

Strengthening Coal Mine Safety Capacity in China (CMS)

 联合国开发计划署
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The Challenge

Having been the dominant energy source in China, the coal sector on one hand underlines China's socio-economic development; on the other hand, its mine safety situation with the fatality rate 10 times higher than other developing countries like India and Russia and 100 times higher than US coal mining industry is staggering.

Especially in township and village mines (TVMs), the safety problem is acute with the fatality rate nearly twice the national average due to overproduction, overstaffing, low technical level and safety awareness. With FRPMTP improved from 8.2 in 1970 to 5.77 in 2000 and 2.81 in 2005, the average figure indeed cannot tell the full picture of deviation for FRPMTP in TVMs is 7.61 compared with 1.07 in key state-owned mines in 2005.

Some attributes are recognized challenging the mine safety in China:

1. Shortcomings in the legal and regulatory system
2. Weak safety management infrastructures and lack of professional staff
3. Pressure of production and short-term profitability
4. Low level of education and safety awareness
5. Difficult mining conditions
6. Use of outdated mining methods and equipment

The Response

Targeting at removing those obstacles against the coal mine safety, the general national policy of the Chinese government is 'putting the people first, and safety first' with TVMs closure programmes launched nationwide to minimize gas accidents. As specified in the 11th 5-year plan, the total FRPMTP in coal mines has to reduce 25% than 2005 by 2010.

In this connection, UNDP develops the current project aiming to support the government's initiatives in developing legislation, policies, regulations and standards for coal mine safety supervision by identifying the following 5 key components:

- Improved laws, policies, regulations and standards
- Strengthened local capacities and awareness of coal mine safety
- Pilot demonstration projects in key aspects of coal mine safety

- Project dissemination and sustainability activities
- Project management and supporting activities

Achievement

Some project outcomes are expected as follows:

1. Capacity at institutional or community level will be improved to understand and implement coal mine safety measures by:
 - providing robust and coherent legal and regulatory infrastructure
 - strengthening education and training
2. A range of specific coal mine safety measures will be investigated, demonstrated at pilot mine sites and disseminated both horizontally and vertically to a wider audience through:
 - pilot projects to apply mine safety measures
 - project dissemination to promote coal mine safety to mine workers and the public
 - efficient and effective management and implementation structure for the CMS project established

At A Glance

Project Start Time: 2006
 Project End Time: 2010
 Implementing Partner: China International Centre for Economic & Technical Exchanges (CICETE)
 Project ID: 00053962

UNDAF Goal: Outcome 3 – More efficient management of natural resources and development of environmentally friendly behaviour in order to ensure environmental sustainability

CPAP: Outcome 7 – Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is more effective

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

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