



Prof. Dr. Ke-ping Ma is a Research Professor of Plant Ecology and Director General of the Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). He is also a Vice President for the Chinese Society of Botany, Deputy Director and Secretary General for the Biodiversity Committee, CAS. His major research is on biodiversity and its conservation and he has published more than 180 peer reviewed papers and edited 10 related books. He is currently the editor-in-chief for *Biodiversity Science* and was the editor-in-chief for the *Chinese Journal of Plant Ecology* for 10 years (1998-2008). He has also worked as subject editor for more than 10 international and national journals such as *Forest Ecology and Management*, *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*. As a scientific advisor to the Chinese delegation, Prof. Ma attended most of the meetings of the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to the

Convention on Biological Diversity and its related extra-COPs and working group meetings on thematic issues. His participation helped a lot in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in China.

Prof. Ma is one of the Chinese scientists who initiated biodiversity research in China. In the early 1990s, he was a key player for the application and management of a World Bank loan project (4.5 million USD), *Biodiversity Research and Information Management in China*. The activities for the project are not only for research, but also for training and information dissemination. In cooperation with his colleagues from the academy and other sectors, he established the first biodiversity information system (CBIS), the first national virtual herbarium (CVH) and the first forest biodiversity monitoring network (CForbio).