

# Sino-German Financial Cooperation Hengshui Lake Conservation and Management Project

## Major Innovations and Experience Sharing

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**Project background**



**Project brief**



**Major innovations**

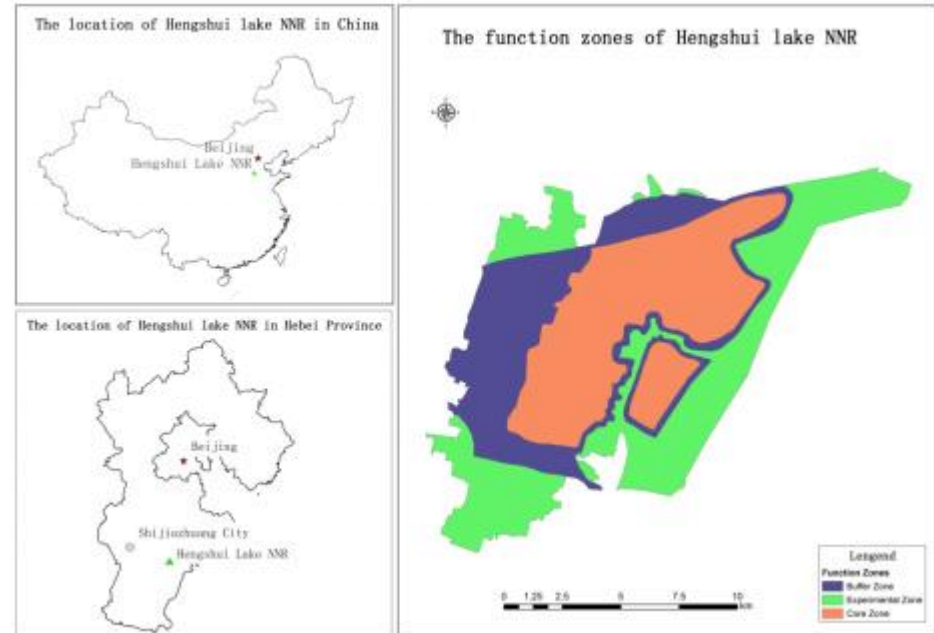


**Experience Sharing**



## Hengshui Lake National Nature Reserve

- ▶ Upgraded as national nature reserve in 2003
- ▶ Area: 16365 ha
- ▶ Located at densely populated area
- ▶ Main protected targets
  - ▶ Inland freshwater wetland ecosystem
  - ▶ National Class I and II protected bird species



**The Project** is one of five projects of the "Biodiversity and Natural Resources Program" co-financed by the German Government (BMZ) through KfW.

**Project objective:** Sustainably conserve and manage the ecosystem services of the Hengshui Lake National Nature Reserve (HSNR)

**Project Executing Agency :** Hengshui New Zone Commission (HNZ-C; in charge of the HSNR)

**Implementation Consultant:** Consortium led by Deutsche Forstservice GmbH

**Project budget:** Euro 12,205,143 (Euro 12 million loan and Euro 205,142.59 grant) of German Financial Contribution and RMB 15 million of Chinese counterpart fund.



## Project activities

Project activities focus on wetland ecosystem management and ecological restoration; Sustainable Development for Education (ESD); monitoring and special studies; community support for wetland protection and management; capacity building and publicity

## Target group

- Local people living in and around Hengshui Lake: The total population of 25,374 persons in the 34 villages.
- Visitors to the Hengshui Lake: >1.5 million per year



Baer's pochard, rare and critically endangered species globally

## Wetland ecosystem management and ecological restoration

The flagship species for the biodiversity conservation in Hengshui Lake is Baer's Pochard. It is a critically endangered diving duck with global population less than 1,000 individuals, which is much less than the population of the great panda. Thus, it is called "Flying Panda". Breeding success has been documented from 2018 onward, and Hengshui Lake is used by the species all year round. This is a successful example of conserving biodiversity.



## Wetland ecosystem management and ecological restoration



## Ecological shore restoration and conservation



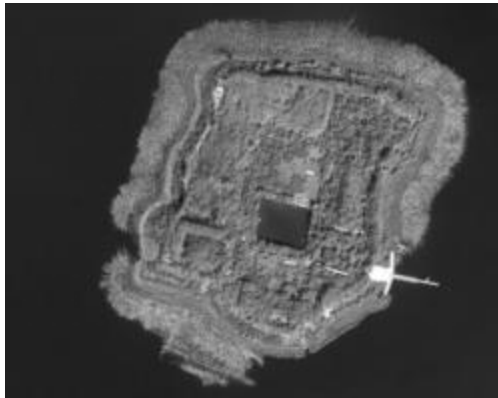
Restore the dyke slope with bio-engineering measures, clear the construction residues, restore the vegetation of reeds and floating plants, improve boating area

The ecological status of the shoreline is classified in favor of the conservation of biodiversity and the habitats



## ESD -- Meihua Island scheme

Conversion a 10 ha island to 1st class nature experience island with all senses



Current statue



Concept design



Current entrance

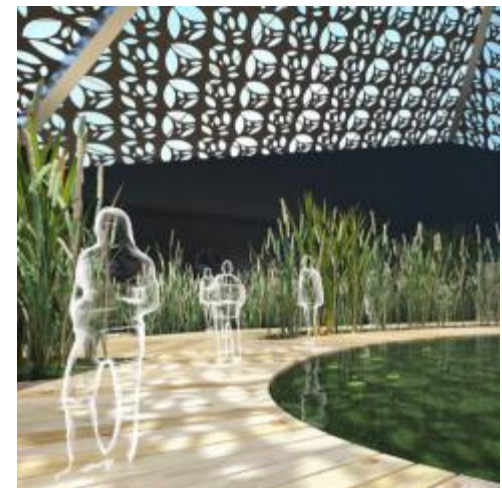


Entrance after the construction

## ESD -- Welcome show of the visitor information center

Detailed design completed. According to 'design: Uses a simulated real-life environment and video and audio, as well as a **slow-rotating turntable** to let the audience stand still to explore an audio-visual scene, and to feel a series of events that occurred in the lake from morning to night. Through the huge turntable it realizes the goal of entering the exhibition hall to achieve the reception management goal that never waits in line.

**Up to 10,000 visitor per day without queuing**



## ESD activities in pilot schools

ESD modules are developed with pilot schools. ESD modules and activities focus on understanding global contexts and to shape mindsets and actions in the daily activities from the 3 dimensions of ecology, economy and society in favor of sustainable future (ecological civilization).



## ESD -- Floating classroom

The Project is currently converting a catamaran into a floating classroom to demonstrate innovative approaches to teaching of aquatic science for schools.



## ESD -- Nature Guide

A framework for a pilot-scale Certified Nature Guide training program at Hengshui Lake has been designed and a core group of nature guides have been trained.



## Integrated Monitoring and Special Studies

Project builds up an Integrated monitoring including a GIS system to provide a sound information base to guide decisions for protected area and lake management and environmental education

### Cooperation agreements:

- Hengshui University biodiversity monitoring and special studies
- Provincial Hydrological Sub-Bureau: water quantity and quality
- Chinese Institute of Wetland Research: sedimentation analysis, carbon cycle of conversion of farmland to wetland, impact assessment of eco shore restoration and protection

## GIS development and management

With the help of GIS system, data are collected, analyzed and shared in favor of decision-making.



## Community development

- Social policy, nature conservation and amenity and recreational needs of local people are comprehensively managed. Social safeguarding assessment were made for resource restrictions due to conservation.
- An angling regulation has been prepared and angling sites have been identified.
- Community patrol are contracted to support conservation.



## Upgrading conservation and management

- The project has demonstrated an innovative concept of close to nature in wetland restoration.
- The project has accumulated lots of data to provide scientific support for the nature reserve management.
- We will cooperate with the Wetland Institute of Chinese Academy of Forestry for the construction of National Positioning Monitoring Station of Hengshui Lake Wetland Ecosystem.
- Provincial Key Laboratory of Wetland Ecology and Conservation has been approved and the construction is ongoing.
- The professionalism of the project staff has been upgraded



## Extending international cooperation

- In March 2018, an International workshop on the Conservation of Bare's Pochards was co-hosted by the Project in which more than 200 participants from 15 countries participated. Participants and the Secretariat of the East Asian Australian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) recognized Hengshui Lake Nature Reserve as one of the most important habitat for the very endangered species of Bare's Pochards .
- In 2018 the HLNR submitted the application for becoming a RAMSAR site (Wetland of International Importance).





## Intensifying conservation and management

- In September 2018, the Standing Committee of Hebei Provincial People's Congress approved Regulation of Water Quality Protection in Hengshui Lake.
- The legislative work of the Regulations on Hengshui Lake National Nature Reserve is also ongoing, and the draft has been prepared.
- Ecological Protection and Development Commission for Hengshui Lake and Binhu New Zone (EPDC) was established in June 2019.
- In September 2019, the Party Commission and the Government of Hebei Province issued Remarks on Further Supporting and Strengthening the Conservation and Development of Hengshui Lake.



Thank you...

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