



Connecting Sichuan, Corporate Affairs

## Connecting Sichuan Program at a Glance

### Background

In May of 2008, a massive magnitude 8.0 earthquake devastated Sichuan, resulting in significant loss of life and the destruction of schools and hospitals across the province. Cisco, the Cisco Foundation and our employees immediately responded by donating more than US\$2.6 million (about RMB 16.8 million) in grants and relief funds.

On July 1, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed by Cisco Chairman and CEO John Chambers and Sichuan Governor Mr. Jiang Jufeng, committing to a three-year partnership designed to build replicable, scalable and sustainable models of 21st century education and healthcare in the earthquake stricken areas of Sichuan. Cisco initially committed US\$45 million (about RMB 292M) in manpower, networking expertise, cash grants, partner services, and equipment donations, while China pledged cooperation at every level of the public sector.

### Connecting Sichuan Program

The program, known as Connecting Sichuan, aims to systematically transform healthcare, education and the workforce through the use of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure. By using technology to connect communities, rural and remote areas in Sichuan gained equal access to higher-quality services in healthcare and education typical in urban areas.

### The Education Initiative

- Bridging the urban and rural educational divide through technology innovation and training, built on Cisco and partner technologies and expertise
- Creating a Sichuan model for education by providing tools, technology and training in targeted primary and secondary schools
- Creating a new process for teacher professional development and new teacher training; partnering with leading higher education institutions to create the next wave of content, pedagogy and curriculum
- Advancing education by implementing 21<sup>st</sup> century schools, transforming the classroom into an intensive interactive learning experience

### The Healthcare Initiative

- Aligning the rebuilding efforts to the Chinese Government's "Health 2020" reform policies
- Connecting urban and rural hospitals and clinics through a collaborative delivery network
- Developing a mobile clinic solution to enable healthcare service and delivery to less-accessible regions of Sichuan
- Creating a telehealth network for regional and national connected hospitals
- Developing sustainable and innovative health IT models for replication

### ICT Capacity

- Cultivating digital literacy and collaboration through the Cisco Networking Academy program to prepare students for 21<sup>st</sup> century careers
- Expanding the Cisco Networking Academy program to all vocational colleges and universities in Sichuan

### Program Accomplishments

At a high level, major accomplishments include:

- Helping Sichuan Province leap to the forefront of healthcare and education reform in China
- Delivering 21st century ICT infrastructure and industry-leading capabilities in healthcare and education, providing models that can be replicated across China
- Implementing a model for collaborative healthcare that improves patient outcomes and builds long-term capacity—managing over 60 million residents' rural cooperative medical insurance records



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- Implementing 21st century education models in urban, township, and rural village communities, designed for maximum impact on performance and learning
- Integrating interactive classroom technology into the existing education model, helping to modernize how more than 135,000 students are taught
- Launching a virtual education solution that enables master teachers in urban schools to teach interactive classes in rural schools
- Inculcating ICT skills by launching 25 new Networking Academy sites and enrolling 5300 new students

**Social Impact Summary**

Indicator	Description	Engagement
Economic investment	Total program social investment	US\$50M
Program reach	Counties within Sichuan Province benefiting from the program	8 of the 10 hardest-hit counties
21st century ICT infrastructure	Number of network-enabled healthcare and education institutions	193
21st century skills development	Investment in professional development and ICT skills	+9,900 training attendees
Building capacity through partners	Government, NGO and business partners contributing to the program**	40*

\*excludes education and healthcare institutions

**Cisco in China**

In April 2008, Cisco announced the next phase of its corporate strategy for China, marked by new public-private collaborative programs within the country that deliver upon its US \$16 billion multi-year innovation and sustainability initiative announced in late 2007.

Cisco first established operations in China in 1994 and now employs more than 3,000 staff in sales, customer support and service, research and development and manufacturing. The company has 12 offices in China, a major R&D facility in Shanghai, Scientific Atlanta R&D and manufacturing facilities, and several WebEx development centers.

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