

Yangtze Programme Newsletter

Issue 3 October 2007

Reviving The Lifeline of China

Protect & restore viable populations of focal species & their habitats

Bamboo Blooming in northern Minshan

Bamboo blooming happens in partial areas of Northern Minshan, but may not pose a major threat to wild giant panda's survival. With reaction to monitor the situation of bamboo blooming closely, WWF, cooperating with the forestry departments of Sichuan and Gansu, organized a survey of bamboo blossoming in the Northern Minshan in June 2007.

The survey showed that six species of bamboo in Minshan are blooming. The blooming area has covered 93.4%, 61.0% and 4.1% of the giant panda's habitat in Ruo'ergai, Jiuzhaigou and Zhouqu County, respectively. The total of blooming area has reached 1,437.75 hectares, accounting 0.24% of the total bamboo forest in Minshan that panda feeds on.

So far, no evidence shows that panda died because of famine. However, with habitat broken into pieces by human activities today, the wild giant panda probably retrieve to the areas where bamboo blooms less.

WWF believes that the wild panda's survival will not be menaced by current trends dramatically - as long as efforts to protect and reconnect existing habitat remain steadfast. WWF has worked with Sichuan and Gansu provincial forestry bureaus to well monitor and protect the pandas and their habitats, focusing on the restoration and protection of panda habitats in Minshan, especially the construction of panda nature reserves and corridors that help reconnect fragmented panda habitats.



Bamboo blooms in north Minshan.



The map of bamboo blooming of Panda habitats in North Minshan Mountain.



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Protect & restore representative ecosystems and increase their resistance and resilience to climate change

Clean Livestock Production Mitigate Global Warming

In the Central Yangtze

Supported by HSBC, WWF, China University of Geoscience (CUG) and Hubei Provincial Livestock and Veterinary Bureau jointly launched the Clean Production (CP) and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Livestock Farming Project on October 14 to mitigate the warming impacts by the livestock farming and poultry raising industry in the central Yangtze.

Statistics showed that livestock and poultry industry remains the biggest wastewater source in China with over 10 billion tons of sewage generated each year, far more than the total amount of industrial and domestic sewage. The greenhouse gases from this industry such as N2O and CH4 are the main contributors to climate change.

The project will help CUG set up a Research Center of Livestock Farm CP and CDM, and work with the Hubei Provincial Nucleus Pig Farm, Wuhan Jinlong Livestock Co., Ltd. to conduct demonstrations in waste water treatment, reduction of greenhouse gas emission and waste utilization.

"WWF will cooperate with partners to establish and promote waste water treatment, reduction of greenhouse gases emission of livestock industry in the central and lower Yangtze in the next five years to deliver a model on water conservation and reduction of agricultural greenhouse gas emission in the world," said Wang Limin, leader of HSBC Climate Partnership China Programme.



世界自然基金会(WWF)"汇丰与气候伙伴同行"计文 畜禽港浩生产与清洁发展机制示教





MoU singed to promote Clean Production Mechanism in Livestock Farming in Wuhan.



Conserve the Upper Yangtze together with TCCC

Under the umbrella of WWF-TCCC partnership, a workshop was held in Chengdu from Oct 24 to 25 announcing the official kick-off of the project in China.

With a focus on conserving upper Yangtze, WWF will work in Minjiang and Jialingjiang River, the two main tributaries of the upper Yangtze, to mitigate water pollution, soil erosion and negative impact of dams in the both watersheds, and promote IRBM platform for Jialiang River.

WWF CPO shared the strategy and action plan with participants from WWF US ,TCCC and their bottlers. TCCC and bottlers showed great interest of involving in the local project through business engagement module and communication work.

Before the workshop, the participants visited four field sites of Minjiang watershed which could be the potential project sites, including a water pollution control plant operated by the government and an eco-village project supported by some local NGO. The dam threats to Baitiaohe River, the main canal of Dujiangyan Project and the main water resource of Chengdu municipal waterworks, impressed the visitors very much.





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Sustainably provide goods and services for people through restoration and Integrated ecosystem management

Yangtze Alternative Livelihood Products Show on Holland Village From Sep 29 to Oct 7, over 5000 visitors were attracted by the organic vegetables from Dongting Lake, the community products from Qinling Mountains, and the paintings and paper-cuttings by the students living around nature reserves of Amur-Heilong displayed on the Holland village exhibition in Beijing.

2007 marks the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the Netherlands. To celebrate this, WWF China is invited to join Holland Village event to demonstrate our conservation achievements at Qinling, Dongting Lake and Amur/Heilong eco-region, with support from the Netherlands.

To reduce human activities' impact on environment and better protect the natural ecosystem and habitats of focal species, WWF has supported a series of sustainable livelihood projects along the Yangtze River, including alternative community projects in the upper Yangtze, organic agriculture and sustainable fishery projects in central and lower Yangtze. Visitors have been impressed by WWF's new conservation approach, which depicts the possibilities of the harmony between human beings and nature.

Pepper from Panda habitat selling on Carrefour Fair

WWF and Carrefour are holding non-timber forestry product (NTFP) in Carrefour's chain supermarkets in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Chongqing, Wuhan, and other 16 cities nationally. During the 4-week fair, Carrefour provides a sale platform for Sichuan hot pepper from the communities around the giant panda nature reserve.

Since 2004, WWF and Carrefour have been holding yearly NTFP fair successfully. More and more Carrefour chain supermarkets have taken part in this event. The total amount of Sichuan hot pepper for sale reaches 15 ton, 10 times of that of last year.



Coming next month

- Wetland conservation network launch in Shanghai
- > HCP programme meeting in Beijing



Create enabling conditions for conservation and sustainability in the Yangtze Basin

IRBM promoted at the Third International Yellow River

After being promoted in the Yangtze River successfully since 1999, Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) is now starting to apply to the conservation of Yellow River.

On October 15,WWF signed a memorandum of framework cooperation with the Yellow River Conservancy Commission (YRCC) at the Third International Yellow River Forum, setting goals for cooperation in next five years to "protect the biodiversity and promote IRBM in the Yellow River so as to improve the health of the river and achieve sustainable economical and social development."

During the Forum, WWF, AusAID and Chinese Academy of Sciences also released the **Taking Stock of Integrated River Basin Management in China** that features the overall situation of river basin management in China and suggests the way-forward in the future.

<u>Yangtze vision</u>

A region where a living river links the Tibetan Plateau and the Pacific;

A region where people thrive in harmony with nature, pandas play in forests, children swim with dolphins and fish in the clear water, pheasants dance among the rhododendron, and cranes sing at sunrise.

Page 5 **A region** where natural cycles sustain a rich and ancient culture.



Reviving

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