



# Republic of Korea adds Songdo Tidal Flat to the Ramsar List

10 July 2014

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea has designated Songdo Tidal Flat as a Wetland of International Importance. As summarised by the Secretariat's Samridhi Rijal based on the Ramsar Information Sheet, the Site (611 ha; 37°24'26"N 126°35'58"E) includes two sections of a larger area of tidal mud flat along the coast of Incheon Metropolitan City, which has a complicated coastline with about 170 large and small islands.

It is an important feeding and roosting ground for threatened waterbirds such as endangered black-face spoonbill (*Platalea minor*) as well as the vulnerable far eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), great knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*) and Saunders's gull (*Larus saundersi*). It also regularly supports 1% of the population of the Eurasian curlew *Numenius arquata* as well as of the far eastern curlew.

Traditionally, the Site has been used by fishermen and clam collectors, who fish with their bare hands. Major species collected are the surf clam (*Mactra veneriformis*), corb shell (*Cyclina sinensis*) and Manila clam (*Ruditapes philippinarum*). Threats to the Site include reclamation and the building of facilities at the adjacent Songdo International City.

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