

The Organisation and Management of the Responsibility System in Miyi County

There is a comprehensive organisation and management system, in Miyi County, for carrying out the *Responsibility System* and signing contracts.

First, the County administration signs a contract with the municipalities, for micro-projects on a broader socioeconomic scale, in terms of industrial and agricultural output, grain output, State purchase quota, agricultural tax, conscription, birth control, and basic services. Basic services include all those items borne by the County Government, such as chemical fertilizers, insecticides, plastic film (for soil temperature conservation), etc. The municipality in turn signs a contract with the villages, the villages with the cooperatives, and the cooperatives with the farm household.

The basic content of contracts signed is, by and large, the same; including items, period, and type of contract as well as allocating responsibilities to the contractor and the contractee, rights, obligations, penalties, services, alterations, and termination. Generally the lower the level of contract, the more specific the details. Contracts between cooperatives and household are the most detailed.

In Miyi County land is usually contracted out for 15 years. However, the contents of the contract are checked and revised on a yearly basis.