

Research on Value Accounting of Tropical Forest Environmental Resources and Bringing it in Line with the National Economic Accounting in China

Final Report

PD 39/98 Rev. 2 (M)

I. Introduction

The project was aimed at improving the environment policy on the sustainable management of tropical forests in China by developing a theory and methodological system of tropical forest accounting, enhancing the quantitative and qualitative values of tropical forests, and integrating comprehensively the economic and environmental values of tropical forests in line with the national economic accounting system.

II. Key focus

The key focus of the project was on completing the inventory of tropical forest environment resources and their value accounting, creating new views on values of tropical forests, and developing theories and methodologies for tropical forest environment accounting and proposals for environment policies.

III. Outputs

The outputs of the project were as follows:

- 1) Published research report entitled 'Tropical forest environment: theories and methods'.
- 2) Published research report entitled 'Accounting of tropical forest environment: theories and methods'.
- 3) Published assessment report entitled 'Value assessment of tropical forests: China case study'.
- 4) Convened International Symposium on Value Accounting of Forest Environment.
- 5) Published report entitled 'Green GDP accounting of tropical forests and Hainan case study'.
- 6) Published research report entitled 'Tropical forest environment policy studies'.

- 7) Convened International Workshop on Environmental Economics of Tropical Forests and Green Policy.

IV. Achievements

The achievement of the above outputs has facilitated the realization of the development and specific objectives of the project. It was the first project implemented in China which published the theories and methods for forest valuation and developed a framework for forest accounting. Its case study of forest accounting has become a model in China. The project has also contributed to the training of a large number of professional staff in forest accounting who have become the key trained and specialized personnel spearheading the push towards the application of forest accounting techniques in China. Consequently, green GDP accounting has become a widely known concept throughout China and is increasingly being implemented.

The project has been beneficial to the various relevant ministries and governmental organs in China at the national and provincial levels as well as ITTO and its members and relevant international and academic organizations in promoting and implementing research on the accounting of tropical forests. It has facilitated the recognition of the ecological values and benefits of forests which constitutes one of the five major changes of the forest sector being implemented by the State Forestry Administration of China.

V. Concluding remarks

The implementing agency has submitted the final audited financial statements on the use of project funds in accordance with the project agreement. Tangible outputs of the project have also been submitted to the ITTO Secretariat.