Communication System of Science and Technology In local Community

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1. Introduction

With a rapid globalization progress in economics and advancement in Science and technology (S&T) in China, the traditional system in communication of S&T no longer completely meets the needs from the public in many aspects. First of all, it has been challenged by the lack of involvement, interaction, and effectiveness. In addition, as a common phenomenon, a shortage in resources is another challenge. Under the guidance of the Hangzhou Science and Technology Association (HSTA), supported by the local government, Hangzhou Xihu District S&T Association (XSTA) has launched the Community-based Communication of S&T Initiatives (CCST) four years ago. Since then, we have been working on constructing a comprehensive Communication of S&T Working System (CSTWS) which aims to improve the communication of S&T to the public in the local community.

2. The Objective of CSTWS

The objective of the CSTWS is to meet the ever-changing needs from the local community, including improving learning and understanding of modern S&T associated with daily life. It consequently enhances the quality of life and advocates a positive life style in a local community. Therefore, It become intergral role of comprehensive efforts to promoting and improving local community education

3. The Organization Structure and its Operations

There are 4 functional components in the CSTWS, namely, guidance subsystem, implement subsystem, improvement subsystem, and information subsystem.

Guidance subsystem is overseen by the HSTA and the XSTA. The functions of this subsystem are to set up a sequence of standard rules, to provide trainings, to create channels to encourage the community, and to honor and reward a successful engangement in the community.

Implement subsystem is operated by the members from the community committee. Each individual in the committee has the specific responsibilities according to requiement of CCST program that will contribute to the overall functions of the committee. The individual's responsibilities include, but not limit to, building up a network between the committee and the local volunteers, establishing platform, constructing hardware according requiement of CCST program ,seeking and maintaining a partnership relation to the public agencies, government agencies, local hospitals, local museums, surrounding universities, and various nearby academy societies. When the achievements made and activities conducted by the engaged community are identified and approved by the HSTA and the CCST joinly, the engaged community will be honoured with a title of "S&T Initiative Community", and will be funded and rewarded by the HSTA and XSTA, The committee of engaged community will be qualified to take part in the advanced program or the activities coordiated and organized by HSTA or XSTA

Improvement subsystem is managed by the XSTA. The purpose of this subsystem is to maintain and improve suitable program-related activities in the community that has been honored with a title of 'S&T Initiative Community'

Information subsystem consists of the XSTA and the engagedd community. All detailed information about associated works and activities will be recorded and maintained by engagedd community in a format of graphs or in words by the engaged community so that the judgements on the activities and accomplishments of the engaged community may be made based on objective feedbacks.

4. Results and Achievements

After four years of persistent practice in the CCST, it has demonstrated that the system is effective and efficient. The system has made great contributions to the local communities to help people to become more aware of new technologies and make the best use of them. Twenty-four local communities in Xihu district have been honored with a tile of "Hangzhou Municipal S&T Initiative Community". The XSTA has been honored by Hangzhou Municipal Government for his great achievements of the enhancement of communications in science and

technology among the local communities.

The universities gov-agencies academic institutions and the other public agency located in the community willingly make their efforts to communication of S&T to the local people. Undergraduate and graduate students professors scientists tchnologists and specialists gov staffs, worked or lived in or out the community region, volunterly make contribution to the community using their telent skill and knowledge for the local peoples.

5. Assessment of System Function and Efficacy

The system and corresponding four components have clear scopes of responsibilies that define functions. The subsystems function independently and stimulate each other so that they jointly contribute to the overall communication system. The subsystems are highly regulated while still keep certain flexibilities to adapt to various situations in real life to ensure effective communications. It has been seen that the system has improved involvement and has espanded the scope of the communications. Additionally, the system has made the communications more feasible and progressional in a local community. Clearly, we can foresee that these enhancements in our communication system will make further significant contributions to a continuous improvement in the communication of S&T in a local community. With aim to improving the public S&T literacy

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