

China National Ecosystem Assessment: Changes of Ecological Status and Policy Applications

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Abstract: A national ecosystem assessment project was conducted for year of 2000, 2005 and 2010 to study the changes of ecosystem status and driving forces. Results of this project will be summarized and presented including the background, investigation methodology, changes of ecological status (ecosystem patterns, ecosystem quality, ecosystem services, major ecological issues) and driving forces. In addition, policy applications of ecosystem assessment will be discussed. Main conclusions are ecosystems in terms of coverage, quality, services in China are been improving, whereas China is still facing big challenges in harmonizing people and nature to building the ecological civilization. Findings in ecosystem assessment are helpful to identify key protection areas, initiate conservation policies, and regional development strategy.