



雲南日報
YUNNAN DAILY PRESS GROUP
云南日报报业集团

Yunnan People Benefit from Livelihood Improvement Projects

In 2013, 70% of Yunnan's financial revenue was spent on improving people's livelihood.

Last August, Luo Sixiu, a 67-year-old cataract patient, saw the world again after accepting free surgery in the People's First Hospital of Dali City. Thanks to the Free Cataract Operation Project implemented by the Government of Yunnan Province, 46,095 low-income cataract patients like Luo have restored their sight in 2013 after living in darkness for years.

Luo's story is just one glimpse into Yunnan's livelihood improvement in 2013. Last year, Yunnan spent 70% of its financial revenue increasing people's standard of living and great changes took place in their lives: better education, stable jobs, more satisfactory income, greater social security, improved medical and health care, improved housing conditions, and a more beautiful environment.

"It's very convenient and comfortable to live here. It's better than my home. I don't need to worry about my livelihood," said Su Peifu, childless and infirm, living in the elderly nursing home in the Dazhuang Township of Shuangbai County. Last year, the Dazhuang elderly nursing home was put into service, where elderly men and women live in rooms that are decent, safe and sanitary. Each of them gets a pension of 60 Yuan every month and enjoys the basic healthcare insurance. According to the data released by the government, Yunnan constructed and rebuilt 22 urban elderly welfare institutions, 81 rural elderly nursing homes and 509 home-based care service centers in 2013. A network of elderly nursing homes is being built in the province, providing elders with day care, home-

based services, psychological therapies and cultural activities.

Han Zhiqiang, from Meiziqing village in Wuding County, has recently been preparing for his son's wedding ceremony. Different from other weddings held in the village before, his preparation is much easier because he can get clean drinking water from the water cellar near his house. Last year, 74 water cellars were built in Meiziqing by the government, making history of the villagers' safety problem of drinking water. In the Yunnan province as a whole, drinking water safety problems were solved for 2.96 million rural residents last year.

In 2013, guided by the plan to improve both urban and rural living conditions, Yunnan advanced urbanization actively yet prudently. A total of 2.1 million rural residents migrated to urban areas. Houses have been built for 500,000 households as Yunnan continued renovating dilapidated houses in rural areas and reconstructing houses in earthquake-stricken areas. 230,000 government-subsidized housing units of various types were built in cities. And the pilot project was initiated, of building beautiful villages, of which 1,500 have been completed.

The year 2013 also witnessed changes in the Mingde elementary school of Xianwei City, where a farm has been built and cultivated to provide nutritious and safe food for children attending the school. Talking about the nutrition improvement plan, headmaster Lei Yingfei was so excited. "In the past, students in my school could only eat meat once a week. But after the plan for improving nutrition of rural students was



implemented, they can eat meat every dinner." In 2013, Yunnan appropriated 3.249 billion Yuan to improve the nutrition of 5.2 million rural students receiving compulsory education. Meanwhile, 3.122 billion Yuan was also allocated to subsidize the life of 2.7698 million rural students receiving compulsory education and from low-income families.

Yunnan also deepened its reform of Medicare and health care system in 2013. 95% of its residents, both urban and rural, joined the basic social security system. And the government subsidy standard of urban health care and rural cooperative medical care was raised to 280 Yuan per person each year.

The happy and healthy childhood, carefree old age, job security and entrepreneurial support for youth..... Yunnan people are benefiting from the "security blanket" that is being built by the government.

