

The Economics and Ecosystem and Biodiversity (TEEB): Promoting a Sustainable
Agriculture and Food Sector (China)

Decisions from the 1st Project Steering Committee Meeting

On July 3, 2020, the 1st national Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting of Project “The Economics and Ecosystem and Biodiversity (TEEB): Promoting a Sustainable Agriculture and Food Sector” (hereafter “TEEBAgriFood Project”) was held successfully online. PSC was chaired by Mr. LI Jun-Sheng, Director of Institute of Ecology, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE-CRAES); other PSC members include: Mr. WANG Quan-Hui, Director of Division for International Cooperation and Exchanges, Rural Energy and Environment Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA-REEA), Mr. ZHUANG Yan, Director of International Organization Programs, Bureau of International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), and Ms. ZHANG Lin-Xiu, Director of UNEP-International Ecosystem Management Partnership (UNEP-IEMP). Representatives from partner agencies and UNEP-IEMP team also attended the meeting.

At the meeting, PSC reviewed the materials presented by the UNEP-IEMP team and deliberated on the selection of case study and host policy institution, potential for implementation, and steering committee composition for next stages of the project, with the following decisions been made.

1. Case study selection. After deliberation on factors such as local features and regional representation, potential to inform policy, government supportiveness, ease of coordination, potential for international comparison and exchanges, and opportunities from the CBD COP15, the PSC has reached the consensus that the case candidate of Tengchong City, Yunnan Province is to be selected for the subsequent scenario analysis phase¹. The advantage of the Tengchong case lies in its full-scale landscape

¹ The other three case candidates are: 1) Grassland Eco-compensation and Award Scheme in Xilingol League, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, 2) Crab-breeding Industry Development at the Gaochun Modern Agricultural Industrial Park, Jiangsu Province, and 3) Integrated Landscape Management of Hani Terraces in Yuanyang County, Yunnan Province.

ecosystem and rich local germplasm resources, the development of high value-added agricultural products and the combination of the three industries, as well as the enthusiasm of the government to participate and the potential of influencing policy and management decisions.

2. Host policy institution. Given the cross-sectoral nature of the case selected and level of supportiveness from respective government agencies, the PSC identified the Tengchong Municipal People's Government as the project's host policy institution. This will facilitate multi-sectoral coordination at the later stage of implementation.
3. Composition of the PSC. As the project activities are carried out at the local level, it is recommended that the PSC should include government representatives at the sub-national and local levels, such as from the Yunnan Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Forest and Grass Bureau, Tengchong Municipal People's Government, and the county level government; representative from private sector was also recommended.

The PSC suggested to proceed with the case study soonest, taking note that to leverage opportunities of the CBD COP15 in Kunming in year to come and other relevant international proceedings so as to showcase the good results of the project. Once the domestic COVID-19 situation is relieved, an on-site investigation was also recommended to determine the entry point of the study, and to further identify supporting technical partners.