

Memorandum of Understanding

between

Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia

and

Society of Wetland Scientists

2025-2028

RECOGNIZING the importance of Asian aquatic and wetland ecosystems, spanning from headwaters to oceans, as significant components of the Asian environment;

NOTING that the health of these freshwater, estuarine, and marine ecosystems is threatened by a wide variety of anthropogenic activities;

NOTING that these ecosystems are critical for Asian sustainability, and are an important economic resource in sectors such as aquaculture, fisheries, and ecotourism;

AWARE of shared economic, environmental, and social objectives of the Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA) and Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) aimed to promote coordination and the sharing of scientific expertise and knowledge with other like-minded organizations; and

FURTHER NOTING the common interests of the RRC-EA and SWS in expanding the international scope, membership, and influence of their respective organizations;

WE AGREE to promote scientific study, restoration, education, and outreach on wetlands in Asia, in particular East, Southeast and South Asia, via cooperation between the Parties of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). WE FURTHER AGREE for the RRC-EA to assume a role as a Supporting Office of the SWS-Asia Chapter, under the SWS institutional structure, to facilitate activities of SWS in Asia, in close cooperation with SWS-Asia Chapter. Specifically, the Parties agree to support the following objectives, subject to the availability of resources:

To promote the visibility and sustainability of wetlands by:

- organizing the SWS-Asia Chapter biennial conference and other SWS meetings with the assistance of the SWS Business Office;
- organizing exchange programs, training courses, and/or lectures for wetland scientists and practitioners;

- organizing environmental education programs, seminars, workshops, and educational field trips for university, high school, middle school, and/or primary school students at a local education center adjacent to nearby wetlands or local institutions.

To strengthen the cooperation among wetland scientists and practitioners by:

- establishing and facilitating linkages among wetland scientists and managers, and policy and decision makers at the local, national, and regional levels by providing opportunities for communication, and developing a platform for sharing experiences and expertise on wetlands;
- encouraging wetland professionals in the region to become members of SWS and the SWS-Asia Chapter.

To create more opportunities for national and site level research studies on wetlands by:

- providing access to research studies that will enhance the scientific vigor and transboundary platforms for future research opportunities for wetland scientists and managers through technical assistance and funding programs of SWS, SWS-Asia Chapter, and RRC-EA.

This MOU shall be valid for three (3) years from the date of signing of all Parties.

서명인:


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