

2012 World Wetlands Day Celebration in Institute of Wetland Research in Beijing

February 2, 2012, coincided with the 16th World Wetlands Day themed as **Wetlands and Tourism**, Institute of Wetland Research (IWR) hosted the celebration of WWD in Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF). In the celebration, banners and posters based on the material downloaded in Ramsar website of the 16th WWD were posted to display the ecological function, importance and the correlation between human and wetlands. The themes of previous WWD since 1997 were also displayed to the public.

After a subject introduction on Sustainable Wetland Tourism, prof. Lijuan Cui, the director of IWR and the initiator of the celebration activity, introduced the relationship between tourism and wetlands. She also introduced the IWR's research works on restoration and landscape design of wetlands, especially the plan and criteria on wetland park in Beijing (*Beijing Wetland Park Development Plan (2010-2020)*, *Beijing Wetland Park Construction Standards* and *Beijing Wetland Park Evaluation Criteria*), which will be applied by Beijing Municipal Bureau of Landscape and Forestry (BMBLF).

Other participants also expressed the views and suggestions on tourism, conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of wetlands. Constructive comments on how to promote wetland conservation on wetlands tourism; how to regulate the relationship between wetland culture and wetland tourism; how to promote wetland tourism development through wetland research; and how to deeply understand the responsible tourism were proposed. The administrators of BMBLF introduced the long-term policy and financial support on wetland park construction plan in Beijing. Additionally, opinions on the containing capability of wetland parks, the law enforcement capabilities and methods on wetland tourism were expressed.

Beijing Municipal Government (BMG) and Standing Committee of Beijing Municipal People's Congress (SCBMPC), as the government managers on wetlands in Beijing, also attended the celebration.

The celebration activity will be reported by China Green Times and the media of CAF and BMBLF.

- ❖ Institute of Wetland Research was founded in 2009, and it is the only independent institute specialized in wetlands research in China, with 31 staffs at present.
- ❖ Chinese Academy of Forestry was established in 1958, it is a national research institution directly under the Chinese State Forestry Administration, and also a comprehensive, multidisciplinary and social public welfare type institution in China.



Photo 1 All the participants of this celebration activity.



Photo 2 Displayed posters of previous WWD themes since 1997 and the relative wetland knowledge.



Photo 3 Professor Lijuan Cui is introducing the relationship between tourism and wetlands



Photo 4 Live discussion on *Wetland and Tourism*