



Swiss Community Project

Reconstruction in Sichuan:
School Reconstruction Project
<http://www.swisscham.org/sha>

Monthly Update, January 2010

Dear Sir/Madame,

Thank you again for your support of the Swiss Community Project to reconstruct the Longxing Kindergarten School in Sichuan, after the devastating earthquake in May 2008. The construction is now moving at a good pace and quality. We are close to completing all the roofing and major construction work and during February work will start on the interior, as well as the landscaping.

We continue to engage constructively with the local government, to ensure the utilities will be in place for the school opening. Financially, we have received the majority of committed donations and are actively managing the payments to suppliers to keep the construction going. From the latest photos, although the weather is a little poorer, the construction is certainly looking good!

Your contributions and support will make this project a success, helping rebuild lives and providing a brighter future for over 250 Children in Sichuan.

Sincere thanks,

Swiss Community Project

End-December, 2009



Late-January, 2010



Headline News:

- We are getting **very close to finishing the major parts of construction**, with almost all building roofs completed.
- We had a visit from a major contributor and expert in this type of sponsored construction, HEKS, who were **satisfied with the construction and what has been achieved**.
- We have **received the tender responses for interior design and landscaping contractors** and will look to take decisions on the vendors in coming week.
- There have been **improvements made in the quality and quality control**, with Virtuarch and the project manager working well with the General Contractor.
- We **continue to engage with the Education Bureau**, most importantly to ensure the progress on utilities; especially water supply is available for the school opening.
- **Teacher education will start in February**. This was one of the topics discussed with the local Education Bureau and we are following up with our partner to finalize the details.
- We have **sold almost 1000 calendars**, generating additional funds and publicity.

Donation update:

- As at the end January, the total amount of committed donations (both financial and in-kind) remains at **RMB 7.8m**, with almost RMB 7m actually paid/ received.
- Based on the updated conceptual design, the main construction project budget is foreseen to be **RMB 7 million**. However to provide the additional on-going maintenance, fixtures and fittings, teacher training, etc the total project budget sits at **RMB 9 million**.
- PricewaterhouseCoopers will provide **monitoring services** to ensure that resources are used effectively and appropriately accounted.
- If you would like to **make a donation** or have further enquiries, please contact

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Looking forward:

- The current time schedule foresees an **opening towards the end of April 2010**. This has moved out a few weeks due to the delays caused by payment processing issues.
- During February, we will **conclude contracts** with various contractors, including the Interior Design and Landscape contractors.
- Post-Chinese New Year, it will be **very busy on the site**, as 4 contractors will be working on various aspects to get the school ready for the children.
- We will **continue planning for the official opening ceremony**, with discussions with the Education Bureau planned for February to agree on how and when this should be done.

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

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