

Taipei Declaration on Asian Wetlands

Common Crisis, Immediate Action

Wetlands are habitats rich in biodiversity and one of the most productive ecosystems on Earth. About one third of world's wetlands are located in Asia, including a number of wetlands of international importance. Asian wetlands play an important role in sustaining large human populations and were the cradle of human civilizations.

Wetlands deliver diverse ecosystem services. These include food and clean water for people, habitat for wildlife, and protection against floods, typhoons, tsunamis, and tidal surges.

Threats and Crisis to Wetlands

Asian wetlands are under tremendous pressure from human activities including habitat modification for agriculture and aquaculture, introduction of invasive species, poorly planned infrastructure development, land-filling in tidal marshes and mangroves, and climate change that often amplifies other threats.

Immediate Actions -Healthy Wetlands, Healthy People

We, the participants of Society of Wetland Scientists Asian Chapter Convention, would call for attention to all Asian economies, separately and together, to take immediate actions to reverse negative impacts on Asian wetlands, and promote conservation and wise use of these wetlands.

Actions should be taken to ensure that:

- 1. “Wetland ecosystem health is the basis of economic development in Asia”.** Update national development policies, enforce existing laws and regulations, and develop sustainable long-term land use planning, taking into account negative impacts on wetlands. Promote eco-friendly uses of wetlands (e.g. ecotourism).
- 2. “Wetland management is based on sound science”.** Strengthen efforts to understand, protect, communicate about, and wisely manage Asian wetlands. These efforts can be achieved through the continued development of a network of wetland resource centers.
- 3. “International cooperation is applied to wetland management”.** Joint efforts must be taken across political boundaries to optimize efforts to stop and reverse the loss and degradation of wetlands. These efforts, including capacity building, will ensure that Asian wetlands can support future generations.
- 4. “Local actions involve all stakeholders”.** Wetlands are key to the livelihood of Asian people so it is important that local people are empowered to have an active role in wetland management.

亞洲濕地臺北宣言

共同危機，立即行動

2008年10月24日

濕地蘊藏生物多樣性，是地球最具生產力的生態系統。全世界約有三分之一的濕地位於亞洲，其中涵括許多國際級重要濕地。在維持龐大人口生活及延續人類文明永續發展的基礎上，亞洲濕地扮演非常重要的角色。

濕地也具有多樣的生態服務功能，包括提供人類食物、提供生物棲地、清淨水源，及防治洪氾、颱風、海嘯及潮水侵蝕。

威脅與危機

亞洲濕地正面臨著人類活動龐大的壓力，包括濕地轉作農漁使用、引入外來物種、不當的基礎設施建設、潮間帶及紅樹林的填埋及氣候變遷的加乘效應等，造成無可避免的威脅。

立即行動 - 健康濕地，健康人類

我們亞洲濕地科學家會議的參與者，呼籲所有個別或全體的亞洲經濟體對此重視，共同致力於降低對亞洲濕地負面衝擊，並且推動濕地的保育及明智使用。

應立即採取下列行動以確保：

1. 健康的濕地生態系統是亞洲經濟發展的基礎

積極更新國家發展政策，強化既有法令與規定，發展永續長程的土地使用計畫，正視對濕地所造成的負面影響，促進濕地的生態友善使用。

2. 良好的濕地管理應奠基於健全的科學研究

加強了解、保護、溝通及明智地管理亞洲濕地，藉由持續發展濕地資源中心網絡，以獲得具體的努力成果。

3. 強化濕地跨國管理合作

共同致力於跨越政治疆界國際合作，包括培養管理能力，達到扭轉及阻止濕地劣化及消失的最佳成果，確保亞洲濕地支持世代子孫的永續發展。

4. 全民積極參與地方行動

濕地是維繫亞洲人民生計之關鍵，應賦予每個人在濕地管理中積極活躍的角色。