



Fondazione Amici-di-Qinghai

Report on the activities in 2025

The *Amici-di-Qinghai* continued their activities in *Qinghai* smoothly and as planned during the first half of the year and spent two weeks in *Qinghai* in April. The visit allowed to evaluate a new nomad school project on the highland (*Duolong*) and to distribute scholarships in three schools. An ideological shift decided by the Party's supreme leadership at the end of July tightened then the controls over all aspects of education in China. The distribution of scholarships to nomad students were suspended for the time being. However, scholarships funded by *Amici* before the change (*Quma-Huanquhu-Jicang*) were not affected. But the distribution of scholarships in the future is likely to be strictly regulated and sometimes not possible. On the other hand, projects to renovate schools financed and built by *Amici* in the past, or the financing of more nomad moving schools, are said to be welcome. The visit of the highlands in November allowed the *Amici* to formally inaugurate the nomad school of *Duolong* as well as to review the project of another nomad moving school with the authorities and village elders (*Qilong*). The November visit allowed also to discuss the pending distribution of the 145 scholarships to *Zeku* for which the money was transferred on June 17, 2025 already. Thanks to the support by high-ranking leaders a solution could be worked out that is respecting the tightened controls, while allowing distribution before the end of the calendar year. Mr. Song, Erwins' loyal Beijing office assistant, went then again to *Qinghai* in December to supervise the actual distribution of the scholarships and to arrange photos of the recipients at the various schools.

The following projects were implemented in 2025:

1. Financing another nomad moving school: *Duolong*
2. Implementing the annual scholarship program in *Zeku, Quma, Huanquhu, Jicang*
3. Evaluating another nomad moving school for 2026: *Qilong*

Comme les années précédentes, les comptes annuels 2025 ont été établis à titre gracieux par Mme Veronica Mannhart, PDG de Mannhart Management Co. Ltd. à Chiang Mai. Les comptes détaillés seront soumis sous forme numérique au Conseil d'administration pour examen à la fin du mois de février. Ce dernier procédera à un examen approfondi avant de les approuver lors de sa réunion de printemps. Les comptes annuels seront ensuite soumis, comme d'habitude, à l'auditeur externe, M. Cristiano BOTTA à Lugano, et son rapport d'audit externe sera finalement transmis aux autorités de surveillance du Département fédéral de l'intérieur (DFI) à Berne avant la fin du mois de juin.

Alors que l'année lunaire du CHEVAL DE FEU débutera le 17 février, nous vous adressons, à vous et à vos proches, nos vœux les plus sincères pour une santé optimale, une bonne dose de bonheur personnel et, enfin et surtout, une paix inébranlable dans vos cœurs. Le Cheval de Feu, également connu sous le nom de Cheval Rouge, est considéré comme un puissant symbole de force, de rapidité, de liberté et de persévérance inébranlable. Que le Cheval vous aide à naviguer en toute sécurité dans les eaux tumultueuses qui vous attendent !

Avec nos salutations chaleureuses et nos meilleurs vœux
Bien cordialement et avec toute notre gratitude

Yolanda et Erwin Schurtenberger
Chiang Mai, début février 2025

Conseil d'administration de la fondation : RA Lara Toma Pelucca,
RA Rocco Bergonzoli, Monica Cocchi del Ponte, Maurizio Checchi,
Yolanda and Erwin Schurtenberger



1. Financing another nomad moving school: DUOLONG

The mobile nomad school in *Duolong* is located at an altitude of 4,300 meters above sea level and, like most of the previous schools, in a very remote area, in the administrative district of *Maixiu*, more precisely in the area served by the village of *Duolong*. The said village has a population of 1'615, including 105 pre-schoolers and children in the first and second grades of the elementary school. *Duolong* covers indeed a very large area, but is sparsely populated. A teacher driving with a traditional vehicle that is equipped with lots of teaching materials, financed by the *Amici*, can significantly improve educational opportunities for the children in this remote area. The mobile school is operating at two distinct teaching sites:

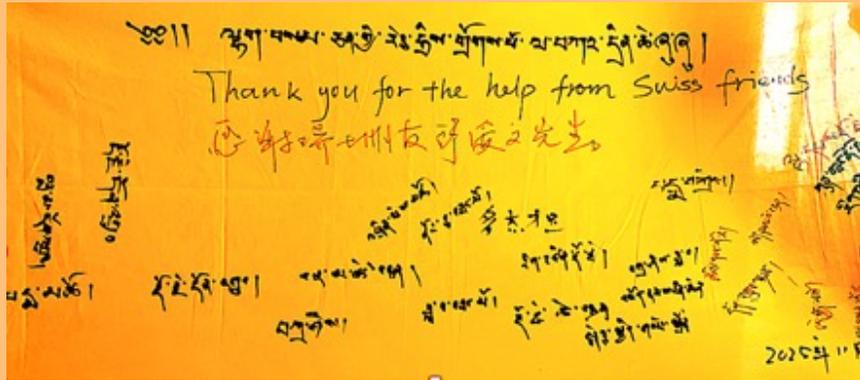
- *Ningzhang* with 20 students in the current school year, visited by the *Amici* in April 2025 (for evaluation of the project)
- *Sagari* with also 20 students; visited by the *Amici* in November 2025 for the formal inauguration.

Visite of Ningzhang in April 2025



Visite of Sagari in November 2025

Formal inauguration of the nomad school



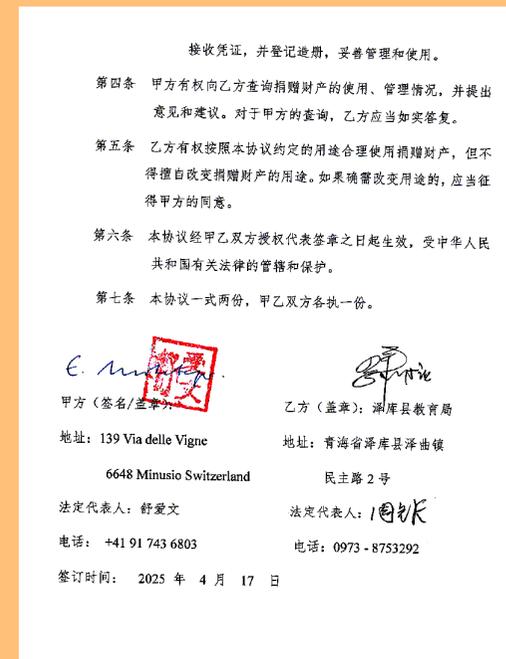
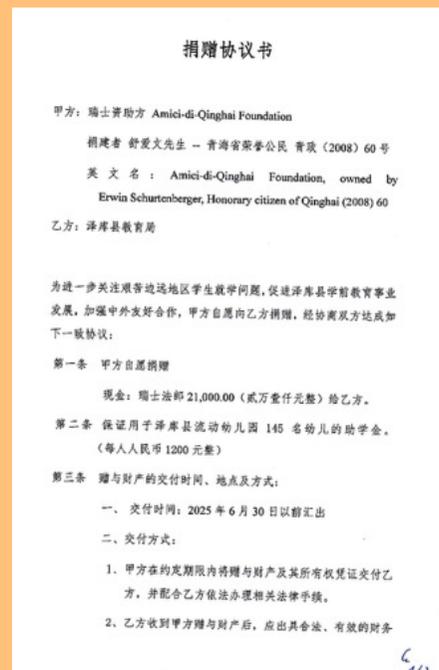
The students were visibly touched by the visit of the *Amici* and the handing over of the vehicle that allows teachers to provide them with regular education not far from their parents' homes. The Swiss chocolates distributed were particularly appreciated.

2. Implementing the annual scholarship program in Zeku, Quma, Huanquhu, Jicang

An ideological shift decided by the Party's supreme leadership at the end of July had triggered a series of directives affecting educational activities in China. As a consequence, the State has tightened its control over all aspects of education in the country, including scholarships for primary class students. However, projects to renovate schools financed and built by the *Amici*, or the financing of nomadic moving schools, have remained possible. -- In concrete terms: While scholarships authorized and funded by *Amici* prior to the afore-mentioned ideological shift were not affected by this change: scholarships at the *Quma-Huanquhu-Jicang* schools, fully financed by the Krüger-Lee Foundation, could therefore be distributed last April without problems. For the 145 scholarships to recipients on the highlands of Zeku, a few could be handed over in late November, while for the remaining 100 plus cases a compromise in line with the new regulations was successfully negotiated. This allowed then the distribution of the remaining scholarships in the first half of December.

Scholarships in Zeku

While a minor portion of the 145 scholarships, worth 1,200 RMB each, were awarded to nomad children in late November, as mentioned above, the remaining 100 plus supports were finally distributed in the first half of December. All recipients confirmed receipt with their fingerprints. The money is traditionally managed by the parents or the teacher in charge, with the foundation having the opportunity to consult the accounts during its visits to the *Education Bureau* in Zeku.



A total of 145 scholarships were distributed at fourteen (14) nomad schools, including to 25 recipients at the **Eros Bergonzoli** school in the *Duohemo* town, each worth RMB 1,200.

Erwin was connected, as earlier mentioned via *WeChat* on two occasions and therefore able to say a few words to the scholarship recipients.



QUMA

Quma village school: 10 students at RMB 1,500 each. Those scholarship holders who were not present in *Quma* when the scholar-ships were awarded, but were attending classes at a university or a college, were given the money to their parents.

招商银行 招商银行转账汇款单笔对账单	
交易日期: 2025-04-13	
付款人姓名:	SchurtenbergerErwin
付款账号:	6214*****0748
收款人姓名:	南科
收款账号:	6217004400026285496
收款银行:	中国建设银行
转账类型:	转账汇款
付款金额:	15,000.00
手续费:	0.00
备注:	NonResident-青海助学金 Quma Scholarships 2025 / 30 kids
状态:	已汇出



HUANQUHU

At this high mountain school at 3800 meters above sea, 30 scholarships of RMB 1200 each were handed out. For the hand-over, the scholarship recipients were trans-ported by truck from *Quma*, where they were able to receive the money.

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交易日期: 2025-04-14	
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收款人姓名:	南科
收款账号:	6217004400026285496
收款银行:	中国建设银行
转账类型:	转账汇款
付款金额:	36,000.00
手续费:	0.00
备注:	NonResident-还童助学金 Huanquhu Scholarships 2025_30 kids
状态:	已汇出



JICANG

28 scholarships were distributed at the mountain village school of *Jicang*: 13 scholarships to primary school pupils at RMB 500 each, 17 to middle school pupils at RMB 1000 each and 8 to university students at RMB 1500 each.

招商银行 招商银行转账汇款单笔对账单	
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收款人姓名:	南科
收款账号:	6217004400026285496
收款银行:	中国建设银行
转账类型:	转账汇款
付款金额:	26,500.00
手续费:	0.00
备注:	NonResident-青海助学金 Jicang Scholarships 2025_31 kids
状态:	已汇出



3. Proposal to fund another mobile nomad school, namely in QILONG

The village of *Qilong* has a population of 915, including the 36 preschool and first-grade children. The village is operating two separate teaching sites: *Sagari* with 13 students and *Yelongduo* with 11 students. The mobile school for which the application is being submitted is serving the school in the *Qilong* village itself and the two afore-mentioned teaching sites. The *Sagari* teaching site is located at around 5 km from the *Qilong* village, while the *Yelongduo* teaching site is located at around 6 km from the village, i.e. ca 12 km from each other. The distances between the satellite teaching points are therefore considerable, causing major challenges to the teacher without a school car. -- The *Qilong* nomad moving school is also located in a very isolated area of the Wangjia County, that is sparsely populated and lies at an altitude of over 3,500 meters. The territory covered by the nomad school is indeed very large and is known for its harsh winters, with temperatures ranging from -20°C to -35°C . In sum: the nomad moving school comprises the school in the village of *Qilong* itself, with 12 students, and the two afore-mentioned teaching sites, with 13 and *Yegongduo*, with 11 students.

