



## EU-China NGO-Twinning Exchange Programme

### Report and Evaluation of Kick-Off-Meeting (September 27., 2012) and Findings from Questionnaires completed by Chinese NGOs

#### Participants:

55 representatives of Chinese NGOs  
2 German employees of Chinese NGOs  
(See list of participants)

#### Agenda:

Ahead of the kick-off-meeting questionnaires were sent to several Chinese NGOs. Because few of them were completed, the meeting was also used as a platform for questions concerning key aspects of the programme. Questionnaires were again handed out during the meeting.

19:00	Introduction, Power Point Presentation, Q&A <i>PD Dr. Nora Sausmikat</i>
20:00	Moderated Discussion <i>Marc Pixley and Karen Lim (Leadership Inc.)</i>
20:00 – 21:00	3 Working Groups a) What is your motivation to take part / your vision? b) Which topic could be interesting for your work/organization c) What kind of contribution do you think you can make?
21:00-21:30	Report from working groups and moderated discussion



## Summary of Findings

Generally, the launch of a exchange programme was greatly welcomed. Already during registration many organizations said they been waiting for such a programme for a long time. This is consistent with our experience from four years of EU- China dialogue programmes. During feedback sessions Chinese participants often expressed the need for long-term exchange programmes in addition to only week-long workshops and conferences.



## Results of the working groups

The working groups started discussing the motivation with which Chinese NGOs would participate in such a programme, and, above all in which thematic areas meaningful exchanges could take place.

I. The following **motivation clusters** emerged from the responses:

**a)** A large majority emphasized NGO Management and Capacity Building as their motivation to participate in the programme. The focus was on very practical issues of the establishment and development of organizations, project design, public relations and general working practices/methods.

**b)** A similarly strong motivation was the need to explore new concepts and ways of thinking, as well as to understand the basic concept of the development of a civil society. They were also very much interested in understanding and learning about „democratic governance“, especially about the specific communication between political parties, government agencies and NGOs, as well as about concepts of state and citizenship.

**c)** The Chinese NGOs were also eager to establish a platform for exchange and networking as well as for training in watchdog methods, especially in the areas of Water Conservancy and Food Safety.

II. Exchange primarily in the following thematic areas was considered meaningful: Environmental/Climate Protection (Carbon Taxation, monitoring financial institutes for green finance, awareness raising esp. for young adults), Corporate Responsibility (fair wages, CSR), Health Governance (HIV), Elimination of Discrimination (migrants, minorities, women).

III. The third round of discussion was about **contributions** the individual organizations would be able and willing to make. It had not become clear that this also included material contributions.

Most organizations thus said they would provide

- a friendly and team-oriented working environment
- an opportunity to develop shared visions
- an opportunity to explore Asian/Chinese culture and lifestyle
- an opportunity to get to know the working style of Chinese NGOs
- the possibility for future cooperation

They would also be glad to organize study tours to local solar research institutions and training courses in innovative methods of environmental protection / Chinese strategies of water conservancy.

**Material contributions** were brought up in the questionnaires.

The majority offered to assist European guest staff in finding inexpensive accommodation, or possibly even arrange private accommodation. Only a few mentioned a small financial contribution to living expenses, scholarships or providing funding for public transportation.

For Chinese guest staff: Salary compensation was not addressed directly, but most NGOs expressed the need to reimburse traveling and accommodation expenses. However, most participants mentioned the need for salary compensation indirectly by suggesting a „per diem living expenses“ or some kind of „grant“.

**More keypoints taken from the results of the questionnaire:**

Generally, the statements varied greatly according to the size of the organization and their international network. Many Chinese NGOs had already worked with foreign organisations. This is in great contrast with European NGOs, many of which have not had any contact with China.

**Time frame:**

Preferred time frame for receiving a European guest employee:	varied
Small organizations: weeks	4 to 6
Large organizations (More than 10 employees): months	up to 6
Preferred time frame for deployment of a Chinese employee: weeks	3 to 6

**Contact had been established with the following European/German Organizations:**

Green Budget Germany, Germanwatch, CDM Watch, CAN Europe, Greenpeace, Oxfam, Friends of Earth and Banktrack, EED (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V.), Bremen Overseas Research & Development Association (BORDA), Waterkeeper Alliance, Italy (ISCOS, <http://www.iscos.cisl.it/>), France (CCFD, [www.ccf-d-terresolidaire.org](http://www.ccf-d-terresolidaire.org)), Sweden (Sida, [www.sida.se](http://www.sida.se)), Autismus-Therapie-Institut (Kassel Nordhessen), Misereor (Womens Leadership Program/ Tibet), Econtur, Global Nature Fund (GNF), Südwind Austria, German Asia Foundation

**Requirements for European guest staff:**

Chinese language skills were listed as desirable conditions by some organizations, but most expressed, English would not be a problem.

Some expressed very detailed professional requirements, e.g. Greenovation Hub, a networking organisation working in climate protection:

*„Guest should hold expertise in a relevant subject area, for example, environmental economics, fi-nance, climate etc, and is able to follow proper guidance from the host organization, but also be able to take initiative and work independently. Experience in research and analysis is highly desirable as well as ability in developing project proposals.“*

One basic requirement for European applicants was working experience in an NGO.

## Appendix::

### Participants:

天津生态文化促进会 Tianjin Ecological Culture Promotion Association
安徽绿满江淮环境发展中心 Green-Anhui Environmental Development Center
四川省成都市锦江区爱有戏社区文化发展中心 Chengdu of Sichuan Province Jinjiang area - I YOU SHE Center for Community Cultural Development
昆明野生环境发展研究所 Yunnan Environment Development Insitute
陕西爱乐益志愿服务发展中心 ShaanXi Aileyi Voluntary Service Development Center
中国国际民间组织促进会 CANGO
淮河源环保志愿者协会
天津绿领
天津绿色之友 Friends of Green in Tianjin
淮河卫士 Huai River Guardian
佳木斯市慈善总会
佳木斯市可持续发展协会
绿色盘锦
重庆市绿色志愿者联合会 The Green Volunteer League of Chongqing
江苏绿色之友 Friend of Green Environment
长垣县绿色未来环境保护协会 Breen Future Environmental Protection Association of Changyuan County

甘肃省陇南市绿源环保志愿者协会 Longnan City Green Environmental Protection Volunteers Association, Gansu Province
绿色浙江环保组织 Green Zhejiang
湖北省武汉市新洲区野生动植物保护协会
上海绿生洲态保护交流中心 Shanghai Green Oasis Ecological Conservation & Communication Center
河南桐柏林业防护协会
绥化市节水协会
绿色汉江
武陵山生态环保联合会
中山大学公益慈善研究中心 Center on Philanthropy
武汉绿色环保服务中心
在行动国际文化中心 On Action Beijing International Cultural Center
在行动国际文化中心 On Action Beijing International Cultural Center
荒漠绿植研究中心 The Research and Development Center of Afforestation
中华环保联合会
中华环保联合会
Aisa Catalyst
北京农民之子文化发展中心 Beijing Peasant's Children Culture Development Center