Contents

1. Introduction of Wu Zhi Qiao (Bridge to China) Charitable Foundation
2. 2021 Programme schedule
3. Background on Macha Village, Gansu Province
4. Important notes and safety issues
Wu Zhi Qiao (Bridge to China) Charitable Foundation is a registered charitable organization (No.: 91/8739) in Hong Kong. We encourage university students, professionals and volunteers to serve underprivileged communities in Mainland China by initiating and implementing development projects, including footbridge construction, village demonstration, and other community improvement projects.

We aspire to:
• Foster better communication, mutual understanding and integration between Hong Kong and the Mainland;
• Improve the living environment and conditions of underprivileged communities in rural China;
• Inspire respect, appreciation and preservation of local culture and environment, and promote the concept of sustainability; and
• Provide university students with hands-on experience of executing a service project which has a positive impact.
International Recognition

"A bridge 2 Far" Project
RIBA Awards 2006

Village Rebuild Demonstration Project in
Maan Qiao Village

Green Building Award 2010
New buildings – Asia Pacific
Institutional/Community Project
Grand Award

Design for Asia Award
Merit Award

UNESCO
2017 Award for New Design in
Heritage Contexts
Macha Village, Gansu Province, China

China Architecture
Media Awards
項目
Projects
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKU WZQ PROGRAMME 2021</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week One : 8 – 14 July 2021</td>
<td>Xi’an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Two : 15 – 21 July 2021</td>
<td>Lanzhou / North West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Three to Four : 22 July – 5 August 2021</td>
<td>Macha Village, Gansu Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(remark: official dismiss on 5 August 2021)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKU WZQ PROGRAMME 2021</td>
<td>Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week One: Xi’an- historical capital 8 – 14 July 2021 | ➢ Thematic talks & seminars  
➢ Universities’ visit  
➢ Visit to historical and cultural heritage |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKU WZQ PROGRAMME 2021</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week Two: Lanzhou / North West – 15 – 21 July 2021 | ➢ Thematic talks & seminars  
➢ Universities’ visit  
➢ Visit to historical and cultural heritage |
## HKU WZQ Programme 2021

### Week Three to Four
Macha Village, Gansu
22 July – 5 August 2021

### Contents
- Rammed Earth Experience
- Community services
- Visit to villagers and support various services
Week 3 to 4: 22 July–5 August 2021
— Macha Village Center
甘肅省白銀市會寧縣
Huining County, Gansu Province
China’s Loess Plateau

- The largest loess deposit of the world
- Environmental degradation
- Low Levels of Economy
- The only rich resource for locals’ living and building is just “Earth”
**Background**

- **Climate**

  - It is with a severe winter as cold as -20°C and a moderate summer in Huining. Heating in winter is one of serious challenges for villagers’ living.

  - Huining is located in drought region with an poor annual precipitation as low as 340mm. The serious lack of water for drinking and farming is villagers’ another challenge.
MACHA VILLAGE
KEY MILESTONES

- 2011-2013: **Demonstration Project of Advanced Rammed Earth Eco-Dwellings** with 7 houses built (in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

- 2014-2016: **Construction of the Macha Village Centre**

- 2016-2018: **Community empowerment, development of Macha Village Centre, promotion of advanced rammed-earth technology, two-way knowledge transfer through experiential learning.**

ADVANCED RAMMED EARTH PROMOTION
PROJECT MODEL

Project Initiation
• Confirm project needs and investigation with MOHURD
• Project development
• Funding solicitation

Research and Localization
• Blend in overseas advanced technology with traditional construction knowhow.
• Funding research and experiment for technical upgrade and localization

Demonstration Build
• 7 prototype houses were built with local villagers as an initial start.
• Village Centre as a hub of demonstration and knowledge transfer.
• Two ways transfer of skills and knowhow.

Standardization
• Publication of DIY Construction Manual
• Support the publication of regulation and code for rammed earth construction

Promulgation
Construct prototype houses in 10 different provinces and train up over 110 local masons.
KEY FUNCTIONS OF MACHA VILLAGE CENTRE

- A hub to connect people, and promote heritage preservation
- A hub for rammed earth promotion/eco-demonstrations
- A hub for experiential learning and knowledge transfer

Village Community Centre
Experiential Learning Hub
Rammed Earth Training Base
A HUB FOR ADVANCED RAMMED EARTH PROMOTION

Showcase for Modern Rammed Earth Architecture

Rammed earth green house

Bed stove

Eco toilet

Vapour Collector

Earth Wall demonstration

high science

low technology
A HUB TO CONNECT HEARTS AND MINDS OF VILLAGERS AND PROMOTE HERITAGE PRESERVATION
A HUB TO ENRICH COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD
A HUB FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

- Education
- Community Improvement
- Cultural Preservation
- Village Experience
APPRECIATION AND PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL LOCAL CUSTOM AND CULTURAL HERITAGE IN MACHA VILLAGE

- In Macha Village, there remains rich traditional cultural elements including religion (崇拜四大方神), Qin Song (秦腔/通渭小曲), shadow puppet (皮影戏), traditional cuisine (传统食物), lion dance, temple festival, farming dance, etc. However, no systematic documentation were done so far.

- In the past years, efforts has been spent to engage local community to set up different villager groups (老人自樂班/妇女小组) to use and operate in the village centre. Villagers in Macha were also mobilized to organize functions and activities in the village centre with the participation of villagers from nearby villages. All these activities also served as a platform to engage and build trust with local communities, and as an important foundation for WZQ to conduct further community empowerment programmes effectively in future.
ELEMENTS OF TRADITIONAL VILLAGE CULTURE/CUSTOM IN MACHA
AUTHENTIC AND LOCAL VILLAGE CUSTOM - SHADOW PUPPET SHOW

County level cultural heritage. They haven’t performed for over 10 years and resumed when we opened the Centre. Their performance was well received by local villagers.
A group of village artists was engaged to practice and perform in the Village Centre. They are invited to perform whenever there are activities in the village.
A few villagers in the village could still make a very traditional lion figure for lion dance. Traditionally, every villager would donate a bunch of linen to make the “skin” of the lion. In a sense the lion itself represented the entire village community. Whenever there are events/festivals, the lion will visit each household to send blessings to the villagers.
... local traditional village culture
paper cutting, calligraphy and farming dance
**KEY APPROACHES**

- **Connecting Universities of HK and mainland China**
- **Mainland & HK University Collaborations**
- **Visible, concrete, positive impact on locals**
- **Hardware + Software**
- **Respecting local culture and traditions**
- **Participatory Community Engagement**
- **Two-way knowledge transfer**
- **Promoting sustainability**
- **Community Empowerment**
Important Notes and Safety Issues
Accommodation
and
Logistic Arrangement
Accommodation: At Macha Village Dormitory
**Meal Arrangement**

Support by local villagers with contributions by participants also
WZQ will support with provision of:

- Boiling water
- Tissue paper (please bring along sufficient tissue paper for personal use)
- Working glove / shoes, working utensils, First Aid box etc.

Remarks: No disposable rain coat will be provided, please bring along with your own rain coat or umbrella for protection as required.
Macha Village is located at:

- Remote/mountainous areas
- With limited medical services
POTENTIAL RISKS

a) Operational risks

- Contusions or cuts to hands & legs when handling construction materials and tools
- Falling objects
- Slip; Falling from height (above 1.5 metres)
- Injuries due to accident

b) Living risks

- Cold & fever; theft; burglary, pick pockets
- Dog / Insect bites, blisters
SAFETY PLAN

- Safety and Health Briefing – MUST and prior the trip
- One Overall in-charge Safety Officer
- First Aider
- Emergency Plan
- Acknowledgment & Assumption of Risks Release & Indemnity Agreement F01
- Emergency contact and health information F16
- Vaccination – as appropriate
- Insurance
Contact us

info@bridgetochina.org.hk
www.bridgetochina.org.hk
T: + 852 2742 4668
F: + 852 2742 4008