

Final Report

Solar Cooker Project for Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages



Rinchen Jyi is from Medo Lhangwa Village, Qiaqia Town, Gonghe County, Hainan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province, China. She has studied English for almost three years. Now she is studying for an Associate Degree in the English Training Program in the Nationalities Department at Qinghai Normal University.

What? 42 Solar Cookers for Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages

Who? 42 households from Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages, Chabucha town, Gonghe County, Hainan Prefecture, Qinghai Province, China. Ragongma Dzelungtang Village is near Qiabuqia Town, which is 5 km away from Gonghe County. It is about 150 km away from Xining, the capital city of Qinghai Province.

Photos of project implementation



This is the location of the Ragongma Village. It is spring, but the land and the mountains are relatively barren until May.



This woman is Tsomo, from Dzelungtang V illage. She said that she doesn't need to spend the whole morning collecting firewood since receiving a solar cooker.



She is a seventeen year old girl from Dzelungtang Village. She was never able to attend school because of her family's low income. She said that her whole family is very happy with the solar cooker.



Huadan is from Ragongma Village. He said that now he doesn't need to worry about collecting fuel since he received a solar cooker.



Her name is Sermo Tso. She came to Dzelungtang Village after marrying her husband. She used to spend much time gathering fuel every morning. Now, after receiving a solar cooker, she has a lot more time to do other necessary tasks.



She is Dorgar Tso, from Ragongma Village. She was very happy to receive a solar cooker. Now, she has more time to spend on other things such as washing clothes.

Project summary

Project Title: Solar Cooker Project for Ragongma and Dzelungtang Village

Project Goals: The immediate goal of this project is to purchase 42 solar cookers for 42 households in Ragongma and Dzelangtang Village.

The overarching goal of this project is to reduce women's labor as well as that of school-aged children; to protect the forest, and prevent further environmental degradation.

Location of the project: This project is located in Ragongma Village, ChabuchaTown, Gonghe County, Hainan Prefecture, Qinghai Province, China. Ragongma Village is near Qiabuqia Town Township, which is 5km away from Gonghe County. It is about 150km away from Xining, the capital city of Qinghai province.

Project Beneficiaries: This project directly benefited 61 people from Ragongma Village and 192 people from Dzeluntang Village.

Implementation organization/individual:

The two villages' leaders whose names are Dorma Dongzhi and Huadan, Renchen jyi (project manager) and Shem Women's Group,

Contact group: Shem Women's Group

Fund received: Amount, date and date received

On April 12th, Rinchen Jyi received 5,460 RMB from Shem Women's Group.

Details of project activities

Originally planned project activities:

1. Contact one of the Ragongma Villagers on the phone and discuss the urgent village needs with them.
2. Hold a meeting with all Ragongma villagers and plan the project. Chose three men whose names are Huadan, Nanguo and Jiaoba dongzhi, and three women whose names are Dorga tso, Pengmao tso and Qingtso. They will be responsible for transporting and setting up solar cookers.
3. Contact Dahejia Solar Cooker Factory in Gansu Province and find out the price of each solar cooker including the transportation fee.
4. Write the proposal.
5. Secure the donor funding.
6. Choose a time to purchase the solar cookers.

7. Teach the six previously selected villagers how to use and set up solar cookers, so that then they will teach other villagers.
8. Project implementation.
9. Take photos.
10. Interview women and men.
11. Complete the final report.
12. Submit the final report to donor with receipts and photos.

Actual project activities:

1. On May 20th, 2007, Rinchen Jyi began to write the proposal.
2. On January 15th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi completed the proposal.
3. On March 24th, 2008, Naljor Prison Dharma Service agreed to fund this project
4. On March 27th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi redesigned the proposal for two villages - Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages – due to perceived needs.
5. On March 1st to 9th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi contacted the Liuji Solar Cooker Factory to determine the price, the return policy and the date for transporting the cookers to the village.
6. On April 10th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi completed the proposal.
7. On April 11th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi received 5,460 RMB from Shem Women's Group.
8. On April 12th, 2008, the 42 solar cookers were sent to Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages.
9. On April 16th and 17th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi returned to the project site and interviewed some women and men who received cookers.
10. On April 16th and 20th, 2008, Rinchen Jyi wrote the final report.

Project Finances

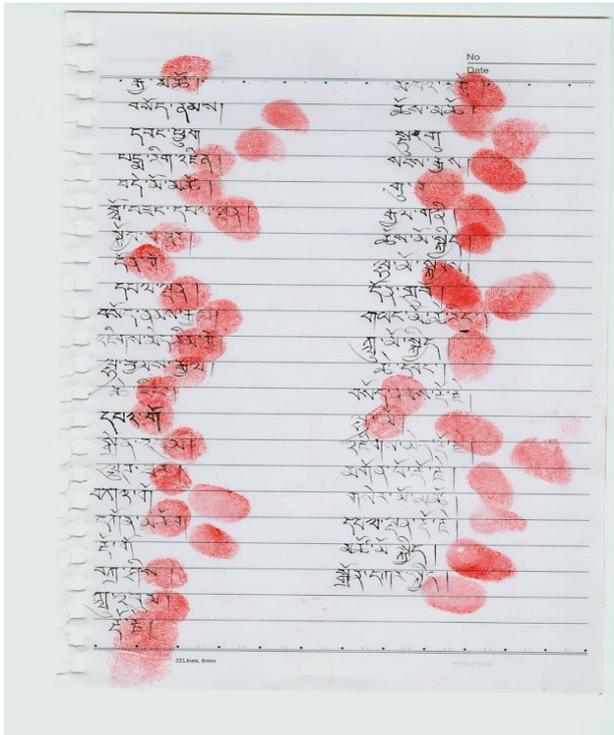
Original Budget						Actual Budget				
Receipt #	Item	Donor Contribution in rmb	Local Contribution in rmb	Shem in rmb	Total rmb	Donor Contribution in rmb	Local Contribution in rmb	Shem in rmb	total in rmb	Difference (Between original and actual budgets) in rmb
1 and 2	42 solar cookers (including transportation fee)	5,460	2,100	0	7,560	5,460	2,940	0	8,400	-840
*	Project management expenses	0	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	0
	Project management payment	0	0	500	500	0	0	500	500	0
Total		5,460	2,250	500	8,210	5,460	2,940	500	8,900	1) -840

Note: on the original proposal each solar cooker costs 180 RMB including transportation fee. When the project was funded, Rinchen Jyi made a phone call to Liuji Solar Cooker Factory to contract the purchase and transport of 42 solar cookers to Ragongma and Dzelungtang Villages. After bargaining with the factory manager, he agreed to 200RMB per solar cooker, including transportation fee.

The factory told Rinchen Jyi that the price went up in 2008, and therefore the project expenses exceeded those of the original proposal. Each family needed to contribute an additional 20rmb in order to cover the costs. In total Rinchen Jyi collected an additional 840rmb over the originally proposed local contribution 2,100rmb.

*The project manager estimated 150rmb for the project management expenses in the original budget, during the project, she donated this amount of money back to the local villagers.

List of recipients



Transcription of name list:

Gyasto	Tserang	Dugu	Gonbu Dorjee
Songnan	Phalko	Sangjee	Jigmed Dorjee
Hangxiu	Dronpum	Guru	Sermo Tso
Banma Rigzin	Jitar	Gyalgi	Phaldan Dorjee
Demo Tso	Gako	Chosmo Tso	Tsomo Jyi
Losang Phaldan	Gonchog	Lhamo Jee	Drongar Jyi
Jiaoba Tar	Dorko	Dondron	Donko
Tashi	Yangmu Tserang	Phaldan	Lupum
Dorjee	Songnan Gya	Lumo Jyi	Tsehang
Lasham Gyal	Chostso	Lhamo	Sangnam Dorjee
Jigmed Rimdrol	Kuazhuo		

Difficulties and lessons learned

Difficulties

On March 24th 2008, as soon as Shem Women's Group announced that my project was funded by Naljor Prison Dharma Service, I (Rinchen Jyi) made a phone call to Ragongma Village. They told me that most of the families received a solar cooker from the government but the village still needed ten solar cookers. I was disappointed at first, but I discussed this problem with one of Shem's members and she suggested that I could find another village that needed solar cookers.

Getting help from Ragongma Village leader and my relatives in Ragongma Village, I found out Dzelungtang Village also need solar cookers. A second problem emerged when I asked Liuji Solar Cooker Factory to transport 42 solar cookers. The manager said that the price of each item had gone up. By bargaining with the manager of the solar cooker factory he agreed to sell 42 solar cookers with 8,300RMB, including the transportation fee.

Lessons learned

During implementation of my project I learned some important and valuable lessons that will help me in the future should I have the opportunity to do more projects, such as how to communicate with local people and business managers, and how to use cameras.

Interviews of the project beneficiaries

1) Demo Tso

On April 16, 2008, I interviewed Demo Tso, who is forty years old. There are seven people in her family. They are an old woman and three young children, and three of them attend different schools in Chabcha County town. She said that since she got the solar cooker, it's very convenient when she does anything at home. She mentioned that when she was a child, the entire village used yak dung to heat tea and it was very difficult to collect. Now, she doesn't need to spend so much time collecting yak dung and making fire in the stove.

2) Songma Dorjee

On April 16, 2008, I interviewed Songnan Dorjee, a carpenter who is fifty-eight years old. There are six people in his family; he said that when he was a little kid, one of his family members always collected yak dung from nearby villages. His mother always stayed at home to prepare tea for lunch; she always had difficulties making fire in the stove, because she had to breathe in smoke while blowing under the kettle everyday. Fortunately, he received a solar cooker and it's solved many of his and his mother's problems. He said that solar cooker is very useful to him, because now he can drink tea whenever he needs it.

3) Losang Phaldan

On April 17th, 2008, I interviewed Losang Phaldan, who is thirty-five years old. There are five people in his family. He said he has had a very difficult life. He was very happy that he received a solar cooker from Naljor Prison Dharma Service Fund because his family had no solar cooker for a long time and he also could not afford a solar cooker. Formerly, he spent one or two days each week collecting animal dung from three miles away. Now that he has a solar cooker he can use it to cook and dry cheese whenever he wants to. His family has more time to do necessary things for the family, instead of collecting fuel and making fire and so on. Consequently, his family members thanked the Naljor Prison Dharma Service Fund and people who had worked on this project.

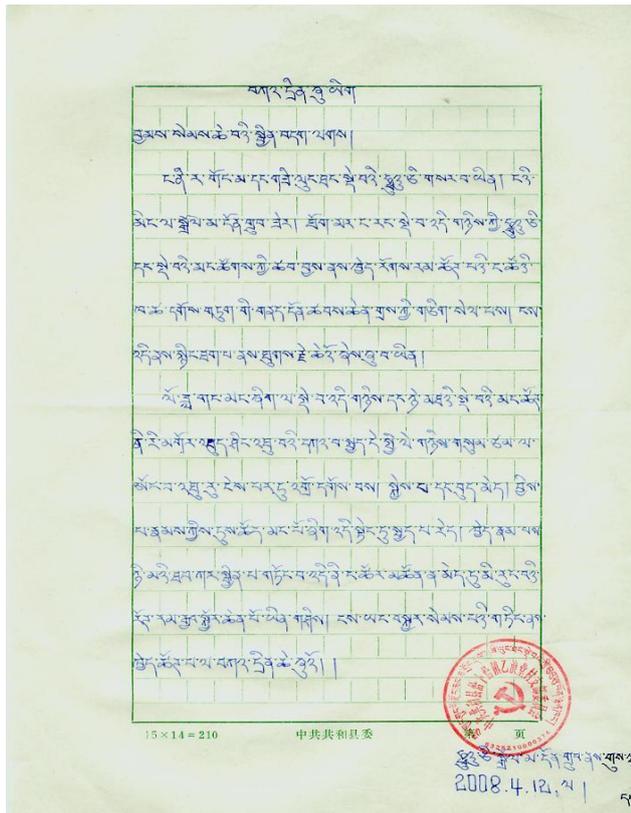
4) Chosmo Tso

On April 17th, 2008, I interviewed Chosmo Tso, a fifty-year-old woman who has a slight illness. She has four children. She tried her best to work outside of the village and earn money to support her family while also having to collect yak dung for cooking. Now, she said that she doesn't need to collect so much yak dung. She can use her solar cooker and no longer spends lots of time collecting yak dung.

5) Tsomo Jyi

On April 17th, 2008, I interviewed Tsomo Jyi. She thanked me for managing this project and giving her a solar cooker. She is the poorest woman in the Ragongma Village. Then she thanked Naljor Prison Dharma Service Fund for helping her and solving a lot of her problems, saving her valuable time that she can now use working in the fields, instead of collecting yak dung and cooking before family members come back home from working. Now, she can heat water to wash clothes and wash hair whenever she has time at noon. She has more time to spend doing other necessary housework as well.

Letter of appreciation



Translation of the thanks letter

Dear Naljor Prison Dharma Service,

This is the new community leader of Ragongma and Dzelungtang, my name is Dorma Dongzhi. First, I represent all the villagers and as a leader, I really appreciate your kindness and generosity in donating for this project and solving the serious problem that we have in our villages.

For such a long time these two villages have had difficulties collecting yak dung up to four or five kilometers away. The women, men and children spent lots of time collecting dung and firewood. This solar cooker project also was needed to improve environmental conditions. So again I want to say thanks to the foundation and managers who helped to complete this project.

Sincerely,
The village leader: Dorma
Dongzhi April 13th, 2008.

Receipts

#1

收 据 N° 120956
入帐日期 年 月 日
交款单位 刘寨太阳灶 收款方式 现金
人民币 (大写) 贰仟壹佰元整
收款事由 运费
2008年4月12日
单位盖章 财会主管 记 出 字 经
蔡 然 斌 办

The total transportation fee was 2,100RMB.

#2

收 据 N° 120957
入帐日期 年 月 日
交款单位 刘寨太阳灶 收款方式 现金
人民币 (大写) 陆仟叁佰元整
收款事由 42台太阳灶
2008年4月12日
单位盖章 财会主管 记 出 字 经
蔡 然 斌 办

The total cost for solar cookers was 6,300RMB.