

## Volume 10 Issue 2 October 2011

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# PLATEAU PERSPECTIVES NEWSLETTER

## REHABILITATION SERVICES

#### July 2011

Plateau Perspectives signed a five year agreement to assist with the establishment of two rehabilitation centres and the training of staff to provide rehabilitation services in Zhiduo and Qumalai counties and in Longbao town, Yushu County.

#### August 2011

Two physiotherapists, Judi Cameron from Canada and Hannah Van Driel from Holland, together with Marion Torrance-Foggin, provided a week of clinical training in Zhiduo and a week of training in physiotherapy and rehab services in Longbao to two doctors and a group of people with disabilities keen to assist in the community.

#### September – October 2011

Training was provided by occupational therapist Lydia David (PP staff), assisted by Sally Ann Bowen (Australian nurse), providing continuing education to two doctors and to community members with disability in Longbao town. A second team also started the flooring and furnishing of the rehabilitation centre in Longbao.





# STUDY TOUR TO NORWAY

Marc Foggin and Jigme Rabden recently traveled to Norway — to Oslo, Røros, and Finnmark in the far north of the country — to learn more about the development of sustainable tourism and ecotourism, as well as to learn about socio-economic development opportunities amongst Sami reindeer herding communities. Special focus was given to income generation, distance education, and the importance of cultural identity in sustainable development. Marc and Jigme also had opportunity to meet and discuss with Norwegian colleagues regarding key principles for small-scale enterprise development. They brought back with them many new ideas and plans from their time abroad.

# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM WITH THE QINGHAI ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Plateau Perspectives assisted with the planning and organization of the *International Symposium on the Human Dimensions of Ecological Conservation on the Tibetan Plateau*, co-hosted by the Government of Qinghai Province and the Qinghai Academy of Social Sciences. Six invited experts from Canada, UK and Germany gave presentations on key topics of environmental management and socio-economic development experiences from around the world. Over 80 national researchers, policy analysts and decision-makers were also in attendance at this significant meeting last August 2011.

## PROJECT EVALUATION

An independent (external) evaluation of Plateau Perspectives' "Yushu Integrated Development Project (2007-2011)" was completed in July 2011. With a positive review as well as some valuable suggestions for improvement, this exercise provided an excellent opportunity to help us 'capture' lessons learned in this NORAD-funded project. Main issues considered in the evaluation included the project's impact on environmental management, capacity building, and empowerment.

## MEETING ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Keith Jeddere-Fisher and Yishi Sombo participated on behalf of Plateau Perspectives in the International Conference on Climate Change and Ecosystem Carbon Sequestration in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, co-sponsored by a PRC-GEF partnership, AusAID, Qinghai Forest Bureau and other government agencies. Several other national and international conservation NGOs were also in attendance. The Tibetan Plateau region is now considered to be of global significance in the climate change dialogue.

# PLATEAU PERSPECTIVES CHINA OFFICE

### FIELD STAFF

Marc Foggin, Executive Director
Gongbo Tashi, General Manager
Marion Foggin, Medical Director
Jigme Rabden, Senior Project Officer
Tashi Tsomo, Project Officer, Translator
Ngya Drolma, Accountant, Translator
Huting, Office Manager (Xining)
Xu Haiying, Office Assistant
John Friberg, Civil Engineer
Lydia David. Occupational Therapist

# Staff News

Yishi Sombo has begun his Masters programme at the Durrell Institute on Conservation and Ecology (DICE) at University of Kent, UK. His topic of study is on conservation and rural development.

We are delighted to welcome **Lydia David** to our China team. She is an experienced occupational therapist from the UK.

