

## CEPF Final Project Completion Report

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Shan Shui Conservation Center
<b>Project Title:</b>	Biodiversity Information-Sharing Platform for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policy Making
<b>Grant Number:</b>	65835
<b>CEPF Region:</b>	Indo-Burma II
<b>Strategic Direction:</b>	6 Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors
<b>Grant Amount:</b>	\$219,660.00
<b>Project Dates:</b>	July 01, 2015 - July 31, 2018
<b>Date of Report:</b>	September 29, 2018

### Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

**1. CFCA, Wild Xinjiang, China Birdwatching Association, Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, Peking University Center for Nature and Society.**

**All of these organizations above are co-operating with us by field investigation, wild monitoring, data production, and 'China Nature Watch Association' establishment.**

**2. Qinhuangdao Wuyou Network Engineering Co., Ltd.**

**The company above provides technical supports in developing the 'Nature Watch' website and mobile phone application.**

### Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

**1. A website (<http://chinanaturewatch.org/>) including functions of 'Map', 'Species', 'Protected Area', 'Records', 'Downloads' and 'My Nature' along with its mobile phone application 'Nature Watch' have been completely developed and launched.**

**2. A network named 'China Nature Watch Association' has been established with over 10 partners now.**

**3. Two 'China Nature Watch' reports with contents of forest watch, species watch and protected areas watch have been published.**

4. Over 12000 maps of species distribution have been produced.
5. Over 10 workshops and public activities or natural education have been carried out.
6. Over 2000 species layers have been produced.
7. Over 15 articles have been published including 2 of them were published in SCI.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
A biodiversity information sharing platform for the Chinese part of the Indo-Burma Hotspot will be established to bridging the effective communication of biodiversity information with policy making	Both online ( <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/">http://chinanaturewatch.org/</a> and its mobile phone application 'Nature Watch') and offline (a network named 'China Nature Watch Association') platforms were built in order to share biodiversity information. Also, the we-media of Shan Shui Conservation Center helps bridge the effective communication of biodiversity information with policy making.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
3 Lower the technical barriers of conservation and communication of biodiversity data, which engage new constituencies of citizen scientists, researchers and nature reserve managers in conservation efforts	The function of 'records' of the website ' <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/">http://chinanaturewatch.org/</a> ' and the mobile phone App has collected 5000 records of species information by the public. In addition to the online system, several civil societies, local communities, academic institutes and nature reserves have co-operated with us in conducting biodiversity monitoring and collecting biodiversity data.
4 Production of knowledge such as species distributions, key biodiversity areas, conservation status of endangered species, etc. from the data leveraged by nature maps	Two reports 'Nature Watch 2014' and 'Nature Watch 2016' has been published in Beijing in the year of 2015 and 2017 respectively. Both of the reports contain forest watch, species watch, protected area watch and a new report 'Nature Watch 2018' is planning to be published next year, which might contain new contents of public participation. All of these reports are in both Chinese and English, which could be download for free through the function of 'Download' in our website ( <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/Report">http://chinanaturewatch.org/Report</a> ).
5 Delivering conservation policy suggestions to key policy makers in parts of China within the Indo-Burma Hotspot and influence the development policy to consider biodiversity impacts.	On the 9th of March, 2018, Zhang Endi and Ma Jin, members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, submitted a proposal related to update the "National Key Protected Wildlife/Plant List" as soon as possible to the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. This was based on the policy recommendations of 'China Nature Watch'. The text of the proposal and the appendix were drafted by Shan Shui Conservation Center, which proposed to adjust the

	protection levels of existing national key protected animal/plant lists, IUCN Redlist vulnerable species, including species distributed in Indo-Burma Hotspot.
1 The nature maps website( <a href="http://hinature.cn">http://hinature.cn</a> ) would be updated by new design, complete functions and would be formally come online with at least 1000 active users.	The website has been come online and updated, we have changed its name to 'China Nature Watch' and changed its web address to ' <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/">http://chinanaturewatch.org/</a> '. Until 27th of September, 2018, we have got the functions of 'Map', 'Species', 'Protected Areas', 'Records', 'Downloads' and 'My Nature' on our website, and have got nearly 4000 active users and over 27500 visits.
2 The nature maps mobile phone application would be developed and formally come online in the app store with at least 1000 active users.	Until the 27th of September, the App 'Nature Watch' has been developed into both ios and Android systems and has been launched for over one year, with the main functions as same as the website, and have got nearly 4000 registered users with it.

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

**In achieving the short-term impacts, our website and the mobile phone application have got nearly 4000 registered users; we also engaged over ten partner organizations and hundreds of individuals of citizens scientists and researchers in our project; we also published two reports based on the data collected by citizen scientists. The main challenge might be how to keep the public active in concerning natural environment and keep providing effective data for us. Also, it is a challenge of developing and operating a website and a mobile phone application to fulfill our requirements and needs as it is a high cost in the technical needs. Further, in terms of data analysis, three main challenges were identified: firstly, the accumulation of data is still insufficient; secondly, a higher threshold of analysts is needed; finally, it costs a long time in processing the data model.**

**In achieving long-term impacts, we have built both online (the website <http://chinanaturewatch.org/> and a mobile phone application) and offline (a network 'China Nature Watch Association') platforms for sharing biodiversity information. Both of the platforms have quite a lot of active participations. However, in bridging the effective communication of biodiversity information with policy making, we were facing two challenges: firstly, the ways of communication, i.e. once we built our platform and finished analyzing the data, in what ways shall we effectively communicate our results to the public; secondly, in what ways shall we do to affect the policy making departments.**

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

**N/A**

## Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.1	1.1 The website Nature Maps (hinature.cn) is fully developed and promote to the public. By promotion activities, effective registered users achieve at least 1000.	The website of 'Nature Watch' ( <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/">http://chinanaturewatch.org/</a> ) has been completely developed and promoted to the public with registered users of nearly 4000.
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.2	1.2 At least 5000 effective biodiversity records available for at least the areas in Indo-China areas.	Overall 5000 effective records have been recorded and uploaded in the Indo-China area.
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform	1.3	1.3 The layer observations, tree cover, river, road will be displayed	We generated the layers of tree cover, river and road, streets and put them in the function of 'Map' on the website.

	for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.		on the website.	
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.4	1.4 At least another 50 species layers displayed on the website.	About 2000 species layers have been displayed on the website.
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.5	1.5 The Indo-Burma Protected Areas pages will be set up for displaying conservation areas in proposed areas.	The page of 'Laohegou', China's first land trust protected area in Sichuan Province, 'Guanba', watershed community-based protected area in Sichuan Province, 'Nangun River', community-based protected area' in Yunnan Province and 'Qunan', community-based protected area in Guangxi Province have been displayed as conservation areas in the website 'Nature Watch'.

1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.6	1.6 At least 3 local partners will join the cooperation of the platform as "big user group".	Civil societies such as 'CFCA', 'Wild Xinjiang', 'China Bird Watching Association', local communities such as Guanba in Sichuan Province, are all our local partners of the platform. Now we are working to enlarge our partner group by establishing an association named 'China Nature Watch Association', which has got more than 10 organizations in it.
1	Develop and improve the website Nature Maps(hinature.cn) as a platform for collating and leveraging information on biodiversity and conservation issues at protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and other sites within the priority corridors.	1.7	1.7 The mobile phone application is fully developed and available online both in Android and iOS version. At least 1000 downloads.	The App 'Nature Watch' has been developed into both ios and Android systems and has been launched for over one year, and have got nearly 4000 registered users with it.
2	Strengthen the institutional capacity of local civil society and Shan Shui itself. Design and organize a series of training workshops and meetings to promote the toolkit to local	2.1	2.1 Biodiversity investigation and monitoring workshops and toolkit training workshops at least 3 times.	Five workshops were carried out: The Emeishan Mountain Nature Watch Camp in 2016; The Wanglang Nature Reserve Nature Watch Camp in 2017; The 2016, 2017 and 2018 International Nature Watch Festival.


	partners funded by CEPF IB fund and other nature reserves.			
2	Strengthen the insititutional capacity of local civil society and Shan Shui itself. Design and organize a series of training workshops and meetings to promote the toolkit to local partners funded by CEPF IB fund and other nature reserves.	2.2	2.2 Biodiversity Protocols and manuals on data input and sharing. Detailed data sharing files and user manuals with the application and website.	An instruction manual of the 'Nature Watch' mobile phone application was designed and an article of its introduction was published by the we-media of Shan Shui Conservation Center.
2	Strengthen the insititutional capacity of local civil society and Shan Shui itself. Design and organize a series of training workshops and meetings to promote the toolkit to local partners funded by CEPF IB fund and other nature reserves.	2.3	2.3 Increased institutional capacity of Shan Shui, as evidenced by civil society tracking tool scores at project start and end.	The score of Shan Shui has been improved from 94 in the year 2015 to 95 in the year 2018. Of which, the improvement should be our annual budget, which has increased from less than USD 1 million to more than 2 million.
3	Analyse the data every year and publish the result in the Nature Watch Report every year to deliver the conservation suggestions to	3.1	3.1 Research reports of China Nature Watch of the data generated by the platform each year (2 reports).	Two reports 'Nature Watch 2014' and 'Nature Watch 2016' has been published in Beijing in the year of 2015 and 2017 respectively. Both of the reports contain forest watch, species watch, protected area watch and a new report 'Nature Watch 2018' is planning to be published next year, which might contain new contents of public participation. All of these reports are in both Chinese and English, which could be download for free through the function of 'Download' in our website

	the government and the public.			( <a href="http://chinanaturewatch.org/Report">http://chinanaturewatch.org/Report</a> ).
3	Analyse the data every year and publish the result in the Nature Watch Report every year to deliver the conservation suggestions to the government and the public.	3.2	3.2 At least 6 promotion articles on the media. The discovery of the platform are more known by more people of the public and the conservation professionals.	Overall 25 articles related to the platform and the project have been published on the we-media of Shan Shui.
3	Analyse the data every year and publish the result in the Nature Watch Report every year to deliver the conservation suggestions to the government and the public.	3.3	3.3 At least 3 Case studies of the users (other grantees in CEPF IB).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Guanba Community-based Protected Area in Pingwu County of Sichuan Province, which restored the habitat of giant panda and fresh water ecosystem, as well as promoted economic development of local communities by reducing grazing, establishing patrol team and developing apiculture of Chinese bee.</li> <li>2. The Qunan Community-based Protected Area for White-headed Langurs in Fusui County of Guangxi Province, which protects the white-headed langurs by conducting natural education for local villagers and promoting management capacity for patrol teams.</li> <li>3. The Nangun River Community-based Protected Area for Asian Elephants in Yunnan Province, which aims to envisage a conservation-development cycle in which one benefits the other for the greater good of the community by two facets: the first is to cultivate premium farm produce a healthy ecosystem can provide, such as conventional crops represented by 'elephant rice', a variant of fragrant rice. The second is to develop aesthetic values of a healthy ecosystem offering eco-tourist attractions that center in on elephants. Guidance is needed for community to sustainably tapping into economic values that the ecosystem provides and encouraging a natural-friendly shift of livelihoods.</li> </ol>

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

**1. A website (<http://chinanaturewatch.org/>) including functions of 'Map', 'Species', 'Protected Area', 'Records', 'Downloads' and 'My Nature' along with its mobile phone application 'Nature Watch'.**



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2. Over 12000 maps of species distribution and Over 2000 species layers.
  3. Two 'China Nature Watch' reports.
  4. Over 10 workshops and public activities or natural education.

## Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

**As an NGO, on the one hand, we launched the project initially in order to engage the powers from not only the government and academic institutes but also civil societies and individuals to deal with the problems of biodiversity information. On the other hand, we attempted to conserve biodiversity by building community-based protected areas. During designing and implementation of this project, we found that in order to meet its biodiversity conservation goals and needs with different targets in different contexts in China, protected areas under governance by government and the other types of governance may completely, particularly between the local community and conservation, remains a major issue to address. It is feasible and effective to assign the community a leading role and mobilize them to engage in conservation. Promoting self-reliance, active participation in decision-making, and group action is of paramount importance for sustainable conservation, long-term co-development, and mainstream policy making. Considering a variety of targets and local conditions, it is possible to foster diversity and flexibility for community mobilization, participatory organization, local government roles, support from NGOs, resources needed for conservation, the delineation and allocation of powers, obligations, and interests, and so much more. We hope that this project can provide references for efforts to strengthen community co-management under governance by government and establish the other types of governance.**

## Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

**In order to ensure sustainability of the project, it is significant to keep people and partners active, and to encourage them participating into the activities; also, sufficient input of manpower and funding is another challenge. In order to keep people and partners active, and encourage their participation, we**



established both online and offline platforms to provide them with a place to do natural education, to observe the nature and to share their biodiversity records. Besides, we also held workshops and festivals to gather natural lovers and natural experts together. In addition to this, we encouraged villagers in local communities to participate into conservation by built community-based protected areas and conducted education, training, monitoring and patrol periodically.

## Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

## Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

**The power of citizen scientists and all other civil power could definitely be a mainstream in the jobs of natural conservation through this project. More attention and funding should be put in building this stream of power in the future.**

## Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

**Total additional funding (US\$)**

*\$727,400.00*

### **Type of funding**

*Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:*

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

**Approximately another USD 727,400 was from HSBC Bank (China) Company Limited and all of this funding is A Project Co-financing.**



## Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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