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Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnerships: from Research to Development

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World Bank – Financier of Development Projects

- works in over 110 countries on five continents
 - incl. 26 countries in “Europe and Central Asia Region”
 - China and Mongolia belong to “East Asia Region”
- long-term (15-30 years) loans to national governments for various sectoral programs, including:
 - Agriculture, fishing and forestry
 - Education
 - Environment
 - Health, nutrition and population
 - Transportation
 - Urban development
 - Water, sanitation and flood protection, etc.
- Global Environment Facility (GEF) grants for:
biodiversity, climate change, ozone layer protection, international waters,
integrated ecosystem management



World Bank's Portfolio in Environment and Natural Resource Management in Northern Eurasia (ECA + China, Mongolia)

- 198 active projects – \$13.6 billion
- 116 new projects – \$5.0 billion
- half of them - in China
- other key clients include Turkey, Russia, Romania, Ukraine, Poland, Kazakhstan





Typical Projects (5-6 year implementation period)

- Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Planning
- Forestry and Forest Inventory/Management Planning
- Fire and Pest Protection
- Natural Disaster Risk Mitigation and Hazard Management
- Land Management, Land Cadastre and Registration
- Irrigation, Drainage and Water Resource Management
- Environmental Policies and Institutions Development
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Hydromet Modernization
- Pollution Management and Environmental Health

> **Goods/Works (Infrastructure, equipment)**

> **Consulting Services (Innovations, applied research)**

> **Capacity Building (Training, workshops, publications)**

> **Monitoring & evaluation**



Issues and Opportunities in WB Projects

> No direct support to core research...

> Focus on applications...

but

> ... Creates large-scale demand for innovations and use of new technologies

> ... Direct impact on government's nationwide policies and programs (including R&D)



New Challenges and Demands

- > Gap between strong science and weak 'user' base (incl. governments and private sector) – **need to educate users**
- > Lack of effective regional (multi-country) programs – **need to promote regional networks of practitioners**
- > Increased need for monitoring and verification through international processes, e.g.:
 - Registration of carbon sinks and emissions, including forest fires (Kyoto Protocol)
 - Independent forest certification, identification of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)
 - Tracking legality of forest harvesting operations (FLEG)



Proposal

> Multilateral effort urgently needed towards reducing costs of monitoring and compliance, e.g. through:

- more cost-effective and standardized (off-the-shelf) remote sensing & mapping techniques,
- simplification of independent (non-governmental) access to remote sensing information and derived products,
- publication/dissemination of toolkits and training.

> Formalize this as one of NEESPI's objectives and promote through national partners (NASA, NOAA, RAS, Hydromet, ...) to international sponsors (EC, WMO, WB, UNEP, UNDP, GEF, USAID...)

> Upstream 'partnering' of research projects (eg JRC or RAS) with development projects (eg WB or GEF)



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Questions and comments are welcome!

Further references and contact information:

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