

DD.13 Review and Recommended Course of Action for the EAAFP Yellow Sea Ecoregion Task Force

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

12th Meeting of Partners of the
East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership



Proposal Background

- The coastal wetlands of the Yellow Sea Ecoregion are of global significance and they support a large proportion of the waterbirds of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway for one or more crucial parts of their annual cycle.
- The Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China are working to identify and protect these wetlands, and they are supported in this work by the global community.
- The EAAFP at MOP8 (Kushiro 16-21 January 2015¹) confirmed a formal Terms of Reference for the Yellow Sea Task Force (YSTF) and that since then the EAAFP YSTF has worked to implement the Terms of Reference with meetings and reports to the subsequent MOP of the Partnership.

MOP12 Decision

The 12th Meeting of Partners of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership:

1. Agrees the EAAFP maintains an EAAFP Yellow Sea Ecoregion Task Force;
2. Updates the Terms of Reference adopted at MOP8;
3. Instructs the incoming YSTF convenor to prepare a work plan for the period 2026-2028; and
4. Endorses a new Convenor for the period 2026-2028.

Report of the Yellow Sea Eco-Region Taskforce: Meeting of 9 November 2025

- As a side event at MOP 12 the YSTF met and resolved outstanding issues relating to Draft Decision Document 13.
- Points discussed in the Taskforce meeting and resolved include:
 - The usefulness or not of a context statement in the TOR;
 - Whether a detailed list of roles is more useful to the taskforce than five high level role statements;

Convenor

Unresolved at this time is confirmation of a Convenor from MOP12 to MOP 13.

The following attributes were agreed as necessary for an incoming Convenor:

- Location Is located in the Yellow Sea area to facilitate transboundary conversations and meetings between members.
- Familiarity: Is conversant with the management pressures present.
- Profile: Has the personal profile to be able lead transboundary and reserve management cooperation.

Proposed roles:

- The role of the EAAFP Yellow/West Sea Ecoregion Task Force will be to promote Regional and International Cooperation and report on progress on:
- **National-Level Coordination**
- **Stakeholder Engagement and Awareness**
- **Regional and International Cooperation**
- **Conservation and Ecosystem Management**
- **Science-Policy Integration and Monitoring**

Conclusion:

- The revised DD has been uploaded to the MOP website as 'Revised in Session'.
- I thank all members of the Taskforce and wider EAAFP Community who contributed to the building of this Decision Document.
- I recommend adoption of Decision Document 13 as follows:
 - *Agrees* the EAAFP maintains an EAAFP Yellow Sea Eco-Region Task force;
 - *Updates* the Terms of Reference adopted at MOP8. (Attached at the Appendix).
 - *Instructs* the incoming YSTF convenor to prepare a work plan for the period 2026-2028.
 - ~~*Endorses* a new Convenor for the period 2026-2028.~~
- Requests the Management committee and/or Secretariat to continue work to confirm a new convenor.