

**International Workshop  
Conservation for Rice Paddies and Wetlands  
- Good Practices in Asia -  
in Takashima, Shiga, 6-7 August, 2010**

**Summary**

This programme served to follow up on Ramsar Convention Resolution X 31, "Enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies as wetland systems" (also known as the "Rice paddy resolution"), a resolution jointly proposed by the Republic of Korea and Japan at the 10th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention (COP10) in Changwon, Republic of Korea in October and November, 2008. Specifically, an international workshop inviting specialists from throughout Asia was held in order to promote both, wetland conservation objectives and share best practice on rice paddy cultivation practices providing ecosystem services and other sustainable benefits. Results would then be submitted to COP11 and Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) meetings for the purpose of contributing to wetland conservation in Asia as a whole.

From 6-7 August, 2010 in Takashima City, Shiga Prefecture, 33 individuals from 10 Asian countries participated in the workshop. Fulfilling the role as secretariat, the various stages of this programme entailed 1) logistical arrangements for the workshop (venue selection and preparation, travel arrangements and communications for participants, on-site transportation and preparation of workshop minutes and summary in English and Japanese); 2) excursion preparations (planning, guidance, transportation, meals and financial affairs); and 3) drafting of a document compiling examples of research and best practice on the co-existence of both wetland conservation and sustainable rice paddy agriculture submitted by 15 specialists, most of whom were workshop participants