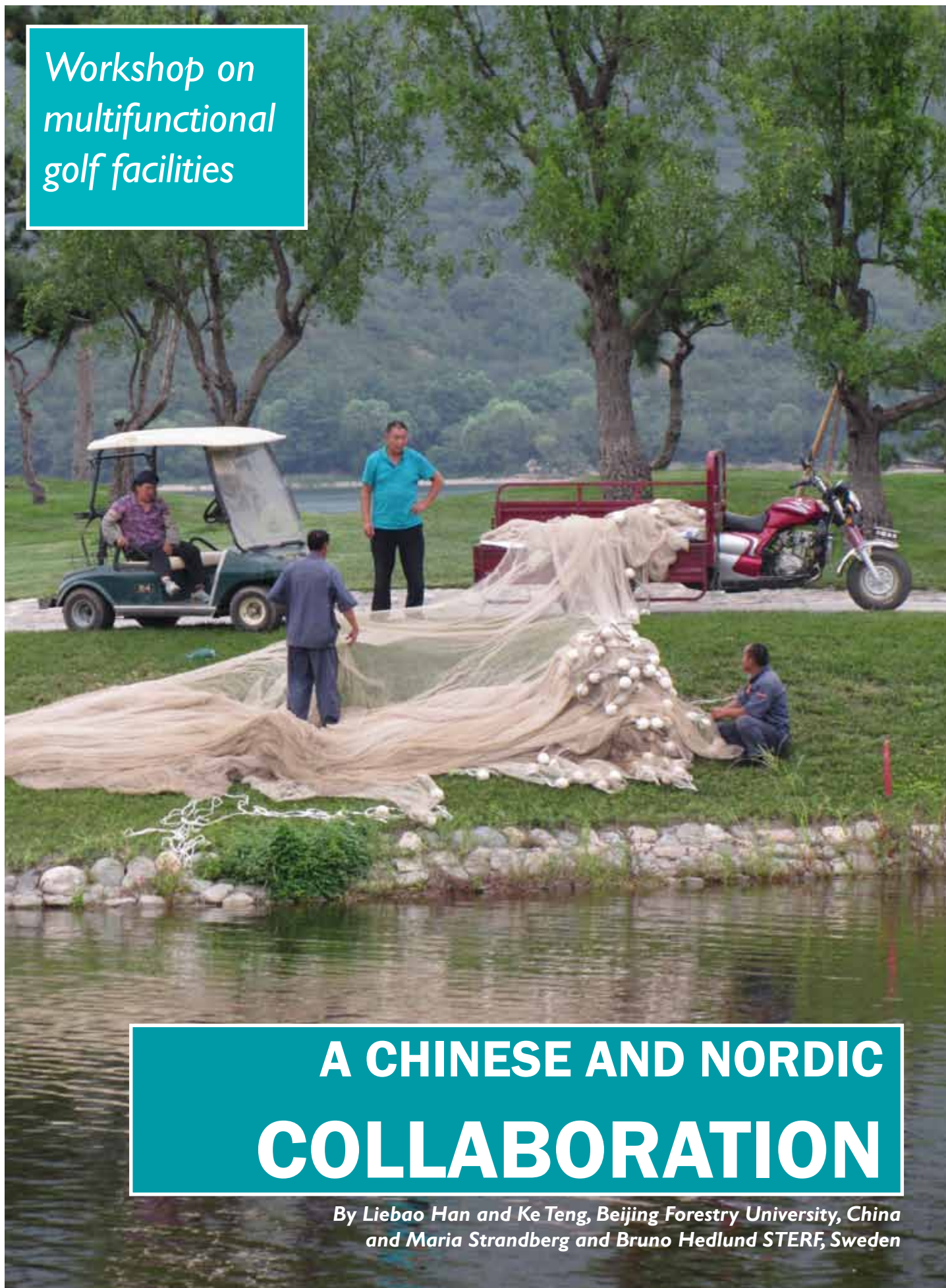


*Workshop on
multifunctional
golf facilities*



A CHINESE AND NORDIC COLLABORATION

*By Liebao Han and Ke Teng, Beijing Forestry University, China
and Maria Strandberg and Bruno Hedlund STERF, Sweden*

Workshop on multifunctional golf facilities at Beijing Forestry University, August 11-12, 2014



More than fifty representatives from colleges and universities, golf courses, related companies and others participated in the workshop.

Multifunctional golf courses are currently an underutilised resource. If golf courses were to be used to supply a number of functions, this would provide a range of important services that are in demand by society. In addition to offering a high quality arena for golf, golf facilities could also contribute e.g. to improving biological diversity, conserving natural and cultural environments and providing recreation areas that are open to the public.

The aim of this workshop was to learn by interacting with each other and to discuss how relevant on-

going research projects at Beijing Forestry University could be used to further develop the concept of multifunctionality in general. It was also important to discuss how to create conditions for development and implementation of multifunctional golf courses in Beijing with the aim to help the golf sector to establish credibility as an environmentally-friendly sport and improve public opinion and political support.

The workshop, arranged by the Golf Education and Research Center of Beijing Forestry University

and STERF, was held at Beijing Forestry University on August 11-12, 2014. Experts from STERF, Beijing Forestry University, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences of Chinese Academy of Sciences and New Nature Golf Course Design Corporation participated with scientific presentations within the topic of multifunctional golf facilities.

More than fifty representatives from colleges and universities, golf courses, related companies and others participated in the workshop and the discussion.

Examples of important issues presented and discussed:

- The introduction of STERF and the concept of multifunctional golf facilities presented by Maria Strandberg and Bruno Hedlund was appreciated by the audience and provided an innovative developmental roadmap for the Chinese golf industry.
- Doctor Ziyun Dai presented an evaluation and simulation of the value of golf course ecosystem services based on his newly developed calculation models. The approach is a scientific and practical way to help golf facilities world-wide to evaluate ecosystem services.
- Doctor Zhihui Chang presented methods for using recycled water on golf courses, which due to the strict Beijing urban water management regulations, is a necessary survival strategy for the golf facilities in Beijing.
- The global challenges the golf and turfgrass sector has to face was discussed and we agreed that global challenges need globally coordinated solutions.

Based on this, strategies for cooperation between Beijing Forestry University and STERF were thoroughly discussed during the workshop.

We agreed that two important key objectives of collaboration are to coordinate design and execution of R&D activities around agreed core themes, and to coordinate effective dissemination of the resulting new knowledge through channels and formats that are easily accessible to end-users.



Interesting fieldtrips were arranged to the experimental facilities of Turfgrass Research Institute of Beijing Forestry University and to Shunfeng Golf Country Club.



Above: Bruno Hedlund and Maria Strandberg, STERF, thank the host Liebao Han, Beijing Forestry University.

Left: Gang Yu, golf course designer.

