
Yunnan's Foreign Aid Program in Myanmar in 2018

Education and Health Program for Children Affected by Hydropower Resettlement in Kachin State Jointly Conducted by Chinese and Myanmarese Social Organizations

Final Report (Draft)

Program Location: Resettlement community of Myitsone Dam,
Myitkyina, Myanmar

Program Duration: from January 2018 to December 2018

Budget: RMB 290,000.00

Implemented by: Kunming Yundi Behavior and Health

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December 2018

I. Background of the Program

Myitsone Dam in Myanmar is located in mountain areas of Kachin State, northern Myanmar. In December 2009, a joint venture consisting of Ministry of Electric Power of Myanmar, Myanmar Asia World Company and China Power Investment Group chosed to establish Myitsone Dam on the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy River with a total installed capacity of 6 million kilowatts, known as the "Overseas Three Gorges Dam". However, due to large differences in history, culture and economy between China and Myanmar, parts of Chinese investment has affected the daily life and environment of local residents. Some local villagers were worried about the impact of their living environment, and all electricity will return to China (not knowing that China will pay), and the media expanded people's dissatisfaction on China. Plus, There are no Chinese social organizations on site, nor joint social organizations of China and Myanmar to carry out activities, no relevant explanations or related reports, no third parties such as Chinese and Myanmar's social organizations, on behalf of the interests of villagers, to help local villagers affected by the power station. In September 2011, Myanmar unilaterally announced the suspension of Myitsone Dam even though an initial investment of more than RMB 4 billion had been input and Myitsone resettlement villages had been completely relocated. At the same time, some of the projects responding to "The Belt and Road" initiatives in Myanmar have not received the support of the local, and even caused conflict and confrontation.

Based on the experiences of implementing Education Assistance Project of Maija Yang Refugee Camp proposed by Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province in 2017, Yunnan Aid Project supports Chinese social organizations to go deep into the site of Myitsone Dam, cooperating with social groups in Myanmar to solve the shortage of electricity for the local. To provide basic medical services and education for impoverished women and children who have been resettled, to explore Chinese social organizations offering basic livelihood services through a low-sensitive way, to change the negative feelings of Myanmar social groups and locals on China as well as the isolated situation China construction silence, the project intends to expand the influence of Chinese social organizations in this region, and provide experiences for other Chinese social organizations to go out and implement "The Belt and Road" initiative through creating a friendly atmosphere in Myanmar.

II. General Information

The project duration is from January 2018 to December 2018, and its budget is RMB 290,000. Cooperating with Airavati Foundation, a social organization in Myanmar, the aid project provides basic education and health services for women and children in resettlement community of Myitsone Dam affected by the project suspension, building a children's cultural and recreational activities room and providing 100 school things for the children in the community; giving out 240 children's nutrition meals; offering free clinic for 106 women and medical examinations for 130 children in the community jointly with doctors from Yangon, Myanmar; conducting 10 activities to spread knowledge on health jointly with community management personnel, benefiting more than 300 women and their families. 50 solar rice cookers were also donated to the residents in the community, and two solar TV sets and related equipment were donated to the Catholic Church and the Children's Cultural and Entertainment Room. In addition, project management team jointly conducted on-site supervision twice. The targets and activities as required by the project have been completed with total expense of RMB 290,000.

The project initially changed health and education conditions of the resettlement community, and united social organizations in Myanmar, so that the residents affected by the Dam construction could see act of kindness offered by Yunnan aid projects. The project supported Chinese social organizations to go out, which promote the communication between Chinese and Myanmar people through these activities. The valuable practical experience related to Yunnan aid projects is worth learning.

III. Objective

General Aims: Cooperate with social organizations in Myanmar; provide education and health services to local women and children; enhance communication between Chinese and Myanmar people; eliminate negative feelings of local communities on China; establish a friendly atmosphere, and explore experiences for establishment of supportive environment in local communities.

Objectives:

1. Chinese social organizations will cooperate with Myanmar social organizations to establish friendly atmosphere by providing livelihood and health services to women and children in the resettlement community.
2. Establish an entertainment room for 100 children under 5 years old and 200 children in 4 communities. Provide activities such as physical examination, health care, education, and behavioral education of health awareness as well as nutritious meals for 100 children with poor nutritional status.
3. Cooperate with local media in Myanmar to publicize the project and publish 1 related academic paper.
4. Communicate with social organizations in Myanmar.

IV. Activities

Taking advantage of the low sensitivity of cross-border services offered by social organizations, we focused on providing medical and education services to women and children, which is easily accepted by local community. We fully respect local needs and cooperate with Airavati Foundation, a social organization of Kachin State registered in Myanmar, to provide education and health services for displaced women and children affected by the construction of the Dam. The specific activities are as follows:

1. Yundi organization repeatedly communicated and coordinated with Airavati Foundation according to the project application and budget to establish a cooperation mechanism, determined the cooperation plan as well as specific duties and works from January to March 2018.
2. In April 2018, Luo Zhi, project leader of Yundi organization, was invited to participate in supervision of Myanmar Foreign Aid Project by Foreign Affairs Office of Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province. He visited the project site in Myanmar and held a training meeting for project management staffs, in which he shared and discussed experiences and challenges of other projects with staffs of Myitsone Dam resettlement community project.
3. After signing cooperation agreement with Airavati Foundation, Yundi organization held a project coordination meeting with Yangon Headquarter of Airavati Foundation, Project Offices from Myitkyina and Laza in Ruili City on May 1, 2018. They discussed details of activities and project management requirements and reached a consensus to prepare various activities in an orderly manner.
4. On May 4, 2018, staffs of Yundi organization and Mr. Henry, head of Yangon Headquarter of Airavati Foundation and Tu Hkawng, project

manager of Myitkyina Project, went to the community to design activities, purchase children's nutritious meals and school supplies, establish children's entertainment room, and offer children's health checkups, etc.

5. On May 23, 2018, Yundi organization held a launching ceremony in 4 resettlement communities of Myitsone Dam with Airavati Foundation and local departments. The Myanmar's side made extensive publicity and mobilization in the early stage. About 100 local residents joined in the ceremony and the event was reported in local media.

6. Project staffs from China and Myanmar teamed up with local doctors and volunteers to provide medical examinations for 106 women and children in the Tangphre, Mazup, DawngPan and Laphe communities from May 24 to 25. They offered nutritious food such as milk, vitamins and cakes to malnourished children during the physical examination. School supplies were also distributed. The event was recognized and welcomed by local residents.

7. From June to July 2018, Myanmar's project staff organized residents in Mazup community with poor sanitation to build public toilets for local kindergartens. These toilets were put into use at the end of July.

8. Myanmar's project staff distributed nutritious meals to 179 children at five distribution sites in the community, spreading knowledge on nutrition and healthy habits so as to improve awareness of locals on healthy diet, public health and child nutrition from August 2 to 3, 2018.

9. Yundi organization and Airavati Foundation jointly supervised works conducted on site from July 30 to August 4, 2018 and found that Baptist ECCD elementary school was lack of cultural and recreational activities. Thus, they purchased and installed the first local solar TV set, equipped with audio and video discs, including Christian hymns, children's cartoons and Chinese scenery so as to enrich children's spiritual and cultural life in a special environment. The activity was praised by local community management committee, the church and other departments.

10. From August to September 2018, staffs of the project carried out 4 activities to advocate health behaviors in communities, focusing on weak awareness of the local, such as food and drinking water safety, prevention of infectious diseases, etc. so as to change their not hygienic habits on eating and drinking.

11. Myanmar's staffs of the project distributed nutritious meals to 30 children in the Kindergarten of Mazup community and spread knowledge on childhood nutrition and health care on September 19, 2018,.

12. Myanmar's staffs of the project distributed school supplies, daily necessities and nutritious meals to 45 children in the Mazup and Mali Yang community and spread knowledge on childhood nutrition and health care in October 2018.

13. On November 2, 2018, Yundi organization and Airavati Foundation jointly provided free medical services for villagers moved in Tangphre community, Myanmar. Doctors from Rangoon were invited to conduct on-site diagnosis and treatment of common diseases, gynecology, and pediatrics. This even covered 165 people and it was publicized and reported in local Myanmarese media, Yundi Wechat and public websites.

14. Yundi organization purchased 50 solar rice cookers which were distributed by Myanmar staffs due to lack of electricity in communities from November 2 and 5, 2018. In addition, a solar TV set was purchased for the children's entertainment room to meet the cultural and educational needs of local children.

15. In November 2018, Myanmarese staffs offered three health education lectures and distributed publicity materials in Mali Yang, Hkangbu, Aungminthar and Tangphre community, covering 245 persons; they organized 121 children in two communities to study drawing and distributed school supplies and 245 children's nutrition meals to 4 communities in three times.

16. A children's entertainment room was built in Mali Yang community from October to November 2018, and it was equipped with rides (children's slides, wooden horses, etc.), tables, chairs, and school supplies. The establishment of the room meets the daily entertainment and learning needs of more than 200 local children and orphans in the local community. Management of the community joint arranged of the room. A special person is responsible for the maintenance and arrangement of daily activities for the children in the room.

17. In November 2018, Yundi organization invited Henry, project manager of Yangon Headquarter of Airavati Foundation to participate in "Promotion Seminar of key technologies for prevention and control of major chronic diseases in "The Belt and Road" Countries". Result of free treatment program for impoverished children with congenital heart disease in Myanmar offered by Yunnan Province was introduced at the meeting. Thus act of kindness offered by China to Myanmar could be seen by everyone. Then he visited Kunming and felt development of Chinese infrastructure.

V. Publicity of the Project

1. Publicity of the project and free clinic service conducted in Myanmar Taking project start-up ceremony, physical examination and free clinic service as an opportunity, the project was publicized and reported in Myanmarese "Myitkyina Week". This is the first time that local media in Myitkyina reported on the assistance activities of Chinese social organizations in resettlement communities, and it lets locals know that Chinese social organizations have carried out education and health assistance work in local areas.

2. **Newsletters** publicity the **progress** of the project timely Yundi organization prepared 4 newsletters introducing activities, including "Yundi Centre participated in the supervision organized

by Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province on the assistance project in Myanmar", "Launch of livelihood and health project for resettled women and children affected by the construction of Myitsone Dam", "The first solar TV in resettlement community for people affected by the construction of Myitsone Dam" and "Free clinic service and donation of solar rice cookers offered by Chinese and Myanmar social organizations for resettlement communities". These newsletters timely publicized the organizations on WeChat, public websites, experts in various fields and more than 60 organizations.

3. Write project cases and publish articles to spread the result obtained by the project

The project staff conducted in-depth interviews with project partners and beneficiaries, and wrote 3 project cases to summarize achievements and influence of the project. It wrote an article "Advantages and challenges of Chinese social organizations participating in cross-border health services in northern Myanmar" which was published in Chinese Journal of Public Health (November 2018, Vol. 34, No. 11.). Yundi organization provides relevant policies and suggestions to Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province as well as materials for a CPPCC proposal in Yunnan Province.

VI. Expenditures

The total budget of the project is RMB 290,000. As of December 30, 2018, the total expenditure is RMB 290,000. The payment of project funds is counted in strict accordance with the budget and activity content. However, there are still some differences between the budget and actual expenditures for on-site work. The main reason is that Myanmar partner has an independent financial management system and payment standards. Some of the expenditures are not counted according to the project budget and these expenditures are paid according to the number of activities and payment standards of Myanmar's side. The expenditures of item activity 2 "establishing a children's entertainment room in resettlement village of Kachin State, Myanmar" and item 6 "good behavior of disease prevention and control, food safety and mental health" are increased according to needs of on-site work, including repair of toilets in children's entertainment room and car fares. The total expenditure of these two items exceeds 10% of the budget. The expenditures of item 1 "Project start-up ceremony with local department in Myanmar" and item 6 "publicity of the project" are counted according to actual work. Since the expense of project album is too high and one person of Yundi organization didn't participate in the ceremony, total expense of these two activities saves 30% of the budget. The expenditures

of the project and the reasons for overspend and surplus of each category are detailed in Annex 1.

VII. Result and output of the project

1. Chinese social organizations go deep into impoverished areas of Myanmar

Yunnan Foreign Aid Project supports Chinese social organizations to go out and overcome enormous challenges of carrying out livelihood assistance projects and helping impoverished areas in Myanmar. The project fully utilizes the flexibility and cross-border cooperation advantages of social organizations, exploring how to output the influence of Chinese social organizations in these regions through “The Belt and Road” initiative, and building a media environment favorable to Chinese social organizations.

2. Establish a trust relationship with departments and communities in Myanmar

The project has established cooperative relationships with people from different departments such as the Myitsone Community Management Committee, Christian Church, the Orphanage, and local doctors through the project. The project mobilized multiple local departments and key figures to participate in the project. It conducted activities in local communities and has established a cooperative platform, a liaison mechanism and a trust relationship, which laid a foundation for cooperation in long-term development of Chinese foreign aid and livelihood projects.

3. Cooperate with social organizations in Myanmar

Yundi organization, as a social organization, utilizes its low sensitivity to establish a trust relationship with Airavati Foundation. By signing a cooperation agreement, they jointly designed and implemented the project. Airavati Foundation was invited to attend meetings held in Kunming. Social organizations in Myanmar could see the act of kindness of Yunnan's foreign aid projects. The local people could feel that China really wants to help them through “The Belt and Road” initiatives.

4. Solve power shortage in some resettlement communities

The project solved power shortage in some resettlement communities by donating solar TV sets and solar rice cookers and provided children and vulnerable residents with an access to outside world, information and resource. It found that power shortage was one of the problems that the local people urge to solve, which will be conducive to alleviating the negative sentiment of local communities and promoting “The Belt and Road” projects to be implemented in Myitkyina.

5. Initially improve women and children's nutritious status, education and sanitary condition in resettlement communities

Children's entertainment room and public toilets built by the project have improved educational facilities for children in local community. The project provided rides and school supplies to enrich their spiritual and cultural life as well as nutritious meals, health checkups, free clinics service, which reduced children's nutrition, improve local residents' awareness of health care. The project focused on the needs of beneficiaries, respected the culture in local areas, and fully considered the acceptability of local people. Thus, the project was supported and recognized by local departments and resettlement communities.

VIII. Influence of the project

1. Yunnan's foreign aid united social organizations in Myanmar

Drawing on the successful operation mode of social organizations in the West, Yundi organization, as a social organization, makes full use of its low political sensitivity and flexibility and cooperates with Airavati Foundation in an acceptable way. It gradually approaches resettlement communities in Myitsone Dam, Myitkyina. Yundi organization unites social organizations in Myanmar through various public activities so as to change the negative perceptions of some Myanmar people, striving to gradually obtain positive coverage of local news media. It hopes to spread Chinese kindness and compassion to local people in Myitkyina.

2. Promote long-term development of cooperative platform for Chinese and Myanmar social organizations

Chinese and Myanmar social organizations have signed agreements and jointly implemented projects to let both Chinese and Myanmar social organizations benefit from Yunnan's foreign aid projects. Yunnan foreign aid project has received attention and support from social organizations in Myanmar. The experiences of the project have resulted in health cooperation between Fuwai Yunnan Cardiovascular Hospital and social organizations in Myanmar (Pangkham, Kokang and No. 4 Special Zone of Shan State). It has motivated a number of social organizations in Myanmar to participate in key projects of Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar "The Belt and Road" initiatives proposed by Ministry of Science and Technology as well as establishment of platform for AIDS prevention and control in surrounding countries close to Yunnan. It has established a reliable platform and foundation for long-term and sustainable cooperation between Chinese and Myanmar social organizations.

IX. Experiences

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1. With the support of Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, the project gradually approaches resettlement communities in Myitsone Dam, Myitkyina based on flexibility and acceptability of social organizations as well as experiences of long-term projects conducted by Yundi organization in northern Myanmar. It not only avoids the political sensitivity of activities in special areas of Myanmar, but also provides public welfare to local communities.
 2. Targeting at women and children in resettlement communities affected by the construction of Myitsone Dam, the project focused on children's education and health services that are easy to be accepted and have a good impact in the community. Social organizations in China and Myanmar jointly offer services to children in communities, providing a place for children to play, study and communicate and concerned with children's health and nutrition issues. The project helped specific groups and gained popular support in the short period time.
 3. Chinese-funded companies and social organizations in Myanmar also helped project in coordination and communication. A Chinese travel agency has provided quality services for transportation of project overseas supervision. Through the coordination and cooperation of the above partners, the main difficulties in implementation of cross-border projects have been overcome, so that the successful completion of the project has been ensured.
 4. The project paid close attention to the changes of Chinese and Myanmar policies and the timeliness of information. It timely reports the progress of the project to relevant departments and competent authorities, and obtains timely guidance and feedback from them to avoid deviations in understanding and implementing policy and project. It timely provided relevant material for policy suggestions and CPPCC proposals, so that the project has a meaningful and direct influence.

X. Exiting problems, challenges and suggestions

1. The project only lasts for one year, which is relatively short. To offer proper guidance to public opinion in Myanmar needs long time. Therefore, it is impossible to change negative public opinion in a short time. In the next step, it is recommended to use management and financial support of Department of Commerce to carry out more long-term social assistance activities on education and health for women and children in resettlement communities in Myitsone Dam by Chinese and Myanmar social organizations.
2. Social organizations in China and Myanmar have great differences in backgrounds, operational models and management, specifically, Airavati Foundation is headquartered in Yangon, and Myitkyina office is its branch in Kachin. Its organization, management, internal communication and expenditure are a little complex, and the file management and financial reimbursement are significantly different from Yundi organization's. The difference caused some activities and financial reimbursement lag behind, and it also increased

the difficulty to collect and manage project files. Chinese and foreign social organizations shall prepare more reasonable project plans, and strive to overcome the difficulties and challenges caused by differences in foreign countries' institution and policy, and cross-cultural communication.

3. The project is implemented in a sensitive area in Myanmar, and the partner is a foreign social organization. Therefore, the publicity of the project needs to be very cautious. During the implementation of the project, media refused to report on such sensitive topics; plus not many media resources available in Myanmar within project reaches. Finally two media in Myitkyina report some of the project activities. However, the publicity of the project is still not enough and extensive. It is recommended to explore more channels for publicity in the future, increasing project publicity, and reporting the implementation of the project and its results from more aspects.

XI. Annex

1. List of project expenditures
2. Project beneficiary cases
3. Project photos

Annex 1 2018 Yunnan's Foreign Aid Projects in Myanmar – Chinese-Myanmarese Education and Health Project for Children in Resettlement Communities from Hydropower Project in Kachin State

List of Project Expenditures

From January to December,
2018

Unit: RMB

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Ratio %
1. Project start-up ceremony in Myanmar	7,000.00	5,726.00	82%
2. Children's entertainment rooms in resettlement communities, Kachin State, Myanmar	40,500.00	41,694.00	103%

3. Physical checkup and health care for children in resettlement communities, Kachin State, Myanmar	60,000.00	60,476.00	101%
4. Advocated healthy behaviors such as disease prevention and control, food safety	29,000.00	30,970.00	107%
5. Cooperation with NGO in Myanmar to establish a long-term partnership	34,500.00	33,859.00	98%
6. Publicity of the project	24,000.00	21,011.00	88%
7. Quality control and technical support on project site	38,000.00	39,264.00	103%
8. Administration of the project	57,000.00	57,000.00	100%
Total	290,000.00	290,000.00	100%

Annex 2. beneficiary case one

Case 1. Mr. Henry – Airavat Foundation I know

I still remembered the first time I saw Mr. Henry, head of Yangon headquarter of Airavat Foundation. I was impressed by his tan skin and his less talk. When he saw things to be done by Yundi organization, he read the project plan very carefully and asked many questions about the project, which was contrast with his normal appearance. I still found he was a little vigilant on Chinese organization, because he didn't know much about us.

We invited local doctors and project staffs to provide physical checkups, medicines, living goods and school supplies to women and children living in resettlement communities. Chinese social organizations closely cooperated with social organizations in Myanmar and were accepted by local people, offering medical services in need, which left a smile on Mr. Henry's face. He advised us quite a lot about how to serve the local people in a better way. He told us that some social organizations had cooperated with Airavat Foundation, but they didn't actually do something to seek approval from local people. As head of Yangon headquarter, if the things they have done weren't accepted by the local, the Foundation would not has impaction, that's why he was so cautious. However, when he found that Yundi organization, like their organization, wants to do somethings to solve practical problems for the local and was accepted by local women and children, he thought that he

could cooperate with us for a long time. We invited him to join in meetings held in Kunming. He saw Chinese development and the program on treatment for Myanmarese impoverished children with congenital heart disease, he knew how helpful and friendly China was to Myanmar. For the last time we provided free clinic service and donated solar rice cookers to resettlement communities, Mr. Henry and another staff drove from Yangon, 1,500 miles from the community, to join in this activity, inviting the manager and all staffs of project office in Myitkyina as well as local doctors. Our cooperation ensured smooth development of free clinic service. At the same time, Mr. Henry offered to invite two local media to publicize our project. He prepared a new annual working plan, hoping to cooperate with Yundi organization for a long time.

Case 2. Sister Arman – person in charge the church in Myitsone resettlement community

When we evaluated project progress of kindergartens and health centers in 6 villages along Myitsone Dam in July, 2018, Sister Arman, in charge of the church in Dawngpan Community told us that food and housing problems of children and refugees in this area were solved in the main, but their spiritual and cultural life was barren. Due to lack of electricity, even they have a TV set, it won't work. In addition, there were 100 children in her kindergarten and they didn't have any rides. As their teacher, she felt sad about it.

After purchased two solar TV sets, solar cell, solar rice cookers, solar panels, transformers and DVDs for them, we installed and debugged the TV sets at noon, children all got up and saw what we're doing. When we played Chinese cartoons to them, not only the children but also all nuns in the convent was attracted. Sister Arman was delighted by this scene and tears sprang to her eyes.

Sister Arman said that, "Chinese organization offers the children with TV sets, nutritious meals, physical checkups and free medicines. They build us an activity room and give us a solar TV set which is the first solar TV set in the resettlement community. The solar rice cooker is also very useful. May the Lord bless you."

Case 3. Zhang Huangui, general manager of Production and Engineering Management Department of Irrawaddy Company of State Power Investment Corporation Limited

Zhangguan Chaofeng, general manager of Planning and Development Department of SPIC saw how the education and health program for women and children in resettlement communities of Myitsone Dam. He said that, "Yundi organization, as a NGO, is easier to cooperate with NGOs in Myanmar. It cooperated with Airavat Foundation, which could

benefit Chinese-funded companies. Yundi organization invited these Foundations to Kunming for communication and supported them to carry out livelihood activities in **resettlement communities of Myitsone Dam**. Thus, they could see that China and Chinese-funded companies really hope to help the locals.”

Zhang Huangui said, “Now, **Myitsone** project is suspended due to various reasons. Lack of electricity causes a lot of difficulties and **challenges in peoples’ lives**. It’s suggested to use advantages of Department of Commerce and SCIP on organizational **management** and fund raising, supporting Chinese social organizations to expand education and health services for women and children in resettlement communities of **Myitsone** Dam. He also suggested “A list of activities on various public activities to be done in resettlement communities shall be prepared in **advance**; social organizations from both sides should **continue** cooperating and jointly conducting projects so as to create a supportive environment in Myanmar through publicity by mainstream media”.