

## **Project Update: October 2009**

Through a series of educational seminars including oral and video presentations, on-site demonstrations jointly organized by my team and the local government ( Feb 2009 to May 2009), the local desert communities consisting of 832 new families including 3547 adults along the border between the nature reserve and Ruoqiang county had been taught to grasp our technologies of tamarisk and cistanche planting technology and the methane application for the sustainable improvement of their welfare and the conservation of the wild Bactrian camels.

We had provided seedlings of branchy tamarisks and seeds of desert-living cistanches for artificial planting free of charge to these families. These seedlings and seeds had been planted on abandoned desert land within a larger geographical scope by these families under our direction. (Jun 2009 to Aug 2009).

During the same period mention above, we had also conducted 2 times of quarterly monitoring of the status of wild Bactrian camels within the Lopnur reserve, we found that the phenomena of previously unrestrictive sheep grazing by local herdsmen had basically disappeared within an expanded geographical area near the benefited families, it is easier to find wild Bactrian camels in greater quantity along the western border of the Lopnur reserve in Ruoqiang county where much more wild plants can be reserved for wild Bactrian camels.