

The Final Report of 24 Solar Flashlights in Gon chen Village

Project manager: Shawo Dolma (Zoe)



Shawo Dolma is from 5th brigade, Gon chen Village, Duofudun Township, Zeku County, Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province, China. She is working toward her BA degree at Qinghai Normal University.

Location

Gon chen Village is located in Dodan Township, Zeku County, Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province, P.R. China. It is 30 kilometers to Dodan Township and 70 kilometers to Zeku County, 160 kilometers to the prefecture town, which is 210 kilometers from Xining City, the capital city of Qinghai Province.

Project Description:

Shem Women's Group provided 24 solar flashlights and the project manager Shawo Dolma distributed them to Gon chen Tibetan village on May 1st, 2011.

The project manager and Mr. Zha lai, the village leader of Gon chen Village, held a meeting with the project manager, and together they selected 24 families that are the poorest among the households. The 24 households are selected based on the following 6 reasons:

First, the poor families who hold the official certificate of family with poverty given by the local government are considered to have top priority for receiving a solar flashlight. There are 9 households in Gon chen Village who hold this certificate. Second, 7 families chosen have the most elderly people and most of them have health problems. The only resource for electricity is solar panels, which do not provide much electricity at night. Thus, solar flashlights are convenient for these elders to use during the night, and it is also useful when they need to take medicine in the dark. Third, 3 families lead a miserable life without a spouse or children or any relatives in the village. They lack adequate labor force; they don't have many family members to do the work but have a heavy burden due to raising family. These 3 households include 2 females whose husbands passed away and become widows. Another man is 67 years old and doesn't have a wife and children. Fourth, the only two female students' families in Gon chen are far from their village school. It takes about 1 hour from home to get to school. In winter, they go to school at 6 a.m., and return home at 7 p.m., when it is usually very dark. Their parents don't have time to take them home after school due to the family chores. Therefore, with the 2 solar flashlights given to them, they will feel more safe and comfortable on their way to and from school. Fifth, 3 local women were chosen because during the summer they must get up very early in

the morning to milk female yaks, and again in the evening after the herdsman of their family bring the livestock home. Thus, with the help of solar flashlights, their work will become easier and safer.

Project Results:

Once the Solar Flashlight Project was completed, many locals said that such project could not only protect the environment, but also save money for them. Before, there were many old batteries of flashlights in the village since nomadic people use the flashlights more often. So, there was more trash from old batteries in the community, and this was dangerous for the village children to play with them. Moreover, poor families said that they could save the money that they usually spend on buying batteries for flashlight, which requires about 2-hour trip on motorcycle to get to the stores in the local township. All the villagers, after the implementation of Solar Flashlight Project, think that this is an environmentally friendly project that brings more benefits to the locals. And they no longer need to worry about their children with the harmful batteries since they will gradually not see any batteries in the future. The plenty of sunshine on the grassland is a great resource for the solar flashlights, and another great quality about these solar flashlights is that they are waterproof so they can be used in the rain.

The Name-list of People Who are Benefited

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Name	Age	Gender	Signature
ཚེ་འགུམ་རྒྱལ།	72	Male	
རི་ལེ།	35	Female	
འཕེད་རྒྱལ་རྒྱལ།	17	Male	
རྒྱ་ལེ།	37	Male	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	12	Female	
འཕེད་ལོ།	73	Female	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	62	Female	
ལོ་ལོ།	64	Female	
ལོ་ལོ།	72	Female	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	43	Female	
ལོ་ལོ་ལོ།	11	Female	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	70	Male	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	53	Male	
ལྷོ་ལོ།	80	Male	
ལོ་ལོ།	50	Female	
ལྷོ་ལོ།	72	Male	
ལོ་ལོ།	37	Male	
ལོ་ལོ།	36	Male	
ལོ་ལོ་ལོ།	72	Male	
ལྷོ་ལོ་ལོ།	50	Male	

གསོ་རྒྱུ	45	Male	
ཚོ་ལྷོང་།	79	Female	
ལྷོ་དགར།	37	Female	
དོན་འགྲུབ་ལྷོ་།	45	Male	

Project Photos



One of the project beneficiaries, who was very happy when he received a solar flashlight and thanked the project manager-



The project manager explaining the instructions for using the solar flashlight to a villager named Sang jie ka. He is patiently listening to the manager's explanation.



Genzang Dorma has many people in her family, including a grandfather who is 85 years old.. She not only takes care of her grandfather, but also needs to do much of the housework. She was very excited when she received this solar flashlight and she said that it is very useful when she milks in the morning.



Jiaduoji is seventy years old and must do lots of housechores even though she is weak because last year she lost her daughter-in-law.



Sdagmo ji is 60 years old. Her husband is disabled hence she has to handle everything by herself. After she received her flashlight, she was so happy that she could not say anything.



Cuolai is a very hardworking woman-- even though she doesn't have a husband, she is still brave and supports her family by herself.



Suonan jia is 67 years old and who doesn't have a wife or children. He was left alone after his wife died. He is a very kind man and likes to help others, so all of the villagers in Gon Chen respect him.



She is a primary school student and she likes to study very much, but her home is far away from the school. When she received this solar flashlight she was very happy and said to the manager that she will study hard and be a knowledgeable person in the future.

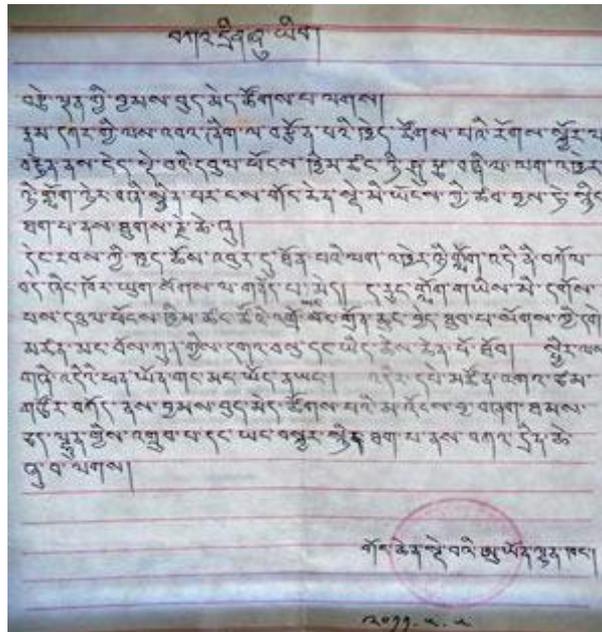


Nalai receiving a solar flashlight.



This is a hard working woman who has to milk female yaks during the summer, so the solar flashlight is very useful for her. She said that this kind of free help was unexpected and surprising for her.

Thank You Letter



English Translation of Thank You Letter

Dear donors and Shem Women's Group,
 I would like to be on behalf of all the villagers of Gon chen Village to extend my sincere appreciation of the successful implementation of the twenty-four Solar Flashlight Project for the twenty-four poorest families in Gon chen Tibetan Village.
 With the good quality of modern solar flashlights, it is not only convenient for people

to use, but also environmentally friendly in nomadic areas. Furthermore, this solar flashlight does not need to be charged and does not require batteries which saves money. Therefore, local people, especially the direct beneficiaries, highly appreciate your kind help. Hereby I wish your charity work goes well in the future and thank you again.

Gon chen Village Committee

May 5th, 2011