

妇女与农村能源

主编：何丕坤

副主编：和钟华 黎光明

邹恒芳 李维长

WOMEN

AND

RURAL ENERGY



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责任编辑：侯德勋

封面设计：黎光明

妇女与农村能源

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课题主要参加人员

何丕坤 男 云南省林业勘察设计院副总工程师、高级工程师 650031

乌拉旺·唐永吉 女 泰国清迈大学教授

和钟华 女(纳西族) 云南省社会科学院社会学所副研究员 650032

黎光明 男 云南省林业勘察设计院社会林业研究室高级工程师 650031

邹恒芳 女 云南省林业厅项目办主任 650021

曹庆玲 女 云南省林业勘察设计院 科员 650031

陈文红 女 云南省林业勘察设计院 助理工程师 650031

姜德斌 男 云南省林业勘察设计院 高级工程师 650031

罗荣芬 女(独龙族) 云南省社会科学院民族学所 助理研究员 650032

陶启唐 男 云南省林业勘察设计院 高级工程师 650031

庄 芹 女 云南省林业勘察设计院 翻译 650031

李国瑾 女 云南省林业厅 中国林业报记者 650021

侯兆芳 女 云南省弥渡县妇联主任 674100

刘 堃 男 云南省林业调查规划设计院 高级工程师 650041

李维长 男 中国林科院科信所 副编审 100091

序

农村能源是农村经济发展的重要物质基础，是关系广大农民群众生产、生活的一件大事。农村能源建设是农村两个文明建设的重要内容，是促进农村经济全面发展的一项重大举措。抓好农村能源建设，对于增强农村经济持续发展能力，促进农业增产和经济协调发展，加快农村群众脱贫致富步伐和农民生活质量、生活水平的提高，对于国土保安和生态环境的改善都具有十分重要的现实意义和深远影响。云南农村能源建设的滞后，资源利用的浪费和能源需求的短缺，一定程度地制约了农村经济的发展和社会的进步，以及由此带来的资源的破坏、生态环境的恶化和农业发展的后劲不足。因此，加强农村能源建设是一项十分重要而紧迫的事业。《妇女与农村能源》一书在大量调查研究基础上，认真分析了现状，指出了当前存在的问题，阐明加快农村能源建设步伐的必要性和迫切性，很有现实意义，值得大家深思和关注。

当今世界，在经济发展中普遍面临能源与环境、供应与需求等诸方面的压力，出路在于开发与节约并重。依据因地制宜、多能互补、综合利用的要求，必须重视开发利用新能源和再生资源，大力发展清洁能源以及狠抓节能降耗工作。《妇女与农村能源》一书紧密结合云南实际，就农村能源问题如何开源节流进行了有益的探索，提出的开源途径、节流

措施，系统全面且带有方向性，对工作有一定指导意义，值得从事农村能源工作的同志学习参考。

农村经济的发展与农村妇女关系极为密切。妇女与发展是当今全球性的课题，促进妇女全面参与社会发展是世界潮流。

妇女不仅是农村能源的直接使用者、受益者，更是农村能源的建设者。《妇女与农村能源》一书从减轻妇女劳动强度、改善卫生条件角度出发，指出她们从繁重家务劳动、恶劣生活环境中解放出来的必要性，阐明了妇女在农村能源建设中的地位和作用，强调在能源建设中应充分发挥“半边天”的作用。这些观点和见解值得有关方面重视。

云南农村能源建设工作，经过二十多年的努力，特别是自“七五”以来，由于各级政府的高度重视，加大了人力、物力、财力的投入力度，取得了令人瞩目的成绩。但与农村经济发展的需要，与广大农民群众生活水平日益提高的需要相比，还远远不相适应；与合理开发、充分利用、多能互补的要求对照，还有相当大的差距。农村能源建设，涉及方方面面，任重道远，只有得到社会各界的关心和支持，才有希望跟上形势发展，满足群众多方要求。相信通过《妇女与农村能源》的出版发行，一定会对农村能源全方位的开发利用、深层次的探索发展起到积极的宣传推动促进作用。

陈德照

一九九六年八月

前 言

云南是一个山区、边疆、多民族聚居的省，在 38 万多平方公里的土地上、居住着 4000 万各族人民，25 个少数民族的人口占总人口的 1/3，国境线长 4060 公里，和东南亚越南、老挝、缅甸等三个国家接壤，山区面积占 94%，还有相当一部分地区约 600 多万人未摆脱贫困。农村能源问题长期以来困扰着农村社会经济的发展，也牵制着妇女从繁重的家务劳动中得到解放的进程。云南是中国的重点林区之一，森林资源丰富，但森林资源消耗量大，据统计：全省每年消耗森林资源 4900 万 m^3 ，而生长量却小于消耗量、出现 200 多万 m^3 的森林“赤字”。由于农村能源未彻底解决，森林资源的消耗大多用于低价值的生活燃料消耗方面，农民生活烧柴就占了总消耗量的 54% 以上。随着人口的增加，致使森林资源逐年减少的速度加快，生态环境恶化，村民们（尤其是妇女）不得不花大量的时间上山找柴。有些地方的农民，每年要花三个月以上的时间上山找柴，附近的森林砍光了，不得不到远处国有林区和其它村寨的集体林里去偷砍盗伐，以解决“锅下愁”的问题。时间一长，村寨间和个人间为争林的冲突和矛盾突出化了，影响了安定团结。自从党的农村改革方针实施以来，在广大的云南农村，随着温饱问题的解决，“锅上不愁锅下愁”的问题日益突出。近年来各级政府也采取了不少措施，在农村节柴改灶等方面取得了巨大进

展，但牵动着广大农民利益，特别是农村妇女切身利益的一些深层次的问题，未得到深入的研究和解决。

农村能源建设步伐进展缓慢，究其原因很大程度上是妇女“半边天”的作用没有发挥好（“包括妇女的组织管理，参与意识和地位作用问题”）。云南有近 1900 万农村妇女，她们是农村能源建设的主力军，占半数人口的农村妇女，在农村社会生产活动中，起着重要作用。社会发展要求女性群体以主体的地位参与农村社会变革。据我们所作的一项社会调查表明：在农村家庭里，妇女愿意做的事，办起来也顺利。近年来云南农村在发展社会林业、沼气、节柴改灶等能源建设中的一些典型事例也表明：凡是妇女工作搞得好的县乡，“三八林”、“长防林”、“节柴改灶”也搞得出色，凡是农村能源建设发展快的地方，都是妇女发挥了重要作用。姚安县班刘村，妇女的造林积极性很高，其原因就是她们希望得到更多的薪材。弥渡县之所以在三年前就完成了全县的节柴改灶任务，关键是县妇联主动承担了组织全县节灶改灶的实施工作，在这里“妇联”这个群众团体发挥了巨大的作用。

世界妇女大会行动纲领提出：《行动纲领》尊重和重视妇女处境和各种情况，并确认一些妇女面临妨碍赋予权力方面的特点障碍。

当前云南农村生活能源问题，已制约着农村经济的发展和村民生活的改善，也影响着农村妇女的进步和发展。妥善解决农村生活用能是一项系统工程，应动员农村社会基层的所有力量参与，特别是妇女的参与，在当前就更具有实际意义。过去的日子里，在农村能源方面已进行了 10 多年的研究，但多局限于单学科方面，而缺乏社会学者参加的多学

科学研究，研究成果存在单一性和局限性的弊端，难以推广应用。当前应认真总结近年来云南农村能源发展方面的经验教训，充分调动妇女的自主参与意识，主动参与云南农村能源变革，是加快云南农村能源建设的重要一环。能源短缺，是导致妇女家务劳动强度大和贫困的重要原因。北京宣言指出：“促进妇女经济独立，包括就业，并通过经济结构的变革，针对贫困的结构原因，以消除妇女持续且日益沉重的贫困原因，确保所有妇女包括农村地区妇女，作为必不可少的推动者，能平等地获得生产资源机会和公共服务（26段）。我们要为实现“内罗毕行动纲领”和“北京宣言”作出我们的努力。

基于以上所述：决定成立《妇女在云南农村能源建设中的地位和作用》的研究课题组，深入研究云南妇女在农村能源建设变革中的动因、成绩、作用等问题，从解决农村生活能源入手，充分探索和发挥她们在农村能源建设中的作用，减轻她们繁重的家务劳动，投入家乡的经济建设和脱贫致富。研究成果可供政府决策参考。

农村能源严重不足，是发展中国家的共性，重视妇女在农村能源建设中的作用，实为必要。对妇女在农村能源建设中地位作用的研究是一个很有实际意义的研究课题，也符合福特基金会的研究计划。它的研究不仅对解决云南农村能源有积极推动作用，对云南少数民族地区的脱贫有重要影响，而且对云南的周边国家的农村能源建设也有启迪作用。

在福特基金会的资助下，我们成立了以妇女为主的课题协调组和研究组。这个课题组既以妇女为主体，又有一定数量的男士参加，既有少数民族，也有汉族同胞。在少数民族

地区还用民族语言进行农村调查和家访，既有自然科学者参加，也有社会科学者参加，共同组成了多学科的研究组。这种具有广泛性的多学科研究小组，在妇女问题研究工作中也是一个先例。

按照上报的研究计划，此课题两年完成。在两年的时间里，调查组成员不畏艰辛，跑遍了规定调查地区的山山水水，走访了几百户农户、收集了大量的资料文献；多次与官方组织进行了各种形式的座谈，也和各县村的各有关组织进行了多次的接触和座谈，特别重视了农村中不显著阶层老人、妇女和贫困者的专访。从而得到了大量的真实的第一手材料。尤其是应用民族语言进行专访时，深受民族地区干部和群众的欢迎。

在三年多的时间里，我们得到福特基金会驻北京办事处项目官员孟泽恩先生和郝克明先生的多次指导帮助，这些帮助和指导对于深化课题的圆满完成起到了极重要的作用，我们在此表示衷心的感谢。

男人和女人合作，共同研究妇女问题，这对于我们来说是第一次有益的尝试，从女人的角度来研究女人问题这有助于问题的深化和升华。从男人的角度来看待女人问题具有较强的互补性。由于从不同的角度来研究妇女问题，因此，本书对妇女在能源建设中的地位和作用提出一些新的见解。这项研究成果的出版是课题组的全体女士和男士共同研讨的结果；这个成果是一个新的东西，具有新的生命力。这本书的出版将为动员“半边天”的自主意识，为云南农村能源的变革和建设作出贡献。并且还将证明“半边天”的力量和作用是无穷的。

FOREWORD

Situated in borderland and occupied by many nationalities, Yunnan is a mountainous province with a territory of 380, 000 square kilometers, 94 percent of which is mountainous areas, and a population of 40 million, one – third of which belongs to the 25 minority nationalities. It borders three Southeast Asian countries: Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar, with a borderline of 4, 060 kilometers. In Yunnan Province, more than 6 million people have not got rid of poverty and the shortage of the energy resources in rural areas has hindered the rural social and economic development for a long time and worked against women' s emancipation from strenuous housework. Yunnan is one of the main forest regions in China. There are abundant forest resources, but the consumption of the forest resources is great. According to statistics, the annual consumption in the whole province is 49 million cubic meters, exceeding the growth increment more than 2 million cubic meters. Since the shortage of the rural energy resources has not been solved thoroughly, part of the consumed forest resources are used as the low – valued fuel for living, accounting for more than 54% . The population increases, the decrease of the forest resources speeds up, which has caused the ecological environmental deterioration.

The villagers, particularly women, have to spend much time going out for firewood. In some places, it takes more than three months for villagers to collect firewood every year. If the nearby forests run out, they have to go far to the state - owned forest areas or other villages' collective forest areas to cut trees illegally so as to solve the problem of fuel for cooking. If this case lasts a long time, contradictions and conflicts between villages or individuals will emerge as a result of scrambling for forests, which will do harm to the rural stability and unity. Since the adoption of Mr. Deng Hsiaoping' s rural reform policy, the problem of fuel for cooking has become increasingly evident with the solution of food and clothing in the vast countryside in Yunnan Province. In recent years, although governments at all levels took many measures to solve the problem and made a great progress in the project of changing kitchen ranges and saving firewood, some deep - seated problems closely related to the interests of farmers, especially women in rural areas, have not been studied thoroughly or solved properly.

The pace is slow in the construction of the energy resources in rural areas. The reason accounting for this, to a great degree, is that the women' s role of "half the sky" (which means the role is as important as men' s) has not been well played. The role includes in organization, administration, sense of participation and their position. In Yunnan Province there are nearly 19 million rural women, approximating half of the total population, who are the main force in the construction of the energy resources and play an important role in productive activities in rural areas. The social develop-

ment demands women, as important force and in main position, to take part in the social reform in rural areas.' The social investigation conducted by the authors shows that in rural families what women want to do is also done smoothly. Some exemplary cases, which occurred in the development of the social forestry and the construction of the energy resources such as building methane - generating pits, changing kitchen ranges and saving firewood in recent years, also showed that in counties and townships where the work for women was done well, the "March 8" forests, the Yangtse River shelter - forests and the project of changing kitchen ranges and saving firewood were all done well too, and that in places where the pace was fast in the construction of the rural energy resources, women played an important role in it. In Banliu Village, Yiao' an County, women' s enthusiasm in the afforestation activities was very high, just for they hoped to obtain much firewood. In Midu County, the project of changing kitchen ranges and saving firewood was finished 3 years ago, mainly for the Women' s Federation of county - - - a mass organization played a great role in it, taking the task of organizing and carrying out the project on its own initiative.

The Platform for Action adopted by the World Conference on Women points out that the Platform for Action respects and thinks highly of the diversity of women' s conditions, and confirms some special obstacles, facing women, to their empowerment.

At present, in rural areas, the shortage of the energy resources for living is a hindrance to the economic development and the improvement in villagers' lives, and affects women' s advancement.

To solve the problem of shortage appropriately is a systematic project. So it is practically significant now to mobilize all the people, particularly women, at the basic level in countryside to take part in the project. In the past time, the energy resources in rural areas were researched into for more than 10 years, but the research was mostly involved in only one subject, lacking for the multi - subject research where there were, inter alia, social scientific research workers to participate. In addition, there were drawbacks of singleness and limitations about the results of the research, and it was difficult to apply them. It is necessary now to sum up the experience of the development of the rural energy resources in recent years. To arouse women' s sense of active participation and make them take part in the transformation of the energy resources in rural areas on their own initiative is an important way of speeding up the construction of the rural energy resources. The shortage of energy resources is the main cause that gives rise to the great intensity of women' s housework and the poverty in countryside. Beijing Declaration says, "promote women' s economic independence, including employment, and eradicate the persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women by addressing the structural causes of poverty through changes in all economic structures, ensuring equal access for all women, including those in rural areas, as vital development agents, to productive resources, opportunities and public services." (Article 26) Chinese government will strive for the achievement of the goal of Nairobi Platform for Action and Beijing Declaration.

Based on the above - mentioned facts, it was decided to set

up the research group of Women' s Status and Role in the Construction of the Energy Resources in Rural Areas of Yunnan Province to research thoroughly into Yunnan women' s motive, achievements and role etc. in the construction and transformation of the energy resources in rural areas. Starting with the solution to the rural energy resources for living, the research group fully explored women' s role in the construction where women tried their best to perform their role so as to lighten their strenuous housework and plunge into the economic construction in their hometown, to eradicate poverty and become rich. The results of the research will be a reference for government' s policy - making.

The serious shortage of the energy resources in rural areas exists in developing countries, and it is very necessary to pay close attention to women' s role in the construction of the rural energy resources. Therefore, the research is practically significant and accords with the research plan of the Ford Foundation, USA. The research will not only accelerate the solution to the problem of the rural energy resources and avail to eradicate poverty in minority nationality regions in Yunnan Province, but also have enlightening effect on neighboring countries in the construction of the energy resources in rural areas.

With the financial assistance of the Ford Foundation, a research central group and a cooperation group were set up. The cooperation group consisted of women, as a majority, and men, both coming from minority nationalities and Han nationality. When they went to minority nationality regions to investigate or visit rural

families, they spoke the native language. The research central group was made up of both natural and social scientific workers. It is a precedent to establish such a multi - subject research group to engage in extensive research into women.

According to the submitted research plan, the research would be finished in two years. In the two years, fearing no hardship or danger, the research workers in the investigation squad covered all places which were planned to go to. They visited several hundreds of families of farmers, investigated and got a large number of data and documents, held various conversations with officials, and contacted with organizations concerned in counties, townships and villages. Particularly, they paid attention to the specific visits to the old - aged people, women and the poor at the basic level in rural areas, and the use of the native languages was favored by the cadres and masses in the minority nationality regions. Thus a large amount of first - hand material was acquired.

In more than two years, the research group received guidance and helps from Mr. Meng Zesi and Mr. Hao Keming who are project officers of Beijing Agency of the Ford Foundation. The guidance and helps are very important to the full completion of the deepened research. Here the research group renders heart - felt thanks to them.

It is the first profitable attempt to cooperate between men and women to engage in the research into women. To research into women from women' s angle avails to deepen and sublimate the research while to research into women from men' s angle can supplement and

perfect the research.

The publication of the achievements of the research is the result of the cooperation between women and men, just as the combination between men and women brings about new life. This book will be full of new vitality. It will contribute to the arousal of women's initiative sense and to the transformation and construction of the energy resources in rural areas of Yunnan Province; it will manifest that women's force and role are infinite.

March, 1996

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