



# BIKIN PROJECT

within the framework of the German-Russian Climate Initiative (Stage 2)

The project is implemented by WWF Germany and WWF Russia with financial support from the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the German Development Bank (KfW) in partnership with the indigenous peoples' enterprise «Tiger»

## Project Duration

2011— 2057

The Bikin River Basin is the last remaining untouched massif of temperate old-growth forests in the Russian Far East, home for the Udege and Nanai indigenous people and haven for the Amur tiger.

Maintaining wilderness conditions and traditional resource use is closely connected with the prosperity of indigenous people living in the Bikin River Basin. Mixed Korean pine and broadleaved forests excluded from logging can act as a sink for 112.8 million tons of carbon, helping to stabilize global climate.

During the previous stage of the project (2008-2011) the indigenous peoples' enterprise «Tiger» was granted a lease of 461,154 hectares of intact forests as a conservation concession for 49 years. The German Development Bank (KfW) is financing the lease during the first 3 years, and then «Tiger» should be able to pay for the concession itself by collecting and marketing pine nuts, the medicinal herb eleuterococcus, ferns, mushrooms and berries.

The mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol allow the countries which reduce emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere to receive climate investments (carbon credits). Maintaining the biomass of the Bikin forest is estimated to prevent the annual emission of greenhouse gas in the amount of 232,379 tons in carbon equivalent. Thus, the Strategy for Bikin forest conservation will be based upon international climate investments.



Revenues gained from the reduction of greenhouse gases emission will be allocated for conservation of the mixed Korean pine-broadleaf forests of the Bikin River including:

- covering expenses for the long-term nut harvesting zone lease;
- preventing illegal logging;
- fighting forest fires within the Bikin River Basin;
- maintaining the infrastructure for processing non-timber forest products and supporting traditional livelihoods of indigenous people;
- ensuring social development of Krasny Yar village

Moreover, the project should cover the expenses for annual independent audit, satellite monitoring of forest condition and carbon dynamics.

To ensure transparency of fund allocation and considering the interests of all parties a Supervisory Council will be formed with representatives from the indigenous peoples' enterprise «Tiger», the Administration and Duma of Krasny Yar village, the Administration and Duma of Pozharsky municipal district, Verkhnepevalnensky forestry unit of the Primorsky Province Forestry Department and WWF.



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