

TO: ~~Ms. Dianne Lee~~ (7 pages)

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Action: Dianne Lee
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## Annual Project Review Report

Project title: Green Poverty Alleviation in Poor Rural Areas of Western China

Atlas Award ID: 00044274

Period covered: October 2006 to December 2007

### PROJECT PERFORMANCE—CONTRIBUTION TO THE CP OUTCOMES

1. CP outcome(s) (as stated in the CPD and CPAP), indicators, baselines and targets (as taken from the M&E Plan)

#### CP Outcome:

UNDP Outcome 1.2 National efforts to lead and manage Xiaokang implementation supported through a variety of instruments and capacity building initiatives;

UNDP Outcome 3.2 Improved environmental awareness and enabling environment created for greater public participation. Commercialisation of new and renewable energy technologies promoted;

UNDP Outcome 3.4 Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is more effective.

#### Indicators:

- 1) Baseline studies of poverty alleviation, energy and the eco-environmental situation in each demonstration area completed; local government officials, decision makers and practitioners trained in a scientific approach that combines poverty alleviation with energy development and eco-environmental regeneration; Improved ability of local farming communities to participate in the process of green poverty alleviation, ensuring ethnic minority and gender sensitivity in programme design and implementation.
- 2) Demonstration projects selected and implementation plans endorsed by National Steering Committee; Business models established for each project area with local farmer's associations formed or strengthened; agreed number of women (at least 50%) and majority ratio of ethnic minority households encouraged to participate in project activities and decision making; over 50% households at pilot villages with annual income increase of at least 15% by participating the demonstration projects; agro and forest habitats expanded & improved around key national and provincial nature reserves around the region of demonstration sites; results and lessons disseminated.

#### Baseline:

- 1) Limited institutional capacity to promote or combine poverty alleviation with sustainable energy development and eco-environmental protection and regeneration; limited participation of poor farmers and gender sensitivity/awareness in community activities and decision-making processes.
- 2) Limited commercial micro-entrepreneurship, marketing and negotiation skills among local farming communities; Limited knowledge and understanding of the concept, development and implementation of sustainable development plans.

#### Targets:

Target 1: To establish efficient and effective management and implementation structure for the project.  
Target 2: To provide information and data for: assessment of specific project needs; development of an improved support structure in each project area; and the design and optimization of the three demonstration projects.

Target 3: To improve active participation, self determination and self development of farmers and local decision makers in each demonstration area.

Target 4: To improve and demonstrate farmers' ability to achieve sustainable development by means of relying on practical science technologies and combining ecological energy development with poverty alleviation practice.

Target 5: To provide information for project dissemination and future training.

Target 6: To promote the concept of green poverty alleviation to a wider audience throughout China.

2. Update on outcome(s) - A brief analysis of the status of the situation and any observed change, any project contribution
  - 1) Established efficient and effective management and implementation structure for the project.
  - 2) Provided information and data for: assessment of specific project needs; development of an improved support structure in each project area; and the design and optimization of the three demonstration projects.
  - 3) Improved active participation, self determination and self development of farmers and local decision makers in each demonstration area.
  - 4) Improved and demonstrate farmers' ability to achieve sustainable development by means of relying on practical science technologies and combining ecological energy development with poverty alleviation practice.
  - 5) Provided information for project dissemination and future training.
  - 6) Promoted the concept of green poverty alleviation to a wider audience throughout China.
  
3. Annual outputs: Relate to targets set in the CPAP and project documents as appropriate.
  - 1) Project management; 2) Baseline analysis; 3) Capacity Building/Training; 4) Demonstration projects; 5) Project dissemination
  
4. Update on outputs. Achievements of the project in outputs.

#### MOST:

- 1) Project national steering committee and national expert committee was set up, Sep. 25, 2006.
- 2) National project implement preparation meeting was held on Sep. 28, 2006. Mr. Wang Baoshan from MOST was appointed as the director of national programme management office.
- 3) Baseline survey was conducted with the cooperation of international and national experts, during Sep. 29 – Oct. 24. A baseline survey questionnaire was designed in both decision maker level and farmer level. On-site survey was taken place in Luodian and zhenfeng of Guizhou province, Yuanmo, Yuanyang and Menghai of Yunnan Province, and Yanbian, Huili and Jinyang of Sichuan Province. A baseline analysis report was prepared in both Chinese and English.
- 4) Base on the baseline analysis report Luodian of Guizhou, Yuanyang of Yunnan and Huili of Sichuan were selected as demonstration country for JCL bio-diesel project.
- 5) National project inception meeting was held in Beijing on Nov. 21, 2006.
- 6) National PMO held a seminar for project implementing plan on Nov. 27, 2006. With the discussion of experts, the JCL bio-diesel project was divided into five subcontracts for smooth implementation. Based on the quotation, five institutes were selected as implementation agencies by the national expert committee.
- 7) Workshop of bio-diesel project for administration leader and management cadres was held in Kunming, Yunnan during Dec. 18 – 23, 2006. Basic information of China energy structure, renewable energy, bio-energy, JCL bio-diesel, and relative policy and law were provided.

- 8) Workshop on the technology of bio-energy resources and bio-diesel was held during Jan.8 – 13, 2006 in Xichang, Sichuan. Bio-diesel produce and convert, by-products comprehensive utilization and JCL planting technology were provided to local technician
- 9) Review meeting for the Manual for JCL Produce Techniques was held during Jan. 18 – 21, 2006 in Chengdu, Sichuan. First draft of the manual was finalized and 1600 copies were printed out.
- 10) Workshops on the produce and collection techniques of bio-diesel raw materials resources were held in Yuanyang of Yunnan, Luodian of Guizhou, Zhenfeng of Guizhou and Huli of Sichuan during Jan. 29 – Feb. 3, 2007. Over 700 local farmer took part in the training.
- 11) Review meeting was held on Feb. 2007. Activities of 2006 were summarized and AWP of 2007 was discussed. Director of PMO reported the project progress to national steering committee and expert committee in detail. The results of the meeting were summarized and transmitted to project sites.
- 12) Workshop on JCL planting plan and resources investigation techniques was held during Mar. 26-30, 2007 in Guiyan, Guizhou. Plans submitted by local executive agencies were discussed.
- 13) Expert reviews meeting for JCL resources development plan was held during Apr. 24 – 29, 2007 in Kunming Yunnan. Experts from renewable energy, forestry, economy, policy and ecology areas were invited to comment on the plans.
- 14) Seminar for commercial model, market mechanism and policy for JCL industry was held during May, 14 – 19, 2007 in Chengdu Sichuan. Representatives of government, research institutes, business, executive agencies and farmer attended the meeting.
- 15) First review meeting for JCL produce techniques was held during May 19 – 24, 2007.
- 16) Indonesia oversea study tour was carried out during Jun. 17 – 27, 2007. Delegation attended the JCL Forum, Prof. Chen Fang and Xu Ying from Sichuan University gave speeches on the forum. Delegation visited local JCL demonstration site and gained many useful experiences and information.
- 17) Annual midterm review meeting was held during Jul. 17- 20, 2007.
- 18) Second review meeting for JCL produce techniques was held during Jul. 20 – 26, 2007 in Kunming, Yunnan.
- 19) JCL Development Plans were submitted to POM from every project site on Aug. 8, 2007.
- 20) Third review meeting for JCL produce techniques was held during Aug. 18 – 24, 2007 in Kunming, Yunnan. JCL Produce Techniques was officially published after this finalization.
- 21) International Forum for JCL Industry development was successfully held on Oct. 30 – 31, 2007 in Haikou after a four month preparation. Over 300, including nearly 100 delegates from Korea, Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, Kampuchea, India, Brazil, Australia, United States, Canada, Argentina, United Kingdom, German, Finland, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Cameroon and Hong Kong, Taiwan participated in the conference.
- 22) Hainan JCL planting demonstration project was officially joined the GPA. Hainan project was started to prepare from April 2007. During the preparing stage, an expert team organized by PMO was invited to Qiongzhong, Ledong and Zhazhou for on-site investigation. Project proposal based on the investigation was submitted to UNDP and CICETE.
- 23) Workshop on Hainan JCL Planting demonstration was held on Nov. 26 – Dec.1, 2007 in Haikou.

#### Xinjiang:

- 1) Hetian area GPA steering committee was set up, director was appointed. Project management offices were organized in different levels, which were PMO in area and county level, work station in village and executive team in community levels.
- 2) PMO equipment and vehicles have been purchased for daily operation.
- 3) Local inception meeting has been held.
- 4) Experts have been invited to investigate the development status of the desert area in Xinjing and collect information and data for Jarrah and Dayun planting, survey sites including Yili district, Bo

- district and Changji District. Local ecological, environmental, energy, social and economical data was collected and a report on the project suitability was submitted. Project executive framework was designed base on the results of baseline analysis.
- 5) Suitable evaluation and executive institutes were selected for the project and expert from Peking University was invited to provide technical guidance.
  - 6) Domestic study tours were carried out to learn the experience for project implement policy, destinations included Inner Mongolia, Hebei, Yili and Changji.
  - 7) The abilities of decision making, management and technical support of local government were evaluated and demonstration areas were selected.
  - 8) Local Dayun farmer associations were organized, and trainings and domestic study tours were carried out to improve the administration ability. About 95% farmer in demonstration sites were participated in the Jarrah and Dayun planting, in which over 50% were women.
  - 9) Information centers were set up to provide direct planting, marketing and demanding information from Dayun processing companies. Local expert teams formed by technicians from these companies and experienced farmers also provided help to associations.
  - 10) Several on-site trainings were provided to farmers on marketing policy, planting techniques, quality control.
  - 11) On-site survey was taken to select the mid-scale demonstration sites. Total 7 demonstration countries were help to build up for poor farmer. Individual Dayun development plans and management procedures were designed with the consideration of local characteristic.
  - 12) Disseminated and training to improve the environmental protection sense of farmers through different methods.
  - 13) Several workshops were provided under the topics of ecological and environmental protection, Jarrah and Dayun planting and poverty alleviation via participatory approach in every demonstration site.
  - 14) 300 unit technical demonstration site and 3000 demonstration site were under construction. Land was graded, irrigation system was set up and Jarrah was planted. Dayun inoculation were ready to start in 2008.

#### Shanxi

- 1) Inception meeting was held on Aug. 21, 2007 in Taiyuan, Shanxi.
- 2) Local PMO was set up. Staffs took part in workshop of poverty alleviation knowledge for UNDP project management staff in Beijing.
- 3) Sub-contracts were signed for baseline analysis and environmental impact assessment. International experts were invited for on-site investigation and data collection was under going.
- 4) Several domestic study tours were set out. And finished the missions for equipment investigation, sweet broomcorn process, by-product utilization and marketing, and participating industrial forum.
- 5) Workshop for utilization techniques of sweet broomcorn was held on Sep. 20, 2007. Total 80 people participated, including related management staffs and sweet broomcorn planting farmers.
- 6) Contract signed with Taiyuan Xianneng Ethanol technique Development Ltd. to provide technical and expert support for the project.
- 7) Subsidy for demonstration area sweet broomcorn planting was given out and experimental plant was carried out in three different soil type and good results were gotten.
- 8) Equipments for sweet broomcorn ethanol process were selected and purchasing process was under going.

#### Mentougou

- 1) Inception meeting was held on Nov. 13, 2007. Representative for UNDP, CICETE, Mentougou district government, Mentougou Agriculture committee participated in the meeting, and PMO was officially announced to be set up on the meeting.
- 2) National experts were signed for the task of investigation for production line upgrade, new product

development, marketing development and brand building. Work was done and relative plans were made.

- 3) Investigation for farmer association building was set out. Information was collected for association regulation and operational procedure.
- 4) The growing characters of 11 kinds of mushroom in 3 different planting environment were collected for the compilation of production manual.
- 5) Demonstration process base upgrade plan was made, the equipments were selected.
- 6) Demonstration mushroom growing sites were selected. Investigation for situation of raw materials price and supply was undergoing.
- 7) Investigation for sustainable development of demonstration sites was under going.

5. Reason if progress below target: - If applicable explores underlying factors and reasons for gaps in output and target.

Some sub-projects were started from October 2007, due to the limitation of time, several activities were start but haven't finished. However, base on the current progress, all these activities can be finished before June 2008 and will not affect new activities.

6. Update on partnership strategies - Brief update on any achievement and/or problem (exception reporting).

On national level, from the planning, discussion and application, till the approval, inception and implement of the project, Government Cooperating Agencies, CICETE and UNDP always keep a smooth communication path and friendly discussion environment. This strong partnership guaranteed the effective execute of the project.

On the local level, local executive agencies are all have long term partnership with local government and relative institutes. Local government all provide solid support for the project in many ways.

7. Recommendations and proposed action. Actions on any matter related to outcome, progress of outputs, and/or partnerships. Corrective measures, Responsibilities

#### PROJECT PERFORMANCE—IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

There may be problems that are generic and not related to any specific output, or that apply to all of them. If so, the Project Manager fills out the "top three" such challenges. More can be added if considered indispensable, although when the top problems are solved other issues will normally improve, too. If the issues have been covered through the table above, this section may be left empty.

List the three main challenges (at most, if any) experienced during implementation and propose a way forward. Note any steps already taken to solve the problems.

This is the first UNDP project for all the local PMOs, however, they can all face the challenge positively and carry out the activities follow the aim and program of UNDP, despite of the short of experience.

The main problems can be described as the follow:

- 1) PMOs are running at high load and pressure.  
The project executive agencies are already facing the limitation of labor, heavy job load and

shortage of administration funding. The UNDP project tasks make the situation more serious, which may increase the risk of failure implement. Base on the project document, except support the project activities, cost sharing can also be use to pay part of the PMO administration fees, including communication, transportation etc. We suggest set a rule and reimbursement limit for this kind of administration fees. Meanwhile, permit PMOs to hire temporal worker use cost sharing fund. The implement plan will be decided with the consideration of real situation by the discussion of CICETE and PMOs.

2) Short of transportation tools

Due to the long distance between PMO and demonstration sites, and frequently project inspection, investigation, expert visiting and workshop, we suggest add one more car permission for all site, which should no higher than TOYOTA V8, USD 60,000, and fund by the cost sharing.

**RATING ON PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS**

If the CO has decided to use "rating of progress" as a tool, the Project Manager indicates his/her rating of progress for outputs. Subsequently the Programme Manager indicates agreement (or rates differently) and rates progress towards the outcome. These ratings may be used by the country office and/or Headquarters for the ROR analysis, as well as for input to evaluations and other purposes for results validation.

For outcomes:

- Positive change** (determined by evidence of movement from the baseline towards the end-outcome target measured by an outcome indicator)
- Negative change** (reversal to a level below the baseline measured by an outcome indicator)
- Unchanged**

For outputs: Applied to each output target [This is for the strategic outputs only. If the parties want rating of all outputs, the ones not in the SRF would be based on the project document, work plans or any other agreement on expected results.]

- No** (not achieved)
- Partial** (only if two-thirds or more of a quantitative target is achieved)
- Yes** (achieved)

**SOFT ASSISTANCE NOT PROVIDED THROUGH PROJECTS OR PROGRAMMES**

[Soft assistance contributes to the outcome and/or outputs. This section asks the Project Manager to provide information about any activities conducted that were not envisaged in the work plan or have yet to produce concrete results. It aims to identify additional or specific activities that are required to ensure

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progress towards the outcome. This section of the APR could contribute to the reporting section in the ROAR regarding narrative on "advocacy and policy dialogue". It allows the country office and the project to work in the same direction in advocacy and dialogue. If soft assistance is not an issue for the project or too sensitive to address, this section may be left empty.]

What are the key activities (if any) of soft assistance undertaken by the project?

A coordinating meeting held on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to discuss the annual workplan of year 2008 and management arrangement for the project. Participants from CICETE, UNDP and SEAC attended this meeting and took part in the discussion.

What are the main constraints in progress towards outcome that require additional soft assistance?

1. It's the very beginning of the implementation of the new project, and more new project authorities are participating into this project. All stakeholders tried to express their ideas at every beginning and it goes better with open communication, and hope it to further strengthen the communications among different project authorities at the dissemination stage.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Please propose elements for soft assistance strategy for the next year:

Besides regular work meeting, coordination meeting should be held nonscheduled to discuss important issues during the implementation and more monitoring visits will be arranged to secure the project performance and keep face-to-face communication.

**LESSONS LEARNED**

[The lessons learned from the APR should serve as input to the performance analysis of the ROAR as well as the annual review, which allows the partners to compile and exchange lessons learned from all projects and APRs.]

Describe briefly key lessons learned during the year:

1. The workplan had to be postponed due to the delay of Government cost sharing;
2. A lot of activities were implemented in the last year after the inception workshop and make the PMOS overloaded; Next years the workplan shall be arranged more practical.
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ (Project management, name and title)

[Note: Since reporting should as much as possible be electronic for efficiency, signature is not required. The Project Director can transmit it in an Email, through a website or through a computer programme.]

李 2008.3. project officer, CICETE

张 2008.3. Deputy Division Chief, CICETE

李 2008. National Project Director, MOST