



A diverse and
sustainable world



IUCN
World
Conservation
Congress
Barcelona 2008

Presentation

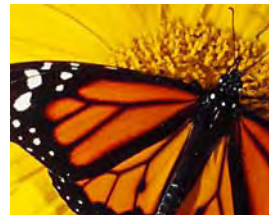
**Presentation from the Water Pavilion at the IUCN World
Conservation Congress, Barcelona 2008**

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Restoring Environmental Flows for People and Nature in the Central Yangtze

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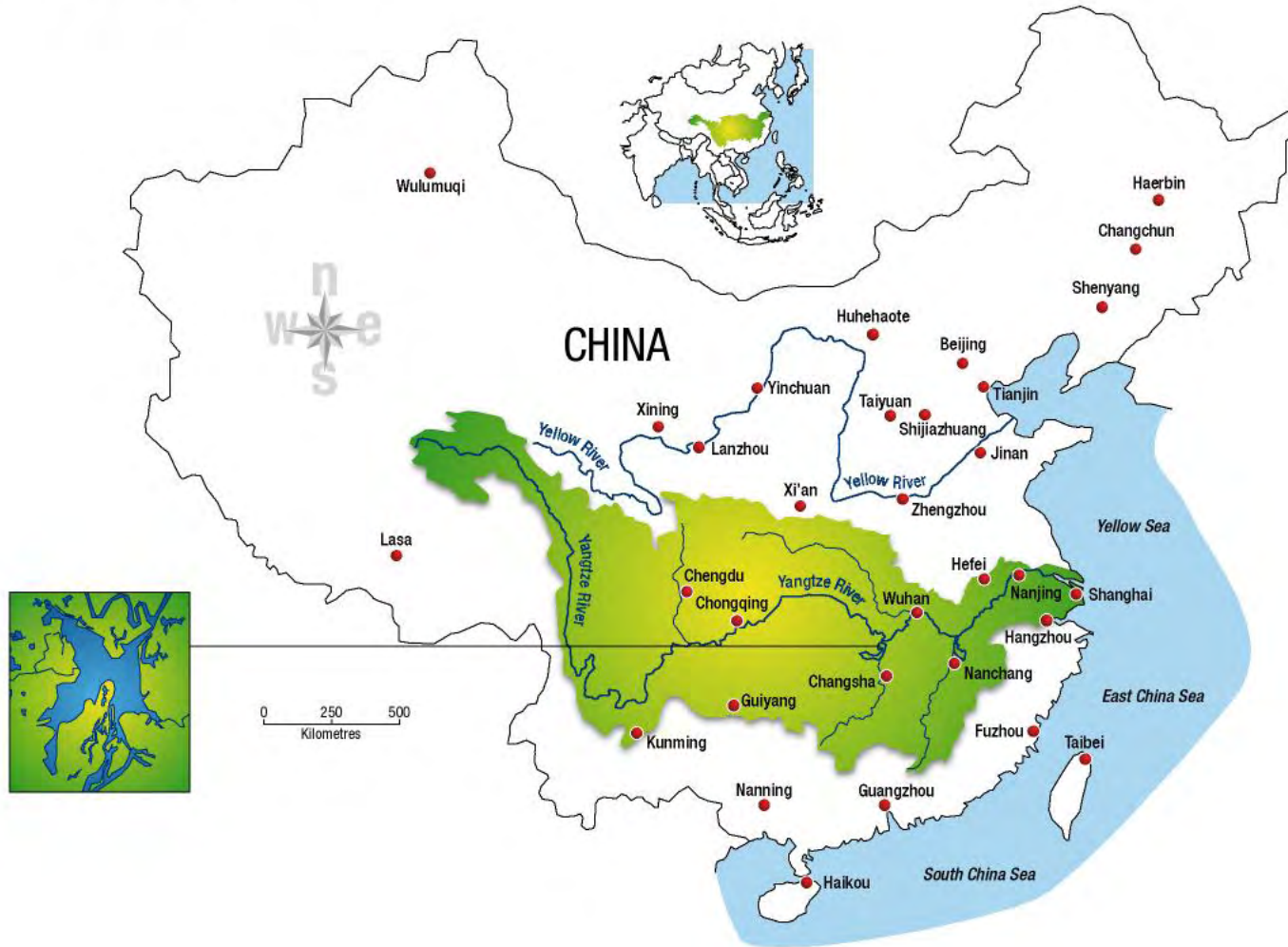




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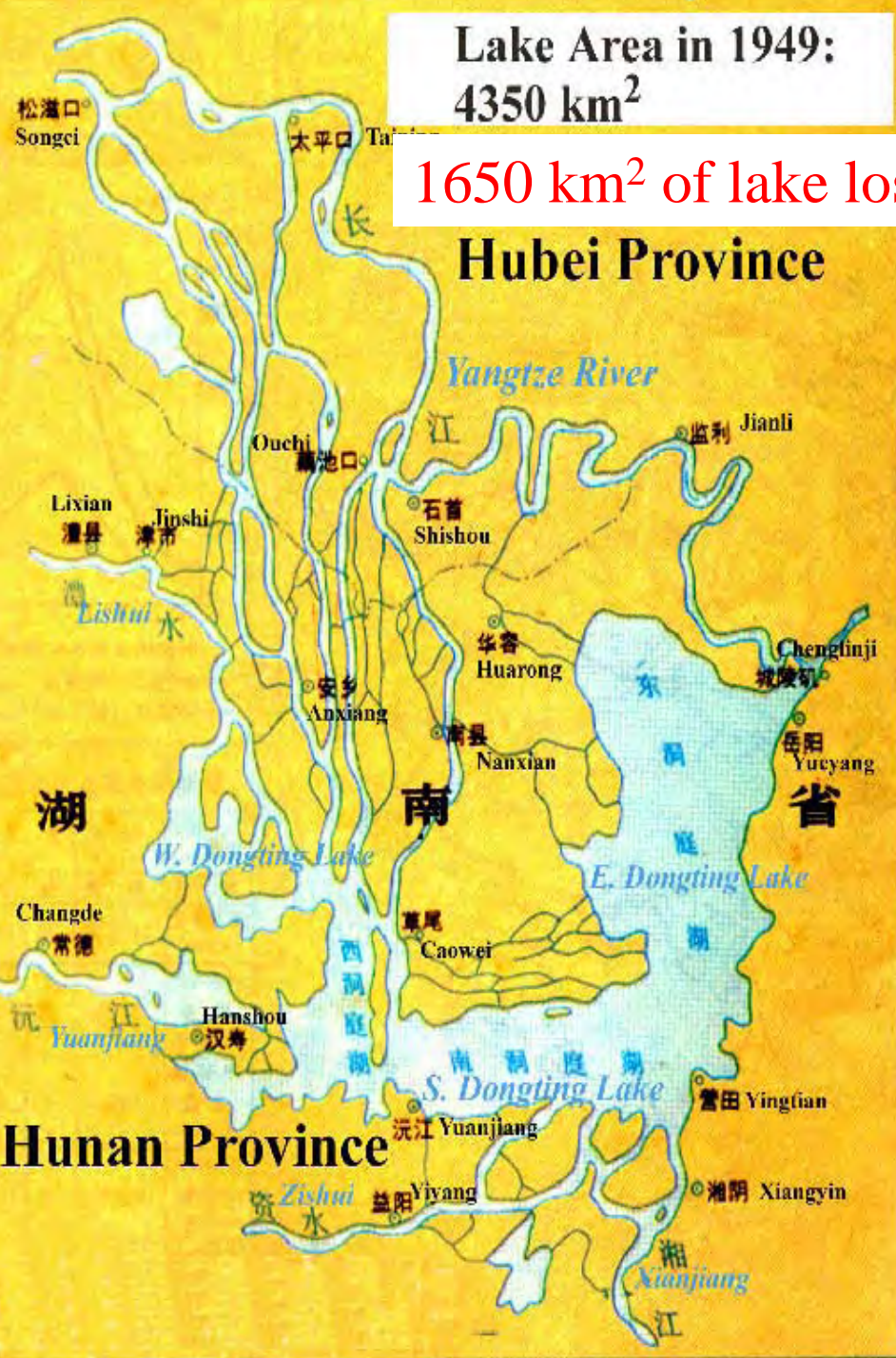
Background



Lake Area in 1949:
4350 km²

1650 km² of lake lost

Lake Area in 1997:
2700 km²





Chinese River Dolphin
Yangtze River Dolphin
(Baiji) (*Lipotes vexillifer*)
Early 1980's ~ 400
Middle 1980's ~ 300
Early 1990's ~ 200
Now ?

Biodiversity crisis



Yangtze Finless Porpoise
(*Neophocaena
phocaenoides
asiaeorientalis*)
Early 1990's ~ 2700
Now ~1200



Breaking the polders





Alternative livelihoods:

Organic food production

Fish cages in the lake

Pig, chicken, duck raising:

- 80% of households
- Technically easier
- Small investment, low economic risk, but quick returns

Organic farming:

- Greenhouse vegetable
- organic fruits



Project-Resulted Income Per Household (unit: RMB)

2000	1465
2003	2881
2004	3196

(WWF. *Saving Nature, Serving People*)





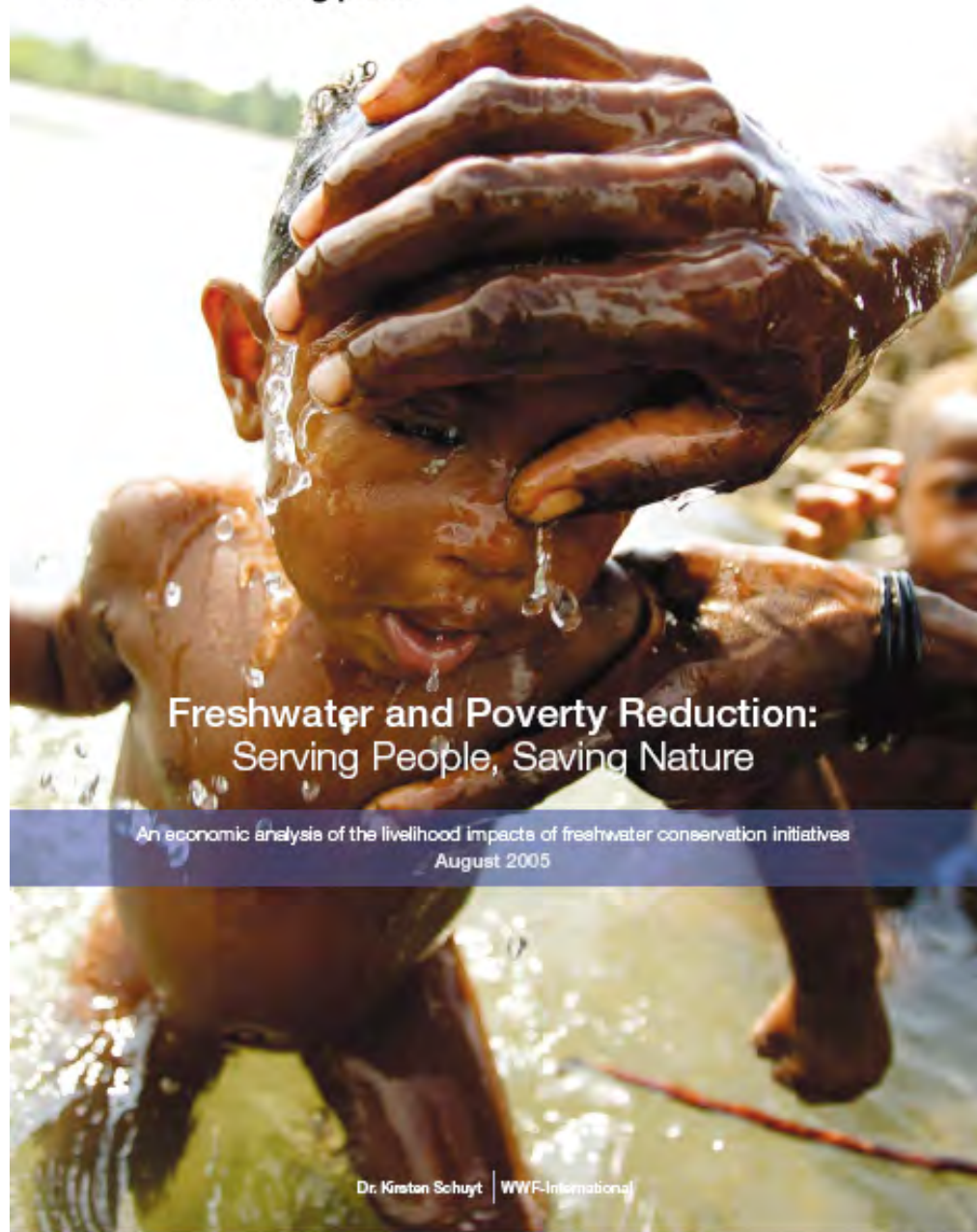
Environmental improvements

- 110 ha of wetland restored as flood retention area
- 6 rare fish species recovered (include *Acipenser sinensis*, *Anguilla japonica*, *Luciobrama macrocephalus*, *Ochetobius elongates*, *Myxocyprinus asiaticus*, *Siniperca roulei*);
- 12 fish species of special economic value increased
- Aquatic plants restored:
 - 10 new species
- Migratory birds returned:
 - 10 new species
 - Total number tripled





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Freshwater and Poverty Reduction: Serving People, Saving Nature

An economic analysis of the livelihood impacts of freshwater conservation initiatives
August 2005