



NEWSLETTER

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CHINA FOR A GLOBAL SHIFT INITIATIVE



Laurent Some speaking at the symposium on China-Africa cooperation organised by WWF and the China State Forestry Administration on 9 March 2012. © ZHAN YIJIE / WWF

On 18-20 July Beijing will host the 5th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). Set up in 2000, this is the most important governmental platform for Sino-African dialogue, and every three years it creates the momentum for decisions that will determine the quantity and quality of cooperation and economic exchanges between China and African countries.

It is undeniable how important the current relationship between China and Africa is for the people of both China and Africa, and the international community at large. I was amazed to see from statistics how positively correlated were major development indicators between China and Africa during the past 10 years, meaning in a simplistic way, how important Africa is to China, and China to Africa.

Trade and aid between China and Africa keeps on increasing. And the upcoming China-Africa Ministerial Conference presents a key opportunity to make these trade and capital flows a driving force for development and growth – a green and sustainable growth that will ensure gains for all.

Ahead of the Conference, WWF has put forward proposals to strengthen environmental and social principles in this growing and expanding relationship. Financial cooperation, extraction of natural resources and clean energy are the key areas we look at to ensure that ecological, economical, and social benefits are yielded from African natural resources for African people, as well as for Chinese.

While capitalising on growth opportunities, it is necessary to build economies that manage natural capital wisely to ensure security and stability, and to protect unique ecosystems such as the Congo Basin, the West African marine coast, the Eastern Africa Coast, the resourceful Fynbos in South Africa, the Niger, Nile, Zambezi river basins, the Great Rift Valley lakes, the dryland forest of Madagascar, upon which millions people depend for their livelihood.

As an African who grew up in a remote village, with limited health, education and water facilities, I would love to see further and sustainable development opportunities for my people and my continent. FOCAC has an important role to play here, in the decisions it will make and in the way these will be implemented in the coming years.

Laurent Some
Director of External Relations and Partnership,
WWF Africa and Madagascar Programme

CHINA & AFRICA - A JOURNEY TO GABON

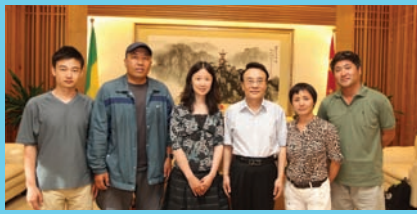


Music of the forest, a way forward for Gabon's cooperation with China

By Claudia Delpero, Advocacy and Communications Director, WWF's China for a Global Shift Initiative



Meeting with Mr. Gabriel Tchango, Gabon's Minister for Water and Forest (3rd from right). © DENG JIA / WWF



Meeting with Mr. Sun Jiwen, Ambassador of China to Gabon (3rd from right). © DENG JIA / WWF

An opportunity for the media

A delegation of journalists from China was received, among others, by Gabon's Minister for Water and Forest and by the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador in Libreville in May.

On 14-20 May, WWF organized a media trip to Gabon, providing journalists an opportunity to talk to Chinese businesses in Africa and understand conservation and development issues linked to the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Four Chinese journalists joined the trip representing *Xinhua News Agency*, *China Environment News*, *21st Century Business Herald* and *Sanlian Life Weekly*.

Gabon is a country blessed by nature. With over 800 km of coastline along the Atlantic Ocean, tropical rainforests covering 85% of its territory and a wealth of minerals, Gabon is the most prosperous nation in the Congo Basin. Looking at the statistics, there could be no greater contrast with the country that is becoming one of its main investors: China.

Gabon's total population is equal to one of the smallest Beijing districts, though its area (more than 267,000 km²) is equivalent to 16 times that of Beijing. Its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita is approximately 15,000 US dollars, almost double China's, and WWF's Living Planet Report 2012 ranks Gabon as first in the world for "biological capacity" (biologically productive area per person), while China comes among the last. But Gabon and China have also something in common: the commitment in national plans to making the environment a key element of economic development.

We visited Gabon with a group of journalists from China ahead of the Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), an event held every three years to bolster relations between China and African countries. Our goal was to explore how the national commitments can meet on the ground and recommend actions that China and Gabon can undertake through FOCAC for development and the environment.

Gabon is a perfect example of the opportunity for collaboration in these areas as its economy is so dependent on natural resources. Mining and oil account for the largest portion of the country's GDP (60%), but dwindling oil reserves have compelled the government to focus on alternatives for future investment and in 2010 "Green Gabon" became one of the strategies to boost the economy.

"Green Gabon" and the forestry sector

The idea behind "Green Gabon" was to grow through a sustainable use of natural resources, e.g. promoting ecotourism in the 13 national parks (11% of the country's land), reducing carbon emissions associated with deforestation and advancing performance of the timber industry. As a start, in 2010 the government banned log exports in order to benefit local processing – thus local employment. The new forestry law also required the implementation of sustainable management plans for concessions which include cutting cycles of 25-30 years. Such measures were partly the result of painful experiences from the past.

We travelled to Nyonié, 60 km south of Libreville, one of the first areas of forest overexploitation. At its most productive time, the village consisted of two

neighbourhoods with some hundreds of people living off of wood, fish and wildlife. Today, in a stripe of land between two national parks, only a few homes remain, inhabited by a handful of families and elders. Foresters left 30 years ago and the youth gravitate around Libreville, where there are schools, jobs and better opportunities to make a living. Even food is delivered from the capital.

The main source of income is now a wildlife-tourism resort, opened 20 years ago by a French chef who supplies electricity and employs villagers.

This area is one of amazing beauty. The rainforest and natural savannahs are populated with elephants, buffalos, snakes, birds and a variety of tree species – like the local Okoumé, Gabon's most important timber species – rising with the ocean as a backdrop.

"It is beautiful here, but these trees are not of high quality, overexploitation removed the good seed trees," explains Bede Makanga Moussavou, Forestry Coordinator at WWF Gabon.

"Forestry companies have gone, agriculture is impossible, we cannot hunt wildlife, fish is caught by large vessels off the coast. What is left for us? The global environmental problems are not our fault, we are just victims of decisions made somewhere else," complains a retired doctor while he listens to a radio under the porch.

WWF has been working to help manage Gabon's rich biodiversity and create sustainable sources of income for local communities for 15 years. Part of this work has been coordinating efforts with logging companies, encouraging them to join international certification schemes, such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This alone has led to the certification of 1,800,000 hectares of forests in Gabon.

"We are now working with Chinese businesses to promote a similar path and train them in the best international standards," says Jin Zhonghao, Manager of the Global Forest & Trade Network at WWF China. *"In 2009 the Chinese government issued sustainability guidelines for Chinese forestry companies operating overseas, this is a starting point for engagement."*

Forestry is a sector where the Chinese presence in Gabon is increasingly visible. With 23 and 20 companies respectively, France and China dominate the local timber industry. In 2011, 171,048 m³ of processed wood were sold to China and 143,268 to France, with many Chinese companies also serving the European market. In Europe, a new regulation requires that from 2013 all timber entering the borders carries the proof that it has been harvested legally and operators from different countries will be pushed to meet higher standards.

"We will have to get a certification for our wood products, we have no choice if we want to keep certain markets," says the representative of a Chinese state-owned enterprise selling to Europe.

Could this happen with China as well?



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Sustainable investment in forestry

A workshop on sustainable forest management was organised by WWF in Libreville in May, training 10 Chinese companies in the forestry sector about international sustainability standards and certification schemes. This event was part of a series of workshops started last November.



Forest elephant killed by poachers being inspected by game guards.
© MARTIN HARVEY / WWF-CANON

Zero-tolerance: ivory stock burnt in Gabon

On 27 June 2012, Gabon publicly burned 4,825 kilograms of ivory, including 1,293 pieces of rough ivory mainly composed of tusks and 17,730 pieces of worked ivory, demonstrating its commitment to tackle elephant poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

WWF and TRAFFIC worked with Gabon to audit its government-owned ivory stockpile before it was destroyed to ensure all tusks were accounted for and none had leaked into illegal trade.

The President of Gabon, Ali Bongo, lit the pyre and said, *"Gabon has a policy of zero tolerance for wildlife crime and we are putting in place institutions and laws to ensure this policy is enforced."*

A few weeks earlier, Central African countries signed a groundbreaking regional plan to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade in the region. The plan was adopted by the ten member states of Central African Forest Commission, known as COMIFAC. Countries pledged to undertake unprecedented levels of cooperation with law enforcement agencies, such as the police, customs and the judiciary.

Disappearing wildlife

Lambarené, just past the Equator, is the second biggest city of Gabon. This town has been a stronghold of the forestry industry since the beginning of the 20th century, as logs could easily be transported to Libreville via the Ogooué River. Forestry is the main economic sector in the region and traffic on the roads is mainly of lorries filled with timber heading to the processing factories or to the port of Libreville. But once a road is open for commodities, the lucrative – and illegal – trade of wildlife species also prospers, leaving behind empty forests and few resources for local populations.

A food market on the riverbank reveals the custom of eating fish, as well as crocodile, antelope and other bushmeat. A pangolin is for sale in plastic bags, hidden, as the species is now protected along with gorillas, chimpanzees, elephants, hippos, manatees and turtles. Many of these animals are at risk of extinction.

With increasing demand and depleting forests, other, more remote areas have to be found for exploitation and new roads built to reach them. This is now happening in Minkebe, in the north of the country. Minkebe is part of the Tridom landscape which spreads on three countries (Gabon, Cameroon and the Republic of Congo) and represents 10% of the Congo Basin forest. One fifth of the Tridom landscape is protected. Still largely untouched, this territory is the home of the Pygmies, as well as of elephants, gorillas and chimpanzees.

The situation in Tridom is becoming more complex with ongoing investment in timber concessions, iron ore exploitation and new infrastructures (roads). In Tridom there are at least 6 world-class iron ore deposits currently being explored by companies mostly from Australia, China and the UK. To export iron ore, a new deep-sea port will be built in Cameroon and a rail road will connect it with the mines in the depth of Tridom. Thus, some of the last unknown territories are being opened, facilitating access for bushmeat and ivory hunters.

"A business-as-usual scenario for mining development in Tridom will lead to the demise of the area," says Pauwel de Wachter, Regional Coordinator of Tridom at WWF. *"Therefore we need to do something exceptional: planning for conservation with all the mining companies and trying together to minimise the impacts on the wider landscape. One of the worst effects of mining might be the development of new towns in previously uninhabited areas."*

New threats

Ten years ago in Tridom there were at least 50,000 elephants, and up to 30,000 of them were in the Minkebe forest. Today the number has at least halved. In 1994-1996, gorillas and chimpanzees in Minkebe were decimated by an outbreak of Ebola which killed 90% of the populations. Today, it's elephants facing the major threat of poaching.

Elephants of Central Africa are being annihilated by surging demand of ivory in Asia (especially in China), where carved ivory products have become the status

symbol of the new rich. Local ivory prices have increased of 500 to 1000% over the last ten years and their continue increase provides strong incentives to poachers and traffickers.

Although ivory import is illegal in China, criminal groups manage to satisfy the market and in the absence of better and more sustainable alternatives, Pygmies have become part of this business. Their forest culture makes them good at tracking, approaching and hunting elephants, which they sell to Bantu ethnic groups who pass them via traders on to the upper link of the chain, until ivory reaches Asia. A report by the UN body that regulates the international wildlife trade found that 2011 was the worst year on record for elephant poaching in Africa.

As a response, and in a bold move against illegal wildlife trade, in June Gabon burnt its government-held ivory stockpile. The overall quantity (4,825 kilograms) corresponds to roughly 850 dead elephants. This is an important sign that tolerance for poachers and illegal operations is diminishing, but a war against such intense poaching and in such vast areas is difficult to win.

“Even in rich countries it would be hard to confront such a poaching wave. This should not be left to African countries alone, demand countries such as China should help African nations protect their wildlife,” adds Pauwel.

What FOCAC can do

Depleted forests, abandoned villages, illegal trafficking and disappearing species are the clear evidence that new solutions have to be found for combining economic development and environmental sustainability, or no one will really benefit in the long term.

China’s increasing engagement with African countries will culminate on 19-20 July with the FOCAC Ministerial Conference. One of the outcomes will be an action plan with projects supported by China in Africa. This is an important opportunity to address the environmental, social and business sustainability of activities dependent on Africa’s natural resources, as well as to steer away from illegal practices.

WWF recommends in particular that China and Africa agree on a zero-tolerance policy on the illegal trade of timber and wildlife products. China could support pilot projects on sustainable forest management, grant preferential treatment to commodities with rigorous sustainability certification and overall contribute to the development of green economies in Africa.

Seen from the plane, Gabon looks like an immense forest blanket pulsing with life. This forest is core for the present economy and for future generations.

“The forest is like a vinyl record. If you scratch it, you can still listen to the music but you will also hear that noise... With good management, the scratches on the forest won’t be too loud,” says Pauwel de Wachter, *“The same principles should apply to all natural resources that feed our lives.”*

WWF brings green economy to FOCAC

WWF and the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) will organise an event on *China and Africa: shaping the economies of the future* in Beijing on 16 July 2012, just few days before the FOCAC Ministerial Conference. The aim is to strengthen dialogue on green economy and sustainable development opportunities in the Sino-African cooperation.

CCICED, a high-profile think tank and advisory body on environment and development, has recommended to strengthen international cooperation on green economy.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

It's happening, but not in Rio

By Jim Leape, WWF International Director General (opinion editorial published on the International Herald Tribune on 25 June, 2012)

Representatives from around the world met at Rio+20, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, to define a global plan of action that would take humanity toward a cleaner, greener future.

They failed. The text they agreed upon is a caricature of diplomacy. It “acknowledges” many challenges and “encourages” action, but there are few real commitments.

We are living way beyond our means. We are using 50 percent more resources than the Earth can provide; if we all lived like Americans or Europeans, we would need three planets to support us. Yet there are many who do not have enough to meet their basic needs - nearly a billion people are malnourished and 1.4 billion live without electricity to light their homes.

The mission of the Rio conference was to set us on a different path. It was meant to be a conference about life, about creating a shared global ambition to build a prosperous future that the Earth can sustain.

We needed to see a commitment to ensure that everyone has access to modern energy, and that it is produced from renewable sources that are clean and



WWF Get SeRIOus +20 Balloon. © J EGBERTO / WWF-CANON

abundant. We needed a commitment that governments would stop absurd subsidies that take us in the wrong direction - including the \$750 billion that governments pay each year to promote use of fossil fuels.

We needed commitments that the indicators we use to measure progress, such as “gross domestic product,” take account of the health of our natural capital - the forests, rivers and oceans on which we depend - as well as our cash. We needed stronger protection for the high seas - the commons of the oceans - that are being plundered in a free-for-all reminiscent of the Wild West.

But these things did not happen. The text finally agreed upon in Rio is a passing description of “the future we want,” but it does not set us on the path to get there.

Yet there is hope. If you looked around in Rio, you saw where the action really is - local and national governments, companies, NGOs, labor unions finding ways to get on with it.

Governments are coming together in regional initiatives to manage the resources they share. In the green heart of Africa, the Congo basin, countries are working together to control illegal timber trade and conserve the world’s second largest rainforest. Some countries are acting on their own. In Rio, President Armando Guebuza of Mozambique announced a new Green Economy Roadmap for his country.

States and cities, too, are moving ahead. In Brazil, the Amazon state of Acre is creating a truly “green” economy, built on the value of standing forest. In the “Mexico City Pact,” more than 250 cities have committed to measure, reduce and report their carbon emissions.

Governments, civil society and companies are joining together to forge new and change-making collaborations. Through the Consumer Goods Forum, for example, 20 of the world’s largest companies - including Unilever, Coca-Cola and Walmart - have committed to eliminate deforestation from their supply chains, buying only beef, soy, palm oil, timber and paper that are produced without destroying forest.

Through the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, the world’s largest tuna canners (accounting for 60% of the market), are working with my organization, WWF, and the United Nations to end pirate fishing and ensure that tuna stocks will feed us for many generations to come. The International Trade Union Confederation is mobilizing its members, who hold \$25 trillion in pension funds, to invest in creating green jobs.

There are many examples, and the potential is huge. It is clear that this is where hope lies. We will not get the future we want, or the future we need, if we only wait for 193 governments to agree on the path ahead. Success will not come from lowest common denominator solutions.

Ultimately, we will need to find ways for world governments to act together, especially on global challenges like climate change. But in the meantime, leadership can and must come from many other quarters - indeed, from every other quarter. That is beginning to happen.



WWF Director General Jim Leape meeting with Zhou Shengxian, Chinese Minister for Environmental Protection. © CHEN BOPING

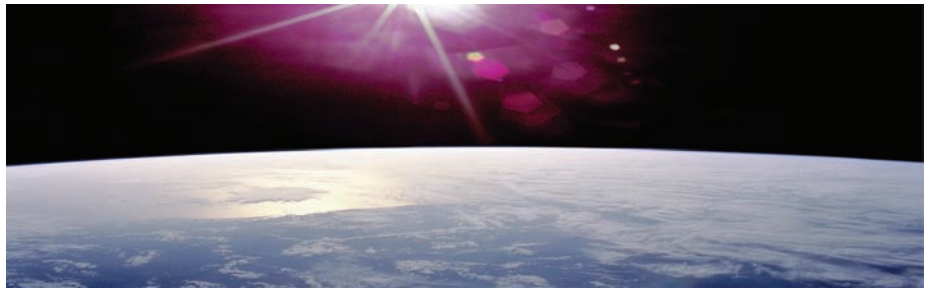
WWF at the CCICED side event

WWF’s Director General Jim Leape, participated in a roundtable with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao at the Rio+20 Conference, during a side event hosted by the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) to discuss the sustainable development opportunities in China and the world.

Premier Wen Jiabao emphasized the importance of sustainability especially given the scarcity of natural resources such as water and land.

After the meeting, Jim Leape also had an exchange with Zhou Shengxian, Chinese Minister for Environmental Protection.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT



Sun shining down upon the Earth, International Space Station. © ESA / NASA

Living Planet Report 2012 confirms we are on unsustainable path



Astronaut André Kuipers, International Space Station. © ANDRE KUIPERS / ESA

"All I care about, and cherish, is on this one planet", said Dutch astronaut André Kuipers on the occasion of the launch of the Living Planet Report from the European Space Agency.

"It is my home, the home of my family and friends, and the home of another 7 billion people. It is also the home of beautiful forests, mountains, savannahs, oceans, lakes and rivers and of all of the species living within. Our planet is beautiful, but our planet is also fragile. We have the ability to protect our planet. Not only for our own benefit but, above all, for generations to come. We have the solutions. Everyone can make a contribution by making better choices in how we govern, produce and consume. Taking better care of the planet is in our hands."

WWF's Living Planet Report 2012, a leading biennial survey of the Earth's health published on 15 May, revealed that an ever-growing demand for resources is threatening our future.

Produced in collaboration with the Zoological Society of London and the Global Footprint Network, the report was launched from the International Space Station, providing a unique perspective of the state of the planet from space.

The report uses the global Living Planet Index to measure changes in the health of the planet's ecosystems by tracking 9,014 populations of over 2,688 species. The Index shows a 28 % decrease since 1970. The Earth's Ecological Footprint, the other key indicator used in the report, illustrates how our demand on natural resources has become unsustainable.

The difference between rich and poor countries is also underlined. High income countries have an Ecological Footprint on average five times that of low-income countries. The 10 countries with the biggest Ecological Footprint per person are Qatar, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Denmark, the United States of America, Belgium, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands and Ireland.

"We are living as if we have an extra planet at our disposal. We are using 50 per cent more resources that the Earth can sustainably produce and unless we change course, that number will grow fast. By 2030 even two planets will not be enough," said Jim Leape, Director General of WWF International.

The report also highlights the impact of urbanization as a growing dynamic – by 2050, two out of every three people will live in a city; and the need for humanity to develop new and improved ways of managing natural resources. As an example, the average ecological footprint of a Beijing resident is three times larger than China's average.

"Solutions lie in such areas as reducing waste, smarter water management and using renewable sources of energy that are clean and abundant – such as wind and sunlight," added Leape.

Full report: www.wwfchina.org/wwfpress/publication/shift/2012LPREN.pdf

Summary report: www.wwfchina.org/wwfpress/publication/shift/2012LPR-RioEN.pdf

Africa's biodiversity declined by 40% in 4 decades

WWF and the African Development Bank (AfDB) launched the *Africa Ecological Footprint Report: Green Infrastructure for Africa's Ecological Security* in June, showing the state of Africa's environment.

The report outlines two alarming trends, which if not addressed by policy-makers and investors are likely to lead to important social and economic impacts. First, the Africa Living Planet Index shows a decline of nearly 40% in biodiversity in the last four decades. This decline reflects a degradation of the natural capital upon which Africa's current and future prosperity depends.

Second, Africa's Ecological Footprint – the area needed to generate the resources consumed by humans – is set to double by 2040 in a business-as-usual scenario. Africa is endowed with tremendous natural resources, which, if managed properly, will be able to meet the development needs of a growing population. And its relatively low footprint may be maintained if forward-looking and large-scale solutions can be mobilised in the areas of renewable energy, urban planning and sound management of forests, water and marine resources.

The report lays out recommendations on implementing green development pathways for Africa.

"Africa has choices", underlined Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank, "Embracing a more sustainable approach to development can generate benefits in terms of environmental security, human wellbeing and increased competitiveness."

With increasing investment of China in Africa and the upcoming FOCAC Ministerial Conference, China can play a significant role in helping Africa move in this direction.

"It is in both China's and Africa's interests that high environmental standards are considered within the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). This will positively influence China's footprint in the continent," said Dr. Li Lin, Leader of WWF's China for a Global Shift Initiative.

Full report: http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/key_initiatives/transforming_china/news/?205047/launch-Africa-EFR

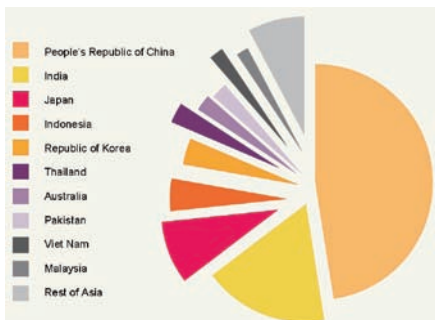
Chinese e-commerce cracks down on illegal wildlife trade

15 of the leading e-commerce sellers operating in China, including Alibaba, Taobao, and Tencent, have signed a declaration stating they have a zero-tolerance policy towards their services being used to conduct illegal wildlife trading. The declaration was issued in June following a workshop on controlling online illegal wildlife trade organised by Chinese authorities in collaboration with WWF's wildlife trade monitoring network TRAFFIC.

Although wildlife law enforcement efforts in China have led to gains in policing physical markets for wildlife, the availability of illegal wildlife goods online has been gaining ground. In April 2012, TRAFFIC found 3,389 advertisements for tiger bone, elephant ivory, rhino horn and hawksbill turtle products being offered through 15 Chinese-language e-commerce sites. At the same time, China's Forest Police filed 700 relevant cases, shut down 628 online shops and deleted 1,607 pieces of information relating to illegal trade of wildlife from websites.

The workshop was part of a campaign led by TRAFFIC and WWF to encourage e-commerce websites to not selling illegal wildlife products, with the aim to reduce both availability and demand for such contraband.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT



National Ecological Footprints as a Percentage of the Total Asia and the Pacific Footprint for 2008 (data: Global Footprint Network)

China is the largest footprint country in Asia

Australia, Singapore, Mongolia, South Korea, New Zealand, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand and China round out the top 10 Ecological Footprints per capita in the Asia-Pacific region, says a report published by WWF and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in June.

However, from a national level, due to its large population, China has the largest footprint of all the countries in Asia-Pacific. China and India, the report says, are likely to experience the greatest increase in overall Ecological Footprint by 2015, representing 37 % of the projected global footprint.

The report *Ecological Footprint and Investment in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific* uses the Living Planet Index (LPI) to measure changes in the health of ecosystems across the Asia-Pacific region. The global index fell by 28% from 1970 and 2008, while the Indo-Pacific region saw a shocking 64% decline in key populations of species over the same period.

The report outlines four key solutions to reverse this trend in four major regions: the Heart of Borneo, the Coral Triangle, the Greater Mekong and the Eastern Himalayas. All of these areas are extremely important as they provide millions of people with food, water and energy, and harbour countless valuable species of plants and animals.

Policies that recognize the importance of the environment early on in the planning process are one part of the equation, says the report, as are well-funded and monitored marine and terrestrial protected areas. Payment for ecosystem services under programmes such as REDD also play an important role, as do private-sector sustainability initiatives.

“We must move towards deeper structural and systemic change in the way goods are manufactured and services provided,” said the Asian Development Bank President Haruhiko Kuroda. *“The green economy itself can become an engine of growth and the driver for a new generation of green jobs, bringing a higher quality of life.”*

Full report: http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/footprint_and_investment_in_natural_capital_in_apac.pdf

BANKING & FINANCE

Training for banks on the “Green Credit Guidelines”

Following the publication in February of the “Green Credit Guidelines” by the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), WWF and CBRC are organising a series of training sessions for Chinese banks. The first training, on 13 April, focused on the promotion of renewable energy and saw attendance by 22 banks.

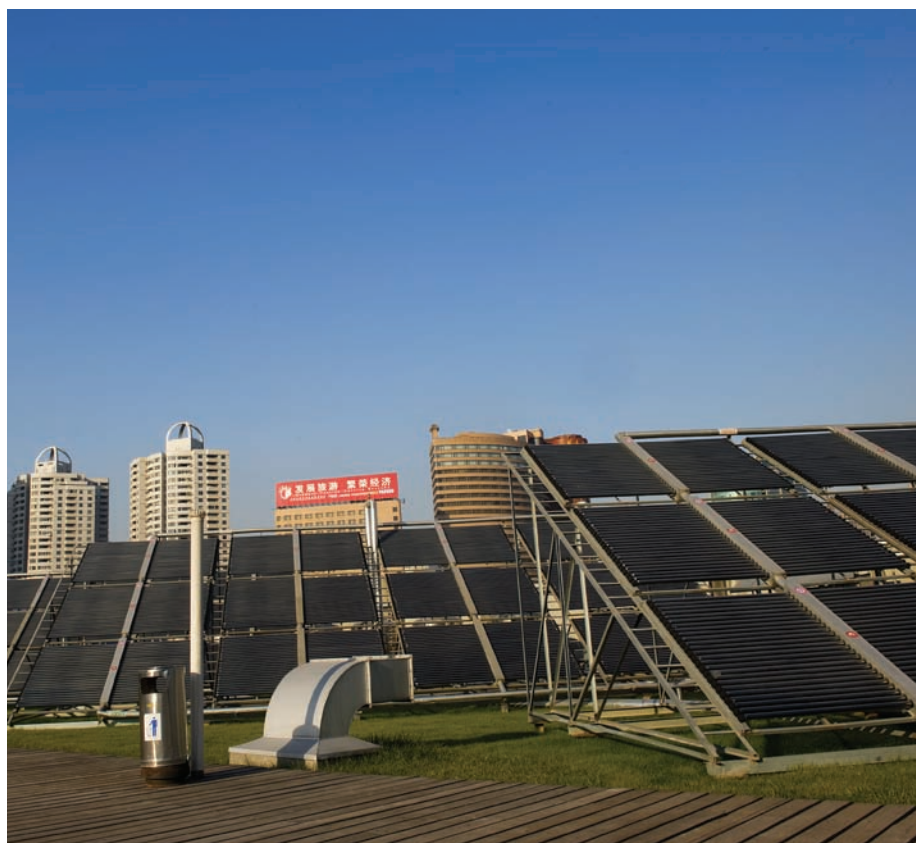
The “Green Credit Guidelines” include new requirements for effective environmental and social risk management that will help transforming China’s economic development and China’s growing overseas investments.

The first training offered a platform for Chinese and foreign banks, securities brokers and businesses to discuss about opportunities and challenges in the renewable energy sector.

As a follow-up, on June 8, WWF and the China Banking Regulatory Commission organised a specific training programme for China Merchants Bank, the sixth largest commercial bank in China.



Mr. Ye Yanfei, Deputy Director General of the CBRC Statistics Department, speaking at the training on 13 April. © ZHAN YIJIE / WWF



Solar panels in commercial districts of Shanghai, China. © THOMAS HAUGERSVEEN / WWF-NORWAY

China for a Global Shift

2015

Our goal: by 2015 China's trade, aid investment policies integrate solid environmental principles.

1980

WWF has been working in China since 1980. WWF China is headquartered in Beijing and has 9 field offices across the country.

1961

WWF was founded in 1961.

+100

WWF is in over 100 countries, on 5 continents. 16 offices are in Africa.



For more information:

Ms. Claudia Delpero
Advocacy and Communications
Director
cdelpero@wwfchina.org
+86-010-6511 6227

Mr. Dong Le
Communications Officer
ldong@wwfchina.org
+86-010-6511 6244

WWF Beijing Office
Room 1609, Wen Hua Gong
Beijing Working People's
Culture Palace, Beijing, 100006
Tel: 010-6511 6211
Fax: 010-6511 6222

www.wwfchina.org
www.panda.org/china_shift



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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