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China where we live and which we care

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PROJECT UPDATES

Bridge Projects

1. Wu Zhi Qiao (“WZQ”) Bridge in Yunnan (sponsored by Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C.)

More than 50 professional volunteers and university students from both Hong Kong and the Mainland completed a 50 meters long gabion bridge in Fangmaba Village, Yunnan in April. It is the first WZQ project in Yunnan sponsored by Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C.

To launch construction work before raining season, the project team from Chongqing University had started site survey and preparation visits since August last year. They finally built the bridge together with volunteers from HKU, CUHK, HKUST and Chu Hai College during Easter.

More information can be found [here](#).

2. Two WZQ Bridges in Gansu

The project teams from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Xian University of Architecture and Technology and Xian Jiaotong University will have bridge building trips for the following two villages in Gansu in July/August:

- ✧ Taibai Village, Qingyang City (this project is sponsored by **New World Development Co. Ltd.**); and
- ✧ Shaodi Village, Hezou City

More information for the project in Taibai Village can be found [here](#).

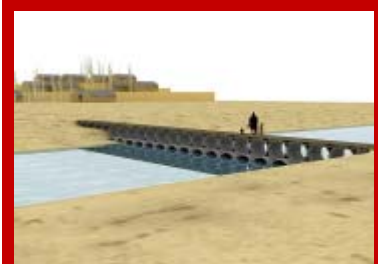
More information for the project in Shaodi Village can be found [here](#).



Wu Zhi Qiao at Fangmaba Village



The bridge was accomplished on 11 Apr 09.



The project team targets to complete a new bridge for Taibai Village on 1 Aug 09.



The project team targets to complete a new bridge for Shaodi Village on 8 Aug 09.



The project team targets to complete all necessary works in

3. WZQ Bridge in Guizhou (sponsored by Chan Chong Charitable Foundation)

The stone bridge, located at the village hub with historical function to gather villagers as an icon of the village, was first built in the Qing Dynasty. However, without proper maintenance, it was destroyed by heavy rain in 2005.

The project team from the University of Hong Kong and Chongqing University conducted surveys to assess and confirm the structural safety of the bridge.

In November last year, the broken arch was restored. The project team plans to complete the waterproofing and paving work this summer.

More information can be found [here](#).

4. WZQ Bridge at Maan Village, Sichuan (sponsored by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association)

Maan village was seriously hit by an earthquake measuring 6.1 on Richter scale in Panzhihua, Sichuan in August last year.

The project team from Chongqing University and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology had a series of site investigations, surveying and off-site experiments since November last year.

In May 09, design of the bridge structure was completed, so were the bridge foundations in early June. October will see the final stage of construction when the water level is lower.

More information can be found [here](#).

Village Rebuild Project in Maan Village, Sichuan

Official launch in late May 09 with sponsorship from **Lee Hysan Foundation**

In the collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD), the following milestones were achieved:

- ✧ Mobilised 33 households to rebuild homes in Jun 09
- ✧ Produced and distributed 3,000 copies of Anti-seismic Rammed-earth Village House DIY Construction Manual (co-published by the Foundation and MOHURD) in Jun 09
- ✧ Completed building of the second prototype in early Jul 09
- ✧ Launched an on-site research study on strengthening the structural stability and anti-seismic performance of rammed-earth building, to be completed by early Sep 09
- ✧ Developed design concept of the community centre and public plaza, to be completed by Dec 09



The project team conducted a site survey in Jan 09.



The foundation works of Wu Zhi Qiao at Maan Village were completed in Jun 09.



New houses built by the villagers who adopted our green building method.



Anti-seismic Rammed-earth Village House DIY Construction Manual

Milestones achieved in publicity and awareness enhancement

- ✓ **Establishment of Friends of WZQ network in Jul 09**
- ✓ **Arrangement made with Roadshow for a promotional clip on KMB buses**
- ✓ **Rita and Christopher from Education & Publicity Committee on a live programme on RTHK2 in June 09 to encourage volunteering among young people**

Click [here](#) to link to programme

Please send your comment on this newsletter to

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Establishment of Datan Village Centre, Gansu

To facilitate future projects in Gansu, the Foundation is developing an operation cum local community centre in Datan Village. The project team from Xian Jiaotong University solicited approval for construction of the centre and planned to start construction in Oct 09.



LOOKING AHEAD...

1. Exploration of New Bridge Sites in Sichuan and Yunnan

Sichuan - information of 12 potential sites in Bazhong City obtained. A team from Wuhan University of Technology conducted a surveillance trip to assess feasibility in May 09.

Yunnan - information of 3 potential sites in Honghe State collected and surveillance trip took place in early Jun 09.

2. Collaboration with Hubei Communist Youth League of China (HCYLC)

Following the success of their first WZQ project in Sichuan, HCYLC and Wuhan University of Technology will take up more WZQ projects in Sichuan and Yunnan.

3. Partnership with CUHK Public Health Humanitarian Initiative (PHHI)

PHHI is an initiative of the School of Public Health to combine expertise in public health, medicine, and humanities to advance research and practice in humanitarian

assistance to disadvantaged populations.

They expressed interest in working with us in:

- ✧ Helping to gather medical professionals to join bridge building trip and provide medical support to the working team; and
- ✧ Having their medical volunteers to join our trip to understand local health needs and explore possibilities to conduct on-site health related project or medical research.

4. Development of WZQ Bridge DIY Construction Manuals

Two manuals are in preparation, one for gabion bridge and another for water pipe bridge.



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