

# WEAVING CONNECTIONS: Celebrating Migration, Traditional Knowledge, and Innovation across our Flyway





12th Meeting of Partners of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership 8–14 November 2025 • Cebu, Philippines

# EAAFP MOP12 Reporting Template for Working Groups, Task Forces, and the Technical Sub-committee

## Dear Partners,

To report on the progress of the implementation of the <u>EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028</u>, 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 <u>Partner Reports</u> submitted for MOP11.

While the total number of questions for Working Groups, Task Forces, and the Technical Sub-committee is 27, 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**

Reporting Group	⊠ Working Group	
	□ Task Force	
	☐ Technical Sub-committee	
	□ Other (please specify: )	
Name of Working Group	Yellow Sea Eco Regio	on Taskforce
or Task Force		
Designated Chair	Name	: Bruce McKinlay
	Position	: Technical Advisor
	Organisation	: NZ Department of Conservation
	Street Address/	: 265 Princes Street
	P.O. Box	
	Postal Code/City	: Dunedin 9016
	Country	: New Zealand
	E-mail address	: bmckinlay@doc.govt.nz
	Phone Number	: 0064273891477
	Website	:
Designated Vice Chair	Name	:
(Optional)	Position	:
	Organisation	:
	Street Address/	:
	P.O. Box	
	Postal Code/City	:
	Country	:
	E-mail address	:
	Phone Number	:
	Website	:
Additional Designated	Name	:
Coordinator (Optional)	Position	:
	Organisation	:
	Street Address/	:
	P.O. Box	
	Postal Code/City	:
	Country	
	E-mail address	:
	Phone Number	:
	Website	:
Report Compiler	Name	: Bruce McKinlay
	Position	: As above
	Organisation	:
	Street Address/	:
	P.O. Box	
	Postal Code/City	:
	Country	:
	E-mail address	:
	Phone Number	:

## Reporting on the implementation of the EAAFP Strategic Plan

Reporting Period: 2023 – 2025

**Note:** Questions specifically targeting Working Groups and Task Forces are highlighted. Questions without specifically mentioning Working Groups and Task Forces shall be answered by all Reporting Group members (WG/TF/TSc).

**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: <a href="https://www.eaaflyway.net/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/">https://www.eaaflyway.net/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/</a>)

- Supplementary information: <u>EAA Flyway Network Sites Overview Report 2013</u>, <u>EAAFP Strategic Plan</u> 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.

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

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

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

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

KRA 1.6 The EAAFP Sister Site Programme has expanded.

**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.

1. Is your <b>Working Group</b> or <b>Task Force</b> aware of the <u>EAAFP CEPA Action Plan</u> 2023-2028?	⊠ Yes □ No
Additional information:	

to share their expertise in migratory waterbird conservation)	g Group or Task Force incorporated elements of the CEPA  Ir work plan? (e.g. encourage academic institutions to conduct ies at Flyway Network Sites, and identify and encourage experts ertise in migratory waterbird conservation)  ✓ Yes  □ No	
Additional information (examples of how the Action Plan was reflected, e.g. in Flyway Network Sites, targeting the public, etc.):  The YSTF supports engagement across all partners to promote coordinated action across the Yellow Sea Eco-Region.		

3.

What kind of support would you like to receive from the CEPA Working Group to effectively implement the Action Plan successfully in your **Working Group** or **Task Force** work plan and associated activities? Additional information:

YSTF need to develop a work programme to be able to describe the support required.

**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.

**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.

4.

Please report briefly on data management of your **Working Group** or **Task Force** in relation to migratory waterbird population estimates, trends and distributions.

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

Your Response:

No Action to report

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

5.

Please report on your planned contribution to the migratory waterbird Conservation Status Review II. Please see the <u>CSR I Report</u> for further reference.

Your Response:

Nothing is planned

**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.

## 6.

Please provide details on key research on climate change impacts on migratory waterbirds and wetlands in the EAAF relevant to your work in TSc, Working Group, or Task Force, published since MOP11 (March 2023). \*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.

## Your Response:

Dr Hyunah Choi of the Hanns Seidel Foundation has regularly compiled Science outputs for work completed on the Yellow Sea. These have been shared with the mailing list. The November 2024 update is attached.

**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 livelihoods benefits.

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

## 7.

Please provide brief information on areas of collaborative research programmes TSc or your Working Group or your Task Force has been 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:

Nil to report

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

## 8.

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.

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

## Your Response:

Members of the Taskforce have undertaken this type of work outside the Taskforce

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

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

malouter 5.5.1 Book practice galactines are available on the Ervin Website.	
9. Please provide brief details on the development and application of national-level be waterbird and habitat conservation, including the application of traditional knowled available since MOP11 (March 2023). *Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications	edge, published/made
Your Response: Nil to report	
10. In what ways have you considered, or already included traditional knowledge, Indi Communities (IPLCs), or citizen science in your work?	genous Peoples and Local
Additional information: N/A	
OBJECTIVE 4 Build the habitat and waterbird management capacity of natural resonances and local stakeholders.  KRA 4.1 EAAFP promotes the use of the range of available training tools and provide challenges at Flyway Network Sites.  Indicator 4.1.1 All Partners and Secretariat have mechanisms for capacity building sharing of knowledge, tools and experience.	es assistance to address
<b>11.</b> Have you been involved in <u>identifying/developing</u> capacity building activities and materials about migratory waterbird and habitat management? If yes, please provide some details.	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ Planned
Additional information:	
12.  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.	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ Planned
Additional information:	

Indicator 4.1.2 Partners and the Secretariat include capacity building assessment in project proposals.		
Have you included a training needs assessment or survey in projects you have developed, funded, and/or implemented since MOP11 (March 2023)? If yes, please provide some additional information.  Additional information:	<ul><li>☐ Yes</li><li>☐ No</li><li>☒ Not applicable</li><li>☐ Planned</li></ul>	
Indicator 4.1.3 The EAAFP online technical training manual for Flyway Site manage by at least 50% of Flyway Site Managers.	ment is supported and used	
Have you used the <u>EAAFP online technical training materials</u> for Flyway Site management? Please provide some additional information on the usefulness of materials.	☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ Planned	
Additional information:		
KRA 4.2 Capacity of Partner Focal Points and site managers to pursue the EAAFP of Indicator 4.2.2 At least one meeting of Partner Focal Points, including site manager 15.  Have you been able to participate in any meetings of EAAFP Partner Focal Points? (e.g. Science Symposium, ASEAN Flyway Network workshops, CMS COP, etc.)		
If yes, have any new collaborations with other EAAFP Partners been developed from the meeting/s? Please provide details.	□ Ftallileu	
Additional information:		
KRA 4.3 Corporates with operations impacting on migratory waterbirds are engaged outcomes for the conservation of waterbirds and their habitats.  Indicator 4.3.1 An increased number of internationally important sites and program are contributing to positive outcomes for migratory waterbirds and their habitats.	-	
16. Please provide details you, as Working Group or Task Force, have on corporate er internationally important sites and in programmes to develop positive outcomes for and their habitats. *Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.	or migratory waterbirds	
Your Response: Nil to report		

**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.

# Please provide brief details the transboundary involvement of your Working Group or Task Force in international collaborative initiatives for threatened migratory waterbirds (e.g. North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation, ASEAN Flyway Network, Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative, bilateral agreements, Sister Sites etc.). \*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications. Your Response: Nil response

## 18.

What does your **Working Group** or **Task Force** consider to be the key innovative and/or improved approaches to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats since MOP11 (March 2023)?

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

Your Response:

Far Eastern Curlew Taskforce

**Hunting working Party** 

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.

19.		
Please provide information on the development of a list of threatened migratory waterbird populations in the		
EAAF in which your <b>Working Group</b> or <b>Task Force</b> has been involved in.		
*Please provide weblinks if available online or references for relevant publications.		
Your Response:		
Nil to response		
20.		
Has your <b>Working Group</b> or <b>Task Force</b> been involved in taking actions to reduce	□Yes	
threats to migratory waterbirds?	⊠ No	
If yes, please provide some examples of measures taken (e.g. addressing	□ Planned	
negative impacts of renewable energy, habitat restoration, etc.)		
Additional information:		

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

21.
Please outline the contribution your <b>Working Group or Task Force</b> 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 references for relevant publications.
Your Response:
Nil response
ndicator 5.2.3 Populations of threatened migratory waterbirds are either stable or increasing.

22.  Has your Working Group or Task Force been involved in any programme(s) to assess changes in the status of populations of threatened waterbirds?  If yes, please provide details.	<ul><li>☐ Yes</li><li>☒ No</li><li>☐ Planned</li></ul>
Additional information:	

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.

## 23.

What has been your Working Group's or Task Force's involvement in the development and implementation of Regional Action Plans (e.g. ASEAN Flyway Network, Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative, Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme)?

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

Your Response:

Nil

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.

### 24.

What work has your Working Group or Task Force done to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate illegal hunting, taking and trade of migratory waterbirds?

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

Your Response:

Been supportive of the working group

**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.

**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.

## 25.

Please provide any suggestions your **Working Group** or **Task Force** has on strengthening existing multilateral regional and bilateral agreements, and other regional mechanisms to deliver better outcomes for migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

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

## Your Response:

See my response to the Survey from last year.

## **Others**

## 26.

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

Your Response:

Thanks, nice and short

## 27.

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

## Your Response:

I think that with changes in the IUCN Yellow Sea WG and the recently announced Yellow Sea Initiative that there is need to review and reconfirm the need and purpose of a EAAFP Yellow Sea Taskforce.

The context since when the Taskforce was established has changed and so the aims and vision of the EAAFP YSTF need to be revised and realigned.

Steps to do this include: feedback form the Technical Sub-committee as to what should happen with the group and a paper to MOP 12 setting out the context and putting forward options.

Regardless of which option is chosen finding a new Convenor who is based in one of the Yellow Sea nations is essential to be able to make this Taskforce and consequently the EAAFP a credible leader in this space.