Xi’an’s rural revitalization program lifts farming village out of poverty

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Defining that villages and their residents are a top priority for the local government of Xi’an, capital of Shaanxi province, Xi’an has launched a plan to further boost rural revitalization through a series of initiatives in poverty alleviation.

“The residents of Xi’an have an understanding of the rural cultural, building beautification, and education of villages, as well as the development of rural revitalization,” Su Xinyao, deputy director of the Xi’an Bureau of Agriculture, told CHINA DAILY.

With the annual income growth of about 60,000 yuan for each household over the past five years, poverty alleviation in Xi’an has been a top priority. Xi’an has developed 20 households specialized in breeding chickens and 67 households in specialized breed of broiler chickens, with annual production of 150,000 birds.

Another stream of the annual income increase is the household income growth of 200 households on the road to prosperity through agricultural planting. Xi’an has launched a program to boost household income growth.

Starting from a some 2-hectare field in Yanzhou village, which Guo’s business has grown into a 2.5-hectare agricultural plot with more than a dozen varieties of melons and watermelons focusing on building brand, acquiring new technologies and state-of-the-art facilities, and upgrading marketing entities and modern agricultural projects. It has helped to lift more than 200 households out of poverty. Statistics show that Xi’an lifted 334 villagers, 14,534 households, and 41,102 people out of poverty in 2015. The incidence of poverty declined from 12.8 percent to 0.22 percent.

Chen Shaobo, director of the Xi’an Bureau of Agriculture and Forestry Commission, said that developing industries is also the key to poverty alleviation.

“Last year’s poverty alleviation project, our key efforts to improve the living standard of the residents, has exerted great efforts in poverty alleviation. We expect to complete the plan before March this year.”

Xi’an has also added 400 farmers’ specialized cooperatives and organizations and agricultural leading enterprises. Xi’an is seeing the high-quality industrialization development. Since 2016, Xi’an has added 400 farmers’ specialized cooperatives and organizations, 10 leading enterprises, four agricultural processing enterprises, two provincial-level modern agricultural industrial parks and 87 leading agricultural enterprises.

“Poverty alleviation is the top priority in Guizhou. Our focus is on how to achieve balanced development,” Chen said. The province has helped lift 7.65 million people out of poverty, the largest number of people lifted out of poverty in the country.

The province has more than 5,500 farmers’ cooperatives, 1,000 large-scale industrial enterprises, and about 30,000 professional cooperatives. The poverty alleviation projects have become a major new economic growth point.

But by planting vegetables, the same turnover can reach 4,500 yuan. It takes three to more than growing corn.

Since 2018, Xi’an has added 496 trial parks and 171 leading agricultural enterprises, supply and management entities and modern agricultural enterprises. It has exerted great effects in poverty alleviation projects involving a total of 1.32 million people from their hometowns, which mostly sit in the remote mountainous regions and lack electricity and roads. This year, it plans to relocate 500,000 people, while the poverty alleviation work has led to about 1.2 million people.

Success of the poverty alleviation efforts, however, depends on the ongoing comprehensive system,attracting more businesses from outside or selling agricultural products through e-commerce platforms, said the director.

Xi’an has taken the green road to growth

Guizhou takes the green road to growth

Province banks on big data tech to advance high-quality development

BY WANG ZHONGJIU in Beijing and YANG FAN in Guiyang

Guizhou province in Southwest China is banking on using big data technologies to advance its high-quality development, according to provincial government officials.

The province has been ranked among the top three regions in China for its economic growth. It reported a growth of 10 percent for the past year.

Chen Shaobo, director of the Guizhou Provincial Bureau of Agriculture and Reform Commission, said the province is looking to sustain its high-quality development model by using technology such as big data, poverty alleviation measures, optimizing the strategic structure and encouraging green industries.

Chen said that the province’s first pilot experiment with big data technologies in 2013 has turned the country’s first national big data and innovation center as well as the integration appraisal system for big data and technology.

Supporting the local big data business sector requires participation from the public and cooperation with relevant departments of the big data industry in the province, Su Xinyao said.

Only by planting the big data tech industry can the local government attract investors and attract more businesses, Su said.

In 2017, US tech giant Apple Inc. opened a 24,000-square-meter office center in Guiyang, followed by other technology companies such as Alibaba, Foxconn, Baidu and Huawei.

Guizhou, a mountainous region, has such cool climate and stable geographic conditions as many tech companies seek to set up offices in Guizhou to make full use of the fine weather in the province.

“For one thing, the talent pool and growth potential in big data and technology are far great than those in the eastern coastal areas. For another, the major tech companies like Alibaba, Foxconn, Baidu, Huawei and other giants are increasing their investments here.”

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