

WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL



Disproportionately high biodiversity



**Only 6% of global land and freshwater surface
40 % of the world's species**



Huge socio-economic importance



–> 1 billion people directly depend on wetlands

– Total estimated value:

USD 14.9 trillion = 45% of global ecosystem values

(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment)



Threats

Wetlands are (among) the most important ecosystems in the world...

- And they are being lost and degraded the most rapidly

- Conversion
- Pollution
- Invasive species
- Over-exploitation
- Climate change



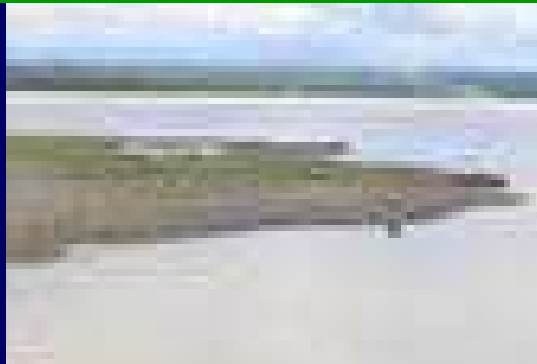
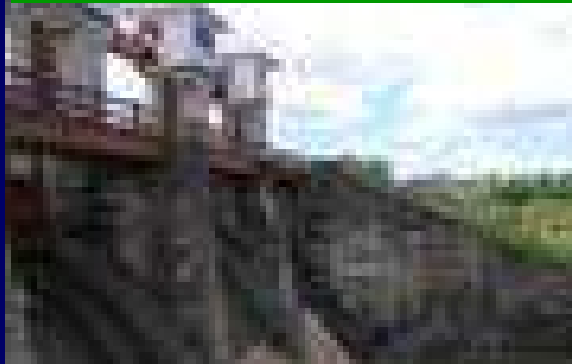
**Biodiversity
loss**

Poverty

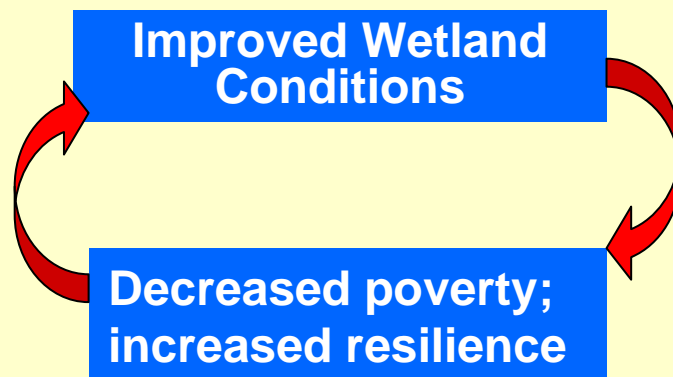
**Land / Water
Degradation**

**Climate
Change**

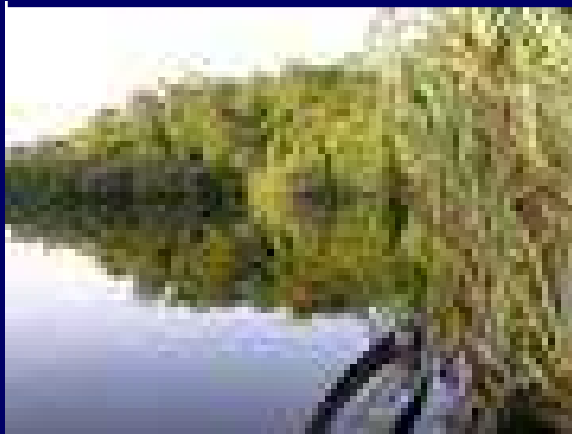
The vicious circle



It can be reversed



Wetland conservation supports livelihoods & increases climate resilience



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