2022 ANNUAL REPORT





About Us

Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF) is the first public fundrasing environmental conservation foundation launched by civil society in China. It dedicates itself to protecting wetlands and their biodiversity, as well as conserving nature through public engagement. Currently, MCF is working on its three strategic programs, namely the Guardian of Shenzhen Bay, Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program, and Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Program.

In July 2012, MCF was jointly founded by SEE (Society of Entrepreneurs and Ecology Conservation), entrepreneurs with philanthropic spirit and relevant departments of Shenzhen Municipal Government. Wang Shi and Ma Weihua served as Founding Board Chair; Zhang Bigong, Ai Luming, Sun Lili and Chen Jinsong served as Honorary Board Chairmen/Chairwoman; Lei Guangchun, served as Board Chairman; and Liu Mingda served as Deputy Board Chairman.

Our Vision

Living Wetlands, Sustainable Future.

Our Mission

For a sustainable and abundant future of human and wetlands, we are dedicated to:

- Promoting active wetland management and biodiversity in wetlands;
- Advancing the establishment of wetland education centers, in which connecting people and wetlands;
- Facilitating wetlands with high ecological values to be designated as protected areas.

Our Values

Integrity, Charity, Collaboration, and Embracing Varieties

Founding Board Chair: Wang Shi Ma Weihua

Honorary Board Chairman/

Chairwoman:

Zhang Bigong Ai Luming Sun Lili Chen Jinsong

Honorary Board Member: Chen Jinsong Dan Bin Du Xin Liu Huihui Sun Lili Zhou Weibiao

The 4th Session Board of the Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF)

Term of office: 2022-2027 (in alphabetical order)

Board Chairman: Lei Guangchun

Deputy Board Chairman/Chairwoman:

Liu Mingda Sun Lili

Board Members:

Chen Jinsong Chen Xiaohan

Xia Liyun

Chen Yanping Fei Guoqiang Xiao Xingping Xue Jian

Huang Yunfei Yan Baohua

Ji Shengzhi Zhang Yuan

Youth Observer:

Li Jiayi Qin Yifei

Supervision Committee

Director:

Zuo Shiping

Li Peishan

Wu Qingjie

Supervision Committee

Members:

Peng Fugiang

Su Wei

Zheng Weihe

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A Mission that is Ten Years in the Making



Board Chairman **LEI Guangchun**

The period from 2012 to 2022 marked a decade of cooperation and support for the Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF). It saw MCF acquiring a wealth of experience and significant growth, which gave us the confidence to navigate the future.

The Chinese government invested unprecedented resources into wetland conservation and, as a result, achieved enormous success. The implementation of the *Wetlands Conservation Law* allowed the rest of the world to witness the actions taken by China to conserve and restore wetland ecosystems and biodiversity and live up to its responsibility as a major party to international conventions.

At the opening ceremony of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP14) in November 2022, President Xi Jinping delivered a speech entitled "Protecting Wetlands for Our Future and Scaling up Wetlands Action Across the World", proposing a strategy for global conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands. Included in the strategy is the building of an International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen. This move would mark another milestone in developing Shenzhen, a prosperous city rich in natural resources, into a more ecologically civilized city.

Over the past decade, with the support of Shenzhen authorities, MCF has carried out mangrove conservation, restoration, and CEPA on an ongoing basis. These projects have allowed MCF to identify effective approaches and models, then promote them in other regions.

Extensive public engagement is one of the key underpinnings for the establishment of International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen. It is also the pillar supporting MCF and its efforts over the last decade as well as the source of its vitality.



This is a mission that is ten years in the making. As a Shenzhen-based organization dedicated to the conservation of wetland ecosystems and biodiversity, MCF will continue to act as an open, transparent international platform for collaboration and public engagement, with the support and attention from all sectors of society.

Working Together for a Better Future for All



Deputy Board Chairman **LIU Mingda**

The year 2022 was a year of opportunities and achievements in wetland and biodiversity conservation.

I was invited to attend phase two of the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) in Montreal, Canada, including two side events themed "Eco-Redline: An Innovative Approach for Biodiversity Conservation", and "Harmony between Human and Nature, Building a Clean and Beautiful World Together". I shared with global experts the best practices of wetland ecosystem conservation and mangrove wetland restoration in Shenzhen and the increase of overwintering waterbird population in Leizhou Bay, allowing our international counterparts to know about the environmental achievements in Shenzhen and China. Shenzhen was designated as a "Biodiversity Charming City" at COP15 and a "City with Nature" under CitiesWithNature, elevating the city's influence in global biodiversity conservation.

Against many mega trends, including China's commitment toward its Carbon Peaking and Carbon Neutrality goals, public attention to ESG and sustainable development has reached an unprecedented height in recent years. In 2022, we collaborated with companies and experts to launch a training program on ESG and carbon neutrality, in a bid to rally the public to support our ecological conservation and sustainability targets.

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As an ardent contributor to wetland and biodiversity conservation, we will continue to spare no effort to promote the vision of "Living Wetlands, Sustainable Future". We will also continue to work closely with individuals and organizations on wetland and biodiversity conservation

Driving Change with Passion and Professionalism



Founder / Deputy Board Chairwoman SUN Lili MCF celebrated its tenth birthday in July 2022. We have withstood the passage of time, stayed true to our mission, and established a firm footing in China as we explore professional, scientific methods for wetland conservation, proactively establish platforms for international collaboration, and actively showcase wetland conservation achievements in China.

In 2022, we assisted the government in implementing the Special Action Plan for Mangrove Conservation and Restoration (2020–2025) and organized the first National Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Training, as well as the China-ASEAN Sharing Session on the Restoration and Wise Use of Mangroves. We shared ideas, approaches and practices on natural habitat restoration, advanced scientific wetland conservation and restoration efforts, and enhanced capabilities of nature reserve management.

Our ongoing wetland education endeavors resulted in a series of publications, such as *Planning and Practice of Wetland Centers, and Wetlands Are Beautiful Because of You: Wetland Education Practices in China*. We launched the China Wetland Centers initiative jointly with the Department of Wetlands Management of National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA) and SEE, and organized the CEPA Forum on Wetland Education and Conservation. In 2022, we commenced the preparation of the *National Plan for Mediumand Long-Term Nature Education* in collaboration with our partners. The results of the project are expected to be announced in early July 2023, at the National Nature Education Conference.

Based on the National Action Plan for Conservation of Spoon-Billed Sandpipers 2022-2035 that we compiled as commissioned by the NFGA, we facilitated international collaboration on flyway conservation, becoming a partner of the UNDP-GEF Flyway Conservation Project and a member of the Management Committee of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP). I am very honored to represent MCF in EAAFP as the chair of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force (SBS TF) and initiated the work to prepare the Global Action Plan for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper 2022–2031.

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Going forward, MCF will continue to work closely with our partners to create a Shenzhen model for wetland conservation and development that is grounded in the three international conventions on wetlands, biodiversity, and climate change. We will also establish a framework of social networks, fundraising and empowerment for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through wetland and biodiversity conservation endeavors.

Withstanding the Test of Time



Secretary-General **YAN Baohua**

In 2012, MCF was founded by 32 sponsors/organizations, planting a seed in Shenzhen that would grow into a time-honored international foundation. In the same year, the first full-time employee was hired and the mangrove conservation project was launched. In 2022, MCF had a team of over 40 full-time employees and 859 registered volunteers, dedicated to global wetland and biodiversity conservation through public engagement.

In 2015, MCF became the first social organization appointed by the government to manage and operate a nature park (Futian Mangrove Ecological Park), embarking on the journey of wetland conservation and education. In 2022, at COP14 held in Geneva, Switzerland, Futian Mangrove Ecological Park won the WLI Star Wetland Center Award as the world's first group of winners.

Launched on November 9, 2022, China Wetland Centers (CWC) is a platform for sharing, disseminating, and exchanging wetland education practices in China. It develops and reviews local wetland education practices and promotes exemplary cases across the globe. Thus far, 43 wetland protected areas and 38 wetland education NGOs have participated in CWC.

In 2021, 100 ecological dreams from all sectors of society were sealed in a "time capsule" and buried in IBC 2017 Memorial Garden, only to be unearthed a century later. Just a year later in 2022, one of the dreams – the designation of Futian mangrove as Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (a Ramsar site) – was fulfilled.



Be it a small, insignificant change or a drastic transformation that marked the year, every achievement is the fruit of our supporters' and partners' endeavors. You are the reason why we dare to embrace change and face challenges.



MCF 10 Years of Development 2012-2022

Milestones in 10

2012



Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF) founded in Shenzhen

In July, Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF) was established in Shenzhen. Initiated by SEE, philanthropic entrepreneurs, and local government agencies, MCF pioneered a new management model and became the first foundation in China to publicly nominate and elect citizens as board members.

2013



First group of nature interpreter recruited and trained

In March, MCF recruited and trained the first group of nature interpreters, paving the way for its long-term publicoriented mangrove education and promotion of nature knowledge and environmental ideas. By the end of 2022, MCF had trained and 859 volunteers and established a robust volunteer training process, community-based management, incentive mechanism, and assessment system. It has formed a volunteer team system centered around guided tour volunteers, built on community volunteers, characterized by specialized volunteers, and supplemented by student volunteers. Over the past decade, our volunteers have dedicated around 30,000 hours to facilitate CEPA progressed.



2015

Leopard Cat spotted with infrared cameras

In August, MCF captured images of several leopard cats, a national second-class protected animal in China, through infrared cameras at the Futian Mangrove Nature Reserve for the first time in five years. This was a result of the crowdfunding campaign called "I Want to See the Beautiful Nature". The campaign was initiated by MCF in collaboration with experts for biodiversity surveys in Shenzhen mangrove-covered areas, using infrared cameras to capture species information and traces in the mangrove forest.



Futian Mangrove Ecological Park operated and managed by MCF

On December 28, MCF started to manage the Futian Mangrove Ecological Park under entrustment by Futian District People's Government. It is China's first urban nature park to be operated by an NGO.

Years

Birdwatching activities launched

From September 20, 2014, to April 15, 2015, MCF launched the "2014-2015 Birdwatching Season" activities at the Shenzhen Bay Park and Futian National Nature Reserve in collaboration with Shenzhen Bird Watching Society. Over 300 citizens participated in 20 birdwatching activities.

Shenzhen's first nature education center established

In November, MCF established Shenzhen's first nature education center in cooperation with the Guangdong Neilingding Futian National Nature Reserve Administration, to provide public education on mangrove knowledge, wetland experience, and bird observation. In January 2015, the Futian Mangrove Reserve Nature Education Center was inaugurated. In May 2019, MCF, partnering with the Futian District Education Bureau, Futian District Association for Science and Technology, and the Reserve Management Bureau, launched mangrove education program among primary and middle schools in Futian. Wetland courses in line with basic curriculum standards were developed, and students were sent by class to visit mangrove wetlands. Thus far, nearly 20,000 people and over 4,000 teachers and students have participated in the activities conducted by the Nature Education Center to learn about the mangrove wetland ecosystems and their importance and get involved in mangrove conservation efforts.

2016



The First Shenzhen-Hong Kong Coastal Wetland Conservation Forum

On January 16, the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Coastal Wetland Conservation Forum took place in Shenzhen. Jointly initiated by MCF and WWF Hong Kong and co-hosted by SEE Shenzhen-Hong Kong Project Center, the event received around 150 participants from the two cities, including government officials, wetland managers, researchers, environmentalists, entrepreneurs, and citizens. Focusing on the ecological conservation of Shenzhen Bay (Deep Bay), the forum discussed the two cities' collaboration on ecological protection and sustainable development of the Bay. It was the first non-governmental forum on environmental issues between the two cities. The forum is held by the founders alternatively in Shenzhen and Hong Kong annually.

2017

The 19th IBC Memorial Garden located at south area, Futian Mangrove Ecological Park

From July 23 to 29, the 19th International Botanical Congress (IBC) was held in Shenzhen. Co-hosted by the International Botanical Congress, SEE, MCF, and the Society of Canton Nature Conservation, the event included a public activity called "China Civil Nature Conservation Campaign" and showcased Chinese environmental organizations' biodiversity conservation efforts in China, especially in southern China. During the event, MCF organized the Shenzhen Forum, attracting over 1,000 participants. The 19th IBC Memorial Garden was established in south area, Futian Mangrove Ecological Park, in a decision jointly made by the 19th IBC Organizing Committee and Futian District Government.



Overall renovation of ponds No. 2 to No. 4 completed

During the bird migratory season in 2017, MCF's staff and volunteers spotted some 90 black-faced spoonbills in a single observation in the reserve's renovated ponds. Guided by the Guangdong Neilingding Futian National Nature Reserve Administration Bureau, MCF launched the No. 4 Pond Waterbird Habitat Management and Restoration Project in October 2016. In the winter of the same year, the highest bird count in a single observation hit 6,199, eight times the record in 2015. A large number of migratory birds being observed indicated effective restoration of the habitat.

Plan on Creating a Nature Education System in Shenzhen completed

In December, MCF, commissioned by the Shenzhen Municipal Urban Management Bureau, completed the Plan on Creating a Nature Education System in Shenzhen, based on domestic and international industry experience, laying the foundation for the construction of the natural education system in Shenzhen.

2018



MCF participated in Ramsar Convention COP13

From October 21 to 29, MCF delegation attended the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP13) in Dubai, with a booth at the event venue. On October 25, MCF and Wetlands International (WI) China Office co-hosted a side event titled "Mobilizing Social Participation in Wetland Conservation", attracting over 40 attendees from organizations such as the Wetland Department of NFGA, Hong Kong Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), and Prof. Lei Guangchun, Board Chairman of MCF and recipient of the Luc Hoffmann Medal for Wetland Science and Conservation, delivered a well-received keynote speech titled "Social Engagement in Coastal Wetland Conservation", presenting MCF's model of public engagement in conservation in China.

2019



Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Alliance founded

On April 20, the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Alliance was established at the East Asian-Australian Critically Endangered Waterbird and Coastal Wetland Conservation Forum & Launch of Saving the Spoon-billed Sandpipers Project, co-hosted by the Office of Yancheng Steering Group for Yellow Sea Wetland Nomination for World Natural Heritage, MCF, and Beijing Forestry University Center for East Asian-Australasian Flyway Studies (CEAAF), to promote domestic and international communication and facilitate collaborative conservation endeavors. Initiated by 37 organizations, it serves as a platform for information and practice sharing, project cooperation, personnel training, and organizational capacity building, as well as increasing public awareness of the importance of wetland conservation.

2020



Wang Kai appointed as Global Ambassador for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper Program

On September 5, International Day of Charity, also the Charity Day in China, Wang Kai, a renowned Chinese actor, was appointed as the Global Ambassador for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper Program. In collaboration with Wang Kai, MCF called for jointly protecting the migratory route for 50 million migratory waterbirds, represented by the spoon-billed sandpiper, along the EAAF.



2021



"Mangrove restoration to enhance coastal resilience of Shenzhen metropolitan zone" recognized as one of China's ten nature-based solutions (NbS) case studies

On June 23, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) selected 10 projects as "Nature-based Solutions Case Studies in China" among the country's major ecological conservation and restoration projects. The project of "Mangrove restoration to enhance coastal resilience of Shenzhen metropolitan zone", in which MCF participated, was included. It demonstrates the localization of NbS and social participation in tackling social challenges, providing an example and reference.

Women's Federation founded

On July 14, the Women's Federation of Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF) was created in Futian Mangrove Ecological Park. It is the first women's federation set up within a non-profit environmental organization in Futian District.



Study on Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Strategy in China (Executive Summary) published

On June 8, under the guidance of the Department of Wetlands Management of NFGA, supported by the Shenzhen Municipal Planning and Natural Resources Bureau, Paulson Institute, and Lao Niu Foundation, MCF co-hosted the press Conference for China's Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Strategy Research Results. The Study on Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Strategy in China (Executive Summary) was released at the event, and its full version was published in 2021. Considering the status and features of global and China's mangrove conservation and restoration in the new era, the research reviewed mangrove conservation and restoration in China, analyzed the challenges and opportunities for management, restoration, sustainable use of mangrove wetlands, and set forth a range of targeted feasible measures. It has provided sound scientific support and references for decision-making in development and implementation of mangrove conservation and restoration policies.

MCF became an EAAFP Eurasian otter newly recorded in Futian Mangrove Ecological Park partner

On October 10, World Migratory
Bird Day, MCF became the
39th official partner of the
East Asian-Australasian
Flyway Partnership
(EAAFP). It was the Chinese
Mainland's first NGO to join
the partnership.

At 4 a.m. on October 25, activities of Eurasian otter were recorded in south area of Futian Mangrove Ecological Park. The last documented record in Shenzhen dated back to 1997, with visual records from 2010. The Eurasian otter, a national second-class protected animal in China, was listed in the IUCN Red List as Near Threatened in 2015. The Eurasian otter is known as an indicator of ecological health, and recording it in downtown Shenzhen reflected the city's progress in ecological protection. This was another significant mammal species record following the park's recording of Leopard Cats and Small Indian Civets in 2018 and 2019, respectively.

2022

The First National Wetland Nature Notes Competition launched

On March 20, the China Wildlife Conservation Association and MCF jointly launched the 2022 National Wetland Nature Notes Competition themed "Wetlands Action for People and Nature".

"Happiness Is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland" campaign launched

On October 8, World Migratory Bird Day, MCF, in collaboration with Chow Tai Fook and Wang Kai, launched a spoon-billed sandpiper conservation campaign themed "Happiness Is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland". A non-profit TVC about spoon-billed sandpiper conservation, starred by the Global Ambassador for Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Wang Kai, was released online on the same day. Chow Tai Fook initiated the "Greener Planet Series" ESG campaign and released a public benefit product whose revenue was partially donated to the Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program.

MCF hosted and co-organized COP14 side events

From November 5 to 13, COP14 took place in a hybrid format in Wuhan, China, and Geneva, Switzerland. In his speech at COP14 opening ceremony, President Xi Jinping announced that China would establish an International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen. Guided by relevant authorities, MCF hosted and co-organized side events, including Global Mangroves into 2030/2050 (Geneva) and CEPA Forum on Wetland Education and Conservation (Wuhan), presenting Shenzhen's and China's contributions to wetland conservation. Futian Mangrove Ecological Park became one of the first recipients of the Star Award Wetland Center from Wetland Link International (WLI). The "China Wetland Centers" (CWC) initiative, jointly launched by the Department of Wetlands Management, SEE, and MCF, was officially announced.











10-Year

Donation Data

Donations from public fundraising

¥33.58 (USD 4.70 million) million

fundraising platforms

million people

Total fundraising amounted to

million (USD 27.75 million) Donations from monthly donors

million

(USD 0.26 million)

Total number of monthly donors

37,781 people

Branding & Communication Data (2012–2022)

Followers on all platforms

<u> 280,000</u>

Posts published on all platforms

Joint promotions with KOLs, businesses, and partners

Views on all platforms

million people

Branding & Communication Highlights

★ International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem on July 26, 2022

trending topic on Sina Weibo hot search list

million views



★ World Migratory Bird Day on October 8, 2022

trending topic on Sina Weibo hot search list

million views

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MCF was included in Civic Footprint Index list for four consecutive months, ranking

among 30 foundations with public fundraising certificate in October



<u>Achievements</u>

Joint efforts to create platforms for industry exchanges and cooperation



-China Environmental Grantmakers Alliance (CEGA)

Launched in Beijing on 29th January 2018, CEGA serves as a collaborative and information exchange platform for Chinese environmental grantmakers. CEGA aims to apply strategic philanthropy in environmental grantmaking to guide the funding direction so that to realize the maximum social benefit of charitable funds in the environmental field. The shared values of CEGA members include integrating resources, making joint efforts, and sharing success for a better environmental future.



- Spoon-Billed Sandpiper Conservation Alliance

Founded in April 2019, Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Alliance aims to promote international exchanges and cooperation, training, and capacity building of wetland authorities, research institutions, wetland nature reserves, wetland parks, wetlands of international importance, and government and non-governmental agencies focused on spoon-billed sandpiper conservation in EAAF. With over 40 members, it has organized five symposiums and training sessions.



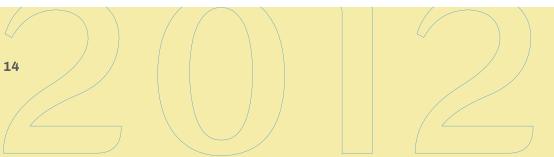
- China Wetland Centers (CWC)

Launched on November 9, 2022, China Wetland Centers (CWC) is a platform for sharing, disseminating, and exchanging wetland education practices of CEPA program in China. It develops and reviews local wetland education practices and promotes exemplary cases across the world. Thus far, 43 wetland reserves and 38 local NGOs have participated in CWC

Awards & Designations (Partial)

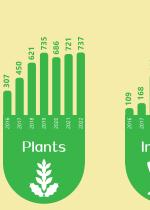
- Full Marks in Foundation Transparency Index (2016-2022)
- WLI Star Wetland Center Award (Futian Mangrove Ecological Park)
- 100+ Biodiversity Positive Practices and Actions (Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program)
- Futian Mangrove Ecological Park Outdoor Classroom first certified Nature Explore Classroom outside North America
- National Eco-Environmental Science Popularization Base
- Guangdong Environmental Education Base
- Guangdong Nature Education Base
- Shenzhen Environmental Education Base
- Shenzhen Popular Science Education Base
- Shenzhen Social Organization Exchange Service Exhibition Site
- Child Friendly City Practice Base





Three Strategic Programs

1 The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay











Monitoring data in Futian Mangrove Ecological Park (2016-2022)

Collaboration Projects

As of December 31, 2022, MCF has signed MOUs with 9 wetlands in China and established partnerships with 8 wetlands at home and abroad.





around 80 million m² of mangrove wetlands in China, planted 165,000 m² of mangroves, removed 182.500 m² of the invasive species Spartina alterniflora, and eliminated 3.500 m² of the injurious species *Derris* trifoliata, effectively mitigating the ecological threats to mangroves and improving wetland quality. At the same time, the program also placed emphasis on enhancing conservation management as we organized training and webinars that benefit more than 800mangrove conservation practitioners.

3 Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program

In Zhanjiang city, Guangdong, MCF restored 41.000 m² of coastal wetlands, improving the wintering sites for 5% of the world's spoon-billed sandpipers. In Yancheng city, Jiangsu, MCF participated and propelled sustainable management of over 8 million m² of wetlands, providing habitats for more than **300.000** waterbirds.











Publications

Amphibians

- Wonderful Wetlands: A Manual for Environmental Education Teachers, a textbook on wetlands written by environmental experts, wetland center staff and frontline teachers in China.
- Planning and Practice of Wetland Centers, China's first guide for building wetland education centers, providing foresight and guidance for the development of wetland centers in China.
- Wetlands Are Beautiful Because of You: Wetland Education Practices in China, a compilation of the practices of frontline wetland educators across China.
- Into the Mangrove: Manual Book for Nature Education and Teaching Activities, a summary of extensive education practices by MCF since 2017, which covers frontline planning, research & development, implementation, training, and evaluation, including the presentation of five sets of practice-proven courses, along with complete teaching aids and toolkits.

Volunteers

As of December 31, 2022, MCF has 859 volunteers involved in nature education projects, wetland education, wetland conservation, and site operations, serving over 200,000 people.

The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay



Program Introduction

Shenzhen Bay, as the geographical center of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF), provides an important stopover site and habitat for tens of thousands of migratory birds every year. It is home to more than 300 hectares of mangroves, which can protect against wind and waves and nourish the growth and reproduction of a wide variety of animals and plants. However, the coastal wetlands in Shenzhen Bay are facing many challenges due to the aggravation of human disturbance and the invasion of alien species.

Sciencebased conservation

to gradually restore coastal wetland habitats in a science-based and effective manner, enhance ecosystem services, reduce human interference, and create suitable habitats for migratory birds and native living organisms;

Wetland education

to help citizens approach wetlands, improve their environmental literacy, and strengthen the teams of wetland conservation;

Regional and international cooperation

to strengthen Shenzhen-Hong Kong cooperation, promote the building of green Greater Bay Area, jointly promote international cooperation in global mangrove protection with Shenzhen Bay as the starting point, and provide training programs on scientific research and sustainable development.

Annual Review

In 2022, The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay program kicked off a new five-year cycle to further contribute to site operation, wetland conservation and education in accordance with MCF's organizational strategy. MCF explored the social and ecological aspects of the management framework for site operations and co-built a green, urban communal space in Shenzhen Bay. We leveraged technology and teamed up with others to launch a study on wetland biodiversity and restoration at the estuary of the Shenzhen River. We conducted educational courses on the top five topics of Shenzhen Bay wetland conservation at three nature education centers in Shenzhen Bay and other locations in Shenzhen, driving public action on the conservation and wise use of wetlands. We also facilitated government visits, media interviews, and reporting on the establishment of the International Mangrove Center, showcasing our efforts in wetland and biodiversity conservation.



Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Exploring social and ecological aspects of the management framework for site operations

MCF learned from the agencies managing municipal parks, explored approaches to wetland park management, refined the scope of work, job criteria, and performance standards for the cleaning, greenery, security, and IT functions of a wetland park, and revised 45 management policies across five main categories. MCF continuously balanced the opposing requirements between municipal park management and maintenance, and the needs for biodiversity conservation, formulating the Guide on Ecosystem Management of Futian Mangrove Ecological Park, and the Guide on the Management and Treatment of Stray Animals in the Park.

Our achievements in day-to-day site operations include:

- Working with local communities to tackle challenges from the pandemic, facilitating smooth operations throughout the year;
- Partnering with the border control management authority to preserve safety and peace within the controlled area;
- Teaming up with the meteorological observatory to promote awareness of meteorology and site management;
- Actively participating in national promotional activities for science education and completing the review for the Shenzhen Nature Education School award.
- Being recognized as an off-campus Young Pioneers education center by the Futian Young Pioneers' Working Committee



Using woody debris in the park and other plants to create a dynamic, engaging and green ecological

Key Result 2 Leveraging technology for conservation efforts

We worked with Hong Kong counterparts on wetland restoration at the estuary of the Shenzhen River, clearing 13.08 hectares of Sonneratia caseolaris, an alien mangrove species, which poses a threat to native mangrove

species and avian habitats in the estuary. MCF also reached an agreement with WWF Hong Kong and the Shenzhen One Planet Foundation to replant native mangroves across 1.08 hectares of land, accelerating the restoration of mangroves in the estuary.

A consortium formed by MCF and Shenzhen University won the project tendered by the Shenzhen Wildlife Protection Management Office to monitor the restoration of the mangrove wetland at the estuary of the Shenzhen River. Our proposal was approved by experts from 12 agencies, universities and organizations. Amongst them are the Water Affairs Bureau of Futian District, Guangdong Neilingding Futian National Nature Reserve Administration Bureau, Shenzhen River Basin Management Center under the Water Affairs Bureau of Shenzhen, Greater Bay Area Mangrove Wetland R&D Center, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, WWF Hong Kong, Third Institute of Oceanography under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Southern University of Science and Technology, Xiamen University, Sun Yat-sen University, and Shenzhen Bird Watching Society.

In collaboration with the Shenzhen Bird Watching Society and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society, MCF launched concurrent waterbird survey at Shenzhen Bay, expanding our understanding of avian activity in the area and contributing to the nomination



Bird ringers check fledging



Otter droppings found during a study

of the Futian Mangrove National Nature Reserve as a Ramsar site. We worked with Shenzhen University and the National Bird Banding Center of China on bird banding and training, initiating the first study in Shenzhen to track migratory birds' migration via satellite.

Furthermore, we launched a survey on Eurasian otters in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) in cooperation with Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden. The study allowed us to identify the distribution of the Eurasian otter population in the GBA and risk factors endangering the species, set out key conservation areas for the Eurasian otter and a system for long-term monitoring, and proposed an action plan for the conservation of the Eurasian otter.

Key Result 3 Pushing for public action on conservation and wise use of wetlands

MCF conducted targeted courses at three nature education centers in Shenzhen Bay and other locations in Shenzhen, targeting middle and primary school students, the public, and corporate partners. We carried out 400 courses and activities on wetland education throughout the year. These courses, which varied in content and format, attracted 23,352 participants. In 2022, MCF conducted 23 volunteer training sessions; 1,876 volunteers were involved in 258 events and spent a total of 5,125 hours serving 8,997 people.

We designed a wetland education curriculum of 10 classes, centered on the top five topics of wetland conservation for middle and primary school students. We continued to work with the Guangdong Neilingding Futian National Nature Reserve Administration Bureau, Futian Education Bureau, and Futian Association for Science and Technology on mangrove-related science education projects for middle and primary school students in Futian. We designed a Green Bay nature education trail, a supplementary self-guided handbook, and a birdwatching trail for Shenzhen Bay, offering a better self-guided nature education experience for visitors to Futian Mangrove Ecological Park and Shenzhen Bay Park.



An interpretation board located along the Green Bay nature education trail



Primary school students attending a wetland education course in the mangrove

The awards we received in 2022 for our educational achievements:

- Futian Mangrove Ecological Park was granted the Star Wetland Center Award by Wetland Link International, which was reported by a dozen media agencies.
- "Migratory Birds and Shenzhen Bay" and "Birdwatching in the Mangrove" were awarded excellent nature education courses by the Forestry Bureau of Guangdong Province in 2022.
- "Futian District Middle and Primary School Student Science Education Program" was recognized as an exemplary benchmark by the Planning and Natural Resources Bureau of Shenzhen.
- MCF's invasive species removal program, "Citizen Science: Fighting the Green Monsters", was recognized as an exemplary benchmark.



Message from Our **Partners**

Tang Yongqiong

Director of Shenzhen Bay Park

As fellow guardians of Shenzhen Bay, we understand keenly how precious wetlands and how fragile their ecosystems are. Through The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay, we preserve the ecological balance as well as increase public awareness and engagement in wetland conservation. We believe that Shenzhen Bay Park and MCF's collaboration in The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay, including wetland conservation, restoration, and education, will contribute to the sustainable development of an ecologically thriving Shenzhen Bay and the building of a healthier, better future for the bay.

Comments from Experts

Ye Qing

Party Secretary and Chairman of Shenzhen Institute of Building Research Co., Ltd. & Standing Committee Member of the 7th Shenzhen Municipal People's Congress

The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay program is a strategic initiative on wetland conservation, attests to MCF's strategic foresight. Scientific studies and monitoring conducted as part of the project have generated invaluable data to deepen our understanding of changes in wetland ecosystems and the need for conservation. The project places a strong emphasis on the importance of environmental education and public involvement and helps to raise public awareness of wetland conservation.

The program is also a platform for cross-border collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, which has facilitated the sharing of findings from scientific studies, harmonization of conservation and management policies, and joint efforts to tackle problems in wetland ecosystems.

The program is a model for social organizations that wish to play a part in protecting biodiversity in the city and champion sustainable development. It also sets an example for wetland conservation in other regions by other organizations.

Outlook for 2023

Through the Guardian of Shenzhen Bay program, MCF will mobilize more resources from all social sectors to explore the application of science and technology in wetland conservation. We will forge ahead resolutely, think out of the box, and protect what we have achieved while advancing our efforts in wetland restoration. We will strengthen Shenzhen-Hong Kong collaboration to co-build a green bay, boost collaborative conservation in the GBA, drive efforts to improve local ecosystems, and make Shenzhen Bay an international benchmark of biodiverse eco-bay. MCF will continue to explore the framework of public engagement in conservation, elevate education on Shenzhen Bay wetland, foster public attention, support and involvement in wetland conservation, boost public awareness of wetland conservation, and strengthen our influence in the global community.



YIN Yuzhu

Director of The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay Executive Director of Futian Mangrove Ecological Park

Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program





Program Introduction

Bird is an important indicator of organism group in wetland ecosystem, as well as a major target in wetland protection. However, the population of migratory waterbirds in the EAAF is declining sharply by 5-9% every year, making the EAAF become the flyway in the world which faces the most severe threat in terms of bird conservation. China is an important part of EAAF. As a flagship species of EAAF, only about 800 individuals of spoon-billed sandpiper (*Calidris pygmaea*) are living worldwide, and the bird species is listed as a critically endangered (CR) species in the world and a wild animal under first-class protection in China. Therefore, enhancing the protection of the spoon-billed sandpiper, which is the umbrella species and flagship species in wetland ecosystem, can better help protect the migratory waterbirds along the whole EAAF.

To this end, the MCF and the Center for East Asian-Australasian Flyway Studies (CEAAF) of Beijing Forestry University jointly launched the "Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program", which focuses on:

Monitoring and research to find out the current status of migratory waterbirds and their habitats, learn about the reaction and adaptation of waterbirds to the threats of existing wetlands, and provide theoretical support for the protection and management of coastal wetlands in China.

Protection of key waterbird habitats to identify key waterbird habitats, analyze the gap in terms of wetland protection and management, develop conservation strategies, summarize and constantly update the experiences in terms of ecological monitoring, wetland restoration and management, building and operation of nature education centers, etc.

International coordination

to analyze the new situation regarding the protection of migratory waterbirds represented by the spoon-billed sandpiper in the context of globalization, and promote the synergy of global conservation actions based on the EAAF.



Annual Review

In 2022, MCF strengthened international collaboration on the Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program under our organizational strategy. We started working to prepare the *Global Action Plan for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper 2022–2031* and put together a team of international experts. We entered into a strategic partnership with the UNDP-GEF Flyway Conservation Network and launched "China Flyway Conservation Network for Migratory Birds" with our partners and agencies at COP14, in response to President Xi Jinping's call to protect the four flyways in China in his speech at COP14 opening ceremony.

With the guidance of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, MCF drafted the national action plan for the conservation of the spoon-billed sandpiper, blackfaced spoonbill, Chinese crested tern, and red-crowned crane.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Strengthened international collaboration on flyway conservation

MCF became an official partner of the UNDP-GEF flyway conservation project, co-hosted the international flyway forum at COP14, launched an international initiative to protect flyways, and held the inaugural birdwatching festival in Shanghai themed "waterbird friendly communities" along the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf and coastal areas.

Sun Lili, the Founder and Deputy Board Chairwoman of MCF became the chair of the Spoon-Billed Sandpiper Task Force (SBS TF) at EAAFP. We started compiling the wetland restoration and CEPA sections for the draft Global Action Plan for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper 2022-2031. We actively coordinated affairs of EAAFP SBS TF, and played a role in policy advocacy and sustainable financing based on our strengths in organization, fundraising and policy synergy. The agreement supports international collaboration for the breeding grounds of spoon-billed sandpipers in Russia and their wintering grounds in Myanmar and other areas.



Display materials at the COP14 site



Inaugural birdwatching festival themed "waterbird friendly communities" along the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf and coastal areas



MCF drafted the National Action Plan for Conservation of Spoon-Billed Sandpipers 2022-2035 as commissioned by the National Forestry and Grassland Administration. We also facilitated the formulation of similar national action plans for black-faced spoonbills, red-crowned cranes, and Chinese crested terns, which set out the requirements and approaches for the management of habitats for four key migratory avian species - plover waterbirds, spoonbills, cranes and storks, and gulls, as well as wetland restoration.

Key Result 2 Promoting social engagement in wetland conservation, which is best represented in the Tiaozini Wetland

MCF stepped up efforts to conserve the Tiaozini Wetland, including ongoing waterbird studies, supporting the restoration endeavors, and pushing for refined management. We participated in and organized promotional activities such as the Tiaozini 720 Forum and expanded the scope and depth of our involvement in wetland conservation and management. In November 2022, MCF launched the Tiaozini Ant Forest program online. Over nine million people have redeemed their patch of Tiaozini Ant Forest.



Second "Tiaozini 720" Forum was held successfully on July 20-21, 2022

Key Result 3 Integrating funded projects and creating a signature project covering key migratory waterbirds

MCF expanded the scope of the Shaohua Project to cover 12 species in the *Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative*. We improved our funding system including funding rules, review procedures, and project supervision to direct funds toward the protection of more migratory bird species and wetlands. In 2022, eight projects were supported by the Shaohua Project. Project results were presented at COP14 in Switzerland and Wuhan, China. In addition, our spoon-billed sandpiper conservation practice was identified as one of China's top ten waterbird conservation practices at a side event of COP14.



Spoon-Billed Sandpiper Program was successfully selected in Ten Successful Stories of Waterbird Protection in China

Comments from Experts

Elena Lappo

SBS focal point for Russia, the leader of the Chukotka expedition

Since our first meeting in 2018, MCF and Lili Sun personally became one of the main donors of our survey of SBS in the breeding grounds and came to Chukotka for the joint field work.

We are very much thankful to Lili and her team that even in 2020-2022 when many difficulties appeared the last time, which brought on the risk our international and national scientific work on SBS, they stay as the main donor of out works in Chukotka and all other the flyway.

And we have a lot to do together in future hoping to save SBS - many joint scientific plans and hope for future international cooperation, which is very much important for survey and conservation of migratory birds, such as SBS and many others, which migrate across the world from Chukotka breeding grounds via EAAF to China and South-East Asia.

Outlook for 2023

In the new year, we will continue to carry out scientific research and monitoring, and elevate capabilities and level of spoon-billed sandpiper conservation in China to create more best practices. We will continue to work with others to conserve the spoon-billed sandpiper as the flagship species for the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) and their habitats, complete and release the *Global Action Plan for Spoon-Billed Sandpiper 2022–2031*.



Chen Qing

Senior Project Manager of Coastal Conservation Project

Mangrove Conservation & Restoration Program



Program Introduction

Mangrove wetland, as a coastal forest ecosystem, acts as a key barrier against climate-related disasters for coastal communities. It is also one of the marine ecosystems with the richest biodiversity and the highest carbon sequestration efficiency. However, 35% of the global mangroves have disappeared in the second half of the 20th century, and China even lost 73% of its mangrove area. The conservation and restoration of mangroves is especially vital nowadays as we are tackling climate change and its social, economic and ecological impacts.

To promote the effective conservation and restoration of mangrove wetlands in China and Southeast Asia, MCF initiated the "Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Program", which focuses on:

Mangrove wetland restoration

to return ponds to forests/wetlands, control alien species, conduct natural restoration and restore degraded mangroves, support relevant scientific research and carry out demonstration projects.

Wise use

to explore ways of wise use in eco-friendly aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove "blue carbon" and non-timber forest products, etc.

Effective management of protected areas

to cooperate with key protected areas in ecological monitoring, wetland education and community co-management, and hold special training program to help improve the management level of mangrove protected areas in China.

Annual Review

In 2022, the Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Program delivered encouraging results in promoting nature-based solutions, mangrove conservation and restoration, and community-based mangrove management. MCF established a funding system for the program to fund scientific studies and conservation practices of mangrove wetland ecosystems. We continued to promote exchanges and capacity-building for protected areas and provide reference for scientific decision-making and meticulous management of protected areas. Additionally, the program team participated in international conferences and events and expanded global partnerships to jointly advance mangrove conservation.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Launching demonstration projects of mangrove wetland restoration

MCF signed cooperation agreements with the Quanzhou Bay Estuary Wetland Natural Reserve and the Guangxi Shankou Mangrove Ecological National Nature Reserve to jointly carry out mangrove wetland restoration projects. To restore the mangrove wetland ecosystem and enhance biodiversity, the program team carried out artificial interventions: removed *Spartina alterniflora*, planted mangroves, and conducted ecological monitoring, restored around 22.4 hectares of mangrove wetland in total.



Program exhibition board





Mangrove planting

Key Result 2 Promoting nature-based solutions

Based on industry developments, MCF conducted surveys on mangrove restoration projects and mangrove utilization in protected areas in China, refining the experience system for mangrove conservation and restoration. Guided by the National Forestry and Grassland Administration and the Ministry of Natural Resources, we organized the first "National Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Training" and "the China-ASEAN Sharing Session on the Restoration and Wise Use of Mangroves" for protected areas and forestry authorities. Experts in China and abroad were invited to share nature-based restoration ideas, approaches and practices, attracting 700 participants.



Held 2022 National Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Training

Key Result 3 Driving community-based engagement in sustainable mangrove conservation

The program team explored community-based involvement in mangrove conservation. Three communities, namely, Xia Village in Beihai, Beijia Village, and Hebei Village in Zhanjiang, were engaged in mangrove wetland conservation and monitoring, which effectively relieved the management pressure of local protected areas. Through a partnership with Zhanjiang Mangrove National Nature Reserve, the program team organized peanut worms farming training in the Gaoqiao Hongzhai community in Zhanjiang, providing alternative livelihood guidance for local residents.



Group photo of Beihai guides participating in a coastal culture and wetland conservation activity

Key Result 4 Establishing a funding system and initiating a funding program

In March 2022, the program launched the "Qianhong Project" for funding mangrove ecosystem research. To address the challenges and research gaps in mangrove conservation and restoration, the project focuses on studying and breeding rare and endangered mangrove species, monitoring and managing alien mangroves and harmful organisms, and managing mangrove wetlands sustainably. The program received 23 applications and approved six from Hainan, Guangdong, Guangxi, and Fujian. It has funded scientific studies and conservation practices of mangrove ecosystems, contributing to China's mangrove conservation and restoration.







Comments from Experts

Zhou Haichao

Associate Professor of College of Life Sciences and Oceanography, Shenzhen University

MCF continuously pioneers innovative wetland conservation practices and promotes best practices.

Peng Yisheng

Associate Professor of Department of Environmental Science, School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Sun Yat-sen University

Qianhong Project, initiated and organized by MCF, provides a down-to-earth, community-oriented platform for the conservation, restoration, wise use, and management of China's mangroves and coastal wetlands. It is a strong supporter for researchers, nature enthusiasts, and environmentalists, who care about mangroves and coastal wetlands, to pursue their passion and aspirations. Covering key regions where mangroves are distributed in China, the project has yielded great results in endangered species protection, wetland resource management, and community-based wetland management and filled the gap beyond scientific research and governmental oversight. It is a new model and approach for nature conservation efforts in China.

Outlook for 2023

In 2023, we will conduct studies to understand the issues in different regions to figure out more reasonable, efficient solutions and launch diverse demonstration projects for the restoration of forests and wetlands. In doing so, we expect to provide suggestions and rationale for mangrove conversation and restoration. Furthermore, we will continue to propel international cooperation to provide China's perspectives and approaches for international mangrove conservation.



Ye Mouxin

Project Manager of Coastal Protection Project

Partner Collaboration

Annual Review

In 2022, MCF facilitated the preparation of the International Mangrove Center, established an international cooperation network, set up fundraising and empowerment mechanisms, promoted extensive and diverse collaborations, and worked with SEE Liaoning, Pearl River, and East China Project Centers on wetland conservation. As part of our two strategic conservation projects, our collaborative team set up on-site workstations in Tiaozini in Jiangsu Province, and Dongtan in Shanghai, and carried out site-specific activities.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Constructing Network Mechanism of "Integrating Multiple Networks"

MCF facilitated the establishment of the International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen. We joined the side events of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP14) in Wuhan, China and Switzerland, including "Global Waterbird Flyways and Habitats Conservation Forum" and "Protection and Development of National Wetland Parks in China". We supported the UNDP-GEF Flyway Conservation Network, funded the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), initiated the "Green Greater Bay Area" Wetland conservation network, enhanced the Yellow River Wetland conservation network, carried out work to create the mangrove conservation and patrol network, advanced the cooperation network of waterbird-friendly communities in the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf and coastal areas, and participated in forums such as Roundtable for Global Coastal Wetland City Network.

Key Result 2 Promoting extensive and diverse collaborations



MCF and SEE Liaoning Project Center attended "World Ocean Day" – clean the ocean campaign hosted by the Panjin Municipal Government and the Liaoning Provincial Government in 2022



The promotional campaign for World Environment Day on June 5, themed "Wetland Biodiversity Wonderland" & Wetlands Conservation Law

Through the SEE Wetland Conservation Alliance, MCF worked with SEE Liaoning, Pearl River, and East China Project Centers to advance wetland conservation projects.

- MCF joined hands with SEE Liaoning Project Center to build the Liaohe National Park. We also partnered with the Liaoning Department of Natural Resources, the Institute of Strategic Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Panjin Reserve to explore the feasibility of a green development fund for Liaohe River Estuary National Park and host the Birdloving Week and a promotional campaign on World Oceans Day on June 8.
- 2 MCF worked with SEE Pearl River Project Center on the site management, public education, and conservation of Guangzhou Wanzuitou Wetland. We explored park management with a low level of human intervention. With student volunteers complementing autonomous patrol facilities, we built a 24/7 smart monitoring system with minimal human interventions. We also helped

the educational team hold campaigns, including World Environment Day on June 5 and "Meeting the Wetland Ambassador".

3 MCF worked with SEE East China Project Center on site management, education, community-based engagement, and franchise operations of Chongming Dongtan Wetland. By optimizing the organizational

structure of the operations team, the roles of patrol and interpretation have been strengthened to encompass multiple skills. We actively explored the connection between the Dongtan World Heritage Site application and community collaboration, carrying out a series of activities such as wetland clean-up events, the "One Yellow Flower" campaign, art co-creation workshops, and the inaugural Dongtan Coastal Community Birdwatching Festival. Among these, the Birdwatching Festival has become a designated annual event by the Chongming District government in 2023.



The first coastal community bird-watching festival of Chongming Dongtan took place on December 17, 2022

Key Result 3 Establishing and managing workstations

Based on the organizational strategy, MCF set up on-site workstations with personnel stationed at Chongming Dongtan in Shanghai, and Tiaozini in Jiangsu Province. The team is responsible for managing project sites, workstations, and important partnerships and supporting other teams' work in the project sites. We also supported the formulation of the 'Stationed Assignment Management Regulations' and took the lead in drafting the 'Workstation Management Regulations'.



A youth activity organized by the Dongtan workstation



Tiaozini workstation

Outlook for 2023

MCF will continue to promote cooperation across different regions and areas. We will launch the "Green Greater Bay Area" project in 2023 and jointly initiate the Protected Area Cooperation Network for Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). We will promote nature-based management practices, establish a platform for diverse cooperation, and foster the public and private sectors' engagement to make the GBA a world-class bay area. Based on the experience we gained in the Liaohe River Estuary, Yellow River Estuary and Tiaozini projects, and Chongming Dongtan, we will review our Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf conservation strategy to advance capacity building and development of the protected areas. We will work with our partners to create and manage national parks and promote greater public engagement. Additionally, we will explore collaborative models between green finance and industry sustainable development, including mechanisms for blue carbon assessment and trading. We will conduct training sessions on wetland conservation and carbon neutrality, and develop comprehensive ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) pilot projects to establish replicable models.

International Cooperation

Annual Review

In 2022, MCF facilitated the national government and the Shenzhen municipal government in the preparation of the International Mangrove Center; bid to host side events of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP14) and the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15); participated in the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and was designated as an official partner by the UNDP-GEF Flyway Conservation Network.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Attending COP14, hosting or co-organizing its side events, and facilitating the preparation of the International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen.

In early November 2022, MCF delegations attended the Opening Ceremony of COP14 in Wuhan, China, and Geneva, Switzerland. Under the auspices of related agencies, MCF hosted or co-organized side events, including "Global Mangroves into 2030/2050" (Geneva, November 7) and "CEPA Forum on Wetland Education and Conservation" (Wuhan, November 9). The organization showcased Shenzhen and China's contributions to wetland conservation through exhibition booths, exchanges, and salon sharing at the event.

On November 5, President Xi Jinping, in his speech at the Opening Ceremony of COP14, announced that China would build an International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen. On November 12 (GMT+2), COP14 adopted a draft resolution supporting China and other interested countries to jointly build the International Mangrove Center.



MCF delegation attended COP15

Key Result 2 Eco-Redline: An Innovative Approach for Biodiversity Conservation

On December 7, 2022 (GMT-4), MCF was invited to attend phase two of COP15 in Montreal, Canada. The organization also co-hosted a side event, "Ecological-Red Line: An Innovative Approach to Biodiversity Conservation." Liu Mingda, Deputy Board Chairman of MCF and Member of the Supervisory Board of the Society of Entrepreneurs and Ecology (SEE) Conservation, made a presentation entitled "Technology Empowers Ecoprotection – Wetland Ecosystem Conservation in Shenzhen, China" and demonstrated how satellite remote sensing, drones, and AI helped with MCF's conservation endeavors.

In addition, the MCF delegation was deeply involved in the side event "Harmony between Human and Nature, Building a Clean and Beautiful World Together", and delivered a speech entitled "Biodiversity Conservation in China's Coastal Regions – A Case Study on Leizhou Bay", showing the organization's environmental projects in Leizhou Bay, including the control of smooth cordgrass, the conservation of spoon-billed sandpipers, and community engagement.





MCF delegation attended COP14



Message from Our Partners

Pieter van Eijk

Programme het Coasts and Deltas - Wetlands International

In recent years, the Mangrove Conservation Foundation has demonstrated to be a strong leader in conserving and restoring mangroves and associated ecosystems and maintaining their unique biodiversity. MCF truly works from the ground level, all the way up to a global scale. It has established impressive conservation and restoration sites, developed world-class education centers and has taken a strong role in advising other stakeholders in China in the adoption of science-based approaches to mangrove management. As a member of the Global Mangrove Alliance and collaboration partner of Wetlands International, MCF has played a critical role in connecting international and Chinese experience. Fostering such exchange is vital to achieve ambitious targets for Mangrove conservation that hve been set globally and in China.

Outlook for 2023

MCF will continue to boost international cooperation on mangrove and wetland conservation, including providing professional support for the establishment and operation of the International Mangrove Center and hosting the International Mangrove Conservation Cooperation Forum for global experts to explore hotspot issues and gaps and promote global synergy in mangrove conservation and restoration. We will create the International Mangrove Conservation Fund as a platform to align professional and financial resources at home and abroad. We will also support training in mangrove conservation and restoration, and carry out demonstration projects in mangrove conservation and restoration. We will also support mechanism research and application for mangroves and blue carbon.



Patrick Yeung

Senior Program Director of Conservation Program Office

Wetland Education

Program Introduction

CEPA (Communication, Capacity building, Education, Participation and Awareness) is the core competence of MCF to achieve its strategic mission. Depending on Shenzhen Bay and wetland centers in other places, MCF aims to promote best practice of wetland centers and CEPA program in China, and to establish China Wetland Centers network to inspire, support, and provide capacity building for wetland centers across the nation. Our goal is that "Wetlands are conserved, wisely used, restored and their benefits are recognized and valued by all".

The main work includes:

- Support Shenzhen Bay Project to demonstrate a global winning wetland center;
- Through collaboration with local stakeholders, support Chongming Dongtan Nature Reserve, Guangzhou Wanzuitou Wetland and other wetlands to establish local wetland centers, by planning learning strategy, implementing interpretation design and exhibitions, developing local education curriculums, and capacity building.
- Support "China Wetland Centers Initiative" network, which was jointly launched by Wetland Department of National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA), SEE and MCF. It aims to establish a national wetland education and exchange platform to support wetlands to practice CEPA program and to develop new wetland centers
- Encourage international exchange and cooperation, promoting the spread of best practices of local wetland centers in the world

Annual Review

MCF envisions widespread attention and care for wetlands by educational approach. We helped wetland nature reserves to provide CEPA program. Besides our early experience in Shenzhen Bay, we also focus on Chongming Dongtan and Wanzuitou wetlands since 2022. We launched the China Wetland Centers initiative as a platform for exchanges, engagement, and empowerment of wetland education in a bid to promote CEPA work in China. Based on past experience, we also aim to share cases and best practices of local CEPA in China by means of research, publications, and capacity training.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Promoting wetland education at various types of wetland reserves.

Creating a wetland education model for Chongming Dongtan Nature Reserve

MCF worked with Chongming Dongtan Nature Reserve and SEE Donghai Project Center to develop the Dongtan wetland education model that incorporates three areas: school courses, interpretation services, and community-based activities. We designed marine litter-themed courses for third to sixth-grade students and wetland ecosystem restoration courses for seventh to ninth-grade students based on the reserve's conservation needs. We started interpretation solutions targeting groups, individuals, and



Teacher training at Chongming Dongtan

company visitors and trained guides to support public campaigns; joined hands with the Government of Zhongxing Town and neighboring communities to carry out wetland cleaning workshops, art experiential activities, community bird-watching festival and other activities to encourage greater public engagement in the nomination of Chongming Dongtan for world heritage and rural revitalization; and worked with the reserve to design the display of four exhibition halls and facilitate the nomination of the reserve for world heritage, paving the way for next year's education campaigns and a better wetland education model.

2 Promoting wetland education through synergy with front-end projects

Through activities such as Nature Notes Competition and the call for participation in the China Wetland Centers initiative, we extended our engagement with wetland nature reserves on the recommendation of front-end projects and explored more possibilities for deep cooperation. We set up new wetland education centers at reserves such as Shanghai Chongming Dongtan Birds National Nature Reserve and Guangzhou Wanzuitou Wetland.

Key Result 2 Building a wetland education network in China

1 Launching the China Wetland Centers initiative (network)

On November 9, 2022, the China Wetland Centers initiative (CWC) was launched jointly by the Department of Wetland Management of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, SEE, and MCF. CWC serves as a platform to share experiences, spread knowledge, and exchange ideas on wetland education in China. It also reviews local wetland education to select best practices and promote them in the global arena. Thus far, CWC has gathered 67 participants, including 31 wetland nature reserves and 36 charity organizations.

2 Carrying out education campaigns based on the Internet

The 2022 Brid-loving Week: "National Nature Notes Competition" involved more than 25 wetland reserves, administrative agencies, and 43 organizations in the private sector. During the event, 18 online and offline training sessions were organized for teachers in different regions. The competition received 2,679 entries from 18 provinces, municipalities directly under the central government, and autonomous regions. Millions of participating primary and secondary school students visited wetlands to watch birds and learn about wetland wildlife.

3 Achieving fruitful results in international

On November 9, 2022, MCF held the "CEPA Forum on Wetland Education and Conservation" as a side event of COP14. At the event, organizations across the world shared their practices; representatives from WWT, WWF, EAAFP, Futian National Nature Reserve, Suzhou Wetland Management Station, and Haizhu Wetland delivered a speech; significant initiatives and projects were launched, including the China Wetland Centers initiative, 2023 Nature Notes Competition, Waterbird-friendly Communities Campaign, Shaohua Project, and Qianhong Project; awards ceremonies were held, including WLI China's Outstanding Wetland Awards and 2022 Birdloving Week: Nature Notes Awards; and publications and courses on wetland education were revealed.

The forum facilitated exchanges among wetland education and conservation organizations worldwide and promoted China's wetland conservation practices.



Group photo of CWC Annual Conference



The national first prize-winning work of 2022 Bird-loving Week:



Group photo of (some of) winners of 2022 Birdloving Week: Nature Notes Awards in Wuhan

Key Result 3 Enhancing experience sharing system for effective empowerment

1 Publishing a manual book on wetlands in Shenzhen

Into the Mangrove: Manual Book for Nature Education and Teaching Activities presents a series of courses based on Shenzhen's local natural environment and incorporates environmental education into school courses. It debuted at the "CEPA Forum on Wetland Education and Conservation" under COP14 this year and is expected to be published in 2023. The manual book contains school courses related to mangrove protection, which will be helpful to global mangrove protection. The book encapsulates MCF's practices in natural education since 2017, particularly the experience in planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating school courses gained from the school course program on Shenzhen Bay Mangrove Wetland for grades 1 to 9 students. It is the first time that MCF has presented five sets of courses that have been proven effective by real programs along with teaching aids and toolkits.



2 Publishing an evaluation report on school course program

MCF compiled a case study report on China's environmental education in an international journal of environmental education, based on our evaluation outcomes of the school course program on Shenzhen Bay Mangrove Wetland. The report presents the latest developments of CEPA programs in China to the world and MCF's professional research in education evaluation to counterparts in China and abroad. The report is expected to be published in an English journal in 2023.



Message from Our Partners

Niu Dongliang

Director of Chongming Dontan National Nature Reserve Management Office

The past ten years were a fleeting period of time. Over the past ten years, MCF has grown into a renowned non-governmental environmental organization with fruitful achievements in conserving wetland and wetland biodiversity and increasing public engagement in nature conservation. The report to the 20th National Congress of the CPC states that "Chinese modernization is the modernization of harmony between humanity and nature." The statement injects impetus into ecological conservation initiatives and provides a broader platform for non-governmental environmental organizations to play their roles. I wish MCF a more magnificent chapter in its contribution to China's ecological advancement.

Outlook for 2023

MCF is committed to partnering with wetlands such as Shenzhen Bay Wetland to create wetland education centers and improve China's wetland education center network to empower wetland conservation and strive for greater visibility and broader recognition of the value of wetland conservation.

In the future, we will focus on setting up wetland education centers in wetland reserves. MCF will facilitate the China Wetland Centers initiative, establish wetland centers, support the CEPA program of the National Mangrove Center, collaborate with the international community, and empower industry players. We will forge more partnerships and mobilize more social resources to advance wetland education to increase public awareness and engagement in wetland conservation.



Huizhe Chief Education
Researcher

Cooperation & Development

Fundraising data*

Donation from public fundraising

¥6.94

The number of MCF monthly

Annual fundraising million

Donation times

million times

The number of monthly donors for the Mangrove Conservation and Restoration program on Tencent Philanthropy Platform

Annual Review

2022, MCF derived its income primarily from public fundraising, corporate donations, peer funding, and government purchases. The organization's fundraising efforts focused on conserving wetlands and their biodiversity and acquiring donors and donations through diverse channels to secure strategic funding for basic needs. We continued to develop more monthly donors and entered into strategic partnerships with businesses to underpin the sustainable implementation of projects.

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Securing new donors and cooperation projects

MCF continued to pull in new monthly donors by holding donor acquisition campaigns on World Otter Day on May 25 and the Day of Winter Solstice. We resumed Youth Leadership Camp on Environment Protection to secure young people as core supporters for MCF fundraising and brand awareness to increase monthly donations. We created online communities for monthly donors to maintain the donor base through private domain marketing. Also, we worked with project teams to launch large-scale projects and explored strategic cooperation with companies to shore up our projects sustainably.









^{*}Data from January 1 to December 31, 2022

Key Result 2 Obtaining donations through diverse channels aimed at conserving wetlands and their biodiversity

- MCF continued to secure strategic funding for basic needs, emphasizing new and innovative cooperations with businesses; joined hands with many brands in fundraising campaigns and increased public environmental awareness:
- collaborated with other institutions in extending our projects to more geographic regions, optimizing our mix of fundraising avenues to effect a model of "government purchase plus peer funding";
- further leveraged online platforms for fundraising, including working with Tencent to upgrade the WeChat Mini Program "Low Carbon Planet" and launching the "Bloom Charity Concert";
- activated the Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program (Phase III) as an Alibaba Foundation Goods for Good;
- engaged KOLs, online communities, and gaming studios and produced a promotion video to get involved in the Alibaba Philanthropy Week and the 99 Giving Day;
- expanded cooperation with the Ping An Charity Platform in the "Mangrove and Migratory Birds Conservation" Project;
- and launched a project as the Good for Love on ByteDance Charity Platform.



Outlook for 2023

The past year, 2022, was a year of wetland conservation, with the launch of the *Wetlands Conservation Law*, the 30th anniversary of China joining the *Ramsar Convention on Wetlands*, the opening of COP14 hosted by China, and the adoption of the draft resolution of the world's first International Mangrove Center in Shenzhen... For those involved in the wetland conservation industry, it's truly a source of pride and emotion! Wetland conservation will become increasingly significant as an essential part of ecological conservation and restoration. Yet, it still has a long way to go. 2023 is a year of opportunities and challenges. We hope that all sectors of society will pay more attention to wetland conservation and sustainable development and offer us greater support. Together, we will conserve wetlands well and make the world a better place where people live in harmony with nature.



Wu Yan Director of Cooperation & Development Department

Branding & Communication

Annual Review

In 2022, MCF strengthened branding through content upgrades, optimization of communication channels, and diversification of reporting methods as well as collaboration models, acquiring a wealth of communication experience and resources. We leveraged key events like COP14 and launched the thematic campaign on special occasions, increasing public and media exposure exponentially with an annual volume of 400 million media entries. Through co-branding, and cause-related marketing, we developed a more dynamic branding image, improved public awareness of wetlands and biodiversity conservation, and expanded our communication scope and our position as an influential player.



International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem: Ten celebrities/bands ambassadors for wetland conservation



"Happiness is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland" – Protect the spoon-billed sandpiper with Chow Tai Fook and Wang Kai



Ten T-shirt designs of different species: Bring a flagship species home



World Otter Day: Recruiting protectors of otters

Major Achievements

Key Result 1 Communication transitioning from text and image-based to video-based

With the support of platforms like ByteDance Charity Platform, Tencent Philanthropy Platform, and Sina Weigongyi, we transformed our communication method from text and image-based to video-based to expand our public outreach. We released 216 videos and 408 WeChat posts within the year, getting over 120,000 new subscribers, which exceeded our annual target of 50,000 new subscribers by 154%.

- Our subscribers on Sina Weibo and WeChat increased by over 47,000 (135,000) and 7,000 (34,000) respectively
- Our WeChat Channel subscribers hit 20,000
- Our Tiktok subscribers rose by 53,000





Tiktok video views MCF Tiktok Account

Key Result 2 Becoming trending topics on Sina Weibo and conducting co-branding, cause-related marketing

Ranked on Sina Weibo hot search list four times in the year

- World Otter Day on May 25: MCF worked with Guangming Daily to promote the topic of protecting the otter. The topic trended #44 nationally on Sina Weibo hot search list and received over 40 million views.
- International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem on July 26: To commemorate its 10th anniversary, MCF, with the support of China Wit Media, invited 12 celebrities and worked with media like Shenzhen Special Zone Daily to increase awareness of wetland biodiversity and 10 years' results in wetland conservation in Shenzhen. Both topics trended #7 in Shenzhen and got over 100 million views.
- World Animal Day on October 4: MCF, co-branding with BOSS Zhipin, three celebrities including Yang Di and over 20 KOLs, educated the public on extinct animals and the importance of protecting endangered species through videos that garnered 54.39 million views on Sina Weibo.
- World Migratory Bird Day on October 8: In collaboration with caring corporation Chow Tai Fook, MCF ambassador Wang Kai, six national and provincial mainstream media such as China Daily and Sina Weigongyi, KOLs, and other non-profit organizations, MCF launched the online "Happiness is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland" communication campaign to educate the public on migratory birds and the stories of conserving them. Both topics trended #16 nationwide and reached over 140 million online viewers, with their videos garnering 7.83 million views. During the campaign, we launched the topic #Why Do Migratory Birds Migrate with SSPAI, which generated around 10 million views.



12 celebrities promote biodiversity



"Happiness is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland" – The poster for the Global Ambassador for Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation, Wang Kai







畅發蛋白耐光和紅網林基金今(ACF)联合權出 蛋白时光公益限量裝-天鹅系列 每生产一次限量效 都得捐出一部分的明益 支持红網林基金会(MCF)條字3.5世的深地 累计促进180万世飛泉天鹅植息的深地 得到有效保护





② Garnered widespread attention and support from brand partners

MCF released co-branding events and conducted cause-related marketing targeted at the general public with 18 caring corporations within the year. Our partners include (in alphabetical order) Chow Tai Fook, Coca-Cola, Happy Elements, Lawson, Mandarin Oriental, OATLY, Realme, SSPAI, and Yili. The campaigns reached an estimated 10 million people and raised over RMB 1.5 million.

Key Result 3 Intensifying collaboration with media

In 2022, there were more than 100 articles and posts regarding MCF in the mainstream media. During COP14, continuous reporting from state-level, provincial and local media outlets across various platforms sparked a chain reaction and resulted in an outreach that exceeded 100 million people. Moreover, the coverage angles, levels, and continuity of key issues throughout the year have gradually become more comprehensive. The enhanced continuity of coverage has improved the public's understanding of the foundation's work.



Yan Baohua, Secretary General of MCF, was interviewed by "The Topics in Focus" of



During COP14, Lei Guangchun, the Board Chairman of MCF, and Sun Lili, the Founder, Deputy Board Chairwoman of MCF was interviewed by the Xinhua News Agency



CCTV News interviewed MCF senior volunteer Jin Yin (Big Fish)



Message from Our Partners

Deshe Wang Kai Studio

In 2022, Wang Kai, the Global Ambassador for Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation worked with MCF and shot the promotional video entitled "Happiness Is the Sight of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in the Wetland" to generate public support for the conservation of the spoon-billed sandpiper. We are glad that the collaboration was well-received by the public. The filming process was an invaluable learning experience where we knew better the importance of wetlands as a habitat for life. May our modest efforts help to rally the public to support wetland conservation and ease the migratory journey of birds.

Outlook for 2023

It takes ten years for a blacksmith to forge the perfect sword. The sword is a metaphor for our tenacity and dedication when it comes to wetland and biodiversity conservation. From 2012 to 2022, starting with every word and every image, we have focused on our domain, allowing more people to develop understanding, attention, and recognition of protecting the wetlands. This gradually gathered into a steady stream of valuable supporters.

It takes but a moment to prove a blade's worth. This moment is the accumulation of years of hard work. With an increasingly saturated market, MCF will have to adopt a long-term perspective in 2023 and refocus on building a stable, resilient brand that will persist beyond cyclical challenges, achieve long-term growth, and succeed.

I have faith that MCF will continue to strengthen its brand over time and that it will grab more attention and support through its strategy of ongoing innovation and open collaboration. May we overcome all trials and tribulations as we work toward our goal of flourishing humanity and thriving wetlands.



Deputy Secretary Zhai Liu General & Director of Brand and Communication Department of MCF

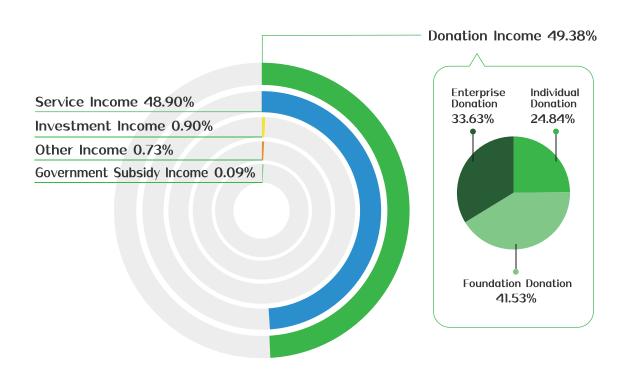
Financial Report

The following statistics are from the 2022 annual audit report of Shenzhen Mangrove Wetlands Conservation Foundation.

Income and Expenditure

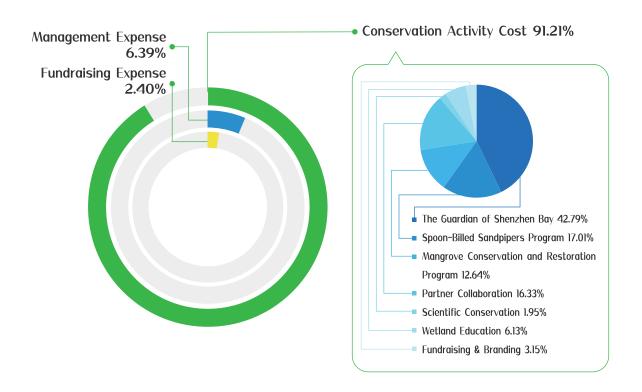
Income (unit: CNY)

Donation Income	¥14,106,010.98
Individual Donation	¥ 3,504,538.23
Foundation Donation	¥ 5,857,460.10
Enterprise Donation	¥ 4,744,012.65
Service Income	¥13,968,387.53
Government Subsidy Income	¥27,425.29
Investment Income	¥256,547.04
Other Income	¥209,220.69
Total Gains	¥28,567,591.53



Total Expenditure (unit: CNY)

Conservation Activity Cost	¥35,640,374.56
The Guardian of Shenzhen Bay	¥ 15,250,241.15
Spoon-Billed Sandpipers Program	¥ 6,062,930.28
Mangrove Conservation and Restoration Program	¥ 4,504,648.17
Partner Collaboration	¥ 5,821,726.00
Scientific Conservation	¥693,744.38
Wetland Education	¥2,184,372.38
Fundraising & Branding	¥ 1,122,712.20
Management Expense	¥2,495,896.54
Fundraising Expense	¥937,296.38
Total Expense	¥39,073,567.48



Audit Report

深圳市红树林湿地保护基金会

审计报告 2022年12月31日

保護手架、11-11、成成人 治療が1912年(東京)120人と対応は120人と対

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深圳市红树林湿地保护基金会 审计报告及财务报告 2022年12月31日

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 了解与专计相关的内部控制。以设计恰当的审计程序,但目的并非对内部控制的有效性发表 意见。 3. 评价管理层选用会计政策的近当性和作出会计估计及相关披露的合理性。

4. 对管理原使用持续经营假设的协会性你出结论。同时,根据获取的审计证据,就可能导致对 承靠在金钟特拉登建的力十重度,就是的许可混成该是多有企业大师或北桥运出路。如果我们将还结 该认为存在量大市成化、审许自算是或估计率付金钟号被查令从看这些财务之种的相关就 第二步展建筑不完分。我们应该决局之无偿收益。 我们,未会非常或说不可是会发表也不能被检查。

评价财务报表的总体列报、结构和内容(包括披露),并评价财务报表是否公允反映相关交易和事项。

我们与治理层就计划的审计范围、时间安排和重大审计发现等事项进行沟通,包括沟通我们在审 计中识别出的值得关注的内部控制缺陷。



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Tel/电话: +86-21-6282 6046 Fax/传来: +86-21-6391 7697

东草审[2023]第 001 号

深圳市红树林湿地保护基金会理事会:

一、审计意见 我们审计了混构专红树被湿地保护基金会(以下资称"考基金会")对各股表。包括 2022 年 12 月 31 日的资产负债表。2022 年度的业务活动表、现金流量表以及每关财务报表附注。

我们认为,后附的财务报表在所有重大方面按照《民间非雷利组织会计制度》的规定编制。公允 反映了贵基金会 2022 年 12 月 31 日的财务状况以及 2022 年度的经营成果和现金流量。

二、郑**庆学叶常见的基础** 我们就原中超过是每分钟等叶均周的规定我们了专计工作。专计报告的"过程会计师对视务报表审 我们就是"专业"与编述了我们在这些海斯下的技术。按照与国意最合种网形及美丽写见,我们由立 丁芳基金色,并没有了张龙星周光面的大场责任,我们命信,我们原来的专计证据走龙分,适当的, 为文学中村来龙是成了基础。

三、管理展布治理层对对各程表的责任 责基金会管理层负责按照《民间申偿利证综合计划度》的规定编制财务报表,依其实现公允反映,并设计、执行和维护必要的内部控制,以使财务报表不存在由于异弊或错误导致的重大错误。

在编制财务报表时,管理层负责评估贵基金会的持续经官能力,被露与持续经营相关的事项,并 适用持续经营假设,除非管理层计划清算贵基金会、终止运营或别无其他现实的选择。

治理层负责监督公司的财务报告过程。

四、沿着会计师对理系统条件的变化 实现的印度处对对系统统能从各不不在点于海岸或错误平设的重大错误获求心理保证,并出头 化全型计算发加等性的表。必须在还是不存成证。但不不恰在正规简单计划则允许的对计点某一 重大增展企业才能发展。我们下由于青睐及情况来,如本企理预用程度和放工总统关闭能影 均分并承接处用一条规模并未指示的现代分类。则有某个规模是发生的。

在按照审计准则执行审计工作的过程中,我们运用职业判断,并保持职业怀疑。同时,我们也执行以下工作:

识别和评估由于舞弊或错误导致的财务程表重大错很风险。设计和实施审计程序以应对这些风险,并获取完分、适当的审计证据,作为发表审计者见的基础。由于舞弊可能涉及申遇、伪世、故意遇,虚假陈述或凌驾内部控制之上,未能发现由于舞弊导致的重大错数的风险离子未能发现由于



错误导致的重大错报的风险。



二〇二三年三月二十四日





Letters from family



January 1, 2023

To all members of the MCF family,

Greetings!

My name is Wan Moqi, a Grade 9 student at Gaoxin Middle School of Shenzhen Nanshan Foreign Language School and a member of the Mangrove Conservation Foundation (MCF) family. I have been a member of the MCF family since I was very young and I would like to share my story with the foundation.

My journey with MCF started when I was in Grade 2. That was when I participated for the first time in the *Kandelia candel* planting event organized by MCF. *Kandelia candel* is a viviparous species of mangrove with seeds that are long, pointed, green, and smooth to the touch. These seeds sink straight into the soil where they germinate and take root. That activity enabled me to learn that mangroves help to desalinate seawater, conserve biodiversity in coastal wetlands, and provide habitats for certain waterbirds. It is such a marvelous species!

In Grade 3, I went on a MCF activity where I got to bird-watch and learn more about the mangrove species. Those with yellow feet and black beaks are little egrets while those with yellow beaks and black feet are great egrets. When the birds feel cold, they tuck one leg underneath their feathered body, then switch it out with the other after some time.

In Grade 4, I started learning about alien species and participating in activities to exterminate alien species. It turns out that nature isn't always filled with beauty and peace. The competition between living things for resources is a harsh, cruel, and relentless one.

In Grade 5, I joined my seniors in MCF in a beach cleaning activity where we collected marine debris and cleaned up the tidal flats so that the birds could have a clean habitat.

I had signed up for the activity out of curiosity at first and didn't take things seriously – much like how one didn't take subjects they didn't like seriously. After my continued involvement over a few years, I grew to realize the rich life and vitality found in mangroves and their ecosystems. My love for mangroves grew.

My contact with a few trees led me to the realization of the impact that I had on the environment. In short, I came into contact with *Kandelia candel* again. One day, I was cycling at Shenzhen Bay Park when I caught a glance of trees with several pointy seeds hanging off it next to the path. I stopped and stared at the trees. They were standing at the exact spot where we planted *Kandelia candel* years ago. The seeds we planted had become a thicket of mangroves that stretched over two meters long. Some of those mangroves had even become parent trees. Those mangroves allowed me to see the change, albeit small and insignificant, that I made to the world.

As I learned more about environmentalism, I understood better that protecting the environment wasn't something we could do alone or as a single family but an important mission that concerns the fate of humankind. That is why in 2019, with the help of MCF, my friends and I created a Youth Group for Environmental Protection called "Four Dragons of the Sea". The group's mission is to, through our actions, inspire more youths to become contributors to environmental protection in the future. We learn, conduct learning tours, and work together. Every year, we mobilize our friends, classmates, and teachers to raise funds for MCF. We raised RMB 45,000 for wetland conservation in three years.

Throughout it all, MCF has given us its full support, educating us on mangrove species, bird migration, and avian behaviors, instilling in us a sense of mission, and treating us as a part of the MCF family. I believe that like me, you, too, are fascinated by these marvelous mangroves and are doing your part to support MCF and protect this home that belongs to us and the migratory birds.

In our eyes, MCF is like a huge mangrove tree while we are the tiny, green, pointy seeds that fall from the tree and land in the soil where we take root, sprout, and grow. We strive to become a mangrove tree that grows continuously, changing the world in our own small and modest way. I am hopeful that more youths will join our cause and take action to protect wetlands. Let's go for it!

Sincerely yours, Wan Mogi



Making monthly giving a habit!

Donating monthly, become more connected with nature.

With your generous recurring donations, you will receive our member benefits, including:

Be honored as a member of the Mangrove Family.



Join our Mangrove Family, the community of donors, join our wetland conservation projects. Get your Welcome Pack.



The pack contains your monthly donor certificate, a Thank You Letter, and an exclusive badge for Mangrove Family member. Receive our Bimonthly Briefing.



6 issues per year to keep abreast of latest progress and information about wetland conservation projects.



Your membership benefits!

Receive our Annual Report.



The annual report keeps you informed about our conservation work, fundraising statistics and expenses in a year. The annual report will be issued once a year and sent by email.

Receive monthly donation receipts.



Upon application, a donation receipt for the amount of the monthly donation can be issued, and can be used to claim deduction for individual income tax.

Participate Monthly Donor Activities.



Monthly donors will be invited to participate in exclusive activities organized for the Mangrove Family, such as conservation experience, public research or visit project sites.



Monthly Giving FAQ

Q: How does the monthly auto-pay work?

A: Monthly auto-pay is a safe, reliable and consistent donation. Our monthly giving deduction program is an official partnership with WeChat Pay. You can stop donating as needed.

Q: Where does the monthly giving go?

- A: Monthly giving is an unrestricted gift, the fund collected will be used to support conservation projects running by MCF, including:
 - -coastal wetlands conservation and endangered migratory bird protection;
 - -wetland conservation research:
 - -public nature education.







MCF's Sina Weibo Account @MCF



Wechat Official Account of MCF



Scan to follow us on Tiktok



Scan to follow MCF on Wetchat Channels

508#, Building A, Jinfeng Building, No.1001 Shangbu South Road, Futian District, Shenzhen, China.

Postcode: 518031

Email: mcf@mcf.org.cn

Website: www.mcf.org.cn