

swisscham.org



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in China
瑞士驻华大使馆



Swiss Community Project

Reconstruction in Sichuan:
School Sponsorship Project

Project Newsletter, 3rd Edition, August 2009



Letter from the Presidents



Stephan Titze
Vice-President,
SwissCham Shanghai



Felix Sutter,
Board Member,
SwissCham Beijing

Dear Donors,
Dear Sir/ Madame

On May 20th the Swiss Community Reconstruction Project in Sichuan broke ground for the central Kindergarten in Longxing town of Chongzhou city, one of the areas affected by the earthquake in 2008. It was attended by local government officials and other sponsors and partners of the Swiss community in China. The project is currently in the detailed design phase, with conceptual design drawings submitted for approval to the local planning bureau.

Up to present the Swiss business community in China committed donations of more than RMB 6.2 million. Based on the updated conceptual design, the overall project budget is foreseen to be RMB 6.7 million. Additional, two respective four million RMB is needed to give training to the teachers and to build a sewage treatment on the school ground. We are therefore still looking for other Swiss organizations to join in and assist the project by providing the funding and non-financial resources that are urgently needed to finish successfully this unique project.

We are also happy to announce the Project Calendar 2010 which will be soon available. By buying this special calendar, containing beautiful pictures from Swiss and Chinese School Children, you directly support the reconstruction project and help the children of Longxing Township to have a better future.

Herewith we thank all donors and people who have so far supported us and welcome all who would like to participate in the future.

Best Regards

Stephan Titze,
Co-President Swiss
Community Project and
General Manager Syngenta

Felix Sutter
Co-President of Swiss
Community Project and Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers

总裁寄语：

尊敬的捐赠者，
尊敬的先生们、女士们：

5月20日，在2008年地震灾害影响地区之一的崇州市隆兴镇，瑞士在华机构四川重建项目（Swiss Community Reconstruction Project in Sichuan）举行了中心幼儿园项目的奠基仪式。当地政府官员以及瑞士在华机构的赞助商和合作伙伴出席了仪式。该项目当前正处于详细的设计阶段，构思设计图已提交当地规划局审核。

截至目前，瑞士在华商务机构已捐赠 620 多万人民币。根据最新的构思设计，整个项目预算预计为 670 万人民币。此外，还需要两笔 400 万人民币的款项分别用于对教师进行培训和建造学校操场上的污水处理系统。因此，我们仍期待其他更多的瑞士机构能够参与进来并协助该项目，为成功完成该项目提供亟需的资金和其他资源。

我们也非常高兴地宣布我们即将推出“项目月历 2010”。这本特殊的月历里包含中瑞两国儿童绘制的漂亮图片，通过购买该月历，您可以直接为重建项目提供支持，帮助隆兴镇的儿童打造一个更美好的未来。

在此我们感谢所有捐赠者以及所有给予我们支持的人们，并且对未来所有愿意加入该项目的热心人士表示欢迎。

致礼！

Stephan Titze 与 Felix Sutter
瑞士商会项目联合总裁，先正达总经理
瑞士商会项目联合总裁，普华永道合作伙伴

News Update May / June:

The **groundbreaking ceremony** took place on May 20th, 2009 and was attended by the Ambassador of Switzerland in China, the President of SwissCham China, Board Members of SwissCham Beijing and Shanghai, various representatives of the donor companies as well as the Mayor of Chongzhou city and Member of the school. 12 articles were included in both national and local media, with over 40 website reprints.



Groundbreaking Ceremony in LongXing Town in May 2009

A **full-time project manager** has been contracted for the project and is working closely with the architects from Virtuararch to drive the execution.

Conceptual design drawings have been submitted for approval to the local authorities and official approval is expected to be received by the end of June.

The **leveling of the site**, establishment of the temporary road and distribution installation are nearing completion.

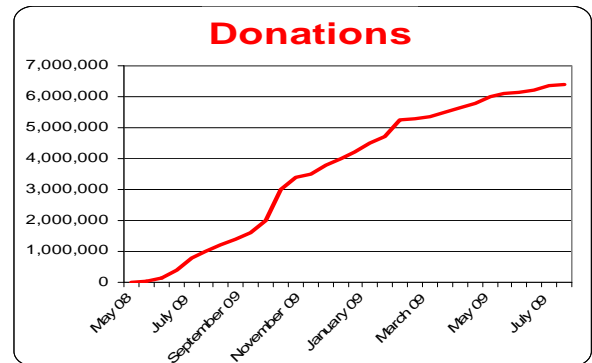
A **soil survey has been completed** and results released. This has enabled a more detailed understanding of the foundation work and effort required.

Past news and more information about the project can be found on: www.swisscham.org/sha/news/sichuan.php

Next steps

August 2009	Start of Construction
November 2009	Children move in school
December 2009	Opening ceremony of school
January 2010	End of the project

Donation update Summer 09



For a successful enforcement of the project a minimum budget of 7 Million RMB is needed. So far 6'250'000 RMB have been collected and confirmed. **To ensure the full realization of the project at least 500'000 RMB is still needed. Additional two respectively four million RMB are needed to finance the planned teacher training and sewage treatment for the Longxing Nursery School.**

Donations will be coordinated through the steering committee and PricewaterhouseCoopers will provide monitoring services to ensure that the resources are used effectively and can be appropriately accounted for during and after the project. Please contact us if you would like to donate, participate or have further enquiries:

In China:

Felix Sutter Co-President Steering Committee
felix.sutter@cn.pwc.com Tel. +86 (10) 6533 2110

Christoph Lang Liaison, Swiss Embassy
christoph.lang@eda.admin.ch Tel. +86 (10) 8532 8888

Liv Minder Communications, Swisscham Shanghai
l.minder@sha.swisscham.org Tel. +86 (21) 6149 8208

Daniel Heusser Architect / Project Director
d.heusser@virtuararch.net Tel. +86 (21) 5272 9909

In Switzerland:

Karin Reiter
karin.reiter@zurich.com Tel. +41 (0) 44 639 2015

Alternatively donations can be paid into the following bank account with the reference "EARTHQUAKE RELIEF":

Bank: UBS AG Beijing Branch
Account Name: SWISS CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Account Number: 2701450101
Bank Address: 12/F Winland International Finance Center,
No. 7 Finance Street,
Xicheng District, Beijing 100140, China
General Line: 8610-58327000

Groundbreaking Ceremony of Longxing Nursery School

Historic start of the construction phase

The groundbreaking ceremony took place at the new site for the Longxing Nursery School on May the 20th. It was attended by local government officials and other attending sponsors and partners of the Swiss Community in China, especially Mr. Blaise Godet, Ambassador of Switzerland in China, Mr. Christian Guertler, Chairman of SwissCham China, Mr. Stephan Titze and Mr. Felix Sutter, Co-Presidents of the Steering Committee of the project and Mr. Daniel Heusser, Architect and Director of the project. Mr. Blaise Godet, Ambassador of Switzerland in China, officials from Chongzhou City and representatives of the donors shoveled the first soil for the Longxing Nursery School. This historic action will be recorded in the annuals of the kindergarten as the official start of the construction phase for Swiss Community Reconstruction Project.



A hearty and warm welcome for the delegation at the ground of the ceremony

A model Kindergarten for Longxing Town

The new kindergarten was designed by the Swiss architecture office Virtuararch in Shanghai is inspired by traditional Chinese garden design. The concept design is focusing on learning environment suitable for Children of kindergarten age, providing several inside and outside spaces for playing. The arrangements of the classroom buildings refer to the pattern of habitation in rural areas and small towns in Sichuan as well as in Switzerland.



Exchanging presents between the Swiss delegation and the Longxing representatives

Learn and study from each other

Mr. Blaise Godet, Ambassador of Switzerland in China said: "During my last visit, I noticed that the children in Longxing were studying in very difficult conditions in temporary school buildings, but I was very impressed and moved by the children's energy and enthusiasm. This urges us to speed up the pace of school reconstruction. The hope I expressed last time when I stood on this ground for working with the Chinese Government to provide constant support and help in the long-term reconstruction and restoration of the disaster areas is today symbolized in a project where two dragons are providing shelter and pleasure to the children of this kindergarten. Apart from this safe, comfortable, colorful and modern school facility, we will create communication opportunities between Swiss and Chinese children by organizing mutually corresponding activities. The model kindergarten will be a symbol as well as a living example for the collaboration between Swiss and Chinese people to learn from and to help each other. We will also look to provide training opportunities for teachers from Sichuan province to upgrade their education skills in international kindergartens in Shanghai and Beijing during their school holidays."



Ground Breaking Ceremony in Longxing town, 20th May 2009

Interview:

Interview with Mr. Han Fei, Corporate Affairs Manager (West Region) of Nestle China, one of the Donors of the Swiss Community Project.

SCP: You have been one of the participants of the Groundbreaking Ceremony this May in Longxing Township. What was your impression during the celebration which took place one year after the disastrous earthquake hit this region?

I was deeply impressed, not just because it was a very successful event, but most importantly, it was touching to see that only one year after the disastrous earthquake, the students are now able to focus on their studies in a clean, safe and peaceful school building. I feel very happy for them.



Felix Sutter (PwG) and Christian Guertler (SwissGham) visit the temporary classroom in Longxing Town

SCP: The Chinese Government did a lot of efforts to reconstruct the earthquake affected regions in Sichuan and around. Simultaneously, different private groups initiated many additional projects. In your opinion, what are the differences and advantages of these two approaches?

Contributions from the private sector are a good compliment to the tremendous effort the government has been done. This is a good example of public private partnership.

SCP: What do you think of the planned design of the school?

I like the planned design of the school very much. Especially the corridors with the Chinese dragon design. The unique characteristics stand for its good taste.

SCP: Nestle has other reconstruction projects in China. Why does Nestle also support this School Project in Longxing Township?

Nestle supported this project because it is in line with the company's corporate commitment in creating shared value. One key aspect of this CSV program is rural development.

SCP: The Swiss Community Project still needs additional financial resources and is urgently looking for new donors. Can you give some arguments why it is worth joining and support this project?

The Swiss Community Project provides a good platform for corporations to give something back to the community. Nestle is pleased to have the opportunity to support this school project. We will continue to look at future projects and provide support if necessary.



Longxing Nursery School – Project Design:

The Concept Design by the Swiss architecture office Virtuarch in Shanghai is focusing on a learning environment suitable for children of kindergarten age, providing several inside and outside spaces for playing. With an area of 6,500 square meters, the school can host over 300 students and will be suitable and accessible for disabled children too.



Perspective inside the school

The arrangements of the classroom buildings refer to the pattern of habitation in rural areas and small towns in Sichuan as well as in Switzerland. The Goal of the design concept for the project is to blend into the current environment, while being strong enough to mark its place also during the phase of development Longxing town will make during the years to come. By using fast growing bamboo as plants and as construction material for the corridors, the project implements environmental-friendly techniques and therefore creates sustainable school buildings.



The entrance of Longxing Nursery School

The entrance of Longxing Nursery school is located on the new road north to the plot and is marked by the double-storey administration building. This building hosts the guardroom, the morning check and first aid rooms, and links the generous covered space at the entrance with the activity area and a spacious music room.

In order to create a feeling of learning and exploring by walking inside the school, Virtuarch has used dragon-shaped covered corridors to link all buildings as well as to separate the long plot into different spaces. The corridors are inspired by traditional Chinese garden design. By following the red or the blue dragon corridor, children will be led to their classroom and will easily recognize it as each classroom building has a different colour and a different animal painted on it.

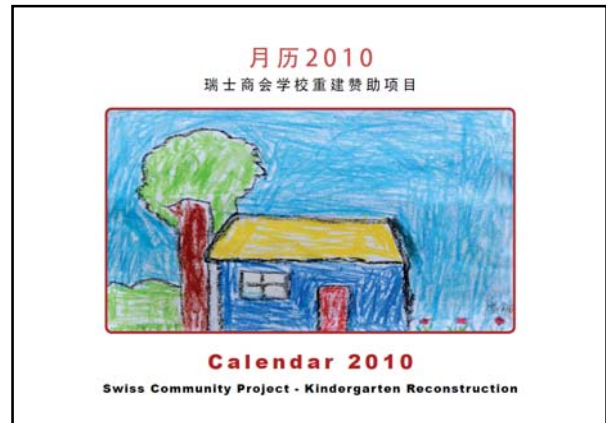


Birdview of dragon shaped Longxing Nursery School

Calendar 2010

We are happy to announce that the Swiss Community Project will soon have its own calendar to support and memorize the reconstruction project in Sichuan.

The twelve month special calendar for the year 2010 contains 24 beautiful portraits of Swiss and Chinese school children taken by the famous Swiss photographer Petri de Pita www.coquille.org. On each picture the children holding self-made drawings to express their future dreams and wishes.



Calendar Features

- A3 format with colorful pages and beautiful portraits
- Ready to hang on the wall
- Additional pages with project background information
- Calendar days with room to write notes
- Contains public holidays in China and Switzerland
- Bilingual in Chinese and English

By buying this calendar you will directly support the project and help to finalize the school project in Sichuan. The price for each calendar is 300 RMB or 50 CHF (excluding postage fee).

You can book your calendar today by sending an email to: sichuan@sha.swisscham.org



Drawings of the school class in Switzerland



Drawings of the school class in Longxing Town, China

Book now a **Calendar 2010** and support the **School Reconstruction Project in Sichuan!**