August 2011 Green Camel Bell Newsletter

For the month of August, internal and external projects of GCB ran smoothly and made due progress.

1. Daily Affairs

All daily administrative tasks were completed successfully. The GCB administrative staff paid social security taxes, collected Gansu province environmental news, processed business resources, and received and sent postal mail.

2. External Affairs

Human Resources administrative official Wang Yanfei resigned this month. Water Department trainee Kang Xiaofeng officially ended his training, and will now hold the post of administrative assistant, helping complete daily administrative tasks.

In the area of project management, GCB’s Feng Leran and Ran Liping assisted the summertime stream flow research team in polishing investigative techniques and teambuilding exercises on the August 20th. On the 27th, in effort to heighten internal structure design, GCB’s Ling Mulan of Baita Mountain conducted a strategy training workshop. GCB staff as well as eight trainees attended this workshop.

On the 16th of this month, GCB’s Zhao Zhong and Ge Sangjin participated in Lu Jiayuan’s “The Yellow River Decade Walk” investigation activity to guide and introduce Maqu County’s environmental conditions and GCB’s project in the region. Additionally, with Green Earth Volunteers, media correspondents, and environmental experts, they discussed the issues of the Gong Saika Wood Road, climate change, wetland degradation, and grassland desertification.

From August 29th to the 30th, Green Camel Bell interns and 13 other staff members engaged in team building activities at Qinghai Lake to promote teamwork and increase work efficiency.

3. The Gansu Water Environment

During the middle of this month, Ran Liping visited the Wuwei project site, touring communities around the temples, schools, and the Wuwei Industrial Park with discussions regarding their personnel. The goal was to further understand the push to improve drinking water standards around the White Tower River.

Regarding education on water conservation, Green Camel Bell staff members launched the “Cruel summers – Tour of the Yellow River’s Environmental Awareness” at Huang River in Lanzhou in order to organize volunteers to test water quality of the river, as well as to raise awareness of water
conservation. Additionally, they visited the Anning sewage treatment plant, the Weiliya unit, and more. A total of 79 volunteers partook in the above activities.

For water resource study, there are two teams of study collaborating on the study of the Tao River in the Qingyang region. From the 22nd to the 26th, the volunteers interviewed residents of Lintao county and Yongjing county vis-à-vis the ecological and environmental status of the Yellow River. Meanwhile, the summer Qingyang team continued investigations on oil mining and drinking water in the Xifeng and Qingcheng regions, collecting data and conducting surveys on drinking water by visiting relevant government departments and local communities. Volunteers found that uncontrolled discharge of industrial (oil mining) and domestic sewage have caused serious levels of water pollution in some areas of Qingyang.

Agenda for next month:
1. Impact assessment of Dali Park environmental agencies
2. Youth surveys and routine water quality testing for the Yellow River (Lanzhou)
3. Summary of investigations on clean water surveying of the Qingyang district and the Tao River
4. Publish the “Legal Aid Handbook for Water Pollution Victims”

4. Huining eco-agriculture and cooperatives

Peiyan Ming attended the fifth youth development project conference in Beijing, and submitted a report on developments on the Niu River village project. Meanwhile, Ming also assisted the sixth youth development project members Wang Xuesong and Xie Xiaoling, helping train the two young members to plan activities.

For eco-agricultural cooperatives, Green Camel Bell’s Zhao Zhong, Pei Yanming, and Wang Xuesong conducted interviews in Ningxian County’s Niu River village with co-op head director Wang Xingming and director Liu Xiaomei. They discussed the Niu River village’s 2011 agricultural situation, as well as the two directors’ insight on further expansion of the cooperative. GCB members also visited Huining’s Ministry of Propaganda and mayor Wang Zhenzhang to introduce GCB’s work in the area. Additionally, they participated in Caochu’s industrial forum and exhibition of local products.

Agenda for next month:
1. Completion of the sixth youth development program’s research report
2. To determine the activities of the project site in the countryside

5. Jingyuan County’s sustainable rural lifestyle

GCB’s Xu Dingyan arranged volunteers to go to Baiyin city in Jingyuan County to conduct a baseline survey for community activities. The aim was to further GCB’s understandings of the community through collection of data on Ruoli village’s farmers’ livelihood, as well as their environmental, economic, cultural, and social conditions. The volunteers surveyed a total of fifty peasant households, and completed a community resource map and a season calendar. After the investigation, through statistical analysis, both the community project report and the region analysis report were completed.

Agenda for next month:
1. Work out GCB’s participant plan
2. Develop a guideline for project evaluation

6. Post-disaster relief in Longnan

This month, Xie Xiaoling helped the sixth youth development project conference in Beijing, participated in classroom and volunteer activities, and completed GCB’s external training report.
In regards to Longnan, three garbage rooms were completed this month for the Jiaoyuan organization in Chayuan village. GCB employees are currently in the process of compiling the “Chayuan guidance handbook” scheduled to be printed in September, which will be distributed to the members of the village free of charge.

Concrete plans for a three-year plan of reconstruction for the Longnan region struck by the earthquake are nearly completed, and are pending publication. GCB personnel should have the financial summary and project report done by next month.

**Agenda for next month:**
1. Publication and circulation of the Chayuan handbook
2. Hold the Chayuan Clean Earth activity
3. Finish painting four garbage rooms
4. Complete the financial and project report

**7. Maqu grassland conservation**

On August 16th, GCB’s Ge Sangjin accompanied media reporter Han Xiaoni to cover a story on the Longjiang riverhead, and introduced him to local environmental issues. On the 17th, Ge Sangjin and Zhao Zhong participated in GCB’s “The Yellow River Decade Walk,” and helped introduce Maqu’s environmental issues, as well as GCB’s work in the area. Together with GCB volunteers, media personnel, and academic experts, they discussed various issues such as climate change, wetland degeneration, and grassland desertification.

**Agenda for next month:**
1. Collect Maqu township education materials
## Green Camel Bell August Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8/1-8/15</td>
<td>Xie Xiaoling and Wang Xuesong hosted the sixth youth development project’s first training session in Beijing.</td>
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<td>8/2</td>
<td>Ran Liping, Yu Chao, and Kang Xiaofeng, together with the Lanzhou and the Qilihe Environmental Protection Bureau, investigated the western Xigu district’s Huanle Park’s flood-water ditch situation.</td>
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<td>8/2</td>
<td>GCB intern Feng Leran directed the first educational theatre workshop at Mingren Huayuan district. 13 GCB and local community members participated.</td>
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<td>8/5</td>
<td>GCB organized 19 volunteers to tour the Zhongliang Coca-cola factory, and launched the Yellow River big classroom educational activities.</td>
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<td>8/8-8/12</td>
<td>GCB launched its “Cruel summers – Tour of the Yellow River’s Environmental Awareness” tour, with nearly 40 attendees from three different orgs: the China Science and Technology Museum, Lanzhou Jiaotong University, and Green Volunteers.</td>
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<td>8/8-8/12</td>
<td>Xu Dingyan, Ge Sangjin, intern Yang Jian, and volunteer Ouyang Guan conducted baseline surveys in Ruoli village in Jingyuan County (Baiyin).</td>
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<td>8/16</td>
<td>Lanzhou’s No. 69 Mental Health Instruction Center’s director Dong Ruilin visited GCB.</td>
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<td>Ge Sangjin accompanied Shanghai media reporter Han Xiaoni to cover a story on the Longjiang riverhead, and introduced him to local environmental issues.</td>
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<td>8/20</td>
<td>Ran Liping and intern Feng Leran assisted the summertime stream flow research team in investigative techniques and teambuilding exercises.</td>
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<td>8/22-26</td>
<td>Five GCB volunteers conducted an investigation of the impact of mineral resource excavation on the aqueous environment of Qingyang.</td>
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<td>8/22-26</td>
<td>Six GCB volunteers interviewed residents of Lintao county and Yongjing county vis-à-vis the ecological and environmental status of the Yellow and Tao rivers.</td>
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<td>Green Camel Bell’s Zhao Zhong, Pei Yanming, and Wang Xuesong participated in Caochu’s industrial forum and exhibition of local products.</td>
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<td>GCB’s Ling Mulan of Baita Mountain started a strategy training workshop in order to heighten internal structure design. GCB employees as well as eight trainees attended this workshop.</td>
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<td>8/29-30</td>
<td>13 GCB interns and staff members engaged in team building activities at Qinghai Lake to promote teamwork and increase work efficiency.</td>
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