

China

Promoting Agro-Forestry in the Mountains of Southwest China News from the Field (July 2022–June 2023)

August 2023
Conservation International

Monitoring of bird, insect, and soil carbon stocks at the Ganpu project site

The year 2023 marked the ninth year of the Ganpu Agroforestry and Community Development Project. We conducted the fifth and final biodiversity and soil monitoring from July 19 to 21. Based on the analysis of all previous monitoring data, we found that from 2015 to 2023, the number of both insect and bird species quantity first increased and then gradually stabilized. Meanwhile, the soil carbon stock at the pilot site first increased and then slightly decreased, but now it tends to be stable¹ (Figure 1).

In 2015, we recorded 12 bird species and 22 insect species at the project site and in the surrounding areas. In 2023, this number had risen to 51 bird species and 76 insect species. This change fully demonstrates that since its launch in 2014, the project has not only brought economic benefits and positive social impacts through forest protection and agroforestry experiments and demonstrations, but also had significant ecological benefits. With this success, the project and its approach is garnering attention from other communities as an example of good conservation practice (Figure 2, Pic 1–9).

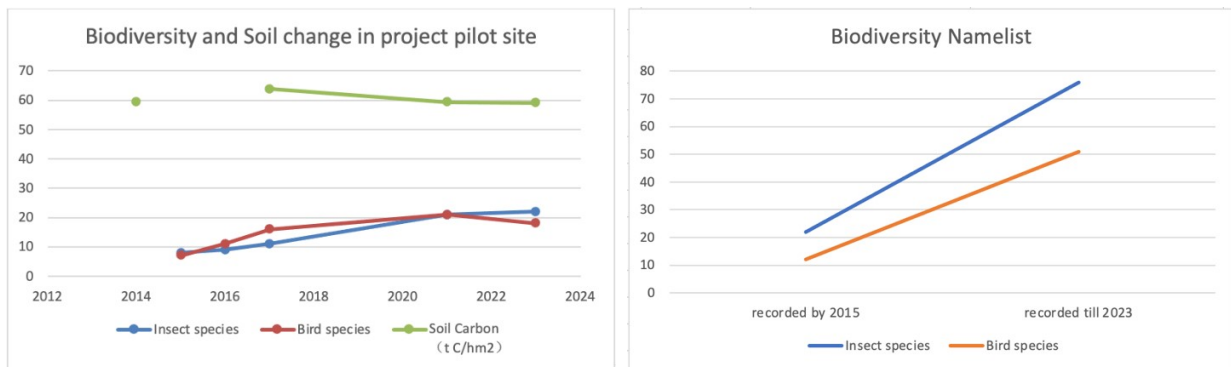


Figure 1: Changes in bird (blue), insect (red), and soil carbon stocks (green) at the project site

Changes in the number of species of insects (blue) and birds (orange)

¹ The results are limited to locations where samples were taken.

Study on the effectiveness of community forest management and agroforestry cases in southwestern China

In February 2023, CI China collaborated with forest ecology and forest sustainable management experts from the Chinese Academy of Science to launch a case study on successful collective forest management in southwestern China (Sichuan and Gansu provinces) based on our demonstration in Ganpu Village, Lixian County for villagers.



The three sites where research was conducted

As of early September 2023, research and interviews had been completed for three sites; namely, Liziba Village, with about 330ha of collective-owned forest, nearby Gansu Baishuijiang National Nature Reserve, Changfu Village, with about 230ha, nearby Sichuan Daxiangling Provincial Nature Reserve, and Lianhe Village, with about 130ha, nearby Sichuan Longxi-Hongkou National Nature Reserve. Archetypical community forest management is being carried out in each of these locations. Research will be conducted on the remaining two sites, and the overall research report will be completed by November. This report will be utilized in forest conservation initiatives to be carried out by CI China in Daikin Phase II projects over the next decade (Pic 10–12).

Partner programs with Daikin China

On August 26, 2023, Daikin China held the 16th Naliang Festival. In this event, Daikin China, CI China, and Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation jointly launched the One Hundred Year Daikin, Ten Thousand Tree Forest project. Under this project, employees from Daikin China will plant 100,000 trees in Hongya County, Meishan City, Sichuan Province over the next five years. Daikin China has committed to donating 141,000 renminbi (2.87 million yen) to the project, while CI China will provide technical support and supervise project implementation.

This project was made possible by the ongoing support of Daikin Japan and Daikin China and was born from the foundation of collaboration between Daikin and CI. With this new project, we hope to cooperate further to implement conservation activities in the future (Pic 13–15).

Project Photos



1. Chinese Bamboo Partridge
(*bambusicola thoracica*)



2. Grey-headed woodpecker
(*Picus canus*)



3. Golden Pheasant (*Chrysolophus pictus*)



4. *Byasa Menciuis* (a species of butterfly)



5. Stick insect



6. Insect monitoring



7. Expert collecting soil samples



8. Drying soil samples



9. Prune fruit at project site



10. Liziba Village's community forest—
tea mountain



11. Changfu Village,
Dendrobium officinale
(traditional Chinese herb)
tied on trees to grow



12. Lianhe Village's *Coptis chinensis*
(traditional Chinese Herb) planted
under trees



13. Launch Daikin China staff launching the tree planting project



14. Representatives from CI, Daikin, and YGE



15. CI China staff talk with local partner in Hongya County

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