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EXTERNAL MONITORING REPORT II OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR ETHNIC MINORITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF CHANGDE - JISHOU EXPRESSWAY

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Contents

A. PROJECT INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................4

B. BACKGROUNDS OF MINORITY NATIONALITIES ..........................................................5

C. IMPLEMENTATION OF ETHNIC MINORITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN ............................6
   1. Improvements of Local road and Transportation 6
   2. Road and Traffic Safety 6
   3. Vocation and Skill Training 7
   4. Farmland Reclamation and Vegetation Restoration 8
   5. AIDS Prevention 8
   6. Compensation for Income and Resettlement 9
   7. Culture Relic Protection 10
   8. Tourism Development 10

D. CONCLUSION ......................................................................................................................11
A. PROJECT INTRODUCTION

From Changde city to Huaihua city, the Changde-Shuxikou section of Chang-Ji expressway is major part of Changsha-Chongqing expressway, one of the eight traffic lines planned by the Ministry of Communications to implement the Western Region Development Strategy, one part of key national expressway network, and an important part of Hunan Expressway network and a strategic road from Changsha to four prefecture-level cities: Changde, Huaihua, Xiangxi and Zhangjiajie, of which Xiangxi is included in Western Region Development Strategy.

Chang-Ji expressway runs across Dingcheng District and Taoyuan County of Changde and Yuanling County of Huaihua. Its start point is located at Doumu Lake (connected to Chang-Zhang expressway) in Changde, across Xujiaqiao, Taohuayuan, Zhengjiayi, Ynagxiqiao to Taipingpu in Yuanling county, and then entering Xiangxi Autonomous Prefecture by way of Guangzhuang, Nanmupu, Madiyi, Liangshuijing, Maxipu and Shuxikou, 173 kilometers long. Chang-Ji expressway was completed and put into use in December, 2008.
The 20th Anniversary Ceremony held by Tujia ethnic minority in Huochang Yuanling County

B. BACKGROUNDs OF MINORITY NATIONALITIES

The Changde-Shuxikou section of Chang-Ji expressway runs across Dingcheng District and Taoyuan County of Changde and Yuanling County of Huaihua, where the major minorities in this section are Miao, Tujia, Hui, and Uyghur. There are 24 ethnic minorities in Yuanling County, who has the largest ethnic minority population in Hunan and is one of the 6 counties whose ethnic minority population takes up half of its total population, including Miao (230 thousand, taking up 61% of the total ethnic minority population), Tujia (110 thousand, taking up 32% of the total ethnic minority population) and Bai (18 thousand, taking up 2.1% of the total ethnic minority population), 367.4 thousand people altogether, accounting for 56.5% of the population of the County. There are two ethic minority townships, Eryou Miao and Huochang Tujia. There are 18 thousand minority people in Dingcheng Distract, accounting for 2.1%, mainly Hui, Uyghur and Tujia. In Taoyuan County resident 15 thousand minority people, 1.5% of the total, most of which are Hui and Uyghur.

The Miao people mainly live in Yuanling County in the PA, and it is one of the largest ethnic minority groups in southwest PRC. With a population of more than 7 million, they are found mainly in (i) Guizhou, Yunnan, Hunan and Sichuan provinces, and (ii) Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. A few also live on the Hainan Island in Guangdong Province and in southwest Hubei Province. In the PA, Miao is the largest minority group and make up 60.2% of the total minority population. Miao people are widely distributed in the western section of PA and some of them are mixed with the Tujia. The Miao people have their own oral language, which belongs to the Miao-Yao branch of the Chinese-Tibetan language family. Miao is very good at dancing and singing, their fineries are very unique with a lot of silver decorations. Their unique life style attracts more and more attention of outsiders.

The Tujia people are mostly distributed in Yuanling County. In the PA, Tujia people is the second largest minority group, making up 31.3% of the total minority population of the PA. This group is also widely located in the western section of PA. This group was highly assimilated to Han (Hanized) in many aspects. Those residing in more remote areas still follow few specific traditions (e.g., clothing, customs, and language).

The Hui people and Uyghur people mostly inhabit Dingcheng Distract, in which there are several ethnic minority townships, Fengshu Uyghur Autonomous Township and Qinglin Uyghur Autonomous Township of Taoyuan County, Xujiaqiao Uyghur Autonomous Township of Dingcheng District. Xujiaqiao Uyghur Autonomous Township of Dingcheng District, across which Chang-Ji expressway run, was set up by Hunan Provincial Government in 1984 and has 16 administrative villages at present, with 8,700 Hui, Uyghur, Tu, Miao and other minorities taking up 42% of its population. As for Xujiaqiao Township is close to Changde City, owning better infrastructures, the Hui people and Uygur people engage in more commercial activities, so they enjoy better financial situations.
C. IMPLEMENTATION OF ETHNIC MINORITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

During the project preparation period, an ethnic minorities development plan (EMDP) aimed at benefit minority people equally has been set with the assistance of PPTA specialists. In order to ensure proposed actions were implemented and achieve specific purpose, Politics and Public Administration College of Hunan University was credited as an external monitoring agency. Investigators in Hunan University went to the coverage area of the project in August, 2010, and make several formal discussions with the project owners, government officials and so on. They investigated a number of ethnic minority villages, and collected some relevant documents and materials, then evaluated the Implementation of EMDP.

1. Improvements of Local road and Transportation

After Chang-Ji expressway was completed and put into use in December, 2008, local transportation in PA was greatly improved, especially that of Yuanling. Yuanling is a mountainous county out-of-the-way. Chang-Ji expressway is the first expressway crossing Yuanling and shortens the journey from it to neighbor cities like Changsha, Changde and Jishou.

In 2009, 60 kilometers of Unblocked Traffic Project and 53.4 kilometers of Smooth Traffic Project have been completed in Yuanling County with improvement of 71.5 kilometers of highway, access of 30 villages to cement road and more than 20 flag stops in countryside. At present, almost all villages in Dingcheng District and Taoyuan County have access to road. Due to its location in mountainous and poverty-stricken area and limited financial strength, more than 80 villages in Yuanling County still have no access to road. For example, there are 8 villages in Eryou Miao Township having no access to paved road.

Meanwhile, the built highway in rural areas is without management or maintenance, which has shortened the endurance of the highway. Most highways in rural areas are no-classified highways of low technical content so that they are liable to be destroyed by natural disasters and stocked by rain sometimes.

According to a survey, although travel time in PA has been greatly reduced after Chang-Ji expressway is put into use, the single fare now is equal to that of 2007 and more than that of 2004. Due to competition in the market, for instance, passenger transport lines in Dingcheng District are in the charge of 10 companies, actual passenger fare is lower than that ratified by pricing authority in recent years. Fright fare in coverage area is about 0.7 yuan/ton-kilometer.

2. Road and Traffic Safety

Because the coverage area of the project is in mountainous area, especially Yuanling County, the complex road circumstance and lack of safety facilities of local roads lead to dangers to traffic safety. With the extension of rural roads in recent years, the improvement of road passage conditions, the raise of vehicle speed in general and rapid increase of vehicle number, road safety situation becomes grave due to various traffic violations. Therefore, prevention of traffic accidents turns to be an arduous task. In 2009, Yuanling County saw 26 traffic accidents, causing 7 deaths and direct property damage of RMB 67, 700; Taoyuan County had 82 traffic accidents, causing 27 deaths,
105 wounded and direct property damage of RMB 104, 000; Dingcheng District saw 77 traffic accidents, causing 38 deaths, 103 wounded and direct property damage of RMB 668,000.

Traffic administrative departments of these counties along the project have carried out a variety of publicity and education activities concerning road and traffic safety. They organize specialize team with publicity materials such as advertising panels and optical disks to tour to schools in countryside and city. Traffic safety is also enhanced by active implementation of “Traffic Civilizing Campaign” through perpetual publicity slogans, windows and banners. Take Yuanling County for example, in 2009 10 picture shows and counseling activities were carried out; 11 lectures were delivered to students; over 8, 000 copies of materials were released by its Traffic Department, from which up to 10, 000 peasants and students in primary and high school learned the knowledge. In addition, zebra crossings were set up in school areas and patrols were stepped up along National Highway 319.

3. Vocation and Skill Training

Due to the completion of the project, few local residents were hired directly to work for the project. However, its completion strengthened local economy, which increased employment chances for local residents indirectly. For instance, The First Business Forum of Hunan Yuanling-Taiwan was held in Yuanling County on the 29th, July, 2010, in which 50 odd Taiwan businessmen and 100 odd government officials and entrepreneurs participated exploring the way of enhancing economic and trade cooperation between Taiwan and Yuanling across the Straits. On behalf of the county government, Duan Yunpeng, the head of the county signed frame agreement with 6 Taiwan companies respectively, including Tainan Hanxuan Cooperation Ltd. and Taiwan Ronghong International Investment and Trade Company. With a total capital of RMB 290 million of contracted projects, 6 projects were settled in Yuanling, namely, with tea polyphenol project with an annual output of 500 tons, the green tea drink project, the project of establishment of cultural industrial base of ethnic minorities between two straits, processing of frozen and fresh vegetables and dehydrated vegetables, deep processing project of pork products and sweet potato starch production project.

The local agriculture bureau along the project took training about agricultural technology, non-agricultural technology for local farmers, including breeding and animal epidemic prevention. Relevant units have actively organized peasants and large specialized families to join practical courses fit the county, including rice cropping, soil testing and formulated fertilization, tea planting, oil-tea planting, aquatic product, beef cattle and pig feeding, which are recorded into optical disks to display in countryside. Especially, the county Tea Office who made full use of the cooperation with Agriculture University of Hunan has organized 3 trainings of lecture together with base practice, which were liked by most tea planters. Because large number of peasants transfers to nonagricultural industries, take Yuanling County for example, its migrant workers are 143, 400 taking up 26.56% of its agricultural population—540, 000, accounting for 44.81% of its rural labor force—320, 000, it is very urgent and important to provide skill trainings to them. Trainings should be improved by governments and training schools along the project by integration of education resources. National polices should also be made full use of, such as, “Sunshine Project”, “Training for Farm Laborers in Xiangxi Looking for Urban Employment” and “Skill Training for Migrant Workers”. Following the line of training, employment, rights protection, Labor Department of Yuanling County has made
training plans for migrant workers from rural areas to city, and 1,117 workers have gained skill training, 4,290 vocational training and 2,550 entrepreneurship training.

4. Farmland Reclamation and Vegetation Restoration

In order to reduce effects on agricultural production and environment along the project, Departments of Land and Resources carried out farmland reclamation and vegetation restoration to temporary land in construction.

Chang-Ji Expressway Construction and Development, Co., Ltd. is responsible for the forestation project along the expressway. Up till now all forestation and ecological shelter projects have been finished with 28 million m$^2$ of restored vegetation along the slop sides of the expressway. By planting shrubs and herbaceous plants, the slopes are forested once for ever, which also prevents animal entering into the expressway and avoids simplification of the vegetation. Central partition belt consists of a combination of die-hard local trees of Miao people and converges with landscape long the expressway.

Forestation rate of Yuanling County for forestry use is up to 98%, forested area up to 373,057 hectares, and forest acreage 71.71%. In 2009, 43,000 Mu of industrial raw material forests have been planted, 7,459 Mu of “Three Side” forestation have been finished and 80,024 Mu of forest have been enclosed for natural forestation, which benefit more than 70% ethnic minority population.

By the end of 2009, forested area in Yuanling County had been 3.74 million Mu, a live stumpage of 7.42 million m$^3$. In 2009, 15,000 Mu of forest were planted, 6500 Mu of farmland reverted to forest, contributing to the forest acreage of 59.68%.

In 2009 12,000 Mu of forest have were planted in Dingcheng District, 1,452 Mu more than last year.

5. AIDS Prevention

During the construction of the expressway, the employer had cooperated with the contractors, the work team, local care service points and Ethnic Minority Affairs Administration Authorities to take measures to prevent the spread of AIDS and other venereal diseases in accordance with Chinese epidemic disease prevention laws. And this was mentioned in the previous monitory report.

Local governmental disease control centers along the expressway had established AIDS and venereal diseases prevention and treatment organs, and launched AIDS monitor related propaganda and education. Currently, there are 531 village-level medical care stations in Yuanlin County, 659 in Taoyuan County, and 536 in Dingcheng District. Villagers now get easy access to medical care, but these stations are with relatively backward equipment and relatively weak medical personnel.

In 2009, Local governmental disease control centers took measures to prevent the spread of AIDS and other venereal diseases. They made great efforts to have the use of condoms popularized at a 100% level, and provided propaganda leaflets and condoms for some guesthouses and hotels. Meanwhile, the monitor of disinfections in medical care units of all levels (village-level medical care stations included) were strengthened to prevent the spread from the very source.

On the 22$^{nd}$ World AIDS Day, disease prevention centers of the three counties all organized medical personnel for large-scale disease-prevention propagandas. Making the theme on “Universal access and human rights,” they
made the AIDS-prevention propaganda panels, hung propaganda banners and printed AIDS-prevention propaganda leaflets to instruct residents AIDS spread channels and ways and the prevention measures and precautions, to raise the attention of department of all levels and the society. They held that for AIDS prevention, residents should behave themselves properly, be away from drugs, and respect every individual with discriminating AIDS patients. In order to propel the popularization of AIDS prevention and treatment knowledge, enhance public place employee’s awareness and knowledge about AIDS prevention, and effectively control the spread of AIDS in public places, Taoyuan Disease Control Center held a Public Place Owners and Instructors’ AIDS Prevention Knowledge Training Class on June 28th 2010. 38 owners of recreation and massage centers, bath centers, KTVs, hotels attended the class.

Owing to the fact that there are great population mobility, rural medical care conditions are relatively backward, and residents in remote rural areas know little about AIDS, there exists potential AIDS threat and the prevention work is conspicuous. For example, in 2008, 5 AIDS patients were reported in Yuanling County.

![AIDS Prevention Propaganda held by Yuanling Disease Control Center](image)

**6. Compensation for Income and Resettlement**

People affected by the project, including ethnic minorities, have been compensated in accordance with the standard compensation in the resettlement plan, and their income restoration is also following the resettlement plan now.

Relevant departments in the government have provided ethnic minorities with more support. A total of more than 1 million yuan was invested in ethnic minority projects, such as road hardening, primary school maintenance, drinking water project, and town-level hospital maintenance, in Yuanling in 2009 to benefit almost all people of ethnic minorities. In 2009, the Xujiaqiao Hui and Uygur town in Dingcheng District received 130,000 yuan ethnic minority development fund, mainly for irrigation and water-conservation construction and town and village level road maintenance; residents of ethnic minorities were the main beneficiaries. The Xujiaqiao Hui and Uygur town also received 100,000 yuan of charity donations, mainly for the construction of a waterworks to solve 1058 ethnic minority people’s drinking water problem.
Hunan has witnessed the heaviest rainfall since the flood started in June 2010, and Yuanling was particularly hard-hit, 23 towns being caught in the rain and 275 houses being collapsed. The cause calculation shows that up to 272,000 people were victims. Eryou Miao Ethnic Minority Town suffered the worst in Yuanling County, with paddy-rice fields destroyed, houses collapsed and roads ruined. What is lucky is that residents lived in a scattering way, so there were no large-scale disasters. After the disaster, the government immediately allocated funds to the victims and relevant departments to help overcome the hardships. They verified the destroyed houses and give CNY10,000 to each family with destroyed house for reconstruction and give rice and other goods and materials.

7. Culture Relic Protection

There are rich culture relics that are representatives of the Western Region along the Chang-Ji Expressway. During all stages of planning, design, construction and operation, the construction departments took relevant measures to protect the cultural relics, such as the avoiding measure taken in the design stage to protect the Bijiashan Ancient Architecture sites.

Recently cultural departments of the project affected areas have strengthened their culture relic related work. Yuanling County has strengthened the protection of the state-level important heritage site Longxing Monastery, restored ancient fire-god temple opera stage; Chenzhou Nuo Opera was included in the first national list of intangible cultural heritage protection projects, traditional Yuanling dragon boat race, Yuanling folk song, and the legendary Eryou book cave were included in the list of Hunan Provincial intangible cultural heritage protection projects. The Nuo culture protection base and the natural folk song protection base were established in Qijiaoping town and Liangshuijing town respectively, and the brass plate of “the natural folk song protection base” was put up in the county’s art troupe. Li Fuguo was honored to be the legal heir of the national intangible cultural heritage protection project Nuo Opera, and Liu Yunfan, Huang Xiuxiang, Jiang Shengwen, Zhang Jibin were honored to be the legal heir of the provincial intangible cultural heritage protection projects of Yuanling folk song and traditional Yuanling dragon boat race. In the 2009’s archeological survey, lots of hang coffin burials were discovered, which provided tangible materials for the study of ethnic mobility in Taoyuan; rescue excavation was conducted in 2010 to protect the ancient tomb groups of warring states period to Han Dynasty in Hongyanzui. The Hui-Uygur village of Uygur-Hui town in Taoyuan County was awarded the honor of “Distinctive Ethnic Minority Village in Hunan” by Hunan Ethnic Affairs Commission, was allocated 300,000 yuan of support fund to protect and reform the distinctive housing and other distinctive ethnic minority projects.

8. Tourism Development

The open of the Chang-Ji expressway has brought a precious opportunity for the project-involved areas to develop tourism. The journey from the capital Changsha to Yuanling was shortened to be 4 hours and the safety and comfort level were improved conspicuously. As a result, self-drive visitors and visitors with paid vocations keep coming. In 2009, Yuanling received 401,000 person/times of guests, increased by 23% in comparison of the previous year. And the total tourist income was 80200,000 yuan, increased by 5%. The same year, Taoyuan received 68 person/times of visitors domestic and abroad, increased by 30.8% in comparison with the previous year and the total tourist income of the year was 220,000,000 yuan, increased by 83.3%.
Owing to the fact that Chang-Ji expressway was open, Zhang-Yuan road was also open by the end of 2009 and the Zhangjiajie-Guilin expressway was under planning, Yuanling will be more tightly integrated into the tourist resources including Zhangjiajie and Guilin, and the brand effect will be further enhanced to make a tourist golden gallery. So, Yuanling County put forward a strategic objective of “prospering the through tourism to target the tourism as “Ancient Myth, Biological Kingdom, and Recreational Yuanling,” so as to form a “golden triangle” in Xiangxi to speed up the development of tourism. In 2009, the county invested 10 million yuan to dress the residences along the expressway and the major scenic spots to make them give full expression of Xiangxi distinction. Focuses were put on the key scenic spots of Longxingjiang Temple, Fenghuang Mountain, Eryou Mountain, Jiemu Xi River, and Mingyue Mountain to form a strong tourist product. Furthermore, the cooperation between Zhangjiajie and Fenghuang, plus nearby areas was strengthened to plan distinctive tourist routes and propel promotion. Efforts were also made to construct the advertising board along the expressway to further enhance the popularity of Yuanling tourism and broaden its visitor source market. The six tourist elements of eat, boarding, visiting, touring, purchasing, and recreating were surrounded to speed up the nurture of their market, to show the distinction and to further improve the tourist service.

As a big tourist county, Taoyuan is with rich tourist resources, but it went behind its surrounding areas in the tourist competition. The special research on Taoyuan tourist resources and current tourist industry development sponsored by Taoyuan Tourist Industry Leading Group shows that though Taoyuan is with relatively bright tourist promises, its current state is not satisfactory and needs arduous efforts. As a matter of fact, Taoyuan tourist industry is with excellent first-actor advantage. When Taohua Yuan was famous in the state, Zhangjiajie and Fenghuang were not recognized by visitors. But now, the tourist incomes of Zhangjiajie and Fenghuang were 167 and 50 times of Taoyuan respectively. Such problems of a backwardness of tourist planning, short tourist development invest, and irrational resource integration exist in Taoyuan tourist industry and its resource and brand advantages need further exploration.

D. CONCLUSION

1. The highway runs across Taoyuan County and The Dingcheng Distract in Changde City, Yuanling County in Huaihua City. The Miao, Tujia minorities were distributed in Yuanling County, The Hui, Weiwuer minorities were mostly inhabited in Dingcheng Distract and Taoyuan County. A total number of about 400,000 minorities inhabitants are in those three areas.

2. Investigators in Hunan University went to the affected project in August, 2010, evaluated the Implementation of EMDP. For only a small part of ethnic minorities in the project influenced areas.

3. Since the year of 2004, Yuanling County, Taoyuan County and Dingcheng Distract have implemented the local road to every village program to improve the rural areas’ access to the outside world and their economic development. Only some remote villages in Yuanling were without car roads.
4. The passengers transportation in the three areas are relatively convenient and the ticket were often lower than the approved price by the government owing to the existence of competition. The short-distance cargo-transportation price in the influenced area is about 0.7 yuan/ton-km.

5. Traffic department along the project carried out various forms education about road and traffic safety, Traffic safety condition has been considerably improved along 319 State Road. However, owing to the improvement of village road construction, the car speed are improve and the vehicles were becoming more and more, the result is that the potential safety hazards raises, so some safety facilities on rural road, such as warning signs, need further improvements.

6. The local agriculture bureau along the project took training about agricultural technology such as tea planting, and non- agricultural technology for local farmers. Formers, including that of ethnic minorities benefited from this.

7. The greening work along the expressway was completed with the green coverage restored up to 2800,000 square meters. Counties influenced by the project, especially Yuanling, are with high forest coverage, and ethnic minority residents also benefit from this movement.

8. During the construction of the expressway, the employer had cooperated with the contractors, and local care service points to take measures to prevent the spread of AIDS and other venereal diseases. The centers of Disease Control in local governments along the project have also taken a number of independent measures such as monitoring and propaganda to prevent AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. The residents awareness of AIDS was improved, but there is still the risk that remote farmers get little access to the knowledge of AIDS.

9. People affected by the project, including ethnic minorities, have been compensated in accordance with the standard compensation in the resettlement plan, and their income restoration is also following the resettlement plan now. For ethnic minority residents, the relevant government departments also give great supports.

10. There are rich culture relics along the Chang-Ji Expressway. During all stages of planning, design, construction and operation, the construction departments took relevant measures to protect the cultural relics, such as the avoiding measure taken in the design stage to protect the Bijia Shan Ancient Architecture sites. In the recent years, cultural departments of the project influenced areas have strengthened their cultural heritage protection. The Hui-Uygur village of Uygur-Hui town in Taoyuan County was awarded the honor of “Distinctive Ethnic Minority Village in Hunan” by Hunan Ethnic Affairs Commission, was allocated 300,000 yuan of support fund to protect and reform the distinctive housing and other distinctive ethnic minority projects.

11. The open of Chang-Ji expressway and the improvement of local roads have enhanced the development prospects of the tourist industry along the project influenced areas, and the tourist industry has witnessed a rapid development, but some problems such a short of investment capital still exist and the resource advantages need further exploration. The tourist development in the project influenced area will be certain to boast the development of the local ethnic minorities.