



Project Data Sheet

Project 51384-002

Project Name Guangxi Hezhou Mountain Mining Areas Vitalization Project

Project Number 51384-002

Country / Economy China, People's Republic of

Project Status Closed

Project Type /
Modality of
Assistance Technical Assistance

Source of Funding /
Amount **TA 9638-PRC: Guangxi Hezhou Mountain Mining Areas Vitalization Project**
Technical Assistance Special Fund US\$ 400,000.00

Strategic Agendas Environmentally sustainable growth
Inclusive economic growth

Drivers of Change Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
Governance and capacity development

Sector / Subsector **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development** / Agricultural production
Water and other urban infrastructure and services / Other urban services

Gender Some gender elements

Description The Project will allow ecological rehabilitation of abandoned mountain mining areas, restoration of former mining land to operational farmland, regeneration of urban areas and villages, stimulation of lagging economies in selected mining-affected areas, and promotion of green-mining. The Project outcome will be environment, livability, and livelihood in Hezhou-Kedashan mountain mining areas restored; and the Project will be aligned with the following impact: abandoned mountain mining areas in Guangxi Province revitalized.

Project Rationale
and Linkage to
Country/Regional
Strategy

After sustained exploitation, by intensive mining, Hezhou-Kedashan has seen severe ecological damage. While significant mining operations ceased by the early-1990s, legacy issues have remained and worsened due to the areas abandoned' status. The rural environment and the urban built-infrastructure of the Hezhou-Kedashan mountain mining area has suffered land degradation and soil erosion, associated deforestation and loss of vegetation, the blighting or outright loss of traditional farmland, surface water and ground water contamination, flooding along the Hejiang River and its tributaries, and an overall lack of urban and rural infrastructure. The statutory authority responsible for maintaining and managing these mining areas was an enterprise which was declared bankrupt in 2002. Since that time little has been done to manage the lands, nor mitigate ongoing damage. The Hezhou-Kedashan mountain mining area is one of the largest such blighted and abandoned areas. The void created by any active management to contain further deterioration of the land, and the absence of any meaningful program of reclamation coupled with illegal mining activities have exacerbated the poor condition of the area's natural resources. In Hezhou, most mining sites were not properly closed and restored leaving a legacy of heavy metals, contaminated slag, sediments, and toxic water. During rainy season, contaminated runoff can flow into the Hejiang River. This is a threat to water resources in downstream cities and rural residents along the Pearl River, along which there are many major cities such as Guangzhou, Foshan, Macao, and others, with a combined population of over approximately 57 million, and this area accounts for about 12% of PRC's economic output. In July 2013, Hejiang River was heavily contaminated by runoff from these abandoned mining sites. The concentrations of Thallium and Cadmium in the upstream reaches of the Pearl River were 2.14 times and 6.6 times higher than the water quality standards, respectively. The accident caused water supply intakes to shut-down for 15 days in many cities of Guangdong Province along the Pearl River. This major water pollution incident still resonates today. Hezhou mining sites have been therefore under scrutiny and HMG is required to commence ecological restoration of mining sites in 2018. Linked with this, large areas of abandoned mining sites, which used to be farmland, have been planned for full restoration back to farming function. To align with new guidelines in PRC on rural revitalization, key elements of the Project will focus on: demonstrating the remediation of large-scale abandoned mountain mining sites and restoration to farmland; the regeneration of urban and rural areas to improve the built-environment and drive livelihood opportunities; and the application of best practice to promote sustainable land and water management.

Impact

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome

Progress Toward Outcome

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)

Geographical Location

Hezhou Shi

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary
Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	The main stakeholders include (i) local residents (particularly poor people, ethnic minorities, women and vulnerable people in Fuchuan Yao Autonomous County and Pinggui District) by improving their living environment and creating more job opportunities in project construction and operation; (ii) mining companies by industrial transformation and upgrading; (iii) SMEs by improving working conditions and infrastructure for business and workers; (iv) residents in Hezhou as a whole and those living along Hejiang River by reducing water pollution and dust, and promoting a healthier and safer livelihood environment; and (v) local governments and their line agencies by increasing revenues through local development and vitalization. The project will have a consultation and participation strategy to ensure meaningful consultation with all key stakeholders ensuring timely project information to communities, project affected households, and all relevant stakeholders.
During Project Implementation	Socioeconomic survey, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews are planned under the social and poverty assessment. Consultation will be conducted for the resettlement, environment, and social safeguards. Relevant civil society organizations and their potential participation will be explored. The project team will work closely with village committee, women's federation, and ethnic and religious affairs bureau.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	The TA will require 30 person-months of consulting inputs from 7 international experts (10 person-months) and 8 national experts (20 person-months). ADB will select and engage a consulting firm using quality- and cost-based selection method, with 90:10 quality cost ratio and full technical proposal procedure. Individual consultants will be selected using the individual consultant's selection method and will be engaged to provide specialized technical and administrative inputs to fulfill ADB due diligence requirements and enhance project readiness. Contingencies may be allocated to recruit additional experts based on needs that will emerge during TA implementation. ADB will engage the consultants following the ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time).
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Responsible ADB Officer	Maruyama, Hinako
Responsible ADB Department	East Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Urban and Social Sectors Division, EARD
Executing Agencies	<i>Hezhou Municipal Government No. 1, Hezhou Avenue, Babu District, Hezhou Guangxi, China</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-

MRM	-
Approval	09 Nov 2018
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	29 Sep 2021

TA 9638-PRC

Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
09 Nov 2018	05 Dec 2018	05 Dec 2018	29 Feb 2020	28 Feb 2022	31 May 2022

Financing Plan/TA Utilization							Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart		Project Sponsor	Others	Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries					
400,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	17 Jun 2022	390,929.76

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