

International Environmental Policy Initiatives and Multilateral Funding Mechanisms

ALIGNMENT WITH THE PACIFIC AMERICAS SHOREBIRD CONSERVATION STRATEGY



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FRONT COVER: Magellanic Plover (*Pluvianellus socialis*) at Comuna de Laguna Blanca, Chile. Photo: Ricardo Matus/Centro de Rehabilitación de Aves Leñadura

THIS PAGE: Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*). Photo: Vivek Khanzode/Audubon Photography Awards

Executive Summary

Shorebirds are known to be especially vulnerable to environmental and anthropogenic changes in their ecosystems, which in turn can negatively impact their populations along with both terrestrial and marine biodiversity of the region. In order to reverse these changes, migratory shorebirds will need to be protected through a linked series of coordinated strategic conservation efforts that protect the quantity and quality of available habitats throughout the Americas. The Pacific Americas Shorebird Conservation Strategy (hereafter, Pacific Shorebird Strategy) was developed to enhance the effectiveness of conservation initiatives through seven strategies and shorebird targets varying from increasing capacity of relevant stakeholders and partners to the conservation and management of habitat. In order to accomplish this work at scale, it will be necessary to align with, and leverage regional and international policy initiatives like the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, UN Convention of Migratory Species and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Alignment and support toward achieving the goals within these agreements can then be leveraged with large scale funding from public funding mechanisms such as the Global Environmental Facility and the Green Climate Fund among several other bi and multi-lateral funding mechanisms. Funding provided by these mechanisms can allow the governments in partnership with the Non-Government Organizations across the Pacific Americas Flyway countries to implement larger scale conservation programs that protect and improve habitats and the shorebirds that depend on them.



Partners attending Central American Aquaculture Symposium, Honduras. Photo: Salvadora Morales/Manomet, Inc.

This report looks at how the Pacific Shorebird Strategy’s action plans align with multilateral international environmental conventions, along with various public funding mechanisms, in order to understand the best strategy to combat the hemispheric challenges facing shorebirds in the Pacific Americas Flyway.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*), Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), Short-billed Dowitchers (*Limnodromus griseus*) and Black-bellied Plovers (*Pluvialis squatarola*). Photo: Jeisson Zamudio/Asociación Calidris



Introduction to the Pacific Americas Shorebird Conservation Strategy

Throughout the Americas, the strategy covers the Pacific coast of North, Central, and South America, covering the 120 degrees of latitude that migratory shorebirds rely on across the region. Nearly 45% of Arctic shorebird populations are decreasing and there has been an 11% decline in shorebird population over all four regions used in the strategy (Arctic/subarctic, North temperate, Neotropical, and South temperate). Habitat conversion has already and will continue to put stress onto the environment that will continue to affect the 21 target shorebirds that stop in 14 countries along the Pacific coast. The main purpose of the Pacific Shorebird Strategy is to identify priority threats, effective conservation actions and coordinated approaches necessary to maintain and restore populations of shorebirds and their habitats. In order to achieve this, seven key strategies were identified to focus the work to conserve and protect the shorebirds from decline:



Habitat Conservation: to manage and conserve existing habitats



Education: to cultivate and empower conservation constituencies



Industry Partnerships: to create conservation initiatives with natural resource industries



Law Enforcement: to strengthen compliance and enforcement



Conservation Policy: to develop environmental and wildlife protection policies



Research: to improve knowledge of present and future habitats



Organizational Capacity: to increase partner and stakeholder capacity

These seven strategies take the broad focus of the Pacific Shorebird Strategy and convert them into manageable and productive approaches to achieve a vision of sustaining shorebird populations for present and future generations. The Pacific Shorebird Strategy is carried forward as the Pacific Shorebird Conservation Initiative (<https://pacificflywayshorebirds.org/>).



Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Summary

Multilateral environmental agreements, or conventions, have become a critical way for nations to work toward common conservation goals by setting targets, often mediated by the United Nations (UN). These agreements are a type of treaty that aim to achieve environmental goals at the international scale. Some of the most important environmental conventions are the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands; the UN's Sustainable Development Goals also provide meaningful social and economic development targets that can support shorebird conservation. Multilateral environmental agreements guide actions using "soft laws" for compliance to ensure that environmental, legal, and governance regimes have a common framework for their work. These conventions can be a useful way to connect the development agenda with environmental mandates, which all help to contribute to global sustainable development. This report will look at the connection between the Pacific Shorebird Strategy's goals and the various international conventions that are important to the protection of habitat and the species that use them.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Website: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

Established: September 2015

Based: New York City, New York, U.S.A.

Mission: The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges humans face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. The goals interconnect and in order to leave no one behind, the UN is aiming to achieve each goal and target by 2030.

Scope: International

Program Priorities:

1. Poverty alleviation
2. Democratic governance and peacebuilding
3. Climate change and disaster risk
4. Economic inequality

Alignment with Pacific Shorebird Strategy: The SDGs came into effect in January 2016, and they will continue to guide the UN's Development Program policy and funding until 2030. Of the 17 Goals, Goal 14: Life below Water, and Goal 15: Life on Land, are most in line with the Pacific Shorebird Strategy; both look to conserve and protect the multitude of species that rely on endangered habitats to survive. Goal 14 aims to manage sustainably essential global resources such as fish species in the ocean, avoiding plastic in the oceans, and maintaining a clean ocean through strategies including habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance enforcement, environment and wildlife protection policy development, habitat education, and organizational capacity. Goal 15 specifically looks to manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse degradation, as well as halt biodiversity loss through strategies that focus on habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, environmental and wildlife protection policy development, habitat education and organizational capacity. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Signatory Countries: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates.html>

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Website: <http://www.cbd.int>

Established: 5 June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro (Signed); 29 December 1993 (Effective)

Based: Montreal, Canada

Mission: The objectives of this convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

Scope:

1. Link traditional conservation efforts to the economic goal of using biological resources sustainably
2. Set principles for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources
3. Cover rapidly expanding field of biotechnology through its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, addressing technology development and transfer, benefit-sharing and biosafety issues
4. Offer decision making based on the precautionary principle, which demands that where there is a threat of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to avoid or minimize such a threat

Program Priorities:

1. The conservation of biological diversity
2. The sustainable use of components of biological diversity
3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

Alignment with Pacific Shorebird Strategy: The CBD Aichi targets are divided into five strategic goals that look to address underlying causes of biodiversity loss, reduce direct pressures on biodiversity, and improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, enhancing the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services, and enhancing implementation through participatory planning, knowledge, management, and capacity building. Much like the SDG, it can be difficult to decide which offer the best opportunities for funding, but it seems that Targets 11 and 12 align the best with the Pacific Shorebird Strategy goals. Target 11 seeks to conserve terrestrial and inland water areas along with coastal and marine areas by using habitat management, creating conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, comply with and enforce laws, and develop environmental and wildlife protection policy. Target 12 hopes to prevent extinction of threatened species and improve their conservation status by using strategies such as habitat management, conservation initiatives, compliance and enforcement, environment and wildlife protection policy, and habitat education. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Signatory Parties: <https://www.cbd.int/information/parties.shtml>

Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Website: <https://www.cms.int/>

Established: 1 November 1983

Based: Bonn, Germany

Mission: The convention is based on the principle that conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all States within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle.

Scope:

1. Recognize that wild animals are irreplaceable part of the earth's natural system which must be conserved for the good of mankind
2. Aware that human holds the resources of the earth for future generations and has the obligation to ensure the conservation of this legacy
3. Conscious of the value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social, and economic points of view
4. Concerned for those species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries
5. Conservation and effective management of migratory species require concerted action of all states

Program Priorities:

1. Conservation of migratory species
2. Conservation of species habitats
3. Migration routes
4. Migratory species threatened with extinction in Appendix 1 (https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/basic_page_documents/appendices_cop13_e_0.pdf)

Alignment with Pacific Shorebird Strategy: The goals of the Convention on Migratory Species are closely related to the CBD targets and therefore help to build upon the work the CBD and SDGs are doing in terms of conservation. The targets that relate most with the Pacific Flyway are 8, 10, and 12, which discuss improving the conservation status of migratory species, protecting and identifying habitats to conserve and provide resilience, as well as safeguarding genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species. Target 8 works to improve the conservation status of all migratory species, which can be achieved by habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, environmental and wildlife protection policy development, and habitat education. Target 10 identifies critical habitats for migratory species to maintain their integrity and quality through strategies such as habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, and environmental and wildlife protection policy development. Target 12 safeguards the genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species by implementing strategies that minimize genetic erosion such as habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, environmental and wildlife protection policy development, and habitat education. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Signatory Countries: <https://www.cms.int/en/parties-range-states>

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Website: <https://www.ramsar.org/>

Established: 21 December 1975

Based: Gland, Switzerland

Mission: The conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.

Scope:

1. Uses a broad definition of wetlands that includes all lakes, rivers, underground aquifers, swamps, and marshes, wet grasslands, peatlands, oases, estuaries, deltas and tidal flats, mangroves and other coastal areas, coral reefs and all man-made sites
2. The maintenance of wetland's ecological character, achieved through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, within the context of sustainable development
3. Continuation of designation of wetlands for inclusion in the List

Program Priorities:

1. Work toward the wise use of all wetlands
2. Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance and ensure their effective management
3. Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetlands systems and shared species

Alignment with Pacific Shorebird Strategy: Ramsar was adopted in 1971 as a framework to conserve wetlands and their resources. This framework created a set of almost 20 goals, but two hold a strong relation to the Pacific Shorebird Strategy. Ramsar Targets 6 and 12 aim to maintain and restore ecological sites through effective planning and integrated management as well as restoring degraded wetlands to prioritize areas relevant to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation. Target 6 seeks to increase the area, numbers, and ecological connectivity in the Ramsar Site network in underrepresented ecoregions by using strategies such as habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, environmental and wildlife protection policy development, and habitat education. Target 12 intends to restore degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that strategically uses habitat management, conservation initiatives with natural resource industries, compliance and enforcement, environmental and wildlife protection policy, development and organizational capacity to protect these lands. See Appendix 1 for Ramsar sites within the Pacific Americas Flyway that are important for shorebirds. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Signatory Countries: <https://www.ramsar.org/country-profiles>

Environmental Convention Alignment with Pacific Shorebird Strategy

Each of the environmental conventions above serves as an important connection into the international conservation arena, which is needed to protect migratory birds and their habitats. This section serves as an explanation of the specific connections between the strategy and each convention. It will go through each of the seven strategies and discuss their relationship with each of the nine chosen targets from the conventions.

TABLE 1. Environmental conventions' goal and target that align with the Pacific Shorebird strategies.

Convention	Goal/Target	Pacific Strategy Alignment
Sustainable Development Goals	Goal 14: Conserve oceans for sustainable development	
	Goal 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable ecosystem use	
Convention on Biological Diversity	Target 11: by 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal marine areas are conserved effectively	
	Target 12: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status has been improved or sustained	
Convention on Migratory Species	Target 8: The conservation status of all migratory species especially threatened species has considerably improved	
	Target 10: All critical habitats and sites for migratory species are identified and included in area-based conservation measures so as to maintain their quality, integrity, resilience, and functioning	
	Target 12: The genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species is safeguarded, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion	
Convention on Wetlands	Target 6: There is a significant increase in area, numbers, and ecological connectivity in the Ramsar Site Network	
	Target 12: Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster relief reduction and/or climate change mitigation	

STRATEGIES ICONS LEGEND

- Habitat Conservation:** to manage and conserve existing habitats
- Education:** to cultivate and empower conservation constituencies
- Industry Partnerships:** to create conservation initiatives with natural resource industries
- Law Enforcement:** to strengthen compliance and enforcement
- Conservation Policy:** to develop environmental and wildlife protection policies
- Research:** to improve knowledge of present and future habitats
- Organizational Capacity:** to increase partner and stakeholder capacity

Public Funding Mechanisms

Summary

Funding mechanisms are an important part of conservation efforts due to a growing concern within the international community about the ability to combat global environmental issues, like climate change. International organizations and the public sector are key to wildlife and environmental conservation but they often lack the capacity to combat key threats. This report looks at eight different funding mechanisms that may be relevant to achieving desired outcomes from the Pacific Shorebird Strategy. Some of the funding mechanisms are more relevant than others, but each has a place in the conversation about conserving shorebirds and their habitats on the Pacific coast of the Americas. Mechanisms such as the Global Environmental Facility or the Green Climate Fund are more closely connected to the mission of Pacific Shorebird Strategy as compared to the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperative due to the alignment of their mission and their patterns of fund allocation. The funding narratives below each include a short description, the relevant conventions they fund or support, their priorities, ways to access the funding, and information on accredited entities to distribute and manage the funding. The Pacific Shorebird Conservation Initiative and its strategy covers fourteen countries: Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Canada, the United States and Russia, and each nation has unique areas of focus within each funding mechanisms.



Sandflats in a mangrove estuary, Sanquianga Parque Nacional, Colombia. Photo: Jeisson Zamudio/Asociación Calidris

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Website: <http://www.thegef.org>

Established: October 1992 before the Rio Earth Summit

Secretariat: Washington, D.C. – Each signatory country will have a focal point

Mission: The GEF is a global partnership to protect the environment that funds innovative projects in developing countries that generate global environmental benefits in climate change, biodiversity, international waters, land degradation, chemicals and waste. GEF is a mechanism for collaboration to safeguard the planet together.

Conventions Funded:

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification
- Minamata Convention on Mercury

Scope:

- Agricultural biodiversity
- Dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity
- Forest biodiversity
- Inland waters biodiversity
- Island biodiversity
- Marine and coastal biodiversity
- Mountain biodiversity

Administration of Funds: The World Bank serves as the GEF Trustee, administering the GEF Trust Fund. The Trustee helps mobilize GEF resources, disburses funds to GEF agencies, prepares financial reports on investments and use of resources, and monitors application of budgetary, and project funds. In most cases, the GEF provides funding to support government projects and programs. Individual governments decide on the executing agency (e.g., governmental institutions, civil society organizations, private sector companies and research institutions). The GEF provides funding through four modalities: 1) full-sized projects, 2) medium-sized projects, 3) enabling activities and 4) programmatic approaches. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Audubon's Experience with GEF: In 2015, GEF approved a full-size project in Chile that would focus on “Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector”. The project looks to reduce vulnerability and increase the adaptive capacity to climate change in Chile’s Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector. The Special Climate Change Fund finances the project while Chile’s Ministry of the Environment executes it. The process to approval began in 2014 and ended with final approval for implementation in 2016. The proposal found approval by focusing on four districts (Valparaiso, Coquimbo, O’Higgins, and Araucania) in Chile to show the necessity and ability to implement the program in the country. The four pilot sites already had agreements to work from partners as well as consultations. In addition, the proposal leaves open the possibility of increasing the amount of sites with similar problems with degradation and biodiversity loss with initial consultations having already started. Giving a broad definition of biodiversity and the ability to work with various organization is shown to protect the entire ecosystem is important. The idea of a win-win situation has been a common way to receive GEF funding and the Chile team successfully used it. <https://www.thegef.org/project/strengthening-adaptive-capacity-climate-change-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sector>

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TABLE 2. Global Environment Fund-6 funding allocations by country and program.

Focal Areas	Program	Funding (USD)
Chile	Climate Change	\$6,415,532
	Land Degradation	\$1,848,502
	Biodiversity	\$18,060,179
	Total	\$26,324,213
Colombia	Climate Change	\$ 10,377,586
	Land Degradation	\$ 2,418,957
	Biodiversity	\$ 39,327,593
	Total	\$52,124,136
Costa Rica	Climate Change	\$ 2,635,350
	Land Degradation	\$ 673,822
	Biodiversity	\$ 11,599,031
	Total	\$ 14,908,203
Ecuador	Climate Change	\$ 3,188,087
	Land Degradation	\$ 3,384,361
	Biodiversity	\$ 25,904,748
	Total	\$ 32,477,196
El Salvador	Climate Change	\$ 2,000,000
	Land Degradation	\$ 557,258
	Biodiversity	\$ 1,514,630
	Total	\$ 4,071,888
Guatemala	Climate Change	\$ 7,007,773
	Land Degradation	\$ 772,672
	Biodiversity	\$ 2,000,000
	Total	\$ 9,780,445
Honduras	Climate Change	\$ 2,000,000
	Land Degradation	\$ 822,578
	Biodiversity	\$ 8,129,494
	Total	\$ 10,952,072
Mexico	Climate Change	\$ 27,775,824
	Land Degradation	\$ 5,395,699
	Biodiversity	\$ 54,921,937
	Total	\$ 88,093,460
Nicaragua	Climate Change	\$ 2,000,000
	Land Degradation	\$ 847,758
	Biodiversity	\$ 4,472,142
	Total	\$ 7,319,900
Panama	Climate Change	\$2,000,000
	Land Degradation	\$11,700,929
	Biodiversity	\$500,000
	Total	\$14,200,929
Peru	Climate Change	\$ 7,122,410
	Land Degradation	\$ 3,144,665
	Biodiversity	\$ 29,717,492
	Total	\$ 39,984,567

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Website: <https://www.iadb.org/en>

Established: 1959

Based: Washington, D.C.

Mission: The IDB works to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education, and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way.

Financial Mechanism for Borrowing Countries: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela

Non-borrowing countries: United States, European Shareholders, Japan, Canada

Scope:

1. Social inclusion and equality
2. Productivity and innovation
3. Economic integration
4. Gender equality and diversity
5. Climate change and environment sustainability
6. Institutional capacity and rule of law

Administration of Funds: The IDB has 26 borrowing member countries located within Latin America and the Caribbean. In 1999, the IDB started using a country grouping system to help monitor the distribution of funds with 35% of the lending going toward Group II and 65% channeled to Group I. The grouping of countries is based on the GNP per capita in each country in 1997. The IDB is mandated to devote at least 50% of its operations and 40% of its resources to programs that promote social equity and reduce poverty. In addition to the traditional Trust Fund grants, the IDB also supports small-scale targeted interventions through the Multilateral Investment Fund that pilots approaches for larger reforms. It is a great source of private-public partnerships through technical assistance and is beneficial to organizations in both sectors.

See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Audubon's experience with IDB can be reviewed here: https://www.audubon.org/sites/default/files/birds_mean_business.pdf

TABLE 3. Inter-America Development Bank Environment and Natural Program allocations by country.

Allocations	Funding (USD)
Colombia	\$9,265,000
Costa Rica	\$20,000,000
Ecuador	\$12,447,790
Honduras	\$ 25,000,000
Mexico	\$995,800,000
Peru	\$ 16,800,000

Note: Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama did not receive funding in 2018.

Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Website: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/home>

Established: 2010

Based: Incheon, South Korea

Mission: The GCF is a new global fund created to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change. GCF helps developing countries limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. It seeks to promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development, taking into account the needs of nations that are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

Convention funded: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Scope:

1. Prioritizing pipeline development
2. Strengthening the Fund's proactive and strategic approach to programming
3. Enhancing accessibility and predictability
4. Maximizing the engagement of the private sector
5. Building adequate institutional capabilities

Administration of Funds: The GCF seeks to catalyze funds, multiplying the effect of its initial financing by opening markets to new investments. It creates new models for climate finance, channeling investment from both the public and private sectors. GCF lists six criteria in its Investment: 1) impact potential, 2) paradigm shift potential, 3) sustainable development potential, 4) needs of the recipient, 5) country ownership and 6) efficiency and effectiveness. Access to GCF resources to undertake climate change projects and programs is possible for accredited entities who can submit funding proposals at any time. See Appendix 2 for contact information.



Tropical moist broadleaf forests and mangroves border estuaries in Central America and are important habitats to conserve for watershed protection. Photo: Jeisson Zamudio/Asociación Calidris

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TABLE 4. Green Climate Fund Program allocation by country.

Country	Program	Funding (USD)
Chile ¹	Climate Action and Solar Energy Development Program	\$49,000,000 Loan
	GEEREF NeXT ²	\$250,000,000 Equity \$15,000,000 Grant
Colombia ³	Scaling up Climate Resilient Water Management	\$38,500,000 Grant
Costa Rica ⁴	Productive Investment Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change	\$ 12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
	GEEREF NeXT ⁵	\$ 250,000,000 Equity \$ 15,000,000 Grant
Ecuador ⁶	Transforming Financial Systems for Climate ⁷	\$ 240,000,000 Loan \$ 35,600,000 Grant
	Priming Financial and Land-Use Planning Instruments to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation	\$ 41,200,000 Grant
El Salvador ⁸	Productive Investment Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change ⁹	\$ 12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
	Upscaling climate resilience measure in the dry corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador	\$ 35,800,000 Grant
	Energy savings insurance for private energy efficiency investments by Small and Medium-sized Enterprises	\$ 20,000,000 Loan \$ 1,700,000 Grant
Guatemala ¹⁰	Productive Investment Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change ¹¹	\$ 12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
	Building livelihood resilience to climate change in the upper basins of Guatemala's highlands	\$ 22,000,000 Grant
	Low-Emission Climate Resilient Agriculture Risk Sharing Facility for MSME's ¹²	\$ 5,400,000 Loan \$ 1,500,000 Guarantee \$ 11,000,000 Equity \$ 2,100,000 Grant
	GEEREF NeXT ¹³	\$ 250,000,000 Equity \$ 15,000,000 Grant
Honduras ¹⁴	Productive Investment Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change ¹⁵	\$ 12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
Mexico ¹⁶	Low-Emission Climate Resilient Agriculture Risk Sharing Facility for MSMEs ¹⁷	\$ 5,400,000 Loan \$ 1,500,000 Guarantee \$ 11,000,000 Equity \$ 2,100,000 Grant
	GEEREF NeXT ¹⁸	\$ 25,000,000 Equity \$ 15,000,000 Grant
Nicaragua ¹⁹	Productive Investment Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change ²⁰	\$ 12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
Panama ²¹	Initiative for Adaption to Climate Change ²²	\$12,500,000 Loan \$ 3,000,000 Grant
Peru ²³	Building the Resilience of Wetlands in the Province of Datem del Maranon, Peru	\$ 6,200,000 Grant

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Website: <https://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

Established: 27 December 1945

Based: Washington, D.C.

Mission: The IMF's primary purpose is to insure the stability of the international monetary system—the system of exchange rates and international payments that enables countries to transact with each other. It does this in three ways: keeping track of the global economy and the economies of member countries; lending to countries with balance of payments difficulties; and giving practical help to members.

Financial Mechanism of: 189 member states

Scope:

1. Economic Surveillance
2. Lending
3. Capacity Development

Administration of Funds: Lending arrangements are approved by the Executive Board to support a country's adjustment program. The arrangement requires the member to observe specific terms in order to be eligible to receive a disbursement. The IMF assists countries hit by crises by providing support to create breathing room as they implement policies to restore economic stability and growth. It also provides precautionary financing to help prevent and insure against crises. The Fund understands that economic development can negatively affect the environment and focuses on three measures to promote a greener growth: 1) reduce environmental harm, 2) balance between environmental benefits and economic costs, and 3) use fiscal reform to address environmental problems. See Appendix 2 for contact information.



Celebrating the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network designation of Delta del Estero Real, Nicaragua. Photo: Salvadora Morales/Manomet, Inc.

Corporación Andina de Fomento- Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina (CAF)

Website: <https://www.caf.com/es/proyectos/>

Established: 7 February 1968

Based: Caracas, Venezuela

Mission: CAF promotes a model of sustainable development through credit operation, non-reimbursable resources and supports in the technical and financial structuring of projects of the public and private sectors in Latin America.

Financial Mechanism for:

- Series “A” and “B” stockholder countries²³: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela
- Series “B” Stockholders: 13 private regional Banks
- Series “C” stockholder countries: Barbados, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Mexico, Portugal, and Spain

Scope:

1. Identify investment opportunity
2. Furnish technical and financial assistance needed to prepare and carry out multinational projects
3. Promote capital and technology contributions
4. Acquire and dispose of personal and real property, to file or answer judicial and administrative actions and to carry out all kinds of operations, acts, contract, and agreements

Administration of Funds: CAF is supported by its operating results, loan portfolio quality, and continuous growth in total assets and shareholder’s equity. Their performance is the result of its financial strength, loan portfolio quality, and its conservative financial policies. CAF’s funding strategy is based on matching the maturities of its liabilities of its loan portfolio while diversifying financial instruments, markets, and investor base. CAF uses a variety of loans and credit lines from multilateral and bilateral institutions to finance medium and long-term activities. CAF has subscribed credit agreements with multilateral agencies and official institutions of developed countries and has obtained credit lines and loans from international banks on very attractive terms and conditions. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

TABLE 5. Corporación Andina de Fomento- Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina allocations by country.

Country	Funding (USD)
Chile	\$1,848,000,000
Colombia	\$595,000,000
Costa Rica	\$1,848,000,000
Ecuador	\$766,000,000
Mexico	\$1,848,000,000
Panama	\$ 2,077,000,000
Peru	\$ 2,139,000,000

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Website: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home.html>

Established: 1965

Based: New York, NY

Mission: UNDP works in about 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion. We help countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities and build resilience in order to sustain development results.

Scope:

1. Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions
2. Accelerate structural transformations
3. Build resilience to shock and crises

Administration of Funds: Funding by the UNDP is divided into 5 groups: 1) Core resources, 2) Thematic funds, 3) UN Pooled Funds, 4) Earmarked Funds, 5) Vertical Funds. More than a fifth of all contributions to the UN development system are donated to the UNDP and provided as either core or non-core resources. Thematic funds are pooled to achieve a target outlined in the strategic plan. UN pooled funds help to support particular projects or programs and are managed by the UN Secretariat. Earmarked funds are designated to specific projects or programs at the global, regional, or country level. Vertical Funds are high-visibility, single-issue advocacy campaigns to tackle specific development specifically working with the Global Fund, Global Environment Facility, and Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol. See Appendix 2 for contact information.



Short-billed Dowitchers (*Limnodromus griseus*) and Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*). Photo: Dan Ion/Audubon Photography Awards

United Nations Environment Program (UN Environment)

Website: <https://www.unenvironment.org/>

Established: 5 June 1972

Based: New York, NY

Mission: UN Environment is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. Its mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

Scope:

1. Climate change
2. Disaster and conflicts
3. Ecosystem management
4. Chemicals and waste
5. Resource efficiency
6. Environment under review
7. Commitment to sustainability

Administration of Funds: The UN Environment relies on three sources for funding: regular budget, environment fund, and earmarked contribution. The Environment Fund is the core fund, which supports the essential capacity needed for the balanced and efficient delivery of UN Environment's work. Each country is a donor to the fund and a recipient of the benefits. The 193 Member States comprising UN Environment are responsible for providing sufficient resources to fund the program and budget that they approve. In addition to the Member States, Multilateral Entities and UN Partners provide important support at the global and regional levels. See Appendix 2 for contact information.



Shrimp farm worker distributing feed for shrimp in aquaculture ponds. Photo: Salvadora Morales/Manomet, Inc.

Organization of American States (OAS)

Website: <http://www.oas.org/en/>

Established: 30 April 1946

Based: Washington, D.C.

Mission: OAS was established in order to achieve among its member states—as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter—“an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence.”

Member States: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Grenada, Suriname, Dominica, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, The Bahamas, St. Kitts and Nevis, Canada, Guyana. See Appendix 2 for contact information.

Scope:

1. Democracy
2. Human Rights
3. Security
4. Development



Workshop participants and industry representatives discussing ways to reduce bird disturbance at shrimp farms. Photo: Itala Yepez/BirdLife

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Website: <https://www.apec.org/>

Established: November 1989

Based: Singapore

Mission: APEC is the premier Asia-Pacific economic forum. Its primary goal is to support sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. APEC is united in its drive to build a dynamic and harmonious Asia-Pacific community by championing free and open trade and investment, promoting and accelerating regional economic integration, encouraging economic and technical cooperation, enhancing human security, and facilitating a favorable and sustainable business environment. APEC initiatives turn policy goals into concrete results and agreements into tangible benefits.

Scope:

1. Trade and Investment Liberalization
2. Business Facilitation
3. Economic and Technical Cooperation

Administration of Funds: APEC provides funding for around 100 projects each year with around USD 15.4 million available. Projects typically include workshops, symposia, publications, and research. Most APEC projects focus on transferring knowledge and skills among members and building capacity as member move closer toward the Bogor goals. APEC administers two-project approval session per year for APEC member economies to apply for funding. Project sessions are very competitive with more applications than available funding. Members are encouraged to think deeply about their project, and consult widely with their colleagues to ensure that they have the best possible chance of receiving funding.



Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). Photo: Jeisson Zamudio/Asociación Calidris

Tips for Accessing Fund

Accessing these sources of public funding can be challenging, but below are some of the important criteria that the funding mechanisms use to reach their overarching goals.

GCF Investment Framework Criteria²⁵

1. Impact potential
2. Paradigm shift potential
3. Sustainable development potential
4. Needs of the recipient
5. Country ownership
6. Efficiency and effectiveness

GEF Funding Criteria²⁶

1. Each project follows a specific project cycle
2. Conforms with the eligibility criteria decided by the Conference of Parties (CoPs) of each Convention
3. Eligible to borrow from the World Bank or an eligible recipient of UNDP technical assistance
 - a. Or an eligible individual or group may propose a project via GEF Operational Focal Point
4. Undertaken in an eligible country and is consistent with country's national priorities and programs
5. Address one or more of the GEF Focal Areas, improving the global environment or advance the prospect of reducing risks to it
6. Consistent with the GEF operational strategy
7. Seeks GEF financing only for the agreed incremental costs on measures to achieve global environmental benefits
8. Involves the public in project design and implementation
9. Endorsed by the government of the country in which it is implemented

UNDP Funding Qualifications and Eligibility²⁷

1. Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract or the ability to obtain them
2. Ability to provide audited financial statements for completed fiscal years upon request
3. Ability to comply fully with UNDP General Terms and Conditions of Contract
4. Have the necessary organization, facilities, experience, accounting, and operational controls, adequate insurance and technical skills
5. When applicable, have a record of satisfactory performance with UNDP
6. Have sufficient material and financial resources to meet all existing commercial commitments

UNE Key Elements for Funding²⁸

1. Identification of new emerging environmental issues
2. Innovation for addressing environmental challenges
3. Advocacy and awareness raising
4. Essential capability to provide capacity building services
5. Results-based planning and management
6. Robust Oversight

APEC Priorities²⁹

1. Improving connectivity and deepening Regional Economic Integration
2. Sustainable growth
3. Digital society
4. Strengthening inclusive growth through structural reform and by increasing opportunities for women and SMEs

Conclusion

This report aims to analyze the connection between the Pacific Shorebird Strategy and the environmental goals and objectives of the major international conventions and public funding mechanisms at a high level. This report has synthesized information regarding the conventions and funding mechanisms to create a resource for relevant stakeholders along the Pacific Americas Flyway.

When looking specifically at the alignment of the four conventions that are of primary importance to the Pacific Shorebird Strategy (SDGs, CMS, CBD, and Ramsar), it is clear that Ramsar and the Convention on Migratory Species are both aligned to a high degree due to their direct connections to habitats and the species that use them. In fact, looking at the number of Strategy-aligned goals versus total goals, these two conventions are 51% aligned with the Pacific Shorebird Strategy. The Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity are about 40% aligned with the strategy. When looking deeper into each of the four conventions, the reasons why some are more aligned than others become clear. The Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity both have a larger range of target interests than shorebirds or migratory birds, while the Convention on Migratory Species and Ramsar directly affect shorebirds and their habitat. In this report, we chose nine biological diversity-related goals and targets from the conventions as a window into the alignment of specific Pacific Shorebird Strategy strategies and found that the convention goals based on biological diversity were strongly connected.

Identifying public funding mechanisms that align with the goals and objectives of the Pacific Shorebird Strategy can be difficult due to a lack of environmentally oriented funding sources. The National Audubon Society has identified nine institutions that have funded or could possibly fund integral projects on the Flyway: the Global Environmental Facility, Green Climate Fund, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Organization of American States, United Nations Development Program/United Nations Environmental Program, CAF (Corporación Andina de Fomento) and the International Monetary Fund. Some of the funding mechanisms are more accessible to projects that Flyway partners are looking to implement due to their programmatic focus, while others have more broad missions. Specifically, organizations such as GCF and GEF seem more likely to fund projects, while the OAS, APEC, or CAF have a lower chance of alignment. Projects funded by international mechanisms in the Pacific Americas Flyway countries have primarily been in Chile, Panama, and Ecuador. In conclusion, we recommend continued work to receive funding from partners like GEF, GCF, and IDB, while trying to make inroads with new funding mechanisms such as CAF, where there are stated intentions of funding environmental causes or currently funded environmental projects in select countries.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Ramsar sites that are important for shorebirds in the Pacific Americas Flyway³⁰

Country	Site	Date of Designation (month year)	Region	Area
Canada	Fraser River Delta	May 1982	British Columbia	20,682 ha
Costa Rica	Terraba-Sierpe	December 1995	Puntarenas	30,654 ha
Ecuador	La Segua	June 2000	Manabi	1,836 ha
Mexico	Humedales del Delta de Rio Colorado	March 1996	Baja California, Sonora	250,000 ha
	Bahia San Quintin	February 2008	Baja California	5,438 ha
	Laguna Ojo de Liebre	February 2004	Baja California Sur	36,600 ha
	Complejo Lagunar Bahia Guasimas- Estero Lobos	February 2008	Sonora	135,198 ha
	Bano de San Ignacio	February 2009	Nuevo Leon	4,225 ha
	Sistema Lagunar Agiabampo- Bacorehuis	February 2008	Sonora	90,804 ha
	Lagunas de Santa Maria - Topolobampo- Ohuira	February 2009	Sinaloa	22,500 ha
	Laguna Playa Colorado - Santa Maria La Reforma	February 2004	Sinaloa	53,140 ha
	Ensenada de Pabellones	February 2008	Sinaloa	40,639 ha
	Humedales El Mogote- Enseanda de la Paz	February 2008	Baja California Sur	9,184 ha
	Laguna Huizache- Caimanero	February 2007	Sinaloa	48,283 ha
	Marismas Nacionales	June 1995	Sinaloa, Nayarit	200,000 ha
	Laguna de Cuyutlan vasos III y IV	February 2011	Colima	4,051 ha
Nicaragua	Deltas del Estero Real y llanos de Apacuna	November 2001	Chinandega	81,700 ha
Panama	Punta Patino	October 1993	Darien	13,805 ha
Peru	Manglares de San Pedro de Vice	June 2008	Sechura	3,399 ha
	Bahia de Paracas	March 2003	Ica	335,000 ha
	Santuario Nacional Lagunas de Mejia	March 1991	Arequipa	691 ha
USA	Bolinas Lagoon	September 1998	California	445 ha
	Izembek-Moffet Lagoons	December 1986	Alaska	168,433 ha
	San Francisco Bay/Estuary	February 2013	California	158,711 ha
	Tomales Bay	September 2002	California	2,850 ha

Appendix 2

Contact information for International Convention Agreements and Financial Mechanisms

Convention on Biological Diversity (National Focal Points): www.cbd.int/information/nfp.shtml

Ramsar Convention (Secretariat): www.ramsar.org/about/the-secretariat

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Secretariat): unfccc.int/about-us/about-the-secretariat

United Nations Development Program (Latin American and the Caribbean): www.latinamerica.undp.org/content/rblac/en/home/about-us/contact-us.html

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species

Secretariat: www.cms.int/en/convention-bodies/organizational-structure/contact

Focal Points: www.cms.int/en/national-focal-points

Standing Committee: www.cms.int/en/convention-bodies/standing-committee

Scientific Council: www.cms.int/en/convention-bodies/scientific-council-scc/scientific-council-members

Global Environment Fund (Focal Points): www.thegef.org/focal_points_list

Inter-American Development Bank (Organizational Structure): www.iadb.org/en/about-us/how-are-we-organized

International Monetary Fund (Representative and Regional Offices): www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep

Corporación Andina de Fomento- Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina (Country Pages): www.caf.com/en/currently/

Green Climate Fund: www.greenclimate.fund/about/contact

Organization of American States (Member States): www.oas.org/en/member_states/default.asp



Photo: Jeisson Zamudio/Asociación Calidris

Endnotes

- ¹ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/chile>
- ² Project allocation distributed over 29 countries in Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia-Pacific
- ³ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/colombia>
- ⁴ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/costa-rica>
- ⁵ Project allocation distributed over 29 countries in Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia-Pacific
- ⁶ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/ecuador>
- ⁷ Project allocation distributed over 17 countries in Latin America and Africa
- ⁸ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/el-salvador>
- ⁹ Project allocation spread over 7 Latin American countries
- ¹⁰ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/guatemala>
- ¹¹ Project allocation spread over 7 Latin American countries
- ¹² Project allocation split between Guatemala and Mexico
- ¹³ Project allocation distributed over 29 countries in Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia-Pacific
- ¹⁴ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/honduras>
- ¹⁵ Project allocation spread over 7 Latin American countries
- ¹⁶ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/mexico>
- ¹⁷ Project allocation split between Guatemala and Mexico
- ¹⁸ Project allocation distributed over 29 countries in Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia-Pacific
- ¹⁹ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/nicaragua>
- ²⁰ Project allocation spread over 7 Latin American countries
- ²¹ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/panama>
- ²² Project allocation distributed over 7 Latin American countries (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama)
- ²³ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/peru>
- ²⁴ Series “A” and “B” stockholder countries receive a majority of loans
- ²⁵ GCF Framework Criteria Link: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/how-we-work/funding-projects>
- ²⁶ GEF Funding Criteria Link: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/events/9-AccessGEFTrustFund_0.pdf
- ²⁷ UNDP Funding Qualification Link: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/qualifications.html>
- ²⁸ UNEP Key Elements for Funding Link: <https://www.unenvironment.org/about-un-environment/funding/funding-facts/environment-fund>
- ²⁹ APEC Priorities Link: <https://www.apec.org/Projects/Funding-Sources>
- ³⁰ <https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/sitelist.pdf>



Audubon



Iscuande River delta, Colombia. Photo: Asociación Calidris