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Editor's Note: Ordos is hosting the Ninth Kubuqi International Desert Forum on Aug 25-27. This graphics page showcases the city's desertification prevention and control efforts and achievements in recent years. The three-day forum hopes to make new contributions to effectively address the challenge of desertification and explore innovative solutions to promote global environmental sustainability.

Key efforts

- Artificial afforestation
- Artificial afforestation of arbor forest
- Artificial afforestation of shrubwood
- Afforestation via closing mountains
- Aerial-seeding forest
- Degraded forest restoration
- Fixing sand land

Protection of Natural Forest Resources Project (2000-21)

810,547 hectares

Ordos

CHINA

Total tasked area

Northwest-North-Northeast Shelter Forest Program (1978-2050)

Totally completed area (2001-20)

121,453 hectares

107.840

*TURNING GREENER

Ordos is a key land sandification prevention belt in North China and home to the Kubuqi Desert and part of the Mu Us Sandy Land, which account for about 53 percent of the city's total area. Through implementing important ecological projects, it has worked miracles, turning part of the Kubuqi Desert green.

Project for returning farmland to forest (2000-17)

Totally completed area

454,033 hectares

430,867

196,973

566,000

2.84 million 1.16 million hectares of grassland* hectares of afforestation*

Beijing-Tianjin Sand and Dust Source Control Project (2013-21)

18,333

46,813

28,340

15,667

Totally completed area **136,160**

hectares

27%

Forest coverage

Grassland comprehensive vegetation coverage

50%

136 million trees*

Some species planted

Salix Caragana Glycyrrhiz

Salix Caragana psammophila intermedia Kuang et H.C. Fu Glycyrrhiza uralensis Fisch



1.89 billion

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012

ORDOS

The city, located in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region, covers an area of 87,000 square kilometers and has a permanent population of about 2.2 million.

Source: The Ordos forestry and grassland bureau

GRAPHIC BY JORGE CORTES / CHINA DAILLY