

**China**  
**Promoting Agro-Forestry in the Mountains of Southwest China**  
**News from the Field (July 2019–June 2020)**

**August 2020**  
**Conservation International**

**Activities in Ganpu**

In Ganpu, Sichuan, this is the fourth year of activities. Trees bearing plums, apples and peppers are beginning to enter the harvest period this year, but other fruit trees like cherry are not doing as well as expected and they have undergone grafting. About 120 pigs and 300 chickens were sold, with a total of around 360 pigs and 400 chickens sold in the past three years. In 2019, a beekeeper joined and harvested 200 kg of honey.

Every year, Ganpu Village Committee uses part of the activity funding to plant trees for the beautification of townscape and preservation of their collective forests. As a result, about 4,000 trees and 400 kg of fruit tree seeds have been planted in the past three years. Since April 2018, the Ganpu project site has been contracted to a farmers' cooperative Maoyuan, which is working with some of China's major food enterprises, for the shipment of agricultural products.

The Ganpu farmers' cooperative hires local residents, especially those with lower income; currently there are about 30 villages involved in the daily operations.



Ganpu project site (left), plum will be harvested in August (right)  
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Wedding at orchard (left), women working at Ganpu project site (right)  
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### **Monitoring of Biodiversity and Soil Carbon Stocks**

Monitoring of biodiversity and soil carbon stocks was scheduled for the project site in 2020 and 2023, however, no progress has been made due to severe disruptions caused by COVID-19. After discussing with experts, partners and CI Japan, this initiative has been postponed to.

### **Spreading an Agroforestry Model to Nearby Communities**

The activities at Ganpu Village have been expanded to nearby communities over the past three years. In the villages of Muka and Shajin, which are only a few kilometers away from Ganpu, farmers' cooperatives have started agroforestry modeled after the demo site at Ganpu. In April 2020, as the Deputy Head of Forestry of Tashirin County (Li County), Qiang Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Abba and Tibetan visited several pig raising villages in the county, he spoke highly of Ganpu Village for the cooperative's commitment to agroforestry to protect local environment and the wellbeing of pigs.

### **Preparation for the Naliang Festival**

While coordination had begun for selecting products for charity sale and donation in preparation for the Naliang Festival held every August, the festival was unfortunately cancelled due to the unstable situation from COVID-19.

\*Naliang Festival is a charity event hosted by Daikin China, where outstanding projects from Daikin's assistance projects are selected and sold to attending staff, with the proceeds donated to communities and schools in need in remote areas.



Naliang Festival community need assessment  
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### **Activity Plan Changes due to COVID-19**

Due to COVID-19, implementation of previously scheduled activities at the project site, such as agroforestry training and sign board installation became a challenge. As an alternative, the unspent funding was allocated to fund the survey of small wetlands in the Minjiang River Basin as per the request of the villagers of Ganpu. Located upstream to Ganpu village, Minjiang River, where many small wetlands exist, plays an important role rural agriculture development in mitigating climate change, reducing non-point pollution, and providing habitat for many species. The survey started in August. This project will also provide small and micro wetland restoration plans for future guidance.

### **Future Plans**

We will continue to monitor the progress at both project sites in Ganpu village and Xiaozhaiaigou Nature Reserve, and summarize the activity results and experiences for the expansion of the activity model to other communities. In addition, we will implement the monitoring of biodiversity and soil carbon stocks at the Ganpu project site, which were cancelled this year (July 2019 to June 2020).



Tibetan pigs (left), house for Tibetan pigs and chickens (right)  
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Lemon seedling in January  
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Lemon seedling in July  
© Changtianba Village by Siyou

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