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2007 Green Camel Bell Project Summary

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1, Introduction

In 2007, Gansu Green Camel Bell (GCB) initiated many activities to increase public awareness and got involved in environmental protection. In order to develop the social surveillance to protect the social rights of the environment under the lead of Gansu Bureau of Administration of NGOs and Gansu Technology and Science Associations using the principle "From the Public, To the Public." GCB has taken great efforts to become the bridge between the government and people. GCB has made a significant contribution to environment protection such as energy saving, waste reduction, and developing environmental awareness.

2, Routine Duties and Organization Growth

2.1 Office



GCB set up its permanent office in March, 2006. From then on, GCB has equipped the office with computers, a digital camera, a printer, a scanner, and a fax machine and have thereby modernized their way of working.

GCB is not only an office but also an education and communication center. Every week a regular meeting is held to educate the GCB staff and work on capacity building. The project preparation and closing meetings as well as trainings are also held in the office area. During 2007, 18 media representatives have been to the office of GCB to interview the staff of GCB and report the work of GCB. In addition, seventeen people from sixteen different NGOs have visited GCB to exchange their experiences.

At the same time, the GCB office has been developing a "Green Family" model. The GCB staff and volunteers organized their office to save water and electricity and they also sort their garbage and grow plants in the office. They hope to demonstrate their "Green Family" model to others and advocate a more environmentally-friendly, healthier and more civilized life for ordinary families.

2.2 Environmental Resource Center

In 2007, with the support of other organizations and institutions, GCB's resources of books and video on the environment have increased by 20%. Now the Green Camel Bell Environmental Resource Center has nearly 170 VCDs, about 2,800 books, magazines and newsletters, and 300 leaflets and posters on environment protection. In addition, the GCB Environmental Resource Center displays environmental protection products from GCB and other environmental protection groups, such as bookmarks, cups, and pins.



In 2007, GCB developed three publications to communicate and share their experiences. The three publications are: A Legal Handbook for People Impacted by Water Pollution, co-edited by Pacific Environment and Shanghai Green Oasis and provides legal information on ways to protect water pollution victims; Huining Guochenyi Elementary School Environmental Education Text Book and Environmental Reference on Desertification in Minqin, Gansu.

The more material GCB has, the more people borrow from it. GCB has set up a way to manage the

use of the documents and has, therefore, reduced the cases of missing and damaged materials. However, the percentage of materials borrowed is not high and simplifies the loaning process and resource expansion.

2.3 Organizational Development

GCB was registered on Oct. 31, 2007 under the lead of the Gansu Technology and Science Association under the Gansu Bureau of Administration of NGOs. The organization aims to develop a green forum, to advocate environmental protection and organize training, seminars, experience-sharing, and consultation. GCB has just finished the transition from a volunteers' website to a formal organization.

While GCB was going through the registration process, the group was required to assemble a council. As a result, their council consists of 29 members includes; 11 are from the government and nongovernmental groups, 11 from academic fields, and 5 from various enterprises and media groups. They all deeply care about environmental protection and continuously provide ideas and support to GCB. The council members help compensate for the shortage of technical support and management experience in GCB and have become the impetus to the development of GCB.

In 2007, the number of projects and range of jobs increased as GCB hired 5 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees. Presently GCB has more than 30 key volunteers. The increase of volunteers is not only in number, but also in scope, which includes college students and people ranging from 5 to 70 years old.

3, Environmental Protection Exchange

3.1 Animal Exposition Volunteer Activity in Lanzhou Zoo



As a regular activity during the May and October holiday in 2007, GCB organized speeches by volunteers in Lanzhou zoo. About 150 volunteers were involved in this activity and speeches were 6 days in total at 7 hours per day.

The speeches in 2007 were done in co-operation with the Black Bear Rescue Center and the topic was “Rescue the Black Bear and Never Use Bear Bile”. Volunteers explained to the tourists why it is important to protect the Black Bear and convinced them not to feed the Black Bears in the zoo.

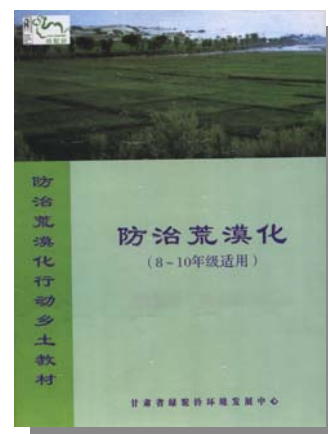
They also advocated the tourists never to use the bile from black bears and increased the public's awareness of animal protection. During this event, 6 posters were shown to the tourists, 800 brochures were given out and about 3,000 tourists listened the speech.

Besides the speech about Black Bear protection, volunteers were divided into 5 groups to give speeches about monkeys, herbivorous animals, pandas, elephants, and birds.

The events at the zoo for the last two years caused GCB to realize that increasing the awareness of environmental protection and animal protection requires long-term effort. In 2008, GCB will continue this activity in the zoo and find new ideas, content and various ways of working. The public will be able to gain more knowledge and awareness of environmental and animal protection and, at the same time, volunteers will continue to be able to grow and gain more experience.

3.2 Environmental Reference Books on the in Minqin, Gansu

After one year's writing and continuous revision, GCB finished the reference book Preventing Desertification as planned in 2007. This reference book is complementary to the current high school reference book and it not only provides knowledge but also advocates inquiry-based learning. The practices recommended in this book can be used in school research classes, Groups and communities. Teachers can choose the content in this reference book for lessons or for guiding students in after-school activities.



Plenty of pictures were selected in this reference book and the language is simple and vivid. GCB modified a lot of environmental protection education activities to fit after-school activities and received praise for this. However, due to budget constraints, this reference book lacks local information and facts, and the pictures were printed as black and white, making it more difficult to read.

In the next stage, GCB will select one or two high schools in Minqin to try the reference book and will collect their feedback and make appropriate revisions. After that, GCB will apply for funding and cooperate with the local education bureau to try and print the reference book in color.

3.3 Green Camel Bell Electronic Newsletter

In 2007, GCB published 6 newsletters (from the 7th to 12th periodicals) . Up until now, the Green Camel Bell Electronic Newsletter has developed very well. On the 5th of every month, the newsletter has been published on-line and sent out by email to keep nongovernmental groups and those who care about GCB updated on the organization's news and to share project reports and results. Some good environmental protection publications are selected and shared in the newsletter as well.

For the convenience of collecting material and for catering to the needs of readers who do not surf the internet, the Green Camel Bell Electronic Newsletter highlight edition is being edited and will be published in 2008.

3.4 International Environment Protection Communication

In 2007, GCB took part in several international forums, including the Harbin International Disaster Mitigation and Relief Conference, Sydney Oxfam International Youth Conference, and the Sino-Burma Environmental Affairs Seminar. GCB has presented themselves as an exemplary Chinese NGO at these international environment forums. In October, GCB visited the government departments and NGOs in Australia to learn about the way many levels of government departments and NGOs cooperate and also shared their work with Chinese environment protection groups.

In 2006, after the first green map was made for Lanzhou and authorized by the headquarters of Green Map in NY, USA, GCB has drawn a new green map for the Yellow River in Lanzhou. During that period, GCB shared knowledge and experience with the other green map drawers all over the world, and published the green map on the Green Map website to share. In addition, GCB joined an international environment protection website called Clean up the World. In this website, volunteers all over the world clean and make their surroundings better. After GCB joined the website, during all of the group's outdoor activities, volunteers tried their best to clean up the world by picking up garbage and advocating others to do so as well.

In May, a student from France called Eloise worked at GCB for 3 weeks. He was involved in the environment education program in Guochenyi elementary school in Huining and the Nature University Project in Lanzhou. Eloise learned about the projects in GCB and environment problems in Gansu and he shared his experience with environment protection groups in France. He attracted the students and volunteers' attention to the environment and English language study.

In order to have more international communication and cooperation, GCB has opened a website in English at <http://www.gcb.ngo.cn/en/>.

4, Green Camel Bell Projects

4.1 Gansu Water Environment Project

The Gansu Water Environment Project was going well in 2007 and the tasks in the first stage have been completed; the second stage is on-going.

4.1.1 Stage One (Countryside Part) main tasks

4.1.1.1 On March 10, 2007, the project was kicked off by project team members and volunteers and the project plan was made and tasks were assigned to project members.

4.1.1.2 Conducted the environmental study in the project area. Project team members visited the local Environmental Protection and Water Bureaus. Finished the Baiyin Jinghui River Pollution Investigation report, thereby setting a good foundation for the project.

4.1.1.3 Wrote and edited the environmental education textbook for the Guo Chenyi Elementary School and completed a one-week long event about environment protection along with an environmental protection and education summary report.

4.1.1.4 GCB staff and volunteers edited the Environmental Education Reference book in Guochenyi, Huinin. 100 copies were printed and used in local schools.

4.1.1.5 Investigations were conducted four times with other environment protection groups and water purification companies.



4.1.2 Stage Two (Countryside part) main tasks

4.1.2.1 Edited Gansu Water Project Plan (second issue)

4.1.2.2 Discussed and confirmed Gansu water vault control methods at the project team members and volunteers meeting.

4.1.2.3 Negotiated with water purification company about co-operating on the water purification project.

4.1.2.4 Investigated the water vault in the countryside of Lanzhou and discussed cooperation with local government.



4.1.3 Main tasks in the city

4.1.3.1 Collected over 2000 news and information articles about Gansu waters

4.1.3.2 Investigated and recorded the pollution in Yellow River, Lanzhou

4.1.3.3 Investigated waste disposal in New West Vinylon Inc. and discussed the issue with its EHS department

4.1.3.4 Liaised with the media in Lanzhou, and provided a report about environmental incidents and events

4.1.4 Project results and areas to improve

Current results were gotten from the large amounts of information collected from GCB's water investigations in Gansu. The success of the countryside environmental education and reference books along with the success learning about quality control in the water vault of Gansu together provide a good foundation for this project.

Problems and area to improve: The project's pilot area is underdeveloped making it hard for the project to go further. In addition, members and volunteers are not permanent, making project turnover a major concern.

4.1.5 Gansu Water Project 2008 Plan

4.1.5.1 Focus on the project pilot building area to improve the depth of the project.

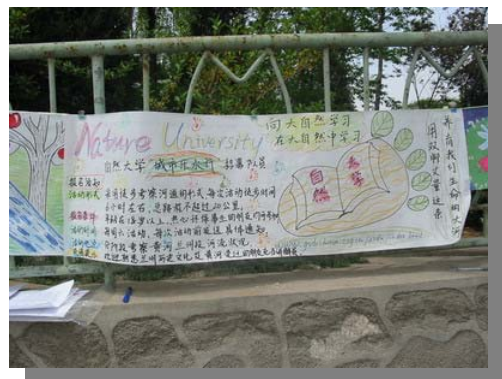
4.1.5.2 Continuously collect data and information about the Gansu water environment and incidents and take action accordingly.

4.1.5.3 Finish the summary report for stage two of the project and make a timeline for the next stage.

4.2 Nature University

In 2007, GCB initiated the Nature University Project with several NGO such as Friends of Nature, Beijing Global Village's Environmental Education Center, Green Home, Xiamen Green Cross, Nanjing Green Friends, Tianjin Green Friends, and Chinese College Students Green Camp.

Nature University is a simulated college whose purpose is to encourage the community residents to investigate local situations and provide them with opportunities to do research about nature and the environment while learning to face environment problems directly. In this way people can learn about nature, care about the environmental changes around them, appreciate and cherish nature, and get involved with activities that deal with pollution control.



As part of GCB Lanzhou's Zoo event, Nature University presented to the Lanzhou Public Zoo for the first time. After an explanation by the volunteers, more than 60 Lanzhou residents were registered for the Civil Water Trip of Nature University event. Since May 2007, GCB has regularly organized volunteers to investigate the water power factories, parks, crossroads, swamps, waste disposal outlets, animals and plants along the south of Yellow River on foot. Members of Nature University came from different backgrounds and included teachers, students, NGO members, workers, technicians, government officers, and lawyers with ages ranging from 8 to 68 years. GCB invited experts from universities and "Old Lanzhou" members to deliver speeches about the Yellow River and the environment to provide members with more knowledge and information. GCB also provided members simple instruments to test the water quality of Yellow River.



Green Community is part of the Nature University Project. In 2007, GCB cooperated with Lanzhou Yizhen Superintendent Company and did a poll to understand the needs for a Green Community. According the results of the poll, several environment protection activities were carried out, including the making of posters portraying the Green Community, education to kids in community kindergartens, mountain

climbing and bird watching. Those activities were well- received by community residents. The posters were issued regularly with different topics, such as air pollution, eco-tourism, and updates on GCB. For 2008, GCB plans to initiate a series of events in communities to encourage residents to get involved with environment protection.

4.3 Green Map

In May 2007, with the support of the China Science and Technology Association and Beijing Global Village, GCB started the Green Map project in Lanzhou. After two meetings, 7 investigations along the south of Yellow River, 3 drawings and more than 100 hours of drawing individually, GCB finished 7 maps which made up to be the Green Map of Lanzhou. This Green Map is 3.6m by 0.5 m , and includes all the important environmental characteristics and cultural scenery. It has been valuable for helping the public to understand the environment, exploring the scenery along the Yellow River and helping produce the environmental protection plan.

Approximately 200 Lanzhou residents were involved in the Green Map drawing. They came from different fields, including pupils, middle school students, college students, graduate students, government officers, scholars, company employees, private company owners, and NGO members ranging in age from 6 to 75 years. This project was important to the development of the volunteers and advocated a green concept that encouraged public involvement in environmental protection.



The environmental investigation and map drawing got a lot of attention and reports by multiple media outlets, which produced a positive social impact. GCB cooperated with Lanzhou Daily and Xinhua Gansu Channel, and wrote special columns for them. This project has been reported 16 times by those different media outlets and this has spread environmental protection knowledge, and green concepts to the government.

During this event, we collected 200 photos about Lanzhou's environment and got 32 reports out about Lanzhou's environmental investigation and analysis. All of this enriched GCB's green bookshelf and provided first-hand information about the overall environment of Lanzhou in order to develop more activities in the future.

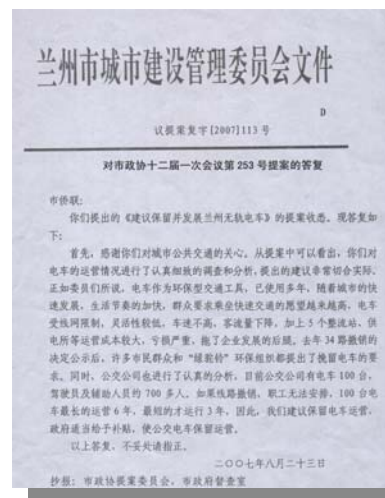


4.4 Green Transportation

At the end of 2006, GCB and Zhou Yingping, a member from the Lanzhou committee of CPPCC, co-submitted the proposal Keep and Develop the Trolleybus, which put forth society's viewpoints on environmental protection and economic development. On August 23, 2007, the Lanzhou City Development Administration Committee responded to the declaration that the government appreciated GCB and Committee member's care and thorough investigation and analysis. As a result, the trolleybus will stay running and the government will provide a subsidy to keep it as public transportation.

In 2007, GCB initiated a new project on green transportation, which was sponsored by China International NGO. Until now, 4 events were held and 68 volunteers were involved and more than 200 people listened to speeches while 48 Lanzhou residents signed a green transportation pledge.

For 2008, GCB's Green Transportation project plans will go further by advocating to keep the city trolleybus. GCB did a lot of work to keep Lanzhou trolleybus No.34. For the later stage of the project, more events will be held accordingly, including advertising the environment benefits provided by the construction of the Green Line and advocating green transportation. Advocating green transportation is a responsibility for the government, enterprises, NGOs and the public and it is hard for such a project to succeed by NGO work alone. Therefore, GCB will increase its communication with the government and various enterprises in order to seek cooperation and enhance the impact and sustainability of the projects.



5, Capacity Building

One of the responsibilities of GCB is to promote the capacity building of NGOs. In 2007, GCB made great progress in promoting college environmental protection groups and local NGO capacity building, especially when it came to teaching about public involvement.

5.1 Training and Practice Activities

In order to increase GCB's organization capability and communication with other environment protection organizations, in 2007, GCB sent 35 staff and volunteers to participate in trainings about NGO capacity building in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Xi'an. These trainings reinforced communication and liaison capabilities between GCB and other organizations. The training sessions also help spread information about GCB's work provided GCB with the lessons learned from others, boosted more volunteer interest with GCB, sped up the capacity development of GCB staff, and increased GCB's organizational capabilities.



On April 4, 2007, GCB sent staff to receive training for 3 months with the Women's Marriage and Family Organization to learn how the NGO developed its administration and HR experience such as reducing labor cost and human resource loss. As a result, GCB has developed a more effective

administration and organization.

In July 2007, GCB organized a “develop forward” training team with the support of Lanzhou University. GCB staff, trustees, university representatives, other NGO representatives and key volunteers, with a total of 28 people, participated in the training. This training increased the capability of team cooperation and made the team members closer to one another, thereby making them work more efficiently. GCB also established a good relationship with the Develop Forward Training Center, and built up the environment protection education center there, which spreads social resources for GCB. At the same time, GCB put together a team capacity training group, which focuses on capacity training to college environment protection groups and other NGOs.

5.2 Promoting the Growth of Environmental Groups in Local Colleges and Universities

In 2007, in order to find a solution for the loss of volunteers in student environment protection groups, GCB sent staff and volunteers to Beijing and Shanxi to attend training. Afterwards, GCB held seminars about volunteer spirit, environmental protection concepts, and training to new volunteers and club leaders



In 2007, GCB organized 12 trainings and about 800 volunteers participated in the trainings. Through these trainings, GCB got closer to student groups and more and more college students joined the environment protection volunteer team, college environment protection groups, and shared resources with GCB.

In addition, GCB has made full use of GCB’s environmental books and video resource center and has shared it with the college groups. GCB helped them design events according to their specialties. During the past year, 720 volunteers from colleges in Lanzhou participated in GCB’s training sessions and some of them were involved in GCB’s projects. These volunteers were the key members in their respective student groups and brought their knowledge and experience to their club’s development.

5.3 Advancing the Development of NGOs in Gansu

Generally speaking, NGOs in Gansu are underdeveloped because of location, economic and historical reasons. GCB keeps in contact with other NGOs with an open attitude and shares resources and information with them, especially with new NGOs. GCB has provided the resource center’s materials, meeting room, project experience and information with other NGOs and have helped them to develop. At present, GCB is talking with several NGOs about collaborating to make more contributions to the development of local NGOs. In 2007, GCB donated 218 books and 13 CDs, 120 bookmarks and 230 posters to other NGOs and volunteers and took in a member from Pan Zhihua Children Aid Association for 5 month’s training.

5.4 Advocating Public Participation

GCB made great progress in getting the public involved last year: First of all, more than 200 people got involved in the Green Map project, which turned out to be the first Green Map of Lanzhou for residents. Secondly, GCB made great progress in the Green Community project with residents and other NGOs and the superintendent company. Thirdly, as a NGO, GCB was actively involved in

environmental protection events held by the government or other NGOs, such as the Reduce Waste and Emissions event, the Long Yuan Environment Protection event, Human and Nature photo show, and the Chinese Environmental Protection Annual Conference.

6, Acknowledgements

2007 has been a remarkable year for the development of GCB. Many thanks to the people who helped and supported GCB. GCB is grateful to the list below for their support and work.

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Gansu Provincial Science and Technology Association
Gansu Environmental Publicity and Education Center
Gansu Provincial Wildlife Administration Bureau
Gansu Civil Organization Association
Gansu Provincial Wildlife Conservation Association
Lanzhou Charity Federation
Gansu Zhongliyuan lawyer's office
Global Greengrants Fund
Fuping Development Institute
Lanzhou University Community Development Center
Shaanxi Westwomen
Lanzhou Municipal Zoo
Sichuan China Bear Rescue Center
Journalist Fengyongfeng of Guangming Daily
State Science and Technology Association
Global Village of Beijing
Lanzhou Daily
Gansu Xinhua Net
Lanzhou Water Mill Park
Lanzhou Hydrological Station
China Association for NGO Cooperation
Pacific Environment
Institute of Public Environmental Affairs
Gansu Institute of Environmental Science
Guochengyi Primary School in Huining County
Yizhen Group
Beijing Green Earth

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