



Swiss Community Project

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

Monthly Update, April 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.

As you can see from the latest photographs below, the major landscaping work is underway and the external construction work is completed.

Following a recent meeting with the local Education Bureau, it has been requested that we move the date of the opening ceremony to the start of the new school year in early September. Based on this request and the tight timeline to complete the remaining work, the steering committee has agreed to this request. Further details will follow once confirmed. The steering committee apologizes for any inconvenience caused by this change of date.

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



Headline News:

- The main structure, walls and roofing have **all been completed** and work is now focused on interior decoration and exterior landscaping.
- Our onsite project manager **continues to monitor the quality** of the work completed by contractors as we near the completion and handover planned for June.
- Longxing has been chosen by the Chengdu Government as a **priority area for development**. It will be **one of the first areas to have a kindergarden rebuilt** since the earthquake and as such may well serve as a model for other areas in region.
- We **continue to engage with the Education Bureau**. As noted above, we have agreed to change the **Opening Ceremony to early September** following the request for the Education Bureau. We have also confirmed that the school will be **public and available for low income families**, with school fees set accordingly.

Looking forward:

- During May and June, work will **continue to complete the landscaping and interior decoration**. The target date to complete any defects and handover the school to the local authorities is the end of June.
- We will **continue to work with the Education bureau for the official opening ceremony**. Once we have confirmed the specific date and details for the day, we will communicate with all the donors. A formal invitation will be sent out as soon as we have finalize the agenda and timings with the local authorities
- We are also working with the Education Bureau to ensure a **smooth set-up in the management operations** of the school, in preparation for the new school year. This builds on the greatly appreciated support given to teacher training provided by Dulwich.

Donation update:

- As at the end April, the total amount of committed donations (both financial and in-kind) remains at **RMB 7.8m**, with almost RMB 6.8m actually paid/ received.
- The total committed construction costs are around RMB 7.2 million, so we have the committed donations required, however we do request that the **outstanding donations be paid as soon as possible** so we have collected these amounts to pay contractors accordingly.
- PricewaterhouseCoopers will provide **monitoring services** to ensure that resources are used effectively and appropriately accounted.
- If you have further enquiries, please contact

In China:

Felix Sutter: Co-President , Project

felix.sutter@cn.pwc.com

Tel. + 86 (10) 6533 2110 (Beijing)

Christoph Lang: Liaison, Swiss Embassy

Christoph.lang@eda.admin.ch

Tel. +86 (10) 8532 8888 ext. 8869(Beijing)

Daniel Heusser: Architect/ Project Director

d.heusser@virtuarch.net

Tel. +86 (21) 5272 9909 (Shanghai)

In Switzerland:

Karin Reiter

karin.reiter@zurich.com

Tel. +41 (0) 44 639 2015 (Zurich)