

Third Party Evaluator's Opinion on Guiyang Water Supply Project

Mr. Xie Yingxia
Director, Senior Engineer
China Academy of Urban Planning and Design
P. R. China

Criteria-1 Relevance

Guiyang City is the capital of Guizhou Province which is located on Southwest China. Guizhou Province is one of the poorest provinces and is one of the most serious area of water shortage in China. There are two reasons for water shortage in Guiyang. One is the water resources shortage since its Karst topography making it difficult to store up water; the other is short of water supply facilities such as water treatment plants and water supply pipelines because of lacking financial support. So the project construction is of highly necessary. The Guiyang Water Supply Project is consistent with the principle of JBIC to contribute to the economic and social development in the developing countries and to promote international cooperation through loans, which has helped the developing countries improve living condition and get rid of poverty. It is also in line with the strategy of the Eleventh National Five-Year Plan, which enhanced the strategy of "continually promoting a great development in western part of China". The nation is going to put "construction of infrastructure in the western part of China" into effect and plans to continually and actively providing policy, industrial and financial support to this region. So the project at present is of same priority and relevant at the time of appraisal.

Criteria-2 Impact and Sustainability

The effectiveness of this project are: 1) increasing the water supply volume and demands of water supply. Guiyang City was short of 150,000-200,000m³ water every day before the water supply facilities construction, now this situation is improved; 2) achieving a more stable water supply after the water pressure improved since water supply facilities completed; 3) improving the quality of tap water and meet China's standards of drinking water. A contribution is that water shortage problem in Guiyang City was partly solved after water purification plant construction, water outage hours have been reduced to about half of that before the project. The residents of Guiyang City were benefited owing to improvement in the water drinking condition and heightening in the living environment by increasing city water supply capacity.

Although the project has brought benefit to many fields, its sustainability will be facing a great challenge in the future. Now the water purification plant still has a low facilities utilization rate, the maximum of which is 57.8%, and the average facilities utilization rate is only 38.8%. The reasons are complicated. In order to improve this situation, the following works will be necessary: 1) to complete water distribution networks, including renewal of the old distribution pipelines and building new ones; 2) to enlarge the demands of water supply through industrial and commercial development and so on.

On the other hand, some important measures will be taken to prevent water pollution in Hongfeng Lake, a new water resource, since the lake has suffered from serious water pollution before. The inspection of water resources quality will be strengthened, the measures will be implemented for existing factories, the restriction of constructing new factories and forbidding animal husbandry in the Hongfeng Lake surroundings will also be taken into effect.