



Youth Mainstreaming in the EAAFP

Draft Decision 10

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*ELEVENTH MEETING OF PARTNERS TO THE PARTNERSHIP FOR EAST ASIAN – AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY
Meeanjin/Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, 12-17 March 2023*

Summary

- Youth are important stakeholders in EAAFP
- The Partnership will benefit from a focused and durable effort to mainstream youth into the conservation of wetland and migratory waterbirds



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Summary

This Decision seeks the support of Partners to endorse the **mainstreaming of youth in EAAFP** through the following actions:

- The strong **encouragement of youth participation** in all EAAFP plans and activities
- **Youth member consideration in all WGs, TFs, and Sub-committees, and activities**
- The **establishment of a Youth Task Force**, crosscutting all WGs and TFs
- **National partners should identify one or two young people for participation in the Youth Task Force and potentially in Working Groups and Task Forces**
- **Flyway Network Sites are encouraged to engage young people locally and through Sister Sites using CEPA**

Background

- Builds on the success of recent youth activities in the EAAFP, such as the Youth Seminar in Manila (2018), Flyway Youth Forum (2020), and Youth Think Tank Competition (2021-2022)
- The Declaration of the 2020 Flyway Youth Forum calls for EAAFP support to:
 - 1. Provide greater intergenerational equity in decision-making;
 - 2. Provide youth-friendly spaces for meaningful participation;
 - 3. Ensure active and sustainable participation; and
 - 4. Empower and raise awareness of all youth.
- EAAFP will benefit from youth engagement as have partner organizations (e.g. IUCN, ASEAN)
- EAAFP participation tends toward an older demographic

Background

- The *strengthening Ramsar connections through youth* resolution was recently adopted and encourages contracting parties and initiatives to involve young people in wetland conservation
- A Youth Task Force and youth participation creates a pathway for young leaders in science and conservation to become involved in the EAAFP and potentially become future leaders in the Partnership.
- The term youth is defined to include those aged 18 to 35 years old
- Diversity in participants is encouraged to ensure the youth involved are reflective of the population within the flyway

Decision

- **The strong encouragement of youth participation in all EAAFP plans and activities**
- **Youth member consideration in all WGs, TFs, and Sub-committees, and activities**
- **The establishment of a Youth Task Force, crosscutting all WGs and TFs, and supported by the CEGA WG**
- **National partners should identify 1 or 2 young people per country for participation in the Youth Task Force and potentially in WGs and TFs**
- **FNSs are encouraged to engage young people locally and through Sister Sites using CEPA**

Discussion Points

- What age range should this cover? Shall we align with other efforts?
- Is youth the proper terminology?
 - Young people
 - Early career
 - Student



Questions?

- Please visit us at the CEPA Booth
- Attend the youth side event on Tuesday at lunch
- Youth presentation on Friday
- Contact me via email: ctburns@blm.gov



Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands



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