World Bank Loans

Status of Ethnic Minorities in Sichuan Development Project Area

Sichuan Province Environment Project Office

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Status of Ethnic Minorities

in Sichuan Development Project Area

I. Policy Requirements of World Bank

Operational Document of World Bank OD4.20 describes the relevant policy and processing procedure for project related to ethnic minorities. Such document provides the policy guideline for the purposes to: (1) ensure the ethnic minorities benefits from the development project, (2) avoid or reduce possible adverse impact caused by the project funded by the World Bank for the ethnic minorities, (3) take necessary special action when project supported by World Bank has involved in ethnic minorities.

“Ethnic minority” expressed by World Bank means a social group whose social and cultural characteristics are different, to some extent, from the mainstream society and therefore this group enjoys a weak status and liable to be discriminated during the development. In some particular geographic areas, ethnic minorities can be identified depending on the degree of the following characteristics: (a) sticking to the demesne from their ancestor, (b) believing themselves and others also believe that they belong to a particular cultural group, (c) having their own language that is usually different from the official language, (d) possessing traditional social and politic organization, (e) fundamentally proceeding with autarky production.

The policy of World Bank towards ethnic minorities is: strategies adopted to solve the issues associated with ethnic minorities shall be based on the learning of the truth and participation of the ethnic minorities themselves. If the project involves any ethnic minority, an ethnic minority development program shall be established based on the policy of World Bank. Any project involving any ethnic minorities shall contain this program in the content and the terms and conditions that shall be also examined by the World Bank prior to the assessment of such project by the World Bank.

II. Status of Ethnic Minorities in Sichuan Province

Sichuan Province, as a big province with 53 ethnic minorities, is the second largest Tibetan inhabit region, the largest Yi ethnic minority group inhabit region and the only Qiang ethnic minority group in China, as well as 3 ethnic minority autonomous prefectures (Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Aba Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture and Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture), totally 57 ethnic minority autonomous counties. The ethnic minority autonomous regions mainly scatter over West Sichuan and East marginal area of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. Tibetan population is mainly distributed in the 3 autonomous prefectures mentioned above; population of Yi ethnic minority mainly distributed in Liangshan Prefecture and Ebian Yi Ethnic
The total population of Sichuan Province in 2003 is 82,348,296, among which the Han nationality accounts for 95% and all the population of ethnic minorities accounts for 5%. Populations of major ethnic minorities in Sichuan Province are as below:

The populations of the first ten ethnic minorities and the respective proportions to the total population:

The population of Yi ethnic minority group is 2122389, 2.58% of the total population; the population of Tibetan ethnic minority group is 1269120, 1.54%;

The population of Qiang ethnic minority group is 300757, 0.37% of the total population; the population of Miao ethnic minority group is 147526, 0.18%;

The population of Hui ethnic minority group is 109960, 0.13% of the total population; the population of Mengol ethnic minority group is 42316, 0.05%;

The population of Tujia ethnic minority group is 41246, 0.05% of the total population; the population of Lisu ethnic minority group is 18674, 0.02%;

The population of Manchu ethnic minority group is 13849, 0.02% of the total population; the population of Naxi ethnic minority group is 8725, 0.01%;

The ethnic minorities ranked 11-19 and the respective populations:

Uygur ethnic minority group has a population of 2158; Zhuang ethnic minority group has a population of 6905; Buyi ethnic minority group has a population of 8215; Korea ethnic minority group has a population of 3137;

Bai ethnic minority group has a population of 7335; Dong ethnic minority group has a population of 1940; Hani ethnic minority group has a population of 1104; Dai ethnic minority group has a population of 6642;

Va ethnic minority group has a population of 1475.

Populations of other ethnic minorities are all below 1000.

III. Status of Ethnic Minorities in Project Cities and Regions

The population status of ethnic minorities in the four project cities and project areas of Sichuan Environment Project are as below:

1. Status of Ethnic Minorities in Panzhihua City

   Distribution of ethnic minority populations

   Population of ethnic minorities in Panzhihua is 150,000 odd, 14% of the total population of Panzhihua, total 40 ethnic minorities. The largest four ethnic minorities are: Yi ethnic minority group with a population of 120308, Lisu
ethnic minority group with a population of 8658, Hui ethnic minority group with a population of 3427 and Miao ethnic minority group with a population of 3411. Miyi County, Yanbian County and Renhe District are treated as autonomous counties of ethnic minorities. There are totally 26 autonomous townships and towns of ethnic minorities (including 23 autonomous townships and towns of Yi ethnic minority group, 2 autonomous townships of Lisu ethnic minority group and 1 autonomous township of Miao ethnic minority group). Among them, 9 autonomous townships and towns of ethnic minorities are in Miyi County, 12 in Yanbian County and 5 in Renhe District. Additionally, there are also 37 autonomous villages of ethnic minorities group live among other Han national townships and towns.

In 2003, the gross domestic product of 26 autonomous townships and towns of ethnic minorities group in the whole city is up to 517.10 million Yuan and the financial income of township and town levels is up to 35.03 million Yuan and the net income per capita of farmers is up to 2241 Yuan. The economic development in ethnic minority region has found a stabilization situation, where the social infrastructure is gradually improved, the people lives and works in peace and contentment and their living standards are improved gradually.

2. Ethnic minorities within the Project area

A: Renhe District was set up in 1974, composed by some regions transferred from Chuxiong Prefecture of Yunnan Province. It is a district treated as an autonomous ethnic minorities county. “Treated as” here indicates that it has not right of legal accommodation but only enjoys particular preferential policy. Renhe District is a suburb region of Panzhihua City with a population of 200,000 among which there are 43000 people of ethnic minorities (18%) with 90% of Yi ethnic minority people as well as Hui ethnic minority group, Dai ethnic minority group, Lisu ethnic minority group, Miao ethnic minority group, Bai ethnic minority group, Naxi ethnic minority group, Tujia ethnic minority group, Zhuang ethnic minority group, Manchu ethnic minority group, Kazakstan ethnic minority group, Lu ethnic minority group, Buyi ethnic minority group, Tu ethnic minority group, Mengol ethnic minority group, Uygur ethnic minority group, Dong ethnic minority group, Tibetan ethnic minority group, Pumi ethnic minority group, Maonan ethnic minority group, Shui ethnic minority group and etc, totally over 20 ethnic minorities. There are 5 autonomous townships of Yi ethnic minority group, including Futian Township, Jinjiang Township, Pingdi Township, Dalong Township and Ala Township. They are all located in remote region 50km away from the city proper with some even over 100km away. None of these five ethnic minority townships is within the affected area of the project. Furthermore, there are other 10 villages of Yi ethnic minority group distributing at farther region from the city proper, all at over 1800m of elevation above sea level. None of them is within the affected area of the Project either. These five townships and
ten villages have a total ethnic minority population of 39000. The other 4000-odd people live scattered in the inhabit area of Han nationality. The five townships and ten villages still maintain the custom of their respective ethnic minorities whose languages, marriage customs, dress styles, religions and food habits are distinctly of ethnic minority characteristics.

Renhe District is entitled to preferential policy for ethnic minorities: (1) low-interest loan entitlement for previous revolution base area, ethnic minority area, border area and less-development area;(2) less strict conditions to employ civil servants from ethnic minority;(3) annual supporting fund of 2 million to 3 million Yuan for the infrastructures such as highway, potable water facilities, elementary schools, health facilities and etc;(4) exemption of agricultural tax since 2004;(5) less strict entrance conditions of colleges and secondary technical schools for ethnic minority; (6) entitlement to the particular supports from developed regions;(7) entitlement to the measures of “Two-exemption and one-support”: exemption of schooling fee and incidental expenses, and book expenses plus several hundred Yuan respectively supporting each high school student, junior middle school student and elementary school pupil. Specific methods are: 800 Yuan and 780 Yuan respectively for each high school girl and boy; 400 Yuan and 380 Yuan respectively for each junior middle school girl and boy; 210 Yuan and 190 Yuan respectively for each elementary school girl and boy, for the purpose to encourage schoolgirl to learn well; (8) entitlement to the birth of second child.

B: Ethnic minority of Renhe District:

There are 118 people are of ethnic minority nationality within the project affected area in Renhe District of Panzhihua City. They are mainly belong to Yi ethnic minority group, Miao ethnic minority group and Lisu ethnic minority group, and one or two belongs to Hui ethnic minority group and Tibetan ethnic minority group. These 118 people constitute 53 ethnic minority families with 43Yi-Han families, 4 Yi-Yi families, 2 Dai-Han families, 2 Buyi-Han families, 1 Mongol-Han family and 1 Tibetan-Han family. As they have lived for many years in the inhabit area of Han nationality, the living custom, culture and religion even including their food and dress styles of these families have already become assimilated with Han nationality, but not kept in the styles and custom of ethnic minorities. Y et their production capability and income condition is not different from other local Han people.

Details of ethnic minorities in the affected area of Renhe District in this Project are as below:

106 people of Yi ethnic minority group: 1 in Miaofang Community; 2 in Dahe Community; 2 in Huilong Community; 2 in Lixin Community; 21 in Wankong Community 1; 15 in Zongfa Community 1; 15 in Wankong Community 3; 11 in Wankong Community 4; 9 in Wankong Community 2; 4 in Dahe Team 5; 2 in
Huaguo Community; 18 in Zongfa Community 3; 2 in Tucheng Community; and 2 in Xincun Community.

**4 people of Dai ethnic minority group:** 2 in Zongfa Community 1 and 2 in Lixin Community.

**6 people of Buyi ethnic minorities group:** all of these 6 groups are in Wankong Community 4.

**Others:** 1 people (Mengol ethnic minority group) in Zongfa Community 3 and 1 (Tibetan ethnic minority group) in Huaguo Community

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**C: Relevant Information of Shaba Village, Yinjiang Town, East District**

There are 145 ethnic minority people affected by this project resettlement in Shaba Village, Yinjiang Town, East District.

East District is the in the urban area of Panzhihua City and Shaba Village is about 3km from the municipal center and also 3km from Yinjiang Town seat. Along a highway, Shaba Village is located around the city center with developed traffic and second and third industries. Income level of Shaba Village is on the upper side of the middle line. Shaba Village consists of five villager teams. The total population is 1407 with a labor force of 970 people, and 418 families. 368 people among them belong to ethnic minority with 90% being Yi ethnic minority group and others being Bai ethnic minority group, Hui ethnic minority group, Dai ethnic minority group, Miao ethnic minority group and etc. The Yi ethnic minority group moved here in 30’s or 40’s of last century. Many generations have passed and they have already completely assimilated into Han Nationality. They neither speak the language of their ethnic minority group, nor wear their dress their national costume and their houses are completely same as those of Han Nationality, as well as their culture and custom, and food habit. Their only ethnic minority characteristic still maintained is torch festival, but only the form as a entertainment gathering. In Community 1 of Shaba Village, 4 people out of the total population of 161 belong to ethnic minority; 278 ethnic minority people from 482 in Community 2; 28 out of 240 in Community 3; 57 out of 247 in Community 4; and all the 277 people in Community 5 are Han people. Last year, the income per capita in Shaba Village is 3680 Yuan and it can reach 3800 Yuan this year. The income sources include planting of flowers, fruits and vegetables, processing, fish breeding and poultry raising etc which accounts for 40% of the total income; second and third industries accounting for 40% of the total income (including the income from labor export of 180 people); and the other 20% from lease of land (about 700-800 mu of leased land in the whole village).

This Project mainly involves Community 1, 2 and 5, directly affecting 150
people in 51 families of ethnic minorities, including 30 Yi-Han families, 20 Yi-Yi families and 1 Bai-Han families. Community 1 mainly depends on planting and fish breeding and poultry raising. There is also lease of land and second and third industries. Their income is in medium level with income per capita of about 3800 Yuan. Community 2 is the richest one among the five communities with income per capita of over 4000 Yuan, mainly from lease of houses, export of labor, store and shop operation, planting of flower, transportation business and lease of land. Income of Community 5 stays the second with the income sources basically same as those of Community 2. For the relocation of residents from the required land, the project unit plans to build their new living communities nearby along the newly built highway, which will be convenient for them to be engaged in second and third industries for a better future.

The ethnic minorities in Shaba Village are entitled to the following preferential policies: (1) permitted birth of second child; (2) additional points in the entrance examination for universities and colleges; (3) reduction/exemption of schooling fee, incidental expenses and book expenses; (4) annual subsidization of several hundred Yuan for each student. The education status of ethnic minorities in Shaba Village is completely similar to that of Han people. None of children in the right schooling age is out of school. All of them can complete the 9-year compulsory education and there are some students enrolled by universities/college every year. Shaba Village has a village committee of 7 people. The village chief belongs to Yi ethnic minority group and 2 of the community chiefs are also Yi people. There are also two women cadres respectively belonging to Yi ethnic minority group and Hui ethnic minority group.

Status of Ethnic Minorities in Yibin City

1. General

Yibin City has 81249 ethnic minority people from 24 ethnic minority groups, accounting for 1.6% of the total population of the city. The major ethnic minorities are Miao, Yi and Hui people lived in scattered manner. Since 1984, there are totally 13 autonomous townships of ethnic minorities in the whole city. There are still 14 townships and towns with ethnic minority population of over 1000 which have not been set up as autonomous townships of ethnic minority, and 30 villages with ethnic minority population of 30% of the total village population.

Yibin has Miao ethnic minority group of 70379 people, 60% of the total population of Miao ethnic minority group in the whole province, most of whose living condition is in the hilly and mountainous areas about 600-1600m above the sea level. They are mainly engaged in agriculture.

Yibin has Yi ethnic minority group of 5978 people, mainly living in Bingbian
Township and Qingping Township of Bingshan County and engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry.

Hui ethnic minority group in Yibin is 3542 people mainly distributing in the hilly areas of Cuibing District, Nanxi County, Gaoxian County, as well as a few living scattered in some towns of this city. They are mainly engaged in agriculture, food processing, catering services and other traditional trades, and have kept the good tradition to create wealth by hardworking.

There are also 1450 people of other ethnic minority groups, mainly distributing mainly in mountainous to be engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry.

2. **Ethnic minorities within the Project area**

According to the basic investigation for the relocation of residents from the required land of this time, there is not any ethnic minority in the required land scope for Binjiang Ring Road Project in Yibin City.

### Status of Ethnic Minorities in Suining City

1. **Status of Ethnic Minorities**

   The total population of Suining City is 3.5 million, among them 1897 belong to ethnic minorities accounts for 0.54 % of the total population. Han people accounts for 99.46 %. Most ethnic minority people live scattered and together with other peoples and many belong to urban population with few in inhabit townships and villages. Major ethnic minority populations are as below: Mengol ethnic minority group, 3228; Yi ethnic minority group, 2719; Tibetan ethnic minority group, 2428; Va ethnic minority group, 1695; Hui ethnic minority group, 1474; Miao ethnic minority group, 1373; Qiang ethnic minority group, 649; Hani ethnic minority group, 690; Dai ethnic minority group, 529; Zhuang ethnic minority group, 495; Buyi ethnic minority group, 406; Bai ethnic minority group, 495; Uygur ethnic minority group, 340.

2. **Ethnic minorities within the Project area**

   There is not any ethnic minority within the Suining Project area

### Status of Ethnic Minorities in Mianyang City

1. **Status of Ethnic Minorities**

   Mianyang has a total population of 5,170,141 with 5,011,441 (96.93%) of Han people and 158,700 (3.07%) of ethnic minorities. There are Qiang ethnic minority group, Tibetan ethnic minority group, Hui ethnic minority group and others, totally 39 ethnic minorities. Its population of ethnic minorities ranks the fourth in Sichuan Province. Beichuan County is the only Qiang Autonomous County and Pingwu County is also an ethnic minority autonomous county. In Baichuan, Pingwu and Yanting there are 11 ethnic minority
autonomous townships with Qiang ethnic minority group, Tibetan ethnic minority group, Hui ethnic minority group and 3 Qiang ethnic minority group towns.

The populations of major ethnic minorities: Hui ethnic minority group, 10008; Tibetan ethnic minority group, 10057; Miao ethnic minority group, 370; Yi ethnic minority group, 468; Mengol ethnic minority group, 207; Zhuang ethnic minority group, 221; Buyi ethnic minority group, 103.

By end of 2003, the ethnic minority autonomous regions in Mianyang City have achieved annual gross domestic product of 1,415.6 million Yuan and financial revenue of 71 million Yuan. The farmers’ cereals per capita are 500kg and income per capita is 2000 Yuan. The disposable income per capita of town dwellers is 5825 Yuan.

2. **Ethnic minorities within the Project area**

There is not any ethnic minority within the Mianyang Project area

**IV. Conclusion**

Comparing the status of ethnic minority populations within the 4 city project areas of Sichuan Development Project with the policy requirements in Operational Document OD4.20 of World Bank, there is not any inhabiting area of ethnic minorities within Yibin City, Suining City and Mianyang City. Therefore these three sub-projects are not involved with the subject of ethnic minorities. There are 263 people of ethnic minorities within Panzhihua Project area. 118 people of them in Renhe District are from 53 families, with 4 Yi-Yi families and 49 intermarry families of ethnic minorities and Han nationality; 145 people of ethnic minorities in Shaba Village of East District are from 51 families, with 20 Yi-Yi families and 31 intermarry families of ethnic minorities and Han nationality. They have lived in the inhabiting region of Han nationality for many years and their customs, cultures and religions, even the food habits and dress styles have been completely assimilated by Han Nationality without maintaining their own characteristics of ethnic minorities. Furthermore, their production capabilities and income are also in the same level as that of local Han people, i.e. their social and cultural characteristics are absolutely the same as those of the local mainstream society. We think that the ethnic minority in Sichuan Development Project Area is not of five features mentioned in Operational Document of World Bank OD4.20, thus particular ethnic minorities development planning for the Project is not necessary.