

*between Science & Consciousness*

"The starry heavens above me and the moral law within me " I. Kant

**PROTECT THE PANDA TO SAVE THE  
FORESTS**

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The bamboo and its cultivation has ancient origins but the famous Evergreen is critical to its main users: the panda. Today wild pandas, which are already endangered in China, they need new rich bamboo forests, given that climate change is destroying entire areas of the plant, which is essential for the survival of the panda.

On Nature, a few years ago, scientists at Michigan State University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, had published a paper related to the damage predictions that

climate change is doing inside the natural habitat of the pandas. Bamboo and failure to employ in the forests of this plant could become a serious problem.

Andres Vina of the Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability explained the importance of these plants, "99.9% of the giant panda food is made from bamboo.

Wooded area is a suitable habitat for pandas only if bamboo ", why not all the forests in which there will be reforestation will be suitable for this animal symbol.

We now know, thanks to a new work, led by the same Andrés Viña and Jianguo Liu, that the Panda can actually defend the forests, increasing the biodiversity of green spaces and combating climate change.

"We have no systematic information on how pandas are reacting to the change-climate explained Vina- however our research has shown that climate change leads to reductions in their areas of habitat, along with the constant shifts in their distribution."

The goal has been, over the years, to produce a reforestation able to maintain stable the presence of water and soil with the main need to plant new conifers, but with the course of years, the sun blocked by high conifers has not allowed a smooth development of the bamboo.

Many forest areas in the western world and in some countries in the developing world are increasing because of the investments in conservation and forest restoration. "However- indicated the scientist-as the demand for timber and derived products is on the rise around the world, some of these new forests they replace deforestation taking place in other places, particularly in tropical regions with high biodiversity ".

There is indeed need for a broader vision of the panda and the forests: "Protecting the forests where pandas live, we also support many other species living in their habitat."

Protecting the habitat of the panda, it allows a complete safeguarding of forests, from the point of view of conservation, the friendly giant animals are a real umbrella species for the rest of the fauna.

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