The Methodology & Experience of Social Assessment (SA) for China’s Hydropower Project

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1. Development of SA for China's construction project
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1. Development of SA for China's construction project

◆ Guidelines for social assessment of development project was Published in 1993.

◆ Theory and Methodology for social assessment of development project was Published in 1997.

◆ Guidelines for feasibility study of development project (a trial version) was approved by the state development planning commission in April 2002. It officially included social assessment in the content of project feasibility study.

◆ Guidelines for social assessment of development project in china was published by China International Engineering Consulting Company in 2004, which was regarded as a guidebook for social assessment of China‘s construction project.
2. The impact-characteristics of China’s hydropower project

◆ Dense population
◆ Diverse methods of agricultural production
◆ Multi-ethnic minorities
◆ Various types of social cultures
◆ Large quantity of poor population
3. Scope of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Project Construction Area
◆ Reservoir Inundated & Impacted Area
◆ Resettlemental Area
3. Scope of SA in China's hydropower project

- project planning stage
- feasibility study and design stage
- project implementation stage
- project post-evaluation stage
4. Focus of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ The attitude of the local government, social organizations and residents on the construction of the project
◆ The relocation of involuntary immigrants
◆ Restore livelihood of farmers who lost their land
◆ Ethnic issues
◆ Social culture in the project
◆ Poverty and other vulnerable groups in the project
◆ Gender issues
5. Contents of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Social impact analysis

● The influence on the income of residents in its area
● The influence on the living qualities of the locals
● The influence to local infrastructure, capacity of social service and urbanization process
● The influence to the location of different interest groups
● The influence on the project area residents of employment, etc
● The influence on the interests, culture, education, health of vulnerable groups and on the minority customs and religious
5. Contents of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Social mutual adaptability analysis

● Analyses and forecasts of the attitude towards and participation in the construction and operation from different interest groups that are directly involved in the project.

● Analyze and predict the attitude of local organizations (institutions) towards the construction and operation of the project.

● Analysis the local existing technology and the condition of culture to make sure it can or not meet the needs of the project construction and development.

● Analysis the appropriate method and the participation of the project that stakeholders are participate in.
5. Contents of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Social risk analysis

● The influence caused by implanting the project on the mature and stable social production, living conditions, social structures, ethnic customs, religious beliefs and even ecological structures of psychology in project areas (resettlement areas included).

● The influence of project implementation is reacted by social factors which are caused by the project area.

● Risks of the project own construction
6. Methodology of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Methods of social investigation

● Literature-collecting methods

● Participant observation

● Interview method

● Discussion method

● Questionnaire survey
6. Methodology of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Methods of qualitative analysis

● Contrastive analysis of presence and absence
● Logic framework approach
● Stakeholder analysis
6. Methodology of SA in China's hydropower project

◆ Methods of quantitative analysis

- The Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)
- Fuzzy evaluation
- Matrix analysis
7. Experiences of SA from China’s hydropower project

◆ The volition of a country is indispensable to carry out social assessment.

◆ The participation of professionals is the basic requirement of social assessment.

◆ Extensive participation is the key of social assessment.

◆ A comprehensive system of social assessment is an important means.

◆ The whole process of social assessment is the guarantee of success.
Thanks!