

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

## SHANSHUI CONSERVATION CENTER





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# THE CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

## A March Through Uncertainty

Since it was founded in 2007, Shanshui Conservation Center has never ceased to adjust its own goals and methods in practice. The most difficult of all is inner bedlam, a self-doubt that has often arisen from a persistent "powerlessness." If we cannot see any actual outcomes of our conservation efforts or any "real change," then wherein lies our value?

In practice, we have become aware that the snow leopard is only an embodiment of problems broadly infesting ecosystems, whereas fighting a rearguard action for species and habitat, in a practical sense, points to a need to establish a harmonious co-existence between mankind and wildlife. The key elements of a solution – culture, science, economy, institution, etc., which are enmeshed in the community under the impact of external uncertainties (market, modernization, policy change), are difficult to disentangle from one another to achieve a simple and effective outcome. All ecological projects from outside the community are deemed or must be deemed capable of input to produce notable effects (and within the time limit). Empirical evidence shows that this neither works as expected nor conforms to how things should work and where we wish to go. But we seem to have no other alternatives. Given the length and depth of this problem, is it possible to get through it all just by dint of Stoic mindsets, new philosophies, and scientific backgrounds? From this perspective, what we have explored over a decade is not plain sailing, but today we can say that the signs of some vital achievements have finally emerged.

Take a look at our community work, in which we have gained quite a lot of experience. New upward curves have begun to show from some conservation activities, organizations, systems, and new livelihoods, all intended for positive change, most of them carried out by local villagers. These capacity-building-based changes seem to be sustainable and have gradually gained the understanding and support of local government officials. In Sanjiangyuan National Park, for instance, what started out as a local patrol effort at the project site will be expanded to a system of socially sponsored guard and patrol forces making it possible to conduct large-scale networked biodiversity monitoring and produce data that can pave a solid ground for scientific research.

These initially emerging but meaningful changes cannot be separated from the state's emphasis on ecological conservation and the improvement of public environmental awareness, and are also the result of years of our hard work. Among many reasons, I think of the characteristics of Shanshui, which have been formed on a bumpy journey to truth. For Shanshui, the connection between science and conservation practice is one that is more direct, comprehensive, last-



ing and valiant. Shanshui is not satisfied merely with submitting scientific research papers and policy proposals, but also with spending a huge deal of time and energy on questioning, advocating, trying, and contributing to bring “real changes” to the real world. We are not afraid to bear the cost of efforts across different levels, fields, circles and responsibilities, for, in fact, it is well known that a real solution may get stuck at some point along these “fuzzy lines.” Therefore, Shanshui has done a lot of communication, gap-filling, sharing and assistance, and always takes delight in doing so.

The targets of *in-situ* conservation are too loosely distributed and ranged. Fortunately, Shanshui is not up to instant gratification. Where does “real change” come from? Some invisible forces seem to prevail, integrating and gathering small, insignificant or significant progresses in many areas, resulting in the vitality of new creations. In a project-based system, it is inevitable to seek exposed progress, but conservation requires a balance of various relationships and a just governance. Shanshui, however, seems skillful to connect the two and make sustainable progress possible by administering the kind of people-oriented changes that empower locals to lead conservation efforts.

In the past year, Shanshui decided to return to *in-situ* conservation and citizen science, reaffirming its focus on connecting science (including new visions) with frontline conservation. I hope that Shanshui will continue to explore possibilities in community-based conservation, Nature Watch, and ecological restoration. I expect to see Shanshui, with its tenacity, succeed in helping improve conservation practices and also the development of relevant disciplinary establishments and theoretical approaches.

——Zheng Yisheng, Board Chair, Shanshui Conservation Center



# THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## Entering a Second Decade

Since its registration in 2007, Shanshui has entered a second decade of age. In the case of a person, it's muddle-headed puberty; in the case of a private environmental organization, the second decade is long enough to reflect on the past and is apt to mark a new beginning.

As nature conservationists, we hope to contribute from our starting point, namely the love of nature and wildlife. In an era when nature and the environment are being neglected in pursuit of economic development, a group of environmentalists are letting out a booming call to "helpless nature," to the rights and spaces of survival of wildlife. This is what has been discussed, the issue of "conservation and development, conflict and balance." However, while solutions are being sought, new problems will arise.

In the past, Sanjiangyuan and the Mountains of Southwest China where we mostly work used to have great biodiversity. For thousands of years, most of the mountain villages and pastoral communities in these areas have continued to exist by tapping into nature. Is it okay to deprive local residents of their right to use natural resources and enclose the area for the sake of conservation? This procedure itself brings new unfairness, that is, for the sake of ecological health from an external perspective, it could cause poverty and deprivation internally in the community. We insist that the rights of the community should be valued in our conservation efforts. Similarly, the coexistence of man and nature lies at the core of our work on community-based conservation.

Having said that, is it possible to have individuals take good care of natural resources by themselves? This is a typical public natural resource management issue that involves sociological and economic considerations. Without certain regulation and governance, the result would be competition over and abuse of public resources among individuals. We need to consider on the institutional level how to establish such governance, from which level, whether it is effective and whether equality is taken into account.

Of course, for a young conservation team as ours', it is a huge challenge to influence and change a system, a village, or even a person. But we persist in rethinking and defining the values, goals, methods, and criteria in all that we do, so that we can gradually follow through on "ecological equality" in a way as we see it. In the past ten years, we have mostly worked in the areas of the Tibetan Plateau, Sichuan and Yunnan, because these are the world's richest hotspots,

the last "grounds" worth preserving. In these areas, we strive to provide space for wildlife while paying attention to and coordinating the demands and rights of the communities.

On the other hand, we have to look up and see how biodiversity should be incorporated in economic and political discourse and how it can be brought into the mainstream of society. Although most civil works in planning and construction stages are subject to EIA, we are still saddened to see that the EIA process has yet to take biodiversity into account, with many companies unaware of how to avoid and reduce the ecological impact of development and construction. This is also the focus of our "Nature Watch" program, which empowers citizens not only to help share ecological data, but also to promote the guiding role of these data in environmental impact assessment and investment and to reduce the impact of large-scale construction and planning on ecology. This is a "frontline" that needs to be fought for, though very difficult.

Finally, what has reasonably excited us over the years is to see a genuine public wish to come into contact with originality, health, and nature. Therefore, biodiversity recovery in these man-made environments such as cities and factories has become possible. Even in the most modernized living environment, ecological shelters can be found, like swift nests on the eaves of old houses in Beijing and the thickets through which hedgehogs and raccoons in small neighborhoods may scutter. It may only take a little something to recreate a "taste of wilderness" in cities and this is what we need to recover the "lost territory" of biodiversity conservation. To this end we will also work hard. We hope that the next habitat to be protected just lies around the corner of your neighborhood.

There is so much for us to do, but we are still a small and young team. Nature conservation is a cause that needs a lot more attention, participation and support. We feel grateful to have your care and support as our partners, fans and donors. It is your love of nature that brings us together, and it is you that makes us strong. I would like to thank our board, the executive team and all the supporting consultants, fellow researchers and volunteers. Shanshui is more like a warm family, and you have made all the impossible possible.

Together, let's journey down the road with Mother Nature in our hearts.

——Shi Xiangying, Executive Director, Shanshui Conservation Center



史湘莹

# WORK MAP

## [Impact]

In our work across China over 6,000 local participatory opportunities have been created and taken.



## [CPAs]

Up till now we have worked with 43 community protected areas.



Village-based



State-governed

## [ Camera data ]

No. of days	120000+
No. of cams	740+
Coverage	7100+KM <sup>2</sup>

## Legends

● The Capital of China

● provincial capital

● urban restoration project sites

— rivers and lakes



Sanjiangyuan



project sites in Yunnan



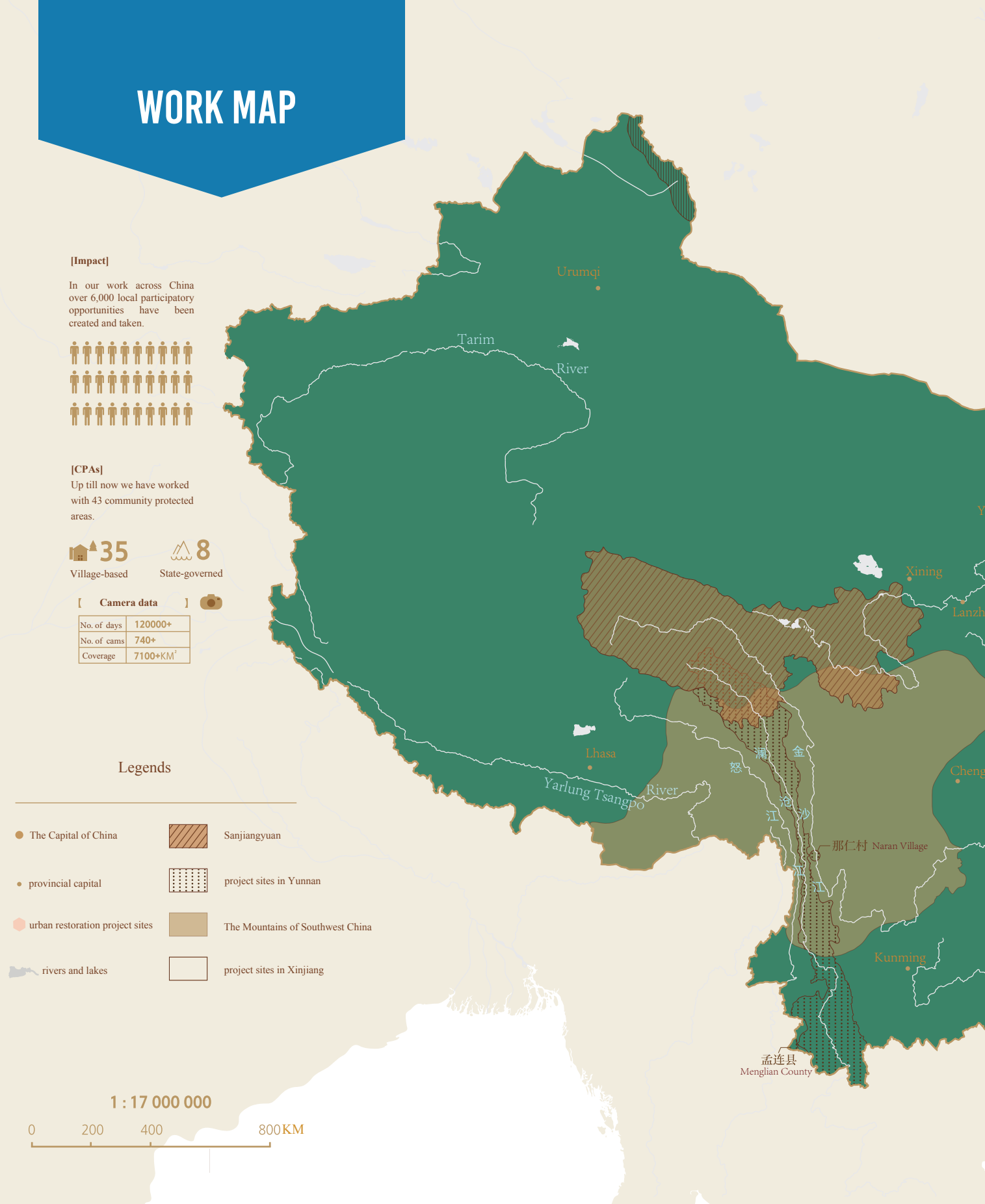
The Mountains of Southwest China

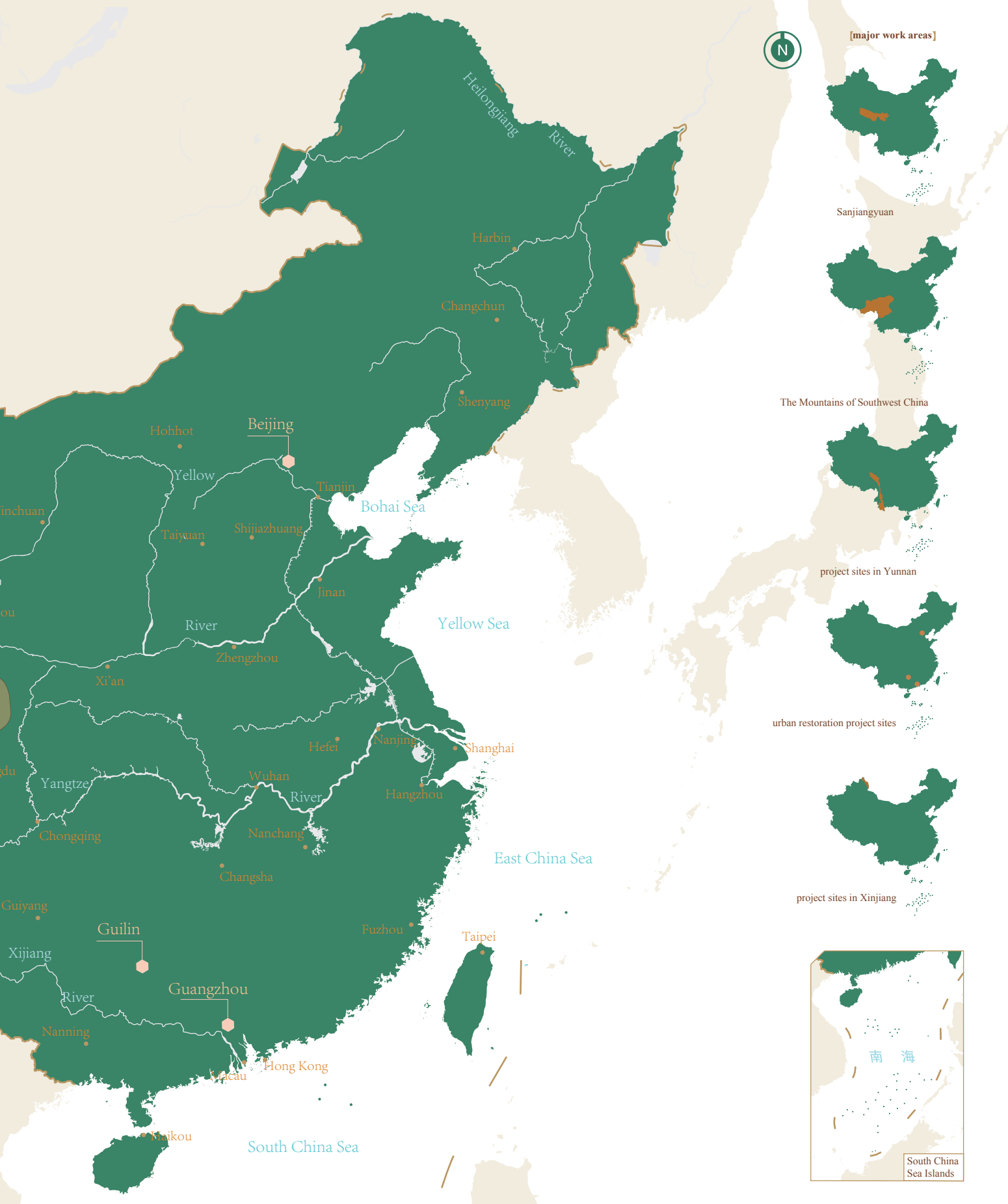


project sites in Xinjiang

1 : 17 000 000

0 200 400 800KM





# HIGHLIGHTS 2018

## Valley of the Cats

The Valley of the Cats now up for online reservation as the first chartered nature tourism pilot site in Sanjiangyuan National Park that benefits locals.

## Ant-Panda Together

In May Guanba Protected Area was put on Ant Forest and for 53 days 11.79 million Alipay users could use the app to support the cause.

## With the Leopards

In July 'With the Leopards,' an international research and conservation forum we held in Jiegu with the support of the Yushu government and forestry administration.

## Southeast Tibet

With the support of CGF and other partners, we launched a biodiversity conservation project to assist Dingqing County in Southeast Tibet.

## Nature Watch Joint Action Base

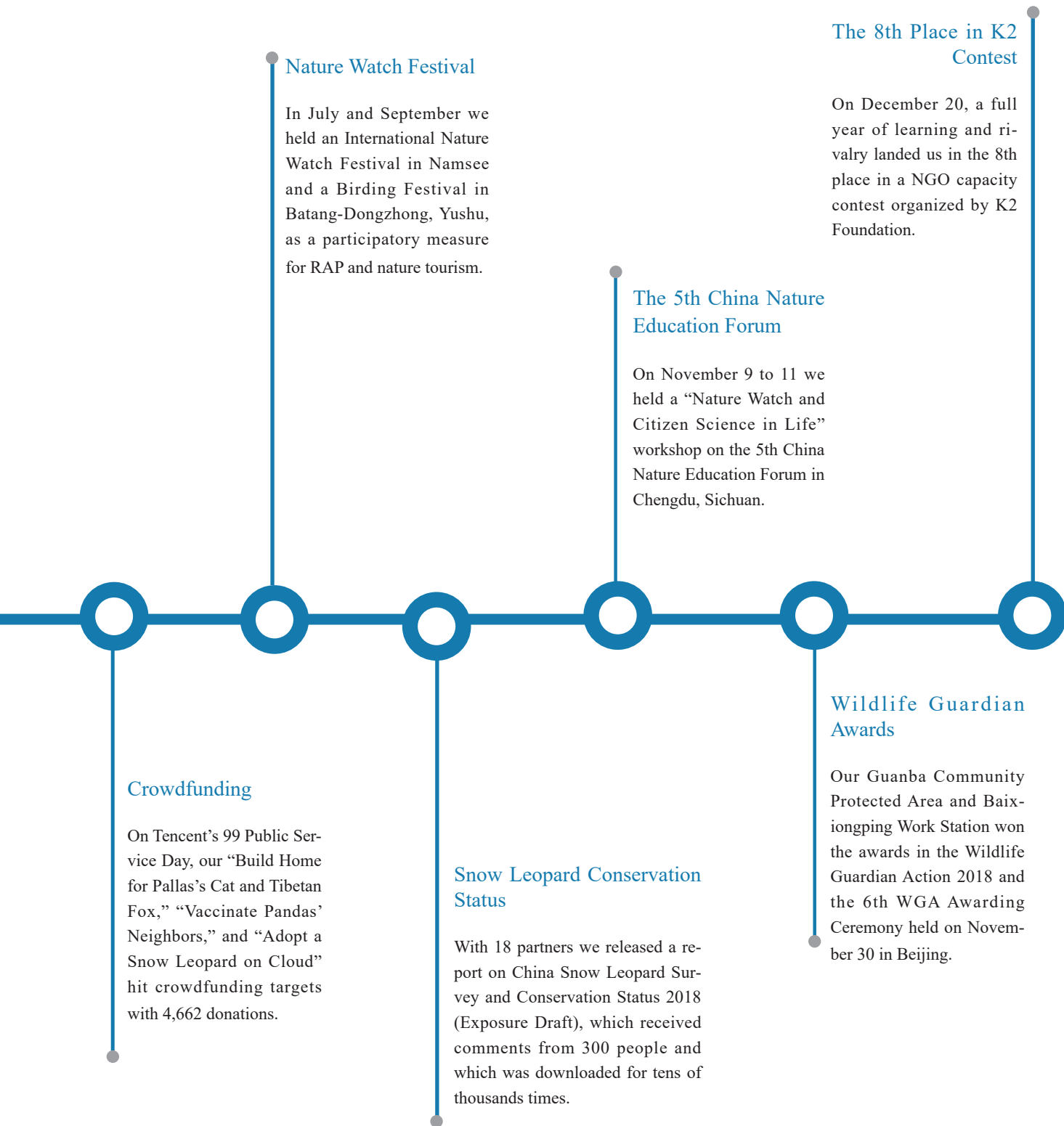
In January, we further promoted joint actions with our partners through a coordination mechanism under the Nature Watch program.

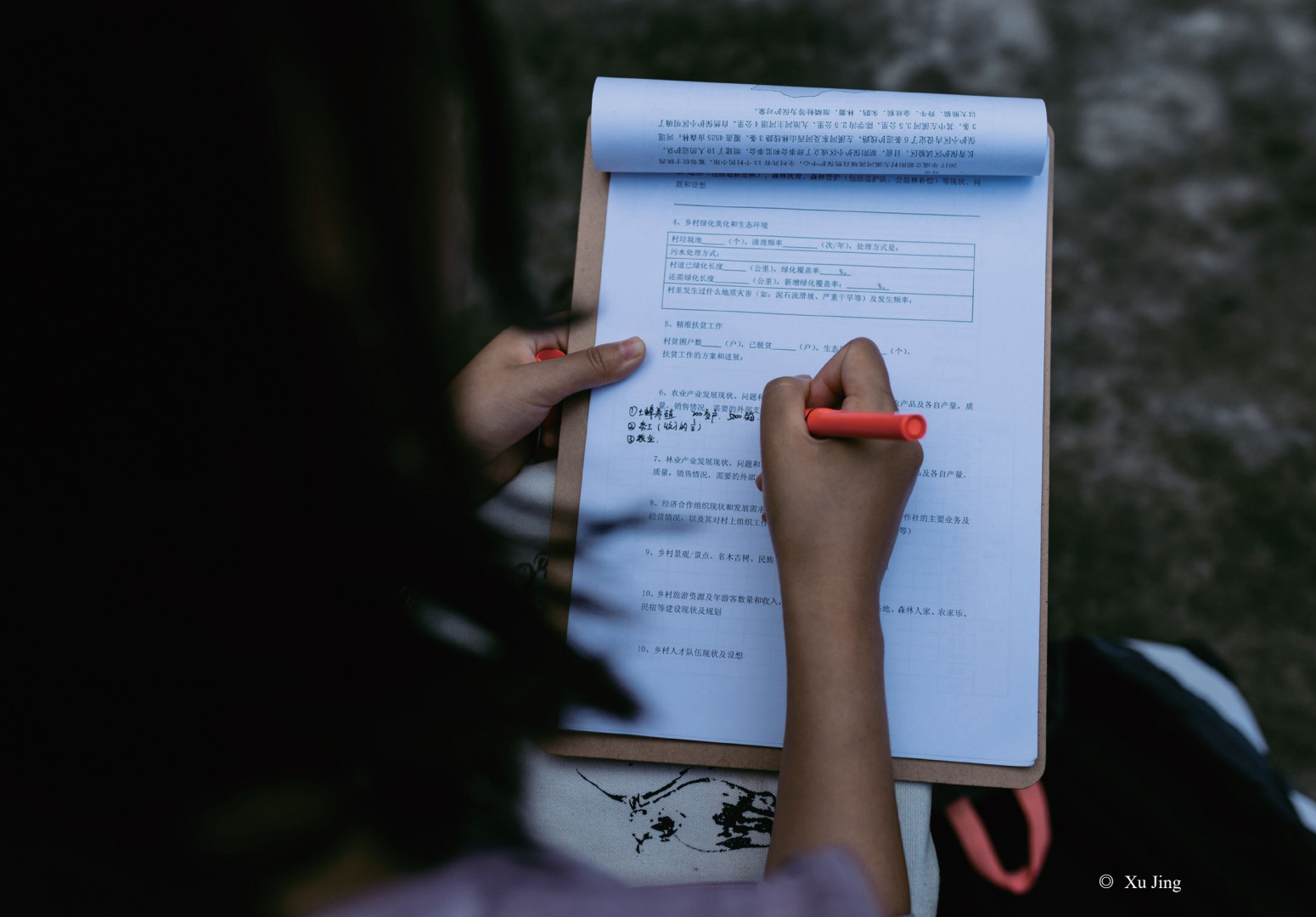
## A Lakeside Festival

In June Dali welcomed its first Nature Watch Festival, a three-day event for science lovers to go deep in our multi-value forest restoration project.

## Nature Education

In July Sichuan Forestry and Grassland Administration endorsed the transformation of the Guanba Protected Area into a forest camp for nature education.





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# COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION

Behind the complexities of nature conservation, the coexistence of wildlife and humans, particularly the indigenous people, is an issue to be addressed. As an organization dedicated to promoting biodiversity conservation, we believe that local communities, with their lives and livelihoods much dependent on nature, constitute the most important force for conservation. Over the past ten years, we have continuously explored sustainable conservation based on a single community unit by combining local traditional governance and leveraging measures such as monitoring and patrol, community development, and resource management, all under the influence of commercialization, policy, climate change and modernization. We have covered areas in the Sanjiangyuan as well as in Sichuan, Yunnan, and Tibet. By doing so, we hope we will glean useful information from our experience and professional knowledge to find the possibilities of harmonious coexistence between nature and mankind.



# SNOW LEOPARDS AND GRASSLAND



Situated on the Tibetan Plateau is Sanjiangyuan, the head of the Yangtze River, Yellow River and the Lancang River, a fresh water supply and home to a large number of endemic and endangered species in China. This area has the world's largest connected snow leopard habitat. It also nurtures the greatest distribution of large carnivores on the Tibetan Plateau and even in the world in terms of diversity and population density. In Sanjiangyuan, we practice community-based conservation with both modern science and traditional customs.

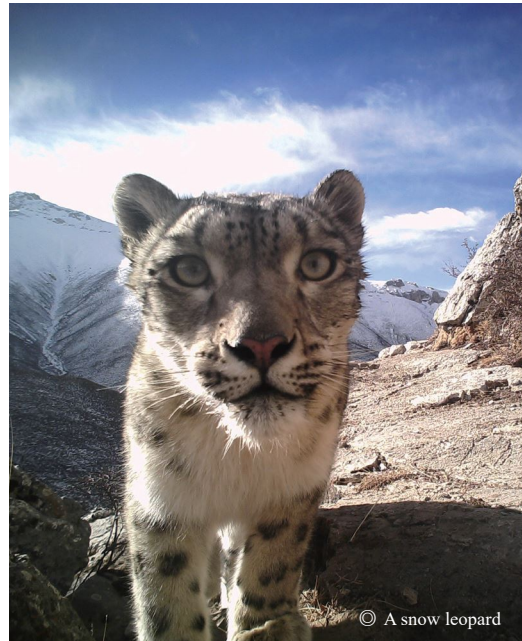
Since 2009, our conservation projects in this region have covered the ecosystems of alpine meadows, alpine grassland, wetlands, forests and shrublands. On the one hand, we have worked with Peking University and local communities to set up a network of camera traps and carry out wildlife research and conservation. On the other hand, our partnership with local villages has led to practical solutions and paradigms addressing issues such as human-wildlife conflict, grassland degradation, and habitat fragmentation. In the meantime, we explored conservation-friendly community development and public participation measures such as technical training, science volunteering, nature experience charter, and Nature Watch Festivals, in a larger context of the National Park Pilot Program. In addition, we have also contributed to policy-making processes in cooperation with the local governments.

# 1 SNOW LEOPARD RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

As the flagship species of the Tibetan Plateau ecosystem, the snow leopard has always been a focus in our community-based monitoring and conservation practices. In 2018, we added 3 more monitoring areas and 100 infrared cameras. Now we have 11 long-term monitoring areas and 600 cameras covering an area of more than 7,000 square kilometers and engaging over 300 local herders in monitoring duties. Throughout the year over 100,000 working days have been achieved of the infrared cameras installed and images of 23 mammalian species captured.

The number of attendances reached 1,500 in 20 training sessions where we taught local herders how to use camera traps and OvitalMap.

We have completed the “Camera Trap Monitoring Handbook”, a Chengdu County Biodiversity Report, and two RAP reports on camera trap group coverage and species diversity in Namsei Township and the core zone of Dongzhong subarea, Sanjiangyuan Nature Reserve.







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## WETLAND RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

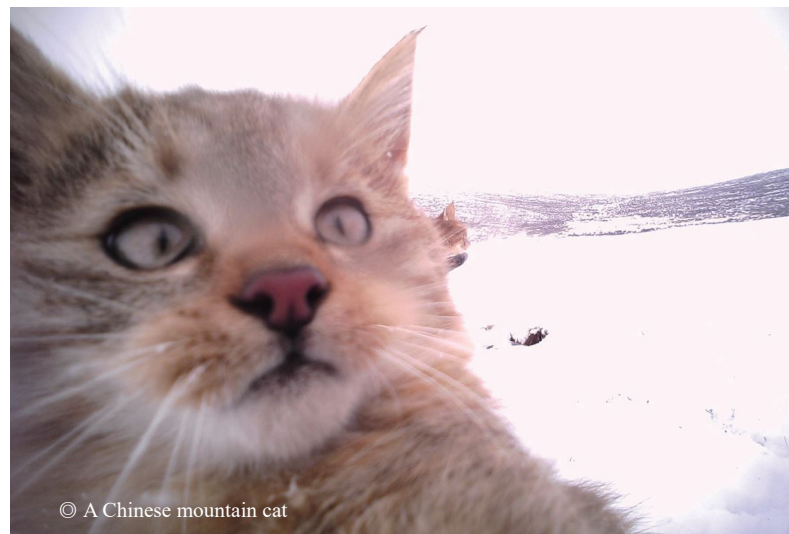
# 2

In 2018, we conducted 28 times of surveys about the black-necked cranes in the Jiatang Grassland of the Chengduo County, Yushu Prefecture, along with community-based monitoring training organized. Over the past year, nomad rangers from local community conducted crane monitoring in 45 spotting sites with over 220 km's transects surveyed. As a result, 1,952 individual records of the crane have been documented, among which maximally 344 individuals were spotted in a single survey. The field investigation shows the importance of Jiatang as the stopover site as well as the summering places for migrating flocks and non-breeding individuals respectively.

In September 2018, during our field survey of the black-necked crane, the first active breeding den of the Chinese mountain cat were discovered by accident, together with one female and two kittens of it. Subsequently, we conducted a 34-kilometer-long transect survey and set up 22 cameras in the mountainous area of Jiatang where the cats were found. Three months of camera trap monitoring revealed many important and previously unknown information concerning the cat, such as nursery behaviors and active pattern, greatly filling the knowledge gap existing in this secrete and charming felid.

As the source region of three great rivers as the Yangtze, the Yellow and the Mekong, Sanjiangyuan Region nourished countless wetlands, which provides great and diverse habitats for a wide variety of wildlife with its unparalleled productivity.

In 2018, we launched field investigation, scientific research as well as conservation actions concerning the Eurasian otters in Yushu City, Qinghai Province. In this past year, overall 279 km of transects were surveyed, with 21 camera traps set and 2,147 spraints recorded. After one year's monitoring, overall 941 independent captures were made on 1,280 camera working days. Moreover, to secure the otters' movement in the urban area, four self-designed artificial nests (shelters) were made and set inside the Yushu city.



© A Chinese mountain cat



# 3

## SUSTAINABLE GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grassland is the major ecosystem in Sanjiangyuan(74% coverage), providing an important physical basis on which wild-life, livestock and humans to live.It's also the cradle of Tibetan conservation culture.

With local communities we initiated discussions about grassland using patterns on perspectives of ecology, production and human life. Herding techniques, collective actions and policies are included while defining directions and paths in sustainable grassland management.In 2018 we set up 33 grassland quadrats in 3 adjacent herding units to monitoring the effects of different herding methods and documented 1177 entries of livestock production. What we found preliminarily in a county scale is that a smaller pasture size and less rotation is more likely lead to the decline of grass biomass. While on the scale of a case study in Pusang Village, we found the key to cooperative herding lies in the ability of community leader to get ahead in formulating and maintaining reasonable cooperative bylaws.. Based on these findings, we founded a Nomad School in Yushu Prefecture to provide training for the cooperative leaders, sustainable herding and alternative livelihood were topics that have been special attentioned. Through 3 sessions and 1 study tour we've trained 16 community leaders from 7 cooperatives. Furthermore, we carried interviews with 45 old herders and received 84 oral responses about grassland and herding. The knowledge helped to enrich our understanding of the whole grassland system from a traditional way, laying a foundation of connecting local knowledge and modern science, also helps in optimizing decision-making system,

To understand how climate change(such as global warming, wetting and the increase of extreme weather) affects nomads, we conducted 89 home interviews in counties of Zadoi, Chengduo, Nanqen, Diqing and Jiuzhi from 2016 to 2018. The results were publicized at 2 side events on the 24th UN Climate Change Conference(COP24).







© Drolma

## NATIONAL PARK PILOT PROGRAM

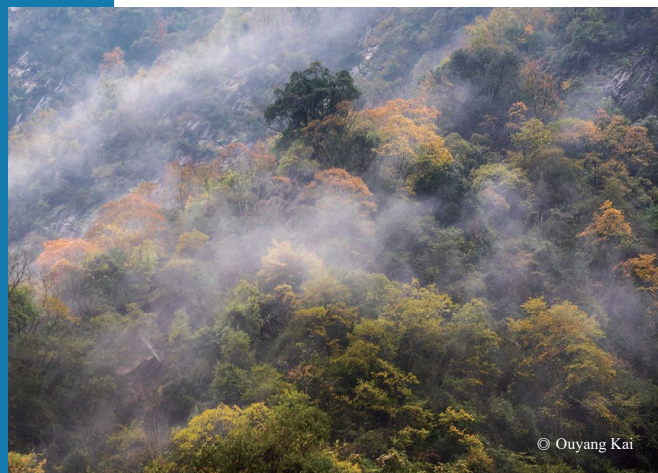
4

In the same year, we worked with the National Park Lancang River Head Zone Administrative Committee to conduct 8 intensive guide training sessions and dozens of door-to-door training for the households selected to host nature experience tourists in Namsee Town, Zadoi County. We have prepared several management protocols, including the Draft Bylaw of the Namsee-Nyantho Village Ecotourism Cooperative for Poverty Alleviation, the Draft Administrative Measures for Nature Experience at Namsee Co-management Station in the Lancang River Head Zone of Sanjiangyuan National Park, and the Code of Conduct for Nature Experiencers. Our designs also include materials for the nature experience program, such as the Nature Watch Handbook in Chinese, English and French, the Boarding Family Manual in Chinese and Tibetan, and the family brochures for nature experience reception. We have also launched the website "Valley of the Cats" (<https://valleyofthecats.org>) for the promotion and reservation of nature experience trips in Namsee.

As of December 2018, 22 host families in the town had welcomed 61 nature experience teams from all over the world, generating an income of 432,000 yuan in the community. Of these earnings, 45% went to the host families, 45% to the community and 10% to nature conservation. In March 2019, Namsee's cooperative was officially approved to carry out its pilot chartered business within Sanjiangyuan National Park. This innovative operation has provided valuable experience for the establishment and improvement of the national park charter mechanism.

In 2018, the Namsee Work Station completed a total of 50 volunteer sessions, demonstrating a further step to build a medium for the public to participate in the establishment of national parks.

# GIANT PANDAS AND FOREST



The giant panda, the world's flagship species and China's national treasure, is a "living fossil" among the Earth's endemic animals. By the end of 2013, only 1,864 wild individuals had lived in Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi in China. Giant panda habitat in the wilderness has been severely fragmented, with about 40% of the population living unprotected outside the nature reserves. The number of individuals in more than 40 populations is relatively small; a risk of local extinction still looms large.

Since 2007 we have been undertaking community-based panda habitat conservation. Our work involves partnering with the nearby communities to carry out monitoring and patrol and exploring eco-friendly/sustainable community development programs. In addition, we also work with the local governments and conservation departments to inform and advise on conservation policies and project management measures. Based on modern scientific methods and local traditional culture, we are dedicated to protecting the forest and river ecosystem where pandas live, and have progressed in species status research, community conservation practice and policy advocacy. In the meantime, we have begun to pay attention to the living conditions of large and medium-sized carnivores such as the snow leopard, clouded leopard and the Asian golden cat, and to promote sustainable community development around their habitats.

In 2018, we continued our partnership with the villages of Guanba (in Pingwu County, Mianyang City, Sichuan Province), Xiong'er (in Lixian County, Aba Prefecture, Sichuan Province), Luoyigou (in Qingchuan County, Guangyuan City, Sichuan Province), Liziba (in Bikou Town, Wenxian County, Longnan City, Gansu Province) and Chaoyang (in Maoping Town, Yangxian County, Hanzhong City, Shaanxi Province). More than 150 square kilometers of land were effectively protected by local communities under our initiatives.



## MONITOR AND PATROL

In 2018, we further refined our grid monitoring work in Guanba Community Protected Area and Liziba Village by dividing the project sites into 25 and 27 grids of 2 square kilometers respectively. In our clouded leopard survey we worked with Zhou Tao, the director of a supporting patrol team for the Yangtze sturgeon, to set up 15 camera traps. In another survey of snow leopards, we mounted 15 cameras within the premises of Sichuan Sandagu Nature Reserve. As of December 31, 2018, a total of 127 infrared cameras were mounted in place (83 more than the previous year), and an area of 700 square kilometers had been subjected to monitoring.

In terms of community-based monitoring and patrol, a new co-conservation mechanism was officially launched in the Minshan area of the National Giant Panda Park (the Huoxi River Basin and the Baishuijiang Nature Reserve). Accomplished thus far in this system are 400 forest patrols, 300 fishery patrols, and 30 joint anti-poaching patrols. The collective assessment has been carried out against Gansu's Baishuijiang National Nature Reserve targeting its collectively-owned non-commercial forest as well as its overall performance of the past 40 years since it was established.



© Ouyang Kai



## 2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2018, we provided 10 training sessions in species monitoring, collective forestland management, nature education, the establishment and management of community-protected areas, and CSP. The number of attendance exceeded 500. We also helped the nature reserve organize 10 public activities on nature education and citizen science experience, generating proceeds of over 100,000 yuan. Specifically, the community directly earned an income of more than 30,000 yuan.

Our team also worked with the community to promote eco-friendly livelihoods, including ecological beekeeping, organic tea plantation, understory Chinese herb plantation and Tibetan pig breeding, native fish propagation and breeding in natural environments, nature education, and eco-tourism.





In 2018, we joined the Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences in preparing a "Study Report on the Management of Community Protected Areas in Sichuan Province" and were engaged in compiling a "Community Governance Guide for the Privately Protected Area Alliance." We also optimized the implementation specifications for the management of collectively-owned forests in Lixian County (part of Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province) and Baishuijiang National Nature Reserve, Gansu Province. Our efforts improved the efficiency of the use of compensation funds (20 million per year) for national collectively owned non-commercial forests, and urged the inclusion of the CSP mechanism in the General Plan for the Establishment of a National Park System.

Backed up by the local government, the Guanba Community Protected Area has become one of the models for the reform of Sichuan's system. Conservation and development practices in this area have been favorably accepted and has been recommended for a scale-up throughout the province.



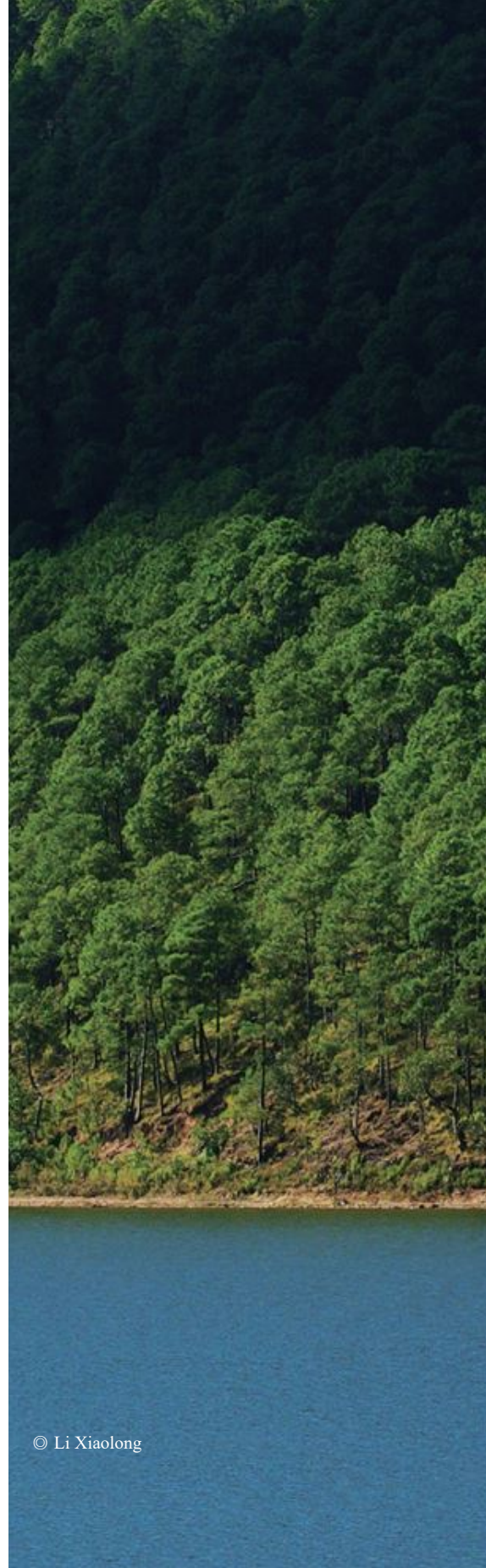
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# FOREST CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY IN YUNNAN

Yunnan, one of the world's biodiversity hotspots, boasts of 30 kinds of ecosystems, 114 kinds of forest, and a huge number of rare and endemic animals. But with rapid socioeconomic developments came deforestation, forest fragmentation and land use change seriously threatening the natural environment of Yunnan in the past 60 years.

Since 2017, we have implemented a multi-value forest restoration project in Yunlong Tianchi National Nature Reserve with a focus on the burned area recovery, scientific research and monitoring, nature education and community development. In 2018, we carried out a community-based species survey and conservation initiative in Lafu Village of Menglian and Naren of Deqin to address the conservation gaps identified.

© Li Xiaolong







# 1

## YUNLONG : MULTI-VALUE FOREST RECOVERY

In the Yunlong Tianchi National Nature Reserve we worked with local communities to restore the burns. Our project also included efforts to carry out species monitoring and scientific research, restore the integrity of the forest ecosystem, develop community livelihoods, and to benefit both wildlife and the human community.

In 2018, we engaged a total of 53 Shuchang residents in restoring vegetation in the burned area. We successfully managed 200,000 square kilometers of revegetation and had 466,666 square kilometers under patrol. In our April 2018 Tianchi Citizen Science Initiative 8 nature lovers from all over the country found and documented 81 species of birds, 52 species of plants and 11 amphibian species. Of their records, 17 bird species, 26 plant species, and one amphibian species were new to the nature reserve's database.

To make the most of local ecological resources, we provided 40 residents with training in nature guide and livelihood development. We also tried to understand the residents' willingness and ability to receive nature tourists and based on this, to forge a connection between local cooperatives and external resources.





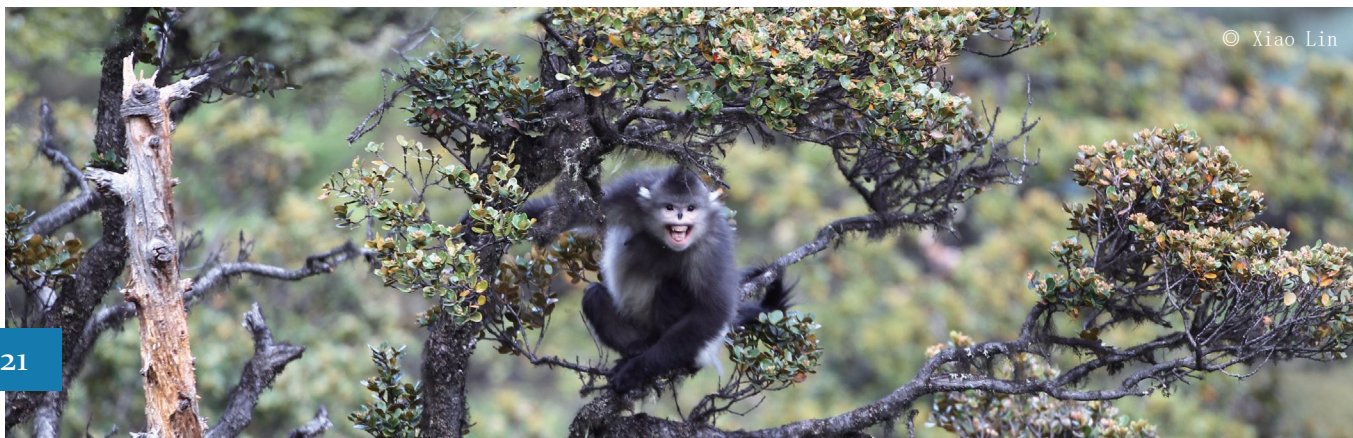
© Li Xiaolong

## 2 MENGLIAN HEISHAN INITIATIVE

The Heishan, or Grand Black Mountain of Menglian, is a large expanse of primary mid-montane moist evergreen broad-leaved forest at the border between Lafu Village of Pu'er City, Yunnan Province, and Myanmar. Revered as a mountain god by the local Lahu community, it's home to clouded leopards and lar gibbons, key national protected species. However, it has yet to be included in the country's official protected area system. In September 2018, as part of our plan to address this issue we conducted a pre-survey on the locality and, through consultation with the community, prepared a survey report.

## 3 NAREN AND SAYONG

Areas around the Naren and Sayong communities adjacent to the Baima Snow Mountain National Nature Reserve provide shelters for key Yunnan snub-nosed monkey populations. At present huge gaps are prevalent in baseline data concerning local species distribution and habitat. In 2018, we worked with Wild China Film to support the local communities in habitat patrol and species monitoring. This is part of our efforts to build and optimize the community-based monitoring and patrol system for the conservation of the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey.



© Xiao Lin





## NATURE WATCH

Together with multiple organizations dedicated to biodiversity conservation we launched a Nature Watch program in 2014 to collect more baseline species data, promote public participation, and to further mainstream biodiversity conservation.

Our partners include NGOs, nature reserve administrations, research institutes, and nature education agencies. We have carry out specific biodiversity surveys across the country, build sharable databases, and to guide actions by analyzing conservation status and gaps based on these data. This program also involves the use of EIA data to evaluate the impact of large constructions on biodiversity and thus help make positive changes in relative policies.



# A JOINT ACTION BASE

In January 2018, we launched a China Nature Watch Association with China Birdwatching Association, Wilderness Xinjiang, Chinese Field Herbarium (CFH), Chinese Felid Conservation Alliance (CFCA), and Center for Nature and Society PKU. This system aims to promote citizen science and public participation as a measure to fill the gaps of China's baseline biodiversity data and address scientific problems related to biodiversity conservation.

With the support of HSBC, the network had seven domestic biodiversity conservation organizations carry out targeted surveys and studies on several endangered species faunal and floral. Survey and research projects include China's forest changes based on the Global Forest Watch dataset, species distribution maps, key conservation for China's endangered biodiversity vertebrates, leopard-snow leopard sympatry in Ganze, Sichuan, snow leopards monitoring in the Tianshan Mountains of Xinjiang, species at the sacred natural sites of Animaqin and Pamarinto at the head of the Yellow River, and the distribution of the 111 most vulnerable bird species in China.

Based on the system, we also provide a butterfly monitoring op-



portunity for the public. As of 2018, two transect lines had been established in the Beijing Badaling Forest Park and Beijing Botanical Garden, more than 200 volunteers were recruited and trained in 2 sessions, and over 500 entries 28 kinds of butterflies species have been documented .



© Chen Wei



# NATURE WATCH DATABASES

We have established two nation-wide database on nature reserves and species distribution, documented nearly 380,000 entries of 1,985 species, carried out 3,156 monitoring activities, recruited and trained more than 200 volunteers, and have uploaded simulated habitat maps for 4 species as well as of 474 national nature reserves. The "Nature Watch" website ([chinanaturewatch.org](http://chinanaturewatch.org)) and mobile phone app enable the public to view biodiversity data and make individual contributions. At present, the system has 4,282 registered users and 107 free downloadable datasets and sources of literature.

**自然观察**  
China Nature Watch

登录 Login 注册 Register

物种保护地记录

地图 Map 物种 Species 保护地 Protected Areas 记录 Records 下载 Download 我的自然 My Nature

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# NATURE WATCH DATA APPLICATION

## 2 EIA EARLY WARNING

### 1 SNOW LEOPARD SURVEY AND CONSERVATION REPORT

On October 23 (World Snow Leopard Day), we released China's first "Snow Leopard Research and Conservation Report" we organizations prepared with several Chinese wildlife research and conservation agencies. It shed light on the current status of snow leopard surveys, conservation practices, and studies in the country along with an analysis of the main threats and conservation gaps.

We found that the current coverage of snow leopard population surveys only accounts for 1.7% of the snow leopard habitat in China – a huge gap remains. Major threats to the species, they include climate change, insufficient capacity of grassroots protected areas and low motivation for community-based conservation vary from province to province, require targeted conservation measures. They Based on these analyses, the report puts forward key suggestions for snow leopard conservation in the next five years.

### 3 AN URGENT CALL TO UPDAT CHINA RED LISTS

Based on the advise in "China Nature Watch 2016", we have drafted an Urgent proposal on updating China Red Lists (Fauna and Flora), to which a "Plan on Amending China Red Lists" and the "Second Edition of the Discussion Paper on China Red Lists" were attached as supporting documents.

During the NPC and CPPCC sessions in March 2018 this proposal was submitted to the 13th CPPCC session by CPPCC members Zhang Endi and Ma Jin. In September 2018, the proposal received a public official reply from the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (Ref No. 3061 of 2018).

A deep collaboration with environmental agencies allowed us to identify potential biodiversity risks of development and construction projects in the EIA process by superimposing their locations onto the mappings of species and protected areas in the China Nature Watch database. We also plan to develop a biodiversity impact assessment(BIA) tool to pre-warn risky construction projects.







## URBAN BIODIVERSITY RESTORATION

During Nature Watch and citizen science activities, we gradually realized the importance of "restoration of near-human ecosystems" and gained experience in some pilot projects. In 2018, we set up an ecological restoration team to explore new ways of restoring vegetation, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, or ecosystem functionality in human-affected urban environments and promoting public participation in the process.

# GUILIN ESQUEL SHI RU PARK BIODIVERSITY RESTORATION



Since 2018, as part of our biodiversity conservation in urban settings, we have been supporting Guilin Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. in its efforts to restore biodiversity in its newly-built "Shi Ru" Park.

In the past year, together with the company's employees and local volunteers, we have carried out two baseline surveys within the premises of the plant and its surrounding areas, covering aquatic animals, birds and plants. Specifically, 93 species of plants, 9 species of freshwater turtles, 9 species of benthic animals and 25 species of fish have been documented. We also completed a feasibility study report on biodiversity conservation. We have also provided suggestions for considering biodiversity during planning and construction, including biodiversity restoration and water quality improvement for the scenic lake, eco-friendly purification tank design, and the construction of an isle in the lake.



© Diao Kunpeng





# BEIJING'S URBAN WETLAND ECOSYSTEM

At the end of 2016, we began to create space for wetland-inhabiting wildlife, preserve urban biodiversity, and to connect urban residents to aquatic life under an Urban Wetland Ecosystem Restoration Project in Beijing, aiming to rebuild aquatic communities and raise the self-purification capacity of urban ground water bodies.

In our pilot site in Little Donkey Farm, with the help of construction work and about 300 volunteers, the once deserted, building-waste-filled dumpsite was turned into lush and lively pond. The pond is now home to three species of amphibians (breeding there), five species of water birds, one species of reptile, and twenty species of dragonflies.





© Han Lili

## COMMUNICATION AND FUND-RAISING

# COMMUNICATION

We need to make our presence better known.

In 2018, with our official microblog and WeChat Page steadily unfolding, we kept exploring new ways of content display and forms of publicity, including online serial posts, Vlogs, and live videos. We are well on our way to cultivating a passionate, heart-warming figure out of us. Among those who are interested, we tell narratives of frontline work and demonstrate popular science in an engaging way. We've set out to create a meaningful vision for the environmental community.



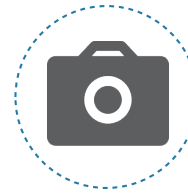
## Weibo

10x more followers  
390,000 fans total  
11x more tweets  
25,470,000 views



## WeChat Page

30,000 subscribers  
231 posts a year  
117 originals  
350,000 views



## Live Vlog

21 live shows  
70,000 views



## Media coverage

123 media  
200+ reports  
3 by People's Daily  
7 by Xinhua News Agency  
4 by China Central TV



## Public participation

14 times  
3,000+ signups



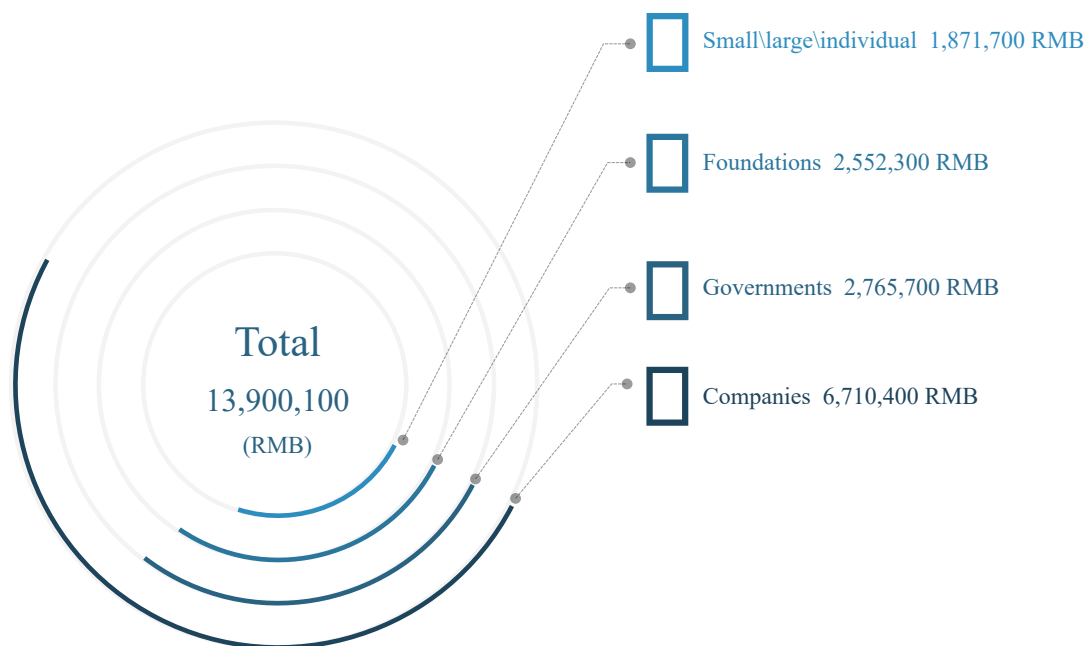
## Cause marketing

2 times  
50,000+ signups



# FUND-RAISING

## 1 OVERVIEW



## 2 TENCENT 99 GIVING DAY



Adopt a Snow  
Leopard on Cloud

Total: 118,555.93 RMB

Donations: 1260



Build Home for Pallas's Cat  
and Tibetan Fox

Total: 132,287.22 RMB

Donations: 2122



Vaccinate  
Pandas' Neighbors

Total: 58,907.74 RMB

Donations: 1280

## 3 MONTHLY DONATIONS



Nature Guardians

Total: 109,798.88 RMB

Donations: 452



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## ABOUT US

# BOARD MEMBERS

## Mr. Zheng Yisheng

Acting Chair

Researcher at the CASS Institute of Quantitative & Technical Economics; deputy director of the Environmental Centre. His interests of study include sustainable development.

## Mr. Xu Jintao

Board Member

Distinguished Professor in the Peking University Yabo Recruitment Program; vice dean of PKU National School of Development; director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research; doctoral supervisor of PKU College of Environmental Sciences and Engineering; Executive Director and Deputy Chair of China Forestry Economics Society (CFES). His interests of study include resource economics, climate change and pollution control policies for industrial companies.

## Ms. Sun Shan

Board Member

Ms. Sun is a co-founder of Shanshui Conservation Center. She also founded the Green Life Society, the first environmental group at her alma mater Peking University. She received her Master's degree in Environmental Studies and Public Policy from George Mason University in 1999 and spent five years studying bio-medicine and wildlife genetics. In 2002, she launched the CI China Program with Lu Zhi and has since been working to administer 6.5 million US dollars of the Critical Ecosystem Partner Fund in the Mountains of Southwest China. In 2010 she helped create LEAD & Beyond, a fellowship program designed to promote leadership for sustainable development.

## Ms. Lu Yinghua

Board Member

Stockholder and initiator of Shan Shui Partnership Co.; having sponsored and called for multiple fundraising dinners and activities over the long years of her support to Shan Shui.

## Ms. Lv Zhi

Executive Board Member

Professor of PKU School of Life Sciences; executive director of PKU Center for Nature and Society; co-founder of Shanshui Conservation Center; vice-president of China Women Scientists Association; president of a global snow leopard conservation network. She's dedicated to long-term studies of the giant panda, snow leopard and other flagship species in the Mountains of Southwest China and on the Tibetan Plateau as well as studies of interspecific interactions and trophic cascades in Sanjiangyuan, a well-preserved grassland ecosystem. She has extended her attention to interactions between ecosystems and human socioeconomic systems and the effects of various policies and conservation practices on the ecosystems.

## Ms. Marjorie Yang

Honorary Chair

A CPPCC member since 2003, Ms. Yang chairs Esquel Group, a leading Hong Kong-based textile and apparel manufacturer with operations throughout the world, while serving as Deputy Chairman of the Seoul International Business Advisory Council (SIBAC) and Honorary Chair of Shan Shui Conservation Center. Ms. Yang has found her passion to promote higher education and high/new technology and to share her experience with many renowned universities in the United States, mainland China,



and Hong Kong SAR, where she chairs the board of directors in the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She is an advisory board member in various educational institutions, including MIT's CSAIL and Sloan School of Management, Harvard University, and Tsinghua University School of Economics and Management. In addition to her official responsibilities and public service contributions, Ms. Yang also serves the boards of the HSBC and Swire Pacific as an independent non-executive director. Earlier in her life she obtained her Bachelor's degree from MIT and then an MBA from Harvard Business School.

### Ms. Chen Haiying

Chief Supervisor

Ms. Chen obtained her BA in Economics from the Shanghai University of International Business and Economics before she went on to work in the Personnel Department and the International Business Management Department of the Ministry of International Business and Economic Cooperation (now the Ministry of Commerce). She also served as vice-consul for business at the Chinese consulate-general in Vancouver, Canada, and then as deputy director for public affairs in Bombardier Inc. Beijing Office. She moved to Esquel Group Hong Kong in 2003 and currently works as the Chief Representative of its Beijing Office.

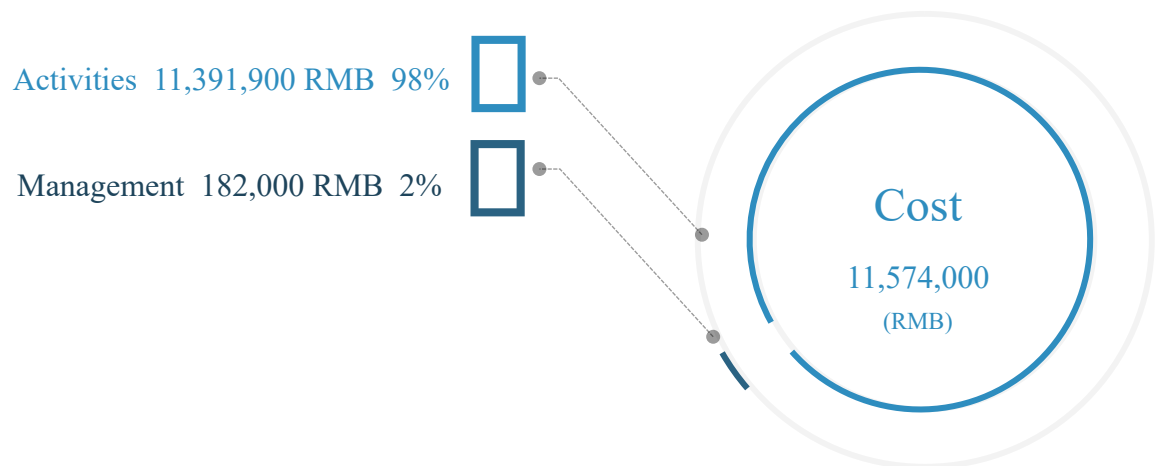
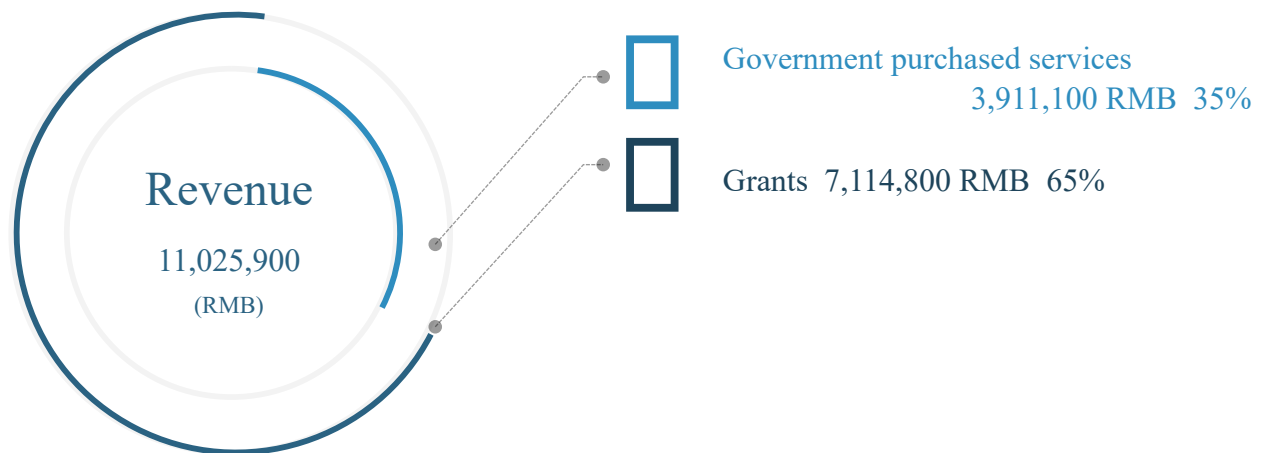
### Mr. Xu Zhihong

Senior Advisor

Professor of Peking University School of Life Sciences; president of Peking University School of Advanced Agricultural Sciences; researcher at the Shanghai Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology, CAS; CAS and TWAS member; plant physiologist; former president of Peking University (Nov. 1999—2008). Currently Mr. Xu chairs the UNESCO's China MAB National Committee and leads the Enforcement of Scientific Ethic Committee for the CAS Academic Division. A great contributor to plant sciences and nature reserves in China, Mr. Xu has a long pursuit of study in plant developmental biology, plant cell culture and genetic manipulation, and botanical bioengineering.



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



# STAFF AND AWARDS

Up till now we have 23 employees, among whom 13 have Master's or doctoral degrees. We also work with 21 long-standing, non-resident consultants, and one of them specializes in organizational management, one in publicity, one in a general area, 11 in project leadership, and 3 are fellow researchers.

We have provided 30 staff training sessions, 26 of which are internal and 13 external, all completely inclusive to cultivate a creative and open mindset for learning. Topics included work skills, team communication skills and general knowledge about ecology and anthropology.

We are entitled to “tax exemption against non-profit organizations in Haidian District in 2018 to 2022.”

We have been awarded the title “Model NGO for Internal Control Process Building in Beijing.”



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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our work as stated herein very much depends on the  
concerted efforts of these partners  
(by alphabetic order)

Aiyou Future Foundation  
Alibaba Foundation  
Alipay Foundation  
Alpha Partners Education  
Amity Foundation  
BBC  
Beijing Aiyou Volunteering  
Beijing Baihuashan National Nature Reserve Administration  
Beijing Didi Foundation  
Beijing Forestry University  
Beijing Municipal Bureau of Landscape and Forestry  
Beijing Haidian District government  
Beijing Henhaisen Technology Limited  
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Beijing Normal University Kindergarten  
Beijing Shanshui Partners Cultural Development Co., Ltd  
Beijing Water Authority  
Canadian International School of Beijing  
CAS Kunming Institute of Zoology  
CAS Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden  
CGTV Qinghai Station  
China Association for NGO Cooperation  
China Environmental Protection Foundation  
China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation  
China Green Foundation  
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Chinese Association of Zoological Gardens  
Chinese Felid Conservation Alliance (CFCA)  
Chongqing Tianxiangrui Mercantile Co., Ltd  
ConocoPhillips China  
Conservation International  
Corporate Citizenship inAction  
CPC Committee of Yushu Prefecture  
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund  
Dali University Institute of Eastern-Himalaya Biodiversity  
Research  
Dali Yunshan Biodiversity Conservation and Research Center  
Edrington Shanghai Limited  
FAW Toyota Motor Sales Co., Ltd.  
Friends of Nature  
GAC-Toyota  
Gangri Neichog Research and Conservation Center  
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Guangxi University  
Guangzhou Bosma Optoelectronic Technology Co., Ltd  
Guangzhou GreenData Environmental Service Center  
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Guilin Esquel Textiles Co., Ltd  
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Huatai Securities  
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International School of Beijing  
IUCN  
K2 Foundation  
Kuanshan Yuanjian Nature Education  
Kunming Daliba Food Co., Ltd  
L'Ambassadeur de France en Chine  
L'Oreal China  
Little Donkey Farm  
Oxfam Hong Kong  
P&G China  
Panthera  
Paradise International Foundation  
People's Daily Qinghai Station  
PKU Affiliated High School  
PKU Center for Nature and Society  
PKU GreenLife  
Propaganda Department of the CPC Committee of Zadoi County  
Qinghai Chengduo County Bureau of Agricultural and Animal  
Husbandry Technology

Qinghai Chengduo County government  
Qinghai Department of Environmental Protection  
Qinghai Duomei Ecological and Environmental Technology Co., Ltd

Qinghai Environmental Information Center  
Qinghai Forestry and Grassland Administration  
Qinghai Forestry Engineering Consulting  
Qinghai Nanqen County government  
Qinghai Nyanpo Yutse Environmental Protection Association  
Qinghai Provincial Party School  
Qinghai Shanming Education Consulting Limited  
Qinghai Yuanshangcao Conservation Center  
Qinghai Yushu City government  
Qinghai Zadoi County government  
Sanjiangyuan Ecological Protection Foundation  
Sanjiangyuan National Park Administration  
Sanjiangyuan National Park Lancang River Head Zone Administration Committee

Sanjiangyuan National Park Lancang River Head Zone Namse Co-management Station

Sanjiangyuan Project Center  
SEE Conservation  
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Shanghai Adventurer Tourist Supplies Co., Ltd  
Shanghai Fosun Foundation  
Shanghai NPI Foundation  
Shanghai United Foundation  
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Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences  
Sichuan Fengsheng Paper Technology Co., Ltd  
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Sichuan Pingwu County Guanba Basin Conservation Center  
Sichuan Sandagu Provincial Nature Reserve Administration  
Sichuan Tangjiahe National Nature Reserve Administration  
Sichuan Wanglang National Nature Reserve Administration  
Snow Leopard Trust  
Snowland Great Rivers Environmental Protection Association  
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Tibet Dingqing County Forestry and Grassland Administration  
Tibet Dingqing County government  
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WCS  
Wild China Film  
Wilderness Xinjiang  
WWF Beijing Office  
Xinhua News Agency Qinghai Station  
Yonghui Superstores  
Yunnan Academy of Forestry and Grassland  
Yunnan Baima Snow Mountain National Nature Reserve  
Yunnan Forestry and Grassland Administration  
Yunnan From Our Eyes Folk Culture Research Center  
Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation  
Yunnan Kawagarbo Cultural Society  
Yunnan Xishuangbanna National Nature Reserve  
Yunnan Yunlong County government  
Yunnan Yunlong Tianchi National Nature Reserve  
Yushu Prefecture Forestry and Grassland Administration  
Yushu Prefecture government  
Zhongguancun Haidian Science Park Management Committee

We also thank 452 donors for their support to our Nature Guardians Program, 4,662 Tencent 99 Public Service Day donors and 289 monthly donors.

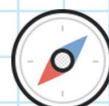
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 $120^{\circ}51' - 122^{\circ}12'$



东林采猬?



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Editors in charge: Di Hao, Yang Keren

Proofreaders: Yuan Yue, Yang Keren

Translator: Hu Jing

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### **Beijing Office**

PKU Conservation Biology Building, No. 5 Yiheyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing

### **Xining Office**

Apartment 6-6212, #2 Building, Shiji Lidu, No. 49 Xichuan Road South, Chengxi District, Xining, Qinghai

### **Chengdu Office**

Apartment 1-903, #2 Building, Huarun Ershisi Cheng, Chenghua District, Chengdu, Sichuan

### **Kunming Office**

6-J1, Unit 2, Jiacheng Building, Wuhua District, Kunming, Yunnan



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山水自然保护中心  
SHANSHUI Conservation Center

Tel: (010) 62761034

Web: [www.shanshui.org](http://www.shanshui.org)

Email: [contact@shanshui.org](mailto:contact@shanshui.org)

Sina Weibo: @ 山水自然保护中心

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