

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: The Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): *Establishing Effective Conservation Information Service for Saving China's Biodiversity*

Implementation Partners for this Project: Wildlife Conservation Society - China Program

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): 2004 July - 2007 July

Date of Report (month/year): 3 years

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

Many thanks for the CEPF providing me the funding to establish effective conservation information service for saving China's biodiversity. With the available fund, we have achieved what we have planned in the project. It has played important role on biodiversity conservation in China. It is expected that the impact will last and play more important role in China's biodiversity conservation. As the team leader of the project, I would like to sincerely thank CEPF for its key support to the work, and also the managers in CEPF and CI to help me on this project.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: *Awareness of general public, scientific researches, relevant officers and nature reserve staff on biodiversity conservation in China, especially in the mountains of southwest China has been greatly improved by the end of the project. They are able to make sound decisions on biodiversity conservation.*

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	

<p><i>70% documents or publications including management plans developed by nature reserves have shown that they have understood many important ecological principles and have made sound decision on nature reserve management.</i></p>	<p>There are many documents or policies have shown that nature reserves has increased their understand of biodiversity conservation significantly. For example, having checked 20 over plans for nature reserves cross the country developed after 2005, some key problems as developing zoos or gardens, or huge investment on breeding centers or rescue centers, introducing alien species have been greatly reduced compared with many overall plans I saw before 2005. Increased efforts on education, field law enforcement and monitoring, community co-management can be seen in these overall plans. The book of China's Nature Reserve published by SEPA in 2006 has included many conclusions of the GAP analysis from the project. The book also emphasizes many problems identified or educated by the project.</p>
<p><i>Projects conducted by the government have sound ecological principle bases and have enough data to support.</i></p>	<p>There are many documents or policies have shown that the government has increased their understand of biodiversity conservation significantly. For example, Beijing Municipal Bureau of Landscape and Forestry has just revised the protection list of wildlife in Beijing. 12 more species added into the list and 7 second upgraded into the first grade. In addition, there are 7 alien species have been listed to strengthen invasive alien species control in Beijing. Some policies on climate change, invasive species control, nature reserve management, and species conservation have also indicated the improvement of conservation management.</p>

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

All activities planned in the project have been well implemented. A few activities have one or two months delay due to the whole program was delayed 3 months at the beginning. Most of these work will be carried on as a daily activities of WCS China program. Therefore, the long term running is guaranteed.

The website of www.chinabiodiversity.com and the publishing the World Conservation Information allowed the project reach to various stakeholders and a big range of people. Some information collecting activities as developing nature reserve databases were opened to the public. Request for information is made available on line and also the World Conservation Information. The WCI has been distributed to majority nature reserve and other experts related to PA conservation. Therefore, we got a lot of feed back from them.

We have established a very good relationship with many nature reserves and information also have been specifically sent to high level officers in various government agencies at national and provincial levels, especially SEPA, SFA and MOC. The news section and the China Species Information Service (CSIS) in our website, have also drawn attention of many people.

Many occasions have been explored to let more people to use the website and the newsletter. These information also have been specifically sent to high level officers in various government agencies. We also do some activities as National Cartoon Competition, How you can save endangered species of China, to promote more people to use the website. Also information in our website has been provided to other famous website as Sina and Sohu. These website has much more visitors and have get involved more stakeholders.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

None.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1: Website: Maintain and update the website of "Conserving China's Biodiversity" (in Chinese and English) – www.chinabiodiversity.com	For every working day, there are latest news and technique materials about biodiversity on web. Most of them are in Chinese with English title. But we also collect international news and translate the title into Chinese. Please check the website www.chinabiodiversity.com.
<i>Website are often updated. Have all biodiversity related information on web. New information are often cited by other publications including other websites.</i>	Now the website each day there are 200-700 people visiting from the home page (not including those go directly to subpages). From 4 Jun 2005, there are total 372,365 people used the home page.
Output 2: Publications: The World Conservation Info. 4 issues per year free newsletter (36 A4 pages, 5000 copies)	Total 13 issues (from 25-37 have been printed in 8000 copies, 36 A4 pages). All issues have been put on website as well. Please check the website www.chinabiodiversity.com.
<i>The newsletter of the World Conservation Information are printed every 3 months a issue and distributed to over 4000 individuals</i>	Each issue of the World Conservation Information have been distributed to over 7000 individuals, except for the users on website. People who receive these issues are over 1300 managers in nature reserves, over 600 managers from monitoring stations, over 390 libraries, 1300 from universities and colleges, 800 research institutions, 900 from forestry departments, 1700 from environment departments, 200 from media. It covers all 34 provinces and municipal cities (Anhui: 177; Macao: 2; Beijing: 1283; Fujian: 203; Gansu: 127; Guangdong: 316; Guangxi: 240; Guizhou: 110; Hainan: 137; Hebei: 139; Henan: 162; Heilongjiang: 307; Hubei: 243; Hunan: 246; Jilin: 244; Jiangsu: 267; Jiangxi: 140; Liaoning: 206; Inner Mongolia: 88; Ningxia: 35; Qinghai: 67; Shandong: 209; Shanxi: 83; Shaanxi: 161; Shanghai: 115; Sichuan: 477; Taiwan: 15; Tianjin: 92; Tibet: 56; Hong Kong: 24; Xinjiang: 146; Yunnan: 376; Zhejiang: 225; Chongqing: 78). In which, there are over 1000 from SW mountains (Sichuan, Chongqing, Yunnan and Guizhou).
Output 3: Databases: Update and expand existing "China Species Information System", and make as much as possible information on line.	The China Species Information Service (CSIS) has been fully updated. Species information of plants, invertebrates, vertebrates have been updated and also the search tools have been largely improved. Now it is much more convenient for searching information on species, protected areas, endangered category, invasive alien species for

	<p>national, provincial and smaller scales. A comprehensive species information system has been developed. Check the website for detailed information: http://www.baohu.org/csis_search/search1.php.</p>
<p><i>Species information are updated and information for important groups plants, fishes, invertebrates are included.</i></p>	<p>Following Information for over 2500 inveterbrates, over 700 fishes, all terriestal vertebrates naturally occuring in China (319 amphibians, 427 reptiles, 1330 birds and 580 mammals), and over 4500 plants have been put on website: taxonomy, endagered category, distribution, habitat, threats, conservation measures, map and photos. Following Information for over 2000 nature reserves are on web: introduction, location, size, photos, species list. Information can be searched in different ways. Information also available for over 400 invasive alien species.</p>
<p>Output 4: Promote In-situ Conservation in nature reserves: Maintain and update the "Nature reserve network". More detailed information for nature reserves in Southwest China hotspot will be available and maintaind. Specific information exchange, gap analysis and technique tools have been or will be provided to improve nature reserve management.</p>	<p>Following Information for over 2000 nature reserves are on web: introduction, location, size, photos, species list. The search tool for protected areas is quite comprehensive. Please see http://www.baohu.org/csis_search/search4.php for more information. Although, through sending the World Cosnervation Information and other publication on biodiversity conservation, the network has been established and maintained.</p>
<p><i>Nature reserve network is maintained. Adequate information for 90% of nearly 2000 nature reserve in China are on web. Gaps indentified, tools and infromation are provided on web for nature reserve management.</i></p>	<p>Information for about 2000 nature reserves have been collected and put on the website. In addition, there are about 600 other types of protected areas are also on the web. GAPs have been identified. Some technique tools have been identified, introduced via the World Conservation Information or the Website. Some of the documents have been translated. Available impotant technique materials are organized and availabe on line at: http://www.baohu.org/show.php?gid=218. These information is very useful as a reference to nature reserve management.</p>
<p><i>More detailed Information for all nature reserves within the region of Southwest China hotspot is available</i></p>	<p>More efforts have been put on the SW China, however, we decided not to seperate the SW, since the network working well with the SW.</p>
<p>Output 5: Tools for bioinventory: Maintain and update the "electronic species identification guide" and the "Species identification volunteer network" to improve capacity of general public to conduct biodiversity inventory in the field. Subset guide for Southwest China hotspot will be produced.</p>	<p>Collect information on species identification, develop simple electronic identification guide. Instead of following former taxonomic based identification manual, which is even difficult for taxonomist to use, the guide will be based on easily recognized characteristics as color, size, ratio of tail to body, especially distribution range. No matter any where in the world, if only the user has an Internet access, he could click on these characteristics and get a small list within the filter. And then through the linkage with existing on-line CSIS, user is able to look in detail about information of these species (including distribution and picture), which could quickly help with</p>

	identification.
<i>Electronic species identification guides for birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals are available on line. Some other tools for bioinventory are translated or prepared and are accessible on line</i>	Electronic species identification guides are available for amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Please see http://www.baohu.org/csis_search/search8.php for detail. These electronic guides are very easy to use. There are also expert information available. If the user is still not sure about confusion of a few of species, he could get hold on experts either through the Information Service Center or the expert's contacts in the CSIS.
<i>A subset of identification guide for species within the region of Southwest China hotspot is available</i>	We decided not to separate the SW, since the network working well with the SW.
Output 6: Gap analysis and priority setting: Work with another CEPF project of "Refining Conservation Outcomes for Southwest China hotspot" and provide China context for it. Conduct gap analysis at the scale of whole China and Hengduan Mts. Provide recommendations to the government and CEPF funding directions.	GAP analysis of nature reserve system and biodiversity important area have been done. Data has been provided to the CEPF project of "Refining Conservation Outcomes for Southwest China hotspot"
<i>Gap analysis and priority setting results are accessible to all audiences and have been used in government documents and projects</i>	These information are available at the website of http://www.baohu.org/show.php?gid=218 .
<i>The CEPF project of "Refining Conservation Outcomes for Southwest China hotspot" has used information the project produced. Gaps identified and priority analysis results are presented on line. Information is used for CEPF funding directions. Gap analysis and priority setting results are accessible to all audiences and have been used in government documents and projects</i>	This has been done for the whole China, and the Hengduan Mts. More analysis work is under going and hope to have more comprehensive output earlier next year. These information will be online and also on printed version
Output 7: Capacity of project staff has been largely improved	Capacity of the project staff has been largely improved.
<i>Quality of products developed by the project has been improved</i>	Current now skills of our staff have been improved. Such as data collecting, knowledge about taxonomy and biodiversity conservation, database management, GIS skill and website development have been improved.

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

The project has combined very comprehensive information needed for biodiversity conservation and also has established a network for biodiversity conservation. The impact of the project has reached to very wide range of people and will have a long term last.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

None.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

None.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

The project has been very well designed. Plans listed in the project have been very well conducted.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

Get enough staff and improve their capacity to conduct work are most important. Information system, website and newsletters are all time consuming. Qualified staff are reuquest.

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Date Received	Notes
IUBS China Committee	A	\$10,000	Jun 2005	For printing more copies of the World Conservation Information
WCS China	B	\$10,000		As a daily operation of promoting the website
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		

		\$		
		\$		
		\$		

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

The project will continue. Updating information on species and protected areas will be continued. More comprehensive GAP analysis based on the available data will be conducted. WCS China Program will provide staff and operation fund to keep the work going. More funding for some specific tasks will be explored. If it is possible, wish to apply more fund from CEPF.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

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