



## YYDF Ignites Love with Love

By Yang Yan



Foreigners are taking part in the fundraising hike organized by YYDF.  
Photo by Yang Yan

In Yunnan, there is an active charity and public welfare foundation. In the past 20 years, it has raised more than 800 million yuan, built 1,800 Hope Primary Schools, provided financial aid for 150,000 students at all levels from poverty-stricken families and constructed 28,000 Hope Water Cellars... Its public welfare

efforts in Yunnan are a warm interpretation of human love.

Its name is the Yunnan Youth Development Foundation (YYDF). Founded in 1994, it is one of a handful of public fundraising foundations in Yunnan.

"The establishment of YYDF indicates that Project

Hope has really become a social public welfare undertaking in Yunnan, which is in line with the requirements for the standardization of charity and will facilitate the normalization of public welfare projects," YYDF Chairman Shen Guangxin was quoted as saying.

As the only legitimate

body licensed by the China Youth Development Foundation (CYDF) to accept Project Hope donations in Yunnan Province, YYDF has built 1,800 Hope Primary Schools with the support of donors. In order to help rural children grow up healthily and happily, YYDF has proactively provided upgrading services for these Hope Primary Schools. A total of 500 sports areas, Hope kitchens, Hope libraries, music classrooms and computer classrooms have been established to promote rural students' health and nutrition conditions and improve their music and art attainments. Besides, YYDF has trained 38,000 teachers for Hope Primary Schools, which has greatly enhanced the quality education and teaching faculty of rural schools. Today, having gone through hardware and software construction, Hope Primary Schools are moving on to the stage of brand-build-

ing and innovation.

Yunnan has a high incidence of congenital heart disease. Every year thousands of newborns are diagnosed with congenital heart disease, and most of the cases are in mountainous rural areas. Due to financial difficulties, they cannot receive surgical treatment in a timely manner. At the end of 2010, YYDF launched the "Hope 'Heart' (CHD) Life Rescue Plan", which integrated social forces to provide CHD children of poverty-stricken families with financial assistance. Beginning with the provision of financial aid to CHD children, a new model of medical relief has gradually come into being.

So far, 1,212 CHD children of poverty-stricken families have received surgical treatment and returned to school. Lu Zhengxiang, who makes paper-cuts for a living, is also known as "Candle Brother"

because he often lights candles in an unlighted underpass in the evening for the benefit of pedestrians. Unfortunately, his son was born with severe congenital heart disease and could not receive surgical treatment because of financial difficulties until he was three years old. It was with YYDF's help that the child regained health. Ever since then, Lu Zhengxiang has been passing on the kindness by saving one yuan from each meal and donating it to YYDF. Love is ignited by love. This is exactly what YYDF has been advocating.

Over 20 years, YYDF has not just given children from poverty-stricken families numerous donations and beautiful classrooms, but it has also been trying to arouse people's awareness of public welfare. In Yunnan, the concepts of "charity by all, happy charity, transparent charity and voluntary charity" have been widely accepted.

## 13 Yunnan Enterprises Authorized as Automobile Exporters

By Chen Baojiang

According to Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, thirteen Yunnan Enterprises have been approved by China's Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, General Administration of Customs, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, and Certification and Accreditation Administration to export automobile products in 2015, including Yunnan Lifan Horse Import & Export Co., Ltd., Ruili Chaoyuan Import & Export Trading Co., Ltd., Ruili Qingxin Import & Export Trading Co., Ltd., Tengchong Weixin Import & Export Trading Co., Ltd., Ruili Tianying Co., Ltd., Yunnan Huaping County Materials Corporation, Yunnan Union

Resources & Engineering Co., Ltd. and Xishuangbanna Tongda Trade Co., Ltd. and etc.

In 2015, according to a notice issued by Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China, the 13 Yunnan enterprises are authorized to export Chinese brand vehicles such as FAW Jiefang, Shenyang Jinbei and Beiqi Foton, marking breakthroughs in terms of both quality and quantity as compared with the previous year. In addition, as automakers, Yunnan Lifan Horse Vehicle Co., Ltd., Dongfeng Yunnan Automobile Co., Ltd. and FAW-GM Hongta Yunnan Automobile Manufacturing Co., Ltd. have all authorized their exporters in other provinces.

## Yunnan Coffee Export Growth Slowdown Continuing

Staff Reporter

It is reported that from January to November 2014, Yunnan's coffee exports amounted to 48,000 tons, which was worth \$ 144 million and marked a year-on-year increase of 7.1 percent, indicating a continuous slowdown in Yunnan's coffee export growth.

In 2013, Yunnan's coffee exports increased by 29.5 percent year on year to 54,600 tons, registering a growth rate 22.4 percent higher than that of 2014. According to Yunnan International Trade Association, Yunnan's coffee-growing area accounts for 99 percent of the national total, and its coffee products are mainly exported to Germany, Malaysia, Belgium, France, the U. S. and Vietnam. Yunnan's coffee industry is almost China's coffee industry itself. However, Yunnan's coffee production can hardly have any impact on the supply and

demand relationship of the global coffee market. Analysts believe that given its small share in the global market in terms of acreage and production, the export-oriented Yunnan coffee has a limited say abroad and is largely controlled by the markets of the U.S. and other countries. In 2013, as the global coffee prices continued to decline, the purchasing price of coffee beans dropped from 40 yuan / kg in 2011 to 16 yuan / kg or less in 2013 in Yunnan.

Besides, due to the appreciation of RMB, the difference between the exchange rate at the time of ordering and that at the time of settlement resulted in coffee exporters receiving less profit or losing money. The rising costs, including labor cost and rail freight, also contributed to the difficulties in Yunnan's export trade of coffee.

## A Tour of Yuanmou Earth Forest in Midwinter

By Liu Jianhua



Tourists are taking photos in the Earth Forest.  
Photo by Liu Jianhua

In the midwinter sunlight, the Yuanmou Earth Forest offers extremely changeable and spectacular scenes, attracting a great many tourists and photography enthusiasts from home and abroad.

Located in Yuanmou County of Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture, the Yuanmou Earth Forest is

known as one of the Three Marvelous Forests of Yunnan, the other two being the Shilin Stone Forest and the Luliang Colorful Sand Forest. The Yuanmou Earth Forest, a unique landform that has been formed by long term soil erosion, offers all sorts of fantastic sights. It covers 40 square kilometers and is

roughly divided into three areas: the Wumao Earth Forest, the Banguo Earth Forest and the Langbapu Earth Forest. Among them, the Langbapu Earth Forest covers an area of 8 square kilometers, where the conical earth pillars are well developed and are usually 8-25 meters in height. The Langbapu Earth

Forest is particularly rich in colors. The top parts of the pillars are mainly purple; the medium parts, mostly gray; and the lower parts, basically yellow. Seen from a distance, the Langbapu Earth Forest is like a group of magnificent palaces. Step into it, and you will find yourself in a castle or a gallery.

## Muzha Village: Those Winding Alleys

By Yang Zhigao

As winter comes, the sky gets even clearer in Yunnan, and the villages under the blue sky become even purer.

Muzha Village is nestled amidst green mountains in Xiyang Yi Ethnic Township in the westernmost part of Jinning County, Kunming. Following the terrain of the hillside, the small village sits on a gentle slope and commands a good view of distant mountains.

High and low on the hillside, the houses are arranged closely together. A cement path winds its way through the village, stringing more than 240 households. According to the village head Ji Qingwu,

the path can take you anywhere in the village. Strolling along such a path, it feels as if you are always in alleys, and one can't help thinking of the Narrow and Wide Alleys in Chengdu of Sichuan. However, the winding and deep alleys in Muzha Village are livelier than those in Chengdu.

At the entrance of the village are several century-old trees with huge canopies and lush branches. The houses are mostly built with stones and rammed clay, covered with tiles and paneled with wood. The most distinctive house in the village is a quadrangle courtyard. I was told that

it had taken the owners 18 years to complete the house. It is well decorated and even the windows are meticulously carved, so the owners must be wealthy at that time. On a wall in the courtyard is written a family instruction, which literally means "whether broth or cooked rice, remember it is not easy to come by; for half a piece of silk or cotton thread, think of the difficulty in production." According to the village head, this house and the two houses in front of and behind it are of one family, and the three houses used to be interconnected. Perhaps the family instruction on the wall can explain

how the owners have managed to build these grand houses.

When I went to the village, a wedding ceremony was going to be held, so people are busy butchering a pig and a goat. A couplet on the door of a household drew my attention. The left piece literally means "with one heart, the road will be smooth"; the second piece, "if treasured, love knows no end"; and the top piece, "always together." A small knife was stuck on the lintel and two bowls were upside down on the ground in front of the door. The villagers told me that these objects were meant to keep out "evil spirits".

## Cross-Border Trade and Tourism Boom in Ruili and Qingshuihe

Staff Reporter

In 2014, as the trade and cultural exchanges between China and Myanmar got increasingly frequent, the number of cross-border tourists going through Ruili Port and Qingshuihe Port on the Yunnan-Myanmar border spiked and hit a record high.

In 2014, as of December 27, Ruili Port had received more than 14 million cross-border tourists, marking a year-on-year increase of 10.6 percent and leading all Chinese border checkpoints currently in use. Statistics show that Ruili Port received a total of 11,466 tour groups in 2014. During the Water-Sprinkling Festival and the National Day Holiday, Ruili Port registered a daily

traffic of 48,000 visits.

Also in 2014, as of December 30, Qingshuihe Port had received more than 460,000 cross-border tourists, marking a year-on-year increase of 39.9 percent. Located in Mengding County of Lincang, Yunnan and bordering Shan State of Myanmar, Qingshuihe Port officially began to accept small import and export trade in 1957. In recent years, with the expansion of Yunnan's opening up and the construction of Lincang Border Economic Cooperation Zone, cross-border people and vehicles going through Qingshuihe Port have been substantially increasing year by year.

## Cross-Border Tourism Boom on Kunming-Bangkok Thoroughfare

By Chen Baojiang

As of December 10, 2014, the first anniversary of the completion of the Kunming-Bangkok Highway, Mohan Checkpoint in Xishuangbanna has reported 2,627 cross-border tour groups, an increase of 92.7 percent over the previous year.

"In the past, if I set out at daybreak, I would not enter China until 17:00 at the earliest. Now that the Chiang Khong-Huay Xai Bridge has been opened to traffic, it takes at least three hours less to

enter China earlier, which is much more convenient and time-saving than before," said a tourist coming to China from Thailand. Since the whole Kunming-Bangkok Highway went into operation last year, according to the staff of Mohan Checkpoint Command Center, the number of cross-border tour groups going through Mohan Port has been growing rapidly. At present, 8 tour groups and over 100 tourists go through the checkpoint on an average day.

## Kunming-Beibuwan Port Express Freight Train Launched

By Cao Jie

The other day, the Kunming-Beibuwan Port express freight train went into operation, which has achieved seamless import and export logistics connection between Kunming of Yunnan and Beibuwan Port of Guangxi.

According to a press conference jointly held by Kunming Railway Bureau and Guangxi Beibuwan International Port Service Group, the Kunming-Beibuwan Port express freight train has made it possible for clients to go through sea-rail transport formalities in Kunming and Beibuwan Port, thus achieving seamless logistics connection. Besides accessing Beibuwan Port by sea-rail transport, enterprises in Kunming can also achieve quick exit and entry of exported and imported goods by taking advantage of the container shuttle buses between Guangxi Beibuwan Port and

Nansha of Guangzhou and the Guangzhou Nansha foreign trade route.

It is learnt that the Kunming-Beibuwan Port express freight train is scheduled to run twice a week, covering a total distance of about 973 km in 34 hours each time. When conditions permit, according to Deputy General Manager Xie Yi, Guangxi Beibuwan International Port Service Group will increase the density of the train. At present, 1,000 containers have gone into operation.

According to a staff member of Guangxi Beibuwan International Port Service Group, when the goods are transported from Kunming to Beibuwan Port, they will be loaded into containers and shipped to Tianjin Port by sea, nearly reducing shipping costs by one-third and the time by half as compared with the past.



The freight train started from Kunming to Beibuwan.  
Photo by Li Qiuning