

## International Workshop on Mainstreaming Wetland Biodiversity Conservation concluded in Yueyang, China

The International Workshop on Mainstreaming Wetland Biodiversity Conservation: Experiences and Lessons Learned in Practical Applications of Mainstreaming was organized by the GEF Wetland Project Office, State Forestry Administration (SFA) in Yueyang, Hunan province, China from 2 to 4 December, 2007, under the auspices of GEF/UNDP. The workshop also received support from the Forestry Department of Hunan Province, the government of Yueyang, WWF and Wetlands International. It brought together more than 130 experts and practitioners involved in wetland conservation from 11 countries all around the world. Present at the meeting were also the key leaders, including Madam Yin Hong, Vice Administrator of SFA; Mr. Sameer Karki, UNDP Regional Technical Advisor; Mr. Yang Taibo, Vice Governor of Hunan province; and Ms. Huang Lanxiang, Mayor of Yueyang Municipality, whose attendance highlighted the priority given by the central, provincial and local government, as well as the international organizations, on the conference.

The workshop was focused on mainstreaming wetland biodiversity conservation at local, national and global scales. During the two-day sessions, the participants exchanged their findings and experiences on mainstreaming, reached consensus on mainstreaming concepts and tools, and provided valuable ideas for the next steps to further mainstream wetland biodiversity. One of the most significant outputs of this workshop was the preparation and adoption of the [Dongting Lake Declaration](#), calling on the international community to mainstream wetland biodiversity.

