

Meat Cattle Development Project in Baoshan, Yunnan Progress Report

(Jul 2016 – Feb 2017)

1. Project profile

This project will co-operate with the local government to help a total of **1, 200 families (400 original and 800 POG families)** from poor communities in **Wadu Township of Longyang District, Baoshan City, Yunnan Province** to relieve their livelihood and alleviate poverty. Most of the families here are defined as impoverished families with average annual income less than RMB 3,000. The land is barren with insufficient resources in the community, farmers do not use the woodland resources effectively. They are living in an old tradition with conservative ideas. Their breeding technology is backward, and they lack the ability to enter the market.

The project duration will be five years begin in FY 2016. . A total of 400 original families will receive gift animals along with agricultural supports such as tree plant, forage seeds for animal feeding. With the assistance from community facilitators (CFs), the 400 original families will pass on their knowledge, skills and physical inputs to the 800 passing on the gift (POG) families.

Through the project, **16 Self-Help Groups** will be formed, activities, trainings and capacity building will be organized. Families will receive gift animals along with trainings related to Livestock and Agriculture Development and marketing skills. Self- help groups will be formed to improve the economic and social capital of the project families and communities. The project aims to assist target families to run cooperative which will be connected to an established enterprise for sustainable profit.

2. Project Progress

Objective 1: By the end of FY20, all the project families' income will have 50% increases through improving animal management, cooperatives with functioning business hubs.

Animal Distribution

Distributed 400 meat cattle to 400 original participants. Target to Pass on the Gift by end of 2017.

Trainings

1. Organized study tours to cattle and pig farms and trainings on animal raising industry development.
2. 800 kg ryegrass seeds distributed as feeding grass for animals
3. Trainings on silage making for 44 villagers participants
4. Distributed 13 grass cutters.

Objective 2: By the end of FY20, all the project participants will achieve solidarity and social harmony, by participating in cooperatives and practicing effective & efficient application of VBHCD.

Self Help Group (SHG)

1. Village meetings to discuss about the community construction, environment improvement, trainings, and strategy of marketing and selling agricultural products, etc.
2. Women SHGs' meeting for 8 times to discuss about SHG building, SHG fund management, and other social and activities.
3. Discussion of road repairing, drinking system improvement, construction of community center, etc.

Trainings:

1. Cornerstone trainings in Qingshuiguo, Shantou, Dazhupeng and Pinglinzi SHGs, a total of 85 participants has joined.
2. SHG training sessions for leadership capacity building, finance management and project management.
3. Site visit to old project in Wama village and Mangkuan Village to learn the community development and project implementation

Objective 3: By the end of FY20, all the project participants have improved the community environment through agro-ecological production and enhanced management of natural resource.

Trainings

1. 3 trainings on environmental protection

Measurements

1. 800 mu grasses and 180 trees were planted in the project area
2. Project community organized 16 mass cleaning activities, 6 times clean to make the activity place more beautiful.
3. Mass cleansing and hygiene activities organized in project village, educate project farmers the importance to protect eco-environment and community hygiene.

3. Project Story

They transform the community

"We need your help to make bigger progress. Please come visit us more often!" said Mr Zhang Fawei when he met Heifer's training staff. He is the leader of the Dazhupeng SHG, Tuguan Village, Wadu Township, one of the Heifer project area this year.

Zhang, 39, he is the head of the Dazhupeng community since 2015. After Heifer project is launched, he was elected as the leader of the Dazhupeng SHG. Zhang is an amiable and kind man, not only he helped improved the village environment, he also ties and unite the community. For example, he spread the message and importance of sanitation and hygiene care, he also led the villagers to improve the public infrastructure. During the project, Zhang kept close contact with the project team, and have been actively participated in all trainings. He even helped everyone to understand the Heifer Cornerstones and philosophy. He brings harmony, unity, sharing and caring to the village. Step by step, he transformed the community.



ZhangFawei and his family.

Zhang's wife is also the women's group leader. At first, she was worried about not being able to take the role. This is because her husband was already busy helping as the village leader, she was the only one who take care of the family and her two kids. Zhang knew her concerns, and he encouraged her, "The Heifer Project has helped us a lot, with the support from Heifer project staff, our life is getting better and better! Now it's our turn to do something more, together to make contribution for a brighter future!" Zhang's wife agreed, and she decided to take the challenge. With the assistance of Zhang and Heifer staff, they successfully formed the Women's group. Zhang's wife led the group to set sanitation rules for the community which greatly enhance the village environment, she also gathered the farmers to have a group crop-planting plan as a sustainable way of development.

With the leadership of Zhang's couple, the village is now more and more beautiful, villagers are like one big family, they all enjoy much fun through joining cultural and entertainment activities organized by the self-help groups. This is also what Heifer wants to achieve - strengthen the ties and cooperation between farmers and inspire the project families to develop and improve their community together.

4. Project photos



Heifer Cornerstone Training



Distribute grass cutter to farmers



Training on silage making



Heifer staff provides technical support to farmers



Study tour to cattle farm