

Global Environment Facility

Emergency Biodiversity Conservation Measures for

Recovery and Reconstruction

in Response to Wenchuan Earthquake

in Sichuan Province

People's Republic of China

PROJECT DOCUMENT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)

Ministry of Finance (MOF)

Duration: 2008-2009

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: China, People's Republic

UNDAF Outcome(s): Outcome 3 – More efficient management of natural resources and development of environmentally friendly behaviour in order to ensure environmental sustainability

Expected CP Outcome(s): Outcome 7 – Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is more effective

Expected Output(s): Output 7.1 - Joint CBPF Group established and Joint Results Framework agreed upon;
 Output 7.2 - Existing policies, plans and regulations reviewed and recommendations for changes made, NAP updated and fed into national and local five-year plan;
 Output 7.3 - Number of laws and regulations on biodiversity promulgated;
 Output 7.4 - Greater institution of local NGOs and communities to participate in BD conservation activities strengthened;

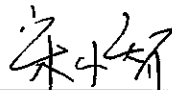
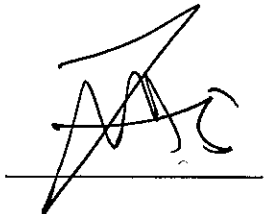
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Government of China
Sichuan Provincial Environment Protection Bureau
United Nations Development Programme

**PIMS 4187 Emergency Biodiversity Conservation Measures for
Recovery and Reconstruction in Response to Wenchuan Earthquake in Sichuan Province**
(Atlas Award/Project ID: 00050526/00062480)

Brief description

On May 12, 2008, a massive earthquake struck Wenchuan area of Sichuan Province in Southwest China. The earthquake resulted in a massive loss of human life and property and caused an ecological catastrophe. The earthquake affected area is one of the most important biodiversity hotspots in China, hosting 800 species listed on the IUCN Red List – such as the pandas. More than 35 Nature Reserves, covering over 400,000 hectares, have been directly affected by the quake- including 60% of panda's natural habitat. A rapid restoration of the ecosystems here is critical not just for biodiversity conservation, but also for enhancing human well-being affected by the earthquake. Ecosystems provide various critical services such as provision of water, timber and traditional medicine and energy supplies such as hydropower and biomass. Ecosystems also provide means of primary livelihoods for millions of local people through agriculture and eco-tourism. Immediately following the earthquake, the Government of China initiated a three-step a recovery and reconstruction programme– rapid assessment and relief, medium-term recovery support, and long-term reconstruction.

This UNDP/GEF support aims to complement the efforts by the Government of China, the local government and communities and their partners by ensuring that environmentally sound and biodiversity-friendly approaches are adopted into recovery and reconstruction efforts particularly in the Wenchuan area. Aligned with the GEF biodiversity strategy, this project will work closely with the national and local governments to address barriers to mainstreaming biodiversity into recovery and reconstruction work in Sichuan, and will support capacity building for restoring globally critical protected area system in the Wenchuan area. Specifically, the project will undertake 1) Rapid survey and assessment of earthquake induced impacts and post-quake ecological risks on critical ecosystems to address important information gaps on biodiversity conservation in affected areas; 2) Mainstreaming biodiversity into post-disaster recovery and reconstruction process in affected areas; and 3) Support planning, prioritization and budgeting framework for strengthened protected area/nature reserve management with demonstrations of selected priority actions in the quake-hit region.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|---|
| APR | Annual Project Report |
| AWP | Annual Work Plan |
| CAS | Chinese Academy of Sciences |
| CBPF | China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework for Action |
| CBD | Convention on Biological Diversity |
| CITES | Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora |
| CO | Country Office |
| ECBP | EU-China Biodiversity Programme |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| FECO | Foreign Economic Cooperation Office of the Ministry of Environmental Protection |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GoC | Government of China |
| HQ | Headquarters |
| IW | Inception Workshop |
| MEP | Ministry of Environmental Protection |
| MOF | Ministry of Finance |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| NDRC | National Development and Reform Commission |
| NEX | National Execution |
| NNR | National Nature Reserve |
| PA | Protected area |
| PIR | Project Implementation Review |
| PMO | Project Management Office |
| PCG | Project Coordination Group |

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| RCEES | Research Centre for Eco-environmental Sciences of the CAS |
| RMB | Reminbi (Chinese Currency) |
| SCEPB | Sichuan Environmental Protection Bureau |
| SCFB | Sichuan Forestry Bureau |
| SCPPG | Sichuan Provincial Planning Group for Post-quake Recovery and Reconstruction |
| SEPA | State Environmental Protection Administration |
| SFA | State Forestry Administration |
| Shan Shui | Shan Shui Centre for Nature and Society |
| SP | Strategic Priority |
| TMI | The Mountain Institute |
| TNC | The Nature Conservancy |
| TPR | Tripartite Review |
| TTR | Terminal Tripartite Review |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| WWF | World Wild Fund for Nature |

SECTION I: ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

Part I: Situation Analysis

1. A catastrophic earthquake with a magnitude of 8.0 Richter scale hit Sichuan Province in Southwestern China on May 12, 2008, followed by more than 193 major aftershocks above the magnitude 4.0 on the Richter scale. This quake, referred to as the 'Wenchuan Earthquake' (named after its epicentre in Wenchuan County in northwest Sichuan Province) affected 46,574 villages in 4624 townships of 417 counties in 16 provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions across China. The quake affected 440,000 square kilometres and 45.61 million people. According to the Ministry of Civil Affairs' estimates, as of June 4, 2008, the quake had caused death of more than 69,000 people, and injured more than 370,000 others, with an estimated 18,000 still missing. Thirty counties in Sichuan Province were the worst affected because of their proximity to the epicentre and their mountainous topography. Over 28 million houses, school buildings and hospitals and several roads, railways and bridges were severely damaged or destroyed here. The earthquake caused massive environmental damage through landslides, and land subsidence – in some cases leading to blockage of rivers and streams. In Sichuan Province alone, as of June 2, the earthquake had caused 2,498 landslides, 1,518 slope collapses, 476 rock and mud slides, and 777 instable slopes and 34 'quake-lakes' leaving 2385 water reservoirs and dams in danger. Given the massive nature of the event and the continued aftershocks, the direct damages to people, infrastructure and the post quake environmental damages and risks are still being assessed. More than 35 nature reserves have been affected, covering 400,000 hectares of land. Still, the direct economic losses due to the quake are estimated at more than 150 billion USD. On May 16, 2008, Premier Wen Jiabao declared that the earthquake as the most severe natural disaster to affect the People's Republic of China since its establishment 60 years ago.

2. The earthquake hit region lies in the upper reaches of Yangtze River Basin, one of 25 global biodiversity hotspot identified by Conservation International, and one of the WWF's Global 200 ecoregions. The ecosystem in this region is recognized as a critical area in the national ecological protection system, that also provides important ecological services for human well-being in the area, including habitat, water resources, and water and soil retention, and an important role in national ecological security.

3. The Chinese Government has responded quickly to the disaster with its relief efforts. Various governmental agencies, institutions, the military, NGOs, volunteers and medical professionals have been mobilized to rescue and evacuate people; provide tents, food and water to the survivors; treat the wounded; repair roads, bridges and other vital infrastructure, and effectively manage waste to ward off diseases. By 15 July 2008, international and domestic donors have committed more than US\$6.6 billion and more than US\$7.7 billion have been allocated from central and local government departments for the rescue operations, disaster relief and post-disaster reconstruction and rehabilitation. Therefore, the rehabilitation of the earthquake-affected area will be one of the biggest efforts of its kind in China. Therefore, the challenges on hand include the proper restoration and management of globally important ecosystems in the earthquake affected regions as well prevention of any additional negative environmental from post-disaster reconstruction efforts.

Context and global significance

4. Following the relief activities in May and June 2008, the Chinese Government initiated a needs assessment for longer-term recovery and reconstruction planning. The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has been assigned the lead role in this process with the participation of 27 ministry-level agencies and the Sichuan Provincial Government. In this context, the need to give attention to environmental management in the earthquake-affected region has already been felt. The Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) initiated a rapid assessment and planning for ecological rehabilitation

and the mainstreaming of environmental issues into the reconstruction efforts. This also included needs to restore local capacities for environment protection and nature reserves management, protection of watersheds and headwater areas to supply safe drinking water, investigation of pollution and chemical risks, and assessment of challenges and opportunities for ecological restoration. The Research Centre for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES) of the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) was commissioned by the MEP to undertake this assessment. Their initial recommendations have been presented to the Chinese Government. Issues identified by this assessment include the need for ecological conservation and restoration plans formulation, biodiversity conservation and habitat restoration, and the need to integrate ecological considerations into the design and construction of new settlements as well as challenges for ecological restoration programmes' implementation in hardest hit areas. This project will build on these recommendations to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the post-disaster reconstruction efforts. The project will work at the Provincial level on mainstreaming issues and will focus its on-the ground work in 6 regions, including Aba Prefecture, Deyang City, Mianyang City, Guangyuan City, and Chengdu City and Ya'an City, which cover more than 125,000 square kilometres and occupy about 27% of land area of the Sichuan Province. Particular focus will be given to the 29 severely affected counties in these regions.

5. Given the global significance of the earthquake-impacted areas, a strong focus on environmental restoration, strengthened environmental management and mainstreaming of biodiversity into mid and long term recovery plans are even more critical. Sichuan Province is one of richest biodiversity areas in China. Due to its dramatic variations in climate and topography, the Province supports a wide array of vegetation types- from tropical, sub-tropical evergreen broadleaf forests at lower altitudes to temperate broadleaf forests, mixed broadleaf conifer forest, sub-alpine forests with a dense bamboo and rhododendron understory to alpine meadows in the higher altitudes. The project area lies in Southwest China Temperate forests ecoregion identified by WWF's Global 200 ecoregions –and one of 25 global hotspots identified by Conservation International. Within the project area, there are one World Nature Heritage sites – Huanglong Scenic Area, one World Nature/Culture Relics – Qingcheng Mountain and Dujiangyan irrigation work Scenic Area, and 32 nature reserves in the project area, including 7 national nature reserves and five Man and Biosphere Nature Reserves, and 90 ecosystem types. The rapid restoration of the ecosystems in the area is critical not just for species protection, but also for human well-being. They provide various ecosystem services such as water management, carbon sequestration, timber and traditional medicine, energy supplies such as hydropower and biomass, agriculture and very importantly eco-tourism, which is a significant part of the local economy.

6. The affected area lies in the transition zone between the north and south biota with a large number of relic and endemic species such as the Giant Panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) and Sichuan Partridge (*Arborophila rufipectu*). The earthquake-affected areas include 60% of all wild Panda habitats in China and hosts 70% of its wild population. Sichuan Province hosts 800 species currently on the IUCN Red List. In one Nature Reserve in this area alone 96 mammal species, 300 bird species, 20 reptile species, 14 amphibian species, 6 fish species and 1,700 insect species having been noted (Wolong Nature Reserve). These include 26 threatened species that are legally protected in China. The area has great cultural diversity. The region is home to 12 of China's 55 ethnic minority groups, including the Tibetans, Qiang, Hui, Miao, Zhuang, Tujia, Man, Li, Uygur and Jino minorities, who are the storehouses of indigenous knowledge on natural resources in this unique environment. Further details on the biodiversity importance of the earthquake-affected area are provided in Annex F.

Threats, root causes and barriers analysis

7. The Wenchuan earthquake poses threats to biodiversity from mainly the following three reasons:

- Direct impact of the earthquake resulted in habitat loss and fragmentation, loss of wildlife, and loss and damage to conservation infrastructure and facilities. A recent preliminary MEP assessment of eight counties in Sichuan showed that the earthquake caused more than 70,000 hectares of landslides, destroyed 34,000 hectares of Giant Panda habitats and affected nearly 100,000 hectares more of their

habitats and damaged 30,000 hectares of agriculture land. Nature Reserves' physical infrastructure such as management offices of 18 nature reserves and 55 conservation stations have been destroyed. In Wolong National Nature Reserve, which accounts for 50% of the captive Giant Panda population and 10% wild Giant Panda populations in China, 14 Giant Panda pens were destroyed and another 18 were severely damaged.

- Threats posed by secondary (earthquake induced) environment risks, including sharply reduced food supply for wildlife due to loss of vegetation and alterations to water flow regimes, and species migration due to loss of habitats. The above-mentioned MEP study observed that landslides, earthquake lakes and other subsequent disaster aftershock impacts have caused an estimated loss of at least 46,000 hectares of forests, including loss of bamboo that is the staple food of the Giant Pandas.
- Potential threats posed by disaster relief, recovery and reconstruction measures in the affected area. This could include for example water and soil pollution caused by waste resulting from the disaster or use of chemicals for recovery of crops, and unsustainable extraction of natural resources for reconstruction of building, roads, bridges, and for local livelihoods.

8. There are three related sets of problems/barriers to cope with the above threats in the post-quake biodiversity conservation. First is the biodiversity related information gaps for conservation actions. Although a rapid assessment of the ecological impacts of the earthquake has been carried out, this basic understanding is not sufficient for specific biodiversity actions. The earthquake occurred in the late spring during the nesting period of many birds and nursing period of young mammals. The impacts on affected populations are unknown—and recovery will depend largely on the ability to curtail secondary threats such as hunting. Similarly, the breeding successes of vertebrate species, in particular critical endangered species such as the Giant Panda and Sichuan Partridge, are likely to have been compromised but with further detailed analyses are needed to quantify them. The landslides and newly formed earthquake lakes from landslides have significantly changed the topography of the area and affected large swathes of natural habitats. The ecological function conservation areas in affected areas needs to be modified with sufficient information to ensure that the Government management systems consider such changes.

9. Second, there is low awareness and low capacity in related government departments to integrate biodiversity conservation objectives to eradicate or mitigate the secondary environment risks and human activity induced threats on biodiversity in the post-quake recovery and reconstruction plans. As already noted, tens of billions of RMB have been earmarked for post-earthquake reconstruction from government and other sources. This will include resettling people, building new infrastructure such as roads and housing on a massive scale. Unless these consider and integrate biodiversity values in their plans, there is a potential to increase threats to biodiversity by actions such of placement of roads or settlements in ecologically sensitive areas.

10. Third, is the compromised capacity of protected area system. Most prominently, the Giant Panda protection system has been severely damaged. The loss of infrastructure and equipment in protected areas has seriously undermined the ability of the provincial management and protection authorities to provide routine protection and conservation functions such as enforcement, patrolling and monitoring. This means that many globally important sites are currently sub-optimally protected and could suffer an increase in human induced pressures, particularly as the affected populace has lost its means of subsistence and may harvest wild resources to compensate for lost livelihoods. Environmental risks from landslides, water pollution and other quake-induced environmental factors need to be taken into consideration in the process of reconstructing protected areas system, to avoid damage from secondary disasters.

11. This project has been designed to deal with the above barriers and to build necessary capacity and to mainstream biodiversity into post quake development plans and policies to ensure that reconstruction efforts at Sichuan are carried out in environmentally sound way – such that global biodiversity values are not adversely affected but maintained and enhanced.

Stakeholder analysis

12. During the project preparation, the main groups of stakeholders identified for this project as follows:

- Government officials at national level, particularly the MEP as the lead agency for biodiversity conservation, nature reserve supervision and CBD compliance in China, and the State Forestry Administration (SFA), which is responsible for the management of most of the nature reserves in China;
- Government officials at provincial level in Sichuan - mainly the Department of Environment Protection Bureau and Forestry Bureau and the target groups include production sectors in the agriculture, mining, construction, transportation, and tourism;
- International NGOs, Particularly TNC, WWF, CI, and TMI who have all contributed to the design and review of the current project. TNC has collaborated with Sichuan EPB in development of Sichuan Provincial Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans supported by the TNC/GOC China Blueprint Project and the WWF have been conducting a Giant Panda protection programme in the project area. CI is implementing a Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) initiative in southwest China to support the conservation of biodiversity in this area including Sichuan Province, while The Mountain Institute (TMI) is actively promoting environmentally friendly building materials to post quake reconstruction in China. These activities are identified as co-financing to this project (see co-finance letters).
- Bilateral/Multilateral agencies, particularly the EU through the UNDP managed EU-China Biodiversity Programme (ECBP), which is implementing 18 local projects across China including in Sichuan. The earthquake has affected six of its projects and these are being adapted for the changed situation. A rapid assessment activity is being undertaken by UNDP under ECBP as co-financing to this initiative (see co-finance letter).
- Research institutes include the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS), Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences of MEP, Sichuan Academy of Environmental Sciences and Sichuan Environmental Monitoring Centre, which will provide technical support for project implementation.
- Local communities- Particularly those surrounding nature reserves and those involved in migration due to the earthquake.

13. Consultations in various forms were undertaken for this project preparation with representatives of these groups through a series of site visits to the affected area, interviews with national and local partners, and through roundtable meetings in affected area and at the national level in Beijing. Such consultations and partnerships will be continued during the project's implementation.

Part II: Strategy

Institutional, sectoral and policy context

14. Shortly after the earthquake, the Sichuan Provincial Planning Group for Post-quake Recovery and Reconstruction was formed for the development of a Post-quake Recovery and Reconstruction Master Plan for Sichuan Province. Led by the Provincial Development and Reform Commission (DRC), the planning group includes several other related government agencies as well. The Master Plan will be prepared in three steps. The first step will be to conduct thematic assessments such as to delineate the disaster area, to calculate of losses in human lives and properties, and the loss of nature resource and environment management capacity. The second step will be to develop an overall plan and 9 thematic sub-plans targeting city and township systems, rural area building, infrastructure facility building, public services facility building, productivity distribution and industry layout, market service system, ecological

environment restoration, disaster prevention and mitigation, and post-quake reconstruction land use. The third step will be to conduct policy research, including finance, taxation, land use, industrial development, and social aid for the master plan implementation. The Master Plan will be designed for 8 years, and will have two phases. The first stage (2008-2010) will focus on the post disaster recovery and reconstruction, and the second stage (2011-2015) will focus on strengthening economic prosperity and social development in the area.

15. The Sichuan Provincial Government has promulgated the Implementation Guidelines for the Post-quake Reconstruction Planning to define major tasks, responsible parties and the timetable for the plan. Biodiversity conservation is an integral part of this process. The guidelines have articulated that the planning should be based on the scientific and human development oriented concepts, and fully consider the resource and environmental carrying capacity. It also calls for the construction of national major functional zoning system to take an integrated approach for the post-quake reconstruction.

16. The Sichuan EPB (SCEPB) has been tasked with ecological rehabilitation and restoration planning and it has established a planning group with 30 experts from related national and provincial research institutes. Under the coordination of SCEPB, the project will work closely with the planning group for field surveys and related assessment, focusing on globally significant biodiversity conservation. Specific measures and policy recommendations will be first incorporated in the plan for the environment and ecological rehabilitation and restoration. The project will also work with other planning groups to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the overall master plan for the post-quake recovery and reconstruction.

Project Rationale and Policy Conformity

17. The project is consistent with the China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework For Action (CBPF), and will contribute to the following elements of the CBPF Results Framework:

- Result 5: The general public is supportive of conserving biodiversity
- Result 12: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is mainstreamed into local plans
- Result 18: National nature reserves and provincial nature reserves are effectively managed.
- Result 20: At national nature reserves and provincial nature reserves, local communities, NGOs and/or the private sector are involved in protected area co-management and development
- Result 22: Restoration of forest, agricultural, ocean, freshwater, grasslands, dry lands and urban ecosystems demonstrate incorporation of biodiversity objectives

18. The project is primarily consistent with GEF's Biodiversity Strategic Objective 2 (SO2) "To mainstream biodiversity in production landscapes/seascapes and sectors" and mainly supports the Strategic Programme 4 (SP4) "Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity." Consistent with these, project will mainstream biodiversity objectives into the disaster Recovery and Reconstruction Master Plan and related policies for post quake investment and development actions.

19. The project is also consistent with SO1: "To catalyze sustainability of protected area systems", and will particularly contribute to SP1 "Sustainable financing of PA systems at the national level" and SP3 as "Strengthening terrestrial PA networks". The project will support a planning, prioritization and budgeting exercise to strengthen the PA system in the affected area, which is to be supported by both government and the international community. The project will also demonstrate sustainable PA capacity strengthening and management in selected PAs.

20. This project meets the GEF operational criteria for short term response activities including the following: 1) having a strong likelihood of success if implemented expeditiously given the Government of China's commitment to ensuring that biodiversity management considerations are taken into account in reconstruction plans and investments; 2). Ensuring cost effectiveness by taking preventive action to avoid damage from improper placement of infrastructure or settlements in ecologically sensitive areas, and by

addressing current threats to biodiversity, the project will reduce future threat abatement costs; 3). Degree of threat and urgency; the severity of the earthquake and its direct and secondary effects has placed huge pressure on biodiversity; unless immediately curtailed, there is a risk that globally threatened species will be extirpated from some areas, and major habitats of global significance will sustain damage, some of which may be irreversible.

21. Finally, the project has a demonstration effect. Following business-as-usual models, response measures would not take into account long term biodiversity conservation and may not place adequate emphasis on conservation of global biodiversity values. The project will provide an excellent example of how to integrate biodiversity into disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts ecologically sensitive areas.

Project Goal, Objective, Outcomes and Outputs/activities

The overall project goal is to conserve critical ecosystems and their associated threatened and endangered species in the 2008 quake affected region in China and mitigate the loss of biodiversity occurring as a result of the earthquake. The project objective is to mainstream biodiversity in the post-quake recovery and reconstruction process and strengthen protected area systems with demonstrations in the quake-hit regions of Sichuan Province.

22. Three strategically designed components are planned to address the afore-mentioned problems:

Component 1: Rapid assessment of earthquake induced impacts and post quake ecological risks on critical ecosystems in affected areas. (GEF – US\$85,000; Government of China – US\$ 104,000; UNDP – US\$ 90,000; Third Parties - US\$79,400)

This component will closely work with and build on the findings of rapid assessment of ecological impact of the earthquake in Sichuan to bridge the information gaps for the intervention formulation for biodiversity conservation in project area. This has the following Outcome:

Outcome 1: Knowledge and understanding improved and information gaps filled on the earthquake induced impacts and post-quake ecological risks on biodiversity in affected areas. (GEF – US\$85,000; Government of China – US\$ 104,000; UNDP – US\$90,000; Third Parties - US\$79,400)

Outcome indicators:

- By October 2008, the earthquakes' impacts on breeding successes of 10 critical endangered species and their habitats assessed and measures proposed to mitigate major negative impacts.
- By October 2008, stocktaking of losses at all National Nature Reserves (NNR) in the project area completed and threats from community livelihoods to biodiversity identified and alternative opportunities for communities proposed to reduce those threats.

23. The outcome will specifically assess the impact of the earthquake on at least 10 critically endangered species, and evaluate the extent of infrastructure loss, monitoring capacity, landscape change and habitat loss in ecologically important areas, including all national nature reserves. This outcome has one output below:

Output 1.1 Survey and impact assessment of breeding success of critically threatened species, damage to habitats, infrastructure loss of all NNRs, and local threats from communities

24. An inter-disciplinary team of experts will be fielded to conduct the surveys and assessments mentioned above. The survey methodology will build on experiences and any recent work done in the project area – focusing on filling key knowledge gaps. Comparisons of past and current remote sensing data, verified with sample field surveys, will be used for the assessments of damage caused by the earthquake to landscapes and habitats, especially for more remote areas. The survey and assessment findings will be shared with key stakeholders, including co-financers working in the area and national/international experts on key species and recommendations will be finalized with their inputs.

25. These recommendations will be used as inputs in the development of the PA reconstruction plan and Sichuan Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under Component 3 below.

26. Component 2: Mainstreaming biodiversity into post-disaster recovery and reconstruction process in affected area. (GEF – US\$430,000; Government of China – US\$900,000; Third Parties - US\$60,000)

27. This component will seek to ensure that biodiversity management objectives are mainstreamed into the provincial post-quake recovery and reconstruction master plan and investment programs, with especial focus on safeguarding global biodiversity values. This Component includes the following two inter-related Outcomes:

Outcome 2. Recovery and reconstruction plans in project areas incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives (GEF – US\$125,000; Government of China – US\$100,000; Third Parties - US\$10,000)

Outcome indicators:

- By November 2008, recommendations on new ecological function conservation areas are proposed;
- By October 2008, Sichuan earthquake ecological rehabilitation plan prepared;
- By end of September 2008, users' guide for biodiversity friendly recovery and reconstruction practices prepared in Chinese language and printed for distribution;
- Awareness of global biodiversity significance of earthquake hit areas improved among decision makers, planners and the public;
- On-site trainings provided to 50 planners, 200 managers and 10,000 staff on integrating biodiversity into recovery and reconstruction operations

28. Incorporating of biodiversity objectives into recovery and reconstruction plan will be achieved through integration of Sichuan earthquake ecological rehabilitation plan into the reconstruction plan. This will ensure that the ecological rehabilitation plan continues to be financially supported by the government even after this project end. The project will also review landscapes' abilities after the quake to perform critical functions of maintaining ecological balance in river basins and regions, preventing and mitigating natural disasters, and assuring the overall ecological safety of regions. Based on this assessment, recommendations will be made on ecological function zoning. Such zoning will ensure that industrial and rural development efforts in the quake affected areas will be done according to a scientific basis and will thus comply with the Implementation Guidelines for the Post-quake Reconstruction Planning in Sichuan.

29. Awareness raising activities will be designed and implemented through relevant awareness raising materials, workshop, training and using the mass media to improve the overall understanding on biodiversity values in the Sichuan and to build consensus on biodiversity conservation objectives. The target groups will include government officials, decision makers, planning experts, and the public. Good practices and lessons learned from this initiative on incorporation of biodiversity conservation in post-quake reconstruction process will be shared with all stakeholders.

Major Outputs under this Outcome include:

Output 2.1 Study of creating ecological function conservation areas in earthquake affected areas

30. The project will review the ecological function conservation areas in the earthquake hit areas based on the data and information acquired from activities under Component 1 above. This review of the ecosystems' abilities and carrying capacities after the earthquake to perform critical functions of maintaining ecological balance in river basins and regions, preventing and mitigating future disasters and assuring overall ecological safety. This will serve as the basis for the land use zoning system to be

introduced in this area in compliance with Implementation Guidelines for the Post-quake Reconstruction, particularly in the development of suitable areas for industrial and rural development.

Output 2.2 Preparation of ecological rehabilitation plan in Sichuan earthquake hit areas

31. In parallel to government co-financed activities, this output of the project will assist Sichuan EPB in improving the ecological rehabilitation plan by ensuring key elements of globally important biodiversity values at the landscape level are fully considered for long term ecosystem integrity of this area. This will be achieved through provision of expert advisory services, analyses and through a series of consultations with key partners of this project working on this issue including government and NGO partners as necessary.

Output 2.3 Preparation, printing and distribution of user's guide for biodiversity friendly recovery and reconstruction practices

32. While an EIA law exists in China, the capacity of planners and project managers to apply EIA for post-disaster development is inadequate, especially to take into account biodiversity conservation issues. During the medium term (2008-2010) and long term (2011-2015) reconstruction periods, ensuring good understanding of biodiversity-friendly reconstruction practices and their application will be critical to "greening" the overall reconstruction process. This output will support knowledge sourcing, design, printing, and distribution of user guide for biodiversity friendly reconstruction practices.

Output 2.4 Awareness raising of biodiversity significance of earthquake areas among decision makers and the public

33. This output will support the production of awareness raising activities including talk shows and TV interviews on biodiversity conservation and reconstruction. The target groups will include government officials, decision makers, planning experts, and public as well to improve the understanding of biodiversity values in the affected area and build consensus on biodiversity conservation objectives.

Output 2.5 Capacity building of planners, managers of reconstruction operations and workers in application of biodiversity friendly practices and techniques;

34. The project will provide on-the-job training to planners, managers and workers of the biodiversity friendly reconstruction practices and techniques.

Outcome 3. Improved monitoring capacity for biodiversity concerns in the process of disaster relief, and post quake recovery and reconstruction (GEF – US\$305,000; Government of China – US\$800,000; Third Parties - US\$50,000)

Outcome indicators:

- By April 2009, draft technical guidelines for ecological monitoring in earthquake hit areas developed to guide establishment of monitoring stations
- By April 2009, two demonstration ecological monitoring stations in operation producing the first monitoring report in June 2009;

35. Recognizing the possible threats from secondary ecological disaster and various human activities in the rescue efforts and post-quake reconstruction, an information and monitoring system on environment and ecological risk, integrating biodiversity concerns, will be developed to understand the dynamics of the risk posed on biodiversity. Information collected will provide feedback on the effectiveness of ecological rehabilitation and PA management. The system will be based on existing environment monitoring network with additional emphasis on monitoring vegetation rehabilitation, key protected areas, secondary disaster, and reconstruction activities. The project will help to develop the construction plan of the system including the station distribution, equipping, indicator system and staff training and ecological monitoring technical guidelines. Up to two pilot stations will then be established as demonstrations.

36. The major outputs in this outcome include:

Output 3.1 Development of ecological monitoring technical guidelines

37. Under this output, a reconstruction plan for monitoring stations and guidelines for ecological monitoring will be developed with the ultimate objective of producing reliable data on effectiveness of ecological services after the earthquake and after overall reconstruction activities.

Output 3.2: Establishment and operation of monitoring stations

38. This output will identify up to two monitoring sites as demonstrations, help design the monitoring plan, and provide equipment support to run such stations. Technical experts will train staff of the demonstration stations to use the newly developed technical guidelines in monitoring environmental and ecological status and threats. Assistance will also be provided in data analysis and production of monitoring reports.

39. Component 3: Planning, Prioritization and Budgeting Framework to achieve strengthened PA management. (GEF – US\$348,000; Government of China – US\$500,000; Third Parties - US\$146,800)

40. The project will work closely with related stakeholders, particularly the provincial departments of forestry and environment, and NGOs, to develop a planning, prioritization and budgeting framework for the rehabilitation of infrastructure and equipment and to meet other priority needs of protected areas to enable them to operate effectively. There are two Outcomes under this Component, as follows:

Outcome 4: Development of PA reconstruction framework with prioritized actions for investment by government, and national and international communities (GEF – US\$88,000; Government of China – US\$100,000; Third Parties - US\$66,000)

Outcome indicators:

- By December 2008, PA system reconstruction plan with prioritized actions developed in consultation with government and international communities and approved by relevant agencies
- By June 2009, Sichuan biodiversity strategy and action plan, developed taking into consideration post-earthquake changes in ecosystems, is adopted by the provincial government

41. The major outputs in this outcome include:

Output 4.1 Reconstruction plan of PA system with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities;

42. Consultations will be held with local PA staff and other national and international stakeholders to identify key issue and to prioritize them for action. These will be costed, opportunities for cost savings will be identified and an overall PA financing plan will be developed focusing on investment by the government and others. It is expected that this financing plan or framework will then be approved by Sichuan government for implementation by the government with the support of the international community.

Output 4.2 Updating draft biodiversity strategy and action plan

43. TNC and Sichuan EPB developed the first Sichuan Provincial BSAP jointly. To address the impacts of the earthquake, the project will support the reformulation of the Sichuan BSAP to help prioritize actions for the first year of implementation during earthquake recovery and reconstruction efforts, and support specific actions related to mitigating earthquake induced threats to global biodiversity in the affected area.

Outcome 5: Revitalized management capacity in demonstration PAs in affected areas (GEF – US\$260,000; Government of China – US\$400,000; Third Parties - US\$80,800)

Outcome indicators:

- By June 2009, selected priority actions implemented in at least two key nature reserves
- By June 2009, experience and lessons on emergency earthquake response measures for biodiversity conservation collated and shared.

44. The major outputs in this outcome include:

Output 5.1 planning and implementation of selected priority actions in 2 selected NNRs in project area

45. The project will help implement priority actions identified through the BSAP process in at least two selected national nature reserves in the project area. Examples of actions include development of adapted management plan, biodiversity corridor plan, rescue of endangered species, restoration of conservation facilities, critical habitat rehabilitation and training. The selection criteria on both protected areas and priority actions will be developed and agreed among the stakeholders and will emphasize global biodiversity values.

Output 5.2 Synthesis of experiences and lessons of biodiversity conservation measures in emergency situations

46. By the end of the project, a workshop will be held to present and review the experiences and lessons from this emergency response programme for biodiversity conservation, based on which a manual will be produced for knowledge sharing and replication.

Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (GEF – US\$46,000; Government of China – US\$96,000) 项目管理, 监测和评价 (全球环境基金-46,000 美元; 中国政府-96,000 美元)

47. This component supports the operation of the Project Management Office in human resources input, audit and independent terminal evaluation and other activities to facilitate this project's implementation. Government co-finance for this project component includes the office space for the PMO, provision of office facilities and furniture, human resources input of Project Director, one administrative assistant, one cashier and one financial officer.

Project Indicators, Risks and Assumptions

48. The major risk facing the achievement of outcomes is the need to ensure timely alignment of project support activities with overall government actions for post quake recovery and reconstruction. Major risk exists in that biodiversity issues will not be sufficiently mainstreamed into overall recovery and reconstruction efforts unless urgent actions are taken to commence the biodiversity assessment and mainstreaming process. Furthermore, severe ecological impacts need prompt actions in order to ensure effective rehabilitation and longer-term recovery, with risks that ineffective action will lead to permanently affected ecosystem functions. Several measures have been taken to mitigate such risks both in project preparation and implementation, including site visits and in-depth discussions with provincial government partners and NGOs to ensure alignment with overall timing of local planning activities. Furthermore, expedited administrative procedures have been arranged by the local SCEPB in order to start the project immediately after approval. Therefore recommendations will be prepared and submitted to government in a timely manner based on the rapid assessment of biodiversity in Component 1.

49. The indicators for project success include:

- proper application of biodiversity friendly practices demonstrated in earthquake recovery and reconstruction operations in 2 quake-affected counties by the mid-term of the project and in 29 quake-affected counties at the end of the project;

- at least 134,000 hectares of Giant Panda habitats (including 34,000 hectares of destroyed habitats) are included in the ecological rehabilitation plan of the master plan for reconstruction;
- at the end of project, patrolling and monitoring capacity of 10 protected areas will be resumed providing first-hand data on population and habitats of 10 flagship species;
- knowledge and best practices from biodiversity response measures within the Wenchuan earthquake synthesized for replication in other earthquake affected areas in Wenchuan and elsewhere in the world;
- relief efforts of 80% of agencies and organizations in relation to biodiversity conservation in quake-affected areas are coordinated.

Incremental reasoning and expected global, national and local benefits

50. While baseline co-financing will focus on environmentally-sound planning and actions in a broad sense for post-quake sustainable development benefits, GEF incremental support will focus on ensuring globally significant biodiversity conservation and removal of barriers noted above in this project document. With the building of necessary capacity and integrated planning, the project will support long term impacts in the post-quake reconstruction to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources in Sichuan. Moreover, the awareness of Chinese society will also be raised for environmental efforts following natural disasters, and best practices and models will be disseminated through the awareness-raising activities and mechanisms of CBPF.

51. The support from the GEF to this project will ensure that any reconstruction plans for earthquake-affected areas will be developed with full consideration for global biodiversity values building on global best practices in this regard. In a business as usual situation, without project intervention, reconstruction efforts may pay less attention to biodiversity impacts and the efforts of stakeholders working for biodiversity conservation will remain poorly harmonized. The threats described in a previous section would continue and while Government will provide funding for infrastructure, it would first address human needs through disaster relief. A delay in the integration of biodiversity conservation objectives into the relief efforts will increase the risk that such efforts will have negative externalities for biodiversity. The incrementality comes from ensuring that biodiversity conservation is factored into the recovery programme, thus avoiding the said risks.

52. Secondly the GEF support for the development of planning framework of PA system in the affected area and the related implementation of priority actions and contribute to the CBD objectives. Without GEF support, nature reserve reconstruction may be carried out in an ad hoc manner without comprehensive approaches and without the use of best global practices. The incrementality comes from the better conservation of globally significant biodiversity through the enhanced capacity and coordination.

53. This project is designed as a short-term emergency measure. It will generate significant global environmental benefits by mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into government reconstruction master plans. This will ensure that reconstruction investments will not increase pressures on globally significant biodiversity, for example through the placement of infrastructure or new settlements in sensitive areas. Moreover, the project will develop the response capacity of the national government and provincial departments to address current threats to biodiversity, occurring as a result of the Earthquake. This is critical to reduce stress on wildlife populations, the breeding success of which has likely been compromised by the earthquake but also to deal with the fact that displaced communities are placing pressure on natural resources. Most of international experiences about post-quake measures are about disaster relief and rebuilding, while biodiversity conservation are largely neglected. The project can provide an excellent example for similar biodiversity crisis and have a highly significant demonstration effect.

Country Ownership: Country Eligibility and Country Drivenness

54. China ratified the Biodiversity Convention on 5 January 1993 and is eligible to receive funding from the GEF. The project has been endorsed by China's GEF Operational Focal Point (see attached endorsement letters).

55. The project is fully supported by the local Sichuan Environmental Protection Bureau. On May 28, the National Post-disaster Reconstruction Planning Group initiated the planning process for recovery and reconstruction. Recognizing the importance of environmental sound measures, the government has taken a transparent and consultative approach in formulating the reconstruction plan. Comments and initial recommendations to inform the reconstruction plan will be provided by August, 2008. All related line ministries have started to take stock of losses from the disaster and to develop post-disaster recovery and reconstruction plans. The MEP is tasked with undertaking an ecological and environmental impact assessment and planning of ecological environment restoration and reconstruction in affected areas as articulated Part A. This project is, therefore, a top priority of the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

56. The project is also consistent with the three themes of the China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework for Action which is designed as an "Umbrella Programme" to support conservation efforts under a programmatic approach in China i.e. Theme 2: Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Socio-Economic Sectors, Plans and Investment Decision-Making; Theme 3: Investing and Managing Effectively in Reducing Biodiversity loss in Protected Areas and Theme 4: Investing and Managing Effectively in Reducing Biodiversity loss outside Protected Areas.

57. Mainstreaming environment into national development agenda are is a priority for UNDP in China under the environment and sustainable development component of its Strategic Plan for 2008-2011. UNDP supports capacity development to ensure environmental issues are taken into account in drawing up and implementing national policies, strategies and programmes, and in the case of this project, formulating and implementing master plan for reconstruction and restoration.

Sustainability

58. The project was designed to support the government's planning for the long term process of the post quake recovery and reconstruction. The project aims to mainstream biodiversity into the government master plan to ensure the government and related investment are environmentally sound and biodiversity conservation friendly. The capacity building of related government agencies and nature reserve will have a long term impact for the biodiversity conservation in the process of post quake reconstruction. The project also seeks to support sustainable funding of its project activities through continued government and other agencies' investments beyond project end. Therefore, the project activities are considered sustainable.

Replicability

59. The project has paid close attention to its Replicability of its activities. Several of the project activities are designed as demonstrations so that they can be replicated easily within the larger earthquake affected areas within Sichuan and outside. For example, the environmental and ecological risk monitoring system with biodiversity concerns in the post-quake reconstruction process is a new practice in China. The demonstration of ecosystem monitoring station by this project will be replicated throughout the whole system by the government. Similarly, there are more than 30 nature reserves within the project areas, and all of which were damaged by the earthquake to different degrees. The selected two national nature reserves demonstration in terms of revitalizing management capacity will provide good models for the rest of nature reserves in quake affected area and capacity building of other PA staff. More importantly, lessons from this project are going to be invaluable in developing response measures for other such disasters in future. The involvement of MEP/FECO in this project will ensure that such lessons are used for future disasters and the established CBPF mechanism provides one such a good basis in terms of the project replicability nationally in China and worldwide.

Coordination between partners

60. The project has been designed through strong coordination between government agencies and relevant partners at national level and in Sichuan. The project will strengthen the coordination between local government agencies in particular SCEPB and Sichuan Forestry Bureau (SCFB), and between provincial government agencies, international organizations, and NGOs active in the earthquake affected areas. Organizationally, a Project Coordination Group will be established to include key government agencies in Sichuan as members, and WWF China, TNC, Shan Shui and TMI as observers, ensuring transparent decision making on project implementation. Each project partner, including those providing co-financing support, will participate in review of the Annual Workplan and Terms of Reference of each assignment. SCFB and partners of the project have undertaken assessment of earthquake impact on forestry, wildlife, plant, nature reserves and tourism, and coordination meetings will be held in implementation of component 1 for stocktaking of completed and on-going activities and gap identification. For component 2, the project will maintain a close cooperation with Sichuan Provincial Planning Group for Post-quake Recovery and Reconstruction coordinated by the Sichuan Development and Reform Commission in determining the user guide of biodiversity friendly recovery and reconstruction practices and integration of ecological function conservation area into provincial land use plans. UNDP China will maintain the coordination mechanism within the UN system and donor community through regular information sharing on progress and results of earthquake relief work under the theme of environment. This coordination channel will be utilized to ensure the coherence of planned activities undertaken by other international partners.

Part III: Management Arrangements

61. The project will work closely with the central and provincial governments and other related stakeholders. On behalf of Ministry of Environment Protection, the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO), which also houses the CBPF Secretariat, will act as Project Coordinator for the project and maintain linkage between the central government and the provincial government.

62. A Project Coordination Group (PCG) will be established to oversee project management. The PCG members will include SCEPB and other necessary agencies critical to the success and replication of project results, such as the Provincial Development and Reform Commission, Department of Finance, Department of Land Resources, Department of Construction, Department of Water Resources, Department of Forestry, Department of Agriculture, Department of Tourism and UNDP. WWF, TNC, CI, TMI and other NGOs providing co-financing to the project will have observer status in the PCG. The PCG will meet according to project needs and be responsible for ensuring that project outcomes are fed into the reconstruction mater plan and reconstruction actions undertaken by relevant sectors taking – particularly so that they take into account biodiversity conservation objectives. Specifically, the PCG will be responsible for overseeing the operation of the project, coordination and communication among the executing agency and other partners, providing policy guidance and reviewing the project progress.

63. The Sichuan Provincial Planning Group for Post-quake Recovery and Reconstruction (SCPPG) established under the leadership of the Vice Governor of Sichuan Province is responsible for coordinating the development of the Master Plan. The Provincial Development and Reform Commission is the leading agency of the Group with members for related provincial departments including SCEPB and SCFB. This Group will review and oversee the formulation and implementation of important policy documents submitted by the project. The SCEPB will act as liaison between the project and the Group.

64. The SCEPB will serve as the Implement Partner (IP) responsible for use of funds and compliance of all activities with UNDP National Execution (NEX) rules and procedures. SCEPB will be responsible for daily management of project implementation, supported by a Project Management Office (PMO) established within the Sichuan EPB. The PMO will be headed by the National Project Director (NPD) at

Deputy Director General level nominated by SCEPB. A project manager will be recruited, to be responsible for project planning, reporting, and mobilization of inputs to the project, supervision of three assistants and one awareness-raising expert. In each of the selected demonstration national nature reserves, site assistants will be appointed to act as liaison between nature reserves and the PMO.

65. SCFB is a key player in nature reserve related activities particularly implementation of the Outcome 4 and Outcome 5, and thus will be involved in annual work planning, selection of subcontractors to undertake activities under Outcome 4 and 5, and in sharing data related to the impacts of earthquake on nature reserve and wildlife.

66. One Expert Team on post-disaster assessment and biodiversity conservation will be established consisting of eminent scientists and conservation biologists recruited by the project. One representative each from co-financing partner including WWF, TNC, Shan Shui Centre for Nature and Society (Shan Shui) and TMI will participate in this Team. The expert team will be responsible for providing technical service for the project implementation and ensuring the quality of project technical deliveries. A Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will be recruited as the lead expert, who will report to Project Manager and issues tasks to team members upon approval by the PSC.

67. Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO) of MEP will serve as a Cooperating Agency and execute the GEF Fund of US \$ 909,000 through FECO account (Account No.: 08750712-14-00301-0023-18). FECO will also provide administrative and financial management support to SCEPB in submission of annual and quarterly workplans and quarterly financial reports (FACE) to UNDP requesting quarterly advance payment and ensuring UNDP National Execution (NEX) and Results Management Guidelines (RMG) rules and procedures are followed for in project reporting, procurement and recruitment of project personnel and technical inputs.

68. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, will ensure high-quality technically and financially implementing of the project through its country office (UNDP China), and provide project assurance and support in accordance with UNDP NEX procedures, rules and regulations. UNDP will be responsible for ensuring proper use of GEF funds to assigned activities, monitoring the project implementation progress, and facilitating project evaluations, etc.

69. In order to accord proper acknowledgement to GEF and UNDP for providing funding, GEF and UNDP logos should appear on all relevant project publications and equipment purchased through UNDP/GEF project funds.

Part IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

70. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP Results Management Guidelines (RMG) and National Execution (NEX) rules and procedures, and GEF procedures, and will be performed by the SCEPB with support from FECO/MEP and UNDP China. The Logical Framework Matrix in Section II provides performance and impact indicators for project implementation with their corresponding means of verification. These will form the basis on which the project's Monitoring and Evaluation system will be built.

71. The following sections outline the principle components of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and indicative cost estimates related to M&E activities. The project's Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be finalized during Project's Inception following fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification, and the full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

1. MONITORING AND REPORTING

1.1. Project Inception Phase

72. *A Project Inception Workshop (IW)* will be conducted by SCEPB, involving relevant government counterparts, co-financing partners, the UNDP-CO and, if possible, with representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit as well as UNDP-GEF (HQs).

73. One key goal of this Inception Workshop will be to assist the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goals and objectives, as well as to finalize the project's first annual work plan based on the project's logframe matrix. This will include reviewing the logframe (indicators, means of verification, assumptions), imparting additional detail as needed, and on finalize the Annual Work Plan (AWP) with precise and measurable performance indicators, and in a manner consistent with the expected outcomes for the project.

74. Additionally, the purpose of the Inception Workshop (IW) will be to: (i) introduce project staff with the wider UNDP-GEF team, which will support the project during its implementation (namely the CO and responsible Regional Coordinating Unit staff) (ii) detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP-CO and RCU staff vis à vis the project team; (iii) provide detailed overview of UNDP-GEF reporting and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, with particular emphasis on the annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, the Annual Project Report (APR), Tripartite Review Meetings, as well as the final evaluation. Equally, the IW will provide an opportunity to inform the project team on UNDP project related budgetary planning, budget reviews, and mandatory budget rephasings procedures.

75. The IW will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. The Terms of Reference for project staff and decision-making structures will be discussed, as needed, to clarify each party's responsibilities during the project's implementation phase.

1.2. Monitoring responsibilities and events

76. A detailed schedule of project review meetings will be developed by the Project Manager, in consultation with project partners and stakeholders and will be included in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: (i) tentative time frames for Tripartite Reviews, Steering Committee Meetings, (or relevant advisory and/or coordination mechanisms) and (ii) project related Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

77. *Day to day monitoring of implementation progress* will be the responsibility of the National Project Director (NPD) based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The NPD will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be implemented.

78. The NPD, Project Manager and the CTA will fine-tune the project's progress and performance/impact indicators in consultation with the full project team with support from UNDP-CO and assisted by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU). The local implementing agencies will be key participants at this Inception Workshop. Measurements of impact indicators related to global benefits will occur according to the schedules defined in the Inception Report and are tentatively outlined in the indicative Impact Measurement Template. These will be measured through subcontracts or retainers with relevant institutions (e.g. vegetation cover via analysis of satellite imagery, or populations of key species through inventories) or through specific studies commissioned by the project (e.g. measurement carbon benefits from improved efficiency of ovens or through surveys for capacity building efforts) or periodic sampling.

79. Periodic monitoring of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNDP-CO through quarterly meetings with the project proponent, or more frequently as deemed necessary. This will allow parties to take stock and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure smooth implementation of project activities.

80. UNDP Country Office (and UNDP-GEF RCUs as appropriate) will conduct visits to projects that have field sites based on agreed schedules to be detailed in the project's Inception Report / Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Any other member of the Steering Committee can also accompany, as decided by the SC. A Field Visit Report will be prepared by the CO and circulated to all SC members and UNDP-GEF within one month after the visit.

81. Annual Monitoring will occur through the Annual Project Report Review (APRR). This is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The project will be subject to APRR at least once every year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months of the start of full implementation. The project proponent will prepare an Annual Project Report (APR) and submit it to UNDP-CO and the UNDP-GEF regional office at least two weeks prior to the APRR for review and comments.

82. The APR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the APRR meeting. The project proponent will present the APR to the APRR, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of participants. The project executors will also inform the participants of any agreement reached by stakeholders during the APR preparation on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted, if necessary.

Terminal Tripartite Review (TTR)

83. The terminal tripartite review will be held in the last month of project operations. The project executors will be responsible for preparing the Terminal Report and submitting it to UNDP-CO and UNDP-GEF RCU. A draft report will be prepared at least two months before the TTR in order to allow review, and will serve as the basis for discussions at the TTR meeting. The terminal tripartite review will consider the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the project has achieved its stated objectives and contributed to the broader environmental objective. It will decide whether any actions are still necessary, particularly in relation to sustainability of project results, and will act as an additional mechanism through which lessons learnt can be captured and fed into other projects under implementation of formulation.

1.3. Project Monitoring Reporting

84. The Project Coordinator will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process. Items (a) through (f) are mandatory and strictly related to monitoring, while (g) through (h) have a broader function and the frequency and nature is project specific to be defined throughout implementation.

(a) Inception Report (IR)

85. A draft Project Inception Report will be prepared and presented at the Inception Workshop and finalized following comments from IW participants. It will include a detailed Annual Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames detailing activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the project implementation. This Work Plan will include the dates of specific field visits, support missions from the UNDP-CO or the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) or consultants, as well as time frames for meetings of the project's decision making structures. The Report will also include the detailed annual project budget, prepared based on the Annual Work Plan, and including any monitoring and evaluation requirements to effectively measure project performance during the targeted 12 months time-frame.

86. The Inception Report will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners. In addition, a

section will be included on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may effect project implementation.

87. When finalized, the report will be circulated to project counterparts who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries. Prior to this circulation of the IR, the UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF's Regional Coordinating Unit will review the document.

(b) Annual Project Report (APR)

88. The APR is an UNDP requirement and part of UNDP's Country Office central oversight, monitoring and project management. It is a self-assessment report by the project Execution Partners and provides input to the country office reporting process as well as forming a key input to the APRR. An APR will be prepared on an annual basis prior to the APRR, to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work.

89. The format of the APR is flexible but should include the following:

- An analysis of project performance over the reporting period, including outputs produced and, where possible, information on the status of the outcome
- The constraints experienced in the progress towards results and the reasons for these
- The three (at most) major constraints to achievement of results
- AWP, CAE and other expenditure reports (ERP generated)
- Lessons learned
- Clear recommendations for future orientation in addressing key problems in lack of progress

(c) Project Implementation Review (PIR)

90. The PIR is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF. It has become an essential management and monitoring tool for project managers and offers an opportunity for extracting lessons from ongoing projects. Once the project has been under implementation for a year, a Project Implementation Report must be completed by the project execution partner of the project. The PIR can be prepared any time during the year (July-June) and ideally prior to the APRR. The PIR should then be discussed in the APRR so that the result would be a PIR that has been agreed upon by the project execution partner and the UNDP CO. The PIRs are rated by the CO and by the UNDP/ GEF RCU.

91. The individual PIRs are collected, reviewed and analysed by the UNDP/GEF RCU prior to sending them to UNDP/GEF headquarters. UNDP/GEF headquarters analyse the PIRs by focal area, theme and region for common issues/results and lessons.

92. The GEF M&E Unit provides the scope and content of the PIR. In light of the similarities of both APR and PIR, UNDP/GEF has prepared a harmonized format for reference.

(d) Quarterly Progress Reports (QOR)

93. Short reports outlining main updates in project progress will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF regional office by the Implementing Partner.

(e) Periodic Thematic Reports

94. As and when called for by UNDP, UNDP-GEF or the execution partners, the project team will prepare specific Thematic Reports, focusing on specific issues or areas of activity. The written request for a Thematic Report will be provided to the project team by UNDP and will clearly state the issue or activities to be reported on. These reports can be used as a form of lessons learnt exercise, specific oversight in key areas, or as troubleshooting exercises to evaluate and overcome obstacles and difficulties encountered. Such reports are to be only requested when necessary and the request will allow reasonable preparation time by the project team.

(f) Project Terminal Report

95. During the last three months of the project the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will summarize all activities, achievements and outputs of the Project, lessons learnt, objectives met, or not achieved, structures and systems implemented, etc. and will be the definitive statement of the Project's activities during its lifetime. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the Project's activities.

(g) Technical Reports

96. Technical Reports are detailed documents covering specific areas of analysis or scientific specializations. As part of the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft list of reports to be prepared, outlining their contents, purposes, responsible agencies and tentative due dates. Where necessary this Reports List will be revised and updated. Technical Reports may also be prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive, specialized analyses of clearly defined areas of research within the framework of the project objectives. These technical reports will represent the project's substantive contribution to specific areas or themes, and may be used to disseminate relevant information and best practices.

(h) Project Publications

97. Project Publications will form a key method of crystallizing and disseminating the results and achievements of the Project. These publications may be scientific or informational texts on the activities and achievements of the Project, in the form of journal articles, multimedia publications, etc. These publications can be based on Technical Reports, depending upon the relevance, scientific worth, or may be summaries or compilations of a series of Technical Reports and other research. The project team will determine if any of the Technical Reports merit formal publication, and will also (in consultation with UNDP, the government and other relevant stakeholder groups) plan and produce these publications in a consistent and recognizable format. Project resources will need to be defined and allocated for these activities as appropriate and in a manner commensurate with the project's budget.

2. INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

98. The project will be subjected to one independent external evaluations as follows:-

(i) Final Evaluation

99. An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting as per GEF guidelines. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF.

Audit Clause

100. The Government will provide the Resident Representative with certified periodic financial statements, and with an annual audit of the financial statements relating to the status of UNDP (including GEF) funds according to the established procedures set out in the Programming and Finance manuals. The Audit will be conducted by the legally recognized auditor of the Government, or by a commercial auditor engaged by the Government.

3. LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

101. Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through a number of existing information sharing networks and forums. In addition:

- ◆ The project will participate, as relevant and appropriate, in UNDP/GEF sponsored networks, organized for Senior Personnel working on projects that share common characteristics. UNDP/GEF shall establish a number of networks, such as Integrated Ecosystem Management, eco-tourism, co-management, etc, that will largely function on the basis of an electronic platform.
- ◆ The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned.

102. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Identify and analyzing lessons learned is an on-going process, and the need to communicate such lessons as one of the project's central contributions is a requirement to be delivered not less frequently than once every 12 months. UNDP/GEF shall provide a format and assist the project team in categorizing, documenting and reporting on lessons learned. To this end a percentage of project resources will need to be allocated for these activities.

TABLE 1: INDICATIVE MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORK PLAN AND CORRESPONDING BUDGET

| Type of M&E activity | Output | Responsible Parties | Budget US\$ | Time frame |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------|---|
| Inception meeting (First PSC meeting) | Inception Report | Project Management Office UNDP CO UNDP-GEF (RCU) | 2,000 | Within one month after project start-up |
| Quarterly progress monitoring | Quarterly Progress reports | Project Management Office UNDP CO | None | quarterly |
| Tripartite Review | Annual Project Report | Project Management Office UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF (RCU) | 2,000 | at the end of the first calendar year |
| Terminal project review/Project implementation review (PIR) | Terminal Report/PIR | Project Management Office UNDP CO UNDP-GEF RCU | 2000 | Once at the end of the project |
| Project Audit | Audit Report | UNDP-CO Project Management Office | 3,000 | First quarter of each year |
| Independent Terminal Evaluation | Terminal evaluation report | UNDP CO Project Management Office UNDP-GEF RCU | 5,000 | At the end of project |
| TOTAL INDICATIVE COST (excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff) | | | 14,000 | |

Part V: Legal Context

103. This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of China and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 29 June 1979. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

104. The UNDP Resident Representative in China is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- a) Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
- b) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
- c) Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK SRF AND GEF INCREMENT

| Objectively Verifiable Indicators(OVI) | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Project Strategy | Objectively Verifiable Indicators(OVI) | | | | | |
| Goal | The overall goal of the project is to conserve critical ecosystems and their associated threatened and endangered species in the quake-hit region and mitigate the loss of biodiversity as a result of the earthquake | | | | | |
| Objective | Baseline | Target | Sources of Verification | Risks and Assumptions | | |
| <p>The project objective is to mainstream biodiversity in the post-quake recovery and reconstruction process and strengthen protected area system with demonstrations in the quake-hit regions of Sichuan Province</p> | <p>Objective Verifiable Indicator (OVI)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. proper application of biodiversity friendly practices demonstrated in earthquake recovery and reconstruction operations in 2 quake-affected counties by the mid-term of the project and in 29 quake-affected counties at the end of the project; 2. at least 134,000 hectares of Giant Panda habitats (including 34,000 hectares of destroyed habitats) are included in the ecological rehabilitation plan of the master plan for reconstruction; 3. at the end of project, patrolling and monitoring capacity of 10 protected areas will be resumed providing first-hand data on population and habitats of 10 flagship species; 4. knowledge and best practices from biodiversity response measures within the Wenchuan earthquake synthesized for replication in other earthquake affected areas in Wenchuan and elsewhere in the world; 5. relief efforts of 80% of agencies and organizations in relation to biodiversity conservation in quake-affected areas are coordinated. | <p>Baseline</p> <p>Biodiversity friendly recovery and reconstruction practices are not properly applied in operations Rehabilitation of damaged and affected panda habitats assessed but is not included in the ecological rehabilitation plan; Relief efforts of stakeholders in PAs of quake-affected areas are poorly coordinated Patrolling and monitoring are not regularly conducted in PAs. No knowledge product in China related with biodiversity rehabilitation from earthquake.</p> | <p>Target</p> <p>See OVI column</p> | <p>Sources of Verification</p> <p>Technical reports delivered by the project; Related plans published by government; Monitoring and assessment report on biodiversity published quarterly.</p> | <p>Risks and Assumptions</p> <p>Biodiversity conservation being listed as one of factors in government agenda for post-quake recovery and reconstruction. Biodiversity management objectives are not fully incorporated in the related sectoral plans and projects due to time constraints. (Risk level: medium)</p> | |
| <i>Component 1: Rapid assessment of earthquake induced impacts on critical habitats in affected areas</i> | | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Outcome 1: knowledge and understanding improved and information gaps filled on the earthquake induced impacts and post-quake ecological risks of biodiversity in affected areas</p> | <p>1.1 By October 2008, earthquake impact on breeding success of 10 critical endangered species and their habitats assessed and counterpart measures proposed. 1.2 By October 2008, losses of all NNR in projected area taken stock of and threats from and opportunities for community livelihoods proposed.</p> | <p>Very limited knowledge on the related impact to endangered species on the ground in the affected area.</p> | <p>Adequate knowledge acquired on at least 10 critical species. All NNR losses identified</p> | <p>Related workshops minutes Investigation reports; Related technical reports.</p> | <p>Top quality experts are available and their time input can be ensured. Recommendations and options are practical with the post disaster situation.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.1 Survey and impact assessment of critical endangered species, damage to habitats, infrastructure loss of all NNRs, and local threats from communities; <i>Activity 1.1.1 biodiversity assessment in applying the long-held participatory method in natural reserve and community research and decision making to coordinate the relationships among government agencies, technical departments and the communities.(TMI)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.2 community assessment in Longxi-hongkou Nature Reserve together with the reserve to identify pilot communities for green reconstruction (WWF China)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.3 assessment of the impact of the earthquake on panda habits and the ecosystems in the habitats with remote sensing technology (WWF China)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.4 trainings to Sichuan nature reserve staff in conducting rapid environmental assessment and community assessment for better-informed decision-making (WWF China)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.5 assessment of earthquake impact on vegetation, forest, panda nature reserves and forests; (UNDP)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.6 planning workshop on PA and social-economic impact assessment and gap identification; (GEF)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.7 on the ground assessment of identified gaps in habitats, species and PA infrastructure in two selected nature reserves; (GEF)</i> <i>Activity 1.1.8 livelihood of communities and impact on ecosystems in project area in communities of the two selected nature reserves; (GEF)</i></p> | | | | | |
| <p>Component 2: mainstreaming biodiversity into post-disaster recovery and reconstruction process in affected areas</p> | | | | | |
| <p>Outcome 2: recovery and reconstruction plans in project areas incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives</p> | <p>2.1 By November 2008, recommendations on new ecological function conservation areas are proposed; 2.2 By October 2008, Sichuan earthquake ecological rehabilitation plan prepared and improved; 2.3 by end of September 2008, user's guide for biodiversity friendly recovery and reconstruction practices prepared and printed for distribution; 2.4 awareness of biodiversity significance of earthquake hit areas improved among decision makers, planners and the public; 2.5 on-site trainings to 50 planners, 200 managers and 10,000 staff on integrating biodiversity into recovery and reconstruction operations</p> | <p>None</p> | <p>See OVI column</p> | <p>Related joint meeting minutes; Published user guide; quarterly progress reports; News reporting and talks shows Biodiversity brochures and pamphlets</p> | <p>Top quality experts are available and their time input can be ensured. Recommendations and options are practical with the post disaster situation. Managers and planners are willingness to consider biodiversity into their practical work</p> |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| <p>Outcome 4: Development of PA reconstruction framework with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities</p> | <p>4.1 By December 2008, PA system reconstruction plan with prioritized actions developed and approved by relevant agencies in consultation with government and international communities 4.2 By June 2009, Sichuan biodiversity strategy and action plan taking into consideration of earthquake is adopted by provincial government</p> | <p>None</p> | <p>See OVI column</p> | <p>Reformulated BSAP in Sichuan Province; Related project technical deliverables; Related meeting minutes.</p> | <p>High level coordination and commitment among government and international communities</p> |
| <p>Output 4.1 Developing reconstruction plan of PA system with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities; Activity 4.2.1 consultation meetings on scope, methodologies, prioritization and budgeting of the PA reconstruction framework (GEF) Activity 4.2.2 technical input to framework planning (GEF)</p> | | | | | |
| <p>Output 4.2 updating draft biodiversity strategy and action plan Activity 4.1.1 stocking taking of existing information about biodiversity in the project areas and gap analysis (GEF) Activity 4.1.2 data collection, analysis and updating existing draft provincial strategy and action plan (GEF) Activity 4.1.3 stakeholder consultation for finalizing BSAP (GEF)</p> | | | | | |
| <p>Outcome 5: Revitalized management capacity in demonstration PAs in affected areas</p> | <p>5.1 By June 2009, experience and lessons in emergency earthquake response measures for biodiversity conservation developed ; 5.2 By June 2009, selected priority actions implemented in the 2 identified nature reserves.</p> | <p>No demonstration model in place</p> | <p>See OVI column</p> | <p>Knowledge product of response measures to earthquake Increased management effectiveness measured by individual PA scorecards; Project progress reports with field verification</p> | <p>Access to the nature reserves can be maintained and improved.</p> |
| <p>Output 5.1 planning and implementation of selected priority actions in 2 selected NNRs in project area. Activity 5.1.1 supply of patented quake-proof, environmental-friendly brick-making machine, Fastblock Machine for the recovery and reconstruction of the nature reserves in the quake hit zone and surrounding areas of these nature reserves and associate technical training in application (TMI) Activity 5.1.2 needs assessment and procurement of priority equipment and goods to resume management capacity of local EPBs (GEF) Activity 5.1.3 to establish 5 pilot sites of community-based reconstruction centre of conservation civilization (Shan Shui) Output 5.2 synthesizing experiences and lessons of biodiversity conservation measures in emergency situations Activity 5.2.1 knowledge sharing workshop for biodiversity conservation objectives in earthquake disaster situations (GEF) Activity 5.2.2 consolidating of experiences and printing of knowledge product for replication (GEF)</p> | | | | | |

SECTION III: TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------|-------|-----|-------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| Award ID: | 00050526/00062480 | | | | | | | | | |
| Award Title: | PIMS 4187 BD MSP Emergency Biodiversity Conservation Measures for the Recovery and Reconstruction of Wenchuan Earthquake in Sichuan Province | | | | | | | | | |
| Business Unit: | CHN10 | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Title: | PIMS 4187 BD MSP Emergency Biodiversity Conservation Measures for the Recovery and Reconstruction of Wenchuan Earthquake in Sichuan Province | | | | | | | | | |
| Implementing Partner (Executing Agency) | Sichuan Provincial Environment Protection Bureau (SCEPB) | | | | | | | | | |
| Responsible Party: Sichuan Provincial Environment Protection Bureau (SCEPB) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1: knowledge and understanding improved and information gaps filled on the earthquake induced impacts and post-quake ecological risks of biodiversity in affected areas | | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | Local Consultants | 15,000 | 0 | 15,000 | |
| | | | | | 72100 | Contractual Services | 70,000 | 0 | 70,000 | |
| | | | | | | Total Outcome 1 | 85,000 | 0 | 85,000 | |
| Outcome 2: recovery and reconstruction plans in project areas incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives | | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | Local Consultants | 10,000 | 5,000 | 15,000 | |
| | | | | | 72100 | Contractual services | 60,000 | 50,000 | 110,000 | |
| | | | | | | Total Outcome 2 | 70,000 | 55,000 | 125,000 | |
| Outcome 3: environmental and ecological risks from relief measures, recovery and reconstruction are monitored and assessed. | | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | Local Consultants | 8,000 | 2,000 | 10,000 | |
| | | | | | 72100 | Contractual services | 30,000 | 5,000 | 35,000 | |
| | | | | | 72200 | Equipment & Furniture | 260,000 | 0 | 260,000 | |
| Outcome 4: Development of PA reconstruction | | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | Total Outcome 3 | 298,000 | 7,000 | 305,000 | |
| | | | | | | Local Consultants | 6,000 | 4,000 | 10,000 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-----|-------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| framework with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities | | | | | 72100 | Contractual services | 58,000 | 20,000 | 78,000 |
| | | | | | | Total Outcome 4 | 64,000 | 24,000 | 88,000 |
| Outcome 5: Revitalized management capacity as demonstration in selected PAs in affected areas | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | | Local Consultants | 0 | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| | | | | 72100 | | Equipment & furniture | 220,000 | 0 | 220,000 |
| | | | | 74500 | | Miscellaneous Expenses | 0 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| | | | | | | Total Outcome 5 | 220,000 | 40,000 | 260,000 |
| Project Management | SCEPB | 62000 | GEF | 71300 | | Local Consultants | 17,400 | 11,600 | 29,000 |
| | | | | 71600 | | Travel | 5,100 | 3,400 | 8,500 |
| | | | | 72200 | | Equipment & furniture | 8,500 | 0 | 8,500 |
| | | | | | | Total Management | 31,000 | 15,000 | 46,000 |
| | | | | | PROJECT TOTAL | 768,000 | 141,000 | 909,000 | |
| Summary of Funds: | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 768,000 | 141,000 | 909,000 |
| | | | | | | | 1,550,000 | 0 | 1,550,000 |
| | | | | | | | 90,000 | 0 | 90,000 |
| | | | | | | | 216,200 | 70,000 | 286,200 |
| | | | | | | TOTAL | 2,618,200 | 217,000 | 2,835,200 |

Summary table should include all financing of all kinds: GEF financing, co-financing, cash, in-kind, etc.

Budget Notes

General Cost Factors:

In general, national consultants (NC) are budgeted in the range \$3,000 - \$3,500 per month. This is based on UNDP standard costs. Longer term NC generally budgeted at \$3,000 per month. National assistants are budgeted at \$1,000-1,500 per month.

Outcome 1: knowledge and understanding improved and information gaps filled on the earthquake induced impacts and post-quake ecological risks of biodiversity in affected areas

1. **Local consultancy outputs** (\$15,000, consisting of 3 months of short-term consultant support at the rate of US\$3,000 /month and 2 months of long-term consultant support at US\$3,000 / month):
2. **one subcontract** (US\$70,000) has been budgeted for contractual services, to be allocated as follows:
 - Planning workshop on PA and social-economic impact assessment and gap identification ;(Activity 1.1.6 - \$5,000)
 - On the ground assessment of identified gaps in habitats, species and PA infrastructure in two selected nature reserves; (Activity 1.1.7 - \$35,000)
 - Livelihood of communities and impact on ecosystems in project area in communities of the two selected nature reserves; (Activity 1.1.8 - \$30,000)

Outcome 2: recovery and reconstruction plans in project areas incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives

3. **Local consultancy outputs** (\$15,000, consisting of 4 months of short-term consultant support at the rate of US\$3,000 /month and 1 months of long-term consultant support at US\$3,000 / month):
4. **3 Contractual services** (US\$110,000 has been budgeted for contractual services) to be allocated as follows:

Subcontract 1 – study on design of ecological function areas (US\$45,000)

- Analysis and assessment of ecological functions conservation areas in earthquake affected areas; (Activity 2.1.1 - \$40,000)
- Consultation workshop on the EFCA and associated implication to reconstruction operations; (Activity 2.1.2 - \$5,000)

Subcontract 2 – assessment of current ecological rehabilitation plans (US\$23,000)

- Assessment of the current ecological rehabilitation plan; (Activity 2.2.1 - \$3,000)
- Consultation meeting and refinement of the rehabilitation plan ;(Activity 2.2.2 - \$2,000)

Subcontract 3 – awareness raising of biodiversity significance in earthquake hit areas (US\$22,000)

- Identification of target audience, knowledge gaps and means of communication for increased understanding of biodiversity values in project areas(Activity 2.4.1 - \$1,000);
- 1 PSA development towards targeted audience (Activity 2.4.2 - \$5,000)
- Three talk shows and expert interviews to promote biodiversity friendly practices; (Activity 2.4.3 - \$4,000)
- A series of outreach activities in communities for increased understanding of biodiversity values; (Activity 2.4.4 - \$12,000)

Subcontract 4 – training of planners and managers of reconstruction operations (US\$20,000)

- Reader identification and consultation ;(Activity 2.3.1 - \$1,000)
- Design, printing and distribution of the user's guide ;(Activity 2.3.2 - \$4,000)
- A series of o- the-job training of biodiversity friendly techniques; (Activity 2.5.1 - \$15,000)

Outcome 3: environmental and ecological risks from relief measures, recovery and reconstruction are monitored and assessed.

5. **Local consultancy outputs** (\$10,000, consisting of 2 months of short-term consultant support at the rate of US\$3,500 /month and 1 months of long-term consultant support at US\$3,000 / month):
6. **one subcontract** (US\$35,000 has been budgeted for contractual services) to be allocated as follows:
 - Designing and preparation of the ecological monitoring technical guidelines (Activity 3.1.1 - \$15,000)
 - Consultation meeting on draft guidelines (Activity 3.1.2 - \$5,000)
 - Training in the monitoring activities with the newly developed technical guidelines (Activity 3.2.4 - \$10,000)
 - Production of monitoring report (Activity 3.1.1 - \$5,000)
7. **Equipment and furniture** \$260,000 has been planned under this outcome in Year 1. Specialized equipments will be needed to ecological monitoring. As the need for equipment is high because of damage caused by crashed buildings. Priority needs will be further analyzed at the beginning of the project for ecological and environmental monitoring.

Outcome 4: Development of PA reconstruction framework with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities

8. **Local consultancy outputs** (\$10,000, consisting of 2 months of short-term consultant support at the rate of US\$3,000 /month and 1 months of long-term consultant support at US\$3,000 / month):
9. **one subcontract** (US\$78,000 has been budgeted for contractual services) spread over Years 1-2 will be used to:
 - Consultation meetings on scope, methodologies, prioritization and budgeting of the PA reconstruction framework (Activity 4.1.1 - \$5,000)
 - Technical input to framework planning (Activity 4.1.2 - \$10,000)
 - Stocking taking of existing information about biodiversity in the project areas and gap analysis (Activity 4.2.1 - \$30,000)
 - Data collection, analysis and updating existing draft provincial strategy and action plan (Activity 4.2.2 - \$30,000)
 - Stakeholder consultation for finalizing BSAP (Activity 4.2.3 - \$3,000)

Outcome 5: Revitalized management capacity as demonstration in selected PAs in affected areas

10. **Local consultancy** (\$30,000, consisting of 8 months of short-term consultant support at the rate of US\$3,000 /month and 2 months of long-term consultant support at US\$3,000 / month):
 - Consultation meeting for assessment and procurement of priority equipment and goods to resume management capacity of local EPBs (GEF) (Activity 5.1.2, 3 p/m).

- Establish 5 pilot sites of community-based reconstruction center of conservation civilization (Shan Shui) (Activity 5.1.3, 5 p/m).
- Long-term technical support to implementation of Outcome 4 (2 p/m)

11. Equipment and furniture \$220,000 has been planned under this outcome in Year 1. Specialized equipment will be identified for species and PA monitoring, be identified at the beginning of the project.

12. Miscellaneous Expenses A small amount (\$10,000) has been budgeted two audits (US\$3,000, and one terminal evaluation (US\$7,000).

Project Management:

13. Local Consultants: \$29,000 has been allocated to cover the costs of staff of the Project Management Office (PMO) and an assistant.

14. Travel: A total of \$8,500 has been budgeted for travel by PMO staff and members of the expert group to the earthquake impacted area and Beijing.

15. Equipment and furniture: \$8,500 has been planned in Year 1 to provide Equipment and furniture for Project Management.

SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Part I: Approved MSP PIF



GEF

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project

THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: June 13, 2008

Re-submission Date:

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEFSEC PROJECT ID²:

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: 4187

COUNTRY(IES): P.R. China

PROJECT TITLE: Emergency Biodiversity Conservation Measures for the Recovery and Reconstruction of Wenchuan Earthquake Hit Regions in Sichuan Province

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): China Ministry of Environmental Protection -Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Sichuan Environmental Protection Bureau and other relevant agencies

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): Biodiversity

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): Short Term Response Project / BD SO 1 & BD SO 2

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: CBPF

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: The overall project objective is to conserve critical ecosystems and their associated threatened and endangered species in the quake region and mitigate the loss of biodiversity occurring as a result of the earthquake.

Indicators for success:

- 1) Environmental and ecological impact assessment of earthquake affected areas;
- 2) Biodiversity management objectives incorporated into the reconstruction process for earthquake-hit regions;
- 3) Ecological risks information and monitoring system for affected areas initiated;
- 4) Planned priority mitigation actions in affected PAs are undertaken by government and the international community;
- 5) Contingency plan and disaster recovery guideline developed for earthquake-hit regions by the end of the project.

| INDICATIVE CALENDAR | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Milestones | Expected Dates |
| Work Program (for FSP) | N/A |
| CEO Endorsement/Approval | June 2008 |
| GEF Agency Approval | July 2008 |
| Implementation Start | July 2008 |
| Mid-term Review (if planned) | N/A |
| Implementation Completion | June 2009 |

² Project ID number will be assigned initially by GEFSEC.

| <i>Project Components</i> | <i>Type</i> | Expected Outcomes | <i>Expected Outputs</i> | <i>Indicative GEF Financing*</i> | | Indicative Co-financing* | | Total (\$) |
|---|-------------|---|---|----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| | | | | <i>(\$)</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>(\$)</i> | <i>%</i> | |
| 1. Rapid assessment of earthquake induced impacts on critical habitats in affected areas | TA | 1. Impact on critical habitats (including in protected areas) in affected areas defined (breeding success of 10 critically endangered species, damage to habitats, infrastructure loss of all NNRs, local threats from communities) and community natural resource livelihood impacts determined; | 1.1 socio-economic analysis and recovery options; 1.2 remote sensing and on-site survey of impact on breeding, habitat status and infrastructure loss. | 70,000 | 23% | 240,000 | 77% | 310,000 |
| 2. Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Development Plans for Earthquake Recovery in affected areas | TA | 2, Recovery and reconstruction plans in project areas incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives 3. Environmental and ecological risks focusing on biodiversity conservation for relief measures, recovery and reconstruction are monitored and assessed | 2.1 Technical guidelines for environmental and ecological risks monitoring and assessment developed; 2.2 Assessment of environmental and ecological risks of earthquake affected areas; 2.3. Participatory integrated ecological rehabilitation and reconstruction planning; 2.4 Natural disaster recovery guidelines which incorporate biodiversity conservation objectives developed; 2.5 Assessment of effectiveness of protected area network in addressing earthquake induced threats to biodiversity; 2.6 Environmental and ecological risk information and monitoring system partially established. | 455,000 | 70% | 200,000 | 30% | 655,000 |
| 3. Planning, Prioritization and Budgeting Framework for strengthened PA | TA | 4. Planned priority actions in affected areas undertaken by government and international | 3.1 Development of PA reconstruction plan with prioritized actions for investment by government and national and international communities | 338,000 | 75% | 110,000 | 25% | 448,000 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| management | communities | 3.2 Contingency plan and recovery guideline on biodiversity for earthquake disasters developed 3.3 Implementation of selected priority actions in PA reconstruction plan | | | | | |
| | 5. Management capacity of 2 selected PAs in affected areas are revitalized | | | | | | |
| 4. Project management | | | 46,000 | 48% | 50,000 | 52% | 96,000 |
| Total Project Costs | | | 909,000 | 60% | 600,000 | 40% | 1,509,000 |

* List the \$ by project components. The percentage is the share of GEF and Co-financing respectively to the total amount for the component.

** TA = Technical Assistance; STA = Scientific & technical analysis.

B. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

| | Project Preparation* | Project | Agency Fee | Total |
|--------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| GEF | 0 | 909,000 | 90,900 | 999,900 |
| Co-financing | 0 | 600,000 | | 600,000 |
| Total | 0 | 1,509,000 | 0 | 1,599,900 |

* Please include the previously approved PDFs and planned request for new PPG, if any. Indicate the amount already approved as footnote here and if the GEF funding is from GEF-3.

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT (including project preparation amount) BY SOURCE and BY NAME (in parenthesis) if available, (\$)

| Sources of Co-financing | Type of Co-financing | Amount |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Project Government Contribution | In-kind | 50,000 |
| GEF Agency(ies) | Grant | 90,000 |
| Bilateral Aid Agency(ies) | Grant | 0 |
| Multilateral Agency(ies) | (select) | 0 |
| Private Sector | (select) | 0 |
| NGO | In-kind | 460,000 |
| Others | (select) | 0 |
| Total co-financing | | 600,000 |

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY FOCAL AREA(S), AGENCY (IES) SHARE AND COUNTRY(IES)* N/A

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. STATE THE ISSUE, HOW THE PROJECT SEEKS TO ADDRESS IT, AND THE EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED:

1. On May 12, 2008, a catastrophic earthquake with a magnitude of 8.0 on the Richter scale occurred in Sichuan, Gansu, Shanxi and Chongqing Provinces of China. Fifty-two major aftershocks ranging in magnitude from 4.4 to 6.0 were recorded within 72 hours of the main tremor. Sichuan Province, a densely populated region, was severely affected as it lay at the epicenter of the Earthquake. According to estimates provided by the Ministry of Civil Affairs, as of June 4, 2008, the Earthquake has resulted in the deaths of nearly 70,000 people, has injured more than 370,000 others, and left an estimated 18,000 missing. Six cities in Sichuan and Gansu were severely damaged and millions of people have been left homeless. The six most affected regions in Sichuan province are:

Aba, Deyang, Mianyang, Guangyuan, Chengdu, Ya'an. This is a high density populated area with more than 12 million people. The loss of life and property has been immense. Over 28 million houses, school buildings and hospitals have collapsed or need to be reinforced, and roads, railways and bridges have been destroyed. The direct economic losses are estimated at more than USD 150 billion. The earthquake has caused massive environmental damage as well, as a result of landslides, the blockage of rivers and streams and land subsidence.

2. The earthquake affected areas involve various protected areas of global biodiversity significance covering an area of 35,000 km² characterized by dramatic variations in climate and topography. The area supports a wide array of habitats, is home to the World's endemic-richest temperate flora and nearly 50 extremely endangered species and hundreds of rare species. Charismatic species include the Giant Panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) and Sichuan Partridge (*Arborophila rufipectu*). There are 59 reserves in the affected area, including 11 nature reserves and five Man and Biosphere Nature Reserves. As a consequence of the earthquake, buildings in several protected areas including the Wolong National Nature Reserve (a key protected area for the protection of Giant Pandas), have been leveled to the ground. Staff in some of these reserves lost their lives in the earthquake. Though some wildlife casualties have been reported (such as a death of a panda from the earthquake), and there is reason to believe that species such as the Giant Panda and Golden Monkey have been affected or will be affected in future (an earlier earthquake, in 1976, led to the die off of bamboo, the staple food for the Giant Panda).
3. The Central Government has developed a damage recovery strategy. The Strategy provides for eight major measures, treating the wounded, providing suitable living conditions for displaced people, preventing disease epidemics, ensuring proper disposal of the dead, preventing secondary disasters (such as from flooding if lakes caused by landslips into rivers burst their banks), restoring food production, and planning reconstruction work. Various governmental agencies, institutions, troops, NGOs, volunteers and medical professionals are involved in current efforts to evacuate people from collapsed houses, take care of the wounded, repair roads and bridges, sterilize waste and distribute food.
4. An accompanying strategy to protect biodiversity is urgently needed. Given the high devastation to people's lives, property and livelihoods, it is possible that natural resources will come under severe pressure. The ability of the Government to respond to these pressures has also been compromised. There are five related sets of problems. First, the loss of infrastructure and equipment in protected areas has seriously undermined the ability of the provincial management and protection authorities to provide routine protection and conservation functions such as enforcement, patrolling and monitoring. This means that many globally important sites are sub-optimally protected at the current time, and could suffer an increase in human induced pressures, particularly as the affected populace has lost its means of subsistence, and may harvest wild resources to compensate for lost livelihoods. Second, the breeding success of vertebrate species, in particular critically endangered species such as Giant Panda and Sichuan Partridge, is likely to have been compromised. The earthquake occurred in the late Spring during the nesting period of many birds and nursing period of young mammals. The impacts on affected populations are unknown—recovery will depend to a large extent on the ability to curtail secondary threats such as hunting. Third, the Government of China and its partners will spend tens of billions of Renminbi on earthquake reconstruction. This will include resettling people, building new infrastructure such as roads and housing on a huge scale. Unless planned in a manner that considers biodiversity values, this has the potential to increase pressures on wild areas in terms of placement of roads in sensitive areas, or settlements adjacent to sensitive forest blocks. Therefore, measures are to be taken to ensure that reconstruction efforts at Sichuan are done in environmentally sound way – such that global biodiversity values are not adversely affected but maintained. Fourth, landslides and newly formed lakes from landslides have significantly changed the topography of the area and affected large swathes of natural habitats. The ecological function zoning system in affected areas needs to be modified, to ensure that the Government management systems take these changes into account. Finally, environmental risks from landslides, water pollution and other quake-induced environmental factors need to be taken into consideration in the process of reconstructing infrastructure in protected areas, to avoid damage from secondary disasters.
5. This proposed project will support the Government of China's efforts to reconstruct the affected areas by adopting environmentally sound and biodiversity-friendly approaches that secure global environment benefits while meeting local development needs. The overall project objective is to conserve critical ecosystems and their associated threatened and endangered species in the quake region and mitigate the loss of biodiversity occurring as a result of the earthquake. Three strategically designed components are planned to address the afore-mentioned problems. The first component will specifically assess the impact of the earthquake on critically endangered species, and evaluate the extent of infrastructure loss and landscape change and habitat loss in ecologically important areas, including protected areas. Assessments of damage to landscape and habitat conditions will be undertaken using

remote sensing imagery taken before and in the aftermath of the earthquake. Based on this assessment, Component 2 will seek to ensure that biodiversity management objectives are mainstreamed into government rehabilitation and reconstruction plans and investment programs. A system for assessing ecological risks will be emplaced, and monitoring efforts will ensure that risks are factored into reconstruction efforts. Component 3 will develop a planning, prioritisation and budgeting framework for the rehabilitation of infrastructure and equipment in protected areas. Select prioritized actions will be implemented in national nature reserves.

6. This project is designed as a short-term emergency measure. It will generate significant global environmental benefits by mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into government reconstruction master plans. This will ensure that reconstruction investments will not increase pressures on globally significant biodiversity, for example through the placement of infrastructure or new settlements in sensitive areas. Moreover, the project will develop the response capacity of the national government and provincial authorities to address current threats to biodiversity, occurring as a result of the Earthquake. This is critical to reduce stress on wildlife populations, the breeding success of which has likely been compromised by the Earthquake but also to deal with the fact that displaced communities are placing pressure on natural resources.

B. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS:

7. This project is consistent with the priority China places on reconstruction in Sichuan in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and aftershocks. On May 28, the Wenchuan Earthquake Reconstruction Planning Group initiated the planning process for reconstruction. The government has taken a transparent and consultative approach in formulating the reconstruction plan. Comments and recommendations to inform the reconstruction plan need to be provided before the end of August, 2008. The MEP is tasked with undertaking a biodiversity impact assessment in affected areas as articulated in Component 1. All relevant departments including the Ministry of Environmental Protection have started to take stock of losses from the disaster and to develop recovery and reconstruction plans. This project is, accordingly, a top priority of the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The project is also consistent with the three themes of the China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework for Action which is designed as an "Umbrella Programme" to support conservation efforts under a programmatic approach i.e. Theme 2: Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Socio-Economic Sectors, Plans and Investment Decision-Making; Theme 3: Investing and Managing Effectively in Reducing Biodiversity loss in Protected Areas and Theme 4: Investing and Managing Effectively in Reducing Biodiversity loss outside Protected Areas.

C. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH GEF STRATEGIES AND STRATEGIC PROGRAMS:

8. The Project is consistent with SP 3 under SO1: Strengthening Terrestrial Protected Area Networks. Additionally, this project will make recommendations for mainstreaming biodiversity management considerations into reconstruction plans and priorities. The project is therefore also consistent with SP 4 under SO 2: 'Strengthening the Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity'. The projects meets the operational criteria for short term response activities including: by 1. having a strong likelihood of success if implemented expeditiously given the Government of China's commitment to ensuring that biodiversity management considerations are taken into account in reconstruction plans and investments); 2. Ensuring cost effectiveness: by taking preventive action to avoid damage from improper placement of infrastructure or settlements in ecologically sensitive areas, and by addressing current threats to biodiversity, the project will reduce future threat abatement costs; 3. Degree of threat and urgency; the severity of the earthquake and its direct and secondary effects has placed huge pressure on biodiversity; unless immediately curtailed, there is a risk that globally threatened species will be extirpated from some areas, and major habitats of global significance will sustain damage, some of which may be irreversible. Finally, the project has a demonstration value. In common with other disasters of this magnitude, current response measures are focused on disaster relief without taking long term ecological impacts into account. The project will provide an excellent example of how to integrate disaster relief and reconstruction efforts in biodiversity hotspots with biodiversity management objectives, plans and programmes.

D. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

9. The project will assist the Sichuan Environmental Protection Bureau and other relevant stakeholders to achieve planned environmental objectives through a partnership with all related biodiversity conservation responses to the earthquake and ongoing initiatives in the earthquake affected areas. Component 2 of the project will directly feed into the government reconstruction process which is coordinated by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). Outcome 1 will be implemented in close coordination with the ongoing initiatives of provincial management authorities, the Chinese Academy of Sciences(CAS), and international NGOs such as WWF,

Conservation International (CI) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Six projects under EU-China Biodiversity Programme are managed by UNDP, the GEF Implementing Agency for this project; UNDP will ensure strong coordination between these initiatives. The Sichuan Provincial Environmental Protection Bureau and Forestry Bureau are implementing partners of all ongoing projects of TNC, WWF and CI, providing for easy communication and coordination. The Mountain Institute's efforts to provide environmentally friendly building materials to the affected areas will be tied into project activities. As far as the donor community is concerned, the UN system in China has established a regular information sharing and coordination mechanism for earthquake relief work within the UN system and between the UN system and donor community. This coordination channel will be utilized to ensure the coherence of planned activities undertaken by other international partners.

E. DISCUSS THE VALUE-ADDED OF GEF INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT THROUGH INCREMENTAL REASONING :

10. The support from the GEF to this project will be ensure that any reconstruction plans for earthquake-affected areas will be done with full consideration for global biodiversity values building on global best practices in this regard. In a business as usual situation, without project intervention, reconstruction efforts may pay less attention to biodiversity impacts and the efforts of stakeholders working for biodiversity conservation will remain poorly harmonized. The threats described in the above Section would continue and while Government will provide funding for infrastructure, it would first address human needs through disaster relief. A delay in the integration of biodiversity conservation objectives into the relief efforts will increase the risk that such efforts will have negative externalities for biodiversity. The incrementality comes from ensuring that biodiversity conservation is factored into the recovery programme, thus avoiding the said risks.

F. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS, THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) FROM BEING ACHIEVED, INCLUDING RISK MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN:

| <i>Risks</i> | <i>Rating</i> | <i>Mitigation Strategy</i> |
|---|---------------|---|
| Continued aftershocks and other risks such as disease outbreaks may limit ability of the project to work at field sites | Low | The Chinese government has mobilized national and international support to deal with the crisis and these risks are considered low |
| Limited access due to blockages of roads and other infrastructure destruction will hamper reconstruction efforts in protected areas | Medium to low | The local conditions of access are likely to impact the ability of the project to affect change in the shorter term but with the on-going rapid government response, this risk is going to be reduced in the medium and longer term |
| The recovery plan is made after the reconstruction plans | Medium | Provide the government with specific recommendations instead of integrated plans. |
| It is hard for local EPB to push MEP forward | Low | Strengthen coordination through UNDP and FECO |
| There is not enough time to really apply the policy recommendation into the recovery process due to very quick government actions | Medium to Low | Disburse the fund as early as possible and establish simple management and financial procedures |

G. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

11. The cost effectiveness of this project will arise primarily from avoiding more costly future interventions for biodiversity conservation by incorporating biodiversity concerns into reconstruction efforts from the outset and strengthening policies and capacities to better protect global biodiversity from pressures. It is apparent that once investments have been made in physical infrastructure, they will largely be irreversible. Such investments stand to

increase the cost drivers for biodiversity conservation because if infrastructure is improperly sited, they could increase the threats to sensitive areas such as PAs and Ecological Function Conservation Areas. The cost of threat remediation will be high in such circumstances, and biodiversity loss may be sustained as a consequence. This project takes a precautionary approach by integrating biodiversity needs into reconstruction efforts from the outset, with the aim of avoiding a negative result.

H. Justify the COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE of GEF agency

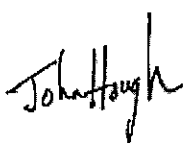
12. UNDP's comparative advantage to lead this project is justified for three reasons:
1. PA management and mainstreaming biodiversity - the focus of this project- are UNDP's two signature programmes for its global biodiversity programme. UNDP is the lead agency for the CBPF which sets forth the themes and results for biodiversity conservation in China in the next 10 years. Theme 2 and 3 deal with PA management and mainstreaming biodiversity in production activities.
 2. Disaster Prevention and Impact Reduction constitutes one of 4 UNDP service lines. UNDP has six field projects with demonstration sites in the earthquake areas under the ECBP which provides it plenty of opportunity for leading coordination work.
 3. The UNDP Resident Representative is responsible for coordinating UN programmes in China, including Earthquake recovery through its administration of the Resident Coordinator Function.

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the country endorsement letter(s) or regional endorsement letter(s) with this template).

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| <i>Mr. ZouCiyon, GEF Operational Focal Point, Ministry of Finance, P.R. China</i> | Date: June 12, 2008 |
|---|---------------------|

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

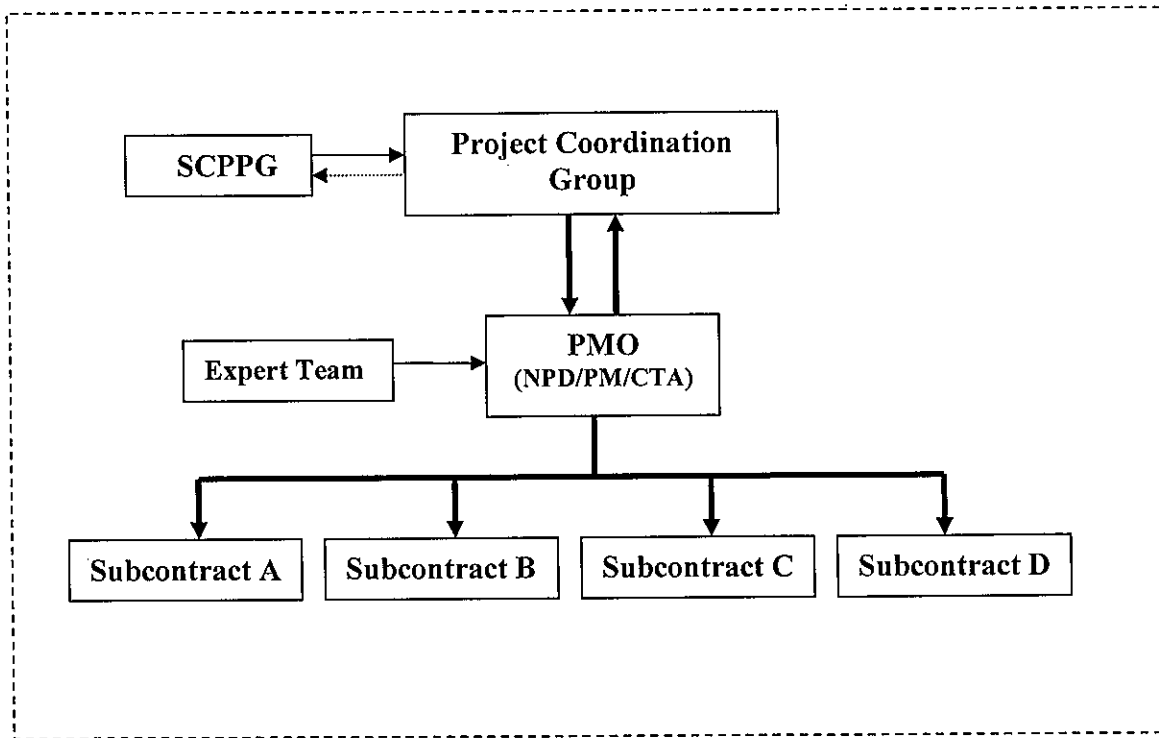
| | |
|--|---|
| This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation. | |
|  John Hough UNDP/GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator | Sameer Karki Project Contact Person |
| Date: June 13, 2008 | Tel. and Email:sameer.karki@undp.org +662 288 2729 |

2. Other agreements

Letters of Co-financing are separately attached to the Request for CEO Endorsement.

Part II: Organigram of Project

The project management structure is as follows:



Part III: Terms of References for Key Project Staff (Draft)

1. National Project Director (Part-time)

The NPD is ultimately responsible and accountable to UNDP for signing the agreement and implementation of the proposed project on behalf of the Implementing Partner. S/he will supervise the Project Manager and the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) and reports to the PCG, and act as the focal point and responsible party for implementation of the project and ensures that all partners' committed contribution to the project is available to the project in a timely manner. S/he will also be responsible for policy support and coordination of all the relevant sectors.

2. Project Manager (Full-time)

The Project Manager will be based in SCEPB and will have direct responsibility for project implementation under the leadership of the Project Director.

The project manager (PM) will be responsible for the developing of coherent work plans, quality reviewing of project outputs and required monitoring and reporting, assisting Project Director or Associate Director to oversee the day-to-day project implementation and management of project activities, organizing and overseeing national and international consultant input, maintaining close coordination with co-financing partners and overseeing monitoring and evaluation and ensuring that the project is on track. One of the most important responsibilities of the project manager will be working effectively with members of all partners to ensure that project activities proceed on schedule and with high quality. The PM will be part of the Project Management Office (PMO) and work closely with the Project Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) and other staff. The PM will accept the leadership of the Project Director or Associate Director and report to them.

Key responsibilities will include:

1. Under the supervision of the Project Director, lead the PMO in administrative, financial and procurement management in the project to ensure implementation of the project is on track;
2. lead project planning, management and implementation as set out in the project document and as guided by the Project Steering Committee.
3. reporting on administrative, financial and procurement aspects to Coordination Group;
4. Work in close collaboration with the partners to ensure coherence between all the project components and partners.
5. Ensure the sharing and flow of information in a transparent manner among all the project stakeholders as appropriate.
6. Coordinate the preparation of detailed annual work plans consistent with the envisaged outputs and objectives of the Project Document that incorporates the work plans prepared by all the implementing partners.
7. Manage the project budget under the leadership of the Project Director and Associate Director and ensure that timely financial reports are submitted by all implementing partners.
8. manage in the recruitment of project personnel, subcontractors and consultants and supervise project personnel to enable strong quality control.
9. Supervise the timely preparation and submission of quarterly and annual progress reports, work plans, budgets, and financial reports by all the implementing partners.
10. Ensure regular liaison with government agencies, and all project partners.

11. Undertake monitoring of the project, facilitate internal and external evaluations and promote information dissemination and sharing of lessons learnt through the implementation of this project.
12. Support resource mobilization efforts and development of partnerships.

Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) (full time)

Under the supervision of the National Project Director and working in close cooperation with the Project Manager and relevant partner organizations in this project, the CTA will provide technical advice leading to common understanding of the project's direction; ensure the quality of project technical deliveries. Specifically the Project Chief Specialist will have the following tasks:

1. Provide leadership for the Expert Group so as to provide guidance and arrangement to project staff, provincial counterparts, contractors and consultants on the design of project activities, support for task distribution, and assessment and control quality of project plans.
2. Take responsibility for technical supervision on quality of all the outputs.
3. Maintain contacts with staff of other partner organizations and projects, particularly the sister projects under ECBP, to facilitate and enhance the application of project resources towards project goals.
4. Promote exchange and interaction between project member provinces and the national government institutions through networks, workshops, training courses, etc
5. Assist in the preparation of technical report to Coordination Group and quarterly progress report, UNDP/GEF Project Implementation Report, Annual Project Report as well as the Terminal Report to UNDP;
6. Assumption of other tasks as deemed necessary by the Project Manager for the successful implementation of the project.
7. Provide technical guidance and advice to all project staff and partners, on biodiversity conservation, capacity development, project implementation and management.
8. Contribute to training courses, workshops and other technical meetings.
9. Prepare TORs for the members of project expert team, lead in the implementation activities of project expert team, undertaking field missions when necessary.
10. Organizing activities of project expert team;
11. To assist the Project Manager in all phases of project implementation to prepare technical report for the Project Director or Associate Director.
12. With the Project Manager, support all the work of the project and ensure agreed outputs are met on time.
13. Provide on-the-job training, guidance and mentoring to project staff and counterparts
14. Technical liaison with the work of all partners.

Qualifications:

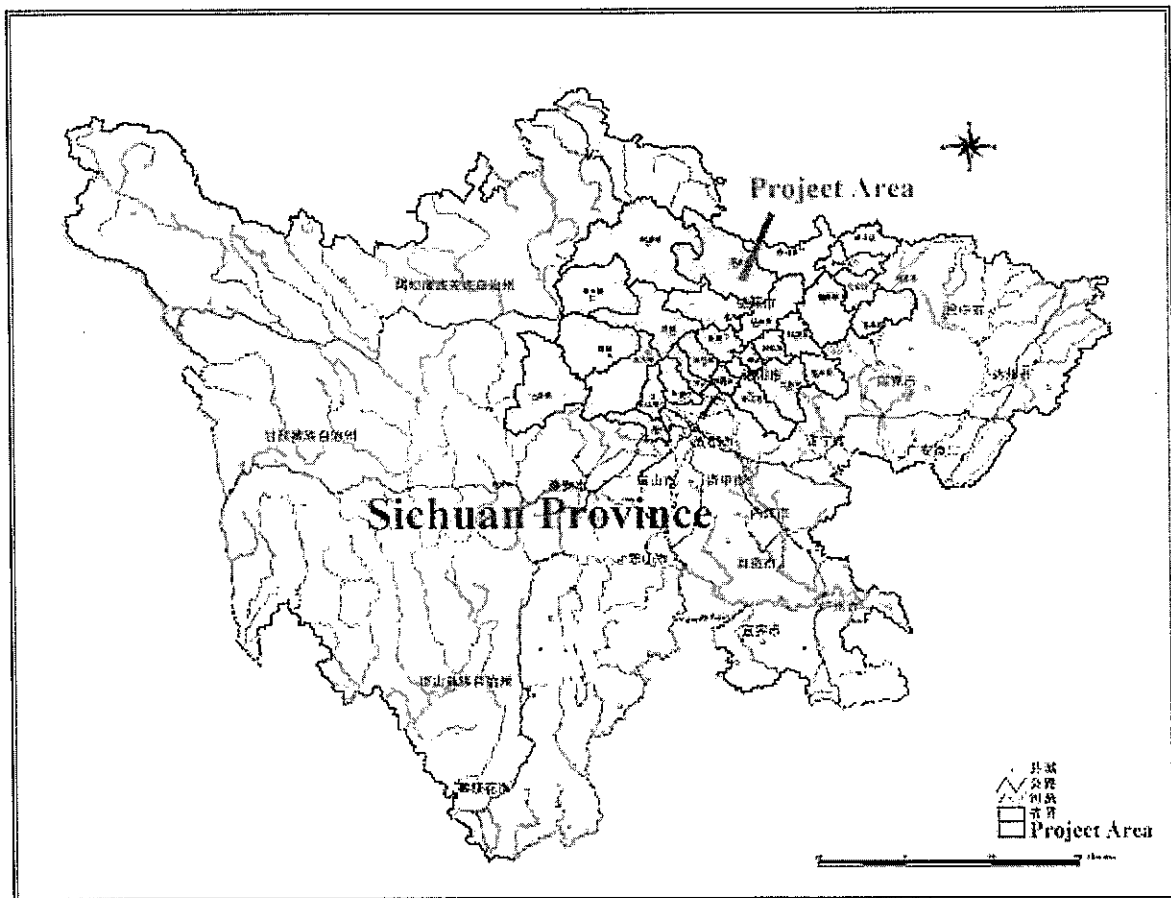
- Fluency in English, both spoken and written and can communicate with UNDP staff.
- Master degree in natural sciences, environmental sciences and other related fields
- Demonstrated experience in the practice areas of natural sciences, environmental sciences and conservation biology;

- At least three years of experience in donor funded projects;
- Previous experience in the project areas will be a plus;
- Experience with UNDP projects will be a plus;
- Competency in computer operations, data analysis and progress report writing.
- Competency in organizing and leading team work.

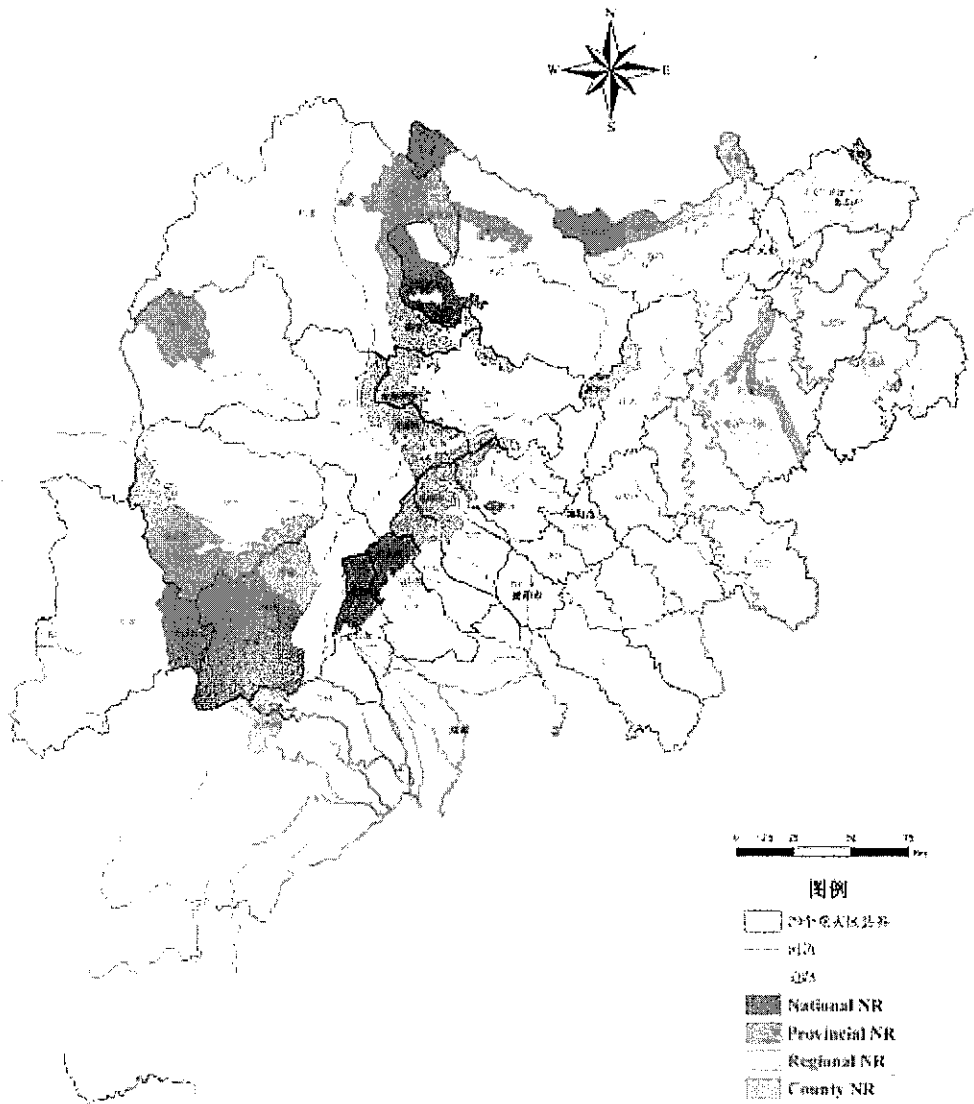
Part IV: Maps

Map 1: Project Area in Sichuan Province

Ecological rehabilitation plan as indicated in the outcome 4 of the project covers a total of 50 municipalities and counties, while the protected areas reconstruction framework and plan as indicated in the same outcome only covers 29 counties as highlighted in the map below as “Project Area”.



Map 2: NATURE RESERVES DISTRIBUTED IN THE QUAKE HARDIST HIT AREA



Part V: Biodiversity Information in Project Area

Physical: The project area lies between the Sichuan Basin and the Tibetan Highlands when the mountains of in this area have been warped and folded during the Tertiary to have made the Himalayan Range and neighbouring ranges uplifted with spectacular topography. Mountains and rivers generally run parallel with the Longmen Mountain Fault, which transects the area in a north-east to south-west direction. According to the Chengdu Geographic Institute of Academia Sinica, the rock strata consist primarily of sandstone, slate, schist, siltstone, gneiss, quartzite, dolomite, limestone and phyllite and they range in age from Silurian to Triassic. Limestone and phyllite are most abundant. Soils are typical of those developed in sub-tropical, glacial conditions. On the slopes between 2,000m and 3,100m are many small plateaux or stripped plains where deep brown and dark brown soils provide excellent conditions for forest and bamboo growth.

Climate: The project area lies in the subtropical monsoon climatic belt. Annual precipitation is up to 1800mm, most of which falls in summer. Mean monthly temperatures range between approximately -7 °C in January and 18-20 °C in July.

Vegetation: The vegetation in the project areas is altitudinally distributed into a number of zones. Subtropical evergreen broad-leaved forest grows below 1,600m with *Cinnamomum inunctum*, *Lindera sp.* and *Phoebe sp.* as the prominent trees. A mixed evergreen and deciduous broad-leaved forest lies between about 1,600m and 2,000m, with *Cyclobalanopsis oxyodon* and oak (*Quercus sp.*) as common evergreens, and birch (*Betula sp.*), beech (*Fagus longipetiolata*), maple (*Acer sp.*) and walnut (*Juglans cathayensis*) conspicuous deciduous trees. Dogwood (*Cornus controversa*), *Pterocarya insignis*, *Sophora sp.* and *Tetracentron sinense* are also prominent forest trees. Mixed coniferous and deciduous broad-leaved forest extends from 2,000m to 2,600m in most cases. Hemlock (*Tsuga sp.*), spruce (*Picea sp.*) and larch (*Larix mastersiana*) are the main conifers, and birch, maple, basswood (*Tilia chinensis*), and cherry (*Prunus sp.*) among the most common broad-leaved trees. Subalpine coniferous forest extends from 2,100m to 3,600m, dominated by fir (*Abies sp.*) at high altitude and abundant with rhododendron (*Rhododendron sp.*) and birch (*Betula utilis*). Above the tree limit, thickets of fir, juniper (*Juniperus squamata*), oak and rhododendron merge with alpine meadows. Bamboo, which is of particular importance to the ecology of the giant panda, occurs in extensive patches in the temperate and subalpine zones. *Fargesia scabrida* and, at higher altitudes, *F. denudata*, are predominant.

Variable conditions of topography, hydrology, soil and climate are responsible for a diverse flora. Some 5,000 species of higher plants are present (including 700 medicinal species), representing about 40% of the total number of species in Sichuan. Some are relicts of the Tertiary palaeotropical flora, for example *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, dove tree (*Davidia involucrate*), rhododendrons, oaks and firs. Both *C. japonicum* and *D. involucrate* are nationally protected on account of their rarity, as well as *Larix mastersiana*, *Kingdonia uniflora*, *Tetracentron sinense*.

Fauna The project area straddles the border between subtropical lowlands and temperate uplands, hence its fauna is allied to both the Oriental and Palaearctic regions. The forest fauna at low-to-medium altitudes is mainly Oriental in origin, e.g. stump-tailed macaque (*Macaca speciosa*), giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*), clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), tufted deer (*Elaphodus cephalophus*), serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*), bamboo rat (*Rhizomys sinensis*) and golden pheasant (*Chrysolophus pictus*), while that of the subalpine coniferous forest and particularly that above the tree-line is characterised by Palaearctic species such as musk deer (*Moschus berezovskii*), blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*), pika (*Ochotona thibetana*) and Tibetan snowcock (*Tetraogallus tibetanus*).

The project area supports many kinds of vertebrates. 96 species of mammals (52% of the provincial total), 300 of birds, 20 of reptiles, 14 of amphibians, 6 of fish and 1,700 of insects having been noted so far in Wolong Nature Reserve alone. Among these are 26 species that China prizes and to which it has given complete legal protection, including golden snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus roxellanae*), snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*), Sichuan takin (*Budorcas taxicolor tibetana*), giant panda (*Ailuropoda*

melanoleuca), red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), white-lipped deer (*Cervus albirostris*), blue-eared pheasant (*Crossoptilon auritum*), Temminck's tragopan (*Tragopan temminckii*) and Chinese monal (*Lophorus luysii*).

Part VI: List of Nature Reserves in Severely Affected Areas

| Location | Name | Size (ha) | Type | Conservation targets | Status | Agency in Charge |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|-----------------------|---|------------|------------------|
| Qingchuan County, Guangyuan City | Tangjiahe NNR | 40,000 | Forest and wildlife | Giant Panda, Takin, Snub-nosed Monkey, etc | National | Forestry |
| | Maozhai PNR | 14,150 | Forest and wildlife | Nature vegetation, wildlife | Provincial | Forestry |
| | Dongyanggou PNR | 30,760 | Forest and wildlife | Nature vegetation, wildlife | Provincial | Forestry |
| | Daxiaogou NR | 4,067 | forest | Nature vegetation, wildlife | Municipal | EPB |
| Chaotian District, Guangyuan City | Sichuan Jialingjiang River Watershed and Wetland NR | 37,850 | Inland wetland | Wetlands at headwaters of Jialingjiang River | Municipal | Forestry |
| | Shuimogou PNR | 7,337 | Wild plants | Moschus spp. and Orchids | Provincial | Forestry |
| Jiange County, Guangyuan City | Wenxi-Xihe Municipal Wetland NR | 58,000 | Inland wetlands | Water resources and wildlife and plants | Municipal | Forestry |
| | Jiulongshan NR | 8,048 | Forest ecology | Golden Eagle, pheasant, martens, ginko, | Municipal | Forestry |
| | Xuebaoding NNR | 63,615 | Wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey | National | Forestry |
| | Wanglang NNR | 32297 | Forest and wildlife | Giant Panda and forest ecology | National | Forestry |
| Pingwu county, Mianyang City | Xiaohogou PNR | 28,227 | wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, Takin, etc. | Provincial | Forestry |
| | Qianfoshan PNR | 17710 | wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, Takin, | Provincial | Forestry |
| Beichuan County, Mianyang City | Xiaozhaizigou PNR | 44,391 | wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, Takin and forest ecosystems | Provincial | Forestry |
| | Piakkou PNR | 82,930 | wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey | Provincial | Forestry |
| | Zhishui Haimianjiao PNR | 5,230 | Archeological remains | Natural relics | Provincial | EPB |
| An Couty, Mianyang | Guanwushan PNR | 21,033.7 | Forests and wildlife | Forest and wildlife | Provincial | Forestry |
| Jiangyou City, Mianyang | Cuiyunlang Old Cypress NR | 2,000 | Natural ecosystems | Old cypress trees | Provincial | Forestry |
| Zhitong County, Mianyang | Baishuihe NNR | 30,150 | Forest ecosystems | Giant Panda and forest ecosystems | national | Forestry |
| | Longmenshan GiganticGlaciers | 10,000 | Geological formations | Geological formations | County | EPB |

| Location | Name | Size (ha) | Type | Conservation targets | Status | Agency in Charge |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|--|------------|------------------|
| Doujiangyan City, Chengdu | Geological Heritage NR | | | | | |
| Congzhou City, Chengdu | Longxi-Hongkou NRR | 31,000 | Forest ecosystems | Subtropical alpine ecosystems | National | Forestry |
| Mianzhu City, Deyang | Anzhe River PNR | 10,141 | Wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, takins, etc | Provincial | Forestry |
| Wenchuan, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Sichuan Jiudingshan Giant Panda NR | 63,700 | Wildlife | Giant Panda, Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, etc | Provincial | Forestry |
| Xiaojin County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Wolong NNR | 200,000 | Forest and wildlife | Giant Panda and forest ecosystems | National | Forestry |
| Mao County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Caopo PNR | 5,5678.4 | Wildlife | Wild plants and wildlife | Provincial | Forestry |
| Li County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Xiao Jin Siguniag Shan NNR | 56,000 | Natural ecosystems | Wildlife and geological formations | National | EPB |
| Songpan County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Zhailong NR | 25,071 | Forests | Rhesus Monkey and other rare plants and animals | County | Forestry |
| Li County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Baodinggou PNER | 19,560 | Wildlife | Giant Panda and Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey, Takins, etc | County | Forestry |
| Songpan County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Miluo PNR | 160,732 | Forests | Alpine ecosystems | County | Forestry |
| Heishui County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Huanglong PNR | 55,050 | Wildlife | Giant Panda and other rare plants and animals, natural landscapes, etc | County | Forestry |
| Heishui County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Baiyang PNR | 76,710 | Wildlife | Giant Panda, Snow Leopard, etc | County | Forestry |
| Heishui County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Songpan Longzhaishui Giant Panda NR | 27,000 | Wildlife | Giant Panda | County | Forestry |
| Heishui County, Aba Qiang Autonomous Prefecture | Sandagu Snub-nosed Monkey NR | 62,300 | Wildlife | Sichuan Snub-nosed Monkey and its ecosystems | County | Forestry |