

Yong Sheng (永胜) Area Development Programme

China



Geographical Location

The Yong Sheng Area Development Programme (ADP) comprises the townships of Pianjiao (片角), Songping (松坪) and Renhe (仁和) in the Yong Sheng County (永胜) within the Yunnan (云南) province of China.

Brief Information

Land Areas: Pianjiao – 382 sq km; Songping – 290.8 sq km
 People Group: Pianjiao - Yi (彝), Zhuang (壮), Lisu (傣傣), Hui (回) and Han (汉); Songping - Lisu (傣傣), Yi (彝), Pumi (普米), Naxi (纳西), Zhuang (壮) and Han (汉)
 Total Population: Pianjiao – 22,536 persons; Songping – 8,721 persons, Renhe - 24,839 persons
 Direct Beneficiaries: 31,742 persons
 Project Lifespan: Pianjiao Township - 21 years; Songping Township - 12 years, Renhe Township - 14 years
 Project Budget: SGD \$3 million



http://www.leafgovso.co.uk/Yunnan_map.jpg

Map of China

Project Goals

The overall goal of the Yong Sheng Area Development Programme is to enhance livelihood security at the household level and to gain environmental protection through various integrated development interventions, so that the communities can enjoy a stable life.

With the support and care of Child Sponsors from Singapore, World Vision aims to help the children and families attain self-reliance by September 2018.

Area of project implementation



<http://www.tourunion.com/map/jt/56652.jpg>

Background

World Vision started working in Yong Sheng-Pianjiao in response to an earthquake that struck the region in 1996. Immediate disaster relief work was carried out to help inhabitants rebuild their homes.

After the completion of relief work in 1997, World Vision implemented a development programme in the Pianjiao Township. However, the programme was expanded in 2007 and 2009 to include the Songping and Renhe township. Both areas are also in dire need of help.

Currently, there are 21,000 villages receiving help from World Vision.

Key Challenges

1. Lack of adequate food for survival.
2. Poor healthcare and sanitation in communities.
3. Children's lack of opportunity in education.
4. Badly damaged ecological system of villages in Yong Sheng Area Development Programme.
5. Lack of empowerment of community based organisations.



Key Interventions

Food Security

More than 50% of the population in Yong Sheng ADP lacked adequate food and/or clothing for survival. Through the programme, World Vision aims to build the community's capacity to generate income and increase food supplies, by:

- Recommending the production of high yield maize;
- Promoting a new species of paddy rice;
- Enriching the community with new farming techniques such as terracing;
- Introducing revolving microfinance loans for animal husbandry;
- Providing technical training, relevant equipment and machines;
- Organising training for breeding techniques; and
- Improving and enhancing infrastructure so that beneficiaries can gain access to markets to sell their produce and increase their family income.

Health, Sanitation and Water

In every village, there was only one health worker serving 400 people. In addition, the health station was poorly equipped due to lack of funding. The lack of healthcare facilities and personnel has resulted in poor healthcare among children.

World Vision aims to help the community increase their awareness of health and hygiene issues by:

- Ensuring sponsored children receive basic medical checkups;
- Improving medical facilities;
- Providing basic healthcare training and services for villagers and children;
- Increasing awareness of regional diseases such as Tuberculosis;
- Improving the immunisation of sponsored children and related follow-up.

Education

Assessments showed that each village has only one primary school with two teachers and two poorly equipped classrooms in which 44 students (Grades 1-4) are taught. Most children between the ages of six and 12 do not attend school, because their parents cannot afford to send them, as each day is a struggle to simply feed the family.

World Vision aims to increase the community's awareness of the importance of education, and to improve the general level of education, by:

- Encouraging girls to continue their education up to junior high school or above;
- Improving teaching facilities;
- Providing training opportunities for teachers in the project area;
- Helping children of schooling age stay in school;
- Setting up farmer-parents school in project area; and
- Restoring the school building.



Key Interventions

Ecology and Environment Protection

The ecosystem of villages in the Yong Sheng Area Development Programme is badly damaged as villagers depend on the traditional slash and burn method to clear the land for farming. Severe soil erosion and landslides are common. These factors affect the fertility of the land, and cause agricultural output to be low.

World Vision seeks to help the community increase their awareness level and capacity towards environmental protection and offset the ecological imbalance by:

- Establishing an agro-forestry experimental plot;
- Providing related technical training on agriculture; and
- Involving the villagers in environmental protection efforts.

Community Organisation

In order for the community to become self-reliant, World Vision seeks to create a community organisation structure and to improve its function by:

- Building the capacities of village heads to take leadership in the community;
- Encouraging the participation of villagers in decision-making processes;
- Establishing a Development Fund Committee (DFC);
- Conducting project management trainings; and
- Helping the township government's project office enhance their skills and abilities in project management.

Conclusion

Through these interventions, World Vision aims to strengthen community leadership by increasing self-esteem and empowering the community to manage its own development process, so that it can move towards sustainable change and a better future for the children of Yong Sheng.

The children and families in Yong Sheng ADP can only do this with your help! Thank you for walking this journey of faith and transformation with them!



Children get to enjoy a nutritious meal provided by World Vision.



With the support of World Vision, more sponsored children in mountainous villages are able to receive education. These students have been receiving study and living subsidies from World Vision since 2001.



Community leaders receive various trainings at the Yong Sheng Rural Development Training Centre. This particular training focuses on ecological restoration and management which helps to build up their capacity for community development.