

Earthquake Relief in Yushu, Qinghai Province, China

DCV Project Number: P.332-002/2010

Jinde Project Number: 2010-ZZ-006

Final Narrative Report

April 15 – December 31, 2010



Introduction

About the earthquake:

A magnitude-7.1 earthquake struck Qinghai Province at 7.49am on April 14, killing at least 3000 people according to official reports. The quake destroyed 85% of buildings 50 kms west of the epicentre in Gyegu town, the political seat and largest town in Yushu County. Buildings in surrounding townships and counties were heavily damaged.



Devastated houses

Aftershocks shook the region throughout the following months as people moved into tents in large camps or near the remnants of their homes.

Two months after the earthquake, with the help of many charitable organizations and the local governments' efforts, temporary shelters have been built for the schools, hospitals and other public facilities.

The local people had been suffering from water and food shortage after the earthquake happened, the government did promise to give each earthquake survivors 10 CNY/ day living allowance lasting for 4-6 months, but sadly not everyone got the allowance. In some places, the relief goods were only allowed to distribute to those who have a local household register, while those migrants got nothing but despair. This marginalized people became Jinde's targeted group to help.

Ever since July, there are more than 3000 local students reallocated to other cities like Beijing, Shijiazhuang, Tianjin to study for 2-3 years.

The weather in Yushu is getting cold since September, the government distributed tents and foods (flour, rice, and edible oil) to the local people. Permanent houses were also gradually built up in some of the villages, an estimated 10% of the local people were supposed to live in after November. Due to the tough weather, all the

construction work has been forced to stop so most of the people have to spend the cold winter in their tents.



Saima Camp, survivor's tents



New permanent houses

Jinde's response:

On April 16, representatives of Jinde and Xi'an CSSC travelled together to Yushu County to assess damages and prepare a response.

On April 18, Yushu Station was set up in Baizha township area of Saima horse festival grounds in Gyegu town with the help from sisters invited by Jinde Charities from congregations to offer medical and psychological help. Saima camp is 7 kms outside of the centre of Gyegu town.

On April 24, A Joint Sub Office of Jinde and Xi'an CSSC was set up in Xining to coordinate, conduct and monitor future relief works in the disaster areas. Fr. Jacob Wang was appointed the Director of the office. On June 18, the corporation with Xi'an CSSC came to an end..

On August 30, sisters drew back from Yushu Station, and psychosocial and medical services in Yushu were ended.

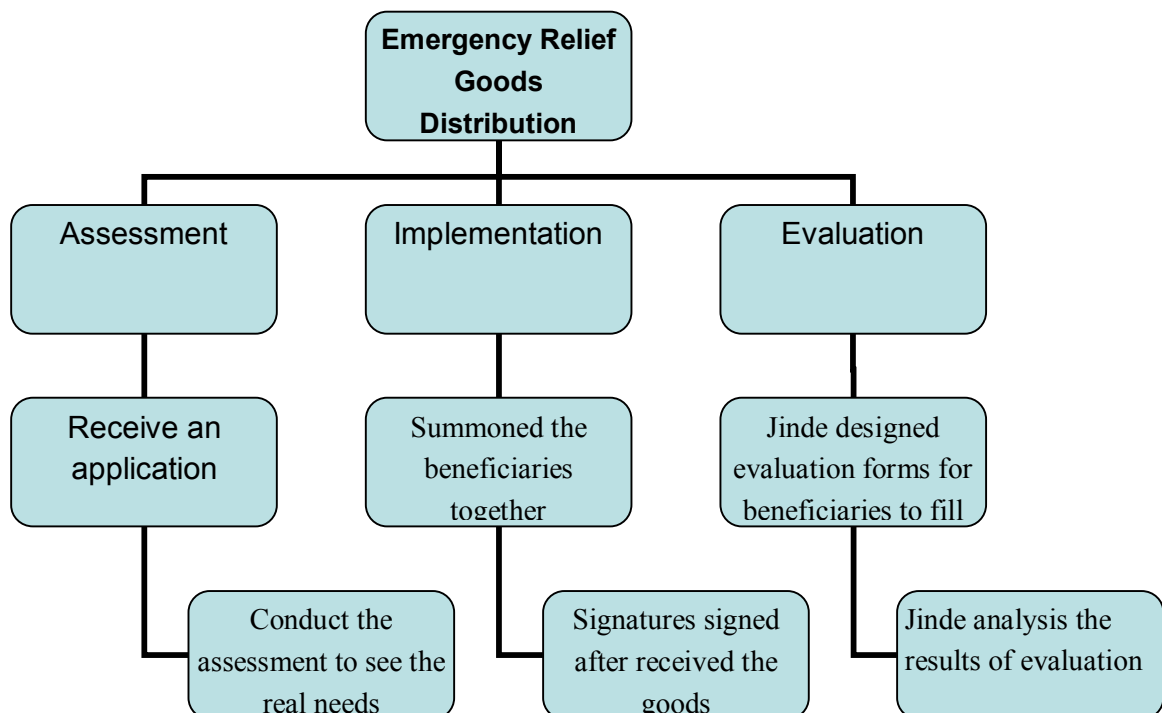
Activities

Emergency Relief Goods Distribution, psychosocial and medical services are the three main areas conducted in Yushu. With Caritas network members and domestic Social Service Center's and congregations' help and cooperation, Jinde Charities and CSSC Xi'an have worked together for the relief work for 2 months, and after the collaboration stopped on June 18, Jinde Charities alone carried the relief work forward.

The activities took the form of three distinct areas; 1. Emergency Relief Goods Distribution; 2. Medical Support; 3. Accompaniment.

1. Emergency Relief Goods Distribution (in category order)

The Emergency relief goods distribution was normally done through three procedures: assessment, implementation and evaluation. All these phases were done with the assistance of volunteers in both Xining and Yushu.



A. Food distribution

In response to the needs of the survivors in Yushu, Jinde conducted four major procurements and transportations of perishable food items for distribution in the region. Each of these four times the food was identified as necessary to nutritionally enhance the diet of the beneficiaries. In the initial emergency relief phase, many survivors lived off instant noodles. Supplementary food distributions were often uncoordinated and unbalanced. Fresh food items were scarce due to the altitude and difficulties in transportation after the disaster.

Approximately 10,000 survivors received food through one of the 14 distribution locations. One-third of those received goods on more than one occasion. Jinde chose locations through discussions with local stakeholders.

The four major deliveries were;

- April 20, 2010
20 tones of flour, 2.4 tonnes of oil and 800 bags of salt
Distributed amongst 3150 survivors living in camps and elderly care facilities.
- May 2, 2010
10 tones of potatoes and over 2 tones of carrots
Distributed to schools, individual families, survivors in camps and elderly care facilities
- May 17, 2010
Rice, flour and oil
Distributed to individual families, survivors in camps & elderly care facilities and Buddhist nunneries.
- August 25, 2010
Rice, flour and edible oil
Distributed to schools, orphanages and survivors in Yushu and Changdu County.



Flour distribution, Saima Camp, April 20, 2010

B. Power and Energy supplies

The quake destroyed existing power lines in the region and forced many to relocate to areas without possible access. People charged phones at a few public generators established for public use in the city but those living outside the centre could not easily access electricity. During these first few weeks after the tragedy, people were still trying to locate family members and the phone was an extremely important tool for finding loved ones or being found.

Jinde coordinated the purchase and delivery of 6 generators to strategic locations in the disaster area to enhance the access of ordinary people to electricity in order to charge batteries.

On April 26, six generators and electrical cables were delivered to six locations in Gyegu town; The Norling public library, Ji Lazha Temple, Qinghai Chuanggu Temple Ci Xingxiyuan Orphanage, Yushu Buddhist College and Saima camp.

On May 15, one generator was delivered to Zhamang School.

Jinde hoped the resources could reach 3,000 survivors in the emergency phase.

C. Hygiene products

Women's hygiene products

From May 6 to May 19, Jinde Charities and CSSC Xi'an Qinghai Relief office distributed 12,000 bags of female hygiene products at 9 different locations in Gyegu town. A total of 2440 women received a minimum of two months supply per person.

Hygiene kits for kids

Families had lost most basic daily necessities in the earthquake. Many now lived among the ruins of their homes and with a diminished water supply.

From May to June, 850 hygiene kits in total have been distributed to as many children from Huaide orphanage, Cixingxiyuan Orphanage and children in 5 villages around Gyegu Township. The kit was distributed in conjunction with lessons on basic hygiene and the use of the kit.

Each kit contained a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, a towel, toilet paper and a bag.



Participants of hygiene class in Saima Camp, May 2010

Household hygiene kits

In May, 100 low-income teachers received household hygiene kits (containing dishwashing liquid, washing powder, 4 toothbrushes, toothpaste, cleaning cloths, towels, soap and toilet paper).

D. Beds and daily commodities

Throughout the project period, Jinde responded to individual requests for beds, bedding, clothes and shoes in affected counties.

- 600 beneficiaries received beds and/or bedding sets
- 500 beneficiaries received clothes and/or shoes
- 31 beneficiaries received kitchen sets (1 gas cooker, 1 gas can, 4 x set chopsticks, 4 x bowl, 1 x pan, 1 x pot)

E. Shelter

The earthquake destroyed 85% of buildings in Gyegu town. Homes and buildings in the surround townships and counties also suffered severe damages but many people did not qualify for receipt of a tent from the official sources. Many survivors who were migrant workers, injured, elderly, disabled or incapacitated at the time of allocation were left in the cold.

Jinde responded with four major deliveries of tents to serve as shelters and classrooms.

- May, 2010
310 small tents (12x12m) delivered to 243 families, 1 rural clinic, 1 Buddhist Nunnery and 1 orphanage in Yushu and Changdou Counties; An estimated 900 beneficiaries.
- June, 2010
80 large tents were delivered to 39 schools in Nangqian County to be used as classrooms.
- August, 2010
202 small tents (12x12m) were distributed to migrant workers, 1 orphanage and 1 kindergarten in Yushu.
- October 2010
100 tents were delivered to 100 migrant families in Changdu County.



Nangqian County, Pre-and post-distribution 2010

2. Medical Services and Mental Health Services

Medical services and Mental Health Services provided by Jinde Charities in Yushu lasted from April 17 to the end of August.

Medical Services

The medical sisters visited survivors in their homes and communities to tend to minor injuries, the elderly, infants, pregnant women and others in need. During their services, they saw more than 5000 people seeking medical advice.



In the weeks following the earthquake, the most common issue that the sisters treated was minor earthquake-related injuries. It also became evident that some illnesses like hypertension, heart disease and infection were being left untreated. As the government requested all non-government sponsored clinics to close in May, the sisters obliged and began an outreach service for the weak and mildly ill which was concluded on August 30. The outreach service included education of health and hygiene.

The contact with the local people led the Sister's to provide detailed information and education on basic hygiene and reproduction. The sisters had frequently addressed questions relating to menstruation and pregnancy during their visits with women in the camps. In response, the Sisters offered some basic education on menstruation and pregnancy for Tibetan women. Additionally, the Sisters delivered 15 hygiene classes to the local children and women. The classes aim to educate children on standard health and hygiene practices such as cleaning teeth and washing hands regularly. During the classes, children learn about the link between a lack of hygiene and illness. Over 300 participants attended the classes at Huaide orphanage, Cixingxiyuan Orphanage and at 5 villages around Gyegu Township.

Visiting and offering timely help to the elderly was also one focus of sisters' work, they went to Zhaxi Datong Elderly Home on five occasions between May and August to offer medical treatment, advice and support.



This woman named Yongding Songmao said to the sisters after the class *“The class is wonderful, I truly learned a lot from it. It seems that you are just taking my conditions for example during the class. It hit the point. I have always suffered from lumbago, but I had no idea that it is caused by my unhealthy habits which could be avoided. I will take care in the future.”*

Mental Health Services

Two experienced sisters from Jinde’s Sichuan Psychosocial project arrived in Yushu on April 17. They led the establishment of the station and the work with the survivors. The mental health aspect of the project was focused on accompaniment of individuals and group activities for children.



Sr. Zhang is accompanying an elderly

From April 17 to May 9, the sisters have held group activities 56 times for 650 students, and offered individual counselling to 430 students and 300 adults. From April 28 to July 30, two sisters taught class and offered counselling in local orphanage schools, Minma Orphanage School and Yushuzhou Orphanage School. As long-term volunteers came to the school, the sisters withdrew and focused on visitations.



Sr. Zhang is teaching the students

The Double Ninth Festival is a traditional Chinese festival, which aims to raise people's awareness to care for the elderly. On October 15, Jinde Charities invited volunteers who have been serving in Yushu get together in Xinzhai Elderly Home in Jiegu Township to celebrate the festival with more than 70 elderly residents. The Sisters offered friendship and support to many survivors of the Yushu earthquake. Counselling with most of the affected population was impossible due to the language barrier and cultural difference between Tibetans and Han Chinese.



Sister Wang is teaching the children new games to release emotions

Capacity building: NLP Psychological Training for Yushu Serving Sisters
From July 31 to August 2, sisters in Yushu Station took part in a psychological training organized by Hong Kong Post-Disaster Counseling Association; this training aims to help those volunteers who have been serving in Yushu for more than three months improve and strengthen their professional skill which could be in return put into practice more efficiently.



Sisters were awarded certificates after training

In both the medical and mental health services, a total of 25 sisters from 13 congregations served. They are:

Sister's name	Congregation	Trained in
Sr. Pu	Zhumadian Diocese	Counseling
Sr. Song	Zhumadian Diocese	Teaching
Sr. Fan	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Bai	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Yang	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Li	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Chen	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Li	Xi'an Diocese	Medical
Sr. Qin	Convent in Handan	Counseling
Sr. Li	Convent in Handan	Counseling/ medical
Sr. Zhang	Convent in Handan	Counseling/ teaching
Sr. Huang	Convent in Handan	Teaching
Sr. Wang	Convent in Handan	Medical
Sr. Hong	Holy Family Convent in Lanzhou	Medical
Sr. Han	Holy Family Convent in Lanzhou	Teaching
Sr. Chang	Little Sisters Convent in Xining	Teaching
Sr. Wang	Little Sisters Convent in Xining	Teaching
Sr. Zhang	Little Sisters Convent in Baoding	Counseling/ teaching
Sr. Lang	Little Sisters Convent in Baoding	Counseling
Sr. Bai	Tangshan Diocese	Medical
Sr. Liu	Holy Hope Convent in Xianxian	Counseling
Sr. Cui	Changzhi Diocese	Medical / Counseling
Sr. Wang	Fenyang Diocese	Counseling/ medical
Sr. Han	Sacred Heart Convent in Fushun	Counseling/ teaching
Sr. Zhang	Hengshui Diocese	Medical

Fund-raising and the Utilization of Funds
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Summary of project incomes and expenditure

Caritas Germany contributes 300,000 Euros; the deficit of the project is covered by Jinde donations.

A total of 2,753,353.71 RMB has been used on this project. The detailed information of the expenditure please see the Attached 2.

The audited report please see Attached 3.

Project Agreement Income

	Local Currency	Original Currency
Caritas Germany	¥ 875,730.00	EUR 100,000.00
Caritas Germany	¥ 1,740,580.00	EUR 200,000.00
Total	¥ 2,616,310.00	EUR 300,000.00

Project Expenditure

	Local Currency	Original Currency
Caritas Germany	¥ 2,616,310.00	EUR 300,000.00
Jinde Contribution	¥ 137,043.71	EUR 15,713.27
Total	¥ 2,753,353.71	EUR 315,713.27

Activities done with domestic contribution:

Besides the mentioned activities above, Jinde has done some activities with its domestic donation also which totally cost 236,902.00 RMB.

- Provide half a year's living expenses to 35 orphans in Cixingxi Orphanage School where was totally devastated in the earthquake.
- From October 18 to 21, in preparation for the harsh winter, Jinde Charities distributed 120 tonnes of fuel to four schools, one orphanage, one Elderly Home and one village's residents; a total of more than 1500 beneficiaries.
- Provide 355 winter coats to 287 students and 68 teachers who were reallocated from Yushu to study and teach in Shijiazhuang.



Students are trying on the new winter coats

Jinde staff overcame cultural and language barriers to communicate with the local population and establish a presence in the community through the Sisters work. Jinde did come across many difficulties, the high altitude and language barrier are the two that is hard to overcome, the sisters have to take anti-altitude medicine from time to time in order to avoid headache and short of breath. Whenever conducting assessment or evaluation, Jinde has to invite local translators to come with.

There was only one occasion where safety became an issue. In this case, the military provided support during the distribution process. There were no incidents.



Police helped to maintain the order during distribution, May 2010.

Jinde successfully cooperated with a number of stakeholders and partners in the region during all stages of the project. Jinde Charities enlarged the circle of its partnership with other NGOs and organizations throughout these 6 months. Jinde cooperated on the ground with; Local government partners, Religious Affairs Bureau, Xi'an Catholic Social Service Centre, Xining Diocese, Xining Parish, Lanzhou Catholic Social Service Centre, Guangxi Catholic Social Service Centre, Tianji Catholic Social Service Centre, Snowlands Service Group, Ci Xingxiyuan Orphanage, Kungpin Vocational Training Centre and Yushu Buddhist College.

All in all, with Caritas network members and domestic Social Service Center, 15 domestic congregations and clergy and faithful' s help and cooperation, Jinde Charities served the survivors of this terrible tragedy for 6 months.

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