1000 km² (100,000 ha)

A full list of listed key threatening processes can be found at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicgetkeythreats.pl>

A full list of approved threat abatement plans can be found at:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/threat-abatement-plans/approved>

Indicator 5.2.2 Single Species Action Plans are developed and implemented for threatened migratory waterbird species in the EAAF.

43.

Please outline the contribution your country has made to the development and implementation of Threatened Species Action Plans since MOP11 (March 2023) (e.g. Far Eastern Curlew, Masked Finfoot, Black-faced Spoonbill, Spoon-billed Sandpiper).

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

A Single Species Action Plan for the Far Eastern Curlew has been prepared, and Australia is supporting implementation of the Action Plan through funding of surveys in Malaysia and research into the level of take in the Russian Far East, as well as domestic research on the species.

A Single Species Action Plan for the Christmas Island Frigatebird was adopted at MOP11. Australia is funding implementation of the Action Plan through CMS.

The Australian Government also develops and implements domestic conservation planning documents for threatened and migratory species. Recovery plans and conservation advice provide for recovery actions to support the survival of threatened species, such as [Far Eastern Curlew](#) and [Christmas Island Frigatebird](#). Wildlife conservation plans provide a national framework to support research and management of listed migratory species. Two wildlife conservation plans exist under the EPBC Act that are relevant to the EAAFP, the [Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds](#) (35 species) and the [Wildlife Conservation Plan for Seabirds](#) (76 species).

Indicator 5.2.3 Populations of threatened migratory waterbirds are either stable or increasing.

44.

Has your country been involved in any programme(s) to assess changes in the status of populations of threatened waterbirds?

If yes, please provide details.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Planned

Additional information:

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is Australia's primary national legislation that provides protections through listing of threatened species including migratory waterbirds. The EPBC Act provides an annual cycle for nominating and assessing species for listing as threatened. Any person may nominate a native species, ecological community or threatening process for listing under the EPBC Act. An independent Threatened Species Scientific Committee provides advice on listing assessments to the federal Minister for the Environment who makes the final decision on which species are listed under the Act.

The current Finalised Priority Assessment lists is available at:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/assessments/fpal>

The EPBC Act list of threatened fauna can be found here: <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=faua>

KRA 5.3 Regional Action Plans are developed and implemented for priority geographic regions of the EAAF.

Indicator 5.3.1 Development and implementation of Regional Action Plans for geographical regions with common critical threats in the EAAF.

45.

What has been your involvement in the development and implementation of Regional Action Plans (e.g. SPREP, AFN, AMBI)?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

Australia participated in regional workshops held by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to support the conservation and management of threatened and migratory marine species. Seabirds in Pacific Islands region are highly threatened with 11 of the 40 breeding species threatened with extinction, but knowledge of the location, distribution and populations of many remain unknown. Workshops resulted in SPREP developing strategic guidance for the migratory marine species, including migratory seabirds, in the [Regional Marine Species Programme and Action Plans](#).

Australia participated in consultative meeting of the Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA), the China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA) and the Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA) between 31 October and 2 November 2022.

For 40 years Australia has played an important role in international cooperation to conserve migratory birds in the East Asian - Australasian Flyway, entering into bilateral migratory bird agreements with Japan in 1974, China in 1986 and the Republic of Korea in 2007. Each of these legally-binding agreements provide for the protection and conservation of migratory birds and their important habitats, protection from take or trade, information exchange and cooperation in research and management action. Birds listed under these three bilateral agreements, together with those listed under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), must also be included in the migratory species list under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and are therefore Matters of National Environmental Significance.

KRA 5.4 Measures to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate, illegal hunting, take and trade of migratory waterbirds are developed and implemented.

Indicator 5.4.1 All Government Partners have mechanisms in place to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate, illegal hunting, take and trade of migratory waterbirds.

46.

What mechanisms are in place to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate, illegal hunting, taking and trade of migratory waterbirds?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

Australia is providing support to the CMS Secretariat for [the Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force](#) in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, with its terms of reference calling for collaboration with the EAAFP.

This Intergovernmental Task Force complements the Task Force to Address Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Waterbirds in the EAAF. Noting that the EAAFP task force focuses only on waterbirds, the MOP10

decision mandated the task force to explore with CMS and other frameworks to extend the scope to other migratory bird species and geographic regions, particularly noting that cooperation with CMS would be valuable, as CMS covers a wider variety of taxonomic groups of birds such as landbirds and raptors, which are currently outside of the scope of the EAAFP.

KRA 5.5 The conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is mainstreamed into national legislation and/or policy instruments including adaptation to the impacts of climate changes.

Indicator 5.5.1 All Government Partners have relevant national legislation and/or policy instruments including provisions on the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

47.

In your country, what are the current key national legislation and policy instruments that have provisions that cover the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is Australia's primary national legislation relevant to the protection of sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds. The EPBC Act provides Australian Government jurisdiction in the protection of matters of national environmental significance including listed migratory species and Ramsar listed wetlands. The EPBC Act protects Australia's native species and ecological communities by providing for:

- identification and listing of species and ecological communities as threatened
- development of conservation advice and recovery plans for listed species and ecological communities
- development of a register of critical habitat
- recognition of key threatening processes
- where appropriate, reducing the impacts of these processes through threat abatement plans and non-statutory threat abatement advices

The [Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032](#) maps a pathway to protect, manage and restore Australia's threatened species and important natural places. The Action Plan 2022-2032 builds on the Action Plan 2021-2026 which was developed with input from experts, the community, natural resource managers, scientists, conservation groups, and First Nations peoples. The critically endangered Far Eastern Curlew is listed as a priority species. Other focus areas to reflect increased ambition and respond to some of the challenges identified in the 2022 State of the Environment report include:

- An objective to prevent new extinctions
- 14 new priority places announced in addition to six islands
- Commitment to protect and conserve more than 30% of Australia's land mass
- Increased participation of First Nations Peoples in the management and recovery of threatened species and threatened ecological communities
- Contemporary fit for purpose conservation planning approaches.

Actions identified in Plan that can most benefit threatened species include:

- Tackling the impacts of feral cats, foxes and gamba grass as key threats to many threatened species
- Educating and empowering the community to participate and lead on recovery efforts
- Improving the resilience and adaptive capacity of priority species to climate change.

KRA 5.6 The conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is integrated into relevant multilateral and bilateral agreements and other regional mechanisms.

Indicator 5.6.1 Relevant environmental agreements recognise the EAAFP as an effective regional framework to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

48.

In your country, what are the current multilateral regional and bilateral agreements and other regional mechanisms that include provisions on the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

* Please provide weblinks if available online or reference for relevant publications.

Your Response:

A summary of Australia's international role in conserving biodiversity can be viewed here -

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/international>

Australia's current commitment to multilateral and bilateral agreements and other regional mechanisms that include provisions on the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats include bilateral migratory bird agreements with Japan in 1974, China in 1986 and the Republic of Korea in 2007. Each of these bilateral agreements provides for the protection and conservation of migratory birds and their important habitats, protection from take or trade except under limited circumstances, the exchange of information, and building cooperative relationships.

- [Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)
- [China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)
- [Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#)

Australia also contributes to transboundary protection of threatened migratory waterbirds and their habitats through the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Migratory Species.

- [Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals](#)
- [Ramsar Convention on Wetlands](#)
- [Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels \(ACAP\)](#)
- And many others here - <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/international>

Others

49.

Please provide any feedback you have on this Partner Reporting Template.

Your Response: N/A

50.

Please add any additional information you would like to share with us.

Your Response: N/A