

Demonstration Project on the Dwelling Reconstruction and Resettlement in the Earthquake-stricken

 联合国开发计划署
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The Challenge

The devastating earthquake in the southwest of China in May 2008 killed more than 80,000 people, and caused an estimated economic loss of US\$ 200 billion. More than 65,000 residential houses were destroyed or damaged in the earthquake. In the overall Master Plan of Post-Wenchuan Earthquake Restoration and Reconstruction, the Government put forward the integration of reconstruction with long-term socio-economic sustainable development. Nearly 670,000 temporary houses/shelters had been quickly set up in the relief phase. The construction of permanent residential houses is being implemented in the earthquake-stricken areas.

Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County is one of the severely affected counties. More than 15,000 people were killed and buried. Nearly 50% of them are ethnic minorities. Severely destroyed by the earthquake and secondary disasters, the old town of Beichuan was considered no longer appropriate for human habitation. The survivors were resettled in a planned new town 3 km from the old town. Prominent progress has been made in the planning and reconstruction yet big challenges remained.

The Response

UNDP and the Chinese Government have co-signed an Umbrella Programme on Early Recovery Support and Risk Management, setting up an integrated framework for post-disaster early recovery support. Shelter has been identified as one of the prioritized components of the programme. The project provides a platform to address the new challenges arising in local reconstruction and resettlement process in the context of broader agenda of recovery, such as livelihoods restoration and reemployment of the land-loss farmers and residents, conservation of traditional culture and history heritage, access to safe drinking water and clean energy in the newly built residential buildings, recycling and management of emergency shelters, environment protection and etc, which all call for sustainable solutions and immediate actions. The main activities including:

- Conducted an inception workshop on 21th of October to jointly review the design of the project work plan, discussing with stakeholders on relevant arrangement, identifying possible challenges as well as issues in next step implementation and exploring possible solutions.
- Detailed implementation plans have been developed by relevant government sectors with personnel and structures in place to safeguard the smooth operations and coordination.

- The project bilingual website was formally launched (www.reconstruction.net.cn).
- Based on the bidding and evaluation, five researches implementation plan were launched and conducted.
- Three participation action plans in three pilot areas for land-loss farmer training, conservation of traditional culture as well as history heritage, and green reconstruction were launched respectively.

Main achievement:

- By bringing earlier experience and sharing good practices and lessons accumulated from previous months, the project is providing unique opportunity to implement some truly cutting edge approaches on rebuilding sustainable housing and settlements, strengthening quality assurance and supervision, and adaptation of successful international experience as well as innovative solutions for emerging challenges.
- As irrefutable evidence shows that disaster risk is steadily increasing across the world in a changing climate, extreme events as well as geographical hazards such as landslide and mudslide are still threatening the communities in recovery. The project also explores innovative approaches and tools to effectively integrate disaster risk reduction into the community reconstruction as, through strategic partnership building and coordinated planning and implementation.

At A Glance

Project Start Time: August 2009
 Project End Time: December 2010
 Executing Agency: CICETE
 Leading Implementing Agency: Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development
 Project ID: 00072688

UNDAF Outcome 3: By the end of 2010, more efficient management of natural resources and development of environmentally-friendly behavior in order to ensure environmental sustainability.

Country Programme Output 7.5: Capacity to analyze and manage risks at the national and selected communities strengthened

Saudi Arabia:	US\$1,000,000
Government Cost-sharing:	US\$ 800,000
UNDP:	US\$ 3000
Total Budget:	US\$ 1,803,000

To contribute to this initiative, or to find out more about the project, please visit our website or contact us at 86-10-8532 0800 or registry.cn@undp.org

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