

Mission report

Date: 23-24.04.2019

Location: Jilin Province, Da'An county

EU-CHINA SPRP:

Ms. Marzena Breza, EU RE Comp 3

Accompanying EU experts

Ms. Alexandra Nemes, EU Expert

Accompanying Persons from MoCA

Ms. Xue Qiuji, Officer, Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families, Ministry of Civil Affairs

Ms., Interpreter

Accompanying Persons from Department of Civil Affairs of Jilin Province

Mr. Zhang Wei Inspector of Civil Affairs Department, Jilin Province, P.R.China

Mr. Shen Jianming, Division Director of Social Assistance, Civil Affairs Bureau, Jilin Province, P.R.China

Mr. Li Mingyu, Officer, Social Assistance Division, Civil Affairs Bureau, Jilin Province, P.R.China

City Level:

Mr. Gao Xili, Deputy mayor of Da'An municipal government

Mr. Zhang Yufeng, Director of Da'An Civil Affairs Bureau, Jilin Province, P.R.China

Mr. Song Youzhi, Deputy Director of Da'An Civil Affairs Bureau, Jilin Province, P.R.China

Mr. Zhou Duwei, Director of the Social Assistance Center in Da'an, Jilin Province, P.R.China

Mr. Gao Haitao, Officer, Social Assistance Center in Da'An, Jilin Province, P.R.China

MAIN GOAL: recognize arrangements of social assistance policy at provincial; county and city levels as well practical organization of social assistance institutions (benefits and service delivery) for most vulnerable group;

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Information presented below is based on the materials shared and discussion holds during the 2 days local study visit.

Day 1:

Working breakfast in Changchun-provincial level MoCA Office staff

Field visit accompanied by the representatives of Civil Affairs of Social Assistance of the Da'An City and representatives from MoCA to below places:

First Stop: Lianhe Township , Da’An City

Meeting with the representatives of Lianhe Township, Da’An City Civil Affairs Office staff - presentations of the main situation of social assistance system (including pilot exercise) followed by questions from the visit team.

Lianhe Township is a typical agriculture region located near Da’An city. The social assistance system offered is in line with the Da’An MoCA office rules and guidelines.

The main focus is to ensure minimum living standards among people in needs and eradicate poverty.

The head of the Lianhe Township gave an overview of the socio-economic condition of the township, followed by the introduction of the social assistance system and finally presenting the pilot exercises undertaken in the township.

Overview of Social Assistance of Lianhe Township

Introduction was made on:

- the Implementation Plan for “Make-up” Assistance of Rural Minimum Living Security of Da'an City
- the Income Assessment and Calculation Method for Households Applying for Subsistence Allowances of Da'an City
- Implementation the policy of supporting the especially poor, and effectively protect the livelihood of the especially poor.
- Strengthen the temporary assistance to ensure that the needy throughout the township have timely access to assistance.

Implementation of Pilot Work of Comprehensive Reform on Social Assistance (C3 EU-China Social Protection Reform Project)

- Information sharing activities - raise public awareness to the significance of the pilot work.
- Evaluation of the “labor” coefficient of rural subsistence allowances in combination with the “make-up” assistance.
- Adjusting the work schedule in combination with rural subsistence allowances, and effectively implement graded assistance and delegate the approval authority of subsistence allowances.

EU experts questions focused on the:

- Measure of social assistance support offered by the MoCA office;
- Households visits among social assistance beneficiaries;
- Dibao proceedings (application, payments, monitoring and evaluation); assessment of Dibao applications;
- Staff members (including social workers, volunteers); Staff trainings
- Social assistance beneficiaries characteristics;
- Specialised/dedicated support offered towards disabled people;
- Social services including day care center;
- Support offered towards children in need;
- Cooperation with NGOs;

Day 2

Visit to Street office in Da'An city

This is front office for the people in need of support in Da'An city (they have 5 this kind in the city). No formal presentation was offered. The visit based on questions and answers from the EU experts.

EU experts questions focused on the:

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- Households visits among social assistance beneficiaries;
- Dibao proceedings (application, payments, monitoring and evaluation); assessment of Dibao applications;
- Staff members (including social workers, volunteers); Staff trainings
- Social assistance beneficiaries characteristics;
- Specialised/dedicated support offered towards disabled people;
- Social services including day care center;
- Support offered towards children in need;
- Cooperation with NGOs;

During the MoCA staff street office interview it was explained that the among office members they have college graduates but rather not with the social security major. The staff members are usually CPC members.

The office is offering different kind of support starting from Dibao, educational, Tekun, temporary, disaster allowance, etc. support.

Besides financial (monetary) support they also offer day care center and supermarket for people living in poverty. The supermarket offers special pieces for e.g. Dibao people. The office does not have any official procedure to work with volunteers however they have some groups of people which are supporting people in need in their neighbourhood. Volunteers could help the officers to find and identify people living in need of help or in poverty.

As for disabled people there are certain degreed /grades of disability and depending on the level more support is given trough monthly payment e.g. 80 RMB per month.

For the disabled people living in need of support MoCA office is cooperating with the Disabled Federation. This cooperation is also used for job seeking for disabled people willing/able to work.

As for the professional trainings for the social assistance staff from the MoCA office there are offered twice a year and provided by city level MoCA Office.

Dibao application are mainly proceeded at the city level. At the street office they mainly receive the application and share some information with the applications and beneficiaries. Street office is also responsible to publish the list of social assistance beneficiaries (including Dibao people) in the office or in front of it.

At the city MoCA office it decided who and based on which criteria is able to receive Dibao.

As for the cooperation with NGOs there is no specific activity at this stage.

Presentation of the working capacity index & Briefing of the visit

The Da'An within C3 EU-China SPRP pilot activities has worked on new model of basic living standards and changing approach for calculating income which allow for social assistance support. They mainly focused on the working capacity index considering gender, age, health status (including disability degree), family – household composition, etc.

For implementation the working capacity index few villages has been chosen as a sample. This index is also proving an information what will be the value of Dibao to be paid. For the MoCA staff is helping assessing the funds to be spent for Dibao payments.

After the implementation of the pilot phase updates and adjustment are foreseen before implementing in a large scale.

Questions from EU experts:

Besides a few questions for clarification the time constrains did not allowed to any further questions. The discussion could be continued within C3 pilot site summery conference in July in 2019 in Beijing.

Ms. Breza extended her gratefulness to MoCA staff members different levels for hosting this fruitful visit to Jilin province, Da'An city.

Information collected and drafted by Marzena Breza, C3 RE; May 28th, 2019.



Social Protection Reform Project
中国-欧盟社会保护改革项目

Agenda of the mission

Agenda

23.04.2019

- Working breakfast with the Director General of Civil Affairs Bureau of Jilin Province
- Transfer to Da'An
- Meeting at the village level – village is taking part in the C3 SPRP pilot site
- Meeting followed by the discussion and EU-China exchanges on the social assistance

24.04.2019

- Visit to street level Office of Civil Affairs – followed my Q&A session
- Summary of the visit and extended discussion / meeting with the representatives of Department of Civil Affairs of Da'An City, the Civil Affairs Bureau introduced the progress of the comprehensive reform work with the main focus on the working capacity index.

Appendix:

- Notice on the Issuance of the Income Assessment and Calculation Methods for Households Applying for Subsistence Allowances in Da'an City
- Brochure for Pilot Comprehensive Reform on Social Assistance in Pilot Area of Da'an City, Jilin Province