The Final Report of CEPF Project

I. Basic information

Organization Legal Name: Community and Biodiversity Conservation Research Center of Lanzhou University

Project Title: Community Action under the Biodiversity Conservation

Project cooperation partner: The management bureau of Baishuijiang national reserve, Gansu

Project time: 2006.3-2007.9
Report date: 2007.9

II. Prologue

This project from the initial concept to completion, which lasted three years, has rendered me relieved, as I can finally be assured that under the support of well-designed activities, the goal of the designed project proposal has been completed successfully. This is a production of a combination of many people’s wisdom, effort and sweat, if without CEPF project officials with the guidance of encouragement, without collaborators selfless support and dedication, without the whole team of cooperation with absolute sincerity and efforts, without active participation and enthusiasm of community residents, in order to obtain such a result is not possible.

After go away, look back, we find that the project is much more difficult than we expected, fortunately we overcome the difficulties under courage, sincerity, unity and perseverance, went to the success of other shore. Success is we have been looking forward, but if just so, the project will lose it implied significance. The project is exciting and successful; as a result, there are huge changes outside of project.

Community residents get rid of the heavy labor from the fetters of hewing firewood, go out to work, income increased, the income structure has changed, and forest dependence began to reduce.

Sparking Humanity project makes community residents first benefit from the protection, and they have started to have a positive life experience, cases of forest greatly reduced.

Project participatory approach inspires the potential energy of community residents, so that they understand their own role and status in the development and protection.

Capacity building project emphasized and arranged enable communities masses extend vision, increase knowledge, have impulsion to change positively the status and conserve natural resources.

III. Narrating problems

1. What is the original purpose of project?
Relieve use amounts of firewood by 50-60% for 672 households of 36 nature villages in fringe areas between core area and buffer area and alleviate the pressure of biodiversity protection due to human factors.

2. In the process of project implement, whether the project have changing? If have, please provide concrete causes and content.

Project application postponed to September of 2007, having three causes:

① The time of project appropriate funds is postponed;

② The construction of huge scale energy-saving stoves met winter, we were afraid which will affect project quality, according to consult with Baishuijiang management bureau, restarted project in March of 2007.

③ Project benefit evaluation can be made after the end of project.

3. How to obtain expected goal of project?

① To design every project activities delicately.

② Check up every project details, finding problems and solve them in time.

③ Constitute communicating mechanism with cooperation partners.

④ Communicating with project officials in time, eliminate technology obstacle in the process of project implement.

4. In the process of project implement, whether you and your team went through any despair and failure? If have, please explain how to solve?

NO

5. Please depict what you or your organization gained from the project, to share experiences with other organizations that undertake similar project, including positive and negative experiences.

As any other community projects, the uncertainty of this project development anticipation is surely existent, such as whether the unified action will conceal the various preferences, whether the project will inspire people’s enthusiasm to participate, whether this project could summary the past experience and at the same time avoid the deficiencies and defects in the past. However, there is no doubt that we will influence or change these uncertainties, and our ability of shaping future is obvious. But it doesn’t mean that we could ignore these risks completely. Based on the experience, we should establish relative principles for our project actions and follow them stably,
which will avoid the bad results that is reverse our original intention. In order to reduce these risks, we provide following suggestions:

(1) To take actions step by step. This is a demonstration project, so we must assume that there are many unknown factors, even if in the most familiar regions. Under such condition, we should take actions step by step, summarizing experiences at intervals, according to the reflected problems to adjust plan and continue to implement project, which would ensure the project implementing successfully.

(2) To respect for the traditional knowledge and experiences. The soul of tradition is the essential foundation for the project implementation. If we pay less attention to tradition, local people will always be bystanders, no matter how well the project is, there will be an obstruct between the project and the local people. Only obstruct has been eliminated, with full participation of local people, the problems in the project implement can be found and avoid them in time.

(3) To provide innovative space for local people. Although the technology is mature, the group relying on the foundation of technology will get experience and insight, so they can improve technical design according to their actual needs and preferences. The type of design can provide not only flexible and adjustable plans, but also manifest different preferences. The diversified creation is the basic condition for the project to keep active and permanent. Which is not only exercise local technology personnel, but also reserve persons with ability in the future development of forest-edge community.

(4) In the relative large scale community actions, we must overcome formalism, let local residents participate in project. It must endow speaking right for them, and make sure that the channel of speaking unimpeded and free. So any small problems in project can be found and solved in time.

(5) Before action, in order to prevent inequality and destroy of traditional cooperative methods due to project, we must consider cooperative of community tradition, because it will bring instability and conflict, which is we expected. Of course, modern community actions need some new cooperative methods, we must develop new cooperative methods under old cooperative and respect local residents.

(6) To search and summarize the deficiencies and defects of similar projects in the past, according to the design of system and management policies to overcome blindness and improve innovative process. Based on summary, we take the approach of “go to outside” and “invite inside”, and learn advanced experience of rural energy building and extend, which will make our actions rational in the beginning.
( 7 ) To understand project risks fully. At this point, both our cognition and action have deficiency, we always understand risk from project itself, but we do not consider different level and types risks, so we often overlook exchange rate, construction season and project quality, as a result, project is postponed.

6. Please indicate relative continuing actions

( 1 ) Under the participant and support of local government and the forestry department, we will extend energy-saving stoves in the whole protection area and try our best to relieve the besieging progress of biodiversity protection due to firewood consumption in the short time.

( 2 ) According to publicize how to protect right and avoid market risk for outside laborers, so saving laborers can go out to work. Increase the livelihood diversification and decrease the dependence on forest, and then which will change the forest-based livelihood system.

( 3 ) According to facilitate management bureau to set up the community work faculty to manage and protect with more humane approach in order to reduce the frequency of forestry administration cases with livelihood motive.

( 4 ) Excavate the essence of traditional culture, according to research and coordinate, greatly advocate traditional model for resource management, such as “worship to the vision of mountain”.

( 5 ) Research on crisis management in natural protection area and establish the sense of crisis and misery in managers and local residents.

( 6 ) Have ready to went to second step about biodiversity protection—community observation capability building, to integrate protection and development, according to pay more attention to community, develop community, then we can obtain more effective biodiversity protection and management.

7. Please provide integrated project information of CEPF.

Appendix one: The project report of baseline investigation
Appendix tow: The final report of project investigation
Appendix three: The drawing volume of project
Appendix four: The project log
Appendix five: The project briefing
Appendix six: The project distributing map

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<th>VII. Other fund</th>
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Please provide detail information of other sponsors who fund the project and help the project achieve expected goal;
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sponsor name</th>
<th>fund type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>explanation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>management bureau of Baishuijiang protection reserve</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>30000</td>
<td>the lacking rate due to exchange rate (when apply project, exchange rate is 1:8, when implement project, it is 1:7.5)</td>
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Other fund— please according to following category

A. Project common fund (Other sponsors directly contribute to charge to CEPF project)

B. Compensated fund (Other sponsors contribute to relative project and implement organizations)

C. The recipient and fund cooperative partners provide (cooperative partners contribute to the implement project)

D. Regional fund and other invested combination (other sponsors in same region provide investment)

VIII. Other evaluation and suggestion

No

VIII. Information sharing

CEPF hope add sharing of experience, lesson and effect in the recipients, more protection organizations and sponsor groups. One kind of manner is upload every CEPF final report to the website of CEPF www.cepf.net, or your can use in every month communication of CEPF. Please affirm whether you agree mentioned above or not.

- Agree
- Disagree

If agree, please filling in following content

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