



# Multifunctional Land Use

# CGCIA Chinese-German Centre for Impact Assessment

## Impact of SLCP afforestation policy on local sustainability

The Chinese Slope Land Conversion Program (SLCP) is among the largest soil conservation programmes in the world. It foresees afforestation of sloping land for soil and water conservation purposes. While the environmental benefits of the programme have been proven in many studies, its impact on local sustainable development, and particularly rural livelihood is not well understood.



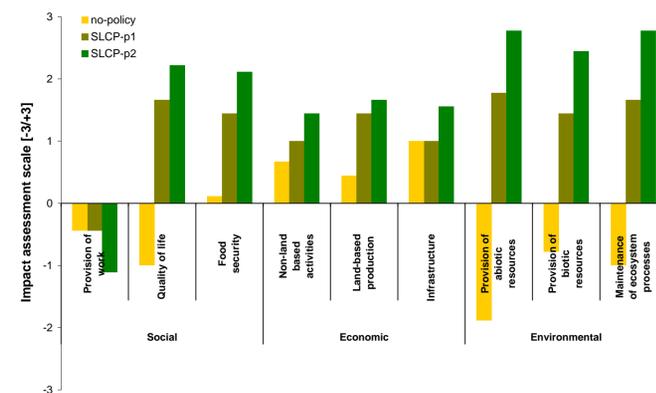
## Who we are

The "Chinese-German Centre for Impact Assessment" (CGCIA) was initiated in 2010 by the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR-CAS) and the Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF). CGCIA is an open platform for research in the field of impact assessment related to land use studies in China and Germany.



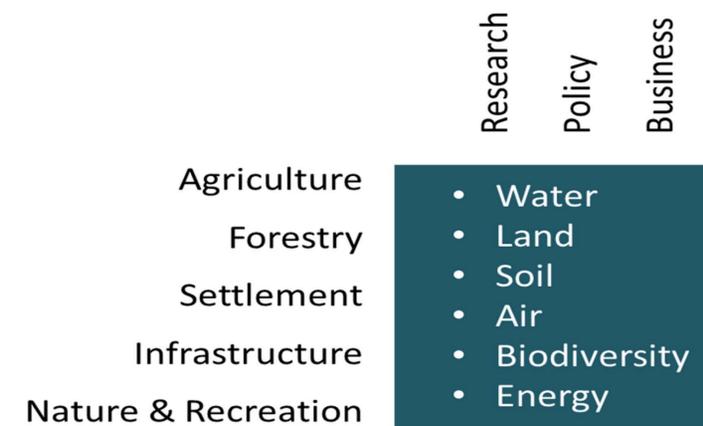
## Objective

The research was to analyse, in scenario studies, the anticipated potential impacts of a range of SLCP implementation scenarios on indicators for sustainable development.



## Mission and Strategy

The mission of the CGCIA is to provide a platform for facilitating collaboration, communication, and coordination among scientists who have been engaged in studies on impact assessment, and in particular the impact of changing land use and ecosystem services.



## Results

The SLCP afforestation programme has already improved environmental conditions in Guyuan district of Western China. A continuation of the programme is likely to further improve the biotic and abiotic environmental situation but requires careful management. However, this may go on the costs of social aspects, particularly job opportunities and local food security. Accompanying measures such as payments for ecosystems services are recommended.

## Topics

- Assessing ecosystem services
- Innovative nitrogen management
- Soil and water conservation strategies
- Multifunctional land use
- Biodiversity conservation
- Impact assessment instruments
- Sustainable rural livelihood
- Training courses, workshops and summer schools