



Education and Economic Development for Ethnic Minority Regions

Construction of hope

Last year our local government informed us of a needy school of 35 children called Guxin Primary School; it is located among the beautiful mountains and rice paddies in one of Duyun's most remote and poorest areas. The 2-room school for 1st and 2nd grade was an old wooden, two storey building, that not only leaked when it rained but was dangerous for the kids. It had to be replaced.

This schoolhouse, like many of the remote, countryside schools, served many children who walk for more than an hour to get to school. Also like other isolated schools, Guxin found it hard to provide their students with qualified teachers and supplies; they have had to settle on a young junior high grad to teach the children who use second-hand textbooks given from the better schools in the city.

We watched the children hard at work on their wobbly chairs and tables, learning



3E's new building for Guxin Primary School



to read and write, yet happy and content that they could be in school. They looked younger than their age, and usually didn't have much more than rice and a few vegetables for lunch but that didn't seem to bother them.

Thanks to the gracious gift from a donor, 3E helped them build a new school building which was completed in February 2005. Not only do they now have two nice classrooms but there is also an office and a room for the teacher to live in. We also donated new chairs and desks for the classrooms. The government has given some books and they hope to begin a small library for the children. As a way to start off the new semester in their new school, we were able to pay for all the students' school fees as well.

In November last year, we made a visit to the school and gave each child some warm clothes and some fresh fruit before the winter cold began. It was such a joy to look at the faces, not only of the children but also of the parents. We believe this 3E school of hope will bring hope to many children over the years to come!

IN BRIEF

- All 57 students of Hulin Primary School received a partial scholarship.



- Thanks for all the donated goods brought to 3E by visitors! We are distributing the coats, vests, socks, vitamins, candy and stationary.
- Guizhou office is now providing lunch once a month to sponsored students in Duyun city.

- Of the 32 university students we are sponsoring, 16 of them are in China's "key universities".

Batiks for sale! These batiks are made by Chinese minorities with their traditional dyes. There are a wide variety of subjects and stories, on wall hangings, table clothes, stockings and bags. To order please e-mail us at: 3edevlopment@eroam.net We will send you a catalogue. All profits will go to 3E.



'Children of Guizhou' 2006 Calendar

*A fundraising project
from Field of Dreams*



Field of Dreams is a Hong Kong based group of professionals who came together to develop and support projects and activities focused on alleviating poverty around the world.

They have made a beautiful 2006 calendar in A4 size. It includes 12 photographs and a description of Guizhou.

If you are in Hong Kong and are interested in getting a copy, please contact:

fieldofdreamsasia@yahoo.com

If you are outside of Hong Kong, e-mail us at 3E: 3edevelopment@eroam.net

All proceeds of the calendar go to 3E Development's scholarship fund.

Where 3E is operating

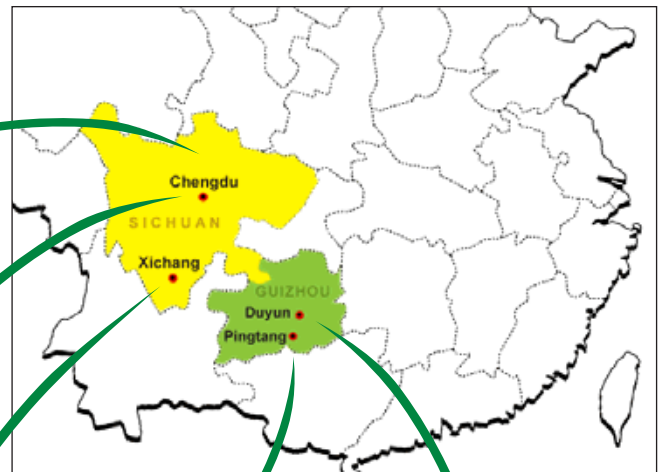
3E Development is operating in 5 different locations in South-west China.

Sichuan:

Aba Prefecture: We are working in a variety of fields including health, economic development and agriculture. Our aim is to develop healthy communities.

Chengdu: Our work began in 2003 with our office being registered in Chengdu and providing a base for our Sichuan work.

Liangshan Prefecture: We are promoting arts and handicrafts to help preserve the minority culture and develop the communities in this area.



Guizhou:

Pingtang: Expanding from relationships and summer English camps that started in 2002, 3E in Pingtang mainly focuses on student life and scholarships. We have also had opportunity to provide some medical assistance.

Duyun: Our first registered 3E work started in 1996, and mainly focused on micro-loan development. The last couple of years our work has expanded to include student scholarships. Our outreach also includes educational consulting, rural development, medical training and projects.

Changing lives

John, a sponsored student in Pingtang, used to duck his head and look away every time I would talk to him. His demeanour said, "I'm poor and worthless, and embarrassed that I need help from you." He is different now, learning that it is no shame to be poor, but also learning that just as he has received help in his time of need, he has lots he can give to others.

This past summer when he got out of school, he spent two days volunteer teaching students in his home village. He was pretty excited telling me about it, looking me in the eye the whole time. I am excited that he is "getting it." We are helping him so that he can grow and learn and be free to become all he was meant to be.

How you can give to 3E:

In USA:

National Heritage Foundation (www.nhf.org) You can make donations online, you need to do a foundation search for '3E Development'.

All other countries:

Please e-mail 3edevelopment@eroam.net for details.

3E Development Company - offices in Guizhou and Sichuan

Our main focus is working in overseas development, aid and relief, child sponsorship and micro-loans, specifically in educational and economic development for ethnic minorities, their families and communities.

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'Changing lives' article contributed by Suzanne Styles.