

# Reforestation Framework species in China



世界混农林业中心云南办公室



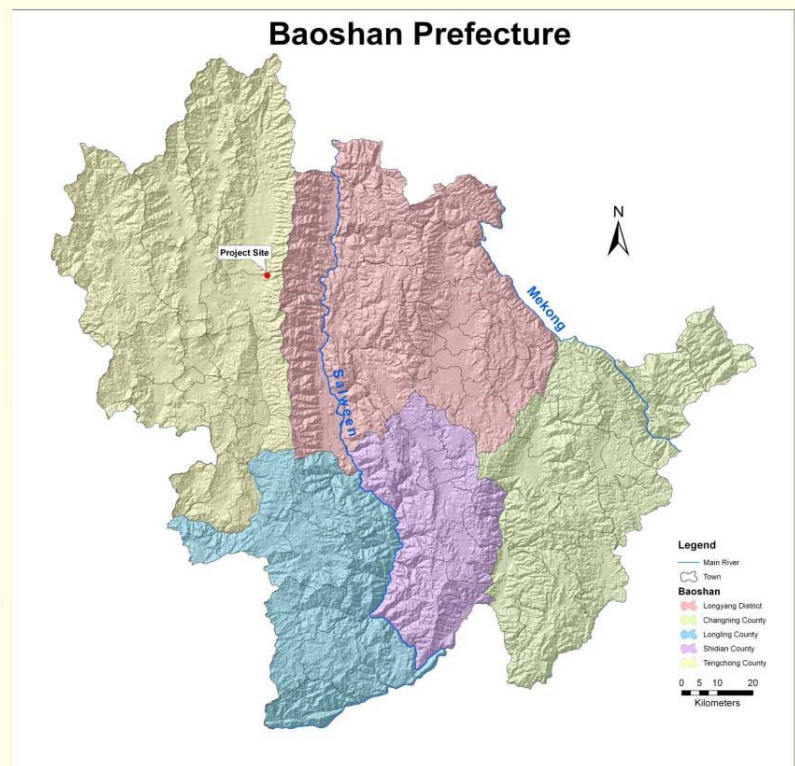
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## Background

While China's forests have been expanding in area over the last several years, the productivity and quality of those forests are a significant concern. For much of the 20th century, China's forest management was inefficient and based on short-term resource depletion rather than long-term sustainability of resource supply. This contributed to a loss of at least 200 plant species over the last several decades, and severe habitat loss for more than 60% of wildlife species. In addition, remaining forests tended to be poor quality, with low volume and skewed age-class distributions, and serious damage from insect infestations. An approach to reforestation with consideration of native species and ecosystem restoration is critical at recent stage. ICRAF-China is working on a project to use framework species in China for reforestation in Yunnan province, China. The objectives of the project are:

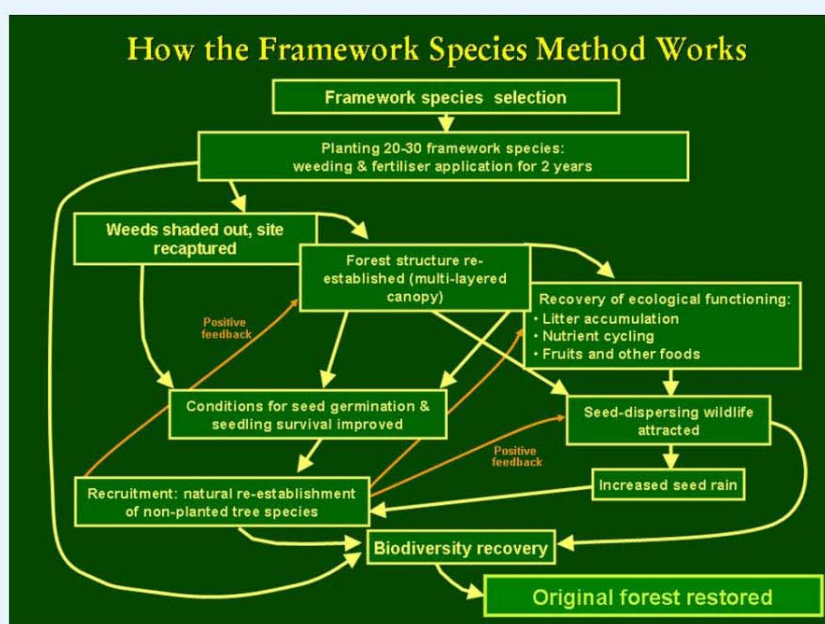
- ◆Protecting highly important conservation areas (Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve) by designing and implementing appropriate buffer zone strategies; together with communities
- ◆Improving biodiversity, tree cover, and tree density within the region's agro-ecological landscape mosaic;
- ◆Closing gaps between biodiversity "hot spots" by connecting them with bio-corridor and bio-island strategies, and rejuvenate "cold spots" of agro-ecological biodiversity;
- ◆Connecting researchers and line agencies working in NRM and forestry for exchanging successful experiences across SW-China
- ◆Providing an information site for training and ecotourism activities (Phenology/nature trail)

## Baoshan Prefecture



## Framework Species Method: What is it and how it works?

The Framework Species Method of Forest Restoration is to planting 20-30 indigenous forest tree species, which enhance natural forest regeneration and accelerate biodiversity recovery. It is aimed to restore original levels of species diversity, ecosystem structure and ecosystem function, by planting tree species present before deforestation.



## Action Research in Yunnan

### Nursery Research

- ◆How to collect seeds & maximise germination
- ◆Containers and potting media
- ◆Fertiliser treatments
- ◆Production schedules



### Field Plots

- ◆To compare performance among candidate framework species
- ◆To test silvicultural methods to enhance tree performance
- ◆To monitor return of biodiversity



### Community program

- ◆Select appropriate species together with local communities
- ◆Develop and support community nurseries
- ◆Applied research on domestication and improvement of species
- ◆Assess and develop markets for local products (branding, certification, carbon, PES)
- ◆Training and awareness building (conservation & livelihoods)

