

Huóshui Grouped Small Hydropower China

Clean energy for China's remote
mountain communities



This project consists of multiple small-scale hydropower plants that generate renewable energy for rural Southwest and South Central China. By supplying clean hydroelectric power to the local grid, the project displaces greenhouse gas emissions, helping mitigate climate change. The project helps to improve the lives of local people through funding a number of initiatives, including a social fund and sustainable agricultural workshops.

The Context

The powerful rivers of China's mountainous areas can be harnessed to generate electricity for its remote communities and the wider region, but hydroelectric power plants require substantial investment to set up. Prior to the project, local communities experienced poor living conditions. At a time when 80 percent of China's energy demands were met by coal-fired power stations, these communities had unreliable access to electricity and there was little regional investment.

The Project

Huóshuǐ Grouped Small Hydropower consists of 95 small hydropower plants. The small-scale plants range in capacity from 0.1 to 14 MW, and together supply enough renewable energy to power over half a million average Chinese homes each year. Their 'run-of-river' design allows them to do so with minimal environmental impact. The cost of developing hydropower plants in remote locations is a significant barrier to construction, so this project would not be possible without the revenue generated by carbon credits.

The Benefits

Huóshuǐ Grouped Small Hydropower helps diversify China's energy sector and provides local employment opportunities in power plant construction and operation, helping to alleviate regional poverty. The project activities also fund social initiatives in cooperation with local organisations, including disaster relief funds and educational programmes, such as those aimed at improving the lives of children whose parents have migrated to the cities for work. Sustainable agricultural workshops create increased income opportunities for local farmers, while the reliable electricity supplied by the project gives remote communities better access to electrical appliances that ameliorate their daily life.

The project funds a school support programme that provides books, pencils, dictionaries and fresh fruit, as well as other school supplies, to local students



192
students

involved in educational programmes, learning about environmental protection



left-behind
children

who live without a mother or father taken on an educational field trip to Yingjing County town in November 2018 to see the outside world



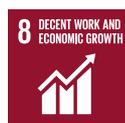
240
women

employed by the project, representing about 25% of total workers



740,000
MWh

of renewable energy generated on average annually



179
people

in surrounding villages partake in agricultural training programmes



369,000
tCO₂e

mitigated on average each year

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: Grouped Hydropower Plants in Chongqing, Yunnan, Sichuan and Guizhou Provinces, P.R. China | **Registry link:** <https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/438> | **Registry ID:** 438

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