

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



Decision 6

Guidelines for the EAAFP National and Site Partnerships

Recalling that, In accordance with Paragraph 3 and Paragraph 8 (6) of the Partnership document, Partners are encouraged to support the development of an East Asian – Australasian Flyway Site Network (Flyway Site Network) to ensure a chain of internationally important sites are managed to support the populations of migratory waterbirds in the flyway and to recognize the role of different levels of governments in the implementation of the Partnership and encourage National and Site level partnerships to support activities;

Recognizing that the National and Site partnerships can provide a mechanism to set national and sub-national priorities and develop work plans; and that these should address the engagement of the local community (CEPA); monitoring of waterbirds; the condition of Network sites; implementation of priority on-ground activities; build the capacity of Flyway Site Managers to communicate flyway information to a larger group; and identify new potential Flyway sites; and *Noting* that, for example, National Partnerships can help support the national coordination of the Asian Waterbird Census and activities supporting World Migratory Bird Day;

Further recognizing that the new guidelines for the EAAFP National and Site Partnerships are in accordance with Decision 10.08 (Developing Guidelines for National and Site Partnerships), but *Also recognizing* that the guidelines provide guidance and recommendations but are not as rules for Partners and that a number of countries have already developed their National Partnership linked to the EAAFP; and

Acknowledging that the definition of the National Partnership is a national network of stakeholders who cooperate at the national level to support the implementation of the EAAFP Strategic Plan within their country; that stakeholders include Local Governments, Site Managers, NGOs, academia, experts and other relevant stakeholders working on common activities and issues concerning the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats; and that the Site Partnerships are a mechanism to support and mobilize people and relationships within a local area to enable on the ground activities to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

The 11th Meeting of Partners
of the East Asian- Australasian Flyway Partnership

1. *Recognises* that the National and Site Partnership mechanisms will engage a range of stakeholders; that the Site Partnership will generate additional local community engagement while the National Partnership will provide a valuable forum for planning and reporting on the implementation of the EAAFP Strategic Plan; and that the two mechanisms provide the opportunity for planning at the site, regional and national levels for the implementation of the EAAFP CEPA Action Plan and the monitoring of wetland health and migratory waterbirds;
2. *Endorses* the new Guidelines of the EAAFP National and Site Partnerships [Appendix 1 – Partnership Guidelines ([link](#)), Appendix 2 – National Partnership Guideline ([link](#)), Appendix 3- Site Partnership Guideline ([link](#))];
3. *Requests* Partners to establish Partnerships and/or to adapt it to the existing mechanisms and reporting on the process of the establishment or the implementation through the Reporting Template for Partners to each MOP;
4. *Further instructs* the Secretariat to bring the National Partnership and Site Partnership Guidelines to the attention of all Partners countries of the EAAFP and relevant stakeholders or/and between each MOP; and
5. *Welcomes* the new Secretariat budget for 2023 – 2024 (Doc.11.10) support for the establishment and operation of the arrangements under the new Guidelines by providing briefing documents and guidance materials translated into EAAF languages, making them available on the EAAFP Website, and hosting workshops, and capacity-building training sessions.