



A Sustainable Model Village in Chengdu, China: Integrating Agricultural Pollution Control and Ecological Farming

Professor Xuehua Zhang
Sichuan University
Chengdu Urban Rivers Association

July 28, 2015



Outline of Presentation

- Background: Urban Improvement Project
- Local Initiative on Agricultural Pollution Control
- Key Components of The Model Village
- Outcomes
- Next Steps: Scaling Up, Replicating







Background

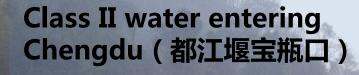
- The Chengdu Fu-Nan River Comprehensive Improvement Project: 1992-2002
- Flood control, environmental protection, resettlements, afforestation, road networks, cultural heritage



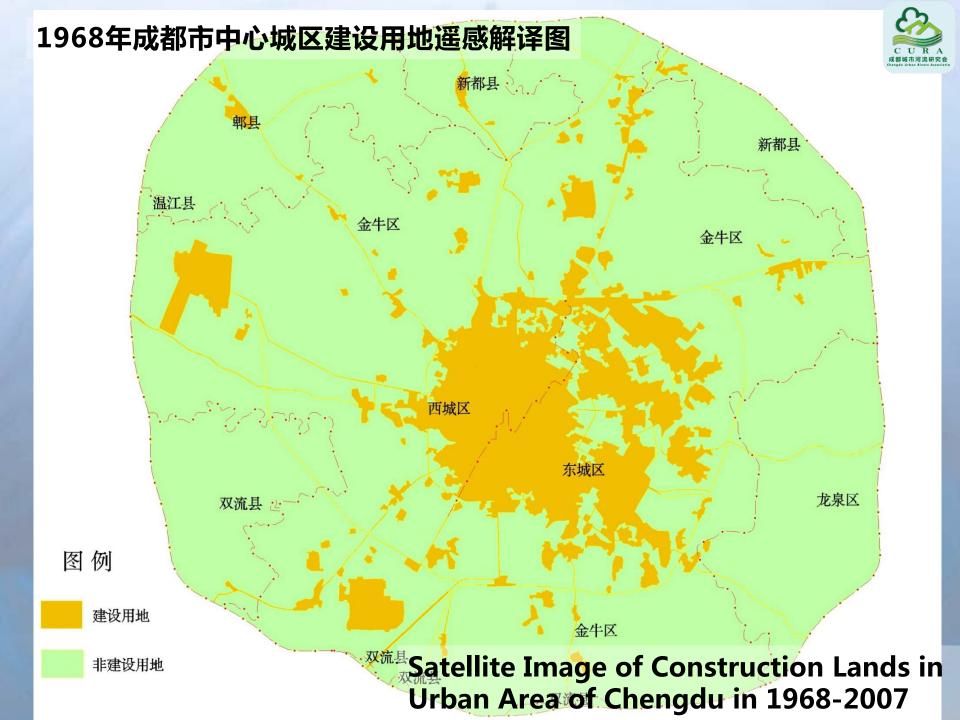


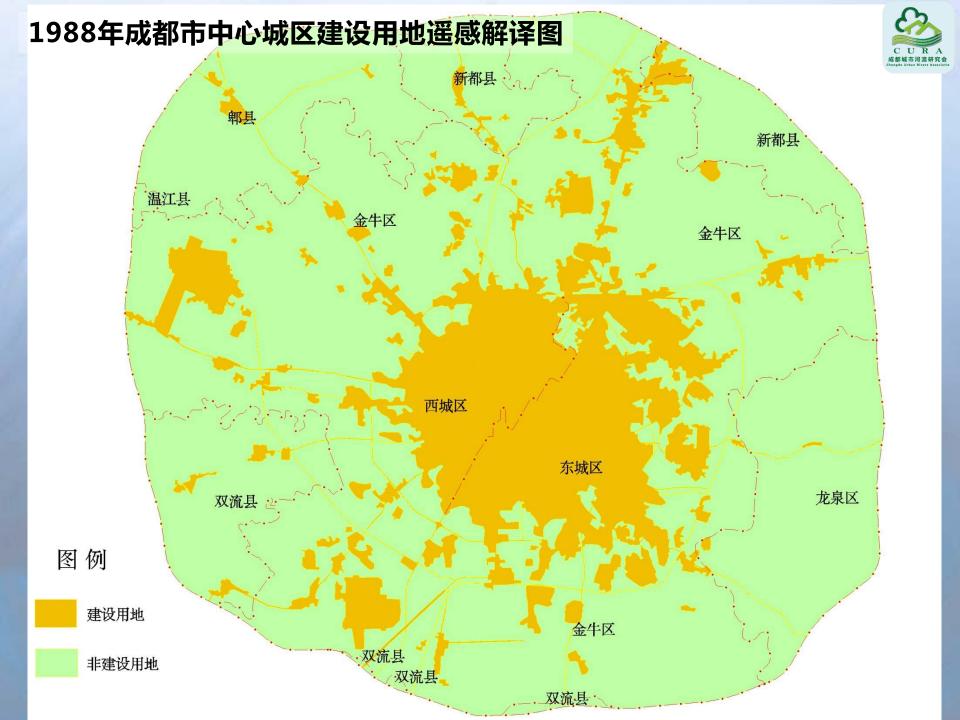


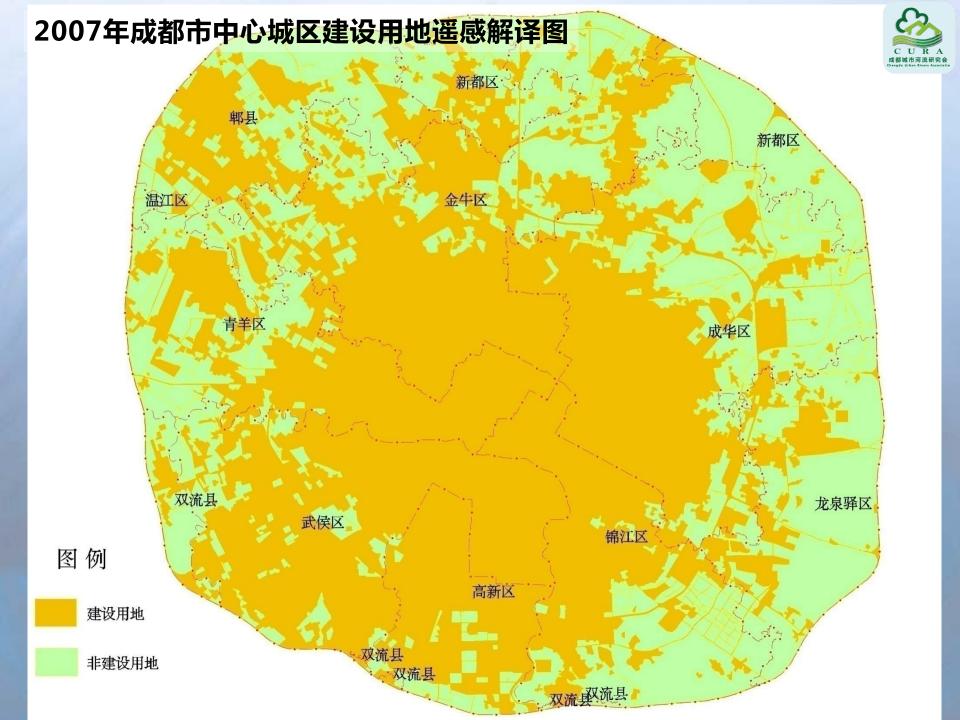




Worsen than Class V water leaving Chengdu (新津江口镇)









CURA Founded in 2003

- A non-profit, non-governmental organization
- Area of work:
 - Research on water environment
 - Policy advocacy, information-provision to the public
 - Water pollution treatment
 - Community environmental education
- Focus on peri-urban and rural areas



Prior Research and Actions

- Organized and conducted surveys on water pollution in 2003
- Identified non-point source Agricultural pollution as a major pollution source
- Decided to focus on pollution control at the source within the rural village itself
- Built a coalition: farmers, volunteers, research institutes, NGOs, local governments









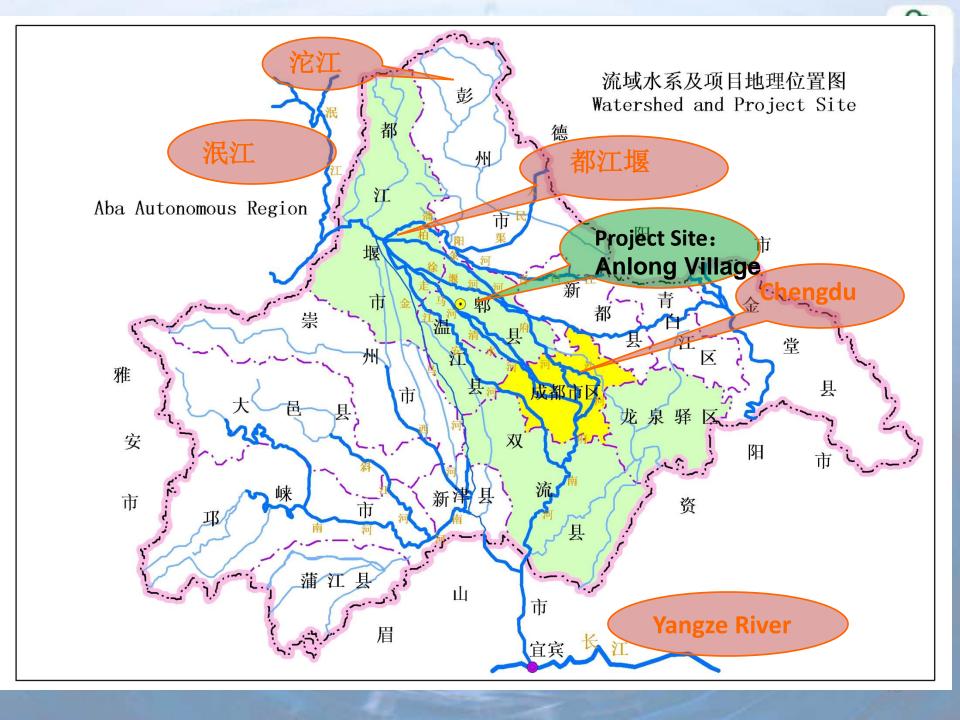






Overuse of chemical fertilizer and pesticide









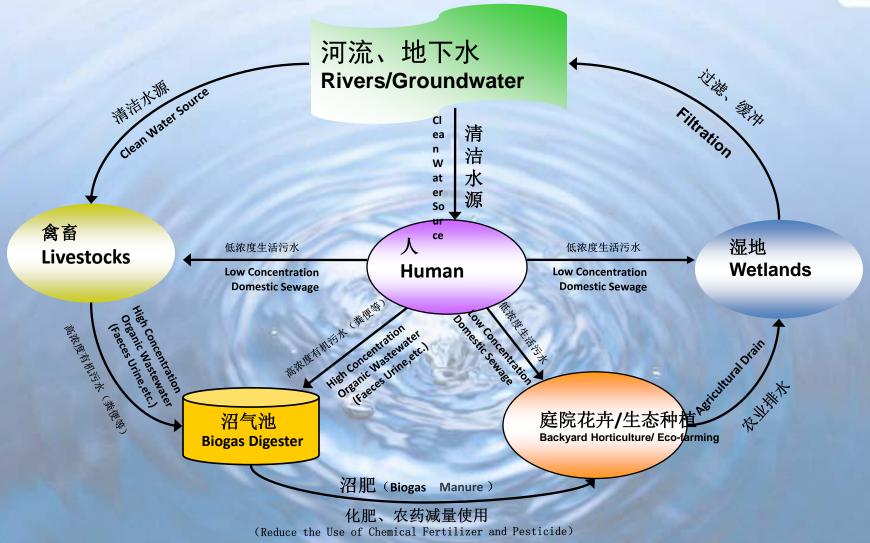
Farmers' Participation



Major Components of Model Village

- 1. Closed Cycle Eco-Households:
- Biogas digesters
- Urine-diverting composting toilets
- Constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment
- 2. Ecological Farming
- 3. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
- 4. Rural Environmental Education
- 5. Rural Cultural Development

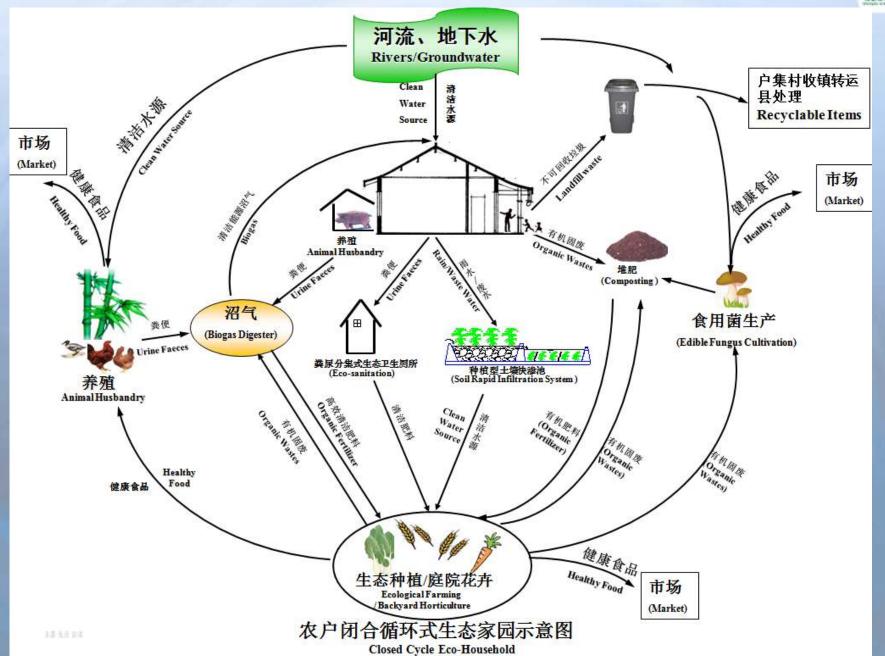




安龙可持续发展示范村水污染防治

Water Pollution Prevention of Anlong Model Village of Sustainable Development





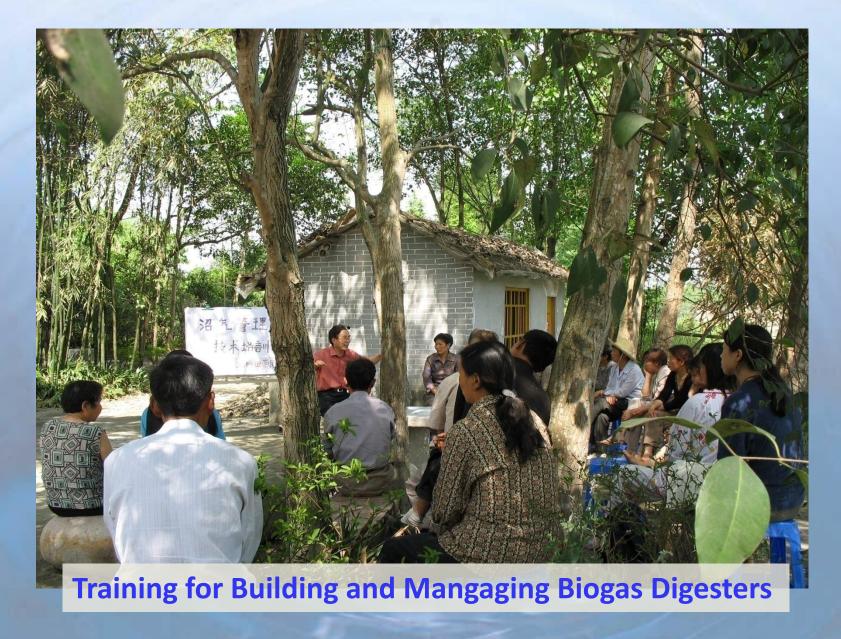


Closed Cycle Eco-Households: Biogas Digester

- > Treats animal waste
- > Provides clean energy for rural families
- Produces efficient organic fertilizer
- > Built the trust of farmers, laid foundation for further steps









Closed Cycle Eco-Households: Composting Toilets

Urine-diverting Composting Toilets

- Sweden technology
- Modified to suit local conditions

Main Characteristics

- Treats human waste
- Conserves water
- Provides safe organic fertilizer







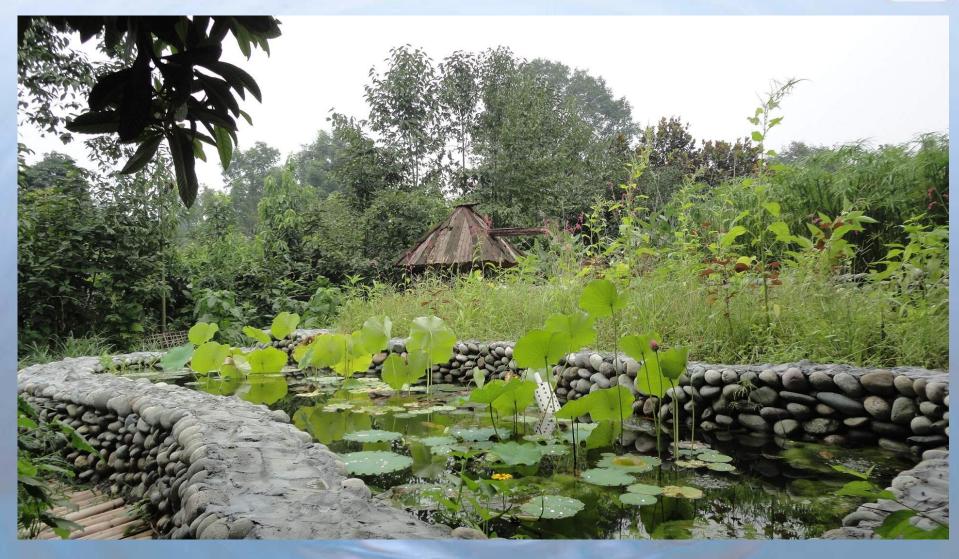
Prior to and after the project implemented





Recycles water for irrigation





Pond-bed wastewater treatment system





Ecological Farming



Reuses waste materials
Bio-diverse crop rotation
3-year transition period



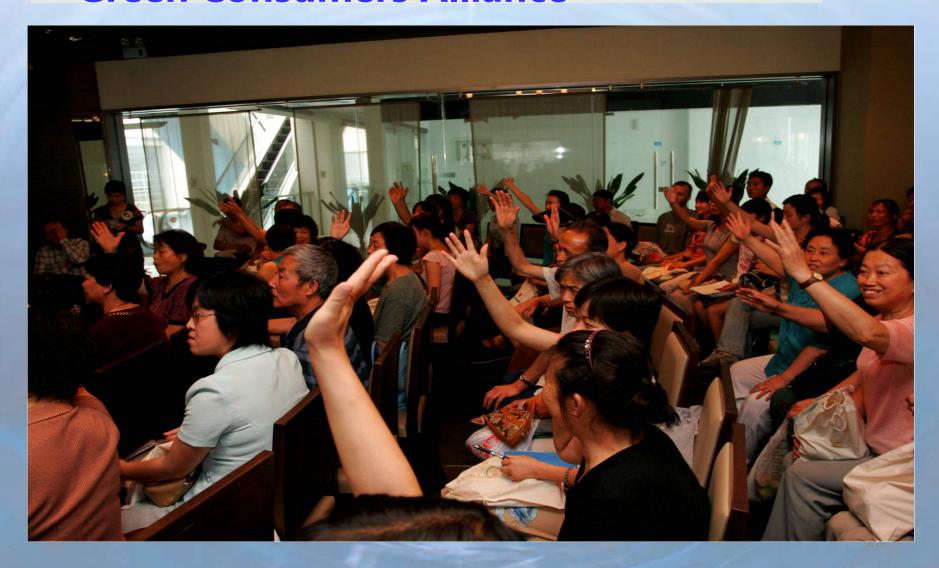








Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): "Green Consumers Alliance"





Consumers and farmers fixing prices together









Villagers Participating in Environmental Education











Environmental Educational Center





Outcomes

- Anlong Village: eco-infrastructure for 160 households, 500 people
- Yuantian Village: a centralized wastewater treatment system for 40 households, affecting 200 people
- Yunqiao Village: eco-infrastructure for 3 model households, 20 people



Outcomes (continued)

- Human solid waste treated: 43.8 tons/year
- Human urine treated: 174.2 tons/year
- Water conserved: 5,256 tons/year
- Wastewater treated and reused: 25,112 tons/year
- Annual income of ecological farmers: doubles



Outcomes: Low-carbon Effects

- Organic fertilizers do not use petroleum in the production process
- Organic fertilizers are plant-based and carbon-neutral within a definite time period
- When agrochemicals are not used, soil can act as a carbon sink



Next Steps Under Consideration

- Scaling up the Model Village
- Coordinated Pollution Control
 - Considering Air & Water Pollution and Soil Remediation
 - Integrating Industrial and Non-point Source Agricultural Pollution Control
- Building A Drinking-Water-Source-Area Protection Platform to Support Similar Efforts in Other Parts of China



International Support and Influence















British Middle School Summer Camp in Anlong, 2011



← US KQED

France Water Media



Mayor of Copenhagen, Demark, October 2010





Policy Director of US Federal Reserve, November 2010





CCTV Interviews for Special Programs, September 9-13









