

ASEAN Cooperation Project Proposal

Project Classification Code: ENV/EVN/

Project Title: Improving Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Resilience in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway through Better Informed Wetland Site Management

Project Description:

This is a three-year project that aims to pursue the development of a partnership network in the Southeast Asian region which will champion the conservation of wetland habitats, particularly marine/coastal sites, to increase their resilience to climate change and strengthen their effectiveness as staging areas for migratory shorebirds. The first year will have this two-pronged strategy: (1) to develop a partnership network in Southeast Asia, the membership of which will champion the conservation of wetland habitats to improve their resilience to climate change; and (2) the network membership will pursue pre-emptive actions towards the conservation of natural coastal ecosystems in collaboration with informed and well capacitated stakeholder groups. This collaboration will develop a strategic plan intended for the conservation of natural coastal habitats to include at the minimum, the identification of staging sites based on an agreed criteria, a knowledge management strategy and the identification of necessary capacities for stakeholders to enable the effective management and governance of key habitats along the EAAF.

The second and third years of operations will be the implementation of agreed components of the strategic plan, which is anticipated to contribute to the: (a) establishment of a network of well managed staging sites in the ASEAN region; (b) development of knowledge management packages relevant to increase stakeholder awareness and support (c) local actions in strategically located staging sites; and (d) implementation of capacity building mechanisms, where appropriate.

This project promotes the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint (ASCC) 2025, specifically the key result area on Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Natural Resources (C.1) and its relevant strategic measures, to wit: promote cooperation for the protection (C.1/iii); enhance policy, capacity development, and best practices to conserve, develop and sustainably manage marine, wetlands and water resources (C.1/v); promote capacity building in a continuous effort to have sustainable management of ecosystems and natural resources (C.1/vi); strengthen global and regional partnerships and support the implementation of relevant international agreements and frameworks (C.1/viii); promote the role of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity as the centre of excellence in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (C.1/ix); and support to full implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (C.1/x). The Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT) in which the project is in direct compliance to are the following: biodiversity awareness (ABT1); reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss (ABT 5); ecosystem based approaches and sustainable fishery practices (ABT 6); mitigating anthropogenic pressures and climate change impact on coral reefs (ABT 10); effectively and efficiently managed protected area systems (ABT 11); and recognition of the indigenous and local practices and the significant participation of indigenous peoples and local communities (ABT 18).

Project Objectives

The Project aims to:

- 1) Establish a functional and responsive Southeast Asia Partnership Network to champion the conservation of wetlands, in particular coastal and marine, along the East Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF) to increase their resilience to climate change and improve conservation of migratory waterbirds;
- 2) Develop a strategic plan that embodies climate resilience, knowledge management strategies, and capacity development mechanisms for the conservation of wetland ecosystems that serve as staging areas of important bird species across EAAF;
- 3) Improve the management capacities of site managers and local stakeholders in managing wetland habitats;
- 4) Implement a comprehensive knowledge and awareness campaign to support the conservation of wetlands areas, particularly coastal/marine zones, being important staging sites of migratory shorebirds, and;
- 5) Spur and support the development of local conservation actions directed towards: (a) improving the resilience to climate change of coastal wetlands which particularly serve as staging areas of migratory shorebirds and as important livelihood source of coastal communities, in general; and (b) the conservation of migratory shorebirds.

Project Activities

The project activities are categorized into six major blocks which are to be implemented subsequently or simultaneously within the span of three years, namely:

1. **Inception and planning workshop** to be conducted at the start of the project to finalize the work plan and administration of the project.
2. **Establishment of the Southeast Asian Flyway Partnership Network**
 - 2.1. Conduct of regular (annual) network meetings
 - 2.2. Support to members' participation to EAAFP MOP
 - 2.3. Support to members' participation to two (2) global forums
 - 2.4. [Support to coastal wetlands baseline and monitoring surveys](#)
 - 2.5. [Support to site-based collaboration to include shared CEPA initiatives and joint monitoring activities in key flyways sites](#)
3. **Strategic planning**
 - 3.1. Conduct of two (2) sub-regional strategic planning
 - 3.2. Conduct of national planning workshops to support site-level updating of management plans including database plans
4. **Organizing and conducting capacity-building activities**
 - 4.1. Conduct of a regional workshop to identify capacity-building needs
 - 4.2. Conduct of three (3) regional capacity-building activities
 - 4.3. Conduct of a regional training-workshop on survey methods on species and habitat monitoring (waterbird and wetland habitats)
5. **Organizing and conducting CEPA activities**
 - 5.1. Production and translation of training manuals
 - 5.2. Conduct of a regional CEPA and knowledge sharing and learning forum
 - 5.3. Production of printed and web-based CEPA materials, one project video and one issue of ASEAN Biodiversity Magazine (featuring coastal AHPs and key wetland habitats)
6. **Organizing and conducting national/site-based activities**
 - 6.1. Support to national level participatory development of site management plans
 - 6.2. Support to national partnership meetings (AMS and Timor Leste)
7. **Project monitoring and evaluation**

7.1. Annual technical working group meeting

Sponsoring ASEAN Body

Sectoral Committee/Main Body: ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN)

Meeting Number/Date:

Working Group/Sub-Committee: ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB)

Meeting Number/Date:

Proponent's name and address:

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Date of Preparation: April 2016

Proposed Funding Source:

Project budget

(please see the attached sheet for details)

Proposed Project Budget (total):

Total Project Budget (3 yrs): **USD\$3,963,567.00**

Information below to be completed by the SPCD

Recommendation of Secretary-General/Project Appraisal Committee

Meeting No./Date :
Action : Endorsed Not Endorsed

Approval of Committee Of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR)

Meeting No./Date :
Action : Endorsed Not Endorsed

1. Brief Project Description

Conservation of coastal and marine areas, particularly nearshore and intertidal habitats serve a double purpose of maintaining ecosystem integrity in the face of climate change as well as ensuring the survival of migratory shorebirds by sustaining the health of staging or refuelling areas as they travel along the East Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF). The value of maintaining the interaction between shorebirds and their habitats goes beyond the exchange of food and nutrients, and extends to other intertidal populations by increasing the available food, allowing the growth of associated species, maintaining the balance and integrity of these nearshore ecosystems and assuring that their functions are maintained.

This proposal will pursue the development of a partnership network in the Southeast Asian region which will champion the conservation of coastal and wetland habitats to increase their resilience to climate change, strengthening their effectiveness as staging areas for migratory

shorebirds. The partnership will pursue pre-emptive actions towards the conservation of natural coastal ecosystems in collaboration with informed and well capacitated stakeholder groups. The first phase (Year 1) will enable a functional collaboration and support the development of strategic plans in selected intertidal staging areas in the region. The second phase (Years 2 &3) of operation will focus on the implementation of activities in agreed sites and improve capacities among key stakeholder groups.

This approach will assure site conservation through a network representing national interests, identify key persons who champion conservation of coastal wetlands and build capacities at necessary levels of governance. Results of this project will demonstrate an increased capacity for site-based conservation of coastal wetlands, specifically intertidal habitats anchored on a regional strategy for the conservation of migratory shorebirds of the EAAF.

2. Background and Justification

(a) Problem Analysis

Conservation of wetland habitats, in particular the coastal and marine areas, serve a double purpose of maintaining ecosystem integrity in the face of climate change as well as ensuring the persistence of migratory shorebirds by sustaining the health of staging or refueling areas as they travel across a flyway.

The East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) is found to have the highest proportion of globally threatened and Near Threatened waterbird species among all the eight major flyways in the world. This ecological crisis is linked with the degradation and disappearance of the staging areas, which are apparently the most biologically productive intertidal ecosystems of many ASEAN countries. This therefore underlines the importance of having a planning and management strategies in the coastal zones that could support both sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. Since EAAF is shared by many countries, and more specifically, migratory birds take up large scale at which they move, biodiversity conservation or the insurance of effective environmental safeguards can only be possible through an international cooperation and coordination. This initiative also promotes the implementation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint (ASCC) 2025, specifically the key result area C.1 (Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Natural Resources) and its strategic measures that pertains to crucial elements towards the conservation and sustainable management of aquatic environment, such as capacity building, policy development, and partnerships.

(b) Regionality – The problem being addressed by the project is within the geographic scope of the EAAF (north: Russia and Alaska to south: Australia and New Zealand). However, many Southeast Asian countries are also involved because the intertidal habitats in the region serve as vital ecological pathways for waterbirds migrating from the northern to the southern parts of the Flyway. These countries include the 10 ASEAN member states plus Timor Leste. The project focuses on the conservation of migratory shorebirds and their important staging sites in the ASEAN region of the EAAF.

(c) Participation - Participants to the project are ASEAN member states namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Timor Leste will also participate being at the interface of Southeast Asia and Australia and an important breeding site of an essentially Australian species of plover and rails, and staging site of many near threatened and critically endangered bird species, such as the spoon-billed sandpiper.

(d) Beneficiaries – The beneficiaries of the project will be the 10 ASEAN Member States (AMS) and Timor Leste, particularly the managers of the identified staging sites. The local communities that will be involved in the implementation of the project will also benefit through increased awareness in the value and function of coastal habitats and improved nearshore and coastal management capacities. Broader communities will benefit from increased resilience to climate change, including coastal towns. Improved resilience of coastal habitats will benefit migratory shorebirds, improve their populations and restore their roles in the ecology of coastal habitats throughout the EAAF.

(e) Project History – The issue of rapid degradation and loss of wetland habitats and wildlife was highlighted during the Symposium on Intertidal Conservation in Southeast Asia held in Singapore in 2014. There, it was recommended that approaches to respond to the issue therefore have to be pre-emptive rather than reactive. Outcomes of the Symposium were again reiterated in the 8th Meeting of Parties (MOP 8) of the EAAF Partnership along with those related issues that are specific to the Southeast Asian region. Relating to the global recommendation of pre-emptive measures, the EAAF MOP 8 agreed to organize a Southeast Asia Network for an effective conservation of shared habitats and resources in the region. This partnership, with their agreed terms of reference, will enable the selection and support for the conservation of essential staging areas in the Southeast Asian section of the EAAF. In addition, ACB, in cooperation with Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) had also developed a proposal which is anticipated to provide a concrete platform towards the development of a coastal and marine conservation portfolio in the ASEAN region. At CBD COP 12 in Korea, a Caring for Coasts initiative was also developed to focus on restoration of coastal wetlands. This initiative will be formally proposed at CBD COP13 in December 2016.

3. Objectives

The Project aims to:

- 1) Establish a functional and responsive Southeast Asia Partnership Network to champion the conservation of wetlands along the East Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF) to increase their resilience to climate change and improve conservation of migratory waterbirds;
- 2) Develop a strategic plan that embodies climate resilience, knowledge management strategies, and capacity development mechanisms for the conservation of wetlands that serve as staging areas of important bird species across EAAF;
- 3) Improve the management capacities of site managers and local stakeholders in managing coastal wetland habitats;
- 4) Implement a comprehensive knowledge and awareness campaign to support the conservation of wetlands and intertidal zones being important staging sites of migratory shorebirds, and;
- 5) Spur and support the development of local conservation actions directed towards: (a) improving the resilience to climate change of wetlands which particularly serve as staging areas of migratory shorebirds and as important livelihood source of coastal communities, in general; and (b) the conservation of migratory shorebirds

4. Outputs, Indicators and Activities

Outputs	Indicators	Activities
1. A finalized project implementation plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed project work plan, including list of staff and experts involved, and indicative activity schedules 	1.1. Indicative planning workshop (Pre-Inception and Inception)
2. A functional and responsive Southeast Asia Partnership Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully functional and responsive Southeast Asia Partnership Network Best practices, experiences, lessons learned, and pressing issues identified as regards the conservation and management of migratory waterbirds and their habitats shared among regional networks and partners Database/information management plan for the waterbird and coastal wetland monitoring in place Migratory waterbirds are being considered by the ASEAN Working Groups on Coastal and Marine Environments (AWGCME) and Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB), as well as other relevant ASEAN forums Migratory waterbird conservation are included into regional plans, e.g. Greater Mekong Subregion Initiative and NBSAPs Mechanisms in place (e.g. through ASEAN Heritage Parks and network of ASEAN flyway sites) for improving protection of migratory waterbird habitats 	2.1. Conduct of regular (annual) network meetings 2.2. Support to members' participation to EAAFP MOP 2.3 Support to members' participation in at least two global fora 2.4. Support to coastal wetlands baseline and monitoring surveys 2.5. Support to site-based collaboration to include shared CEPA initiatives and joint monitoring activities in key flyways sites
3. A strategic plan developed that embodies climate resilience and knowledge management strategies for the conservation of nearshore habitats that serve as staging areas for the EAAF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria on strategic staging areas developed and being used Strategies for knowledge management, climate resilience, and local stakeholders' participation for coastal wetlands and flyway sites conservation 	3.1. Two (2) sub-regional strategic planning workshops (one for mainland AMS; one for island and archipelagic AMS) 3.2. National planning workshops for the updating of management plans (11

	incorporated into regional and site management plans	planning workshops) and database plans (11 national planning workshops)
4. Improved management capacities of site managers and local stakeholders in managing coastal wetland habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 20 managers and stakeholders of key coastal wetland sites across AMS received relevant capacity-building needs • Training manuals developed and translated into local languages and contexts • Updated waterbird and coastal wetland monitoring data 	<p>4.1. Regional workshop for the identification of capacity-building needs</p> <p>4.2. Conduct of three (3) regional training activities based on capacity-building needs assessment</p> <p>4.3. Regional training-workshop on survey methods on monitoring waterbird species and coastal wetland habitat changes</p>
5. Knowledge campaign materials produced to support local staging site conservation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared CEPA initiatives among AMS, EAAFP, and the SEA Network implemented • CEPA materials produced and disseminated to target audiences • AMS acquired knowledge and shared learning on the management and climate resilience strategies for coastal wetlands 	<p>5.1. Production of CEPA materials (1 video, 1 issue of ASEAN Biodiversity Magazine featuring key wetland habitats and coastal AHPs)</p> <p>5.2. Production and translation of training manuals</p> <p>5.3. Conduct of a Regional CEPA and knowledge sharing/learning forum</p>
6. Local conservation actions directed at improving the resilience of staging areas to climate change and the conservation of migratory shorebirds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local conservation strategies formulated by site managers • Site actions implemented • National partnerships established for local and international cooperation • Focal points designated in each participating country for local coordination and implementation of local actions 	<p>6.1. Implementation of activities identified from site management plans in selected sites</p> <p>6.2. National partnership meetings in the AMS and Timor Leste for monitoring and evaluation purposes</p>
7. Project monitoring and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps and adjustments in the project implementation identified and addressed • Lessons learned and insights from the project distilled for best practice 	7.1. Annual technical working group meeting
8. Project completion report submitted and disseminated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project experience and outputs used as relevant inputs for 	8.1 Writing of project completion report

5. Management and Implementation Arrangements

(a) Management Arrangements

The project shall report regularly to and as required by the Chairperson of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB) and the ASEAN Secretariat. AWGNCB will further report to ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) on the progress of the project.

The National Government Focal Points of the involved AMS will represent the AMS to the EAAFP. Experts among the EAAFP, Ramsar, and PEMSEA will be tapped for the project to provide technical assistance; conduct of proposed trainings; and development of capacity development modules, management plans and Knowledge Management strategies. The recommendations of technical working groups of the EAAFP will be taken into consideration in the development of the Strategic Plan.

The project shall be implemented, coordinated and managed by ACB in close coordination with the EAAFP. The Programme Development and Implementation Unit (PDI) shall be the primary body in ACB to manage the project. As the proponent, ACB takes full responsibility of the utilisation of the fund and will manage it professionally to ensure the accountability.

To clarify the reporting requirement of the proponent entrusted to utilize the fund, a Disbursement Letter will be issued and signed by ASEC and shall be counter-signed by the proponent.

The proponent shall note that the approved fund will be disbursed in tranches according to ASEC's new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Project Financial Disbursement and Reporting (PFDR), effective from 1 January 2016. In case Proponent requests for the second fund tranche, First Tranche Financial Report shall be submitted to ASEC Finance and Budget Division (FBD). Proponent will follow accurately the details of approved project proposal including the budget breakdown and understand that cross-subsidy between different budget items is not acceptable. In case there are needs of any deviations from the approved details and/or necessity for usage of the contingency, the proponent will seek prior approval from the relevant party.

Project Completion Report and Annual Interim Report will be prepared by the ACB through the Project Development and Implementation (PDI) Unit, while the financial reports will be generated by the Finance and Administration (FA) Unit and ACB shall be the repository of original invoices and official receipts. Official submission of complete reports (technical and financial) to the ASEAN Secretariat shall be through the Office of the Executive Director.

(b) Implementation Arrangements

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity will have direct implementation arrangements with EAAFP and participating ASEAN Member States. The Program Development and Implementation Unit of ACB will be the overall implementing and coordinating body. It would be responsible for generating technical reports and ensuring the outputs of the project are achieved on schedule.

Inception Workshop-Meeting will be conducted following approval of the project. The workshop-meeting will thresh out the details of the implementation of the project. Conduct of training workshops/meetings will be carried out by identified institutions in the inception workshop.

The targeted funding donor shall be acknowledged in the publication of communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) materials and other related reports and publications of the Project.

The establishment of the Southeast Asia Network in the EAAF will be facilitated by ACB as part of its deliverables in the project, including coordination with AMS, arrangement of meetings, monitoring of progress, all logistical concerns, etc. However, as part of its MOP's key result areas, EAAFP will take the lead in the overall technical aspects of the network formation, i.e. development and review of the terms of reference, concepts for network meetings, evaluation of progress, and similar endeavours, as well as providing both the administrative and scientific guidance to the network.

ACB and ASEC are going to make their best effort to disseminate the activities' outputs as well as results of projects through the various channels for possible replication among AMS, within regions covered by the East-Asian Australasian Flyway, and beyond.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

ACB will be at the helm of implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of the project. Meetings organized to convene the membership of the SEA network will also be taken as opportunities to report on activities and generate feedback. These will be documented as part of the report to the AWGNCB in the context of contributions towards the ASEAN Community Blueprints. ACB will also organize a yearly project team meeting as an after-action review and planning, or for monitoring and evaluating the project implementation.

Reporting will be done by PDI-ACB midterm*, then a project completion report inclusive of financial reports will be submitted to the Environment Division of the ASEAN Secretariat's ASEAN Socio Cultural Community (ASCC) Department at project completion. The project, which spans for three financial years, the proponent will also submit Annual Interim Report and Annual Financial interim report including certified true copies (as of 31 December) of receipts within 30 days after the end of ASEC fiscal year. The ACB-PDI reports the progress of the project on a monthly basis to the ACB Executive Committee meetings. Other reporting requirements of the ASEAN Secretariat will be addressed as the need arises.

*note: Project duration is 3 years

Reporting to the ACB Executive Committee meetings on a monthly basis will provide the venue for discussion and analysis of the progress of project implementation results and aligned to contributing towards the ASEAN Community Blueprints.

7. Cross Cutting Issues

The ASEAN Member States are committed, through legislative, administrative or policy measures, to promote the conservation of natural ecosystems and biodiversity. Their commitments are expressed in the signing of the Convention on Biological Diversity (particularly addressing the Aichi Biodiversity Strategic Goals and Targets) and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), among other agreements.

A primary cross-cutting issue that the project will address is the impact of climate change on intertidal areas and marine and coastal habitats. The SEA region, being part of the East Asian Australasian Flyway, encounters many instances that raise

concerns brought about by climate change. The rapid urbanization and conversion of coastal and marine areas into agricultural areas is also a cross-cutting issue affecting these habitats. Though the need to address livelihoods and food security is a global concern, the urgency of addressing biodiversity conservation should not be sacrificed. This project will be able to address such issue through the development of participatory management plans that will address both conservation and livelihood concerns.

AMS support to sustain outcomes will be through the use of the publications of the project and replication of the training modules in their respective countries. The publications can be used in the academe as references for teaching to the students in many years to come. Knowledge gained by the resource persons from the project activities can also be shared to other professionals and student groups. Information generated by the project can be sustained through its constant use and shared to the succeeding generations of students and professionals.

8. Potential Risks

Potential risks that may affect the success of the project may include change in the management of the identified sites, wherein capacity training of staff may not be transferred or shared to succeeding staff or personnel. The management plans that will be developed or updated would need to clearly state its sustainability, thus commitments of government agencies in charge of the sites would have to be secured, regardless of personnel turn-over. Other risks that would affect the implementation of the project are listed as follows:

1. Major holidays simultaneously celebrated by several AMS especially the host AMS; e.g. the Chinese New Year, Tet Holiday of Viet Nam, birthday of Royalty / Monarch, Water Festival, etc. – mitigation is the postponement and re-scheduling of the project activity
2. Sudden political crisis wherein travel ban to host AMS is effected – mitigation is to postpone, re-schedule and select new host AMS,
3. Some AMS cannot send participants – mitigation is to continue with project activity if there are more than six AMS represented, if less, to postpone and find common schedule to engage more AMS participants.
4. AMS submit nominations less than 1 week before start of project activity forcing acceptance even if not qualified – mitigation is to become strict during project activity.
5. Natural disasters or other occurrences such as transboundary haze may affect project activities and lead to change of venue. New round of organizing, coordination and negotiations for host country would occur, and could slide down the schedule for possibly another two months. Project Management will be more proactive in ascertaining conditions in proposed host country for various activities.
6. Production schedule of publications are beyond control of Project Management especially in technical editing by resource persons (peer review) – mitigation measure is to persistently and closely follow-up the output with concerned experts.

Annex 1 –Budget Proposal (please see attached spreadsheet)

Annex 2 - Indicative Work Plan (please see attached sheet)

Annex 3 – Notation on Additional Supporting Documents: Rationale for the Southeast Asia Network in the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership and Terms of Reference (please see attached sheet)



Annex 2 – Proposed Indicative Work Plan and budget

Objective/Output	Planned Activities	Time-frame												Budget (USD)
		Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
Objective 1. Establish a functional and responsive Southeast Asia (SEA) Partnership Network														\$ 788,434
Output 1. A finalized project implementation plan	1.1 Pre-Inception and planning workshop													
	1.2 Inception and planning workshop													
Output 2. A functional and responsive Network in the Southeast Asia region of the East-Asian Australasian Network	2.1 Conduct of regular (annual) network meetings													
	2.2 Support to AMS members' participation to EAAFP MOP													
	2.3 Support to AMS members' participation to at least 2 global fora													
	2.4 Support to baseline and monitoring surveys (waterbird and coastal/wetlands)													
	2.5 Support to site-based collaboration to include shared CEPA initiatives and joint monitoring activities in key flyways sites													
Objective 2. Develop a strategic plan that embodies climate resilience, knowledge management strategies, and capacity development mechanisms														\$ 658,952
Output 3. Regional strategic plan with knowledge management, climate resilience, and capacity development as major components	3.1. Conduct of two (2) sub-regional strategic planning (one for mainland AMS and one for island / archipelagic AMS)													

	3.2 Conduct of national planning workshops to support site-level updating of management plans including database plans																			
Objective 3. Improve the management capacities of site managers and local stakeholders in managing coastal wetland habitats																	\$	339,106		
Output 4. Capacity-building needs identified	4.1 Conduct of a regional workshop to identify capacity-building needs																			
	4.2 Conduct of three (3) regional capacity-building activities																			
	4.3 Conduct of a regional training-workshop on survey methods on species and habitat monitoring (waterbird and wetland habitats)																			
Objective 4. Implement a comprehensive knowledge and awareness campaign to support the conservation of wetlands areas, particularly coastal/marine zones, being important staging sites of migratory shorebirds																	\$	210,076		
Output 5. CEPA materials produced and disseminated such as training manuals, proceedings, video, and magazine.	5.1 Production and translation of training manuals																			
	5.2 Conduct of a regional CEPA and knowledge sharing and learning forum																			
	5.3 Production of printed and web-based CEPA materials, one project video and one issue of ASEAN Biodiversity Magazine (featuring coastal AHPs and key wetland habitats)																			
Objective 5. Spur and support local conservation actions directed towards improving the resilience to climate change of coastal wetlands and conservation of migratory birds																	\$	1,016,125		
Output 6. Management plans and minutes of meetings	6.1 Support to national level participatory development of site management plans																			

	6.2 Support to national partnership meetings (AMS and Timor Leste) for M&E purposes													
Project Monitoring and Evaluation														\$ 289,280
Output 7. Monitoring and evaluation reports from meetings and visits	7.1 Technical working group meetings and validation activities													
Output 8. Project completion report submitted and disseminated	8.1. Writing and submission of project completion report													\$ 661,594
Grand Total														\$ 3,963,567

Annex 3 - Rationale for the Southeast Asia Network in the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership and Terms of Reference

Rationale

In recent years, the geographical focus for migratory waterbirds in the Flyway has been in North East Asia, particularly the Yellow Sea for shorebirds, in light of precipitous declines at staging sites in this area. Furthermore, most species of migratory Anatidae and cranes are largely restricted to the northern part of the Flyway. Yet South East Asia (SEA) is also an important but threatened area for many species of smaller shorebirds, including the critically endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper. In addition, recent increases in the breeding populations of colonially-breeding waterbirds, such as storks, pelicans and darters, have led to increasingly regular migratory patterns across national boundaries.

Given the ecological connectedness of countries and sites in Southeast Asia, shared species and populations, as well as common pressures and threats, it is proposed to explore the possibility and interest in creating a Southeast Asia Network in the EAAFP for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in SEA.

Why a network?

The Partners from SEA feel that a network will allow them to focus their energies to working together as they share similar issues as well as possibly similar bird species. Once a clearer way of working or agenda is developed then perhaps this can lead to a working group or task force. The SEA partners who were at an informal meeting to discuss this felt that formalizing this can come at a later stage as needed.

Representatives of ASEAN Member States including Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam and representatives from BirdLife International and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity attended the MOP 8 of the EAAFP and recognized the need to highlight the relevance of intertidal habitats and wetlands in the Southeast Asian Region to the survival of migratory shorebirds, the corresponding skills that site managers need to acquire to be able to manage these habitats appropriately and the skills that would enable site managers to communicate the relevance of these sites to the ecology and economy of the ASEAN Member States.

The interest to organize a Southeast Asia Network was assessed at the EAAFP MOP 8 and all those present supported the concept and recommended that the formation of the network be acknowledged as part of the documentation of the EAAFP MOP 8.

Who will be members of the network?

The proposed network members are the 10 ASEAN Member States (AMS), the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), Birdlife International, **Bangladesh (?), and Timor Leste (?)**.

Proposed Terms of Reference of the Southeast Asia (SEA) Network:

The components of the responsibilities of the SEA Network includes information sharing; capacity-building; communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA); site-based collaboration and monitoring; and resource mobilization.

The SEA Network will hold regular meetings for sharing experience on management practices and conservation initiatives for migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the region; monitoring and evaluating progress of partnership; planning; and resource mobilization.

The SEA Network will ensure that the following key result areas are met:

- 1) Incorporation of migratory waterbirds into the agenda of the ASEAN Working Groups on Coastal and Marine Environments (AWGCME) and Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB), as well as other relevant ASEAN forums;
- 2) Inclusion of coastal wetland conservation and management and migratory waterbird conservation into regional plans, e.g. Greater Mekong Subregion Initiative and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs);
- 3) Improvement of information management, i.e. data organization, sharing and dissemination of information related to coastal wetlands and migratory waterbirds;
- 4) Development of capacity-building activities to improve management capacities of key coastal wetland sites in the EAAF within SEA; improve technical capacity of the region for monitoring coastal wetlands and migratory bird species in SEA;
- 5) Implementation of shared CEPA initiatives that consider local contexts and language to promote conservation and sustainable management of migratory bird species and habitats in the EAAF within SEA region;
- 6) Enhancement of the mechanisms to protect coastal wetlands and other key migratory waterbird habitats in the EAAF within SEA region, such as through the ASEAN Heritage Parks Programme;
- 7) Mobilization of resources to enable joint actions; and
- 8) Conduct of regular meetings for knowledge sharing and learning and joint planning to improve practice and build regional knowledge on coastal wetland and flyway site management and migratory bird species conservation.

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