

**1. Project profile**

The project started in Sept, 2009 and aimed to support 160 families in both Shanghuofang Community of Chengde County (80 families) and Renyizhuang Community (80 families) of Baoding City, Hebei Province within 5 years. An additional 160 families will benefit through “Passing on the Gift” (POG). Totally, 320 families will benefit in five years.

**2. Animal distribution**

Project Village	Animal Distribution	Original Family	POG Family
	Planned / Finished	Planned/Finished	Planned/Finished
Shanghuofang Village (17–59)	160/160	80/80	160/0
Renyizhuang Village (17–59)	160/160	80/80	
17–59 Total	320/320	160/160	

**3. Project Progress**

Objective	Progress
Objective 1: Target communities will practice effective & efficient application of Value-based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) tools to achieve solidarity and social harmony	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training - Heifer china will conduct training both the project started and before. It contains animal management, 12 cornerstones, VBHCD and POG, etc.</li> <li>Self-Help Group (SHG) - Project community will</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHG leaders improved their management capability through training and exchange visits. 2 projects on school bag and toy making were introduced into Renyi Village. All participants benefited economically.</li> <li>Participants in Shanghuofang Village proactively participated in project activities, and their communication skills got improved consequently.</li> </ol> </li> <li>SHG</li> </ul>

<p>found SHGs for sustainable development. They have meetings and organize community activities to strengthen community cohesion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange visit - Heifer china project organize exchange visit among project communities so that the project villages could learn from each other.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1、 Participants in Renyi Village raised RMB30,000 by themselves to improved 700 meters of their village road, resulting in big improvement of community transportation.</li> <li>2 、 Shanghuofang Community managed to raise RMB20,000 to build a 600-meter long river barrage and 400-meter long road. Vehicle could drive inside the community now.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange visit</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1、 Jun,2011, a teacher group from US visited Renyizhuang Community to learn Heifer project.</li> </ol>
<p>Objective 2: Improve project families' living standards by FY 2014.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of life standard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of life standard</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1、 There was a 30% increase of productivity from beef cattle than first half year of 2010. 306 beef cattle in stock in this period in Renyi Village.</li> <li>2、 30 women got employed from newly built school bag and toy factories in Renyi Village.</li> <li>3、 215 beef cattle in stock in this period in Shanghuofang Village; a gross sales of RMB 270,000 was generated from the project.</li> <li>4、 Introduced 32 acres of cash crop in Shanghuofang Village.</li> </ol>
<p>Objective 3: Awaken awareness for environmental conservation and improve the environment of the target areas.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 acres of walnut, plum trees and other cash trees were planted in previous barren mountains of Renyi</li> </ul>

Village.

- 24 acres of trees were planted in Shanghuofang Village to protect the land from soil erosion.

#### 4. Story

### The SHG Paves the Way for Women's Wealthy Life in the Community

*Story and photography by Wang Shuhai*

Like most rural women in china, the vast majority of women in Renyizhuang Community are of little education with no skills. They could almost do nothing but farming. Some of them even have never stepped out of the village yet. Farming alone is not profitable, and when draught arrives, their hard work in their farmland would most likely be wasted. For these reasons, women in the village are living a hard life.

When Heifer project was launched in this village, members of the Women's SHG decided to stop waiting and make a living all by themselves. They held several discussions for ways to increase their incomes and set up their mind to grasp every opportunity to apply for a Heifer project.

Fortunately in 2010, with the help of the SHG, the community reached an agreement with Rongcheng Garments Factory, setting up a small garments factory. The women regarded it as a great working



opportunity and carefully studied the sewing skills. Through their efforts, the 20 women in the SHG are skilled workers now, gaining a monthly pay from RMB 600yuan to 1,200yuan. Later, with their motivation, a toys factory was set up by the Third SHG, providing another 10 work opportunities for women in the village.

Now, women in Renyi Village have not only acquired cattle breeding skills, but also learnt sewing and toys making technologies. They are workers now and can make money all by themselves, which contributed greatly to the transformation of their spirit. They are no longer grumble about their fate anymore and become more confident and optimistic. When talked about Pass on gifts, they all expressed their thanks to Heifer and assured that they would keep their promise to pass the gifts to others.

#### 5. Photos



US teacher's group visited Renyizhuang Village



Shanghuofang Village commended villagers.



Technical training on fruit trees.



Walnut in Renyizhuang Village



SHG raised fund to harden the village street.



上伙房社区绘画比赛二等奖

On-site training on fruit trees management

Drawing competition in Shanghuofang Village

BL/EW, Sept 2011.