# Small wetlands

## Why is it essential to preserve them?

Small ponds, marshes, and even artificial structures like fishponds and small dams could be crucial in combating biodiversity loss and climate change.

Less than 8 hectares in size and ecological importance that exceeds their dimensions.

## Cost-Effective Solutions

1 hectare of wetland can generate up to **$100,000 per year in ecosystem services**

**5-10% Increase in Productivity** due to better soil moisture retention and pest control

Can **reduce stormwater runoff by 40%** and pollutants by 90%

**50-70% Cheaper Restoration** per hectare compared to large-scale projects, thanks to simpler logistics

## Threats to Small Wetlands

- **Urbanisation and land conversion**
- **Pollution**
- **Fire**
- **Deforestation and climate change**
- **Lack of recognition in wetland inventories**

## Strategies to Protect Small Wetlands

- Public awareness
- Community engagement
- Campaigns and citizen science initiatives
- Participation of local and Indigenous communities
- Promoting research
- Studying their functions and vulnerabilities
- Comprehensive monitoring programs
- Local and National Conservation Policies
- Linking efforts to SDGs and the Ramsar Convention

## A Unique Conservation Opportunity

Small wetlands offer a scalable and cost-effective pathway for conservation. Their reduced size allows for localized protection, simplified management, and economical restoration.

**For more insights and practical examples, be sure to read our Policy Brief**

Ramsar
Convention on Wetlands