

## **Paper 7.23 Building National Partnerships**

### **Summary**

This paper discusses the role of National Partnerships and their importance to the Flyway Partnership

### **Background**

Throughout the development of the Flyway Partnership, the concept of National Partnerships has been encouraged as a mechanism to promote national level activities that contribute to the objectives of the broader Flyway Partnership.

### **National Partnerships**

Under the Partnership Text, national Government Partners are encouraged to establish a 'national partnership' to facilitate the work of the Flyway Partnership. The nature of the national partnerships will vary according to national circumstances. National partnerships could provide a valuable mechanism to set priorities at the national level and enable the national Government Partner to feed these priorities into the annual planning for the Flyway Partnership. For example, National Partnerships could support the implementation of Flyway Programs such as the Asian Waterbird Census. The national partnership could also help to develop activities at Network sites.

National Partnerships should be led by the National Government Partner Agency. How national partnerships are established, what they are called and how they would operate would be a matter for each Government Partner. Some countries may already have models in place, for example both Japan and Australia have developed national arrangements that support this concept. The development of national partnerships could also allow for collaborative activities for species specific work at the national level.

In countries where a national wetland committee has been established (to support implementation of the Ramsar Convention), the committee may provide an initial forum to discuss implementation of the Flyway partnership at a national level.

### **Recommendation**

Partners agree that during the next twelve months they will evaluate the implementation of a national partnership within their country.