

**Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction
in Chifeng, Inner Mongolia of China**

**Environment Protection Bureau of Inner
Mongolia of China**

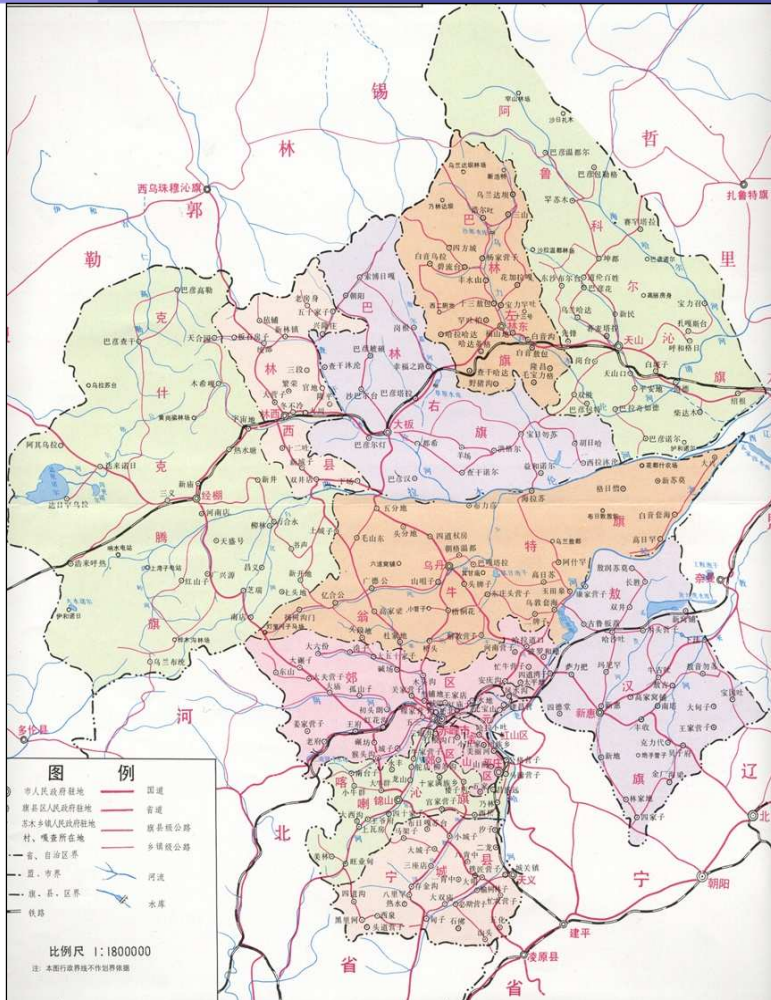


GENERAL INTRODUCTION OF CHIFENG

- Located in southeast Inner Mongolia, with a total area of 90,725 KM²;
- 12 counties (or qi) under its administration;
- Population: 4.6 million



Map of Chifeng



Biodiversity in Chifeng

- Chifeng has rich natural resources including grassland, stone forest, spring, desert and Moulin. There are five rivers and one big lake as well as arable land of 17.6 million *mu* .
- Chifeng has rich plants, animals, microorganisms and various ecological combinations generated by its complex natural conditions and long geological history. Numerous genes are found in wild plant and animal species which result in rich genetic diversity and have high economic and scientific values.





Grassland, Lakes and Fish Harvest





**Gongge'er
River**



**Shali
River**

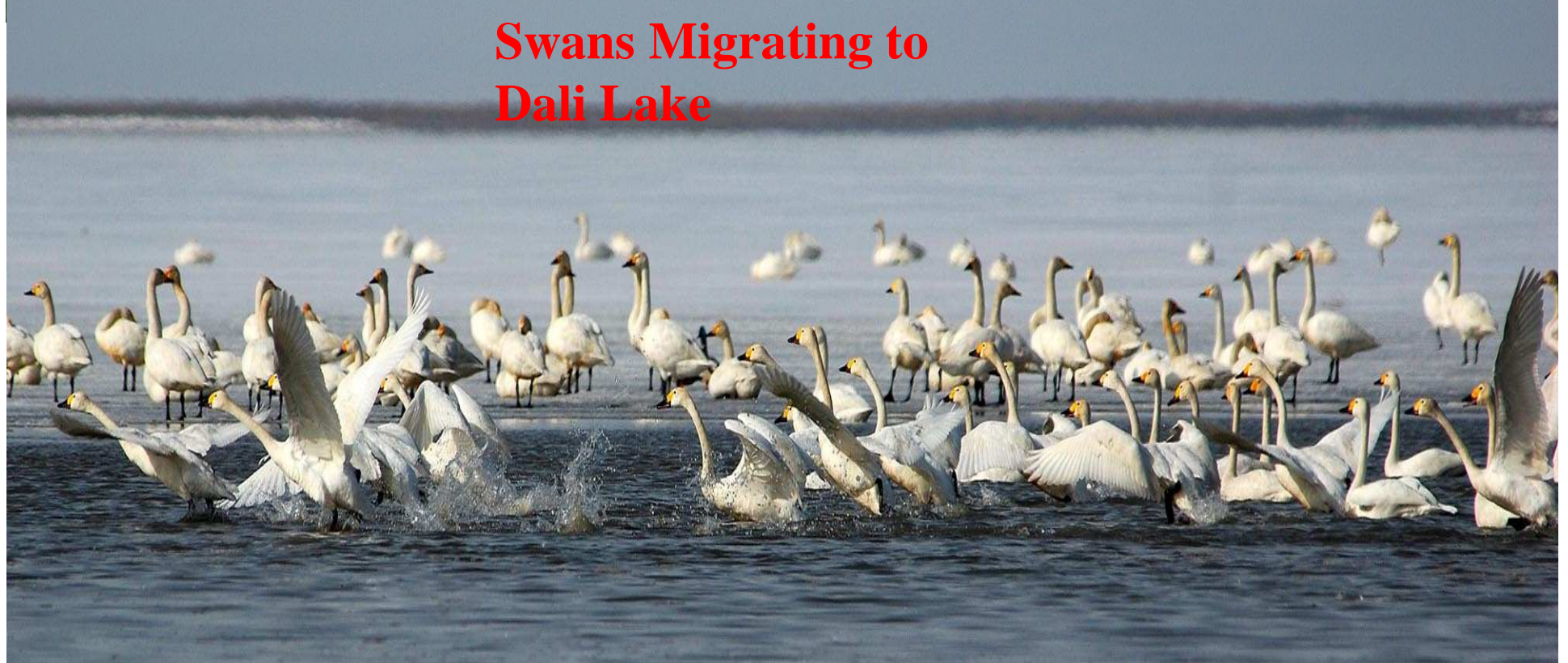
Four Rivers Flowing into Dali Lake



**Haolai
River**



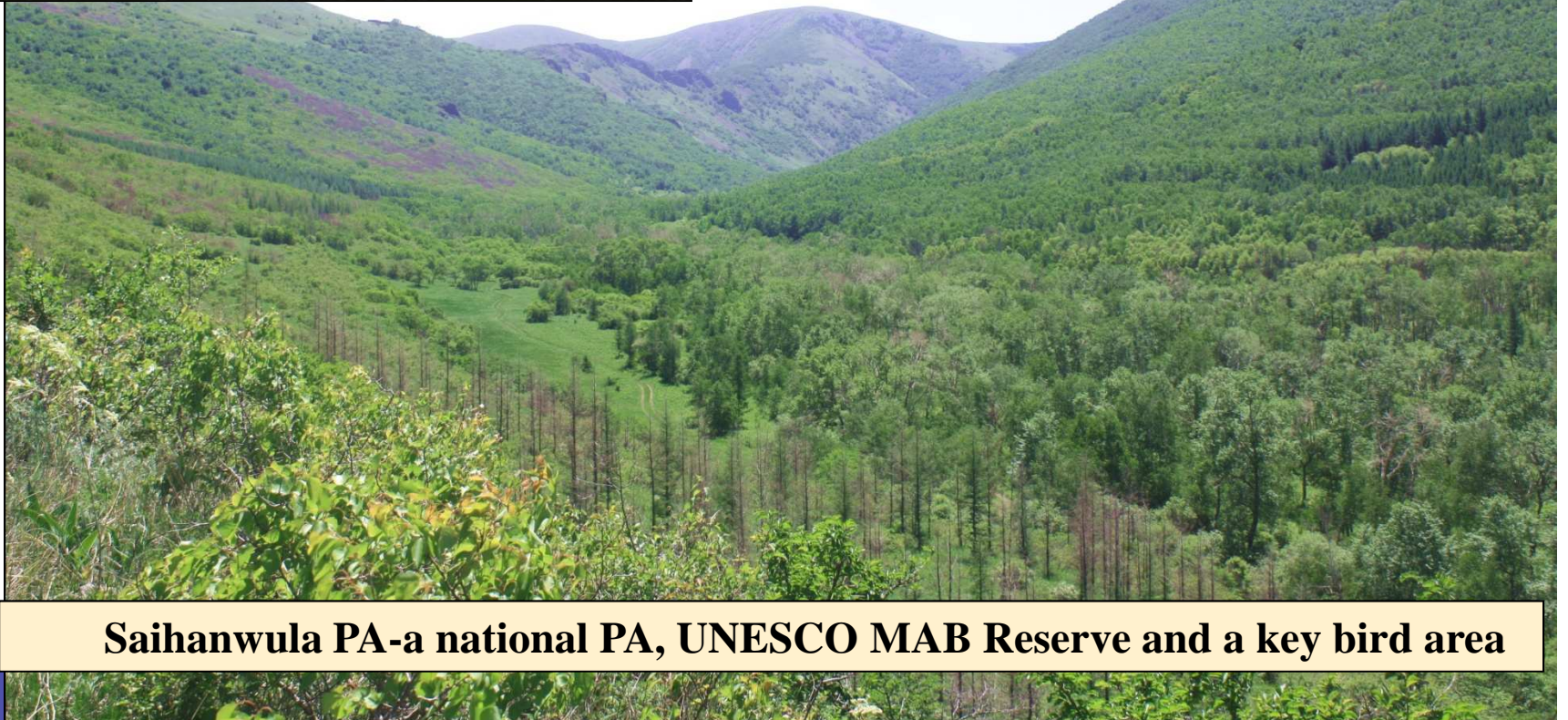
Liangzi River



Swans Migrating to Dali Lake

**Gongge'er
Grassland**

Aluke'rchin PA



Saihanwula PA-a national PA, UNESCO MAB Reserve and a key bird area

Biodiversity Conservation in Chifeng

Key Measures:

- Strictly control overgrazing beyond carrying capacity of grasslands, by implementing grazing ban, captive breeding and grassland rehabilitation;
- Identify areas where development is prohibited, limited and allowed;
- Restore ecologically degraded areas and control further human-induced damages;
- Restore lake ecology and protect biodiversity in lakes;
- Establish eco villages, towns and counties or cities;
- Establish a group of protected areas;
- Establish a system of ecological monitoring and conservation management.



Establishment and management of protected areas

- By 2010, a total of 29 protected areas established, covering an area of 14,722 KM² and accounting for 16.36 of land area of Chifeng;
- 7 national-level and 8 province-level protected areas established。



Strengthening management of PAs

Increase management bodies and personnel for PAs

- By 2010, management bodies have been established for all PAs in Chifeng, with 10 PAs having their own independent management bodies;
- A total of 447 people now working in these management bodies.



Working together with forest and other sectors in common efforts to improve management of PAs and law enforcement

- Joint surveys of protected areas to find solutions to improve management of protected areas;
- Joint inspections on law enforcement in protected areas.



Biodiversity Conservation Projects

➤ **China-Canada Biodiversity Conservation Project**

- China and Canada started in 1998 a project on biodiversity conservation and community development in Inner Mongolia;
- Dalinuo'er PA selected as first site for project implementation;
- Various training activities undertaken, eco-tourism strategy developed; management plan developed and plan developed for nature museum;
- Dalinuo'er Nature Museum established in 2005 as a high-quality environmental education facility.



中-加达里诺尔生物多样性保护 与社区发展项目内容的确定

从2001年开始，加拿大环境规划署派出多批次专家对达里诺尔进行了全方位的考察，并与中方共同确定了达里诺尔生物多样性保护和社区发展的具体项目。即建立达里诺尔环境教育中心、建立达里诺尔野禽介绍中心、培训保护区管理及技术人员、培训社区居民、开展生物多样性保护与社区发展示范项目、编制生态旅游规划，开展生态旅游示范等。

中加双方有关人员考察达里诺尔经济、社会和旅游资源等



中加双方讨论项目内容



➤ **China-Korea Project aims**

- To improve living conditions of farmers in semi-arid desert grasslands;
- To achieve harmony between environmental protection and sustainable agriculture and husbandry development;
- To restore ecological conditions in deserts;

➤ **Wetland Conservation Project**

- Initiated in 2006 and Dalinuo'er selected as one of the first sites for project implementation (investment totalling 27.7 million yuan RMB).
- Drinking problem solved in 2008 for 1,480 people and 26,521 domestic animals as a result of running water project implemented as part of wetland conservation project.



Poverty reduction in protected areas

- Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction held in July 2010 in Chifeng, with the support of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China.



MIGRATING PEOPLE LIVING IN PAS

- Grassland habitats destroyed as farming and husbandry communities expand and grassland ecosystems exceed their carrying capacities;
- Grassland areas shrunk due to overgrazing for long and climatic aridity, which also leads to ecological imbalances of grassland ecosystems, grassland and land degradation/desertification;
- To reduce pressures on grasslands and protected areas, people living in Alike'rchin PA migrated out of PA by following the principle of respect of people's will and their customs;
- People living in PAs encouraged to move out through government providing pension to migrants, creating life conditions (including building new homes for them) and ensuring employment opportunities for them.



Poverty reduction and environmental protection through alternative livelihood

- Encourage farmers to reduce grazing and increase captive breeding by free supply of grass to those farmers;
- Farmers provided alternative livelihood such as aqua-culturing.



Poverty reduction through projects

Poverty reduction and community development through implementation of the above-mentioned and other projects



Training provided to farmers on hand crafting through China-Canada project





Building winter shelters for domestic animals



Testing plantation of forage crops



Supplying mineral additives

Poverty reduction through eco-tourism

- Eco-tourism activities undertaken to increase farmers' income such as horse riding, tour of traditional living areas and sales of traditional souvenirs and dairy products;
- Restructuring industries to reduce pressures of husbandry on the environment.



Creating employment opportunities

- In Saihanwula PA, farmers close by encouraged to join afforestation partnerships as a way to increase their income;
- PA management body employs local farmers for project construction and builds water-efficient irrigation facilities for local communities.



Poverty reduction through individual assistance

In Dalinuo'er PA, local fish farm managers provide individual assistance to local farmers through donation, building bridges and roads for them, supplying power to them.



Achievements in CEPA

Saihanwula PA has

- Launched a website in 2008 for wider and easier dissemination of information;
- Opened its Nature Museum to 20, 000 people annually.

Dalinuo'er Nature Museum also receives about 80,000 people a year.



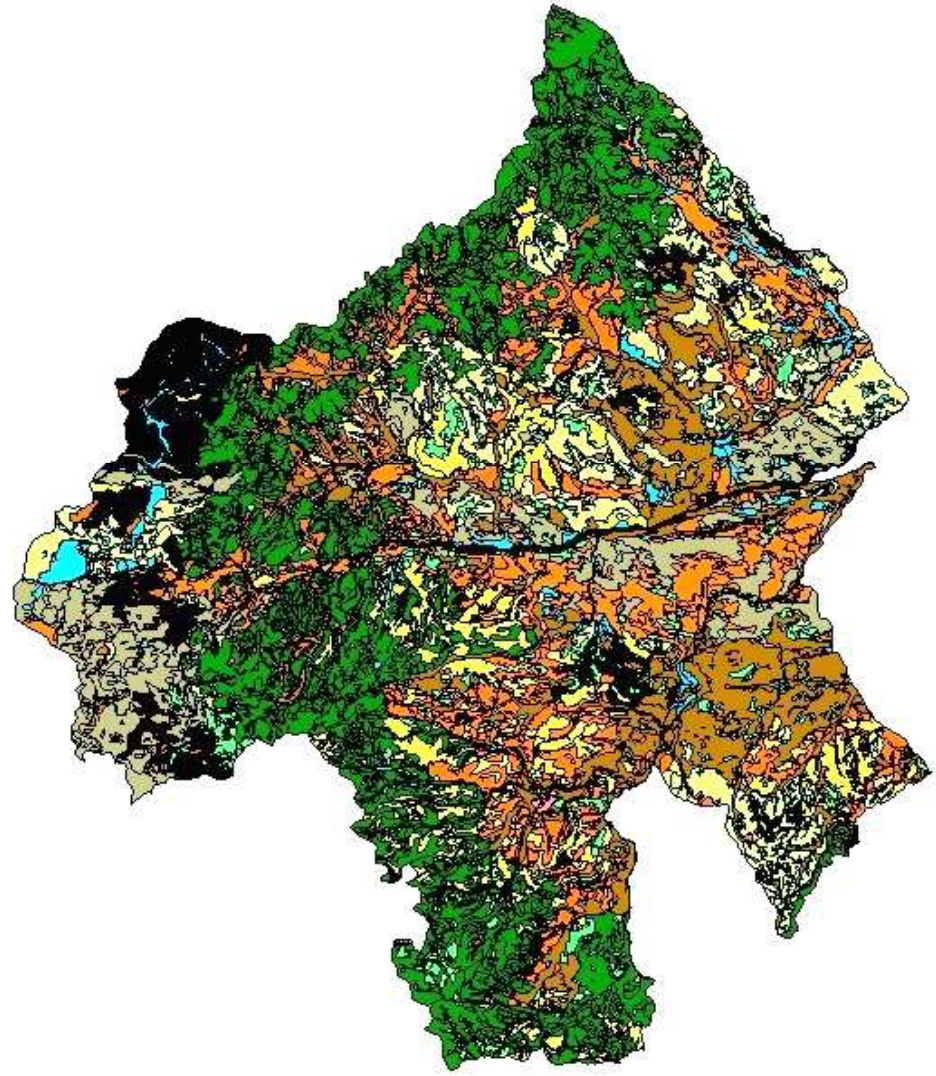
Ecological demonstration projects

- Eco-village/town/city/province Initiative launched in 1999, and Ke County of Chifeng listed as one of eco counties;
- By end of 2010, 12 ecological demonstration zones established in Chifeng, covering an area of 10,173 KM².



Eco-zoning

8 counties in Chifeng identified as national-level eco zones covering 62,003 KM² and accounting for 68.68% of its land area. In the next five years, Chifeng aims to increase four more eco-zones. By end of 2015 all counties will be included in eco-zones.



Managing tourism activities

- Strengthening EIA for tourism development;
- Strengthening environmental/ecological protection for expanding tourism activities;
- Implementing “tourism within tourism areas and living facilities outside tourism areas” to reduce damage;
- Banning illegal tourism development projects;
- Strengthening law enforcement in tourism areas (Those projects not approved without EIA will be penalized and required to put in place protection and conservation measures).



Regulating mining activities

- Site inspection made on 130 mines and 50 mines violating relevant environmental regulations will be required to put in place required measures;
- Damages caused by mining activities will be reduced by strengthening law enforcement and requiring mining companies to follow relevant regulations and procedures.





**Environmental
inspection of mines**



THANK YOU