

# Strengthening Coal Mine Safety Standards in China (CMS)

## The Challenge

China is now the largest coal producer and consumer in the world with an estimated more than five million coal miners employed in the industry. As the dominant source of energy, China's coal sector underlies the country's economic and social development. Coal mine safety related not only to the technical and management capacity of mines in China, but also to the social and environmental requirements.

Facilities owing to coal mine explosions are 7 times higher than in other developing countries and 70 times higher than in the UD coal industry. Coal mine safety is a serious problem and regarded as a top priority in China's 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan. The safety problem is especially acute in township and village mines (TVMs) where the fatality rate is almost twice the national average, largely due to inadequate management and lack of safety awareness among poor mining communities.

## The Response

The objective of this project is to assist China to improve coal mine safety standards, particularly in TVMs. The project will support the development of legislation, policies, regulation and standards while promoting the overall standardization for coal mine safety. CMS will also provide management support and facilitate the transfer of new technologies for coal mine methane capture to address coal mine gas explosions. Through a participatory approach, the project will also improve and help implement a more scientific approach to coal mine management, particularly of TVMs in 5 pilot provinces.

The project is a joint effort between UNDP, the State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS), China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchange (CICETE). CMS will also engage the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and other UN agencies to support the introduction of international best practices for coal mine safety.

## Expected Achievements

- Comparative studies on coal mine laws, regulations and inspection system for coal mine safety
- Improvement of management standards including technical and coal mine design standards and appropriate economic and financial policies in coal mine safety capacity
- Development of standardized systems of management for TVMs
- Demonstration of coal bed methane monitoring and capture. Adoption of advanced gas control technology and equipment
- Investigation and implementation of TVM safety education and training

## At A Glance

Start Date: 2007  
End Date: 2011  
Implementing Partner(s): State Administration of Work Safety and CICETE  
Project ID: 00053962

UNDAF Goal: Outcome 3 – More efficient management of natural resources and development of environmentally-friendly behavior to ensure environmental sustainability  
MDG: Target 9, Goal 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability  
CPAP Outcome 6 – End-use energy efficiency and application of new and renewable energy technologies improved  
Website: N/A

Total Budget:	US\$	14,424,000
UNDP:	US\$	2,024,000
Government:	US\$	12,400,000

Project location(s): Liaoning, Henan, Guizhou, Anhui and Shanxi

To contribute to this initiative, or to find out more about the programme, please visit our website or contact Ms. Ma Qi, Programme Manager, at (86-10) 8532 0800 or qi.ma@undp.org

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