

# ***Brief Statement about International Non-Governmental Organizations to Participate in the Development of Education in the Minority Areas of Yunnan***

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**Abstract**—The purpose of this paper is to systematically discuss several important issues of international NGO's participation in the education of ethnic minority areas in Yunnan, so that all colleagues and experts can benefit from it. Through a variety of research methods, such as literature research, field investigation, case analysis and so on. This paper mainly introduces four aspects: the development situation, main fields, historical evolution and form of activities of international NGOs participating in social affairs in Yunnan minority areas. Through investigation, the paper finds that the international NGO has promoted the development of education in Yunnan minority areas in recent 30 years, which is of great theoretical significance and practical value.

**Keywords**—*International non-governmental organizations(NGO); Yunnan; minority nationality; educational development*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Yunnan Province is located in the frontier provinces of the southwest of China, where widely distributed many ethnic groups. Yunnan's economy and education are relatively backward. However, it has always been favored by international non-governmental organizations and is the most active part of international non-governmental organizations in China. It has been called "the international NGO kingdom" and "the cradle of Chinese NGOs". Since the reform and opening up, in a more sound and standardized form, International non-governmental organizations began to enter Yunnan, and the main projects are focused on education support, poverty alleviation, health, environmental protection, disaster relief, AIDS prevention, women and children development, community development, welfare and charity. It pay attention to the disadvantaged groups and emphasize the humanistic care, and carry out the operation of social public welfare projects in the short term or for a long time in all counties and cities in Yunnan. Among them, the field of education has been attracting more and more attention, and educational poverty alleviation has also become an early major form of project

operation for many international non-governmental organizations.

## II. AN OVERVIEW OF THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS IN ETHNIC MINORITY AREAS IN YUNNAN

As early as 1881, the British missionary from Mainland Association, Mr. and Mrs. George Clark, carried out the missionary activities of Theology and literature; the church was established in Dali; In 1902, United Methodist Church Mission established chapels and girl's school in Zhaotong, and carry out education for girls in Yunnan, etc.; In 1940, the establishment of the Yale China Association of medical education institutions at Xizhou Town in Dali, the purpose is to educate local residents, knowledge education and the science of medicine; In 1986, under the initiative of the first representative of the United Nations Development Agency (UNDP) ambassador to China, our country has accepted the first international non-governmental organization, Kell international, The Ministry of foreign economic and trade (MOFTEC) finally decided to arrange the organization to carry out various assistance projects at Xundian and Ludian in Yunnan. Since then, the international non-governmental organizations have entered Yunnan. [1] In 2000, the annual input of international NGOs to Yunnan was about 100 million yuan; in 2004, the international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) started a great deal of cooperation in Yunnan Province, and a total of more than 30 projects were developed; in 2005, the number of project cooperation has reached more than 100, there are more than 20 participating countries, and nearly 40 offices have been set up.

In 2006, there were 230 aid projects, and the total amount of aid is \$22,569, 800; in 2011, there were 288 items of NGO cooperation projects in Yunnan, and there were some items without record. In 2011, there were 25 foreign non-governmental organizations in the Yunnan provincial Civil Affairs Department for the record formalities of the

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representative agencies in Yunnan. And in 2012, it has reached 38.

At present, Yunnan has become one of the provinces in which the international non-governmental organizations in the mainland of China have carried out the most cooperative projects. Among them, education has been attracting more and more attention, and educational poverty alleviation has also become an early form of major project operation for many international non-governmental organizations. According to official data, the number of international NGO projects recorded in Yunnan from 2010 to 2015 was 862, of which 313 were educational projects, accounting for 36.31% of the total number of projects. From 1980s to early twenty-first Century, the development of international NGOs in Yunnan has been increasing year by year. In general, international non-governmental organization has the following characteristics in the activities of Yunnan: First, the large range of activities, including 16 prefectures, remote and poverty-stricken ethnic minority areas become the hotspot of project activities. Second, it covers a wide range of areas, including education, culture, environmental protection, health care, infrastructure, disaster relief, health, religion, poverty alleviation and biological protection. Third, the organization's activity time is long, that is, except for some disaster relief and medical projects, the activity time of most projects is more than a year, and some activities time is even more than 10 years. Fourth, organizations involved in many countries. From 1980s, nearly 30 countries and regions, such as the United States, Brazil, Thailand, Switzerland, Philippines, Singapore, Canada, the UK, Hongkong, etc., which includes the salvation army of Hong Kong and Macao, the American Nature Conservation Association, Oxfam Hongkong, World vision, United Kingdom health organization without borders, Jo Heng Foundation in Germany, and International non-governmental organizations such as the Asian foundation for international solidarity with the United States.

### III. INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATE IN THE MAIN AREAS OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ETHNIC MINORITY AREAS IN YUNNAN

Yunnan has now become the largest province in international non-governmental organizations. The reasons are as follows: First of all, the problem of poverty alleviation in Yunnan is very serious. The problem of poverty has always been the focus of international non-governmental organizations, because poverty will derive a lot of social problems, such as the lag of education. "Ethnic areas are the most widely distributed areas in China, with the largest disparity in economic development, the low level of human development and the very low level of social development, which results in huge imbalances between the minority areas and the eastern regions." [2] The high attention of international non-governmental organizations to education shows that only strengthening education can solve the problem of poverty in a sustainable way, and short-term financial support does not solve the problem of long-term poverty. Education is the focus of public welfare and charity, and it is also one of the most active areas of non-governmental organizations. The educational appeals of international non-

governmental organizations mainly include equal education for all, such as human rights and equal opportunities, as well as the promotion of peace and human development and the development of the world. [3] They provide educational assistance through local transformation of school buildings, improvement of educational environment, training of teachers, transmission of educational concepts, and provision of tuition fees directly to children from poor families. Among them, NGOs such as the International Education Association, the International Youth Foundation, Shuhua education foundation, nursery action and so on are non-governmental organizations specializing in education related organizations, and the funds invested in China are devoted to education. The international non-governmental organizations such as the Ford foundation, Oxfam in Hong Kong, the international plan, the British save children's conference and other activities focus on the development of various fields of society, and only invest part of their funds in the field of education.

Because of the lack of long-term investment in rural education in China, the state has also increased its investment, but the gap still exists with the city. In order to promote the education fairness in the poor areas of China, the international non-governmental organizations have done a lot of work for the development of education in Yunnan province, such as new schools, improve the learning environment, provide lunch for the students, distributed learning tools, scholarships, buy a lot of books, experimental equipment, and the vulnerable groups of poor students, minority students, female students, disabled children as the main funding target; training teaching skills for teachers, improved their teaching methods and improved their teaching ability. In addition, the international non-governmental organizations also establish cooperative relations with many colleges and universities, set up university scholarships and carry out scientific research. [4]

### IV. THE HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN ETHNIC MINORITY AREAS IN YUNNAN

Referring to proposed theory of the five stage of overseas NGO development by Han Junkui and other scholars in China, [5] the education development project by the international NGO in Yunnan is roughly divided into five periods: each stage has its own unique characteristics, the formation of each stage of development is closely combined with the domestic and international situation.

The first stage: stages in germination (before 1949). In the semi colonial and semi feudal old China, many church organizations or social public organizations with a religious background in Yunnan to carry out education or missionary activities, the prototype of the early church organization of international NGOs, some of them organized by project benign operation and achieved good social benefits, but also have some organizations become a colonial accomplice has been heavily criticized.

The second stage: the stagnation period (from the end of 1950s to the end of 70s). During this period, especially in the cultural revolution, many international NGOs were deported

as hostile forces, only a few international non-governmental organizations with international friendly political background can be retained and developed slowly. Such as For example, the National Committee for the United States and China launched an education and poverty alleviation program in Yunnan in the early 70s.

The third stage: the resuscitation period (From the beginning of 1980s to the beginning of 90s). During this period, with the rise of the tide of global association and the pace of reform and opening up in the mainland, international NGO mainly take the direction of solving the most basic needs of life in the local area. In 1987, the State Council approved the exchange center as the coordinating agency for the cooperation of the Chinese International Civil Organizations. This indicates that the activities of the international non-governmental organizations to China have been preliminarily institutionalized, laying the foundation for the cooperation and exchange between the international NGOs and the later period of China.[6] Such as The World Vision come to Yunnan from 1988, and extensive cooperation with government departments, social groups and academic units, to carry out help poor children's education project in Dali, Lijiang, Diqing, Red River and other places. After 1989, the British aid children will go deep into the education of children in all parts of Yunnan. Hongkong Morning Star Education Foundation came to Yunnan in 1989, sending foreign English teachers for a number of colleges and Universities, training courses for middle school English teachers are held in Yuxi, Lijiang, Zhaotong and other places of summer, sponsored and raised a number of orphans from the Kunming children's Welfare Institute, 150 thousand dollars have been spent on Orphans.

The four stage: a large number of entry periods (-1996 1991). After 90s, a large number of international non-governmental organizations entered our country. For example, the attention of the British aid children foundation, which entered our country in 90s, is mainly about the basic education in ethnic areas. Since 1992, the British aid children will support the "love life" school program. By the end of 2014, the investment in basic education projects for ethnic minorities in Yunnan had exceeded 10 million yuan. The sponsors include charities such as the British International Development Agency, the European Union and the Hongkong community partners. In 2000-2009 years, the project has been carried out in more than 20 poorer counties in Yunnan, with more than two hundred thousand students benefiting. The main projects include: Teachers' on-the-job training, vocational skills training, family education and community education. Oxfam Hongkong entered the mainland since the 80s of last century, and the office in Kunming was set up in 1992. By the end of 2012, there are five offices in the mainland of Beijing, Kunming, Lanzhou, Guizhou and Wenchuan, of which 19 are in the Kunming office. The fund-raising comes from individual donations from local people in Hongkong, with special fund-raising accounts and fund-raising boxes. Each year, the organization raises 1.1 to 120 million yuan, of which 60% to 70% are for charity. In November 2007, Oxfam Hongkong in Huize donated 380 thousand yuan for the eight village primary school, Bridge Township Yang Village Mountain School and the old factory, Jia Xiang Che Gou,

New River law school soil restoration and reconstruction of buildings. In 2012, Oxfam, Hongkong, cooperated with the Ministry of social work of the Yunnan Committee of the Democratic League of China to carry out rural education projects: First, sent to Kunming eight rural teachers teaching, Second, ask experts to guide the central school at the level of town and township level, carry out demonstration courses, guide teaching plans, prepare lessons and so on. The international professional service agency came to China in 1993. The projects in Yunnan mainly include projects such as primary school English teaching, English corner and oral exercise in Kunming, Xundian, etc., all of which are self raised or at their own expense abroad.

The fifth stage: the rapid development phase (1997-). At this stage, many organizations set up offices in Yunnan. These organizations can establish a smooth cooperation mechanism with the local government functional departments. At present, the main international non-governmental organizations in Yunnan are the Hongkong Oxfam, Nursery action (Hongkong) The British overseas volunteer service. The World Academy of minority languages (USA), Fuhua International (USA), The Salvation Army, Hong Kong and Macao military region, Wu Jicheng culture and education fund Co., Ltd. (Hongkong), Save the children (UK), China Education Action Plan (USA), Cooperative welfare and Education Fund (Hongkong), International Plan (United States), World vision, Zhi Pei education foundation, The world of hope, Hongkong grace foundation, Taiwan shadow foundation, Hongkong Kang Yun foundation, Overseas Chinese Education Foundation and so on.

#### V. PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ETHNIC MINORITY AREAS IN YUNNAN

The international expert poverty alleviation organization has launched teaching services in Shilin, Wenshan and other places. In April 2007, the project institute of minority languages of the world Aid Department of East Asian investment of 220 thousand yuan to Cangyuan County, the implementation of the relocation of the Russian Dong Zhen Yang Primary school. And a batch of stationery and rice were donated to the school students. In March 2008, the Asian New Era International Foundation for poverty alleviation to Luxi Zhefang town primary school, and give the students a gift of love. More than 5000 students from 24 primary schools in the town received gifts from the foundation. The Hongkong Salvation Army has been doing educational projects in Yunnan for more than 10 years. Educational programs include primary and secondary school grants, grants, teacher training programs, children's mental health projects, school drinking water projects, and school infrastructure support projects. The project mainly in Lijiang (in new women to prevent the trafficking of children, Cangyuan, Dali) Lincang, Yangbi, Dehong, longchuan. The main objects of the project are women's Federation, foreign aid office, school and so on. The international plan began in Yunnan in 2011. By 2015, it mainly engaged in 10 aspects, such as children's development project, child protection project, school safety education project, grant project and so on. And the 5 year strategic cooperation agreement was signed with the provincial



education foundation. The nursery operation began to enter Yunnan in 2000. The organization is currently carrying out teacher training, high school students and college students in Lincang and Zhaotong. A project office was established in Yunnan in 1995. At present, educational programs in Yunnan are quite complete, including teacher training programs, vocational education projects, junior high school education projects, inclusive education programs (a field of special education), and early education projects. The cooperative welfare and education fund focuses on the education program for girls. The Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences and Oxfam Hongkong collaborated on the translation and publishing of foreign books. The Sino foreign cooperation Kunming Robert foreign language school cooperates with global volunteers to launch a global volunteer program. Diquing cooperation with world vision to carry out student projects. The Ministry of education, UNICEF mobile education resource and training center project, was launched in June 2012. 8 remote schools were selected for trial. It is now covered by 56 schools or teaching sites in Jinghong, including 1758 staff and 33240 students.

The most special form of the beautiful China project in Yunnan is to carry out education projects. All the teachers in the project teach students in primary school; all the project teachers have undertaken the teaching of the examination subjects, and some also undertake the work of the class teacher. All the foreign project teachers have taken on the teaching of English or give full play to the teaching of the body and beauty. With the help of external resources, the project department has launched the "dream of the teacher, Harry Potter - a bedtime story reading group, creative painting club" and other activities, the effect is good. Next, we expect to carry out the research activities of "the beautiful oral English listening and entering class" in the first half of the year, and the integration of beautiful Chinese and local teachers.

The education projects in Yunnan are also carried out by the Yunnan Overseas Exchange Association and the American benevolent foundation to carry out the funding project of the Dongshan village primary school teaching facilities in Yunlong County. The Yunnan women and children development center, in collaboration with the United States International Program, launched an early childhood education and development project in Eron county. The Yunnan women and children development center and the United States have carried out the project of preschool education for minority children in Jinping. Dapo, Zhanyicounty, Qujing, Fatu Primary School and cooperative welfare and education fund to implement primary school teaching resources supplementary projects; The cooperation between the Yunnan women and children development center and the international program has

developed the early childhood nurture and development projects in Jinping.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In a word, to study and implement the nineteen spirit of the party in an all-round way and to win the goal of building a well-off society in an all-round way in Yunnan in 2020, the educational aid activities of international non-governmental organizations in the poor areas of Yunnan should not be ignored. Through the above, over the past 30 years, international non-governmental organizations have made a more gratifying achievement in their access to education in Yunnan. There is no doubt that this activity is only a beginning. In the future, there will be a series of unpredictable and unpredictable opportunities and challenges. The government and relevant functional departments and international non-governmental organizations should strengthen cooperation and work together. Under the existing social conditions and political environment, we should create a new service model in the public field, comply with and maintain the national and local characteristics of the education in Yunnan, and explore the educational development model which is really suitable for the national conditions of China and the situation of Yunnan province.

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