

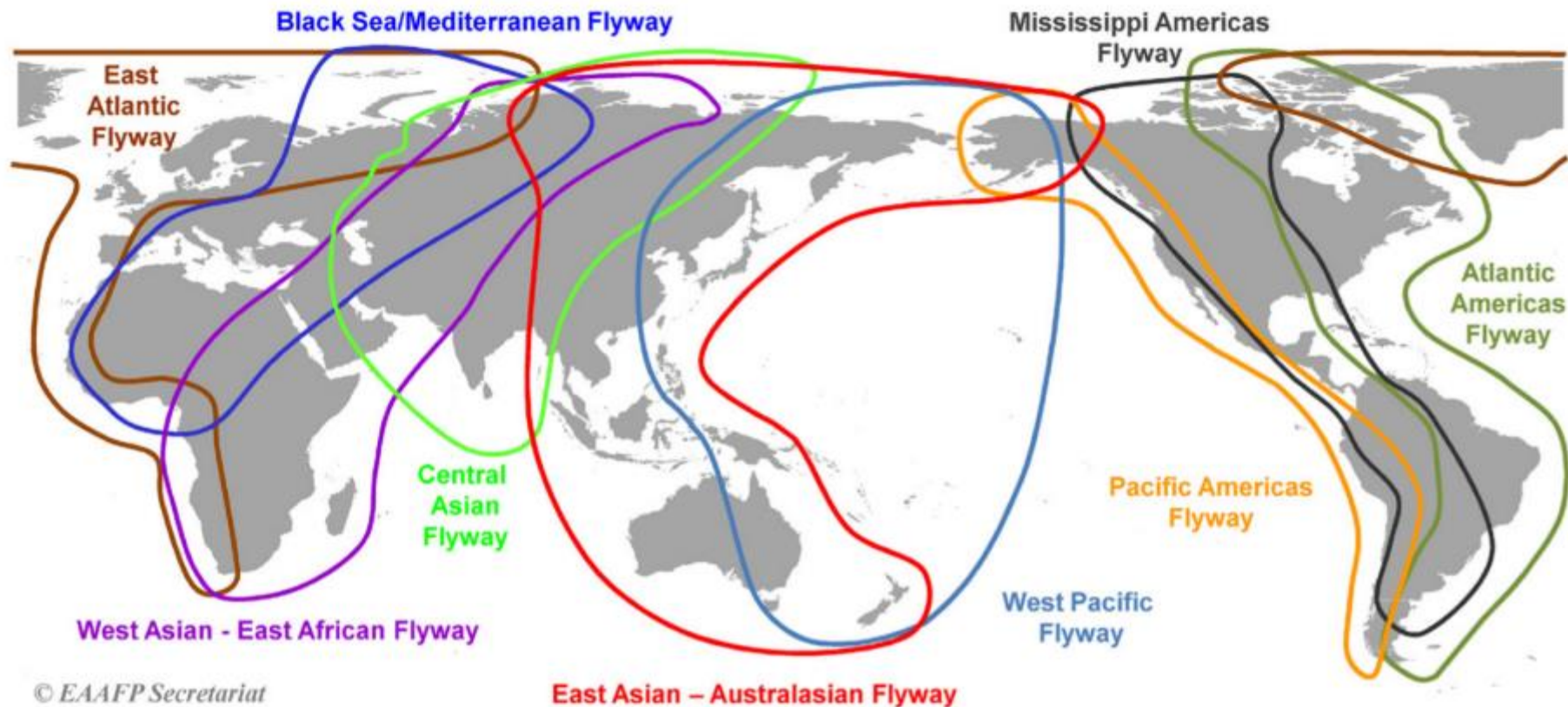
# Conservation work of East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership in the Yellow Sea

Vivian Fu

EAAFP Secretariat

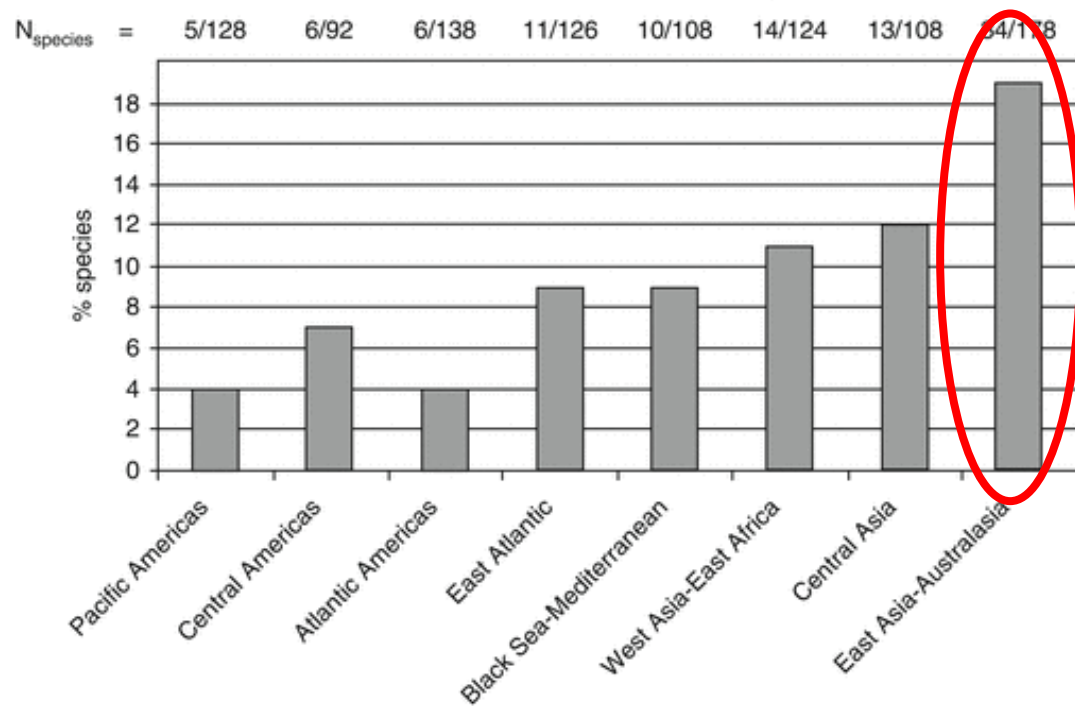


# East Asian-Australasian Flyway



# Importance of having partnership to protect waterbirds and their habitats

Proportion of globally threatened and Near Threatened waterbird species by flyway



Source: MacKinnon *et al.* 2012 IUCN Situation Analysis Yellow Sea

## EAAF

50 million migratory waterbirds

250 + populations

33 globally threatened & 19 Near Threatened

9% declining rate of some shorebirds



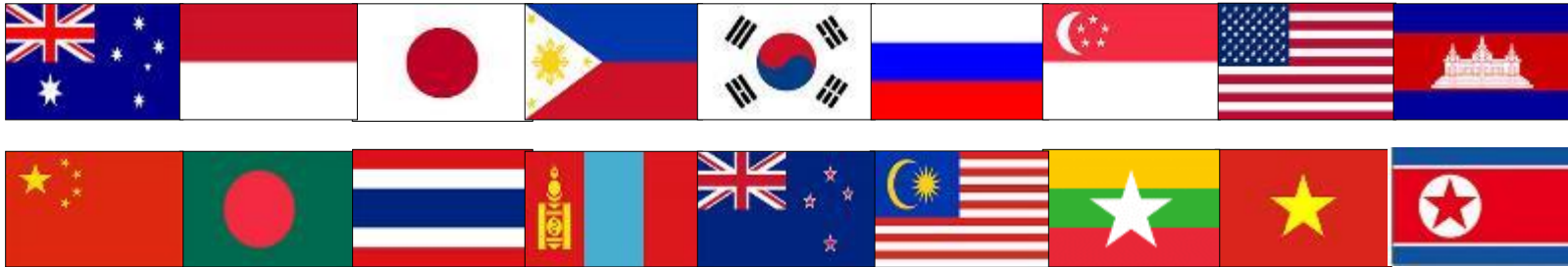


## Purpose

The EAAFP is a network of partnership provides a flyway wide framework **to promote dialogue, cooperation and collaboration between a range of stakeholders** at all levels including government, non-government and non-profit organizations, private companies and local communities **to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats** in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway (EAAF)

# EAAFP Partners (37)

## Government Partners (18)



## Intergovernmental organisations (6)



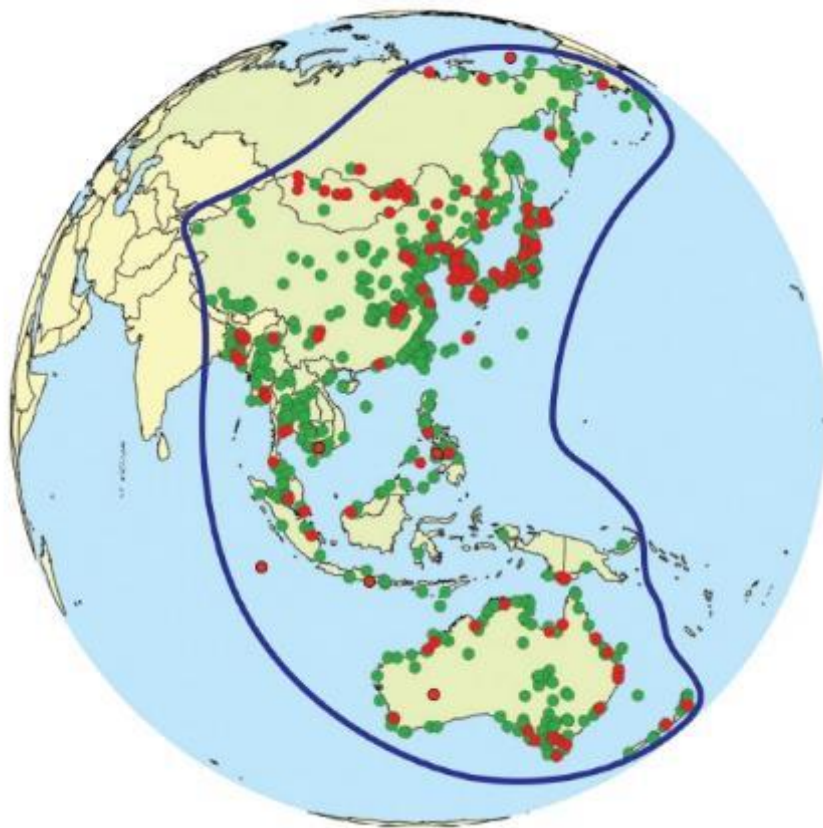
## International NGO (11)



## International Organization (1)



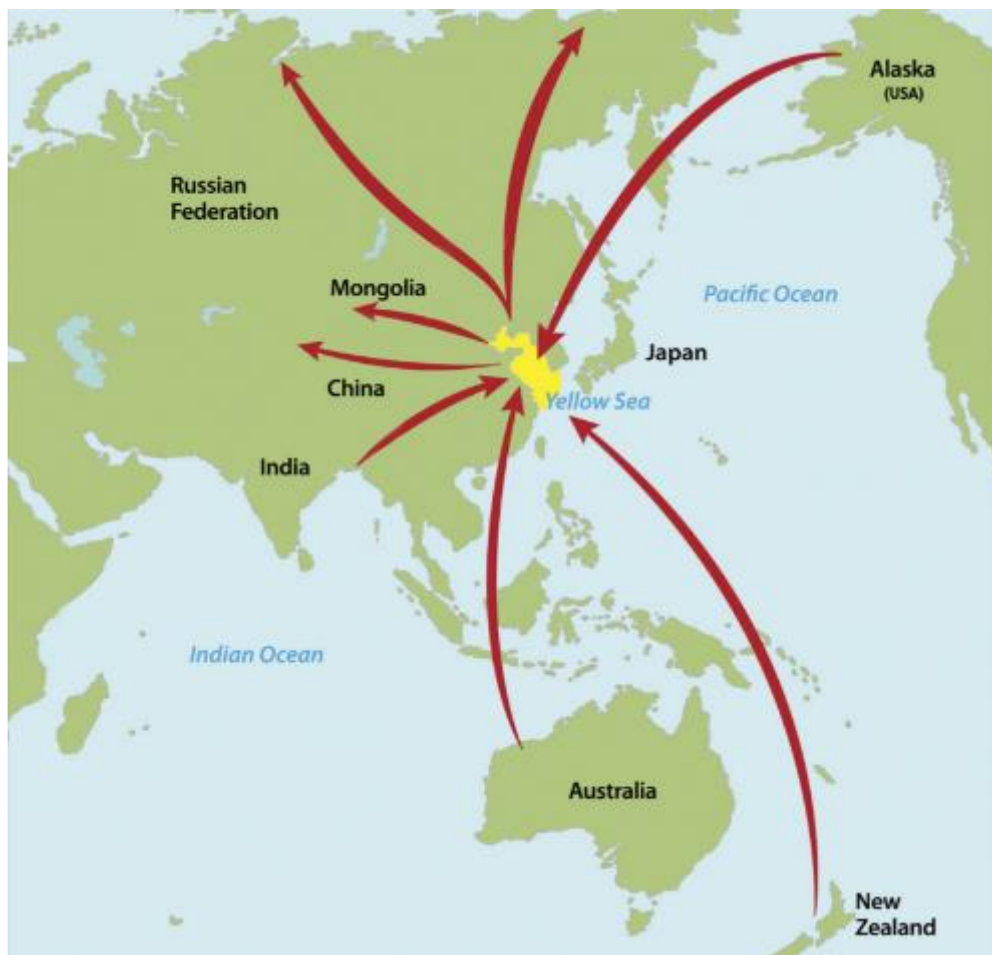
# Flyway Network Site



- Flyway Network Site (144)
- Important sites for migratory waterbirds (1000+)

*To make sure the sites are sustainably managed to support the survival of migratory waterbirds*





The Yellow Sea is where most migratory waterbirds depend on



# Yellow Sea Ecoregion

1

CHINA, DPRK & ROK

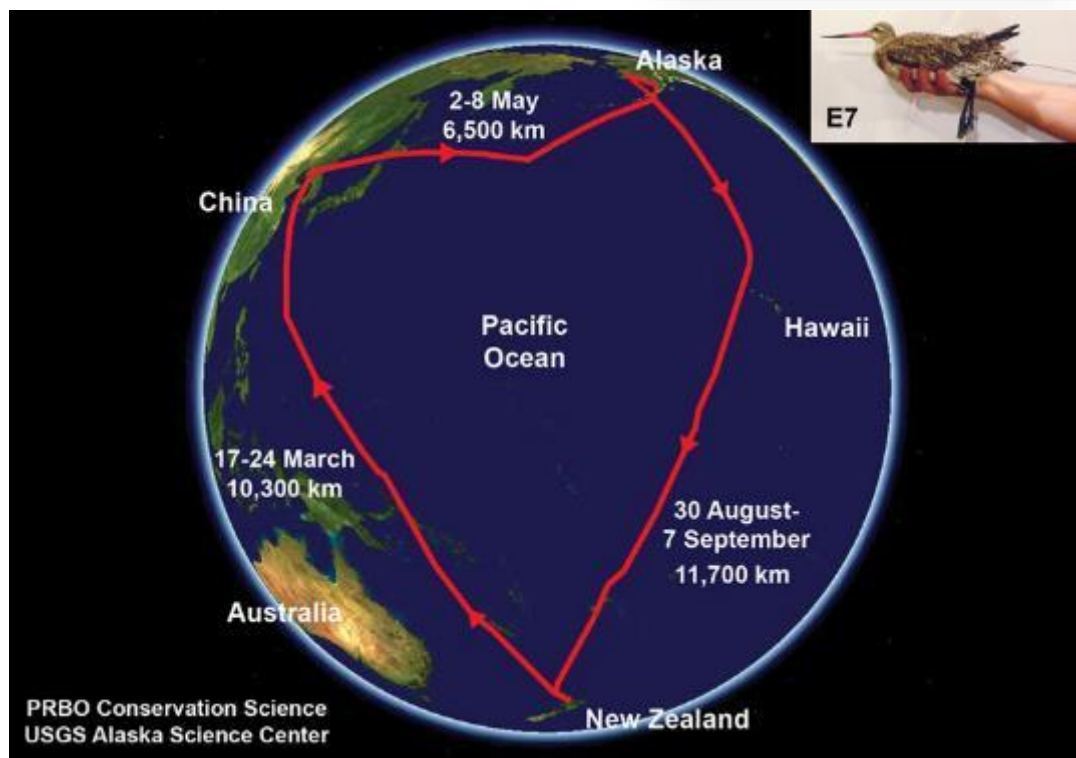
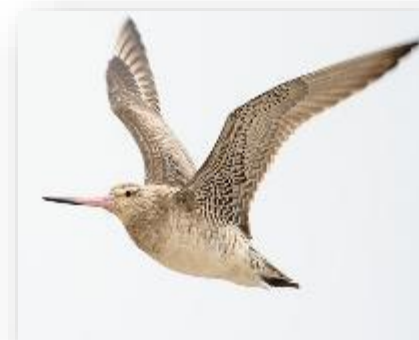
2

The Largest inter-tidal flats 3 million ha



## Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* (NT)

- *Winter*: Australia, New Zealand
- *Spring*: Fly north and rest to feed at sites, particularly around the Yellow Sea;
- *Summer*: Breed in Alaska
- *Autumn*: Returns to New Zealand.

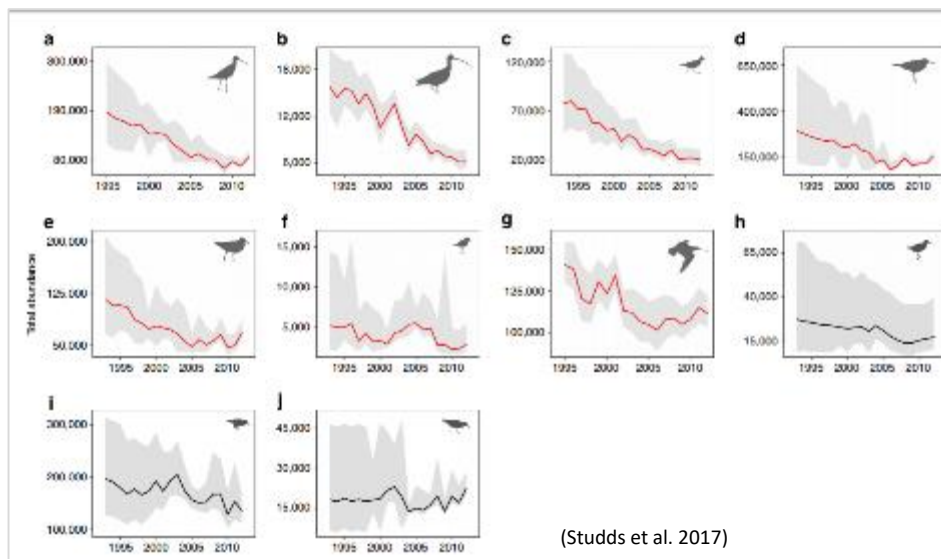
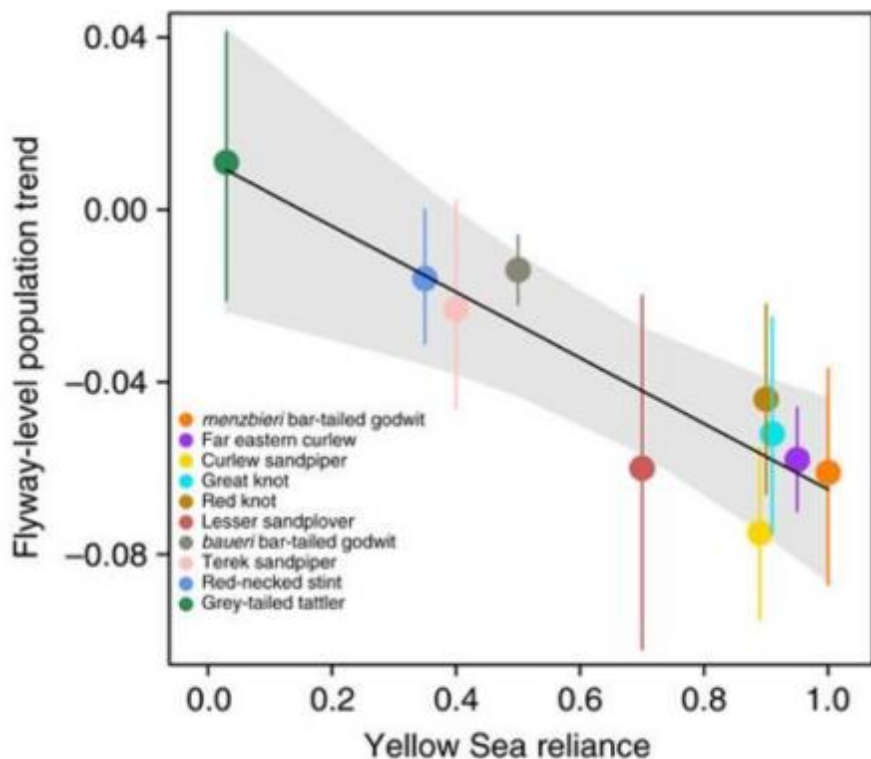


# Loss and degradation of the Yellow Sea tidal-flats - Threats

- About 28% of the Yellow Sea tidal-flats have been lost in the past 30 years due to economic development;
- Alien invasive species, particularly *Spartina alterniflora*;
- Over-fishing and over-aquaculture;
- Pollution, mainly from inorganic nitrogen, active phosphate and petroleum.



# Declines in Yellow Sea dependent migratory shorebirds





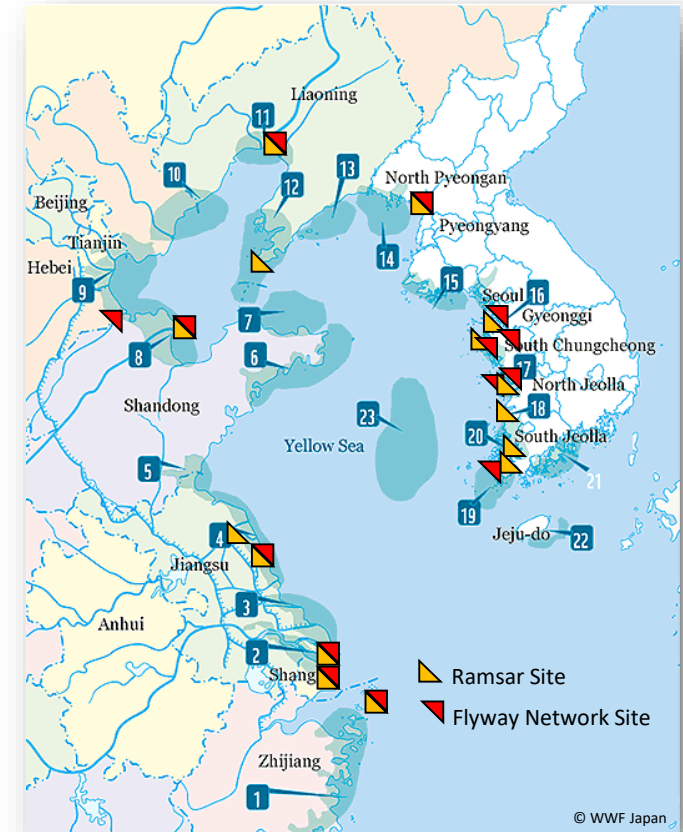
# EAAFP Flyway Network Sites around the Yellow Sea Region



<b>China</b>	Chongming Dongtan NNR	<b>DPR Korea</b>	Mundok Migratory Bird Reserve
19 sites	Mai Po – Inner Deep Bay	2 sites	Kumya Migratory Bird Reserve
	Shuangtai Hekou NNR	<b>RO Korea</b>	Cheorwon Basin
	Yancheng NNR	13 sites	Han River Estuary
	Yellow River Delta NNR		Cheonsu Bay
	Poyang Hu NNR		Gumi Haepyung wetland
	Xingkai Hu NNR		Suncheon Bay
	Sanjiang NNR		Junam Reservoir
	Yalujiang NNR		Uop Wetland
	Dalai Hu NNR		Nakdong Estuary
	Cao Hai NNR		Geum River Estuary
	Shengjin Hu NNR		Yubo-do Tidal Flat
	Xiang Hai NNR		Chilbaldo Islet
	Zhalong NNR		Incheon Songdo Tidal Flat
	Anqing Yangtze Riverine Wetland		Hwaseong Wetland
	Dashanbao NNR	<i>(as of July 2019)</i>	
	Hengshui Lake NNR		
	Nandagang Wetland		
	Nanjishan Wetland		

# Cooperation - Conservation of the Yellow Sea tidal-flats

- Yellow Sea countries joining the Ramsar Convention and EAAFP;
- Designation of Ramsar Sites, Flyway Network Sites, World Heritage Sites;
- RO Korea: “...acknowledges that intertidal mudflats should be preserved and that no large-scale reclamation projects are now being approved...” (2007)
- China: marine strategy for the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) states that 35% of the coastline should not be damaged by land reclamation or construction;
- Yellow Sea Working Group formed by IUCN, and all 3 Yellow Sea countries, EAAFP & RRC-EA, HSF (Dec 2017).



	Ramsar Sites	Flyway Network Sites
DPR Korea	1	1
RO Korea	6	7
China	6	5

# World Heritage Site nomination

## China ●

- Submission of 16 components of the Yellow Sea coast for nomination as a World Heritage Site:

- **Phase 1: coastal wetlands in Yancheng (FNS);**

***Update! The Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China inscribe into the World Heritage List - 148432 ha (2019.07)***

- Phase 2: sites on the Bohai Gulf coast;
- Phase 3: other sites

## RO Korea ●

- Submission of the ‘Southwestern Coast Tidal Flats - Getbol’ for nomination as a World Heritage Site 2020
  - Phase 1: Seocheon Getbol (FNS – Yubu Island), Gochang Getbol, Shinan Getbol (FNS – Chilbal Islet) and Boseong-Suncheon Getbol (FNS – Suncheon)





# Identify further areas for conservation sustainable management

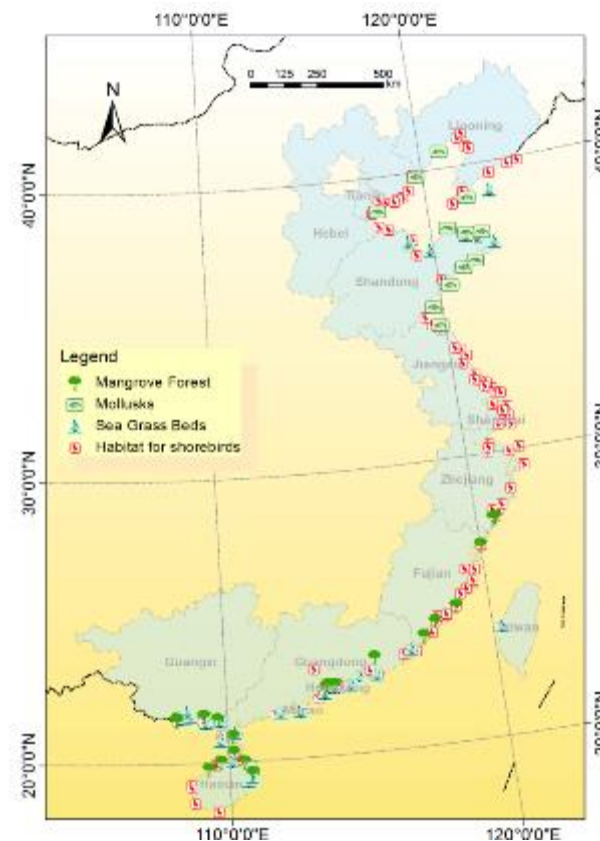
## China's coastal wetland loss

2016 study by the Paulson Institute, State Forestry Administration and Chinese Academy of Science;

- Presently, 126 protected areas have been established along 24% of coastal wetlands;
- Study identified 140 priority areas but only 49% are legally designated as protected areas.

## DPRK National Wetland Inventory (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

- Site information collected from past surveys and further work from November 2017 to April 2018;
- 55 site of importance have been identified. Increased from 34 site identified in 1998;
- Publication and release in October 2018.



# Cooperation

## - Wetland conservation and management

### Yellow Sea Coastal Wetland Network

- Network of coastal protected areas recognized as being of internationally important;  
e.g. ASEAN Flyway Network Initiative
- Capacity building for site managers and stakeholders;
- Exchange of experience and good practices for site management and restoration between countries or sites (EAAFP Sister Site Programme)



# Cooperation

## - Wetland education and awareness

### Yellow Sea Wetland Education Network

- Develop the strategy of education and awareness of the importance of the Yellow Sea coastal wetlands and their biodiversity;
- Exchange of good practices for Yellow Sea wetland education and awareness raising programs and material;
- Exchange of information on the Yellow Sea.







**Thank You!**