



INTERNATIONAL
LAND CONSERVATION
NETWORK

Liu to lead flagship civic land conservation program in China

Shenmin Liu

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The International Land Conservation Network's (ILCN) Regional Representative for Asia, Shenmin Liu leaves the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy staff this month to join China's fledgling civic land conservation movement. She will lead a land conservation pilot program in the mountains of Hangzhou, a city best known for its natural beauty and its homegrown tech giant, Alibaba Group. The pilot aims to restore about 330 acres of impaired Moso bamboo forest in the Yunfeng Mountain area. While working to bring back the region's natural habitat, the group will also support an economic shift for hundreds of villagers by encouraging them to move from subsistence bamboo harvesting to ecotourism.



View from the mountaintop in Hangzhou. Credit: Shenmin Liu

The program was established and funded by the charitable foundation and Hangzhou-based conglomerate Wanxiang Group. It aims to replicate best practices in nature-based reforestation and nature education in the Chinese context by fostering scientific research, public engagement, and cross sector partnerships. In her role, Liu will manage a mountain-top nature museum that is set to open in July 2023.

Liu leaves the Lincoln Institute staff after over six and a half years. She joined its China Program as a research assistant in 2016, was promoted to research analyst in 2020, and became the ILCN's regional

representative for Asia in 2020. She will continue to serve as an ILCN regional representative and can be reached at gracemin418@gmail.com.

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