

# **Bridging the Digital Divide**

**Concern for Underprivileged and  
Those in Remote Mountainous Areas**

## **Broadband Construction Plan**

**Dabang Lijia, Xin-mei Shanmei,  
Chahsan of Chiayi**

**Chiayi Office**

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# Geographical Location

Mountainous reserves for the utility of aborigines.

The primary thoroughfare to Alishan area is by No. 18 Taiwan Expressway; one will come to Shanmei, Xinmei and Chashan as one turns right at Lung-mei of 36km to No. 129 Chiayi Highway. Then, one can reach Dabang, Lijia, and Tefuye as one takes right turn at 44km of Shizhou to No. 169 County Expressway.



# Status of Planning and Development -Lijia, Shizi

- Tribe at confluence of Chang-gu-chuan Creek and Yi-si-ji-ana Creek
  - Dabang was established by tribes 300 years ago, and is now the largest village for the Tsoue Tribe as well as the administration center of the Township
  - Dabang is the same as Tefuye as was once located at the proximity of Chang-gu-chuan Creek and Yi-si-ji-ana Creek at the upper-stream of Ceng-wen Creek. For “Mayasibi” traditional ritual of sacrifice held every year, it is carried out on rotation basis.
  - Among the Tsoue Tribe, Lijia Village is considered as the most remote - 10.3km from Dabang
  - Residents are currently using dial-up for internet service

Switching facility	Tribe	Household number of local phone line	Distance from office (km)	Altitude of primary tribe (m)
Dabang office	Shizi Village	71	7.1	1550
Dabang office	Lijia Village	59	10.3	1075

# Development

In June 2006, there was serious landslide and the entire mountain cliff fell off. As for the gorgeous No.3 Dabang Bridge at No. 169 Dabang Expressway, its red arch-shape bridge was washed off to the valley, and nearly 500 km of foundation was devastated. The traffic of the three tribes of Dabang, Tefuye, and Lijia was cut off, and the fiber optic installed by this operation office has also been cut off until today



## Planning for re-deployment and installation

- Runs from Lijia, along the industrial road via Dabang, Tefuya, Shizi Village to Alishan Highway (previous replacement road), and then to the neighborhood of Dinghu of Alishan, which is connected with existing Zhonghe user fiber-optic
- Lijia – Dabang, - **cable deployment: approx 12.9km**
- Dabang—Tefuye-Shizhi Village – Dinghu – **cable deployment: approx 23km**



# Status of Planning and Development

## - Shanmei, Danayi Valley, and Chasha

- Going downward to the right from No. 18 Taiwan Provincial Highway, there are three Tsoue tribes - Hanmei, Xinmei, and Chashan: the southern three villages along No. 129 Chiayi Expressway
- Xinmei Village is located at the plain area at the middle-stream of Ceng-wen Creek to the south of Alishan area, with an altitude of about 500-1200m
- Within the proximity of confluence of Ceng-wen Creek and Danayi Valley Creek, there are about 630 residents, in about 90 households. Presently, it is the locality for administration center of the township and elementary school. Besides, there about 270 residents at Chashan Village, in 164 households. Aside from the well-noted Danayi Valley Creek and Natural Ecology Park, there are also many hostels.
- Since Danayi Valley Creek has done excellently for fish conservation, Shanmei Village has become the most noted Tsoube Tribe as well as an example of community construction for aboriginal tribes
- Residents are currently using dial-calling for Internet service

Switching facility	Tribe	Household number of local phone line	Distance from office (km)	Altitude of primary tribe (m)
Gontian Office	Shanmei Village	83	11	508
Xinmei Office	Danayi Valley	41	7.5	560
Xinmei Office	Chashan Village	117	10.5	550



# Benefits of construction

Village	Household number of local phone line	Anticipated benefits
Lijia Shizi	59 households in Lijia Village 71 households in Shizi Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides broadband for local schools</li> <li>• Stimulates tourism industry, increases turnover, and improves livelihood of villagers</li> <li>• Provides sufficient bandwidth for administration connection of village and neighborhood as well as police security, enhancing administration efficiency</li> <li>• Provides villagers with Internet bandwidth, shortening digital divide between rural and urban areas</li> <li>• Demonstrates the determination of government to care for remote and mountainous tribes</li> </ul>
Shanmei Xinmei Chashan	83 households in Shanmei Village 41 households in Danayi Valley 117 households in Xinmei Village 104 households in Chashan Village	



# Challenges and Resolutions

- Mountainous areas are found with steep slopes, without much space to install poles, and it is necessary to coordinate with Taiwan Power Company to consent cable hanging or with local residents to provide land
- Installing poles along Alishan Expressway is permitted; it is necessary to coordinate with highway authority to make use of the protective railing at the slope and the upper-side of tunnel to deploy cable pipeline



# Conclusions

- Universal service can , undoubtedly, bring benefits to the underprivileged communities
- Telecom service providers should, based on the spirit of “reaping from and giving to community,” honor their social obligations
- Chung Hwa Telecom is obligated to handle universal services of government policy. It will, therefore, actively, intensify construction, and inspection and repair service at remote areas so as to provide high-quality and favorable telecommunication services