Project Summary:
Purpose: To increase forest cover
Timeframe: 2010 - 2016
IBRD Financing: US$100 million
Project ID: P105872
Adaptation: Forest management

Integrated Forestry Development

Recognizing the important role of forests in supporting rural livelihoods and environmental services, China has increased its forest cover over the past two decades to 38% of the country's territory. These forests are insufficient to protect the country from increasing soil and water erosion, prevent desertification, reduce atmospheric pollution, or provide for animal and plant habitats, however. Climatic extremes will exacerbate the impacts on vulnerable areas without protective forest and vegetation cover leading to limited recharge of aquifers, wind-damaged farmland and villages, greater siltation of reservoirs, and ecosystem habitat loss.

The project supports the development of additional forest cover and shelter belts in areas prone to wind and/or water erosion and in diversifying species and resilience in existing forest plantations. Benefiting 5 provinces, the project is expected to supplement the incomes of forest dependent rural communities, reduce vulnerability to climate impacts, expand 93,000 hectares of multifunction forests to create wind breaks, soil and water conservation schemes, and farmland shelter belts; increase 10% of vegetative cover and 39,000 hectares in degraded forests. In addition, the Project will train 216,000 farmers and staff to improve the management of forests (new and existing), and enhance environmental conditions in the project areas.

More Information: