

What the international community can do

BirdLife has an active international policy and advocacy programme addressing climate change. This is fully informed by Partners working nationally to influence government policy and positions, which is in turn informed by on-the-ground action and participation with local communities. This facilitates reciprocal learning and replication of good approaches. BirdLife is active at UNFCCC and CBD meetings, as well as with other international conventions, agreements and processes, including those of the European Union and the African Union. It is part of several international and regional NGO coalitions, such as the Climate Action Network, a worldwide network of 450 NGOs working to promote action by governments and individuals that will limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels. The BirdLife Africa Partnership has recently developed the Africa climate exchange – a website which serves as a one stop shop on information on climate change in Africa, linking the user to information on climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation¹⁹.

BirdLife believes that the international community (including governments, conventions, international and regional institutions, multinationals and financial bodies) has a vital role to play, not least by securing an ambitious and well-resourced global deal to address climate change. Recognising the need for common but differentiated responsibilities, BirdLife urges the international community to:

- **secure a legally binding agreement** that cuts global emissions by the amount needed to limit global average temperature rises to less than 2° Celsius above preindustrial levels
- **ensure adequate funding to enable developing countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change, recognising the urgent and immediate needs of the most vulnerable countries.** This funding must be new, additional, stable and flexible, and in the order of \$100 billion per year. It must support planning and co-ordination work, as well as addressing the challenges of climate change on the ground, and should support monitoring, review and valuation
- **Provide support for capacity building** in poor countries to enable them to build resilience, address climate change impacts and to benefit from climate finance
- address the value and **importance of ecosystems within guidelines for adaptation funding** at national or international levels
- developed and industrialised countries (listed in UNFCCC Annex 1) must meet their current commitments and **provide the resources** necessary for immediate implementation of LDCs' National Adaptation Programmes for Action, and **support 'learning by doing', including the role of ecosystems in adaptation**
- **develop technical guidance and capacity to increase the understanding and integration of ecosystems in adaptation** under the Nairobi Work Programme of the UNFCCC
- co-ordinate new or ongoing climate change work and activities on ecosystems and adaptation under **other international agreements or programmes** with the UNFCCC to **share knowledge and experience, and ensure effective use of resources**
- encourage international climate funds and governments to **allocate resources to community-level projects, including those that strengthen local ecosystem resilience** and reduce local people's vulnerability to climate change
- developed countries and regions have to **urgently reform their relevant policies** (such as on trade, agriculture, energy, resource use) to reduce harmful impact on ecosystems or people in developing countries.