

## What sectors can do

**BirdLife is working** with various sectors at international and regional level (e.g. farming, fisheries, extractive industries, tourism, hunting) to raise awareness of the future challenges and to seek support for sectoral policy reform in the light of climate change. The BirdLife Partnership works in the same direction at national and local levels to: engage in multi-stakeholder processes to promote the need to safeguard ecosystem resilience (e.g. international/national sectoral adaptation strategies, renewable energy planning, protected area management etc.); co-operate with specific multi-national companies to increase their environmental performance; advocates sound rules and regulations for sustainable land-use, which helps sectors to gain planning security; and advocates for economic models and economic incentives that reward land-users for safeguarding ecosystems.

**BirdLife believes that all sectors need to adapt and should recognise the value and significance of healthy intact ecosystems in doing so.**

**BirdLife makes the following recommendations to sector leaders:**

- apply an ecosystem approach to business planning and delivery, employing **robust social and environmental safeguards** – in particular to ensure that ecosystem resilience is strengthened rather than weakened by the activities of the sector
- develop and **apply sector- and cross-sector-focused knowledge of the value and role of ecosystems**
- **adopt an ecosystem approach to adaptation, and long-term evaluations** when undertaking **cost-benefit analysis and assessments of alternatives** regarding projects and technologies
- **work together with other sectors** in assessing risks posed by climate change and finding adaptation solutions ('convergent adaptation planning')
- **pilot and demonstrate ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation**, and their cost effectiveness. Involve local communities where possible, and integrate other environmentally and socially appropriate engineering and technological adaptation measures where necessary
- **offer capacity building and training for ecosystem-based adaptation**, targeted at policy makers and practitioners at different levels, working with local communities where appropriate.

**Sector-specific recommendations include:**

- *Agriculture*: Conduct agricultural policy, research and practice that focuses on systems that promote the long-term health of soil, water and (agro-) ecosystems, learning from local knowledge, and maintaining crop and breed diversity.
- *Water*: Employ integrated water resource management, and effectively protect and restore the ecosystems that naturally capture, filter, store and release water.
- *Transport*: Ensure that new transport networks do not negatively affect the ability of local people or biodiversity to deal with climate change, for example by undermining ecosystem services, or blocking species migration routes.
- *Energy*: Ensure that mitigation responses and energy supply solutions do not undermine long-term adaptive capacity, especially where long-term investment is required. For example, biofuels development or expansion should not cause deforestation or other important habitat loss, and should not undermine livelihoods or the natural resource base of local people.