



# Keyihe Forest Conservation China

Protecting China's remaining forest to  
reduce emissions and support sustainable  
development



*Located in northern China, the project turns the state-owned Keyihe forest, which was previously logged, into a protected area. The forest is able to regenerate naturally, increasing the amount of carbon that is sequestered, a GHG driving global heating. Healthy forests help regulate the local climate, protect the soil from erosion and degradation and provide a home to diverse wildlife. The project provides local farmers with a stable income by employing them to regularly manage the forest.*



### The Context

China's desire for rapid economic development has put its natural resources under incredible stress, including almost all China's ancient forests. Amongst other problems this has contributed to desertification, which increases the risk of enormous sandstorms, further exacerbating chronic air pollution in Chinese cities over the past few decades. Before the project, trees in the area were logged based on a valid and verifiable government-approved timber management plan. However, forests can easily lose their ecological balance following disturbance.

Just 3.34% of China's once expansive forests remain intact

### The Project

Situated in northern China, close to the Russian border, the project protects 20,526 hectares of the state-owned Keyihe forest from logging. The species involved in the project are Birch *Betula platyphylla* and Larch *Larix gmelinii*, they are native to the region's mixed deciduous and coniferous forests. The project has strictly cancelled the annual commercial timber harvest and only permits tending and managing to allow the forest to regenerate naturally.



### The Benefits

This project falls under China's national efforts to protect forests, which are recognised as a valuable natural resource. Thanks to the project, more carbon is sequestered by increasing the amount of biomass in the area. This brings a multitude of benefits, not least by storing the harmful GHG emissions that are driving global warming. Forests help regulate the local climate, protect the soil from erosion and degradation and provide a home to many animals by increasing forest cover and connecting isolated habitats. Local farmers are employed to regularly manage the forest, providing them with a stable income.



**112,000**  
**tCO<sub>2</sub>e mitigated**

on average per year



**20,526**  
**hectares**

of forest protected from logging

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

**Official name:** Inner Mongolia Keyihe IFM | **Registry link:** <https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/1718> | **Registry ID:** 1718

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