

# Desertification Control in China



National Forestry and Grassland Administration, P. R. China  
June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

# Content

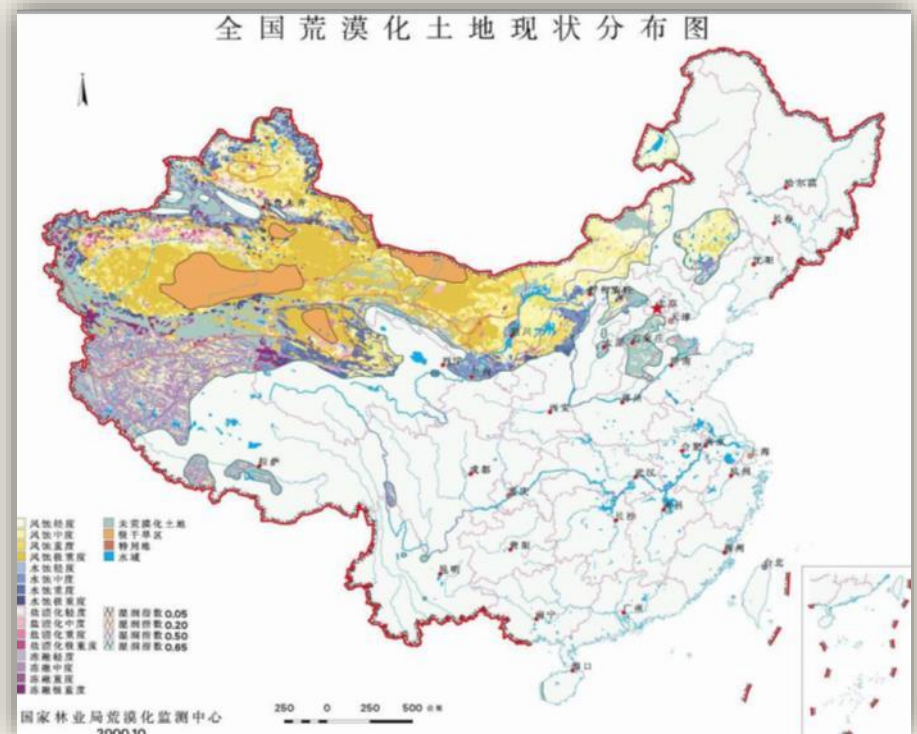
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- **Situation of desertification in China and its control**
- **Key measures undertaken to combat desertification in China**
  - **Performing sound top-level design**
  - **Comprehensive prevention and control**
  - **Key projects for ecological conservation**
  - **Updates of policy development**
- **Implications for multi-lateral cooperation**

# Situation of desertification in China and its control

Desertified land is 2.61 million km<sup>2</sup> in 18 provinces, accounting for 27.2% of land territory. 400 million population are affected. 79.2% of dryland is desertified in China, which is higher than the world average 69% for desertification occurrence.

Distribution Map of Desertification in China



# Achievements of combating desertification in China



**Desertification control in Zuoyun County, Shanxi Province**



**Rocky Desertification Control in Wenshan City, Yunnan Province**

**Apple trees in Yiwu County, Xinjiang Autonomous Region**

- Net reduction in desertification area for more than 10 years since 2004, with annual shrink of 2,424 km<sup>2</sup>.

- Creation of 5.4 million ha of forest for economic purpose

- Production of fruits and nuts 53.67 million tons every year

# Key measures undertaken to combat desertification in China

## I. Performing sound top-level design

### 1. Legislation:

*Law on Desertification Prevention and Control* was promulgated in 2001 to regulate behaviors of conservation, development and other treatments related to desertified land.



### 2. Draft and publish National Plans

By Drafting and publishing the *National Planning of Combating Desertification* periodically, the overall tasks could be arranged and managed in a scientific approach, and be implemented effectively.



## I. Performing sound top-level design

### 3. Establish coordination mechanism

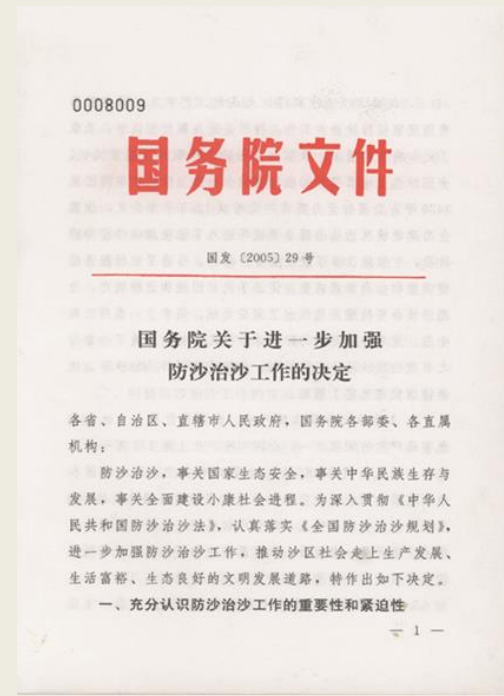
The Coordination Mechanism for Combating Desertification led by NFGA in which 19 ministries are involved meets constantly to discuss and tackle key problems and dealing with challenges.

### 4. Supporting policies

The State Council promulgated the *Decision to Further Speed up the Work of Combating Desertification* in 2005, identifying the strategic objectives as well as a series of supportive policies about combating desertification in China.



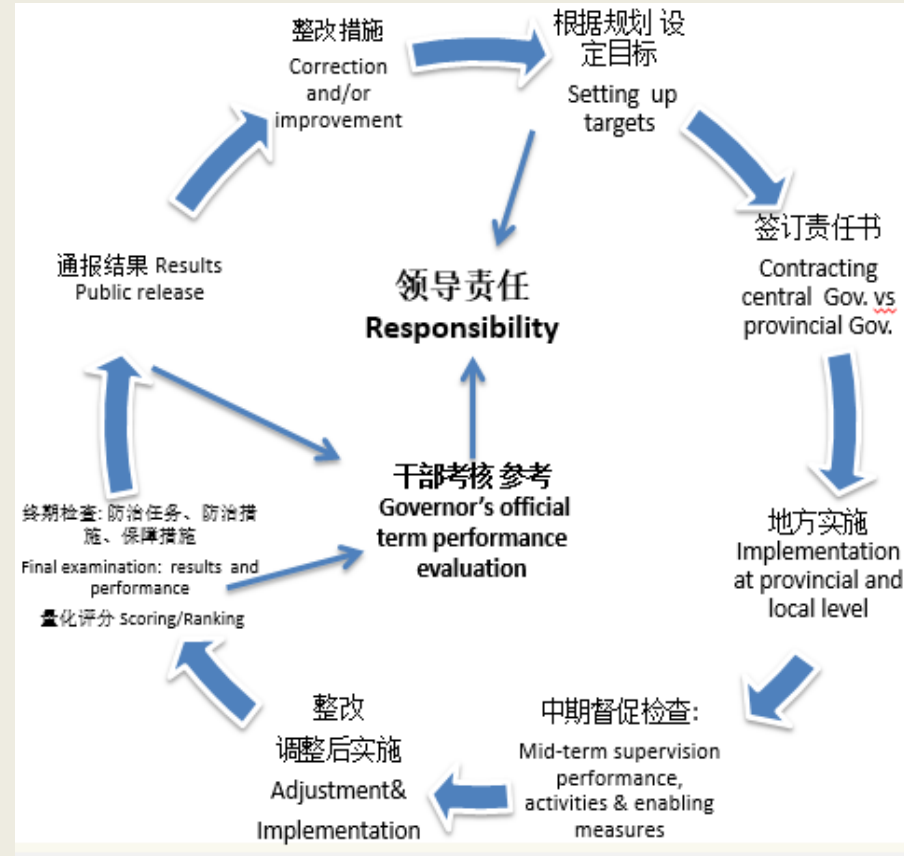
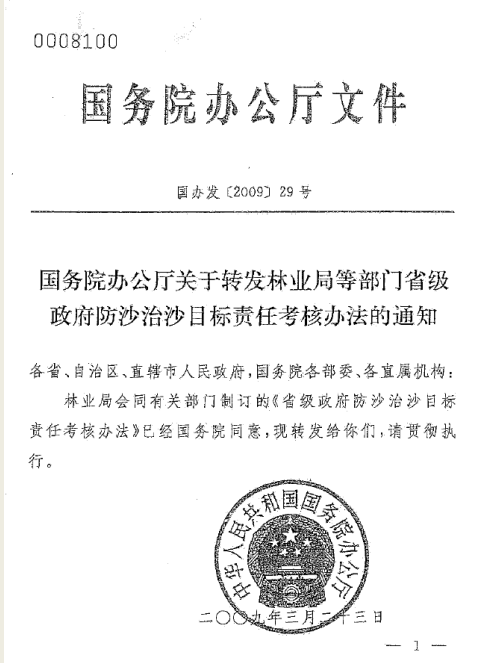
Meeting of the Coordination Group to discuss the national report for UNCCD, hosted by NFGA.



# I. Performing sound top-level design

## 5. Adopt liability-pursuing policy

Statement of responsibility has been signed between the central government and provincial governments, and regulating punishing & incentive policies to make sure that objectives of reducing desertification can be achieved timely and appropriately.



## II. Comprehensive prevention and control

1. Combination of artificial treatment and natural rehabilitation
2. Integration of biological control measures with mechanical control measures
3. Breakthroughs in key areas and extensive desertification control on a larger scale

因地制宜，综合治理

Continuously adjust measures  
to local conditions and adopt  
integrated treatment

生物治沙



林草间作



工程治沙



Artificial sand barrier



Natural rehabilitation by enclosure



## II. Comprehensive prevention and control

### 4. Government guidance, policy promotion and public participation



**Plantation by the people's liberation army**



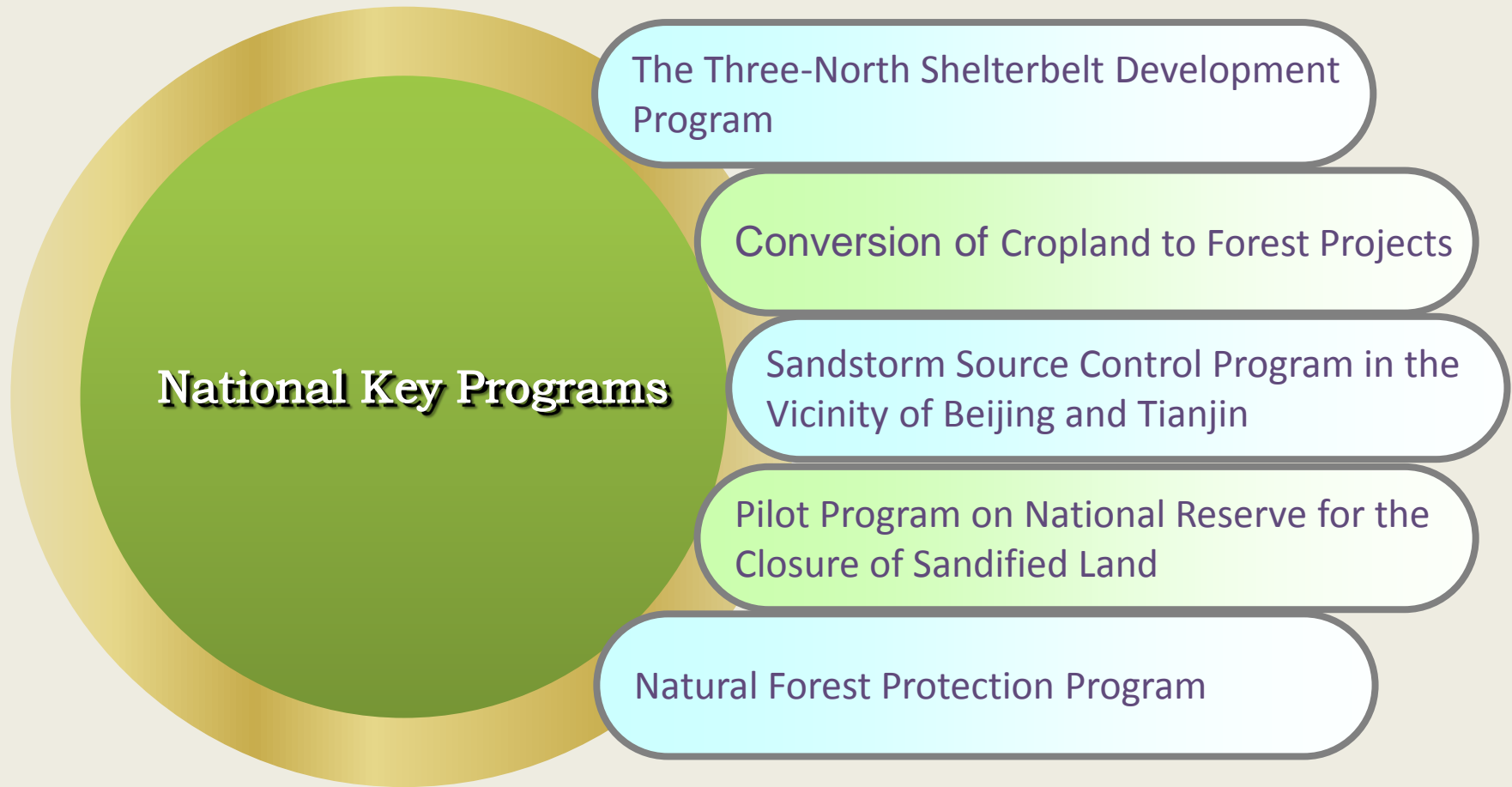
**Voluntary afforestation to protect dike of the Yellow River**



**Million Forest Program in east edge of Tengger Desert**

One of the typical cases of extensive public participation: *Million Forest* organized by China Green Foundation has been implemented for more than 10 years and improved both the ecological condition and local income.

### III. Key projects for ecological conservation



## IV. Updates

- In 2015, NFGA published the *Regulations on the Management of National Reserves for the Closure of Sandified Land*, enhancing and regulating the development and management of national reserves for sandified land closure.
- In 2016, the *Thirteenth Five-Year Development Plan for Rocky Desertification Treatment Program in Karst Region, National Desert Parks Development Plan (2016-2025)* and the *Scheme of Closure, Protection and Rehabilitation System for Sandified Land* were announced, which provided basic guidance for desertification control for the coming years.
- The *Law of Desertification Prevention and Control* has been amended in 2018 to reflect the results of the restructuring of government agencies, i.e. the State Forestry Administration was restructured to the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, while the Ministry of Environment Protection restructured to the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

# Implications for multi-lateral cooperation

As the current chair of UNCCD COP 13, China intends to enhance cooperation with other countries and International organizations under the framework of the *"Belt and Road" Cooperative Mechanism to Combat Desertification* to exchange experiences and lessons learnt and conduct concrete collaboration thus to make contribution towards the career of desertification control on the whole world.



Launching of B&R Cooperative Mechanism to Combat Desertification, by H.E. ZHANG Jianlong Administrator of NFGA and Madam Monique Barbut, former Executive Secretary of UNCCD in 2017.

**Thank you for your attention!**

